

Ponte Vedra Recorder

Ponte Vedra 

May 11, 2017
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PonteVedraRecorder.com



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Mother's Day
gift guide
Pages 31-35



THE PLAYERS:
Pages 37-71



Jessica Parkins displays a onesie she is decorating for her baby due in September. Parkins was one of 35 military mothers-to-be showered with gifts at an Operation Shower event hosted by the PGA Tour at TPC Sawgrass. Read more on page 67.

Photo by Jennifer Logue

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. E-mail submissions to pvrecorder@opcfla.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



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

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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jennifer@opcfla.com by Monday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

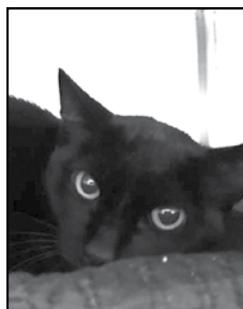
Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as The Bull & Crown Publick House in St. Augustine's historic district. Winner of the random drawing was **Patti Kotchkowski**—congratulations, Patti! You may pick up your prize at The Recorder office during regular business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Skylar. I am a 7-year-old male cat. I was brought to the pet center by my owners. I am looking for a new forever home. Won't you come visit me today here at the pet center and make me part of your family? #37940



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Scarlet and I am a 3-year-old female dog who is looking for a new home to call my own. I was brought in as a stray. I am heartworm positive so my adoption fee as well as a portion



of my treatment is sponsored by the Friends of the Pet Center. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. #37691

Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Rd., off US 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. For more information, please call the **St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190.**

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St. Johns County to hold budget hearings May 17-19

St. Johns County will host a series of public “Administrator’s Budget Hearings” next week. Hosted by the St. Johns County Administration and the Office of Management and Budget, the hearings will occur from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 17 and Thursday, May 18; and from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, May 19. All three sessions will be held at the St. Johns County Health and Human Services Building at 200 San Sebastian View in St.

Augustine. According to county officials, the meeting will provide a departmental line-item review of the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget. It is anticipated that some of the county commissioners may attend and participate in the hearings. Scheduled times for hearings may be adjusted if the proceedings move faster than anticipated. For more information, call the Office of Management and Budget at (904) 209-0570.

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Enjoy relaxing water to golf views in the afternoon from the screened patio of this picturesque home. The interior has recently been updated with new floors, countertops and much more. MLS 870792

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Entertaining your guests will be a breeze on the spacious, screened lanai of this stunning home with pool, waterfall feature, built in seating, summer kitchen and shaded sitting area. MLS 879775

Jim Zeller 904.772.5592
 JimZeller@Watsonrealtycorp.com



PLAYERS CLUB
\$389,900

Just minutes from TPC Sawgrass, restaurants, shopping and Ponte Vedra Beach, this beautiful home has been recently updated with granite countertops, tile floors and more. MLS 879894

Debra Dooney 904.373.0991
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JAX GOLF & CC
\$544,000

Practice your swing on the golf course during weekend or sit back and enjoy the afternoon breeze on the screened lanai of this brilliant home next to the 15th fairway. MLS 869332

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THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center celebrates 10th anniversary, 90th birthday of benefactor Don Blackburn

By Jon Blauvelt

THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center recently celebrated the tenth anniversary of its opening as well as the 90th birthday of one of the center's most generous benefactors, Don Blackburn.

Members gathered at the Council on Aging (COA) center May 2 for the festivities, enjoying lunch, birthday cake and music from performer Don Miniard, as well as the storytelling of Blackburn and fellow benefactor and COA Board Member Bruce Barber. It was only fitting that the gold shovel used for the center's groundbreaking ceremony stood behind the two men as they reminisced about working together to open the facility.

"Every time I come here, I am more pleased with the decision that we made to support getting the new senior center," said Blackburn, who along with his wife LaVonne contributed \$150,000 to furnish the facility. "I've enjoyed every minute of the time I've spent here. It's a tremendous return on our investment."

Blackburn explained that his wife was the "spark" that initiated their support. She read an article in *The Recorder*, he said, about an individual trying to establish a senior center in Ponte Vedra and consequently suggested they back the effort. Blackburn then partnered with

fellow Rotary members Bruce Maguire – who also served on the Board of County Commissioners – and Barber as well as others involved Ponte Vedra residents to find the Landrum Lane property on which the center now stands.

Blackburn and Barber presented a proposal for the center before the county commissioners that would have resulted in the construction of a 4,000 to 5,000-square foot senior center costing \$300,000. The commissioners responded so positively to the public/private proposal, however, that they not only approved it but suggested the center increase in size to 10,000 square feet, for which they would allocate \$1.3 million for its development.

"We did nothing but cheer," said Barber, who was also responsible for wooing THE PLAYERS to contribute \$30,000 toward the project. "That's why we have this beautiful building."

Ten years after its opening, the center has served more than 3,000 seniors and provides 100 hours of programming to the community each week, which COA Executive Director Becky Yanni said is the product of a dedicated team.

"It was a community effort," said Yanni of the center's accomplishments. "You can get a lot done with a dedicated group of people who have a vision, and that's what we're seeing here today."



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Bruce Barber joins Don Blackburn and Becky Yanni in celebration of the senior center's 10th anniversary.



Jo Steiner and Mary Louise White enjoy the celebration at the senior center.



Don Blackburn (center) gathers with (from left) Marian Ashton, Sue Richerson, Kay Aldridge, Becky Yanni and Pat O'Connell from the Council on Aging.



Elizabeth Kelly, Vera Combs and Terri Trindell attend the center's 10-year anniversary party.

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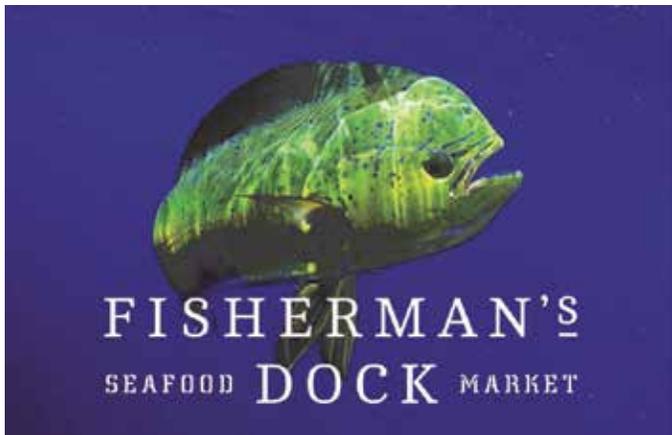
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St. Johns County libraries closed May 17 for staff training

All St. Johns County Library branches and bookmobiles will be closed Wednesday, May 17, for annual staff training. All branches will reopen during regular business hours Thursday, May 18.

Book drops will remain open at all locations and all online services, databases and e-resources will be available during the closure. All books and materials due on May 17 will be due May 18. For more information, please call a local library branch or visit www.sjcpls.org.

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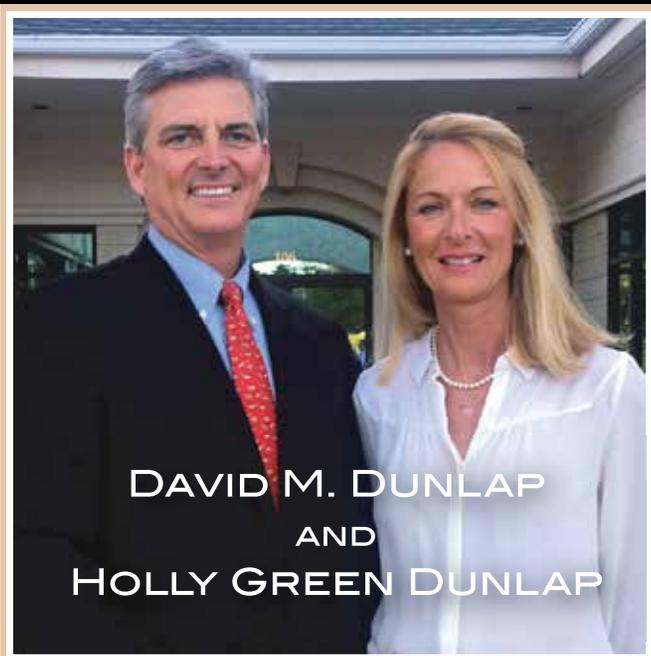
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Thursday, May 11	Friday, May 12	Saturday, May 13	Sunday, May 14
<p>THE PLAYERS Championship THE PLAYERS Championship returns to TPC Sawgrass with the start of tournament competition May 11. One of the most highly anticipated tournaments on the PGA Tour, THE PLAYERS Championship brings spectators and fans alike together for golf, food and entertainment with a series of events leading up to Championship Sunday. Jason Day, 2016 champion, will return to TPC Sawgrass to defend his title. Daily ticket prices vary with complimentary admission to the tournament for all career military service members. For a full schedule and additional information or to purchase tickets, visit www.pgatour.com/tournaments/the-players-championship/plan-your-visit/info-pages/general-information.html.</p> <p>Ponte Vedra YMCA After Partee The YMCA will host its fifth annual benefit concert for the Safety Around Water program in the spirit of THE PLAYERS Championship with "The After Partee" on May 11 at 6:30 p.m. This concert event will take place at the Crosswater Hall, featuring The Chris Thomas Band on the lawn with DJ E.L. spinning a set indoors. Jordyn Stoddard will be the opening act. Tickets are available online at \$30 for general admission and \$100 for VIP. Super VIP tickets, which include a one-day pass to THE PLAYERS grounds, are \$150. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.firstcoastymca.org/after-partee.</p> <p>Citizen Cope Citizen Cope will perform at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall May 11 at 8 p.m. The musician, who debuted in 2002 with a self-titled album, blends folk, R&B, reggae and hip hop. Tickets are \$44.50 on the day of the show and gates open at 7 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.</p>	<p>Frank Green at The BookMark The BookMark will host an event for "Wednesdays With Frank: A Panegyric," a memoir honoring writing mentor and Jacksonville native Frank Green on Friday, May 12 at 7 p.m. New York Times bestselling author Steve Berry will discuss the book and Green will speak and answer questions during the event, which will also include the participation of several of the memoir's contributors. In "Wednesdays With Frank," Bard Society members share their memories of Green, a mentor whose help was instrumental in their growth as writers. In the process, the members explore the facets of a man who acted as a mentor, leader and friend as they impart the knowledge he shared with them along the way. The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-9026.</p> <p>Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp Game The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp will go toe to toe against the Biloxi Shuckers May 12 at 7:05 p.m. The newly named team will play at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville, located at 301 A. Philip Randolph Blvd. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased online at www.jaxshrimp.com. For more information, email info@jaxshrimp.com, or call (904) 358-2846.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A S., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tastings Coastal Wine Market will host special wine tastings in conjunction with THE PLAYERS Championship from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13. Taste six wines for \$10. Guests who show a PLAYERS Championship ticket stub will receive \$5 off one tasting. Coastal Wine Market is located at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, in Nocatee. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p>	<p>Mommy and Me at AlleyCakes Celebrate Mother's Day early with Alleycakes Bakery's "Mommy and Me Princess Party." To be held May 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the party will feature cupcake decorating, crafts, a sweets buffet and a special appearance by Disney princesses Belle and Ariel. Visitors are encouraged to wear costumes. Snacks and beverages will be served. Tickets are \$45 per person and includes a child's apron to decorate, one cupcake and craft materials, light snacks and beverages and a personalized gift bag. Princesses on site will take photos, sing songs and read stories from noon to 1 p.m. For more information, call Rachel Deremer at (904) 446-5057. Alleycakes is located at 1523 Atlantic Blvd. in Neptune Beach.</p> <p>University of Michigan Men's Glee Club Palms Presbyterian Church will host its final Fine Arts concert of the season featuring The University of Michigan Men's Glee Club on Saturday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m. Founded in 1859, The University of Michigan Men's Glee Club is one of the oldest collegiate choruses in the United States and is considered to be among the finest male choruses in the world. The Glee Club is known for its wide repertoire that incorporates selections from different musical styles and periods including Renaissance motets, Romantic anthems, opera choruses, folk songs, spirituals and contemporary songs. Eugene Rogers has been conductor of the ensemble since 2011. The concert is free and open to all. Nursery care will be provided.</p> <p>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Event Join Katz 4 Keeps May 13 for an adoption event helping cats and kittens find their forever homes. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Katz 4 Keeps facility located at 935B A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event or organization, call (904) 834-3223 or email info@katz4keeps.org.</p>	<p>PINK OUT at THE PLAYERS On Championship Sunday, May 14, The DONNA Foundation will present PINK OUT at THE PLAYERS, bringing the pink-clad golfers, caddies, volunteers and fans together for a cause. The DONNA Foundation will be honored as "Charity of the Day" for the final day of tournament play, and THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP will make a donation to the foundation for continued support of breast cancer research at Mayo Clinic and financial assistance to those living with breast cancer. Participants are encouraged to dress in pink attire and share photos of themselves on social media using the hashtag #PINKOUT4DONNA for a chance to win prizes for best dressed. For tickets and additional information, visit www.breastcancermarathon.com/the-players-5k/pink-out-the-players.</p> <p>Mother's Day at MOCA MOCA will offer a Mother's Day brunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring a buffet with favorites such as shrimp and grits and Korean-fried chicken and waffles. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made at (904) 224-0113. In addition, MOCA will host two Jacksonville Symphony Chamber Orchestra performances at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. with Synesthesia, a concert fusing visual and musical art featuring the sounds of Alban Berg, J.S. Bach and Phillip Glass. Tickets for the show are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under and can be purchased at www.mocajacksonville.unf.edu.</p> <p>Azurea Mother's Day Brunch Azurea, One Ocean Resort and Spa's signature restaurant, will welcome friends and family to its Mother's Day brunch and dinner. Guests will enjoy special à la carte brunch and dinner menus created by Chef Jay Mendoza, featuring items such as thick-sliced brioche French toast, tuna carpaccio, Atlantic Beach fish tacos, veal chop and more. Mother's Day brunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., followed by dinner from 2:30 to 8 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made through One Ocean's Open Table site at www.opentable.com/azurea-at-one-ocean.</p>

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Monday, May 15	Tuesday, May 16	Wednesday, May 17	Thursday, May 18
<p>'Go Figure' Art Exhibit The St. Augustine Art Association presents "Go Figure," an art exhibit and juried show on display through May 28 that showcases interpretations of the human body by locally and regionally-based artists. Featured works include gesture drawings, studies and figures in different settings with two awards given to selected artists: The Carl Steinsieck Best Figure Drawing Award and the Ann James Best Pastel Portrait Award. The St. Augustine Art Association is open from noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The building is located at 22 Marine St.</p> <p>Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed Volunteer drivers are needed for the weekly delivery of "Meals on Wheels" to seniors. On Mondays, drivers are needed for Route 9, Old Moultrie and St. Augustine South and Route 11, South US1 to 206. For additional days and routes, call (904) 209-3686 or send an email to aleach@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>'Friends for the Arts' Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in our community. For more information visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. The program is offered daily, serving Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra area. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Prenatal Yoga The Y Healthy Living Center will host prenatal yoga throughout the month of May. Guests are invited to join a yoga class that teaches meditation and guided visualization safe for women at all stages of pregnancy, though participants are asked to get permission from their healthcare provider prior to attending. Those who wish to participate must bring a yoga mat, towel and water. Prenatal yoga classes will be held May 16, 23 and 30 from 6 to 7 p.m. There is a \$13 fee for this class.</p> <p>Farmer's Market Join the Palm Valley Community Center Farmer's Market every Tuesday for fresh local produce, fresh seafood and artisan breads and sauces from 1 to 5 p.m. at 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>'A Positive Way to Menopause' Balanced Physician Care is inviting local women to find a "positive way to menopause" with its interactive workshop. During each session, guests will receive resources and learn strategies to help achieve hormone balance, fat loss, and fitness in a group-based setting. Each week individuals will set goals and take action to improve their health and wellbeing. The cost is \$245 and workshops will be held May 16, 25 and 30 from 7:15-8:30 p.m. To RSVP, call (904) 930-4774 or email membership@balancedphysiciancare.com.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Centenarian Luncheon The Council on Aging will honor community centenarians and nonagenarians at the annual Centenarian Luncheon Wednesday, May 17 at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon, to be held at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center, is sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club. Table sponsorships are available for \$200 and include one seat and various special recognitions. The Council on Aging welcomes the public to honor local community members aged 95 or over. To do so, contact Kay Aldridge at kaldridge@stjohnscoa.com or by phone at (904) 280-3233 to RSVP or to learn how to participate. THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Well-being Wednesday Free well-being classes will be held at the Adele Grage Cultural Center at new evening times. Mindfulness Meditation classes are now being taught Wednesday evenings by certified instructor Melissa Stratford at the Adele Grage Center from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For pricing information, contact Melissa Stratford at (904) 270-9760 or Melissa@meditationbuzzfl.com. Instructors and speakers interested in teaching are encouraged to contact the department of recreation and special events at (904) 247-5828 for more details about providing the community with well-being information and classes. The Adele Grage Cultural Center is located at 716 Ocean Blvd. in Atlantic Beach.</p>	<p>'Early Literacy for Happy Babies' The library will host lapsit infants, pre-walkers and their caregivers during this class featuring rhymes, rhythm and songs to help build early literacy skills. "Early Literacy for Happy Babies" will take place Thursday, May 18 and 25 from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. This class is specifically designed to develop a love of reading with one-on-one interaction between caregiver and infant with 15 minutes of class time and 15 minutes of post-play. For the safety of all babies attending, caregivers with active walkers are asked to attend Toddler Movement class.</p> <p>Ink, Silk and Gold: Islamic Treasures Join the Cumer Museum of Art and Gardens from 5 to 8 p.m. for the opening celebration of "Ink, Silk, and Gold." Visitors will get a sneak peek of the exhibition before it opens to the public and enjoy light refreshments, beer and wine while listening to live music. Associate Curator Nelda Damiano will give remarks at 6:30 p.m. The exhibition will also be open from noon to 4 p.m. as a benefit to museum members, who are admitted free. Admission for non-members is \$10. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call (904) 899-6038.</p> <p>Volunteers Needed Life Enrichment Day Retreat in Ponte Vedra is in need of volunteers any weekday for a few hours. This volunteer will assist participants with simple activities. Call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com for more information.</p>

Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to jasmine@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.

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PV2-LV38084

As Chairman of THE PLAYERS Championship 2017, Kevin English works with a volunteer leadership team – or “Blue Coats” – to orchestrate the thousands of volunteers whose efforts enable the tournament to donate millions of dollars to Northeast Florida charities each year.

Kevin English

By Jennifer Logue

What are your duties as chairman of THE PLAYERS Championship 2017?

I oversee the operations of over 2,000 volunteers. In actuality, I don't have any specific committee responsibilities and I am fortunate to have the best leadership team in golf. My first vice chairman, Damon Olinto, is actually running the operations and we also have a vice chairman, Adam Campbell, over the Player Services division; a vice chairman, Scot Winter, over the Spectator Services division; a vice chairman, Andy Carroll, over the Facilities Division; and a vice chairman, Troy Smith – our rookie – over the Volunteer Services Division. During the tournament, I will visit with as many of our dedicated volunteers as possible and let them know how much we appreciate what they do to make THE PLAYERS Championship the best experience possible.

Tell us more about the army of volunteers who make THE PLAYERS Championship happen each year.

We have over 2,000 volunteers organized across 50 committees under five divisions. They come from far away countries, with one coming in from Malaysia and another from Peru this year. They range in age from 10 years old to close to 90. I am blown away at their dedication and hard work, as many work every weekend beginning in March up to the tournament. During tournament week, some volunteers will work over 100 hours! We have retirees as well as successful heads of businesses. It truly takes an army.

How did you first become involved in THE PLAYERS' volunteer leadership?

Robert Davis – a friend of mine and a vice chairman of THE PLAYERS at the time – called and asked me if I would be interested in volunteering. My first assignment was assistant chairman of the Volunteer Shuttles Committee, which assists with transporting all of our volunteers to the tournament. I never saw one minute of golf, but the experience was something I really enjoyed and wanted to be part of. I am so happy I said yes to Robert.

Prior to becoming a “blue coat,” you had volunteered for several years with THE PLAYERS Championship. What are some of the volunteer jobs you've performed over the years?

My first assignment was in volunteer shuttles. From there, I went on to work in the Corporate Hospitality, VIP Parking and finally Commissary before becoming a vice chairman in 2012.

How have your volunteer experiences informed your role as tournament chairman?

I can't imagine being the chairman without having gone through the many years of learning what every committee does. I had no idea what ShotLink was about or how we rope the course. It makes you appreciate how dedicated our volunteers are and what challenges they face during their assignment. Also, the experience helps the vice chairmen know what committee assignment would be best to groom the next chairman. Finally, the many years of experience enables you to create strong relationships with many of our returning committee chairs.



Photo by Jennifer Logue

What is the most rewarding part of being involved with THE PLAYERS Championship?

For me, it's the charitable impact we can have on local charities and the relationships I have developed with other volunteers. I am always moved by the gratitude each charitable organization shows when we come deliver our charitable give back in November. Last year, when we visited the Five Star Veterans Center and delivered new washers and dryers, I felt so proud to be part of the organization that was helping such a great place. Or to see how thankful St. Vincent's Healthcare was to receive a new mobile healthcare unit to take care of the poor and underprivileged. The friends I have made while volunteering will last a lifetime and that is pretty special.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

I am an avid outdoorsman. I love to do anything on the water, but I especially enjoy fishing. I have two boats (you can never have too many) and I enjoy fishing for redfish in the Intracoastal and going offshore for wahoo, tuna and snapper. I enjoy playing golf and I am excited about my son JP taking up the game. I love to hunt quail and I go on a special hunt every year with a group of friends that I met while volunteering at THE PLAYERS. Last but not least, I have an incredible family that is the joy of my life. My wife Debbie and I have been married for over 20 years and we have three amazing children, Morgan (18), Brooke (15) and JP (12).



Photo by Jennifer Logue

State Attorney Melissa Nelson addresses members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach May 4.

Restoring trust, targeting violent crimes among state attorney's top priorities

By Jennifer Logue

Restoring trust, targeting violent crime and using alternatives to incarceration where appropriate are among Melissa Nelson's top priorities, the new state attorney said last week.

The state attorney for the 4th Circuit covering Clay, Nassau and Duval counties, Nelson told members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach that since taking office in January, she has increased the number of prosecutors assigned to violent crime cases from one to four and embedded them with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office to foster better collaboration and improve intelligence gathering.

"Duval County is suffering a violent crime epidemic," Nelson said. "In order to solve crimes, we have to have intelligence – and in order to get that intelligence, people have to trust us and tell us what's going on."

Rebuilding that trust, she continued, begins by ensuring that the criminal justice system is perceived as being fair.

"All of us share values – we want to live in safe neighborhoods, in safe communities and we also want to know that the justice system is fair," Nelson said. "It's important to me that when people come to the courthouse – no matter the outcome – that they leave believing the system is fair."

To that end, Nelson is drawing on the 12 years she spent as an assistant state at-

torney as well as the seven years she spent in private practice prior to becoming state attorney.

"I appreciate and understand the craft of investigating cases and trying a case in front of a jury," she said. "At the same time, having been on the opposite side of the government and the power of the government, I believe, has already informed my decisions."

"My father spent his entire career in law enforcement," she continued. "And when I graduated from law school, he told me to never, ever lose sight of the incredible, awesome power that comes with the ability to take away someone's liberty."

To that end, Nelson has also increased use of the state's alternatives to incarceration, including intervention and diversion of some cases to veterans court, drug court and mental health court. She is also working with the three counties in her jurisdiction to issue juvenile offenders civil citations where appropriate – a process that involves youth offenders appearing before a neighborhood accountability review board, which can implement more customized, thoughtful approaches to justice and public safety.

"We cannot solve the criminal problems by just putting people in jail," Nelson said. "We are not experiencing better public safety outcomes (from that). So, in everything we do, we ask, 'Will it make us safer?'"

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Monique Burr Foundation to mark 20th anniversary at annual 'A Night at Roy's'

The Monique Burr Foundation will celebrate its 20th anniversary May 16, when the nonprofit organization holds its annual "A Night at Roy's" benefit.

Held at Roy's Restaurant in Jacksonville Beach, the annual fundraiser features the Hawaiian-influenced cuisine of renowned Chef Roy Yamaguchi. Guests will also enjoy fine wines, tropical refreshments, live music and both live and silent auctions.

Proceeds from the event will support the child abuse prevention programs of the Monique Burr Foundation. Founded in 1997 by Edward Burr in honor of his late wife, Monique, the foundation aims to provide students, teachers, parents and professionals with resources and strategies to address bullying, cyberbullying, child abuse, child exploitation, digital abuse and other dangers.

Tickets for "A Night at Roy's" are \$100 per person; sponsorship opportunities are also available. For tickets or more information, visit www.ANightatRoys.com. For sponsorship information, contact Tammy Long at (904) 562-1849 or tlong@moniqueburrfoundation.org.



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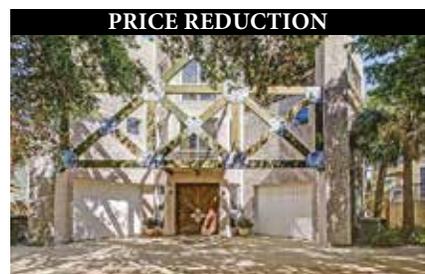
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Beaches Episcopal School students merge math skills and career choices with class project

Sixth grade students at Beaches Episcopal School were recently treated to a lesson merging math skill and career aspirations.

The project, completed by teacher Eliza-

beth Harman's math class, demonstrated the relationship between math and choosing a profession. In addition to learning how to balance checkbooks, students were

instructed to conduct research on specific career choices, examining the pros, cons, potential earnings, necessary education, prerequisites, job statistics and future

outlooks of their selections. The students then presented their results to their peers while dressed in the attire of their chosen professions.



Chloe Browne



Jack Cook



LillieBeth Novak



Julien Doty

Ocean Palms Elementary School receives recognition for 'Change for a Change' youth-led campaign

Ocean Palms Elementary School recently received a Family and Community Involvement Award from St. Johns County Schools Superintendent Tim Forson in recognition of the school's "Change for a Change" campaign.

Presented at the district's Outstanding Volunteers Reception, the award recognized OPE's youth-led service group Small Steps for organizing the fundraiser, which raised nearly \$15,000 for the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach's "Sound Connections" music therapy program. In addition, the group raised more than \$1,500 for the Special Olympics. Ponte Vedra High School sophomore and Small Steps member Claire Fodor served as the team's primary leader for the nine-month project, working in collaboration with OPE students and school Principal Jessica Richardson.

To raise money, the group conducted four different presentations for sports club boards, wrote 40 letters and 400 emails, held phone conferences, coordi-

nated with nonprofit organizations and business partners, created project materials and baked cookies.

The local sports community embraced the project, including the boards and athletes from Jacksonville Armada Youth Academy, Ponte Vedra Soccer Club, Ponte Vedra Lightning softball and Ponte Vedra Athletic Association. In addition, the group received support from the cultural center, Lazzara Family Foundation, Lazzara Orthodontics, Special Olympics, VyStar Credit Union, Napoli's Pastaria, Publix, Ponte Vedra Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics, the Wicker family, the Masto family and David Proehl.

The Family and Community Involvement Award is presented to one elementary school and one secondary school each year for their efforts to increase family involvement, welcome families into the local school system, provide effective communication, support student success and promote collaboration within the community.

Valley Ridge Academy quiz bowl team to compete in national championship tournament

A quiz bowl team from Ponte Vedra's Valley Ridge Academy will test its skills on a national stage May 12-14, when the team travels to Dallas to compete in the National Academic Quiz Tournaments' Middle School National Championship Tournament.

The Valley Ridge Academy team will be captained by Aditya Singh, who will be joined by Yash Singh. The team will be coached by Pankaj Singh.

The national competition will test the team's knowledge in a wide variety of academic subjects, disciplines and knowledge areas.

Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activity for teams of four students. Quiz bowl teams use buzzers to answer questions about science, math, history, literature, mythology, geography, social science, current events, sports and popular culture.

The matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration, since no individual player is likely

to be an expert in all subject areas. Participation in quiz bowl both reinforces lessons from the classroom and encourages players to develop new intellectual interests.

This will be Valley Ridge Academy's first time competing in the Middle School National Championship Tournament. Last year's tournament saw 160 of the top middle school teams from across the United States visit Atlanta. Middlesex Middle School from Darien, Connecticut won the championship on the last question, defeating Longfellow Middle School of Falls Church, Virginia.

Jacksonville's James Weldon Johnson Middle School will also be competing in the 2017 tournament in Dallas.

Tournament results will be updated throughout the three days of competition at http://www.naqt.com/stats/tournament-teams.jsp?tournament_id=7399 so local residents may follow along and track the Valley Ridge Academy team's progress.

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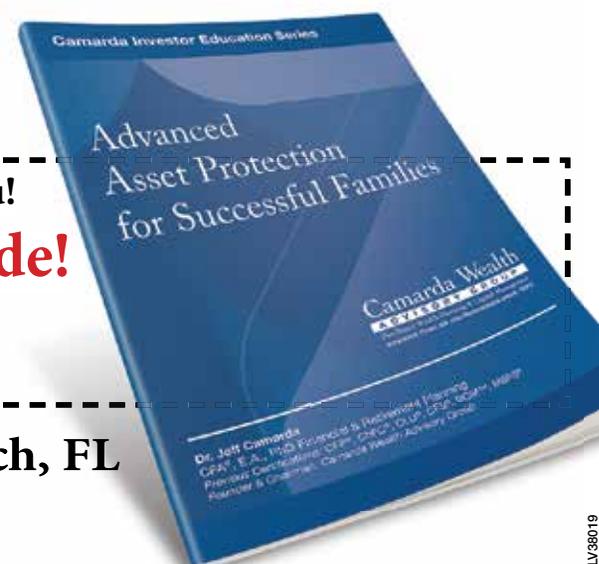
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NOCATEE HAPPENINGS

Splash Water Park hosts 'Nocatee Uncorked'

One of the Nocatee community's most popular events returned May 6, when the Splash Water Park played hosted to "Nocatee Uncorked." Hundreds of Nocatee residents attended the wine tasting, which gave guests the opportunity to sip and sample 60 wines. The event also featured live entertainment. Nocatee Uncorked is one of the many regular events the Nocatee community hosts for local residents throughout the year.



Photos courtesy of Nocatee



Sawgrass resident wins beach cruiser in Bike MS drawing



Sawgrass resident Marian Edwards (left) joins Bogey Grille Owner Derek Prince, Bike MS event coordinator Elli Miles and Big Bananas team captain Bruce Reid, after winning a Schwinn beach cruiser at the fourth annual Bike MS bicycle drawing at Bogey Grille. The beach cruiser was provided by Bikes, Kites and More in Jacksonville.



Bogey Grille owner Derek Prince selects Marian Edwards' winning ticket, which was one of more than 300 sold during the four-week fundraiser that benefited the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and "Big Bananas" bicycle team. Bike MS, which encompasses more than 100 rides around the country, will be held Oct. 14-15, 2017.

Romanza Festivale returns to Ancient City

St. Augustine's Romanza Festivale of the Arts will bring activities to a close after its second week with a packed schedule of events, including two more headlining attractions throughout the celebration of art, music and culture.

Lomazov-Rackers piano duo

The Lomazov-Rackers Piano Duo will perform at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. The prize-winning duo, comprised of Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers, have performed in several countries. Both pianists hold a doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from the Eastman School of Music in addition to serving on the piano faculty of the University of South Carolina School of Music. Tickets for their performance are \$25 for adults, \$5 for students with ID and free for children 12 and under.

Harry Potter event

Capping off the series of headlining events will be the Romanza Festivale Harry Potter Event at Francis Field Saturday, May 13 from noon to 8 p.m. This expansive, interactive event will feature an appearance by actor Chris Rankin, best known as the character Percy Weasley from the "Harry Potter" films. Rankin will sign autographs and pose for photos throughout the day. In addition to the celebrity appearance, the event will feature a sorting hat, shops on Diagon Alley, butter beer, quidditch games, a Hogwarts Express train and hourly shows by magician Andrew Ratliff. Tickets are \$5 at the gate and \$4 online. Children 3 and under are free. For a full schedule or to purchase tickets, visit www.romanzafestivale.com.

The festival will also feature a host of music, dance, theater, art and cuisine events, among them performances from the Chamber Music Series and Young Performers Series; tours of local historic monuments such as the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Spanish Military Hospital



Joseph Rackers and Marina Lomazov

37 St. George St.

- **Lomazov-Rackers Duo Piano Concert**

May 11 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The Cathedral Basilica
Cathedral Place

- **Romanza Chamber Music Series: "Songs Sinatra Sang" presented by the Nick DeCarlis Trio**

May 12 from noon to 1 p.m.

Ancient City Baptist Church

Women's Chorale

May 13 from noon to 1 p.m.

Ancient City Baptist Church
27 Sevilla St.

- **Two Glorias by Vivaldi and Poulenc, the St. Augustine Community Chorus in Concert**

May 14 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The Cathedral Basilica
Cathedral Place

DANCE

- **A Little Night Music: Matanzas Tap**

May 11 from 6:30 to 7 p.m.

The Colonial Quarter
37 St. George St.

CUISINE

- **Wine Tasting at the Gifted Cork**

May 11-14, various times

The Gifted Cork
64 Hypolita St.

- **23rd HAWKE Wildlife Benefit: Dine on the Wild Side**

May 13 from 5 to 9 p.m.

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HERITAGE AND CULTURE

- **Spanish Military Hospital Museum Tours**

May 11-14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Spanish Military Hospital Museum
3 Aviles St.

- **St. Augustine Lighthouse: Behind the Scenes at the Lighthouse**

May 11-14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lighthouse Park
201 Red Cox Road

- **Lincolville Museum and Cultural Center**

May 11-12 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Lincolville Museum and Cultural Center
102 Martin Luther King Ave.

- **The St. Augustine Maritime's 450th Legacy Vessel**

May 11 from 9 a.m. to noon

The Fountain of Youth
11 Magnolia Ave.

For more information on St. Augustine's Romanza Festivale of the Arts, visit www.romanzafestivale.com.



Chris Rankin

Museum; wine tastings at The Gifted Cork; visual arts exhibits including the Gilded: Impressions of the Flagler Era at the St. Augustine Art Association; and theater performances of "Love Letters" and "When Florida was the Wild West."

MUSIC

- **Romanza Chamber Music Series: Pegge Ealum, Flute with Jazz Trio**

May 11 from noon to 1 p.m.

Ancient City Baptist Church
27 Sevilla St.

- **Young Performers in Recital**

May 11 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Memorial Presbyterian Church
32 Sevilla St.

- **Fermin Spanish Guitar**

May 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The Colonial Quarter



28 Sevilla St.

- **Romanza Young Performers Music Series: The St. Augustine Youth Chorus**

May 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Ancient City Baptist Church
27 Sevilla St.

- **A Little Night Music: the CRS Band in the Gazebo**

May 12 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Plaza de La Constitucion Gazebo
King Street

- **A Little Night Music: Mama Blue and Friends**

May 12 from 7 to 9 p.m.

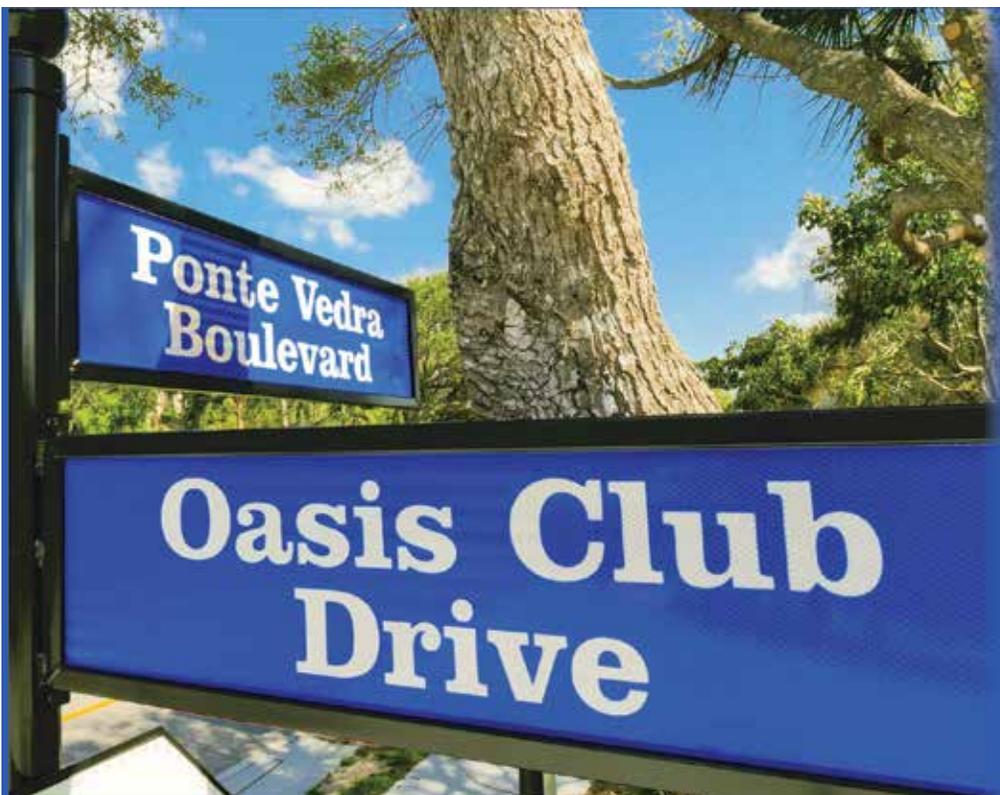
Plaza de La Constitucion Gazebo
King Street

- **St. Augustine Orchestra Concert**

May 12 from 8 to 10 p.m.

Lightner Museum Antique Courtyard
25 Granada St.

- **Romanza Chamber Music Series: The North Florida**



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St. Augustine's 'Concerts in the Plaza' to begin June 1

Plaza de la Constitución to host free Thursday concerts throughout summer



Ancient City Slickers

St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will once again host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza."

Returning for its 27th season, the series will provide free, two-hour concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. The concerts will begin on June 1 and continue through the end of August. Each event is rain or shine. The series kicks off with the bluegrass stylings of "The Driftwoods."

All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.

- June 1** The Driftwoods perform bluegrass, old-time and contemporary music.
- June 8** Florida Brass Quintet takes the stage with a mix of Dixieland jazz, swing music and more
- June 15** The Mike Hart Band brings a mix of blues, jazz and rock.
- June 22** Rob Ellis Peck & Friends will perform southern R&B, classic rock & roll
- June 29** Big Pineapple will perform jazz, Bossa Nova and swing.



The Grapes of Roth

- July 6** Doug Carn & The Lincolnville Brass Band bring the parade to the plaza with jazz.
- July 13** Bob & Joline and the Friends of Mine Band will perform old-time Florida folk music.
- July 20** The Raisin Cake Orchestra mixes jazz from the teens, twenties, thirties.
- July 27** The Dunehoppers will take the stage with bluegrass, folk and old-time tunes.
- Aug. 3** The Session will perform jazz
- Aug. 10** The Grapes of Roth will cover classic rock favorites.
- Aug. 17** Ancient City Slickers bring "big fun" music.
- Aug. 24** The Gatorbone Band takes their sound from traditional to old-time to jazz.
- Aug. 31** Lonesome Bert & The Skinny Lizards perform Americana and boogie songs.

Frank Green, Steve Berry and more to make an appearance at The BookMark

The BookMark will host an event showcasing "Wednesdays With Frank: A Panegyric," a memoir honoring writing mentor and Jacksonville native Frank Green on Friday, May 12 at 7 p.m.

New York Times bestselling author Steve Berry will discuss the book and Green will speak and answer questions during this event, which will also include the participation of several of the memoir's contributors.

F. Armstrong Green's pursuit of writing has led him through "The Sewanee Review" to the home of Katherine Anne Porter and the mentorship of the Bard Society, a writers'

workshop that has run for approximately 50 years. In "Wednesdays With Frank," Bard Society members share their memories of Green, whose help was instrumental in their growth as writers. In the memoir, the members explore the facets of a man who acted as a mentor, leader and friend as they impart the knowledge he shared with them along the way. As Berry reports, "Those Wednesday nights were hell, but they were also where I, and many others, learned the craft of writing."

The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-9026.

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Tony Award winner Idina Menzel to perform at St. Augustine Amphitheatre

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will present Tony Award-winning actress and singer Idina Menzel May 26.

Menzel is currently on a tour of more than 50 cities around the globe throughout the spring and summer. The tour began March 29 and included stops in Osaka, Nagoya and Tokyo before returning to North America. Featured on the tour are songs from Menzel's self-titled fifth solo studio album "idina." as well as a selection of personal, classic pop and musical theater favorites.

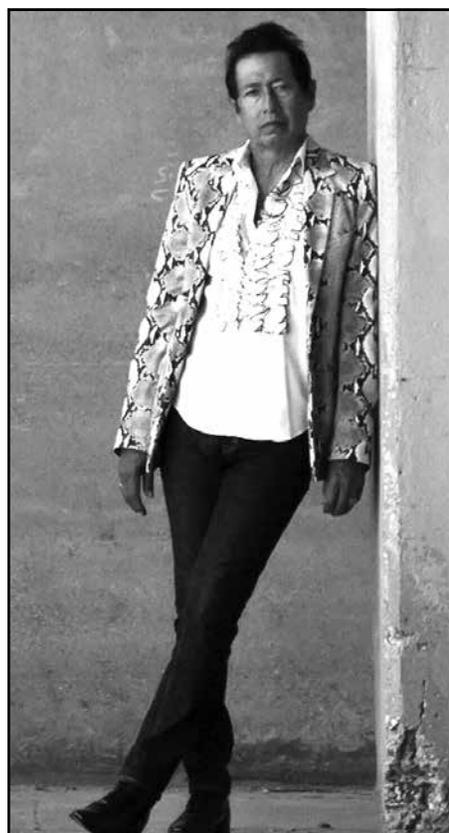
Menzel's diverse career traverses stage, film, television and music – most notably in Disney's global box office smash "Frozen," in which she sings the film's Oscar-winning song "Let it Go." After her performance of the multi-platinum song at the 86th annual Academy Awards, Menzel made history as the first person with both a Billboard Top 10 hit and a Tony Award for acting. She capped 2016 with the release of "idina." and filmed Lifetime's remake of "Beaches," in which she portrays CC, the role originated by

Bette Midler.

Menzel reached superstardom on Broadway with her Tony Award-winning performance as Elphaba, the misunderstood green girl in the blockbuster "Wicked," and in her Tony-nominated role as Maureen in the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Rent." Menzel's most recent Broadway role as Elizabeth in the original production "If/Then" earned her a third Tony nomination. Other notable projects include "Glee" and Disney's "Enchanted." In addition to cast albums, Menzel's prolific recording career includes the solo albums "I Stand," "Here" and "Still I Can't Be Still."

Doors open at 6 p.m. with the show starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$54 and are on sale at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box offices. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com, all authorized TicketMaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. For more information, visit www.staugustineamphitheatre.com.

Tickets on sale for Alejandro Escovedo at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall



Tickets are on sale for alt-country rock performer Alejandro Escovedo and The Burn Something Beautiful Band, who will perform June 27 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Escovedo released "Burn Something Beautiful," in October 2016. Recorded at Portland's Type Foundry studio, the project features guitarist Kurt Bloch (The Fastbacks), drummer John Moen (The Decemberists), vocalists Corin Tucker (Sleater-Kinney) and Kelly Hogan (Neko Case, The Flat Fie) as well as saxophonist Steve Berlin (Los Lobos).

In an impressive career that began with The Nuns, San Francisco's famed punk innovators, to the Austin-based-based alt-country rock pioneers, Rank & File, to the Texas-bred True Believers, Escovedo has earned numerous distinctions, including No Depression magazine's Artist of the Decade Award in 1998 and the Americana Music Association's Lifetime Achievement Award for Performing in 2006.

"You just do your good work, and

people care," Escovedo said. "I always believed, when I was a kid, that if you worked hard, you would find fulfillment. I think I got a lot of that from my father and my brothers. A working musician is all I ever wanted to be. Hard work, stay true to what you want to do, and then eventu-

ally someone would notice for that very reason."

Doors open at 7 p.m., with the show beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$24.50 to \$38.50 and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at ticketmaster.com and by phone at (800) 745-3000.

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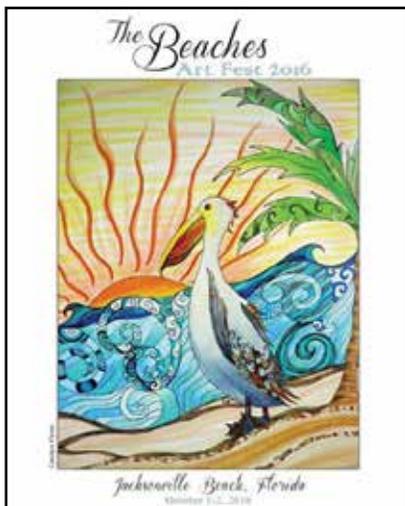


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The Beaches Art Fest holds poster art contest for fourth annual event



Artwork provided by The Beaches Museum and History Park

2016 Event poster by Carolyn Flynn

Entries are now being accepted for a poster design contest for the fourth annual Beaches Art Fest. Entries will be accepted until midnight July 1.

Artists are encouraged to design and submit the original artwork that they feel best exemplifies the event, a juried fine art show

bringing artisan crafts, photography, fashion, art and jewelry to two city blocks stretching along Pablo Avenue. The artist with the winning entry will receive a free booth at the Beaches Art Fest, among other prizes.

The event, to be held October 14-15, is produced by Holiday Art Shows and presented by The Beaches Museum and History

park and Driftwood Jacksonville Beach. The “walking showcase” benefits The Beaches Museum and History Park.

For more information about the art fest and for entry details, visit www.TheBeachesArtFest.com or email info@beachesmuseum.org.

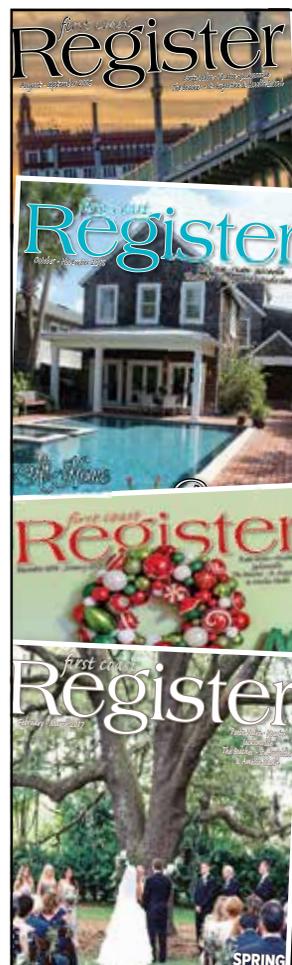
OBITUARIES

Delores Eileen Hall

Delores Eileen Hall, 86, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died May 1, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 www.pontevedravalley.com.

R. Dennis Burroughs

R. Dennis Burroughs, 70, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died April 30, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 www.pontevedravalley.com.



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- June 8, 2017 - Deadlines May 26, 2017
- August 10, 2017 - Deadlines July 28, 2017
- October 5, 2017 - Deadlines September 22, 2017
- December 7, 2017 - Deadlines November 10, 2017
- February 8, 2018 - Deadlines January 26, 2018

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Beaches Museum Chapel series to conclude with performance by Chris Thomas King

This session of the Beaches Museum Chapel Concert series will conclude May 22 with a performance by Chris Thomas King.

King's foray into music started

at an early age through the Baton Rouge nightclub owned by his father, Tabby Thomas. He is perhaps best known for his contributions to the movie "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" in which he

played Delta blues-man Tommy Johnson. He also recorded a version of Skip James' "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues" for the soundtrack of the movie, which helped launch his career.

Tickets for the show are \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the show. To learn more or to purchase tickets, visit www.beachesmuseum.org or call (904) 241-5657.



Beaches Museum 'Boardwalk Talk' to cover the lives, legacy of four Atlantic Beach heroes who died in WWII

The Beaches Museum and History Park will host a Boardwalk Talk Thursday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m. on four Atlantic Beach men who died during World War II.

Johnny Woodhouse will share the stories

about the men, including Lt. John "Jack" Ahern, a pilot who saved an English village by piloting his crippled B-17 bomber and thwarting its destruction; Staff Sgt. Bob David, a paratrooper who was part of the

first combat jump in U.S. military history and a member of the first football team at Fletcher High School; Solomon Sturdivant; and Richard Bull, the son of Mayor Harcourt Bull. The lecture will also discuss the

subsequent dedication of a stone memorial in their honor in 1946.

This event is free to museum members with a suggested \$5 donation for non-members. For additional information, visit www.beachesmuseum.org.



St. Marys Waterfront Park to host concert series

St. Marys Waterfront Park in St. Mary's, Georgia will play host to a new series titled "Starry Nights, Music in the Park," beginning Saturday, May 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. The premiere will follow the KBAY St. Marys Street Fair and feature a perfor-

mance by Michael Hulett, whose performance features a mix of classic, jazz, soul and rock. Visitors are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to this free event.

Subsequent performances in the series will include shows by rock, blues and

soul group The Bluff 5 Band on June 10, Southern soul artists Jamie Renee and the Walkers on July 8, St. Marys-based high school cover band Harbor on Aug. 12 and blue grass band Back from the Brink on Sept. 9.

The series will be presented by the St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau and the City of St. Marys, sponsored by Freedom Self Storage. For more information, visit www.visitstmarys.com or call the St. Marys Welcome Center at (912) 882-4000.

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St. Augustine Distillery CEO: current laws discriminate against distilleries



Photos courtesy of St. Augustine Distillery

The St. Augustine Distillery is one of several distilleries in Florida restricted by the number of bottles it can sell directly to customers per year.

By Jon Blauvelt

The CEO of the St. Augustine Distillery says a bill recently passed by the Florida legislature allowing craft distilleries to sell more bottles directly to consumers still requires them to abide by regulations more stringent and antiquated than those mandated for breweries and wineries.

"We are required to operate under a different set of laws," said Philip McDaniel, whose distillery on Riberia Street in downtown St. Augustine makes whiskey, rum, gin and vodka. "In essence, (we) are being discriminated against because we sell spirits instead of beer or wine."

Expected to be signed by Gov. Rick Scott within the next 30 days, the bill (HB-141) increases the number of bottles a craft distillery can sell to a consumer from two to six per year, which McDaniel said is a sign of progress. He explained that the original version of the bill, however, included privileges that would have provided

for parity with breweries and wineries, including the elimination of all limits on bottle sales from a distillery's tasting room, as well as the ability for distilleries to sell drinks by the glass. Both privileges are currently afforded to Florida breweries and wineries, and distilleries in several other states, which McDaniel said makes it difficult for Florida distilleries to compete. Also included in the bill: Florida distilleries are prohibited from shipping their spirits to consumers; all transactions must be completed in person.

McDaniel said there wasn't enough support in the legislature to pass the initial version of the bill, which was filed by Rep. Cyndi Stevenson in December 2016. Stevenson called the current situation for distilleries "a shame," saying that she doesn't think parity will be achieved any time this year. As a result, distilleries will have to continue selling most of their product through distributors, which McDaniel

said isn't as profitable as selling directly to consumers. He noted that he must sell three or four bottles to a distributor to reach the same profit earned by selling one bottle from his gift shop to a consumer.

Although McDaniel values the relationships with his distributors, he said they benefit from this current system and don't want to change it. The businessman explained that the three-tier system of alcohol distribution, which includes manufacturers, suppliers/distributors and retailers, provides distributors with the most power. The only way for a manufacturer to currently ship product to a retailer and ultimately a consumer, he said, is through a licensed wholesaler or distributor.

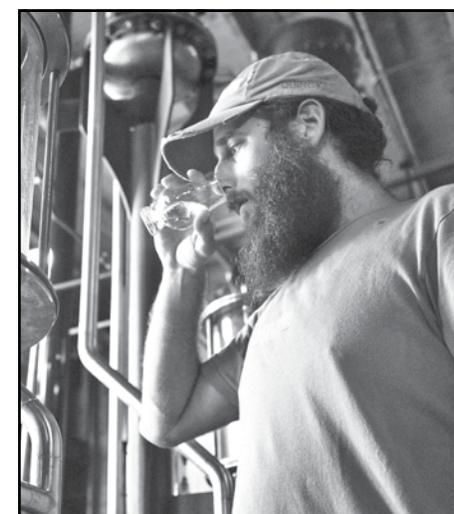
"This dates all the way back to Prohibition," remarked McDaniel. "It's that middle tier that has had complete control over the distribution of alcohol that has been opposing any changes to the three-tier system. They see it as a threat to their livelihood.

Slowly, over the past 30 years, it's been changing."

McDaniel explained that the restrictions currently holding back distilleries were lifted for wineries about 20 years ago and for breweries over the last five to 10 years. He emphasized that he doesn't have any interest in changing the three-tier system, but he does believe that when guests visit his business, they shouldn't be limited to a certain number of bottles per year or refused a glass of the distillery's spirits. Not only does he think that's unfair for distilleries and its customers, he believes it's not good for the distributors' business. If craft distilleries were more profitable out of their gift shops or tasting rooms, he said, they could contribute that revenue toward marketing to help distributors sell it at retail locations and compete with big brands.

McDaniel hopes the legislature will soon realize that change is in the best interest of the consumer. He plans to wait another year before lobbying the legislature again, with hopes it will be more favorable to small businesses like his own.

"We firmly believe in our core as business people we should be able to operate under the same rights that are currently granted to other alcohol producers," said McDaniel. "We're a little bit frustrated with it, but we understand that things take time, and big changes come in small, hard fought steps."



St. Augustine Distillery Head Distiller Lucas Smith

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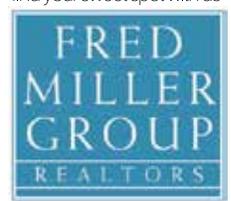
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Underwood's Jewelers hosts Ippolita trunk show that benefits Angelwood

By Jon Blauvelt

Underwood's Jewelers hosted a trunk show May 4 featuring the spring collection of Ippolita. Ten percent of the event's proceeds benefited Angelwood, a Jacksonville-based nonprofit organization that serves adults and children living with developmental disabilities.

Event attendees admired the Ippolita jewelry while enjoying cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and music. Ippolita is known for its fashion-forward and colorful aesthetics that integrate a wide-ranging group of materials, including multi-faceted stone bracelets, necklaces and rings in gold and silver.

Underwood's General Manager John Rutkowski said this is the second year the jeweler has held an event benefiting Angelwood. According to Development Director

Tera Lageman, last year's event proceeds of \$8,000 were used to improve transportation for the families whom Angelwood serves. The project that will benefit from this year's event, she said, is unknown until the final amount is determined. Regardless, she expressed her gratitude to Underwood's for promoting her organization two straight years.

"Lots of people have found out about us," said Lageman, who noted that Angelwood serves approximately 300 local families per year. "The community recognition is priceless."

Rutkowski is happy to be supporting such an organization.

"We look forward to a long-term relationship to help benefit Angelwood," he said.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Ippolita Regional Business Manager Amber Mitchell; Underwood's Designer, Jeweler and Buyer Emily Pepper; Angelwood Development Director Tera Lageman; and Underwood's General Manager John Rutkowski



Underwood's Registered Jeweler Leslie Keener (left) and Ippolita Regional Business Manager Amber Mitchell (right) show Margaret McDowell an Ippolita necklace.



Angelwood board members Stephen Ramsey and Brian Kelly with Executive Director Diane Tuttle

Churches should strive for financial transparency

By Harry Pappas



Harry Pappas
Columnist

Special to the Recorder

I find it peculiar and inexcusable that the salary of the president of the United States is public information; the salaries of the members of the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives is public information;

the salaries of every state governor are public information; but the salaries of many pastors and church employees are, for the most part, kept confidential.

Most charities are subject to some level of transparency, but not churches. That leaves it up to the members to demand transparency. I argue that the pastor, deacons, stewards, trustees and ministry leaders have a fiduciary responsibility of being transparent with all aspects of the church's money, especially the compensation pack-

ages of the church leaders.

Perhaps I am missing something, but I see the issue in question as black and white. If you have something to hide, be opaque. On the other hand, if there is nothing to conceal or to be embarrassed about, be completely transparent.

There are a few organizations trying to fix this problem of church transparency. For example, Ministry Watch asks for financial information from ministries and publicizes the results. However, Ministry Watch has only about 600 ministries on their list when there are an estimated 335,000 congregations in the United States! Moreover, the financial information provided by these churches is not as thorough as that provided on Form 990 by nonreligious nonprofits. Yep, churches are exempt from filing Form 990 and this baffles me. The way I see the issue in question is that if one were looking out for the best interest of a congregation, one would avoid anything that sniffs of conflict of interest.

If you Google GuideStar, the Founda-

tion Center, or similar organizations to see how a particular nonprofit spends its donated money, you will find a wealth of information. This applies to any nonprofit, that is, except churches. Of course, not all churches that refuse to be completely transparent with their financial expenditures are playing shenanigans. Nevertheless, do not be surprised if you meet resistance from your church leadership when inquiring about the compensation packages of the key employees. From my experience, this issue is incredibly secretive.

As Mahatma Gandhi so cleverly stated, "The moment there is suspicion about a person's motives, everything he does becomes tainted." In other words, if we cannot trust you, nothing else really counts. In the end, these folks perhaps are more takers disguised as givers. Yes, it is sad, but arguably quite true!

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MOVERS AND SHAKERS



Christopher Aitken

Barron recognizes Aitken on 'America's Top 1,200 Advisors' list

Christopher Aitken, managing director with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Ponte Vedra Beach, was recently recognized on Barron's "America's Top 1,200 Advisors: State-by-State" list. Aitken has extensive experience in working with ultra-high net worth families, corporations, health care entities, endowments/foundations and DB/401(k) Plans.

Prior to joining Merrill Lynch in 2009, Aitken spent 23 years as a managing director for Citi/Smith Barney Institutional Consulting overseeing \$5 billion in assets. He began his investment consulting career in 1986 with Smith Barney and its predecessor firm. Prior to 1986 he served as an accountant with Price Waterhouse Coopers, where he was responsible for auditing and monitoring large pools of nonprofit client assets.

He and his wife, Letitia, live in Ponte Vedra Beach.



Stephanie Kinsey

Kinsey attends dental forum in Buenos Aires

Stephanie Kinsey, DDS, owner and founder of Palencia Dental in St. Augustine, recently attended the International College of Craniomandibular Orthopedics (ICCMO) conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina during the professional organization's Neuromuscular Dental Forum in April.

Dr. Kinsey joined more than 200 professionals from around the world during the private summit with commentary and opinions about scientific presentations for

neuromuscular dental medicine, and the latest technologies in clinical and professional interests. Lecture topics included sleep apnea, posture, dental development, neuromuscular restorative and orthodontic treatment, bite management, occlusal equilibration, TMD and TMJ treatments, holistic dentistry, swallowing, and physical therapy, among others.

"The fraternal atmosphere with professionals in private practice and from academic institutions is of great benefit to my local patients and the practice," she said. "Studies and discussions at all levels of neuromuscular dentistry, scientific advancement and education will help to change many lives through the importance of advanced dental and oral health."



Larry Celzo

Celzo joins FirstAtlantic Bank

Larry Celzo has joined FirstAtlantic Bank as vice president, senior commercial banker.

His responsibilities include developing new customer relationships in the bank's targeted markets of businesses and professionals.

Celzo brings 14 years of financial services experience to his new position. He was most recently with

IBERIABANK. Celzo received a bachelor of arts in business administration from the University of North Florida. He is a military veteran having previously served four years on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, and is currently serving his fifteenth year in the Florida Air National Guard.

Celzo is also very involved in the community, serving as vice chairman for the Child Guidance Center of Jacksonville, a trustee for Memorial Health's Specialty Hospital, and the chairman of the programs committee for the Meninak Club of Jacksonville.

He previously served as the vice president of the Univer-

sity of North Florida Coggin College of Business Alumni Chapter.

"We are very pleased to have Larry join our team," said FirstAtlantic President and CEO Mitchell W. Hunt, Jr. "His wealth of experience and knowledge of the industry will be instrumental in helping our company continue to grow in northeast Florida."

Haven Hospice honors Kupka as 'Outstanding Volunteer of the Year'

Chris Kupka was awarded the Haven Hospice Fisher Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award for the Jacksonville service area during the recent volunteer appreciation luncheon and awards event in Jacksonville.

"Chris is what every volunteer coordinator hopes for," said Haven Hospice Jacksonville Volunteer Coordinator Carol Waters. "Her amazing ability to connect with people has made her such a valuable member of the Jacksonville team."

Kupka started volunteering with Haven when she relocated to Jacksonville in 2014. She volunteers with Haven in several capacities including community outreach, administrative support, and patient and caregiver support.

"I love all of my different roles here at Haven," said Kupka a retired clinical social worker. "My favorite part of volunteering with Haven is talking to people in the community about Haven and hospice benefits as a community outreach volunteer."

The Volunteer of the Year Award in Jacksonville became the Fisher Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014. It was named for longtime Haven Hospice volunteers Ken and Frances Fisher, who were also previous recipients and continue to volunteer in the Jacksonville area.

Berkshire Hathaway Realtors complete Ninja program



Photo courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR

Realtors from the Ponte Vedra Beach office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently completed the four-day Ninja Selling Course in Jacksonville.

More than 115 Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Realtors and brokers recently completed the four-day Ninja Selling Course.

Developed by Larry Kendall and The Group, Inc. Real Estate, Ninja Selling is a system that focuses on bringing exceptional value to clients. The program name, Ninja, was inspired by one of The Group's sales

associates, who earned the Ninja nickname because of his work ethic and ability to serve his clients' needs while achieving harmony in his personal life.

"Our company's culture has always focused on putting the needs of our clients first," said Linda Sherrer, founder, president and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. "Ninja

selling provides an exceptional framework and system around this philosophy and will enable our outstanding team of real estate professionals to better serve their clients."

The Ninja philosophy is based on building relationships, listening to the customer and helping them achieve their goals.

"Our leadership team attended the four-

day installation in San Antonio in February and we immediately knew that this program was a perfect fit for our team," Broker/Executive Vice President Christy Budnick said. "We are trusted advisors to our clients, and that is a huge responsibility and an honor we take very seriously."



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Photos by Susan Griffin

Ina Gerville, Jared Rice, Paul Woods, Daniel Davis, Ashley Szczukowski, Greg Smith, Darnell Smith and Vince McCormack attend the Chamber After Hours at THE PLAYERS.

Jacksonville, St. Johns chambers of commerce host 'After Hours at THE PLAYERS'

Members of the Jacksonville and St. Johns County chambers of commerce got a head start on the festivities surrounding THE PLAYERS Championship last week, when the two chambers hosted a joint "Chamber After Hours" event at TPC Sawgrass.

Held May 4 at THE PLAYERS Stadium Village, the event attracted an estimated

500 business and community leaders from across the First Coast. Attendees enjoyed refreshments provided by a number of local restaurants – including Blackfinn Ameripub, Gusto, III Forks, Mulligan's Pub, Papa Murphy's Take-N-Bake, Seasons 52, Taziki's Mediterranean Café and Peterbrooke Chocolatier – while networking with other business representatives.



Jennifer Belisario, Susan Griffin, Victoria Crawford, Christine Ondek, Gloria Dongara and Carol Maurer



Malcom Anthony and Victoria Crawford



Toni Boudreaux and Debra Bulak



Jeff Wyatt and Jennifer Belisario



Kevin Ellis

Chamber golf classic and seasonal blend June 8

Registration is now open for the annual St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic.

To be held June 8 at The King & Bear, 1 King & Bear Drive in World Golf Village, the tournament will begin at 1 p.m. and will feature course

games such as hole in one, closest to the pin, longest drive and best-dressed golfers. Following the tournament, an awards reception featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres will be held in conjunction with the chamber's Summer Seasonal Blend beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Registration for the golf tournament is \$150 per golfer or \$500 per foursome through May 15 (\$175/\$600 thereafter), and includes admission to the Seasonal Blend and awards reception. Admission to the Seasonal Blend only is \$15 for chamber members, \$20 non-members

and includes hors d'oeuvres and drink tickets.

To register, visit event.stjohnscountychamber.com.

WELCOME PLAYERS & FANS



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469 S. MillView Way • Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
2,688 SQ FT • 4 BED/2.5 BA • Ideally located between the Intracoastal Waterway & beautiful Ponte Vedra beaches, this spacious home has a highly desired open concept floor plan. Home boasts Kitchen w/ stainless appliances & granite countertops, large family room w/ fireplace, formal living & dining areas. The large master bedroom has an adjoining sitting room & spacious en-suite bathroom. Large screen lanai & additional paver patio area overlooking lake is perfect for Florida indoor/outdoor living. Offered at \$470,000.



COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE

160 Bermuda Greens Ave. • Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
3,964 SQ FT • 5 BED/4 BA • No need to build! Situated on an expansive preserve lot this beautiful home is move-in ready. The award winning Toll Brothers, Estate Collection, Westin floor plan features beautiful hardwood floors throughout the first floor. A stunning two story curved window wall allows natural light to flow into the expansive family room & gourmet kitchen. Space abounds w/ five bedrooms, formal living & dining rooms. Spacious screened, paver lanai w/ summer kitchen. Offered at \$724,900.



PLANTATION OAKS BEAUTY

155 Bay Cove Dr. • Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
4,362 SQ FT • 4 BED/4.5 BA • Stunning former model home! Travertine floors, large open rooms, gourmet kitchen w/ gas burner cooktop, oversized office, bonus room, 1st floor guest suite, bedrooms w/ their own baths, swimming pool w/ screened lanai & summer kitchen! 3 NEW HVAC systems, impeccably maintained. This home will satisfy the most selective buyer! Hurry it's the best buy in this price range in PVB & just a short bike ride to the beach! Offered at \$950,000.



GOLFER'S DELIGHT

HAMMOCK COVE AT TPC SAWGRASS

6515 Burnham Cir • Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
2,744 SQ FT • 4 BED/3 BA • Enjoy the fabulous views of the golf course from your screened lanai! This updated home offers casual living with the modern conveniences today's buyer prefers: an open floor plan, spacious kitchen with stainless appliances, bedrooms located on the first floor, large bonus room with bath on second floor. Roof replaced in 2016. Offered at \$555,000.



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810 Port Charlotte Dr. • Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
4,117 SQ FT • 5 BED/3.5 BA • Located on one of the largest private lots in Coastal Oaks at Nocatee, this gorgeous home boasts 4,117 SQ FT, 5 bedrooms/3.5 baths. Stunning Kitchen, two story Great Room, Executive Office, Large screened heated pool/spa overlooking lake. Offered at \$860,000.



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COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE

256 Cape May Ave. • Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
3,144 SQ FT • 4 BED/3 BA • No need to build or renovate this attractive home! Popular Cassia floor plan expanded to provide additional living space. Kitchen has exotic granite countertops, overlooks spacious Family Room. Home boasts solid core doors, large office, closets with built in systems, oversized laundry room with computer work station, oversize paver, screened lanai. Room for a pool! Offered at \$575,000.



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179 Pelican Point Dr. • Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
3,059 SQ FT • 4 BED/3.5 BA • Pride of ownership shows from the moment you walk through the front door! The unique floor plan offers a two-story living room & light filled dining room. Gorgeous kitchen has shaker cabinets, stainless appliances, & granite countertops. Large Family room w/ gas fireplace & built in cabinetry. Private office/study. A bonus room w/ separate staircase is perfect for craft room, man cave or even teen/in-law suite. Enjoy outdoor entertaining on the private paved lanai & patio. Offered at \$474,900.



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Last minute Mother's Day Gift Guide

By Jasmine Marshall

With Mother's Day just days away, the pressure to find the perfect gift is on – but last-minute shoppers can still find thoughtful gifts in the form of local food and entertainment. With no shortage of homegrown restaurants, art and theater from which to choose, the First Coast offers numerous options for a gift mom won't forget.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Cummer Museum

Visit the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Mother's Day to explore the museum's current exhibits and cafe. The Poetry of Landscape: The Art of Eugène Louis Charvot will be on display through Sept. 10, showcasing prints and drawings of the mundane beauty of France's rural parts. Visitors can also enjoy brunch at the Cummer Cafe, which features a special menu of crab cake Benedict, shrimp and grits, loaded breakfast potatoes, quiche du jour and more. For more information or to make reservations, visit www.cummERMuseum.org.

Alhambra Theatre & Dining

Treat mom to dinner and a show at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining. Choose from upcoming titles like "Steel Magnolias," playing from May 24 through June 25; The musical "Annie," scheduled for June 28 through Aug. 13; "The Dixie Swim Club," playing from Aug. 16 through Sept. 24; or "The Adams Family," slated for Oct. 4 through Nov. 12. Or catch "Dream Girls" before its closing date of May 21. Call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com/ for additional information and to purchase tickets.

ABET presents "The Hallelujah Girls"

Enjoy a girls' night out with "The Hallelujah Girls," ABET's production of the story by Jessie Jones, Jamie Wooten and Nicholas Hope. The Southern comedy follows the lives of a group of friends determined to shake up their lives against the backdrop of an abandoned church-turned-day-spa. The show will run May 12-14 and 19-21, with Friday and Saturday shows at 8 p.m., and Sunday shows at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and reservations can be made at www.abetheatre.com or by calling (904) 249-7177.

MUSIC

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Gift Guide

Continued from 31

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will welcome Grammy, Oscar and Golden Globe Award winning singer John Legend on Mother's Day, May 14 at 7 p.m. This stop on Legend's "Darkness and Light" tour will feature works from his critically acclaimed fifth studio album and an appearance by Grammy-nominated newcomer Gallant. Tickets range from \$67 to \$117. Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

Tony Award-winning singer Idina Menzel will take the stage May 26 at 7:30 p.m. as one of 50 tour stops for her fifth studio album "Idina." The acclaimed Broadway star will perform songs from the album in addition to classic pop, musical theater favorites and other songs from her own past records. Tickets are priced between \$54 and \$132. Gates open at 6 p.m.

Tickets for both shows can be purchased at www.staugamphitheatre.com.

Romanza Festivale

Catch the Romanza Festivale's last headlining performers, the Lomazov-Rackers Piano Duo, before the festival closes May 14. On Thursday, May 11, the musicians will perform at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine at 7:30 p.m. The prize-winning duo, comprised of Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers, both hold a doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from the Eastman School of Music in addition to serving on the piano faculty of the University of South Carolina School of Music. Tickets for their performance are \$25 for adults, \$5 for students with ID and free for children 12 and under.

In addition, the festival will host a slew of chamber, orchestral and street music performances through Mother's Day, including "Romanza Chamber Music Series: Pegge Ealum, Flute with Jazz Trio" at Ancient City Baptist Church on May 11 from noon to 1 p.m. and "Two Glorias by Vivaldi and Poulenc" by the St. Augustine Community Chorus on May 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. at The



Photo courtesy of Alhambra



Photo by Caryl Butterley

Cathedral Basilica. To learn about additional festivale offerings, visit www.romanzafestivale.com.

DINING Bistro Aix

Bistro Aix will offer an extensive brunch menu for Mother's Day from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., featuring items such as prosciutto wrapped dates with manchego and a balsamic reduction, lobster omelet served with roasted

asparagus and tarragon Bechamel, and French toast with candied figs and maple-roasted bacon. The restaurant will also offer mimosa selections, among them traditional orange juice with champagne, bellini with peach nectar and champagne, poinsettia with cranberry and champagne and mango with syrup and champagne. Items range in price from \$3 to \$29. Reservations are recommended and can be made via open table or by calling (904) 398-1949.

SHORT TAKES

Cypress Village to host art show

For its second show of the year, the Cypress Village Art League will present "Through My Lens" featuring the landscape and animal photography of Dave Alexander. An opening reception will be held in the newly renovated Egret Hall, located on the campus of Cypress Village, on May 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. Light refreshments, cocktails and wine will be available.

Alexander is the owner of a dog grooming business, a professional photographer and the author of two books, "Twilight on the Emerald Coast" and "My Side of the Lake."

Community Chorus Masterworks to present 'Two Glorias'

The St. Augustine Community Chorus, under the direction of Michael Sanflippo, will present its celebrated Masterworks concert, "Two Glorias: Vivaldi and Poulenc." This program features Shannon McKay (organ, chamber orchestra), and soloists Hannah J Mazur and Regina Torres. The concert will be performed at the historic Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 at 2 p.m. The event is presented as part of St. Augustine's Romanza Festivale of the Arts.

Adult concert tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, while tickets for children 12 and under and students and military members with ID are \$5. Advanced tickets can be purchased from Carter's Jewelry, Flowers by Shirley, Herbie Wiles Insurance, Southern Horticulture, Sterry Piano, Cathedral Basilica's Bell Tower Gift Shop and online at www.staugustinecommunitychorus.org.

SoMMA meeting to host Hawkins

On May 20, 2017, multimedia artist Linda Hawkins will be the presenter at the Society of Mixed Media Artists (SoMMA) meeting. Scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., the meeting will be held at the Ponte Vedra Cultural Center, located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach. The public is invited to attend. Hawkins is an award-winning artist in many mediums. At this meeting she will demonstrate a variety of techniques using paints, stamps, transfers, paper, hardware, "found objects" and more. In addition to SoMMA, Hawkins is a member of the Jacksonville Coalition for the Arts and the Jacksonville Watercolor Society.

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Nobu Eden Roc Hotel Miami Beach

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- 30 percent off the best available rate at Eden Roc (starting at \$259/ per night)
- 25 percent off the best available rate at Nobu Hotel (starting at \$329/ per night)
- Complimentary valet parking
- Daily buffet breakfast served at Nobu Restaurant

Situated in the heart of Miami Beach, the Nobu Eden Roc is home to two distinct hotel experiences. With a total of 624 guest rooms, the resort offers sweeping views of the Atlantic Ocean, three swimming pools, a sprawling wellness spa and fitness center with nearly 20 treatment rooms, restaurants, lounges and more. For more information on Nobu Eden Roc, call (305) 531-0000 or visit nobuedenroc.com.

The Brazilian Court Hotel Palm Beach

Florida residents receive:

- 15 percent off the best available rate, starting at \$195/per night
- Complimentary valet parking included
- Available now through Sept. 30, 2017

This intimate enclave of the rich and famous since the 1920s boasts a decades-old pedigree, attracting everyone from the Hearsts and the Kennedys to the Pulitzers. The Brazilian Court Hotel remains at the epicenter of Palm Beach society. For more information on The Brazilian Court Hotel or to book the packages, please call (561) 655-7740 or visit www.thebraziliancourt.com.



Hammock Beach Resort Palm Coast

Florida residents receive:

- 10 percent off the best available rate
- Complimentary self parking and internet access
- One hour daily bicycle rentals included

Situated just south of historic St. Augustine, the recently renovated Hammock Beach Resort overlooks two miles of pristine Atlantic shoreline. The all-suite resort offers an upscale escape surrounded by scenes of Old Florida, with more than 300 spacious accommodations, including a 12-story tower of redesigned luxury suites. The resort also offers two golf courses designed by legends Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson, a 10,000-square-foot ocean-inspired spa and fitness center, multiple restaurants and bars, a multi-level pool complex with adult and children's areas and miles of coquina-laden coastline. For more information, visit www.hammockbeach.com.





Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate Orlando

Florida residents receive:

- 20 percent off the best available rate, starting at \$119.20/per night
- Available year-round, pending availability

The AAA Four Diamond Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate is set amid 1,200 acres and boasts two championship Greg Norman-designed golf courses, the world headquarters of The Leadbetter Golf Academy, a signature Mokara spa and 15 sprawling acres of pools and recreation. For more information on Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate or to book the packages, call (407) 390-6664 or visit www.omnihotels.com/hotels/orlando-championsgate.

Pelican Grand Beach Resort Fort Lauderdale

Florida residents receive:

- 20 percent off the best available rate, starting at \$149/per night
- Available now through March 31, 2018
- Guests must present a valid ID at check-in to receive promotion

Set on 500 feet of Fort Lauderdale's private, pristine beachfront, the newly renovated Pelican Grand Beach Resort combines Old Florida grandeur with seaside elegance. From watching stunning sunrises from private balconies and enjoying culinary creations at OCEAN2000 Restaurant & Lounge, to floating down Fort Lauderdale's only lazy river and indulging in personalized pampering at the new PURE Spa, guests enjoy laid-back luxury against the backdrop of the sights and sounds of the Atlantic Ocean.

For more information on Pelican Grand Beach Resort or to book the packages, please call (954) 568-9431 or visit www.pelicanbeach.com.

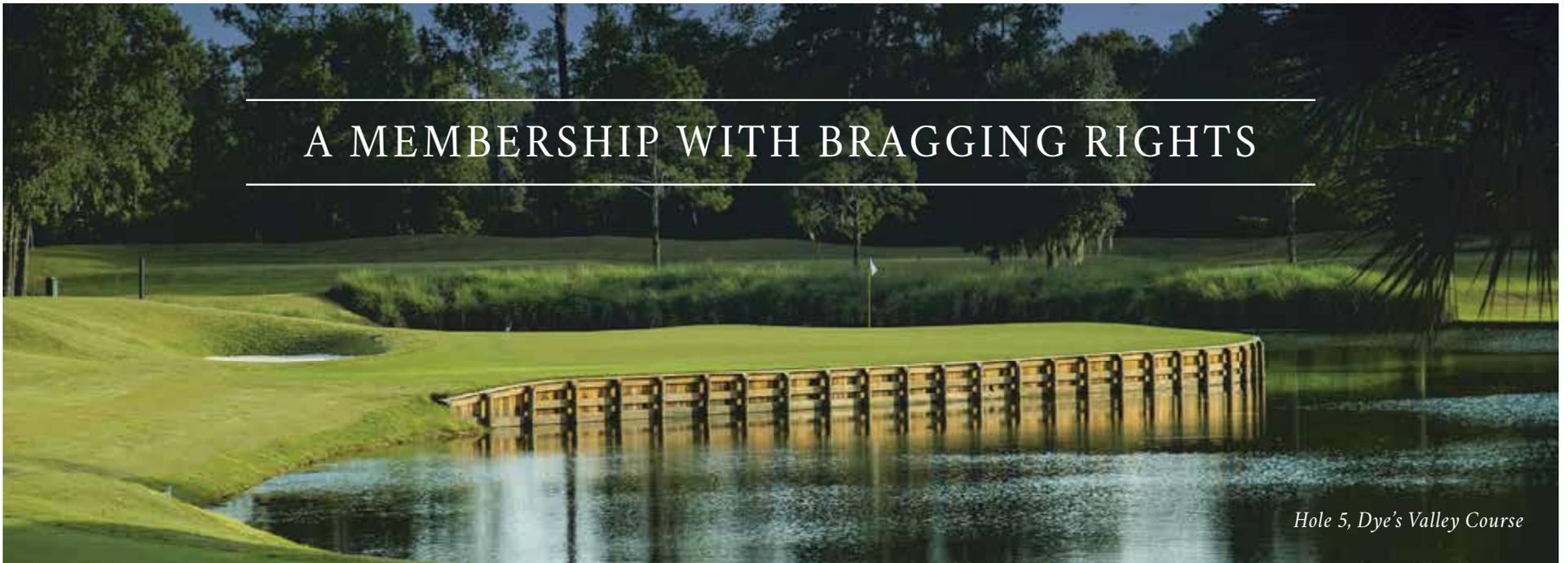


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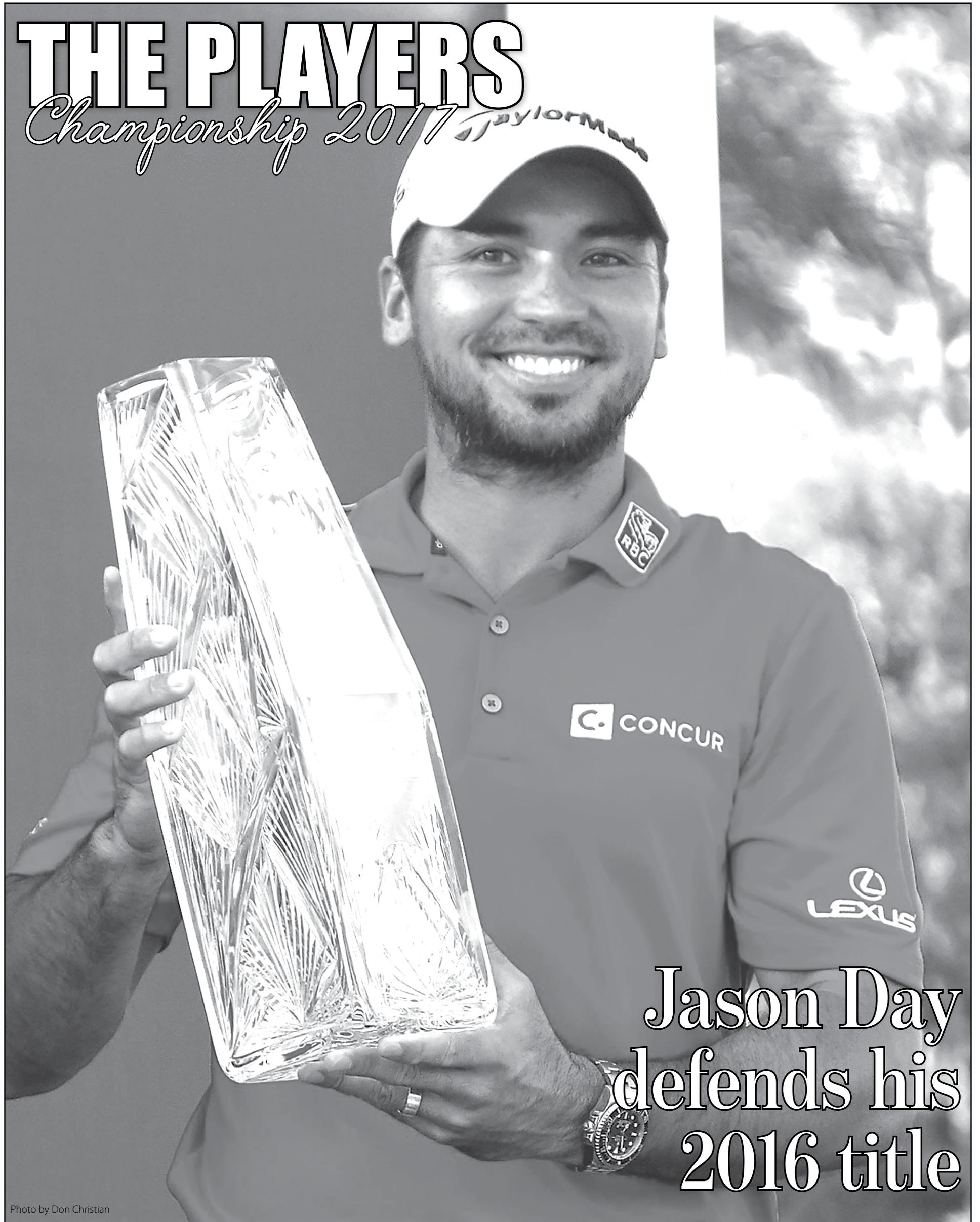


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THE PLAYERS

Championship 2017

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PV2-LV38077



THE PLAYERS 101: How to get there, where to go and what to bring

TICKETS

Tickets for THE PLAYERS 2017 are on sale at THEPLAYERSChampionship.com as well as at 55 Publix stores throughout Northeast Florida and the surrounding areas, including two locations in Georgia.

Stadium Passes are \$60 Thursday and Sunday, \$65 for Friday and \$70 for Saturday. Fans can also purchase a weekly Stadium Pass for \$225, which includes admission Tuesday-Sunday. Stadium Pass prices are exclusive of sales tax and do not include parking.

Families

Taking the kids to THE PLAYERS? You're in luck: Youth 18 and younger are admitted free of charge when accompanied by a ticketed adult, and there is no limit to the number of youth fans admitted with that ticketed adult. That means youth sports coaches, for example, can bring the whole team with one paying adult.

What's more, the "Family Plan" offers additional savings. Families receive two adult Stadium Passes, unlimited youth admission at the gate and two \$10 concession vouchers. Family Plan packages are \$120 for Thursday and Sunday, \$130 for Friday and \$140 for Saturday (taxes not included). Family Plan packages are available online at THEPLAYERSChampionship.com as well as at 27 participating Daily's convenience stores and at THEPLAYERSChampionship.com.

Parking passes cost extra, but any car with four or more passengers parks for free under THE PLAYERS' "Four for Free" policy. To take advantage of the parking offer, download a voucher at <https://theplayersparking.clickandpark.com>.

Military/Veterans

The First Coast is home to more than 250,000 active-duty and retired military, and to show its appreciation THE PLAYERS Championship will once again provide complimentary and discounted admission to career military and veterans.

THE PLAYERS provides all career military – including active duty, Reserve, military retirees and dependents – with complimentary admission to the tournament throughout the week, while veterans receive discounted admission. Career military and veterans also receive access to the Birdies for the Brave @ Patriots' Outpost – a hospitality tent reserved exclusively for the military that offers complimentary food, beverages and activities.

To receive a voucher for complimentary or discounted admission, visit THEPLAYERSChampionship.com and click on the Tickets & Parking link. Parking is not included in the complimentary or discounted ticket price. Parking passes may be purchased at <https://theplayersparking.clickandpark.com>, or guests may take advantage

of the "Four for Free" policy that provides free parking to cars with four or more passengers.

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

All parking passes for THE PLAYERS must be purchased in advance online; parking passes will not be sold at Publix or at the lot on arrival.

Thursday through Sunday, fans are required to purchase parking online in advance at <https://theplayersparking.clickandpark.com>. Parking rates are \$30 per day on Thursday and Sunday, \$35 per day on Friday and Saturday.

Four for Free

As an incentive to carpool, any car with four or more passengers parks for free under THE PLAYERS' "Four for Free" policy. To take advantage of the parking offer, download a voucher at <https://theplayersparking.clickandpark.com>. A new voucher must be downloaded and printed for each day (or saved on an electronic device); there is no limit to the number of days guests can park for free, but there is a limited number of vouchers per day.

Shuttles from downtown

Shuttles are available from downtown-area hotels to TPC Sawgrass for THE PLAYERS, Wednesday through Sunday of tournament week. Shuttles from the Jacksonville Landing, Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront and DoubleTree Riverfront will be available to hotel guests and for residents to "park and ride," providing a convenient and cost-effective way for fans to get to and from the tournament. Fans can access the shuttles by purchasing a shuttle pass at the hotel (Omni Jacksonville, Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Lexington Hotel and DoubleTree Riverfront) front desks for \$10.

Alternative rides to THE PLAYERS

THE PLAYERS has designated Coastal Cab as the preferred taxi service. There are designated taxi stands outside the Davis Love Gate (Shuttle B) and outside the Fred Couples Gate near ATP Blvd. (Shuttle ATP). Fans should call Coastal Cab at (904) 246-9999 for taxi service.

In addition, THE PLAYERS has expanded its relationship with Uber for the 2017 tournament. For the first time, Uber will have a designated pick-up and drop-off area at the Sawgrass Marriott, where fans may pick up a shuttle to the Davis Love III Entry. Fans returning home may pick up a shuttle back to the Marriott from the Davis Love III Entry as well.

Thursday, May 11

- Gates open at 6:15 a.m.
- First round of competition begins at approximately 7:30 a.m. (threesomes off of No. 1 and No.10)

Friday, May 12

- Gates open at 6:15 a.m.
- Second round of competition begins at approximately 7:30 a.m. (threesomes off of No.1 and No.10)

Saturday, May 13

- Gates open at 7:30 a.m.
- Third round of competition begins at approximately 8:30 a.m., depending on the size of the cut (twosomes off No.1)

Championship Sunday, May 14

- Gates open at 7:30 a.m.
- Final round of competition begins at approximately 8:30 a.m., depending on size of the cut (twosomes off No.1)

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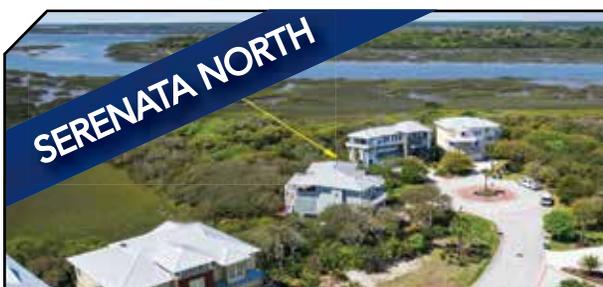
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See a video of this exceptional property
85PONTEVEDRABOULEVARD.COM
4 BD/4 BA/2 HB/10,790 Sq. Ft.
\$5,950,000



SERENATA NORTH

151 YELLOW BILL LANE
SUPERIOR LOT OVERLOOKING
THE INTRACOASTAL
\$325,000



THE PLANTATION

186 TWELVE OAKS LANE
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186TWELVEOAKSLANE.COM
3 BD/3 BA/3,217 Sq. Ft.
\$589,000



THE PLANTATION

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\$345,000



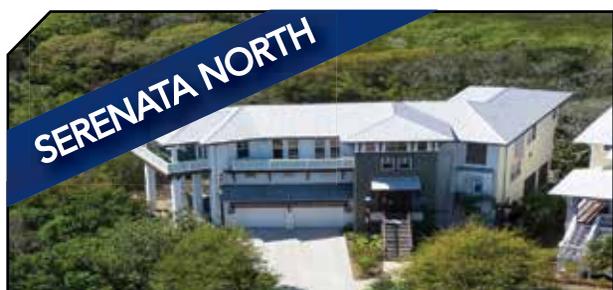
ON THE BLVD.

550 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
RENOVATE OR BUILD
4 BD/2.5 BA/2,646 SQ. FT./.5 ACRE
\$2,195,000



PLEASE
ANY OF

KIM MARTIN-FISHER
904-699-9999



SERENATA NORTH

155 YELLOW BILL LANE
See a video of this exceptional property
155YELLOWBILLLANE.COM
5 BD/3 BA/1 HB/3,172 SQ. FT.
\$830,000



OLD PONTE VEDRA

27 WATERBRIDGE PLACE
WALK TO THE BEACH
3 BD/2 BA/2,016 SQ. FT.
\$614,000



ON THE BLVD.

504 PONTE VEDRA BOULEVARD
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5 BD/5 BA/1 HALF BA/4,868 SQ. FT.
\$2,375,000

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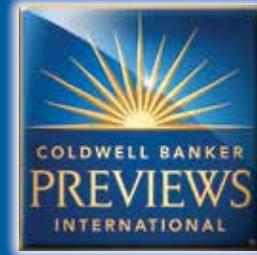


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3.7 ACRES IN MARSH LANDING
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232 PAYASADA CIRCLE
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232PAYASADACIRCLE.COM
4 BD/4 BA/2 HALF BA/4,934 Sq. Ft.
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904-999-9993



JULINGTON CREEK PLANTATION

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LIVE THE COUNTRY CLUB LIFE
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\$528,900



S. JAX BEACH

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EAST OF A1A & 1 BLOCK TO THE BEACH
3 BA/3 BA + LARGE BONUS ROOM
2,452 SQ. FT.
\$797,500



OCEANFRONT

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GLEN KERNAN

4581 GLEN KERNAN PARKWAY E.
See a video of this exceptional property
4581GLENKERNANPARKWAY.COM
5 BD/5 BA/6,751 SQ. FT.
\$1,275,000



GLEN KERNAN

4484 GLEN KERNAN PARKWAY E.
ON THE GOLF COURSE
.82 ACRES
\$440,000

AVAILABLE PROPERTIES ON FOX NEWS, CNBC, AND CNN AGENT PONTE VEDRA BEACH

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THE PLAYERS 101

Continued from 39

Using Uber

To use Uber to get to THE PLAYERS:

- Download, or update, the Uber app on your phone
- Enter Destination: THE PLAYERS Championship
- Arrive at the Sawgrass Marriott Conference Center
- Take the designated Uber shuttle from the Sawgrass Marriott Conference Center to the Davis Love III Entry located inside THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass
- Enter the tournament through the Davis Love III Entry

Leaving THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Exit the tournament grounds through the Davis Love III Entry
- Follow tournament signage to the designated Uber pick up area outside the

Davis Love III Entry

- Once at the Uber pick up area, open the Uber app on your phone and enter your preferred destination
- Get in available Uber and head to your preferred destination

WHAT TO BRING Food and bags

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

Clear THE PLAYERS bags are available at 27 participating Daily's convenience stores for a \$5 donation to The First Tee of Northeast Florida.

THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in their own food in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag where food items are also wrapped in clear wrap. This policy does not allow fans to bring in beverages. (Please see "Dining" for information on some of the many food options available to guests at THE PLAYERS.)

Guests may also bring their own chairs; bags for collapsible camp chairs, however, will not be admitted.



Mobile device policy

- Devices tablet size and below are allowed on site
- Please silence all mobile devices
- Calls are permitted away from play
- Texting/emailing is allowed anywhere
- No photographs of play are allowed Thursday through Sunday
- No video recording is allowed at any time
- Repeated violators face device confiscation or removal from event.



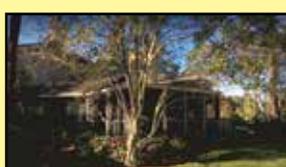
The newly designed entrance to TPC Sawgrass offers majestic views of the clubhouse and golf course enhancements.

Photo by Kathy Bissell

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Suzie Connolly | 
MARSH LANDING CC
4BR/4BA • \$799,000
Suzie Connolly | 
MARSH LANDING
5BR/6BA • \$1,550,000
Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
3BR/2BA • \$755,000
Joan Swanson | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
4BR/4.5BA • \$799,000
Suzie Connolly | 
S. JAX BEACH
3BR/3BA • \$679,000
Olivia or Brent Seaman |
| 
MANDARIN
4BR/3.5BA • \$563,030
Steve Martinez | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
4BR/4BA • \$1,699,000
Kathleen Floryan | 
FRUIT COVE
5BR/5.5BA • \$2,950,000
Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
4BR/3.5BA • \$749,500
Jo Mitchell | 
OCEANFRONT
6BR/6BA/3HB • \$5,950,000
Steve Martinez/Josh Spalding | 
HILLIARD
Acreage • \$2,750,000
Earl Parker |
| 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
3BR/2BA • \$279,000
Chris Knight | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
3BR/2BA • \$650,000
Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland | 
PV OCEANFRONT
Homesite • \$759,000
Michael Curet | 
GLEN KERNAN
5BR/4.5BA • \$995,000
Steve Martinez | 
JACKSONVILLE BEACH
4BR/4.5BA • \$1,850,000
Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen | 
SERENATA BEACH
3BR/3BA • \$782,500
Tami Estberg |
| 
NOCATEE
4BR/4BA • \$725,000
Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen | 
PALERMO
4BR/3.5BA • \$699,000
Mary Faulds/Valerie Shaw | 
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2BR/2BA • \$284,900
Jonatha Swatek | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
5BR/3BA • \$504,900
Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen | 
SAN MARCO
4BR/3.5BA • \$450,000
Suzie Connolly | 
PONTE VEDRA BEACH
3BR/2BA • \$699,000
Joan Swanson |
| 
ST. JOHNS RIVER
3BR/2.5BA • \$399,000
Belk Ingram / Michael Curet | 
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Suzie Connolly | 
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4BR/3.5BA • \$849,000
Patti Armstrong | 
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Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen |
| 
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Michael Curet | 
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3BR/3.5BA • \$450,000
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Photo Getty Images courtesy of PGA Tour

New PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan right man for the times

By Kathy Bissell

Jay Monahan doesn't tweet.

He once worked for Bobby Orr. He comes from a golf family. He was good enough to be on the college golf team at Trinity. He thinks golf is the "greatest game ever." He thinks Tiger Woods can still win, and says that's going to be his answer when Woods is 75 years old. When asked by Rich Lerner of Golf Channel what he wanted to accomplish in his first year, he replied that in the first year, he wants the late Arnold Palmer to be proud of his efforts.

Could you draw up someone better to fill former Commissioner Tim Finchem's shoes?

"He has been a key member of the executive team since joining the tour and has worked closely with me on all business matters since becoming deputy commissioner," Finchem said when it was announced that the Monahan would replace him.

Monahan's advancement to commissioner

was voted on by a board comprised of four highly skilled businessmen and six PGA Tour players. The vote was unanimous.

"Jay has proven himself to be an outstanding leader who has developed an intimate knowledge and understanding of the PGA Tour and a clear vision for the future of the organization," said Victor F. Ganzi, chairman of the policy board. "He is highly respected among our members, staff, business partners and the golf industry as a whole. We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Jay's caliber fully prepared to assume the role of commissioner and lead the PGA Tour's exceptional executive team as it continues to build upon the remarkable success achieved under Tim's leadership."

The new commissioner has a rich history of sports marketing and sports business experience on which to draw. He came to the PGA Tour after working for Fenway Sports Group, the organization that among other things, owns the Boston Red Sox, New England Sports

Network, Roush Fenway Racing (NASCAR) and Liverpool Football Club, what we call soccer. Prior to joining Fenway Sports Group, Monahan was executive director at IMG Worldwide and had a role in the creation of what was then the Deutsche Bank tournament, where he was tournament director. It is now the Dell Technologies Championship, a part of the FedExCup Finals.

It was in 2008 that Monahan joined the PGA Tour as executive director of the PGA Tour's flagship event, THE PLAYERS. He progressed to become senior vice president for business development, and then was promoted to executive vice president and chief marketing officer, overseeing business development, corporate marketing and partnerships, title sponsor relations, retail licensing and media sales. That's the big stuff. From there, he became the deputy commissioner and last spring, COO of the PGA Tour.

Monahan has a little more on his plate than

Finchem did 20 years ago, thanks to several programs that Finchem started. There are several additional international tours, including PGA Tour Latinoamérica, PGA Tour Canada and PGA Tour China. There's also the First Tee, International Federation of PGA Tours — which spearheaded the Olympic golf movement — World Golf Championships and World Golf Foundation.

"Under Tim's leadership, the PGA Tour has made remarkable progress, even in the most difficult economic times," Monahan said about Finchem when his new role was announced. "We are now entering a very important time in our organization's history, and I know our executive team and I will draw upon and be inspired by the invaluable experience of working with Tim as we take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities, as well as face the challenges, that are ahead for the tour."

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F THE PATIO

- Shaded venue with open-air seating, videoboard and food and drinks for purchase
- 4 Rivers Smokehouse
 - Michelob ULTRA Bar
 - Permanent Restrooms
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G TRUCKS ON 10

- Local food and drinks for purchase
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 - Cely's Filipino Food Truck
 - Mama's Food
 - Pele's Wood Fire Pizza
 - Up In Smoke BBQ

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TacoLu, Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, will be serving food and beverages. Venue includes seating and shaded areas

J FAN BLEACHER PRESENTED BY PUBLIX

Public covered bleacher and deck with views of 12 and 13. Concessions available

K TASTE OF JAX

- GREY GOOSE® open-air bar, seating, permanent restrooms and shaded area, plus local food and drinks for purchase
- Brucci's Pizza
 - Candy Apple Café
 - Hawkers Asian Street Fare
 - Mojo Kitchen

L FAN BLEACHERS PRESENTED BY MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

1. Public covered bleacher and deck with views of 16 and 10
 2. Public bleacher with covered deck and views of 16, 17 and 18
- Concessions available at both locations

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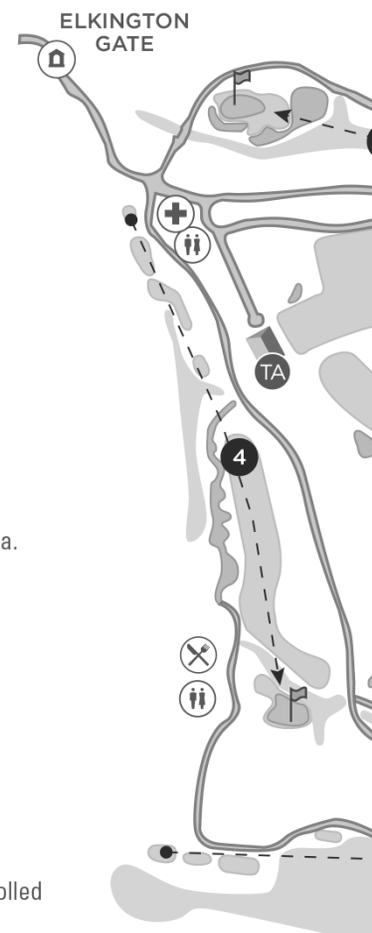
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PAR	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	3	5	36	PAR	4	5	4	3	4	4	5	3	4	36	72
YARDS	423	532	177	384	471	393	451	237	583	3651	YARDS	424	558	302	181	481	470	523	137	462	3538	7189

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Janet E. Johnson, P.A.

Criminal Defense Attorney

Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL "Blood, Breath & Tears" annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson appears as a legal commentator on CNN, HLN, GMA, and Fox News. She has been awarded the very highest possible rating, the AV preeminent rating™, from Martindale- Hubbell® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys.

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PV3-LV98101

TPC Sawgrass offers dining, shopping destinations for THE PLAYERS Championship

Some of the First Coast's most popular restaurants will be represented at THE PLAYERS Championship this year, with more than a dozen dining destinations from which to choose. Taste of Jax will feature Mojo Kitchen and Hawkers Asian Street Fare, while visitors to the Food Court will have their choice of offerings from Trasca & Co, M Shack, Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q, Firehouse Subs, Daily's and Tropical Smoothie Café.

Those seeking a more upscale dining experience will want to stop by "Wine & Dine on 9," where noted local chef Matthew Medure will serve up gourmet small plates accompanied by varietals from William Hill Estate Winery in a picturesque garden setting.

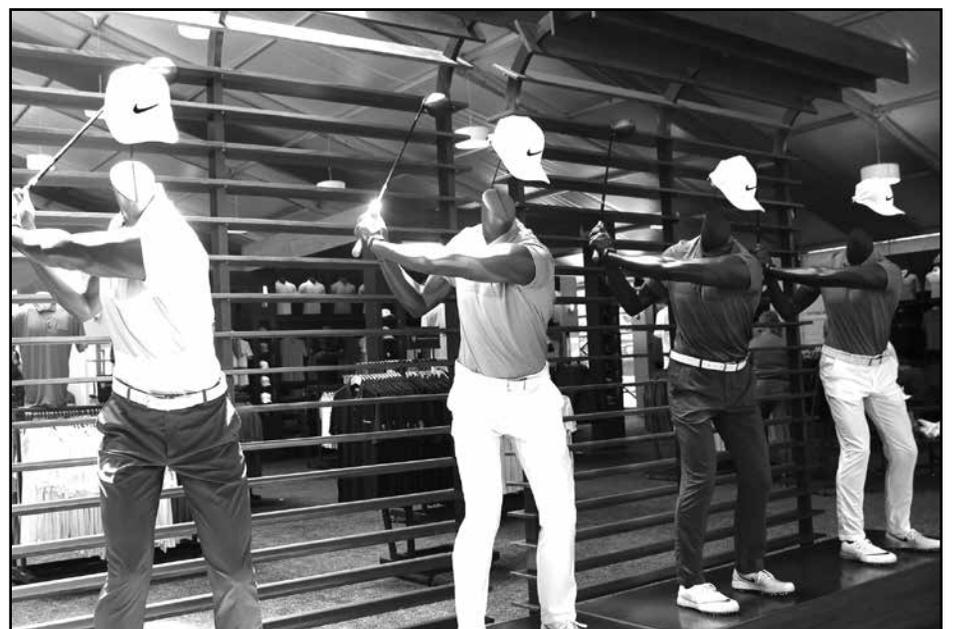
Or check out the "Trucks on 10" – with six food trucks and seating for fans – or the popular "Tacos on 12," where TacoLu will be serving up its popular Baja Mexicana in a public venue with seating and shaded areas.

Shopping

THE SHOP at Nicklaus Gate is a 17,200-square-foot tent featuring 16 of the top brands in golf. Located near the Nicklaus Gate, THE SHOP at Nicklaus Gate features a limited-edition PLAYERS section, extensive headwear section and a pink section for Championship Sunday's PINK OUT. Guests paying with MasterCard save 10 percent on concessions and merchandise.



Photos by Susan Griffin



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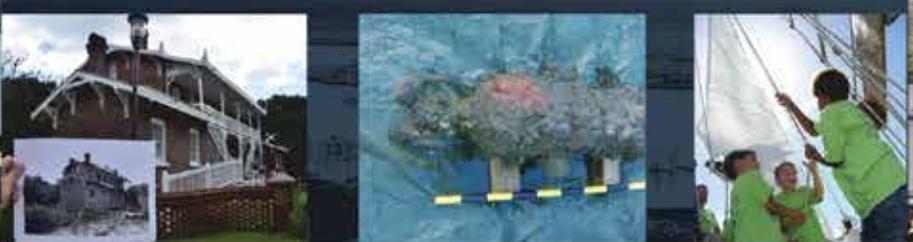



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Dining at THE PLAYERS

Guests will have no shortage of dining and refreshment options at THE PLAYERS Championship 2017. From barbecue and Italian to tacos and more, there's sure to be something to satisfy every palate at TPC Sawgrass.



4 Rivers Smokehouse



Candy Apple Cafe



4 Rivers Smokehouse



Candy Apple Cafe Lobster Mac & Cheese



Hawkers Asian Street Fare



Grey Goose Sawgrass Splash



MoJo Kitchen



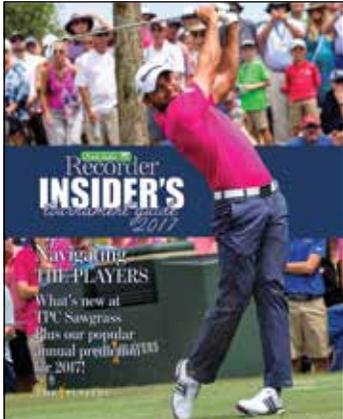
William Hill Wines

Photos by Susan Griffin

Get daily PLAYERS updates at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

Want to get the very latest news on all the tournament action at THE PLAYERS? Visit www.pontevedrarecorder.com to read golf writer Kathy Bissell's daily updates on what happened on the TPC Stadium Course that day.

And be sure to pick up a copy of the Recorder's award-winning "Insider's Tournament Guide 2017." With 104 pages of golf news, analysis and spectator tips, the Recorder's guide is the only guide you'll need to navigate THE PLAYERS.



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PGA TOUR Grill opens at JIA

Travelers flying into Jacksonville International Airport for THE PLAYERS Championship will now be able to get into the swing of things right out of the gate, as the PGA TOUR debuted the PGA TOUR Grill at the airport last week.

Located in Concourse C, the restaurant features photos of TPC Sawgrass as well as numerous big-screen televisions that will showcase live championship action along with Golf Channel programming and highlights from previous tournaments. The menu, meanwhile, includes such offerings as beer-battered mahi mahi tacos, burgers, salmon and a “Power Salad” featuring quinoa, edamame, roasted red peppers, garbanzo beans, arugula, avocado and herbs. The menu also indicates heart-healthy and gluten-free options.

“We are thrilled to bring PGA TOUR Grill to the Jacksonville International Airport and the First Coast,” said Lance Stover, the PGA Tour’s senior vice president of licensing and new ventures. “We’ve been extremely

pleased by the success and growth of the PGA TOUR Grill concept, thanks to the expertise of HMSHost. The First Coast has such a rich golf history which we look forward to celebrating while offering visitors the great healthy food choices for which the PGA TOUR Grill is known.”

HMSHost and the PGA Tour opened the first PGA TOUR Grill at San Diego International Airport in 2014 and have expanded to nearly 10 locations at airports across the United States. In addition to PGA TOUR Grill, HMSHost operates other traveler food and beverage offerings at Jacksonville International Airport, including Shula’s Bar & Grill and Starbucks®.

“The PGA Tour Grill highlights Northeast Florida’s golf scene, one of our region’s main leisure attractions,” Jacksonville Aviation Authority CEO Steve Grossman said. “Restaurants such as these are one of the many reasons JAX was voted North America’s #1 airport for customer satisfaction.”

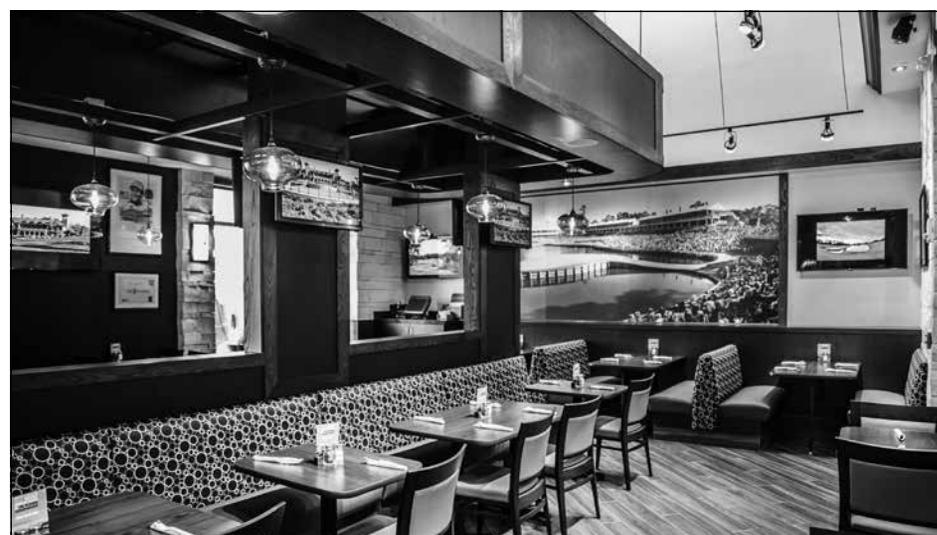


Photo courtesy of HMSHost

Coastal Wine Market to offer wine tasting specials, Saturday brunch during THE PLAYERS

Coastal Wine Market + tasting room will offer wine tasting specials and Saturday brunch during THE PLAYERS Championship 2017.

Located at 641 Crosswater Parkway in Nocatee next to Dunkin Donuts, the wine

and gourmet food shop will holding wine tastings from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13.

Guests will taste six wines for \$10, with those who show a PLAYERS Championship ticket stub receiving \$5 off of one

wine tasting.

On Saturday, May 13, the shop will offer its new Saturday brunch service from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., serving homemade sangria, mimosas and such gourmet brunch fare as croque monsieur, lobster scrambled

eggs, lemon ricotta pancakes and more.

For more information on the wine tastings or Saturday brunch, contact Coastal Wine Market + tasting room at (904) 395-3520.



Croque Monsieur



Lobster scrambled eggs

Photos by Jennifer Logue

The Stadium Course: Hole by Hole

Visitors returning to the TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course will find some new views and other course improvements as a result of the extensive renovations to the course completed since the 2016 tournament.

Since then, THE PLAYERS has rebuilt all bunkers and greens, which have been resurfaced with TifEagle bermudagrass and redesigned No. 12 into a risk/reward drivable par 4, while a new fan bleacher has also been added on No. 12. Expanded greens on holes 1, 4, 9, 11 and 13 allow for new hole locations, and a new lake has been created between holes 6 and 7, which features a repositioned tee.

Newly redesigned practice grounds, meanwhile, have improved the visual elements for what the PGA Tour is calling a world-class practice area.

The renovations build upon the Stadium Course's history as a course designed specifically with the spectator in mind.

Here's what new and returning visitors can expect to find on the new Stadium Course.

Hole 1 –

Views:

The large grandstands to the left of No. 1 tee are popular to watch players hit their tee shots with mounds to the left and right of the green for optimal viewing.

Limited foliage lets you see a player's approach and putt.

This less-crowded location provides a great opportunity to get close to players as they walk from No. 1 green to No. 2 tee.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand at 1 tee and 2 green

Renovation:

Reduced width of left rough

Removed turf strip separating approach and greenside bunkers

Expanded green front right and back right

Hole 2 –

Views:

Elevated mounding behind the green provides a great place to watch players decide whether or not to go for the par 5 in two or lay-up, and then you can keep an eye on them as they head to No. 3 tee to take a shot at the par-3 green.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand at 1 tee and 2 green

Renovation:

Removed turf strip on right fairway bunker

Modified approach mowing pattern

Hole 3 –

Views:

Left of the tee box is a great place to view golf, as you are just on the other side of the practice tee, which means you can move back and forth to watch the 3rd hole as well as see players warm-up. This elevated area provides a great line of sight. Extended mounding to the left of the green allows for great views of balls approaching the green and players putting.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand at 1 tee and 2 green

Renovation:

Recaptured original green size in the front of the green

Hole 4 –

Views:

Sit on the bulkhead around the water surrounding the green and dangle your feet (hold on to those flip-flops!).

Lowered mounding for improved viewing on 4 tee.

Expanded fan walkway.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand at 4 green

Renovation:

Modified fairway long left by water hazard for additional spectator viewing mound

Reshaped right rough/left edge of fairway bunker

Added bulkhead on water edge along approach

Expanded green front to the right

Expanded green back left

Added closely mown area back right of green

Hole 5 –

Views:

Find great views of this tough par 4 from the elevated left side of the fairway, where you can also catch a glimpse of players practicing on the back tee of the upgraded driving range.

Elevated mounding behind the green provides superior viewing angles.

Food & Beverage:

Wine & Dine on 9

Restaurant Medure

The Wine Lounge Presented by William Hill Estate

High-end varietals from William Hill Estate Winery

Permanent restroom located on 9 fairway

Renovation:

Modified approach bunker on right side of fairway



The renovated Stadium Course includes a new lake at the 6th hole.

Hole 6 –

Views:

This green isn't very crowded and offers a great place to catch the action up close.

It's the perfect spot to be near players as they walk from the green to the No. 7 tee.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand at 6 green and 7 tee

Permanent restroom located on 9 fairway

Renovation:

Added spectator mound behind back tee

Removed mound and created lake left of hole

Removed turf strip in left fairway bunker

Reduced width of right rough

Recaptured original green size in the front

Added spectator mound left of the green

Hole 7 –

Views:

The elevated mounding behind the green allows you to see all the way back to the tee box.

Food & Beverage:

Wine & Dine on 9 located on 9 fairway

Restaurant Medure

The Wine Lounge Presented by William Hill Estate

High-end varietals from William Hill Estate Winery

Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at 9

Fairway

Refreshment stand at 1 tee and 2 green

Refreshment stand left of 8 green and 9 tee

Permanent restroom located on 9 fairway

Renovation:

Added spectator mound left of tee

Repositioned tee box slightly right and shifted cart path to front of the back tee

Removed mound and created lake left of hole

Expanded right approach bunker towards landing area

Eliminated turf strip between right greenside

bunker and right approach bunker

Reduced size of left fairway bunker past landing area

Hole 8 –

Views:

Always a fan favorite, you can get close to the action when players hit their tee shots thanks to elevated mounding behind the green (and in the shade of nearby trees).

This area also allows fans to see shots land and players putt on this undulating green.

The fan bleacher on 8 green, featuring the Wine Lounge presented by William Hill Estate, offers fantastic views of the 8th hole.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand near 8 green and 9 tee

Wine & Dine on 9 located on 9 fairway

Restaurant Medure

Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at 9

Fairway

The Oasis (21+)

The Blue Room VIP Lounge presented by Michelob

ULTRA (upgraded ticket available at theplayersblu-

erom.com) located behind 17 tee

Ovinté

Bistro Aix

IL DESCO

The Wine Lounge Presented by William Hill Estate

High-end varietals from William Hill Estate Winery

Permanent restroom located on 9 fairway

Renovation:

Reduced size of fairway bunker

Combined two left greenside bunkers into one bunker

Lowered left side of green

Hole 9 –

Views:

A great par 5 to watch players hit their tee shots and decide whether or not to go for the green in two.

Significant amounts of foliage to the left of the green have been removed, and bleachers were added.

New mounding on 9 green was added so you now have a better view of players' approach shots and putts.

Food & Beverage:

Refreshment stand near 8 green and 9 tee

Wine & Dine on 9 located on 9 fairway

Restaurant Medure

Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at 9

Fairway

The Oasis (21+)

The Wine Lounge Presented by William Hill Estate

High-end varietals from William Hill Estate Winery

Concession Stand located at 18 tee

Concession Stand located at Four Points

Permanent restroom located on 9 fairway

Renovation:

Expanded approach short left of green

Expanded green front right and back right

Converted bunker behind the green into closely

mown area

Hole 10 –

Views:

The elevated mounding behind the tee provides great views of players' tee shots, and you're just steps away from a permanent restroom.

Enjoy views of 10 tee and 16 tee from the new MD Anderson covered bleacher and deck.

Food & Beverage:

Stadium Village

The Patio

Fan Bleacher presented by MD Anderson Cancer Center

Trucks on 10

Cely's Filipino Food

Chick-Fil-A

BUBBA Burger

Mama's Food

Pele's Wood Fire

Up In Smoke BBQ

Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at

Trucks on 10

Permanent restroom located at The Patio

Renovation:

Eliminated turf strip between right greenside bunker and approach bunker

Hole 11 –

Views:

A fan favorite par 5 where players often go for the green in two, the green is surrounded by sand and water, which provides non-stop drama and excitement.

The newly enhanced bowl-shaped mounding around the green provides fantastic views of 11 and 12 with great shade.

Additional mounding for improved viewing on 11 green.

Food & Beverage:

Tacos on 12

TacoLu - Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, will be serving food and beverages.

Taste of JAX

Mojo Kitchen

Hawkers Asian Street Fare

Trucks on 10

Cely's Filipino Food

Chick-Fil-A

BUBBA Burger

Mama's Food

Pele's Wood Fire

Up In Smoke BBQ

Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at

Trucks on 10

Permanent restroom located at Taste of JAX

Renovation:

Reduced size of bunker at beginning of fairway to create spectator cross-over

Reduced width of right rough at 1st landing area

Expanded green in front and back left

Reshaped left side of green to expand fairway

Created spectator mound back left of green

Hole 12 –

Views/Renovation:

Added new tee to be set-up as a reachable par 4

Eliminated mound left of fairway and converted it to a fairway bunker

Eliminated fairway bunker right side and converted it into rough

Reshaped green complex

Added pond left of the green

Added spectator mounding left of pond, behind

green, and right of green

Food & Beverage:

Tacos on 12



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Hole by Hole

Continued from 55



TACO LU - Brisket and Ranchera Sauce

TacoLu - Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, will be serving food and beverages.

Taste of JAX
Mojo Kitchen
Hawkers Asian Street Fare
Permanent restroom located at Taste of JAX

Hole 13 –

Views:

Fans directly behind the green may even see a ball or two roll through the green and end up in collection area just on the other side of the ropes from where they're sitting.

The top of the mounding behind the green also provides a nice view of players teeing off on No. 14.

Food & Beverage:

Tacos on 12
TacoLu - Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, will be serving food and beverages.
Renovation:
Expanded green back and back left
Improved spectator mounding behind green

Hole 14 –

Views:

A tough par 4 with great, elevated views behind the tee and the right side of the fairway. Errant tee shots to the right often end up right near fans.

Food & Beverage:

Taste of JAX
Mojo Kitchen
Hawkers Asian Street Fare

Renovation:

Shifted cart path further from tees to widen player walk path
Lowered contours front right of green

Hole 15 –

Views:

This par 4 has elevated mounding on the left side of the green, providing good views of approach shots and putting.
Additional mounding for improved viewing on 15 green.

Food & Beverage:

Taste of JAX
Mojo Kitchen
Hawkers Asian Street Fare
Trucks on 10
Cely's Filipino Food
Chick-Fil-A
BUBBA Burger
Mama's Food
Pele's Wood Fire
Up In Smoke BBQ
Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at Trucks on 10
GREY GOOSE® Bloody Mary Bar at Couples Gate Entrance
Permanent restroom located at Taste of JAX

Renovation:

Shifted tee back +/- 20 yds
Reduced width of left rough
Eliminated turf strip between left greenside bunker and approach bunker

Hole 16 –

Views:

The Fan Bleacher presented by MD Anderson Cancer Center – a public access shade zone – located behind the tee, provides a great view as players launch their tee shots.

The elevated mounding on the left side of the green also provides an ideal vantage point for approach shots and putts, as well as a view of the 17th hole.

This is one of the most iconic par 5s in all of golf, offering opportunities for eagles and birdies with accurate approach shots, but also bogeys and double bogeys with water looming down the right-hand side.

Food & Beverage:

The Blue Room VIP Lounge presented by Michelob ULTRA (upgraded ticket available at theplayersblueroom.com) located behind 17 tee

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Bistro Aix
IL DESCO
Stadium Village
The Patio
Patriot's Outpost (open to all active duty, Reserve, military retirees, veterans and their dependents)
The Patio
Fan Bleacher presented by MD Anderson Cancer Center
Concession stand located in the Grove behind 16 green and 17 tee
The Food Court
Brucci's Pizza
Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q
Firehouse Subs
MShack
Tropical Smoothie Café
Trucks on 10
Cely's Filipino Food
Chick-Fil-A
BUBBA Burger
Mama's Food
Pele's Wood Fire
Up In Smoke BBQ
Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located at Trucks on 10
Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located behind 16 green
GREY GOOSE® Bloody Mary Bar at Couples Gate Entrance
GREY GOOSE® Bloody Mary Bar at Nicklaus Gate Entrance
Permanent restroom located at The Patio
Permanent restroom located behind 16 green

Renovation:

Added spectator mound in right rough at 1st landing area
Reduced width of left rough at 1st landing area
Expanded approach width to the left
Modified contours slightly back right of green

Hole 17 –

Views:

There is not a bad view of this legendary, island green par 3.
Cool off in the shade at the Fan Bleacher presented

by MD Anderson Cancer Center – a public access shade zone – located behind the green.

This is a perfect spot to watch golf and then see players walk off the green and through the tunnel as they head to the 18th tee.

Food & Beverage:

Concession stand located in the Grove behind 16 green and 17 tee
The Blue Room VIP Lounge presented by Michelob ULTRA (upgraded ticket available at theplayersblueroom.com) located behind 17 tee
Ovinté
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The Oasis (21+)
Concession Stand located at 18 tee
Michelob ULTRA Mobile Build-a-Bar located behind 16 green
GREY GOOSE® Bloody Mary Bar at Nicklaus Gate Entrance
Permanent restroom located behind 16 green

Renovation:

Removed hedge from behind tee and expanded spectator mound

Hole 18 –

Views:

This finishing hole is one of the most difficult on the PGA TOUR, with water down the left side and an extremely narrow fairway.

You'll find great views behind the tee and down the right side of the hole.

The elevated area around the green is known as The Bluff, where courtesy folding chairs are provided at no charge, and if you're in your chair when the last putt drops at the end of the day, you can take it home for free!

Food & Beverage:

The Oasis (21+)
Concession Stand located at 18 tee
Permanent restroom located at The Patio

Renovation:

Removed several palms back left of tee to improve spectator visibility



17th island green

Photo by Tony Eubanks



Hideki Matsuyama



Ken Duke

Photos by Don Christian

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THE PLAYERS Championship Advance Rules Official Stephen Cox stands on the 12th hole at TPC Sawgrass.



Stephen Cox sets a hole location at TPC Sawgrass.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Not your typical ref: PGA Tour official reveals behind-the-scenes efforts for THE PLAYERS Championship

By Jon Blauvelt

Perhaps the person most excited to see the TPC Sawgrass course changes in action at THE PLAYERS Championship is also quite possibly the most unexpected and unknown of characters.

His name is Stephen Cox, and he is the tournament's advance rules official, or in layman's terms, the lead referee during the competition. His overall responsibilities, however, are far different than those of

his counterparts in other sports and more comprehensive than what's displayed on TV.

"They'll see us arrive on a golf cart and give a ruling, and they think that's it, just like the other major sports" said Cox, a United Kingdom native who has worked for the PGA since 1997. "It's not that simple with our sport. We're far more involved in the development of the playing area, and that takes a lot of our time pre-tournament."

The PGA Tour official has been responsible for orchestrating much of the prep work behind the scenes of the tournament over the past 12 to 18 months, with the goal of ensuring the game's stars are provided the best possible platform to perform.

For Cox and his team, which will include 20 rules officials during the tournament, those efforts have included working on the course's recent modifications, such as the redesigned 12th hole, to more subtle projects in partnership with the course's agronomy team to ensure, for example, that green speeds are ideal for tournament play. Ultimately, it is Cox's team that maps out the course for the tournament, determining the length of a particular piece of rough and strategizing the placements of tees and holes.

Cox understands that significant focus will be placed on the 12th hole, which was transformed into a drivable par four. He explained that when they were designing it, they studied holes at other courses around the country, including the 15th at TPC River Highlands and the 10th at Riviera Country Club. They used the holes as benchmarks for creating the drivable hole that's currently situated on the back nine of TPC Sawgrass, which they knew would be exciting to watch during the tournament. The hole's renovations include the conversion of a mound on the left of the fairway into a bunker, as well as the conversion of a fairway bunker on the right side into a rough. The renovations also

feature a reshaped green complex with a new pond on its left and new spectator mounding around it.

Cox said the hole fits perfectly within the back nine, noting that it's placed early enough for players to recover if they falter, as well as press if they need to project themselves back into contention. He said the team involved in recreating the hole didn't want to make it too difficult, adding that they want the players to feel like a four almost isn't a good score. As a result, the PGA Tour official believes the new 12th will entice each of the tournament's players to attempt the drive, regardless of how "long" they are.

"That's one of the beauties about this golf course," said Cox. "It's not a long golf course. It's a strategic golf course. Anyone can win on it."

The 12th hole modifications were also necessary from a fan's perspective, said Cox, whose responsibilities additionally include fan movement and overall fan experience. The old hole, he said, made it difficult for spectators to transition from the 12th to the 13th, while also positioning fans away from the green. Now, with the additional mounding, Cox said, fans can see both the start and finish of a shot and transition from hole to hole in a more seamless fashion.

Cox is proud of the other modifications that have been made to the course, which include new hole locations on holes one,



Getty Images photo courtesy of PGA Tour

Stephen Cox makes a ruling for PGA Tour player Zach Johnson.

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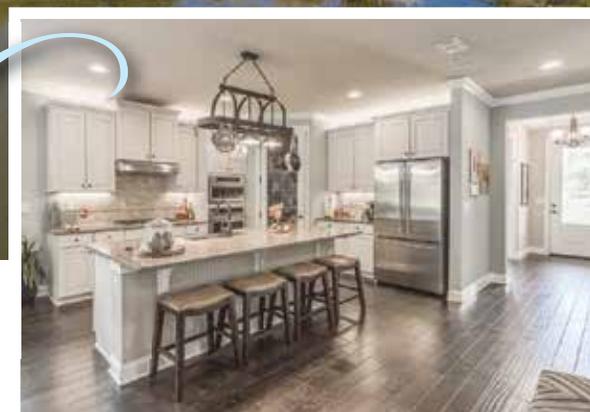
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THE PLAYERS Championship, Baptist Health celebrate Mother's Day with "Future Champions"

In celebration of tournament week and Mother's Day, babies born through May 14 at Baptist Health – including newborns in the care of the Wolfson Children's Hospital Newborn Intensive Care Units at Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville

and Baptist Medical Center South – will receive a "future champion" baby onesie and a fleece receiving blankets from THE PLAYERS Championship. The special gift will come with a hand-signed congratulatory note from Jared Rice, the tourna-

ment's executive director.

In addition, on Mother's Day, May 14, gift baskets from THE PLAYERS Championship will be delivered to the mother of the first baby born on the holiday at each Baptist Health hospital, including Bap-

tist Medical Center Jacksonville, Baptist Medical Center South, Baptist Medical Center Beaches and Baptist Medical Center Nassau.

Official

Continued from 59

four, nine, 11 and 13; a new lake between holes six and seven; repositioned tees on seven and 15; modified green contours on eight; new bunkers and new grass; and a redesigned practice facility. As a result, he encourages tournament attendees to walk the entire course to see the changes, instead of congregating in one spot.

"It's never been easier than it is right now to walk hole to hole," said Cox, "and I think if people do that, they will be blown away by how beautiful the property is, particularly those holes that don't get that much attention on television."

Cox has several other miscellaneous duties, including coordinating with the weather team to predict how the week's conditions may affect the tournament, as well as partnering with the security team to ensure players, media and fans are all taken care of throughout the week. That's why, given the immensity of prep work that goes into the event, he's ready to "get the show on the road" come the beginning of the tournament.

"We're ready to play some golf," said Cox. "We've spent an awful lot of time and effort. We're looking forward to how the golf course plays out."



Photo by Don Christian

Cameron Tringale

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Photo by Tony Eubanks

11 Fairway

NBC Sports Group to devote nearly 90 hours of coverage to THE PLAYERS Championship

NBC Sports Group will provide nearly 90 hours of programming coverage to THE PLAYERS Championship.

The network's programming will appear on the Golf Channel and NBC, consisting of 22 hours of live tournament coverage May 11-14, as well as more than 60 hours of news, analysis and high-quality features.

"THE PLAYERS has a special knack for eliciting incredible golf theater for spectators experiencing the event in-person at TPC Sawgrass or those at home watching on TV," said Mike McCarley, president of golf for NBC Sports Group. "THE PLAYERS has become a truly unique event on the professional golf schedule, and in partnership with the PGA

TOUR, our award-winning production team is well equipped to cover the drama from every conceivable angle."

Tournament broadcast team

NBC Sports' live tournament coverage will be hosted by Mike Tirico, while the Dan Hicks and Hall of Famer Johnny Miller will be positioned in the 18th tower during weekend coverage on NBC. Terry Gannon and Hall of Famer Nick Faldo will oversee the 18th tower during early-round coverage on the Golf Channel, with Hicks and 1999 PLAYERS champion David Duval also contributing.

The remainder of the broadcast team for all four rounds will include Gary Koch, Peter Jacobsen and 1998 PLAYERS

champion Justin Leonard in tower positions, with Roger Maltbie, David Feherty, Mark Roling and Notah Begay reporting from inside the ropes. Steve Sands will conduct interviews with players, while Jimmy Roberts will offer essays.

Special production elements

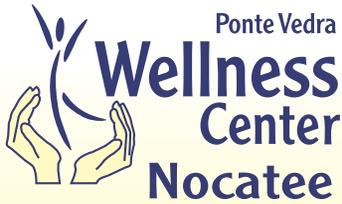
NBC Sports' production team will cover every vantage point of the iconic par 3, 17th hole and its island green, with a total of nine high-definition cameras, including a microscopic lens embedded in the lip of the tiny bunker fronting the green. The popular cable-suspended "Supra Cam," camera system will return, providing unique angles over the body of water between the par 5 16th and 17th hole greens.

A camera crane operator will be stationed 150 feet in the air above the tree line showcasing aerial shots of the 16th, 17th, and 18th holes. Another camera operator will be ferried to the small island near the 17th green to capture reactions of those in the field as they putt-out on 17. Coverage also will incorporate the use of wind-direction technology to track conditions across the golf course, including both on the tee box and high above the 17th hole.

For more information on NBC Sports Group's coverage, visit <http://www.golfchannel.com/news/press-releases/nbc-sports-group-announces-coverage-plans-ahead-players-may-8-14/>.

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TPC Sawgrass hosts North Florida PGA Drive, Chip & Putt qualifier



Photos by Jasmine Marshall

Local resident and two-time PGA TOUR winner Russell Knox opens the nation's first local qualifier for Drive, Chip and Putt by taking the ceremonial first swing May 6 at TPC Sawgrass. Held on the eve of THE PLAYERS Championship, the qualifier attracted numerous local contestants between the ages of 7 and 15. Each junior golfer hit three drives into a long-drive-style grid, then hit three chip shots into giant painted rings around the hole, followed by three putts into painted rings. Top finishers of the TPC Sawgrass Drive, Chip and Putt in each age category included: Boys 7-9: Miles Russell, with a score of 92; Boys 10-11: Tyler Mawhinney, 114; Boys 12-13: Garrett Roberson, 123; Boys 14-15: Chase Haygood, 160; Girls 7-9: Sofia Rivera, 42; Girls 10-11: Alexa Fallis, 94; Girls 12-13: Tylar Ann Whiting, 119; Girls 14-15: Julia Wallace, 97. The top three overall point earners from each age division advance to the sub-regional qualifier later this summer and take another step towards achieving their dream of competing in the National Championship at Augusta National next spring.

Free skin cancer screenings to be available at THE PLAYERS Championship

Free skin cancer screenings will once again be available at THE PLAYERS Championship this year, as Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center to offer the potentially life-saving screenings.

Dermatologists from the two facilities will conduct the screenings in a private, air-conditioned area of the adjoining MD Anderson fan zone and Baptist MD Anderson first aid center, situated near the merchandise tent behind No. 17. Screenings take ap-

proximately 10 minutes and will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. Appointments (<https://skincancercheck.eventbrite.com>) are available, but not required. Walk-ins are welcome.

This is the second year the MD Anderson centers in Jacksonville and Houston have teamed up to offer free skin cancer screenings. At last year's PLAYERS Championship, more than 250 people received free screenings. This year, more physicians will be on hand to conduct the screenings in order to reduce wait times.

"Our mission is to eliminate cancer, and this takes many approaches," said Thomas Buchholz, MD, executive vice president and physician-in-chief, MD Anderson. "As the official cancer center of the PGA TOUR, we have a unique and powerful platform to raise awareness of cancer prevention to hundreds of thousands of people. We have screened hundreds of players, caddies and fans at tournaments across the nation and look forward to providing this important service again."

Skin cancer is the most common

form of cancer in the United States and one of the most preventable.

"The opportunity to educate the public on the importance of sun safety and cancer prevention is invaluable," said Christopher Pezzi, MD, head of the division of surgery at Baptist MD Anderson. "Our collaboration with MD Anderson allows us to reach more people with these convenient services that make a difference in our local and national communities. Nearly half of those screened last year were referred to their doctor for follow-up."

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THE PLAYERS Championship donates new mobile medical unit to St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry

By Jennifer Logue

Representatives from St. Vincent's HealthCare traveled last week to the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse, where officials from THE PLAYERS Championship presented the hospital with a new mobile health unit to be used as part of St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry.

THE PLAYERS mobile health unit – which features the iconic TPC Sawgrass island green emblazoned on the side – will become the fifth such unit to bring fully staffed doctors offices on wheels to areas of the community where health care services are most needed, including to rural areas, urban communities, and to children in local middle and high schools.

“Because of THE PLAYERS, children and families will have access to medical services,” said Jane Lanier, president of the St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation. “Thank you for caring more about others than you care about yourself. It's what THE PLAYERS does every day.”

St. Vincent's CEO Tom VanOsdol noted that THE PLAYERS mobile health unit is unique in that it will be the first of St. Vincent's mobile units equipped to offer vision services as well as general medical

care. “This is a wonderful day for St. Vincent's and a wonderful day for the individuals who will be served by the essential health care services this mobile health unit provides,” he said. “Through this unit, people will receive the gift of better sight who otherwise would do without. And these services are only possible because of the generosity of partners like THE PLAYERS.”

Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS Championship, credited the tournament's nearly 2,000 volunteers with enabling THE PLAYERS to make donations such as the mobile health unit.

“We are very fortunate to be able to provide a great charitable impact to Northeast Florida charities thanks to our volunteers,” said rice, praising the tournament's volunteer leadership, including 2017 Tournament Chairman Kevin English for orchestrating the army of volunteers that enables THE PLAYERS to donate millions of dollars each year to local charities.

Optum donation

A special highlight of the May 3 event occurred when Vito Augusta of health care company Optum presented St. Vincent's

with a \$50,000 check to support the work of the Mobile Health Outreach Ministry.

“A lot of what Optum does involves breaking down barriers to health care

access,” Augusta said, “and that's right in line with the work of the mobile health units.”



Photos by Jennifer Logue

THE PLAYERS Championship donated a mobile health unit to St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry.



Vito Augusta (right) of Optum presents St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation President Jane Lanier with a \$50,000 donation to support the work of the Mobile Health Outreach Ministry.



Representatives from St. Vincent's HealthCare join with THE PLAYERS Championship officials to accept the donation of a new mobile health unit and a \$50,000 donation from Optum.

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THE PLAYERS Championship, Operation Shower salute military mothers-to-be

By Jennifer Logue

Tamara Ramos is new to the First Coast. A Pennsylvania native, Ramos relocated here with her husband, Naval Lt. Luis Ramos, and their 3-year-old daughter, Lelia, who will soon become a big sister.

“My family is all up north,” said Ramos, whose husband is currently deployed aboard the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush. “So, it’s just me and Lelia when he’s deployed.”

On Sunday, however, Ramos had an opportunity to meet and socialize with 34 other women in the same boat, when The PGA Tour and Birdies for the Brave joined with Operation Shower to host a group baby shower for military mothers-to-be. Held May 7 at the Birdies for the Brave Patriots Outpost at TPC Sawgrass, the shower was an early Mother’s Day celebration for dozens of expectant mothers, many of whose spouses are currently deployed.

In addition to enjoying a sit-down luncheon, guests received Operation Shower’s signature Shower-In-A-Box – gifts of high-quality products for the moms and babies provided by sponsors and donors.

“We are really honored to be able to shower these expectant moms,” said THE PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Jared Rice, who attended the event with his wife, Sheila. “It’s a small thing we can do to repay those who are sacrificing so much.”

Organizers noted that Sunday’s event was the 50th such shower the PGA Tour had organized in collaboration with Operation Shower.

Event host Tabitha Furyk added that she and her husband – PGA Tour golfer Jim Furyk – got involved with Operation Shower when the PGA Tour began hosting events. The Jim and Tabitha Furyk Foundation has since supported the effort as well.

“We got involved with the first PGA Tour shower and we just fell in love with the

event,” Furyk told the Recorder.

During the shower, Furyk told guests that she and her husband used to travel frequently before their two children were born.

“When that happened, our life changed,” she said. “I cannot imagine the sacrifices you ladies go through, having your husbands away for so long. We really wouldn’t have the lives we do without those who are protecting our freedom.”

As volunteers filed into the Patriots Outpost bearing boxes of gifts and began presenting them to expectant mothers, those in attendance expressed their gratitude to Furyk, the PGA Tour and Operation Shower for hosting the event.

“We are very appreciative that they take the time to recognize not just those that serve, but their families as well,” said Capt. David Yoder, commanding officer of Naval Station Mayport. “It makes them feel special.”

Those sentiments were echoed by the military moms-to-be.

“This means a lot,” said a tearful Jessica Marchese, who is awaiting the birth of twin girls next month while her husband, Kyle Marchese, is deployed aboard the USS George H.W. Bush. “He’s been deployed for five months now, and this is a wonderful event. It makes you feel really, really special.”

Middleburg military mom Jessica Parkins agreed. “It’s a great way to give back to military families,” said Parkins, who is expecting her second child in September and whose husband, Jacob, is deployed on the USS Hue City. “And the gifts really help.”

For Tamara Ramos, the opportunity to meet and socialize with others who understand the challenges of being a military mom was even more special.

“It’s really fun for me to be able to be here with all the other military moms,” she said. “I feel very loved being here.”

View more Operation Shower photos online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



Military mothers-to-be decorate onesies at the Operation Shower luncheon



Jessica Marchese stands with some of the “Shower in a Box” gifts given to military moms-to-be. Marchese, whose husband Kyle is currently deployed, is expecting twin girls next month.



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Event host Tabitha Furyk (right) arrives at the shower for military mothers-to-be with daughter Caleigh, 14.



Sheila and Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS Championship



Tamara Ramos and daughter Lelia, 3 were among the guests at the Operation Shower event presented by the PGA Tour and hosted by Tabitha Furyk.

The After Partee: YMCA to hold 5th annual benefit concert

In the spirit of THE PLAYERS Championship, the First Coast YMCA will host its 5th annual benefit concert, "The After Partee," May 11 to support the Y's Safety Around Water program, which teaches kids water safety skills.

To be held on the first day of tournament play from 6 to 10 p.m. at Cross-water Hall in Nocatee, the pool party-

inspired concert will feature music from The Chris Thomas Band, DJ E.L. and Jordyn Stoddard, as well as food, drinks, a silent auction and other activities.

Chris Thomas is known for his voice and diverse repertoire, performing everything from Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder to Earth Wind & Fire

and Justin Timberlake. DJ E.L. has performed for the Jacksonville Armada FC and Jaguars, and was voted best DJ by Void Magazine, Radio Now 97.9 and Folio Weekly. Stoddard, meanwhile, was named 2013 Local Artist of the Year by WQIK-FM country radio in Jacksonville, with her single, "Sayonara," selected as the 2013 Local Song of the Year.

General admission tickets, which include one drink ticket and light appetizers, are \$30, while VIP tickets of-

fering access to an open bar and heavy appetizers are \$100. Super tickets including one VIP ticket and a grounds ticket to any one day of THE PLAYERS are \$150. Tickets are available at First Coast YMCA locations or online at YMCAafterpartee2017.eventbrite.com.



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THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K brings record-setting 10th anniversary run back to TPC Sawgrass

By Jasmine Marshall

THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K opened with a bang Saturday, May 6 as The DONNA Foundation and THE PLAYERS Championship welcomed a milestone race to TPC Sawgrass' iconic 17th island green ahead of tournament week.

The 10th annual 5K made its cap at 1,750 participants a full 10 days before the event, breaking its own record for the earliest closing time on registration. The increased interest, due in part to the race's 10th anniversary, was apparent as participants and supporters flocked through the Nicklaus Gate in pink and green argyle, representing the fight against breast cancer and the continued partnership of THE PLAYERS Championship.

The overwhelming demand was a welcome sight, according to Amanda Napolitano, executive director of The DONNA Foundation. Even more uplifting, she said, was the show of love from a community determined to see the end of breast cancer.

"With the help of the tournament, the 5K and PINK OUT at THE PLAYERS has raised nearly \$400,000 toward this cause," Napolitano said. "So, for me, it's a great event because everyone is out in pink – not just racing, but celebrating and supporting one another while bringing us that much closer to our goal."

For its 10th consecutive run, THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K came bearing gifts: This year, all race participants received commemorative finisher medals in pink and green marked with the date of the race and emblematic symbols of the foundation's partnership with THE PLAYERS Championship. The medal, a breast cancer awareness ribbon fashioned into The DONNA Foundation's signature runner, is outlined in gold and adorned with pink and green argyle socks representing a "golf-style finish to breast cancer," Napolitano said. Registered participants also received a complimentary stadium pass to PINK OUT at THE PLAYERS.

Saturday's event was just one in a series of events this year commemorating the race's 10th anniversary. The celebration began Feb. 12 with the 10th annual DONNA Marathon Weekend, which saw more than 10,000 participants. That even set a record for the most participation of a single DONNA Marathon Weekend in the foundation's history.

The festivities will continue on Championship Sunday, May 14, when The DONNA Foundation will present



Racers Jennifer Wiley (left) and Cheryl Wiggins ran for their mothers as well as Wiggins' sister and best friend.



Executive Director of The DONNA Foundation Amanda Napolitano (far right) with Anna Ourn (far left) and daughters Anna and Ella

Photos by Jasmine Marshall



Racers Katlyn and Renee Couch, Christy Propes and Tammy Marone relax on the green overlooking the 17th hole after finishing the race.



Linda Johnson poses with her commemorative medal after finishing the 5K.

PINK OUT at THE PLAYERS by blanketing TPC Sawgrass with pink to raise breast cancer awareness. The DONNA Foundation will be honored as Charity of the Day and will receive a gift from THE PLAYERS that will help power the programs that serve breast cancer patients throughout the country.

But for the foundation, Napolitano said, the support of THE PLAYERS Championship and the community at large is priceless.

"With these events, we're able to take breast cancer patients and their families from a place of fear to a place of love," she said. "And this is just one more way we can surround them with love and support."



This year's THE PLAYERS DONNA 5K saw the introduction of commemorative finisher medals symbolizing the partnership of THE PLAYERS Championship and The DONNA Foundation.

View more event photos online at www.pontevedrerecorder.com

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PV2-LV38147

Sharks edge Clay to claim district title

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

The past week was a good one for Shark baseball. After finishing third in the tightly packed 6A District 4 standings with a 5-3 record behind Clay and Ridgeview, the Sharks put together exciting 2-1 and 3-2 playoff victories over those same teams to walk off with the district title.

Oddly, due to seeding positions, Ponte Vedra – the playoffs' host – was the visiting team in both games. This is because in April, Ponte Vedra had split a pair with Ridgeview and lost back-to-back games with Clay, leaving the Sharks as the third seed in the tournament they were scheduled to host.

On Tuesday's playoff matchup, Ponte Vedra sent Kevin Faulkner to the mound to face the Panthers of Ridgeview and the junior lefty pitched brilliantly for seven innings to earn the win.

The Sharks jumped in front in the first inning on base hits by Jacob Young and Quinton Brehm, but Ridgeview tied the game in the fifth. Slick fielding by the Sharks' infield on a 6-4-3 double play kept the Panthers from scoring more in the inning. An earlier double play nullified two Ridgeview base hits in the Panther third.

Zach Chappell led off the seventh inning for the Sharks with a sharp double to the gap in center, and moved to third on Alex Ortiz' sac bunt. Senior catcher Michael Zenni's single to left plated

the go-ahead run. Faulkner retired the side in order in the bottom of the seventh, striking out the last Panther on a 3-2 pitch to end the game.

In their matchup with Clay, the Sharks started Zach Chappell and the lefty battled through four and 2/3rd tough innings. An unusual 6-5-6-5 double play limited the Blue Devils to two first-inning runs despite a single, a pair of walks and a wild pitch.

The Sharks fought back to tie the game in the third. After Eric Aleman reached on an error, Brehm laced a double just inside of the third base bag. Chappell's liner back to the pitcher was misplayed into a two-base error, scoring Aleman and Brehm.

Tony Rocca relieved Chappell in the fourth and pitched superbly into the tenth inning, striking out 10 and allowing just one hit. A fine running catch in the eighth by centerfielder Young helped.

Neither team threatened from the third until the tenth, when Shark second baseman Matt Barnhorst finally laced a lead-off single to right.

After Young moved him over on a sac bunt, Aleman's sharp ground ball off the shortstop's glove rolled into short left field allowing Barnhorst to score the go-ahead run. Rocca sealed the 3-2 win by striking out the side in the bottom of the tenth.

View more game photos online at www.pontevedrerecorder.com.



Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

Sharks starting pitcher #14 Zach Chappell delivers a pitch against Clay.



#11 Jacob Young of the Sharks smacks a fly ball to center.



Eric Aleman drives back to second ahead of the Ridgeview pickoff throw.

Solheim Cup Tournament

On May 2 and May 4, the Marsh Landing Women's Golf Association played a Solheim Cup tournament, which consisted of 36 holes of competition. All competitors played four different formats: Fourball, Foursomes, Scramble and Singles. Members of the winning U.S. team included (from left) Vicki Arnold, Peggy Reale, Leigh LeMoynne, Lorry McCamy, Linda Doran, Ginny Dunn and Susan Delfs. Not pictured: Jan McManus, Deborah Meyer, Amy Wallman, Mary Ellen Young and Maggi Kelly.



Photo provided by Pat Hickerson

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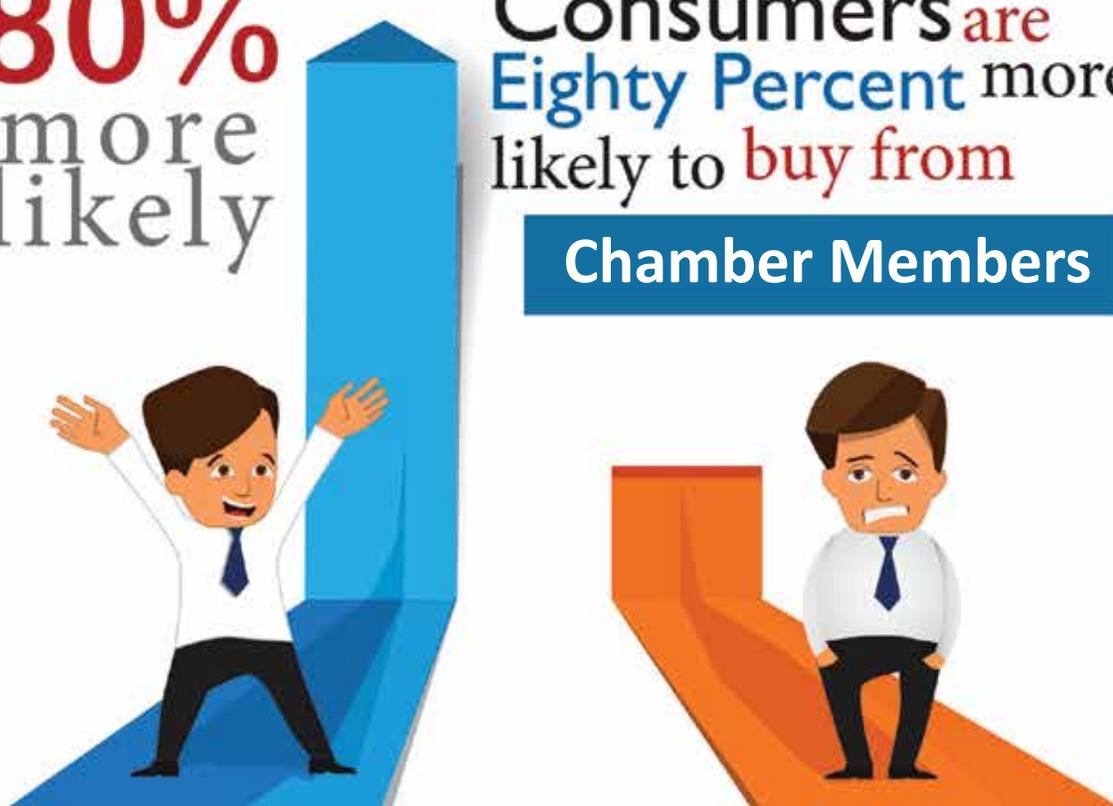
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Stetson University honors Watson family with newly named football field

Stetson University has named one of its football practice fields Watson Field in recognition of the Watson family's support of the school's athletics programs.

"Through their generous support, William Watson, Jr. and William Watson III have recognized the role athletics play in enhancing the student experience and moving the university forward," said Stetson Athletics Director Jeff Altier, "and we are honored to play on a field bearing the family name."

Held April 8 at Stetson's Athletic Training Center, the naming ceremony featured remarks from Altier, Stetson University President Wendy B. Libby, Head Football Coach Roger Hughes and Watson Realty Corp. Chairman of the Board and Founder William A. Watson, Jr. The ceremony was followed by a scrimmage on the field.

The Watson family has been one of the football program's biggest supporters since it was re-established in 2012 as part of the university's athletics expansion that also included the introduction of women's lacrosse

and beach volleyball programs, officials said.

"It is an honor and privilege to support Stetson University's athletics programs," William A. Watson, Jr. said. "Stetson University has had a significant influence on the success of the Watson family."

William A. "Bill" Watson, Jr. graduated from Stetson in 1959 with a BSB in business administration, majoring in real estate and insurance. He was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity, the rifle team and was a commissioned infantry officer through the school's ROTC program. His wife, Janelle Willcox Watson, graduated the same year with a degree in elementary education and was a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Their son, William A. "Bill" Watson III, received his BBA in finance from Stetson in 1996 and was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. The family also has a granddaughter who graduated from Stetson in 2016 and another who is currently a junior at the university.



Photos courtesy of Stetson University

Bill Watson III and William A. Watson, Jr. stand in front of the new Watson Field sign at Stetson University.



Stetson President Wendy B. Libby, Bill Watson III, William A. Watson, Jr., Stetson Athletics Director Jeff Altier and Stetson Head Football Coach Roger Hughes gather with a photo of the new field sign.

SOFTBALL

Lady Sharks mercy Parker



#3 Quinlan Richmond lines a base hit to drive in a run for the Sharks against Parker.

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

Ponte Vedra played host to Terry Parker last Wednesday in the first round of the softball regional playoffs and the visitors were no match for the red-hot Sharks. Ponte Vedra dispatched Parker 12-1 in a game halted after five innings by the mercy rule.

The Sharks scored early and often, leading 6-0 after two innings. Consecutive base hits by Scotland David, Michelle Leone, Quinlan Richmond, Farley Callaghan and Bailey Wagoner's two-RBI single netted three runs in the first.

David's double, Quinlan's single and Callaghan's home run in the second scored three more, and Ponte Vedra had all the runs they would need with their ace Michelle Holder pitching. The Sharks' sophomore pitcher was on her game, striking out six in five innings although an error, a walk and a wild pitch spoiled her shutout bid but not her no-hitter.

Wagoner's RBI double in the fourth followed by Richmond's RBI single, Callaghan's RBI single – her third base hit of the game – and Kiley Hennessey's two-RBI single in the fifth produced the Sharks' twelfth run, ending the game.

View more game photos online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

Sharks welcome #32 Farley Callaghan at the plate after her two-run home run.



Shark shortstop Michelle Leone awaits the throw to on a Parker steal attempt.

COMMENTARY

Crowley signs NFL contract with Arizona

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

Followers of local youth sports, Division I college football or the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars probably spent a few hours watching this past weekend's NFL draft. And since I fall into each of the above categories, I spent more than a few hours tuned in to the three-day event myself.

It wasn't that I didn't have anything better to do with my time. I did, but I had a very special interest in watching the draft proceedings to the bitter end. My very special interest: a local guy named Lucas Crowley.

As you may have guessed, Lucas Crowley is a football player and a very good one at that. As a four-year starter at center for the University of North Carolina Tar Heels, he received numerous national and All-ACC honors. His 2016 performances against Illinois, Miami and Georgia Tech earned him ACC Lineman of the Week three times. He was chosen Second Team All-ACC center as a senior and was a two-time nominee for the Rimington Award given annually to the nation's best center.

Before arriving in Chapel Hill, he made a name for himself playing for the Nease High School Panthers. Rated by ESPN.com as the fifth best high school center in the country plus first team All-State honors, he attracted the attention of more than a few Division I schools upon graduation. He opted for UNC and quickly earned the starting job at center for the Tar Heels and kept it of four years.

I first met Lucas when he was 6 years old. Laurie, his mom, approached me to see if Lucas – a very big 6-year-old – could play football in our Ponte Vedra junior player development football program. The answer of course was yes, so Lucas and his best buddy, Drew Taylor, who went on to star for Fletcher High School, started a long connection with Ponte Vedra youth football. My longtime interest in Lucas's career had begun.

In his final year in JDL football, one of Lucas's teammates was Jon Heck, son of then Jaguar coach Andy Heck. Lucas went on to play for Nease while Jon starred as an offensive lineman for The Bolles School. The two former JDL players met again as members of the 2015 Tar Heels offensive line nominated for the Joe Moore Award, an honor recognizing the best offensive line play in the country.

But back to the NFL draft.

Lucas entered the 2017 NFL draft and last weekend became the first Ponte Vedra JDL player ever to do so. But would he become the first-ever former JDL player to be drafted by the NFL?

Unfortunately, after seven rounds of



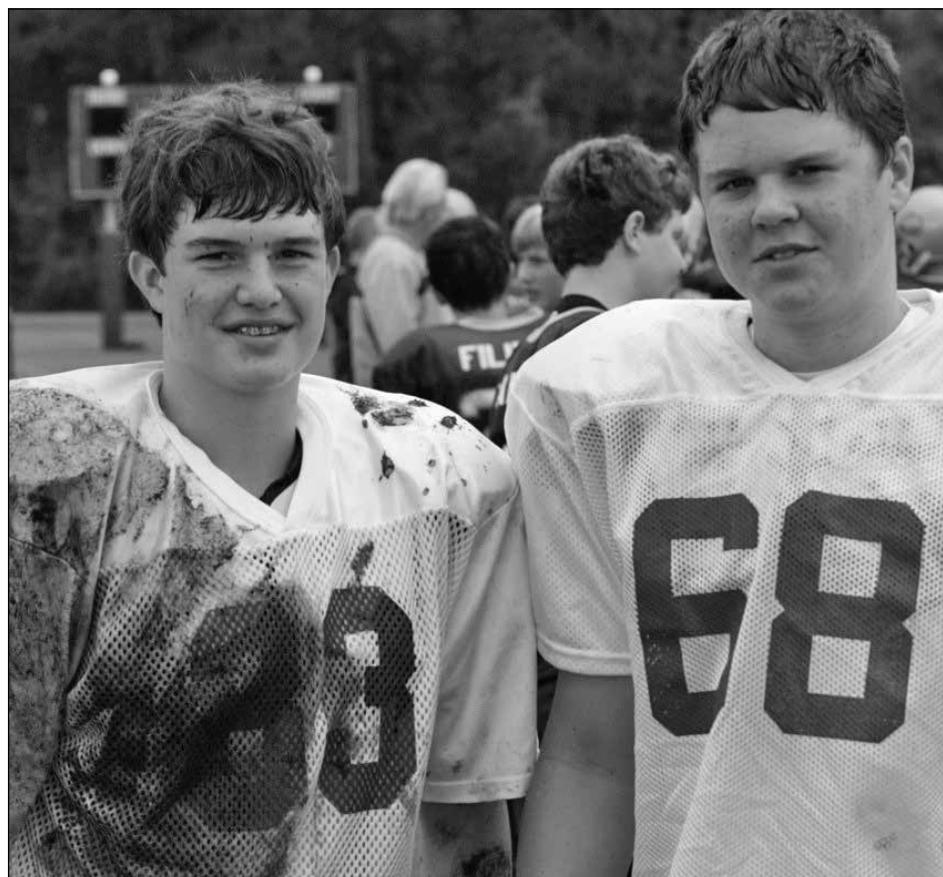
Lucas Crowley #68 in action for the Panthers against Fleming Island

Photos submitted by Jerry Norton

draft picks, Lucas' name was never called. That might have been heartbreaking but for one thing. Once Mr. Irrelevant's name (the name of the last player selected) is called, all NFL teams move quickly to sign quality undrafted players as undrafted free agents (UDFAs). Obviously, not all undrafted players are offered contracts but fortunately Lucas was – by several teams in fact, including the Arizona Cardinals, the team with which he chose to sign. As it turns out, that is one of the few upsides of going undrafted – you get to choose your destination.

Lucas certainly shouldn't fret about not being drafted in the three-day event. The list of undrafted free agents is long and notable including Hall of Fame quarterback Kurt Warner, Tony Romo, Warren Moon, James Harrison, Adam Vinatieri and Herm Edwards, just to name a few.

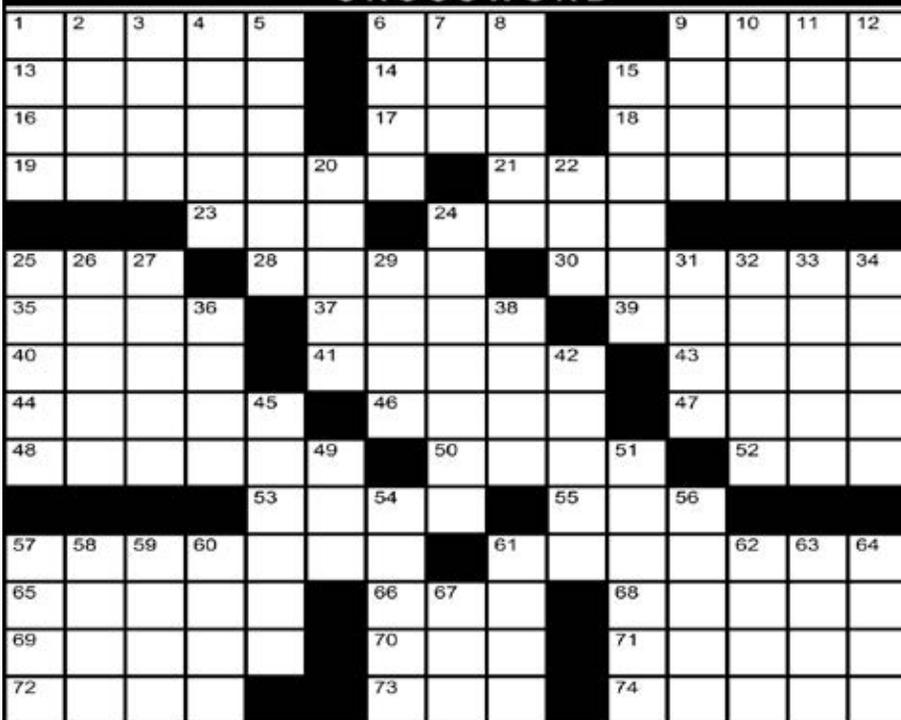
Lucas is already the first-ever former JDL player under contract to an NFL team. The challenge now remains for Lucas to make the Cardinals' 53-man opening day roster. Knowing Lucas, I'm sure he will.



Lucas Crowley #68 (right) and Greg Tronti were teammates in the Ponte Vedra JDL Football program in 2008. Tronti went on to play for the Ponte Vedra Sharks and Crowley went to Nease.

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CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Bluffer's game
- 6. R&R spot
- 9. "For" in Spanish
- 13. Nimble
- 14. Not square?
- 15. South Korean port
- 16. "Superman" Christopher
- 17. Turkish military leader
- 18. 1960s abstractionism
- 19. * ____ eggs
- 21. *Small decorative appetizer sandwiches
- 23. Questionnaire check box
- 24. Insubstantial
- 25. Tank filler
- 28. Willy Wonka mastermind
- 30. #4 Down hometown
- 35. Building extensions
- 37. Charles Manson's home
- 39. Eucharist plate
- 40. Strip of wood
- 41. Batu Khan's people
- 43. *Chicken Satay is popular app in this eatery type
- 44. Separate head from body
- 46. Popular symbol of extinction
- 47. Comme ci, comme ça
- 48. *Served on a half-shell
- 50. *These frog limbs are a French delicacy
- 52. D.C. bigwig

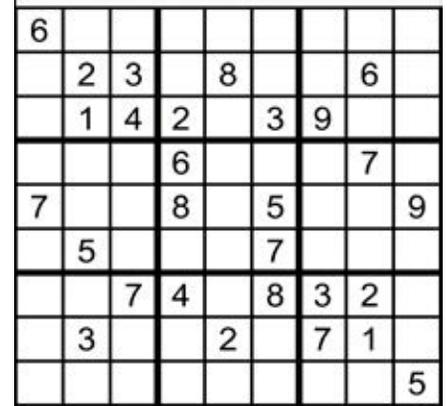
DOWN

- 53. Two of a kind
- 55. Beehive State native
- 57. *Indian restaurant appetizer staples
- 61. *Hors d' ____
- 65. Mojave plant
- 66. Tube in old TV
- 68. Black ____ in "Pirates of the Caribbean"
- 69. Papal court
- 70. Porridge grain
- 71. Broadway's famous orphan
- 72. Bird feed
- 73. Il to Romans
- 74. Lodged with pigs

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- 27. Poles and Serbs, e.g.
- 29. * ____ cheese is not a dairy cheese
- 31. Encouraging taps
- 32. Community spirit
- 33. Renter's paper
- 34. *Blooming bulb
- 36. Proofreader's mark
- 38. *Serve soup
- 42. " ____ One: A Star Wars Story"
- 45. Indian Ocean's saltwater inlet
- 49. Swedish shag rug
- 51. Buddhists' sacred mounds
- 54. Fancy tie
- 56. Black tie one
- 57. Cul de ____ pl.
- 58. A fit of shivering
- 59. Foal's mother
- 60. "Metamorphoses" poet
- 61. Football great ____ Graham
- 62. Jasmine of "Aladdin", e.g.
- 63. Cleveland, OH lake
- 64. Dog trailer
- 67. *Like a vegetable in crudité platter

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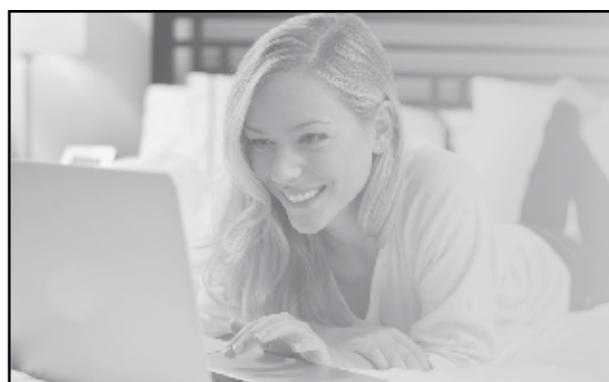
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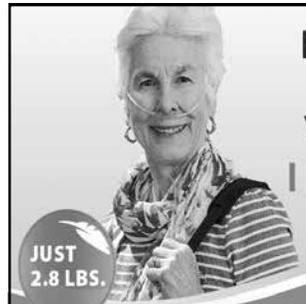
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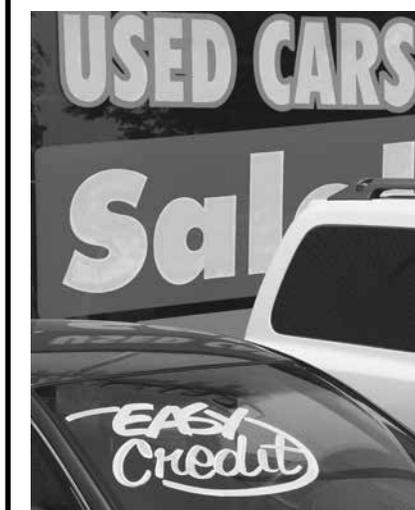
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