

THE RECORDER



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WEEK

March 9, 2023
Volume 54, No. 19
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Navigating THE PLAYERS
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Sharks get to the Final Four
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INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!
The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Photos by Craig O'Neal

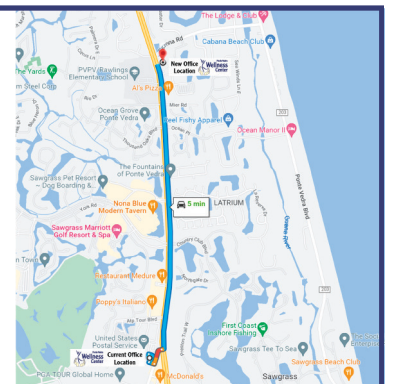
See more photos from THE PLAYERS Military Appreciation Day on pages 36 and 37.

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One of Us

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Send us your news

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



Visit our new website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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BRIEFS

Family seining at GTM Research Reserve

A guided family seining activity will be held 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 11, at Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. Learn about the animals and their roles in Guana Lake by pulling a seine net and collecting species of fish, crabs and other marine life.

The event will be held at GTM Research Reserve Guana Dam, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. Register online at secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/r7DeLiGXkhXdqFBAA65Hqw?t=1666716768.

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

Mega Open House Weekend set for March 11-12

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's Mega Open House Weekend returns on Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12.

The Mega Open House Weekend features open house viewings of the company's listings of

available homes. The listings encompass homes in a wide range of prices, styles and neighborhoods throughout Northeast Florida. Along with the in-person open houses, the Mega Open House event features virtual open houses on social media.

Go to OpenHouseNEFlorida.com for a list of open houses. Visit the company's Facebook page, facebook.com/FloridaNetworkRealty, and Instagram, instagram.com/FloridaNetworkRealty, to view the homes virtually during the event.

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, go to FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

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

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

Mickler Road Cleanup

In this year's Mickler Road cleanup on Feb. 18, Ponte Vedra High School prevailed over Nease with the most volunteers. In all, 90 volunteers collected 26 bags of trash weighing 20 pounds apiece. Organizers estimated the value of the effort at about \$6,323 — \$5,391 worth of volunteer hours and \$932 in trash abatement.

Contributed photos



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PRESENTED BY



Kendall files for District 18 state representative



Kim Kendall

Republican who said she puts God, family and liberty first.

After receiving her bachelor's from

Kim Kendall filed Wednesday, March 1, to run for the District 18 state representative seat, which encompasses northern St. Johns County. Kendall is a conservative

FSU in public relations, Kendall began working as an FAA air traffic controller and owned two dry cleaners.

Since moving to St. Johns County, she has spent the last 20 years addressing issues such as safety, infrastructure, education, lower taxes, parental control and Judeo-Christian values.

When asked why she has dedicated her time to tackling big matters in Florida and St. Johns County, she said, "It's my passion and I never back down from a challenge. When I was approached to co-found middle school sports and was told

it was 'impossible,' I couldn't wait to get busy organizing the right team and plan to make it happen."

Three years ago, Kendall was approached by residents of St. Johns Forest with the issue of their children being forced to ride their bikes along the very dangerous County Road 2209/9B. There have been numerous severe accidents where cars have flipped onto the children's sidewalk and missed hitting the students by mere minutes. Kendall continued to fight, organize and keep the issue alive until last week when the

students were allowed to ride the school bus again.

"This is the type of care and determination I will give to all the issues," she said. "I will make sure your concerns are addressed if you send me to Tallahassee to represent you."

The primary election is Aug. 20, 2024, and the general election is Nov. 5, 2024. Rep. Cyndi Stevenson currently holds the seat but is term-limited out next year.

For more information about Kendall, go to VoteKimKendall.com.

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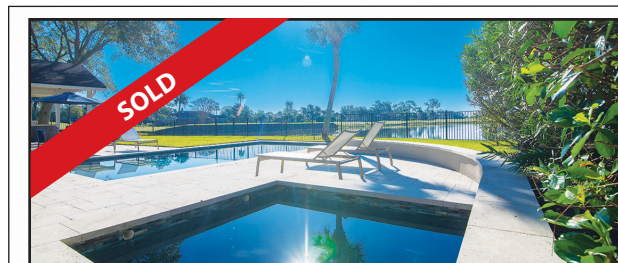
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Exceptional View in Sawgrass Country Club

Beautifully updated home in Sandpiper Cove in Sawgrass CC. Cul-de-sac lot, spectacular water to golf views. Built for year-round outdoor living with both a winter lanai with fireplace off the living room and a summer lanai off the family room with pool, spa and summer kitchen.

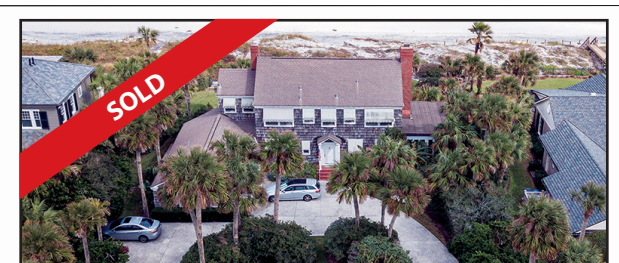
3 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 1 Half Bathroom \$1,800,000



Mandarin Riverfront Estate

Stunning 5.81 acre riverfront estate in Mandarin with 159ft of water frontage offering expansive views of the St Johns River. The neo-classical designed home, with identical front and rear elevations, offers elegant finishes throughout.

3 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 2 Half Bathrooms \$2,200,000



Oceanfront Home on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

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



Marsh Landing Country Club

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

5 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms \$1,700,000



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5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 4 Half Baths, \$6,950,000



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Elizabeth Hudgins, REALTOR®
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beacheshomes.com



OBITUARIES

**Adolfo Todio Deguzman**

DEGUZMAN, Adolfo Todio, 89, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on February 28, 2023. He was born June 1, 1933, in Manila, Philippines to the late Anastacio Ramos de Guzman and the late Espirita Todio de Guzman and is predeceased by sisters, Epifania de Guzman Andaya, Alegria de Guzman Real and Carmen de Guzman Sarmiento. Deguzman honorably served in the United States Navy for twenty years, serving on the USS McCaffrey, USS Niagara Falls and the USS Roos-

velt. He served two tours of Vietnam, retiring as a PNC Chief Petty Officer "Personnelman" with numerous decorations including Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Good Conduct Medal (4), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Combat "V" and 2 Bronze Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. As an immigrant, he had great patriotism for his adopted country, the United States, and truly believed in the "American Dream" because he lived it.

Deguzman attended Far Eastern University in Manila, Philippines, and University of Maryland, graduating from Jones College in Jacksonville, FL, with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management. He was actively involved in the community as a member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, the Filipino Golf Association-Jacksonville (as a founding and charter member), and the American Legion Post 129 and Disabled American Veterans where he volunteered as a service officer to help other wounded veterans acquire service-related disability benefits. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and in his youth was an amateur competitive boxer and weightlifter. He was a great ballroom dancer, loved fishing and crabbing, bowling, camping, golfing, playing ping

pong, and watching all sports, especially boxing. A polyglot, he was also an avid reader and excellent writer. He valued education and learning above all else. Most importantly, he was a man who truly loved his family. He often said: "My children are my treasures." He will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered. He is survived by his beloved wife of 67 years, Lourdes; son, German Deguzman (Jacksonville); and daughters, Diane Wright (Scott), Donna Ferguson (James Anthony "Tony"), Darlene Tan (Jackson) and Denise Senyk (Russell). He also leaves behind his 15 loving grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. The Deguzman family welcomes friends at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church (545 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Bch., FL 32082) on March 18, 2023, at 10:30 for a Memorial Mass with Father Knight as celebrant. Inurnment service will be immediately following Mass at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery (4750 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra, FL 32082).



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DEATH NOTICES

Barbara Peterson Blair

Barbara Peterson Blair, 93, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died March 1, 2023. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Ann Costigan

Ann Costigan, 79, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died March 1, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Francis "Frank" Oliver Cuffe

Francis "Frank" Oliver Cuffe, 91, of Jacksonville, Florida, died March 5, 2023. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

David George Dean

David George Dean, 87, of Jacksonville, Florida, died March 5, 2023. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Brandon Felmet

Brandon Felmet, 49, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Feb. 25, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

DEATH NOTICES continues on Page 5

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Katie Cantrell, MD

Jacob Wolf, MD

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OBITUARIES

Quentin Eugene Wood

Quentin Eugene Wood (Woody), retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Quaker State Oil Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, Past Chairman of Penn State University's Board of Trustees, and a Penn State Distinguished Alumnus of the class of 1948, died on February 25, 2023. He was 99 and lived in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Woody was a graduate of the remarkable class of 1948. Even among that very prestigious group, he was a model to all in his commitment to his country, his profession, and his university, all of which are better because of his intellect and personal engagement.

Born on March 5, 1923 in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, Woody later moved with his family to the State College area, where he graduated from State College Area High School in 1941. Woody continued his education at Penn State University. Like many of his classmates, Woody's Penn State education was interrupted by World War II. After just two years of college, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Upon graduation from flight training and receiving his commission, he became first a flight instructor and then served in the Flying Tigers 14th Air Corps in China during the Second World War. He flew 25 combat missions for the Flying Tigers. At the end of the

War, he returned to Penn State to complete his bachelor's degree in petroleum and natural gas engineering from the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

Upon graduation, Woody started his career with Quaker State in 1948 as a field production engineer and rose through the ranks, becoming Vice President of Production and a member of the Board of Directors in 1968. After serving as executive vice president, then president, he became chairman and chief executive officer in 1982. He served Quaker State as chairman until 1990 and retired from its Board in 1993. Quaker State led the nation in the sale of motor oil before and throughout Woody's career with the company. He served as chairman of the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, the Penn Grade Technical Advisory Committee, and the Technical Advisory Committee to the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

Woody served as a member of several corporate boards, including Mellon Bank, TruckLite Co., Heritage Insurance Co., Minit Lube, Inc., and the Pennsylvania Manufacturers Corporation. He also was a member of the Ohio, West Virginia and Bradford District Oil and Gas Associations, a director of the American Petroleum Institute, and a member of the American Institute of Metallurgical Engineers.

Woody was elected to Penn State's

Board of Trustees in 1978 and served as President of the Board from 1981 to 1984. He continued to serve the Penn State Board until 1999, when he was elected Trustee Emeritus. He regarded his service on his alma mater's board to be just as important, rewarding and fulfilling as his position as CEO of Quaker State. He was especially proud to have chaired and directed the Board's Presidential Trustee Selection Committee, which established a University Presidential selection process that created a partnership between the Board of Trustees, Penn State faculty and others to guide the selection of highly regarded Penn State presidents for three decades. Woody, a perceptive man with keen intellect, understood the complexities of a modern public research university with ambitious goals and never abandoned his responsibility to counsel and lead the Board to decisions in the best interest of the University.

Throughout his life, Woody balanced his considerable life responsibilities with enthusiastic participation in a variety of hobbies including golf, tennis, gin rummy, duplicate bridge and travel, all of which he enjoyed immensely.

In addition to his parents, Woody was predeceased by his beloved wife, Louise Lowe Wood, to whom he was married for 56 years, and a brother, L. Paul Wood, of Julian.

There will be no memorial service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Quentin and Louise Wood Football Athletic Scholarship, c/o the Chief Development Officer, 116 Old Main, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, 16802. Please visit his online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home, Jacksonville Beach, FL.



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DEATH NOTICES

Tom Gonseth

Tom Gonseth, 63, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Feb. 24, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Ronald Kushner

Ronald Kushner, 80, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Feb. 27, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Harriet Cook LeMaster

Harriet Cook LeMaster, 97, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Feb. 28, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Anna O. Logsdon

Anna O. Logsdon, 80, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 28, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

John Mascellino

John Mascellino, 74, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died March 2, 2023. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Charles Mayo Rankin

Charles Mayo Rankin, 95, of Jacksonville, Florida, died March 3, 2023. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

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Edwards & Ragatz, P.A.

For more than four decades, Lee Nimnicht has been volunteering with THE PLAYERS Championship. This year, he serves as first vice chair.

Lee Nimnicht

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell me about your career with the Nimnicht Family of Dealerships.

After graduating from JU, I came back to the car dealer Chevy store in 1991 and have been fulltime ever since. I'm in charge of the accounting and computer side of the business. I have a brother who handles the operational side, Billie. I'm secretary-treasurer across all of our corporation. We're in our 83rd year, having started in '41.

Your family has long been a part of THE PLAYERS Championship.

We supplied the vehicles to the first Greater Jacksonville Open. So, the family has ties to the tournament since its inception here in Jacksonville. My mother was chairman in 1997. My uncle was chairman in 1978.

How did you first become involved in the PLAYERS?

My first year was 1977. My mom was involved. She would pack me up and bring me along to the tournament with her. I was 7.

My first job was as a runner. It's a little different than the runner job that we have these days. We worked in the scoring tents at 9 and 18. The players would come through. The scoring tent would make copy of their score card and we would run a copy to either the media center or we would run the card back to the golf group, to their marker.

Describe about your role with this year's PLAYERS.

I basically run the tournament for the chairman ... I also make sure that the most volunteers at any one point are doing what they're supposed to be doing.

How many volunteers are there?

As of Saturday [February 25], we were at 2,060 volunteers. It's not the most we've ever had. We had 2,200 in '18 or '19, but that's also when we had the most spectators out there. They've reduced the number of overall spectators. They've also reduced the number of volunteers, accordingly. We think 2,000 is a pretty good number to do all the things that we need to do to produce a world-class golf tournament.

Have you have made any specific preparations this year's tournament?

We've had a rough couple of years. I mean, with the one-day tournament [2020]. Then, we had COVID-reduced capacity for both volunteers and spectators [2021]. And then, last year, with the thousand-year rain storm that decided to come upon us. So, we've had three not-normal tournaments. We're hoping this year will be a normal tournament. We're ready for whatever happens, whether it's weather or anything that comes upon us.

From the TOUR side, they put the time and effort into shoring up a bunch of things that we learned from last year, such as the evacuation plan for the players and spectators. Last year gave us a new outlook on things. We have a much better handle on it than we did going into last year's tournament.

Tell me about the relationship between THE PLAYERS and the community.

I think most of the volunteers will tell you that there



are two reasons that they volunteer. One is the people, the other volunteers. We may only see them once a year, but every March we get back together with the people we call family. Whether they're just family for that week or you see them all throughout the year, it's getting back together with those 2,000 people.

The other aspect is the charity dollars. If you live here in Jacksonville you realize the impact that THE PLAYERS has on local charities. The big one you can't help but think about the \$2 million matching gift they gave to Nemours in October. If you look at the statistics, I think they said in the last 10 years, the amount of childhood cancer cases that Nemours has handled has doubled. That's hard to fathom. Especially being a parent with two kids. Nemours is just one example. I think there are more than 300 charities over the history of the tournament that have benefitted by money raised from the tournament.

I did want to say from the volunteer side we have a great partner in the PGA staff of Championship management. This is their job, and we appreciate the fact that they let us participate in creating such a wonderful experience. Without Jared Rice and his team, we couldn't

do what we do. ... And the job the red coats do can't be overlooked.

You've lived on the First Coast your whole life.

Being born and raised here, I'm glad to call myself a Jacksonville native.

I learned a lesson early on from my dad and mom that the most important thing about living where you live is being able to give back. Luckily, we've been able through our companies to give back to a lot of organizations around the First Coast. That's always stuck in my head. It's something I'm trying to teach my kids. Hopefully, they'll have the opportunity to continue the legacy that my grandfather and my dad and my uncle have taught us.

How do you spend your free time?

I'd like to say golf ... I enjoy it, but I get most of my enjoyment from being around family and friends. I've got a daughter that's in college now and a son that's fixing to graduate from high school here in town. As you get older, you enjoy the time you spend with family and friends pretty much more than anything.

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

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Ready, Set, PLANT!

"We might think we are nurturing our garden, but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us." — Jenny Uglow



By Kathy Esfahani

It is finally warm enough to safely begin planting throughout your landscape! First, take the time to clean out your flower beds and containers. Then, select both annuals and perennials to add color and variety in your gardens.

An annual is a plant that lives for only one season. They exert their energy unconditionally, producing vibrant colors. Although replacing annuals at the end of each season adds maintenance to your yard, the reward is a rainbow of bright colors while these plants are



Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

blooming! Annuals typically last three to six months, requiring replacement two to three times per year.

When using annuals, plan your landscape to include several places where you want constant color and do not mind replanting each season. These locations can be garden beds or planters. Popular spots for annuals include framing a front entry, highlighting a driveway or mailbox, or surrounding a relaxing outdoor living space. Prepare your gardens for annuals with two to three

inches of compost, peat or topsoil. If you choose, you can add fertilizer; mix it in approximately the first six inches of soil before planting.

In our area, popular annuals include delphiniums, dianthus, Dusty Miller, impatiens, marigolds, pentas, salvias, supertunias, verbena, vincas and zinnias.

Perennials are plants, shrubs and trees that last indefinitely; flowers can survive at least three growing seasons in Northeast Florida. Many perennials turn brown and seem to die in the winter but then grow back from the roots. Just prune off dead stems and wait for them to reappear! Although perennials require less maintenance since they do not need replacing, they bloom in and out of color, not showing off the bright hues that annuals provide. Consider planning your landscape with at least 90% perennials to balance the showy color with less replacement cost and effort.

When selecting perennials to add to



Flower of the Week

Gazania

your landscape, look for african iris, agapanthus, blue daze, bush daisy, canna lily, foxtail fern, gardenia, gazania, gold mound duranta, hibiscus, hydrangea, knockout/drift roses, lantana, loropetalum, mandevilla, muhly grass, portulaca and shrimp plant.

Happy planting!

Flower of the Week: Gazania

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

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GUEST COLUMN

A Team Approach

By Dr. Chris Kopp

When I first moved here for PT school in 1993 and had the opportunity to attend THE PLAYERS Championship live and in person, I was in total star-watching mode and in awe. I couldn't believe how up close we could get as spectators. Either watching my favorite golfers like Payne Stewart and others walk right past me next to the ropes or watching the pros hit balls on the range or putt and chip. I also have always enjoyed watching and trying to catch the interaction between golfer and caddy.

As I progressed through PT school and had the opportunity to become familiar with golf biomechanics with advanced training, I came to learn about physical therapists and other health professionals that actually travel with the tour. You may have heard various pros mention visiting the fitness trailer before and after their rounds. Interestingly, in the early years of the tour and probably through the '80s, there was no such thing as fitness per se as it wasn't a big thing for most pros. Gary Player was one of the rare ones who embraced his fitness as part of his golf

training, and it certainly has paid off. He still looks amazing. Tiger Woods obviously became the main instigator for a change of philosophy when it came to playing professional golf. Some of you may remember seeing him in his early years with those oversized golf shirts on his diminutive frame. Then we began to notice a total change of physique and other young golfers began to follow in his footsteps. Professional golfers started to look like professional athletes.

However, with bigger and stronger comes some drawbacks. Tiger's injuries have certainly been well documented. Some are golf specific, for instance his knee and low back issues. Others, related to direct trauma from his car accident two years ago. Tiger's emphasis on his fitness training has allowed him to come back time and time again from these injuries, although I do think some of his physical ailments may now be with him for the rest of his life.

Tiger mentions how much his team helps him daily, particularly when he is trying to compete over the course of four

TEAM continues on Page 9

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Team

Continued from 8

days of a professional golf tournament. At the recent Genesis Open where he made the cut, Tiger said about all his body has left for him is to probably compete in all four majors and a few other tournaments here and there. That is even from someone who has a tremendous work ethic and the top fitness and rehab professionals working with him as part of his “team.”

If you are an amateur golfer, do you need a team to help you? How about other sports like pickleball or tennis? Maybe just getting through the normal physical demands of life? The answer to that question should be yes! For us to function in a healthy way and to avoid injury or undue stress to our bodies, it is important to have a team who understands our needs and wants. Coaching and lessons for good technique. Understanding the importance of probably fitted equipment. And of course, health professionals who have advanced training and experience with your specific sport and activity of choice. Having someone who knows you specifically can be even more beneficial. I have several former patients and clients reach out to me periodically for a tune up. Sometimes, it is for something more significant like an injury or surgery.

If you are a resident of this area or just visiting for the tournament, I recommend you begin to build your team so you can continue to enjoy this wonderful gift of life and the opportunity to be physically active.

Dr. Chris Kopp PT, DPT, is a licensed physical therapist and is a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist and Titleist Performance Institute certified. He is the owner of Premier Physical Therapy and can be reached at info@premierptjax.com or online at www.premierptjax.com.

Churchmen hear about Project Dynamo



Contributed photo

The Churchmen had a luncheon Feb 16 at Marsh Landing County Club. About 70 members joined together for food and fellowship. Bryan Stern of Project Dynamo was the speaker. He talked about their mission to rescue Americans who have been trapped in Afghanistan and Ukraine. He has recently appeared on the TV show “Trafficked.” The episode was about the commercialization of surrogate mothers, and Project Dynamo’s work to get newborn American children out of Ukraine. That show appears on the NatGeo channel. Pictured from left are Roger Elsas, Peter Karpin, John Eckdahl, Quentin Walsh and Bryan Stern.

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TICKETS

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

Information: For tickets and parking FAQ, go to <https://www.theplayers.com/tickets/faq>.

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

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

Military and veteran tickets: All military and veteran tickets will be digital and must be secured in advance through an online verification system. Once the redemption process is complete, tickets can be accessed instantly. Tickets are

available while supplies last.

Military tickets: All active duty, retired, reserve and National Guard members verified through the new military identification system and one dependent are provided access to complimentary tickets on Tuesday, March 7, and Wednesday, March 8, as well as one competition day during Thursday, March 9, through Sunday, March 12, while supplies last. Complimentary tickets secured through this verification process will include a \$20 digital voucher that can be used at any on-site food vendor for food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Veteran tickets: Veterans verified through the military identification system and one dependent are provided access to discounted tickets on Tuesday, March 7, and Wednesday, March 8, as well as one competition day during Thursday, March 9, through Sunday, March 12, while

supplies last. Discounted tickets secured through this verification process will include a \$20 digital voucher that can be used at any on-site food vendor for food and non-alcoholic beverages.

To secure military and veteran tickets, follow these steps:

1. Go to THEPLAYERS.com/tickets and click CLAIM TICKETS in the Military Admission section.
2. Select your chosen tournament day(s).
3. Verify your military designation using GovX by selecting the link on the checkout page.
4. Once verified, complete the transaction and access your tickets on THE PLAYERS' digital portal.
5. Add your ticket(s) to your mobile wallet prior to arrival.

Will Call: Located in the parking lot of Tournament Plaza, near Larry's Giant Subs. Will Call address is 830 A1A N. Ponte Vedra Beach.

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PARKING

General Parking Lot address: 5360 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach

- Parking passes are required on all tournament days, Tuesday-Sunday.
- All parking passes are daily passes and must be purchased in advance via www.THEPLAYERS.com/parking.
- Volunteers will not sell parking passes in the lot, and parking will not be sold at Will Call.
- “Four or more for free” parking vouchers are not available in 2023.
- Tuesday and Wednesday parking costs \$15 per day and Thursday through Sunday costs \$40 per day.

Rideshare: Rideshares will drop off and pick up at the Couples Entry off of ATP Boulevard, which is just steps from the 15th hole. Rideshare vehicles will be staged outside the Couples Entry making this one of the easiest modes of transportation for spectators.

Getting to THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Enter Destination: THE PLAYERS Championship
- Enter the tournament through the Couples Entry

Leaving THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Exit tournament grounds through the Couples Entry
- Follow the tournament signage to the designated rideshare pick up area outside the Couples Entry
- Get in available rideshare and head to your preferred destination

OTHER

Pedal to THE PLAYERS: THE PLAYERS offers complimentary bike parking during the tournament from the

time entries open until end of play. Spectators can ride their bikes to Gate B located inside the Sawgrass Gates off of PGA TOUR Boulevard in the back of lot 4 only (110 PGA TOUR Blvd). Bike racks are available free of charge. Bike parking is not available in the general parking lot.

Golf Cart Parking: THE PLAYERS offers complimentary golf cart parking services Tuesday through Sunday at Gate B located inside the TPC Sawgrass Gates off of PGA TOUR Boulevard in the back of lot 4 only (110 PGA TOUR Blvd). Golf cart parking is free of charge and is available from the time entries open until end of play. Golf cart parking is not available in the general parking lot.

Disabled Guest Services: THE PLAYERS Disabled Guest Services program provides shuttles during the championship. Fans who have handicap parking access are still required to purchase a parking pass in advance for THE PLAYERS general parking lot (off C.R. 210).

Fans with a handicap parking hang tag, as well as a PLAYERS parking pass, will be directed to park in a specific part of the general parking lot. From there, golf carts will take them to one of the designated Disabled Guest Services locations on the golf course.

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

1. Behind 16 Green by Couples Gate and The Bier Garden
2. Behind 17 Tee adjacent to the Welcome Experience and the Food Court

3. Players left of 9 Fairway by Wine & Dine on 9.
4. Players left of 9 Green by Past Chairman Hospitality.
5. Clubhouse area behind 3 Tee
6. Players right of 16 Tee
7. Players right of 15 Fairway at Taste of JAX

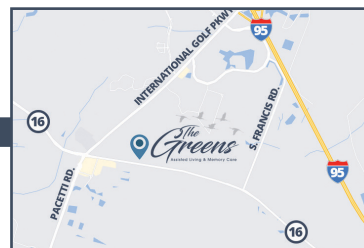
If disabled guests need assistance from a location without shuttle access, they should contact any tournament official with a radio.

Shuttles: New in 2023! On Friday, March 10, Saturday, March 11, and Sunday, March 12, THE PLAYERS will run a free shuttle service for Nocatee and area residents to park for free at Palm Valley Academy (700 Bobcat Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach), Valley Ridge Academy (105 Greenleaf Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach) and Pine Island Academy (805 Pine Island Road, St. Augustine) and then take a free shuttle to and from THE PLAYERS. The shuttles will run from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and will drop fans off right in front of the Nicklaus entrance.

Shuttles are available from several downtown Jacksonville hotels to THE PLAYERS, Thursday through Sunday of tournament week. Shuttles will be available from Hogan Street by the Marriott Jacksonville Downtown, Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront and Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk (which guests at the Doubletree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront can also utilize) to both hotel guests and area residents, providing a convenient and cost-effective way for fans to get to and from the tournament. Shuttle passes are \$20 plus applicable fees. Shuttles will operate Thursday through Sunday, and shuttle passes will be available for purchase in the near future.



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POLICIES

Spectator Information Tents are located at: Davis Love III entry, Taste of Jax (11 green/12 tee), PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience, Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiommi Wines

THE PLAYERS PRIDE

THE PLAYERS PRIDE stands for showing personal responsibility when enjoying the best fan experience in golf. All attendees are asked to help make this event the Gold Standard by keeping the course beautiful, clean and safe. Have fun and enjoy the ultimate experience this championship provides but remember to show the same respect to those around you as the players show each other.

Help us keep THE PLAYERS clean and safe.

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

Fan Code of Conduct

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

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

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

tournament.

Mobile Device Policy

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

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

Autograph Policy

On-course autograph seeking is prohibited (this includes, but is not limited to, tees, fairways, greens and practice areas during practice rounds and tournament rounds).

Autograph seeking will be restricted to designated autograph zones: practice grounds and scoring area

No memorabilia can be brought into the tournament including pin flags, photos, trading cards, balls and other sports paraphernalia.

Food Policy

THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring

PERMITTED ITEMS



Personal bags 6" x 6" or smaller

(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))



Clear plastic, vinyl or other carry items not exceeding 12" x 6" x 12"

(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))



A one-gallon clear resealable plastic bag

(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))



At the tournament's discretion, food may enter the tournament in a clear, resealable plastic bag, not to exceed the size of a one (1) gallon bag



Reusable plastic or metal cups/bottles that are empty upon entry and exit, and cannot hold more than 32-ounces



Mobile phones, tablets, and PDA's - MUST be on Silent mode and adhere to TOUR's Mobile Device Policy

(See the PGA TOUR Mobile Device Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/mobile-device-policy.html>))



Point and shoot, film or DSLR cameras with lens smaller than 6"; no case

(During Practice Rounds Only)



Umbrellas without sleeve



Portable radios with headsets



Medically necessary materials, strollers, small diaper bags, plastic baby bottles, and other essential baby supplies (infant must be with carrier) - Items subject to search



Collapsible chairs without chair bags



Binoculars without case



Seat cushions that do not require a carrying case or that do not have pockets or compartments



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POLICIES continues on **Page 14**



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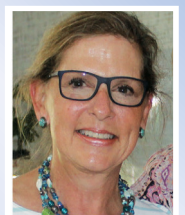


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Policies

Continued from 13-

in their own food in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag where food items are also wrapped in clear wrap. Fans can refill their empty water bottles at the filtered water stations. THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 oz. at entries, as long as they are empty.

Alcohol Policy

Strict adherence to alcoholic beverage consumption laws will be enforced on course and in all hospitality areas.

Alcohol will not be served to anyone younger than 21; proof of age will be required for anyone younger than 35.

Only two drinks may be purchased at a time; spectators are not allowed to carry more than two drinks at any given time.

Bags + Permitted/Prohibited Items

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

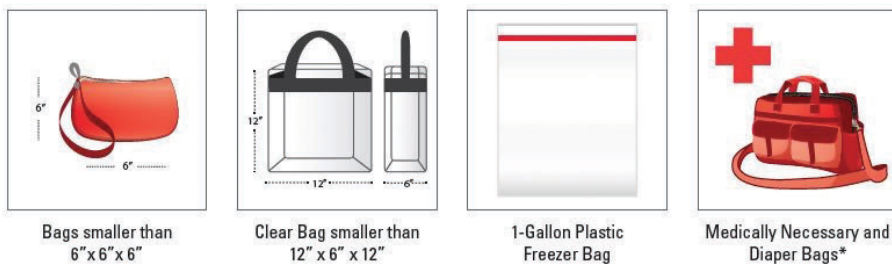
THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in their own food in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag where food items are also wrapped in clear wrap.

THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 oz. at entries, as long as they are empty.

Free Fan Lockers courtesy of Atlantic Self Storage

Located at the Nicklaus and Couples entry, THE PLAYERS is offering free fan lockers so that fans can conveniently and safely store belongings. (Reminder: THE PLAYERS does adhere to a strict clear bag policy)

APPROVED BAGS



**Infant and Medical supplies will be permitted after proper inspection.*

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- No bags larger than a small purse 6" x 6"** including carrying cases, backpacks, camera bags, or chair bags (See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))
- No clear plastic, vinyl, or other carry items larger than 12" x 6" x 12"** (See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))
- No glass cups or bottles of any kind except for medical or infant needs**
- No computers or laptops**
- No fireworks or laser pointers**
- No lounge or over-sized chairs with extended foot rests**
- No seat cushions in a carrying case or that have pockets or compartments**
- No pets, except for service animals**
- No knives, firearms or weapons of any nature**
- No video cameras (All Week)**
- No point and shoot, film or DSLR cameras (During Competition Rounds)**
- No selfie sticks or hand-held camera stabilizers**
- No beverages (patrons may not bring in or exit with beverages) or coolers**
- No radios, TVs, or portable speakers**
- No posters, signs or banners**
- No motorcycles, mopeds, tricycles, bicycles (whether or not motor-driven), skateboards, hoverboards, or other similar devices will be permitted to be operated on or within tournament property. Segways®, motorized scooters or other personal transportation devices are prohibited if not used as a mobility aid by individuals with mobility impairment**
- No drones, Remote Controlled Model Aircrafts or other devices that can be operated in airspace will be permitted to be operated at PGA TOUR events during tournament week.**

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Woolsey Morcom Law hires former Sheriff David Shoar as Director of Investigations

PONTE VEDRA, Florida – Former St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar has joined Woolsey Morcom as the law firm’s director of investigations.

Shoar brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the team and will play a key role in helping the firm provide top-quality legal services to its clients.

He served as sheriff of St. Johns County for 16 years, where he was known for his dedication to public service and his commitment to justice.

Over the years, Shoar has a successful track record of investigating and solving complex cases and has received numerous awards and recognition for his work in law enforcement.

“We are thrilled to have David join our team,” said firm partner Josh Woolsey. “His knowledge and experience in law enforcement will be invaluable as we work to provide the best possible legal representation to our clients.”

In addition to his work as an investigator, Shoar is also active in the local community as a member of several professional organizations and is a frequent speaker at law enforcement conferences and seminars.

“I am excited to be joining Woolsey Morcom and to be working with such a talented team of lawyers,” Shoar said. “I look forward to using my experience and skills to help the firm achieve the best possible outcomes for its clients.”

Woolsey Morcom is a full-service law firm with offices throughout Florida and San Antonio, Texas.

The firm provides a wide range of legal services to individuals and businesses, including car accidents, personal injury, family law, commercial litigation, first-party property and criminal defense.

To learn more about Woolsey Morcom and how they might be able to help, go to the firm’s website at woolseymorcom.com.



We are thrilled to have David join our team. His *knowledge and experience in law enforcement will be invaluable* as we work to provide the best possible legal representation to our clients.”

— JOSH WOOLSEY, FIRM PARTNER



Nick Morcom (left) and Josh Woolsey (right)

Woolsey Morcom, Attorneys at law, founded in 2016, is St. John’s county’s largest law firm. Their areas of practice include, but are not limited to, car accidents, personal injury, family law, commercial litigation, property damage, and criminal defense. With offices throughout the state of Florida, and in San Antonio, Texas, Woolsey Morcom is committed to fighting for the best legal outcome for every client, regardless of the type or size of their case.

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Photo credit: PGA TOUR



Several popular food vendors are represented at the Food Court.



Tacos on 12 is one of the most popular food venues.



Among the offerings at Sawgrass Square are mini doughnuts and barbecue.

FOOD & DRINK

Taste of JAX – 11 green/12 tee

- **Cousins Maine Lobster** — serving up its 100% premium, wild-caught, sustainably harvested lobster from Maine.
- **Mojo BBQ** — a premier barbecue, southern food, and craft cocktail destination with eight locations in North and Central Florida.
- **ABBQ** — Serving up Texas style BBQ at the Beach.
- **Silkie's Chicken & Champagne Bar** — Historic Springfield upscale casual restaurant featuring Chef Kenny Gilbert's Signature Fried Chicken, Biscuits & Champagne Cocktails.
- **Taste of Jax Bar** — featuring Tito's at the Turn

Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiom Wines — 9 fairway

Enjoy food from Bonefish Grill and a glass of wine from Meiom Wines, the official wine of the PGA TOUR, in a beautiful garden setting. Take a few swings in the swing simulator while you're here, and if you need to freshen up, take advantage of the permanent restrooms.

Relax, unwind, and discover the unrivaled taste of Meiom Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Rosé. Cheers! (Please enjoy Meiom wines responsibly.)

Food Court — THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience

- **Homespun Kitchen** – Healthy fast food. Whether you are vegan, gluten free

or paleo, you will find tons of options at Homespun.

- **Firehouse Subs** — This sandwich shop was founded in Jacksonville.
- **Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q** — Lou Bono opened the first Bono's on Beach Boulevard in 1949. The restaurant prides itself on serving up an authentic Southern Pit barbecue experience you won't forget.
- **The Local** – Jacksonville-based, high-quality café focusing on delicious food with unique twists on every dish as well as craft booze and coffee.
- **Tropical Smoothie** — Bold, flavorful smoothies, wraps, sandwiches, flatbreads and salads with high-quality ingredients and fresh produce.
- **Daily's concessions**

Tacos on 12 — 12 green

One of the most well-trafficked food venues on the course, featuring food and drink from TacoLu, Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana.

Sawgrass Square — 10 tee

Located at the Davis Love III Entry, grab a doughnut from Mini Bar and/or some BBQ from 4 Rivers Smokehouse.

- **Mini Bar** — Jacksonville's first mini doughnut shop will be serving up a set menu of mini-sized doughnuts in more than a dozen unique flavors. Some examples include fruity pebbles, samoa, pop tart, maple bacon and coffee cake.
- **4 Rivers Smokehouse** — a sophisticated Texas-style smokehouse



Photo credit: PGA TOUR

Popular food trucks and a mobile bar can be found at Trucks on 10.

Trucks on 10

This venue offers flavors from local, favorite food trucks and an open-air Michelob ULTRA Mobile bar. Twisted Okie BBQ, Mama's, Chinchillas Burgers, Saffron Mediterranean Kitchen, Tikiz and What's the Catch.

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

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

FOOD & DRINK continues on Page 18

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Photo credit: PGA TOUR



The Bier Garden offers a variety of craft beers and bar bites.



The Oasis is an air-conditioned venue with cocktails from Tito's Handmade Vodka.

Food & Drink

Continued from 16

Bier Garden presented by Hoptinger — behind 16 green

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

The Oasis featuring Tito's Stillhouse Lounge

Open to ticketholders who are 21 and older, The Oasis is an air-conditioned venue with signature cocktails from Tito's Handmade Vodka, as well as food and drink available for purchase. The Oasis offers an enclosed lounge with premium sightlines of the newly reimagined 9th tee. The lounge also features fun additions for fans, including a putting green, Golden Tee retro arcade game, custom murals, TVs with live broadcasts of the tournament and more.

The Oasis features ABBQ — serving up Texas style BBQ at the Beach.

The Grove featuring Maestro Dobel

Enjoy 11 generations of tequila-making legacy at The Grove with Maestro Dobel Tequila, official tequila of the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. Sharing its commitment to mastery with golf fans, Maestro Dobel offers three signature cocktails featuring its range of smooth tequilas including the Diamante Tee Time, available at the entrance of the course. While in the lounge, experience Dobel's rich history and hone your tequila knowledge with the brand's tequila experts, while also learning about "Art of the Cocktail." Please drink responsibly.

Filtered Water Stations

- Near No. 10 tee/No. 16 tee
- Wine & Dine on 9 (near No. 5 green/No. 9 fairway)
- behind 16 green (near The Grove)
- Taste of JAX (Located behind 11 green and 12 tee)

Remember: THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 oz. at entries, as long as they are empty.



Photo credit: PGA TOUR

The new, aluminum Sawgrass Splash Cup is recyclable.

Sawgrass Splash — the signature cocktail of THE PLAYERS

As part of the PGA TOUR's commitment to leading the advancement of sustainability in the industry, THE PLAYERS will be serving the tournament's signature drink, the Sawgrass Splash featuring Tito's Handmade Vodka, in a lightweight, aluminum cup. Aluminum is the most sustainable beverage packaging material, and like aluminum cans, aluminum cups can be easily recycled; the 16 oz. cups are lightweight, sturdy, cool to the touch and provide an elevated

drinking experience for all fans. While the cup is changing, the iconic Sawgrass Splash is staying the same; the drink will continue to feature Tito's Handmade Vodka, and a refreshing combination of orange juice, lemonade and lime juice.

Sawgrass Splash ingredients:

- 1.5 oz. Tito's Handmade Vodka
- 2 oz. lemonade
- 2 oz. orange juice
- Squeeze of lime juice

MERCHANDISE

The PGA TOUR Fan Shop is located at THE PLAYERS Stadium Village (near the main entrance).

Opening Weekend: The PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience will be open to the public the weekend before the tournament (March 3-5), so that the Northeast Florida community can check out the unique merchandise collection and purchase commemorative items and apparel. No ticket is required, and guests can park in the public parking lot off C.R. 210. Hours are: Noon to 5 p.m. Friday, March 3; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 4; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 5.

What's New for 2023

The PGA TOUR Fan Shop in the Stadium Village has increased in size and is now more than 36,500 square feet and features endless exciting merchandise for fans to choose from. Here are a few highlights:

- Barstool Golf will offer an exclusive merchandise line with THE PLAYERS featuring two polo shirts, hoodies, quarter zips, T-shirts and hats.
- NOBULL custom shoes for THE PLAYERS
- Collaborations with Flomotion, Vineyard Vines, Greyson, Johnnie O, FootJoy, Melin Hats and more.



Apparel is among the most popular merchandise sold at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop.



The PGA TOUR Fan Shop is a great place to get merchandise.



Look for the PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Stadium Village.



Among the merchandise that can be found at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop are cups bearing THE PLAYERS logo.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

Thursday, March 9

Entries open at 6:45 a.m.

Will Call Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

First round of competition begins at approximately 6:45 a.m. (threesomes off of No. 1 and No.10)

Friday, March 10

Entries open at 6:45 a.m.

Will Call Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Second round of competition begins at approximately 6:45 a.m. (threesomes off of No. 1 and No. 10)

Saturday, March 11

Entries open at 7:30 a.m.

Will Call Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Third round of competition begins at approximately 7:45 a.m., depending on the size of the cut (twosomes off No. 1)

Championship Sunday, March 12

Entries open at 7:30 a.m.

Will Call Hours: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Final round of competition begins at approximately 7:45 a.m., depending on size of the cut (twosomes off No. 1)

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TPC Sawgrass executive chef committed to excellence

By Shaun Ryan

Speaking with Chef Matt Voskuil, you quickly realize he is not the kind of person who would be satisfied with anything that is simply “good enough.”

He admits to being competitive and continually pushes himself to get better at what he does. Add to that his background working in some extremely demanding kitchens, and you have a chef you can rely on to make THE PLAYERS Championship not only “the ultimate golf experience in Jacksonville” but also “the ultimate dining experience in Jacksonville.”

Of course, that same level of expertise and dedication will also reveal itself at Nineteen and at local banquets.

TPC Sawgrass hired Voskuil as its new executive chef in January, and he wasted no time preparing for the sta-

dium course’s biggest event of the year. The dining venue’s relatively small operation balloons during THE PLAYERS for one week only and returns to its former scale afterward. Meeting the sudden culinary demands of the tournament poses a great challenge by itself, but Voskuil has taken that one step further.

“We’re actually highlighting something this year that’s going to be the first time that we’ve done it,” he said. “We’re doing all-organic everything for the players and player dining. It’s actually a relatively large undertaking for an event of this size.”

According to Voskuil, sourcing organic ingredients is very difficult.

“It’s an interesting challenge, and it’s



Contributed photo

CHEF continues on Page 22

Matt Voskuil is the new executive chef at TPC Sawgrass.

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TPC Sawgrass Executive Chef Matt Voskuil clearly enjoys what he does for a living.



TPC Sawgrass Executive Chef Matt Voskuil takes great care to prepare food just right.

Chef

Continued from 20

one that definitely requires a bit of attention so that it's done properly," he said.

Voskuil, who has played golf since he was in the seventh grade, credits the game — at least in part — for his choice of careers.

Growing up in a small Wisconsin town, he took a job in the local clubhouse kitchen because that meant he could play the courses.

"It was there that I worked with European chefs for the first time, saw fine dining for the first time, and it just kind of lit something up in me that I decided was something I wanted to pursue as a career," he said.

He compared the preparation of food to a kind of sport, something that appeals to him.

"Cooking in a professional kitchen is very team-oriented," he said. "You feel like you've either won or lost every single day. And I like to feel like we're

trying to win every single day."

He attended culinary school in Chicago and eventually landed some significant jobs. He led culinary teams at The Chanler at Cliff Walk in Newport, Rhode Island; and three Las Vegas establishments, The Venetian Resort, ARIA Resort & Casino and Bellagio Hotel & Casino.

But one of the highlights of his career resulted from his being selected for the team that, in 2005, opened The Mansion, a five-star Joël Robuchon restaurant in the famous MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

He called the experience "intense and very rewarding."

"The pressure there was unlike anything I'd ever seen before," Voskuil said. "We were expected to be perfect from day one. The level of expectation was so high, we were working a lot of hours, going through a ton of food to train and learn these recipes."

Another career highlight has been his work at Ocean House in Westerly, Rhode Island, where he has been group executive chef from 2019 until his hiring at TPC Sawgrass.



Contributed photos

TPC Sawgrass Executive Chef Matt Voskuil prepares a dish.

Ocean House is a five-star Relais & Chateaux resort where Voskuil and his team put guest experience first.

"We pushed ourselves tremendously to be creative and think outside the box, and open new experiences for our guests," Voskuil said.

In fact, that constant need to improve is part of what makes Voskuil the chef he is. It also played a role in his decision to apply for the local position.

"When I was interviewing here, the

thing that made this job really attractive to me was the group of chefs and cooks that were gathered here that are absolutely committed to doing the right thing," he said. "Most kitchens these days don't make their own stock, they don't make their own bread, they don't make their own dressings. They don't do a lot of the stuff that this team does each and every day ... I was really, really excited to get the opportunity to come work here and work with this team."

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THE PLAYERS seems ready to produce another memorable tournament

By Anthony Richards

After a couple of crazy years that have tested the grit of the PGA Tour’s “gold standard” event, THE PLAYERS Championship is due to have a flawless showcase.

The week got off right with a good start weatherwise with the practice rounds, and the current forecast only has the potential of rain on Friday, which everyone at the PGA Tour would probably take that scenario in a heartbeat, especially after last year’s numerous rain delays.

However, when the sun is out THE PLAYERS really begins to shine and find its true beauty, which was the case during the practice rounds.

The golfers in the field have even noticed how what excellent shape the TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course is in.



Photo by Anthony Richards

MEMORABLE continues on Page 43

Former THE PLAYERS winner Justin Thomas described the course conditions as “immaculate.”

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826 Ponte Vedra Blvd. - French colonial beauty in PVB with deeded beach access on the Boulevard! Designed to capture the ocean breezes with French doors in every room that open to the ocean in the front & Guana preserve & Sawgrass Golf course in the back. 4260sf, the kitchen, living areas & master suite upstairs all open to verandas. Sold for \$2,935,000.



SOLD

2375 Ponte Vedra Blvd - This oceanfront beauty could grace the cover of Coastal Living magazine! Perfectly located along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean this 4BR/3.5BA coastal contemporary features two sweeping oceanfront porches, private beach walkover and a 21' x 21' rooftop deck with panoramic water and preserve views. Sold for \$3,600,000



SOLD

188 Sea Hammock Way - Stunning oceanfront condo located in the gated seaside community of Sea Hammock in Ponte Vedra Beach. This 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo is completely updated and furnished with designer finishes and details. Sold for \$1,404,000.



SOLD

962 Ponte Vedra Blvd. - Exquisite estate home located on a waterfront lot that measures greater than a half-acre. This 6 bedroom, 5 full and one-half bath home offers stunning sunset and nature views as well as private, deeded beach access across the street. Sold for \$2,400,000.



SOLD

405 Ponte Vedra Blvd. - 100 ft' lot is situated on sought-after oceanfront of Ponte Vedra Blvd. just 2 blocks south of the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and 2 blocks from The Lodge & Club. Offering 4 BR's, and 4 BA's, this charming seaside home is perfectly laid out in over 2800sf & offers the best of Ponte Vedra Beach living. Sold for \$6,500,000



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A superior location, The Colony at Ponte Vedra is 2 blocks to the public beach and this 1,000 sq. ft. first-floor unit is in the building closest to the beach. Unit 104 features an open floor plan with 2 BR/2BA that is a great investment or home. The living room opens to the kitchen and is flanked by built-in shelving and French doors. Offered for \$340,000.



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719 Spinnakers Reach - Spectacular 1st floor condo has the only elevator in Spinnakers 1 from the garage to the first floor! Completely renovated with stunning details & designer finishes. Oceanfront views from every room. 2523sf, 3 BR, 3BA with the upstairs master & ocean views! Spectacular kitchen overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Sold for \$2,500,000.



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Experts discuss mental health challenges at forum



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Lauren Cikara, vice president for school mental health at Active Minds, speaks during a panel discussion on mental health Friday, March 3. From left are: moderator Scot Langley, Optum Behavioral Health Solutions CEO Trip Hofer, psychiatrist Dr. Debra Katz, CAIR Center director Valerie Duquette, Cikara and Hearts 4 Minds founder Sheryl Johnson.

By Shaun Ryan

Once again this year, THE PLAYERS Championship hosted a forum of experts on an issue important to people throughout the community. On Friday, March 3, a panel discussion on “Driving Dialogue for Mental Health” was presented by Optum at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

Mental wellbeing has become a focal point for many in the wake of the pandemic, which arguably compounded pre-existing psychological and emotional challenges.

Discussion moderator Scot “Froggy” Langley, co-host of the nationally syndicated “Elvis Duran Show,” began the

conversation, stating that “we do have an absolute, undeniable mental health crisis in our country.”

Trip Hofer, CEO of Optum Behavioral Health Solutions, supported that observation with a statistic: one in five adults in the United States — or one in three, depending on the source — is currently facing some kind of mental health challenge. He said the demand is sharply increasing, while the supply curve has been flat.

In other words, poor access is a barrier to many who need mental health services.

But, said Valerie Duquette, director of the CAIR (Crisis Assessment Intervention Referral) Center at Flagler Health+, access is not just how many providers there are in

the community.

“Access is: access to insurance, the cost of co-payments, the travel to and from appointments, the time of day that things are available,” she said.

In addition, people don’t always know which way to turn.

“If you blow your knee out, you go and find an orthopedist,” Hofer said. “But if you’re not feeling well mentally, what do you do? Do you see a psychiatrist? Do you see a psychologist? Do you see a therapist? Do you see a life coach? Do you go on an app?”

Another big barrier the panel addressed was stigma.

“We have to make it OK for people to

talk about what’s going on in their lives and in their hearts and what they’re feeling and experiencing at the time,” Duquette said.

A major concern is for young people who are struggling with mental health issues. Dr. Debra Katz, a board-certified child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist, said that suicide is the second leading cause of youth deaths.

“No one,” said Hearts 4 Minds founder Sheryl Johnson, “should lose a loved one simply because they didn’t have the health literacy or access to care.”

Lauren Cikara, representing Active Minds, emphasized the importance of communication, particularly between peers.

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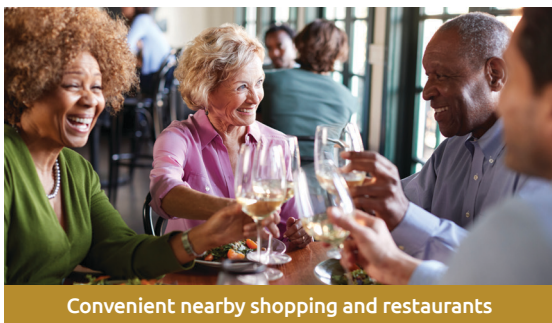
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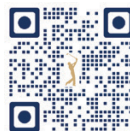


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- A** ADMISSIONS
- AZ** KIDS AUTOGRAPH ZONE PRESENTED BY NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH
- C** CONCESSIONS
- F** FAMILY LOUNGE PRESENTED BY WOLFSON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
- L** STORAGE LOCKERS COURTESY OF ATLANTIC SELF STORAGE
- +** FIRST AID PRESENTED BY BAPTIST HEALTH
- IN** INFORMATION
- ?** LOST AND FOUND
- T** PGA TOUR FAN SHOP
- PG** PRACTICE GROUNDS
- ii** RESTROOMS ADA ACCESSIBLE
- ♿** WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
- ▲** **DISABLED GUEST SERVICES SHUTTLE STOP**
- I** **STADIUM VILLAGE**
 - 17th Hole Challenge
 - Bar 904
 - PGA TOUR Fan Shop
- J** **MORGAN STANLEY FAN EXPERIENCE**

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- K** **FOOD COURT**

Local food and drinks for purchase

 - Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q
 - Daily's
 - Firehouse Subs
 - Homespun Kitchen
 - The Local
 - Tropical Smoothie Café
- L** **FAN BLEACHER PRESENTED BY TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA**

Public bleacher with views of 8 Green and 9 Tee and drinks for purchase
- M** **THE OASIS FEATURING TITO'S STILLHOUSE LOUNGE**

Enjoy handcrafted, signature cocktails at Tito's Stillhouse Lounge (must be 21+) and Texas style barbeque for purchase at ABBQ.
- N** **WINE & DINE ON 9 PRESENTED BY MEIOMI WINES**

Shaded venue with open-air seating and upscale food from Bonefish Grill and drinks for purchase from the Meiomi Wine Bar

 - Sip and Swing Golf Simulator
- O** **PALM VALLEY VILLAGE**

Enjoy food and beverage for purchase from BUBBA burger
- P** **THE PATIO**

Shaded venue featuring a Michelob ULTRA branded bar with food for purchase available from V Pizza
- Q** **SAWGRASS SQUARE**

PGA TOUR Training Presented by NOBULL featuring NOBULL, WHOOP and Hyperice plus local food and drink available for purchase

 - 4 Rivers Smokehouse
 - The Mini Bar
- R** **FAN BLEACHER PRESENTED BY TRUGREEN**

Public covered bleachers and deck with views of 10 and 16 with beer, wine and soda available for purchase
- S** **TACOS ON 12**

TacoLu, Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, serving food and beverages. Venue includes a shaded seating area.
- T** **FAN BLEACHER**

Public covered bleachers and deck with views of 12 and 13. Beer, wine and soda available for purchase
- U** **TASTE OF JAX**

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 - Cousins Maine Lobster
 - Mojo Kitchen
 - Silkies
 - The Goat Tapas
- V** **THE BIER GARDEN PRESENTED BY HOPTINGER**

Featuring a variety of craft beers on tap located behind 16 Green
- W** **RIDESHARE**

Rideshare pick-up and drop-off location behind 15 Tee
- X** **THE KIDS ZONE PRESENTED BY NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

Open to the public featuring activities for kids and families
- Y** **TRUCKS ON 10**

Open-air bar with local food and drinks for purchase

 - Chinchillas
 - Mama's
 - Saffron
 - Tikiz
 - Twisted Okie
 - What's the Catch
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THE PLAYERS MARQUEES

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DYE'S PAVILION
PRESENTED BY COGNIZANT
THE PLAYERS MARQUEES

C 17 BUILDING C
THE PLAYERS CLUB
THE PLAYERS MARQUEES

D 17 BUILDING D
THE PLAYERS MARQUEES

E 16 BUILDING E
ISLAND SUITES
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F 16 BUILDING F
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THE PLAYERS CLUB
THE PLAYERS CLUB 17
17 TEE VENUE

THE DOG LOUNGE

18 GREEN VENUE

CLUBHOUSE

Strano golf clinic continues to bring deaf community closer to golf

By Anthony Richards

Twenty years ago Rob Strano decided to begin a golf clinic for students at Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Augustine and hold it during the week of THE PLAYERS.

Two decades later, and the clinic and his mission is still going as strong as ever, with this year's event held March 7 at the No. 9 hole at Dye's Valley Course at TPC Sawgrass.

However, the impact his clinics have made goes far beyond just helping those locally, as he has also held U.S. deaf golf camps in 29 cities throughout the years.

"It was just a God-led thing that happened," Strano said. "I played professionally for 15 years, and after I finished my playing career God led me to learn the (sign) language. "More than 1,000 deaf kids have learned the game of golf through sign language with these camps."

It was entirely new venture for him, but he trusted in the path God laid out for him and he has never looked back.

"I didn't really have any touch points with the deaf community prior to this, I had no family or friends who were deaf



Photos by Anthony Richards

For 20 years former professional golfer Rob Strano has been teaching deaf children the game of golf.

and had never seen sign language before, but God said, 'I need you to learn,' and so I did," Strano said.

Once he began learning the language and interacting with the deaf commu-

nity, he began to notice that a real need existed.

"I found that no one was teaching deaf kids how to play golf through sign language, so we started the camps back

in 2003 in Pensacola, followed the next one which was here (TPC Sawgrass), and away we went," Strano said.

Since then, he has enjoyed watching the camps continue to grow, with 15 camps throughout the country being the most held in one year.

According to Strano, ideally the spots for the camps are in areas that have a PGA Tour event and a deaf and blind school nearby.

"We've been all over creation with these camps over the years, and it's been a lot of fun," Strano said. "It's all about the smiles on the faces when you see a kid hit a great shot."

The clinics have a routine number of 16 participants that take part, all of which never swung a golf club or knew about the game of golf until that day.

Each year's group has special shirts that are made for them that they wear during the camp, which adds yet another lasting token that they will be able to remember from the day that was, as well as the opportunity to hit balls at the replica famed "Island Green," at the 17th hole challenge presented by Optum, Morgan Stanley and Grant Thornton.

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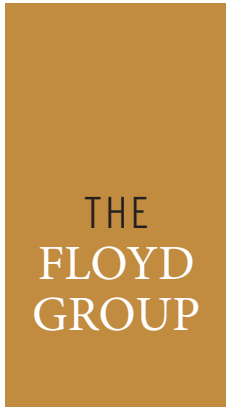
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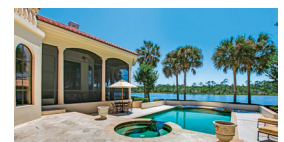
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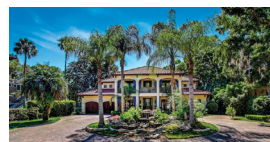
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First and second round tee times

Below are the scheduled tee times for the first and second rounds of the 2023 PLAYERS Championship.

The tournament gets under way Thursday, March 9, at 6:50 a.m. with Robby Shelton, Austin Smotherman and Min Woo Lee on the first tee, while Danny Willett, Brandon Wu and Davis Thompson will kick things off on the 10th tee.

Round 1 1 Tee	Round 2 10 Tee			
6:50 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	Robby Shelton	Austin Smotherman	Min Woo Lee
7:01 a.m.	12:01 p.m.	Kevin Streehman	Denny McCarthy	Matthew NeSmith
7:12 a.m.	12:12 p.m.	Byeong Hun An	C. Bezuidenhout	Doug Ghim
7:23 a.m.	12:23 p.m.	Michael Thompson	Brendon Todd	Keith Mitchell
7:34 a.m.	12:34 p.m.	Kevin Kisner	Nick Taylor	Corey Conners
7:45 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	Trey Mullinax	Cam Davis	Tyler Duncan
7:56 a.m.	12:56 p.m.	Adam Svensson	Joel Dahmen	Robert Streb
8:07 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	J.J. Spaun	Chad Ramey	Luke List
8:18 a.m.	1:18 p.m.	Russell Henley	Mackenzie Hughes	Brian Harman
8:29 a.m.	1:29 p.m.	Emiliano Grillo	Mark Hubbard	Matt Wallace
8:40 a.m.	1:40 p.m.	Nate Lashley	Troy Merritt	Kelly Kraft
8:51 a.m.	1:51 p.m.	Aaron Baddeley	David Lingmerth	Ben Martin

Round 1 10 Tee	Round 2 1 Tee			
6:50 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	Danny Willett	Brandon Wu	Davis Thompson
7:01 a.m.	12:01 p.m.	Adam Long	Hayden Buckley	Taylor Montgomery
7:12 a.m.	12:12 p.m.	Tommy Fleetwood	Taylor Pendrith	Callum Tarren
7:23 a.m.	12:23 p.m.	Si Woo Kim	Webb Simpson	Tyrrell Hatton
7:34 a.m.	12:34 p.m.	Tony Finau	Tom Kim	Patrick Cantlay
7:45 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	Collin Morikawa	Adam Scott	Rickie Fowler
7:56 a.m.	12:56 p.m.	Jon Rahm	Scottie Scheffler	Rory McIlroy
8:07 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	Justin Rose	Billy Horschel	Hideki Matsuyama
8:18 a.m.	1:18 p.m.	Nico Echavarria	Sungjae Im	Harris English
8:29 a.m.	1:29 p.m.	Jhonattan Vegas	Peter Malnati	Ryan Fox
8:40 a.m.	1:40 p.m.	Adam Hadwin	Patrick Rodgers	Greyson Sigg



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TEE TIMES - CONTINUED

Round 1 10 Tee	Round 2 1 Tee			
8:51 a.m.	1:51 p.m.	Nick Hardy	Eric Cole	Harrison Endycott
Round 1 1 Tee	Round 2 10 Tee			
11:50 a.m.	6:50 a.m.	Kevin Tway	Russell Knox	Chesson Hadley
12:01 p.m.	7:01 a.m.	Andrew Putnam	Maverick McNealy	Doc Redman
12:12 p.m.	7:12 a.m.	Beau Hossler	Adam Schenk	Stephan Jaeger
12:23 p.m.	7:23 a.m.	Lucas Herbert	Aaron Wise	Jason Day
12:34 p.m.	7:34 a.m.	Matt Fitzpatrick	Viktor Hovland	Shane Lowry
12:45 p.m.	7:45 a.m.	Kurt Kitayama	Will Zalatoris	Xander Schauffele
12:56 p.m.	7:56 a.m.	Max Homa	Justin Thomas	Jordan Spieth
1:07 p.m.	8:07 a.m.	Sam Burns	Cameron Young	Sahith Theegala
1:18 p.m.	8:18 a.m.	Chris Kirk	Seamus Power	Keegan Bradley
1:29 p.m.	8:29 a.m.	Sam Ryder	Davis Riley	Taylor Moore
1:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.	Alex Noren	Thomas Detry	Max McGreevy
1:51 p.m.	8:51 a.m.	Joseph Bramlett	Justin Suh	Andrew Novak
Round 1 10 Tee	Round 2 1 Tee			
11:50 a.m.	6:50 a.m.	David Lipsky	S.H. Kim	Tyson Alexander
12:01 p.m.	7:01 a.m.	Kramer Hickok	Lee Hodges	Will Gordon
12:12 p.m.	7:12 a.m.	Ben Griffin	Matthias Schwab	Justin Lower
12:23 p.m.	7:32 a.m.	Sepp Straka	Garrick Higgo	Stewart Cink
12:34 p.m.	7:34 a.m.	Chez Reavie	Tom Hoge	Francesco Molinari
12:45 p.m.	7:45 a.m.	J.T. Poston	Lucas Glover	Matt Kuchar
12:56 p.m.	7:56 a.m.	K.H. Lee	Martin Laird	Gary Woodland
1:07 p.m.	8:07 a.m.	Ryan Brehm	Lanto Griffin	Scott Stallings
1:18 p.m.	8:18 a.m.	Ryan Palmer	Patton Kizzire	Alex Smalley
1:29 p.m.	8:29 a.m.	Dylan Frittelli	Jerry Kelly	Wyndham Clark
1:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.	Scott Piercy	James Hahn	Nick Watney
1:51 p.m.	8:51 a.m.	Aaron Rai	Dylan Wu	Erik Barnes

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Riley Green headlines THE PLAYERS Military Appreciation Day

Photos by Craig O'Neal



See more APPRECIATION photos on Page 37

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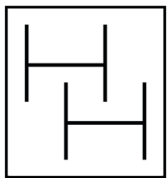
Continued from 36



Trevor Lawrence, quarterback for the Jacksonville Jaguars, signs an autograph for a young fan.



Riley Green performs.



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First Tee learning center in works for Jacksonville Beach

Project groundbreaking eyed for coming months

By Anthony Richards

With it being THE PLAYERS week, there are many initiatives striving to grow the game's future by introducing it to the next generation.

At the forefront of much of this growth is the First Tee of North Florida, which is in the midst of its latest project to build a learning center at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club, where it will be built off of the 10th hole at the course.

According to Jeff Willoughby, First Tee of North Florida executive director, the project has been in the works for the past two years in conjunction with the City of Jacksonville Beach.

"First Tee is all about trying to get kids into golf that maybe didn't come from golfing families," Willoughby said. "Out of all junior golfers, one out of every 250 come from parents who didn't golf. That's what the First Tee is all about and how we continue to break barriers. We give kids the confidence to try something new, which they will hopefully then take to life as adults."

An agreement with the city was reached in December and the plans for



Photo courtesy of First Tee of North Florida

The First Tee of North Florida, hopes to break ground on a learning center at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club in the spring.

the project have been moving along since then.

"Hopefully we can break ground sometime this spring," Willoughby said.

The structure once completed will be an indoor facility standing 30-feet wide and 90-feet tall. It will feature a golf

simulator and a 15- to 30-foot indoor putting green.

Willoughby stated that the idea behind the structure is that it will allow for a place to still hold programs even if mother nature plays a factor with rain or loss of daylight.

Helping in the transition of learning and gaining interest in golf is the fact that not only will the simulator have the ability to access holes of more than 300 iconic golf courses from across the world, but it also can be adapted to feature other

FIRST TEE continues on **Page 46**

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Job fair helps veterans find civilian work

By Shaun Ryan

One year ago, Anne Pokelwaldt offered to accompany her husband — a 28-year veteran of the U.S. Navy — to the THE PLAYERS’ military job fair. She’d previously worked in the financial services industry and had paused her career to care for her children. Returning to the workforce, she was teaching middle school math at the time of the job fair.

As Pokelwaldt and her husband browsed the many booths staffed by an eclectic group of employers, she spotted one in particular that intrigued her. It was the table for PLAYERS Proud Partner Morgan Stanley, represented by Jacksonville Branch Manager Elizabeth Cambareri.

“Since I was previously in the industry, I thought, ‘Well, let me see what she has available,’” said Pokelwaldt.

As it turned out, there was an open position. And a couple of interviews later, Pokelwaldt was working as Cambareri’s direct assistant.

Saturday, March 4, Pokelwaldt was back at the job fair, this time standing behind the table and representing her employer.

The event, in its 12th year, is hosted by THE PLAYERS Championship in partnership with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition. It is free and open to military personnel, veterans and military spouses. About

30 companies participated in this year’s fair, which was held at Patriot’s Outpost.

“It’s always what we consider the thing that kicks off PLAYERS week, even though it’s unofficial,” said job fair chairman Bill Hickey, who with retired Brigadier General Michael P. Fleming, retired U.S. Navy Capt. Matthew Tuohy and Jacksonville Military Affairs and Veterans Department operations manager Harrison Conyers, was among those who initially launched the annual event.

The Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition is a public-private partnership between the city of Jacksonville and local companies to emphasize hiring veterans. More than 500 companies belong to the coalition’s network.

Other the years, the job fair has helped hundreds of people, like Pokelwaldt, find the employment they seek.

Hickey said veterans make excellent employees. Because of their experiences in military service, they’re punctual, resilient and dedicated, and they know how to work toward goals.

In addition to the many employers at Saturday’s job fair, a number of educational institutions and other sources of assistance were represented.

CareerSource Northeast Florida was on hand to offer its services, helping veterans become job-ready.

According to Jerry Carter, CareerSource program manager for veterans, the program is particularly beneficial to veterans just exiting the military or who have experienced long-term unemployment or have a service-connected disability. In many cases, young veterans simply have not previously had to do a job search.

“We work with them on resume-writing, interviewing skills, how to look for jobs, how to market themselves,” said Carter.

Rick Mullaney, executive director of public policy at Jacksonville University, explained that JU offers a master’s degree in public policy, which has numerous applications.

“Public policy really affects everything, from health care to criminal justice to the environment to education to foreign policy to military service,” he said. “So, it’s a very attractive degree to a lot of veterans.”

Mullaney, the son of a career military man, has participated in the job fair for several years.

“We’re excited to be here,” he said. “We really do love our veterans.”

At the table for Florida State College at Jacksonville, C.K. Williams explained that his job is to evaluate military transcripts to get veterans college credits based on their work in the service, saving them from from having to take some classes.



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Anne Pokelwaldt found a job with Morgan Stanley after visiting last year’s Military Job Fair.

FSCJ offers a two-year degree and is a pipeline to the University of North Florida, where students can pursue higher degrees.

Also at the table was Glenn Turner, education and career lead specialist and Army ROTC recruiter at FSCJ. He helps veterans seeking to go back to school, particularly those who, through the ROTC program, want to graduate as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He also advises veterans on classes to take, because they can receive assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

“We try to guide them so they can be successful and maximize their benefits,” said Turner.

The school also participates in a new Veterans Upward Bound program, offered as part of the federal TRIO program.

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Preview party gives glimpse into what makes THE PLAYERS so special

The following are photos from THE PLAYERS Preview Party March 3. The event showcased some of the food and merchandise selections that will be available to attendees of THE PLAYERS Championship in 2023. It included a look inside the PGA Tour's Fan Shop location on site.

Photos by Susan Griffin



TacoLu is returning to be part of the popular Tacos on Twelve area for fans at this year's THE PLAYERS.



A Sawgrass Splash is one of the drink options.



4 Rivers Smokehouse.



Mini Bar made special donuts for THE PLAYERS.

See more **PREVIEW PARTY** photos on **Page 41**

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Preview Party

Continued from 40



The preview party gave those in attendance a chance to try some of the unique drinks on the event's menu this year.



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Newborns receive Island Green gear from THE PLAYERS

THE PLAYERS Championship is giving its youngest fans a taste of island living with a limited-edition “Island Baby” onesie in homage to the iconic Island Green 17th hole at The Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. Each onesie will be accompanied by a card with safe sleep practices, courtesy of THE PLAYERS Center for Child Health at Wolfson Children’s Hospital.

“It’s only fitting to extend a proper PLAYERS welcome to new partners and their newborns here in Northeast Florida,” said Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS.

Each week, more than 500 babies are born at local hospitals, prompting THE PLAYERS to work with area hospitals to share in the celebrations. Families at the following hospitals have received bodysuits to share with their newest champions: Ascension St. Vincent’s Family Birth Place — Southside and Clay County locations; Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville; Baptist Medical Center South; Baptist Medical Center Beaches; Baptist Medical Center Clay; the Wolfson Children’s Hospital NICUs at Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville, Baptist Medical Center South and Baptist Medical Center Clay; Flagler Hospital/Flagler Health+; HCA Florida Memorial Hospital and HCA Florida



Photo courtesy of Baptist Health

Local babies born during THE PLAYERS will receive a special onesie.

Orange Park Hospital; UF Health Jacksonville.

Key Things for Families to Know for THE PLAYERS

Tickets: THE PLAYERS provides up to two youth age 15 and younger with free admission when accompanied by

a ticketed adult, courtesy of Nemours Children’s Health.

Parking: Parking passes must be purchased separately and are now required daily through Sunday. All parking passes are daily passes and must be purchased online in advance via [THEPLAYERS.com/parking](https://www.theplayers.com/parking). Parking

on Thursday-Sunday costs \$40 per day. Parking will not be sold on site. Ride-share will continue to be one of the easiest modes of transportation, with drop off and pick up located at the Couples Entry off of ATP Boulevard, just steps

NEWBORNS continues on **Page 46**



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FLORIDA ASSISTED LIVING LICENSE PENDING

Memorable

Continued from 24

“The course is always in immaculate condition,” former THE PLAYERS champion Justin Thomas said. “Especially with it being in March, it’s very, very green and kind of outlines the fairways and the rough, it all looks perfect. It’s a place I look forward to coming every year.”

Such high praise from a player with the caliber of Thomas goes a long way and should have everyone planning on attending THE PLAYERS this weekend anxiously awaiting the show that

could be in store.

The current top-ranked player in the world is Spaniard Jon Rahm, who understands what it means to be here and to go out and win a prestigious event like THE PLAYERS.

“It’s always great to be back here,” Rahm said. “It’s a great week, great venue. The PGA TOUR goes above and beyond for us to have as enjoyable a week as possible,” Rahm said.

Despite certain players not at this year’s tournament due to their decisions to play for LIV Golf, it has not dampened any of the mood surrounding the event or lessened the prestige and career-changing impact winning

THE PLAYERS can have on a golfer’s career.

For these players, what goes through their minds as they go to sleep the night before a competitive round at one of golf’s ultimate tests?

During the practice rounds there were plenty of smiles and jokes to go around with both their caddies and fans.

However, there’s something about a major tournament that brings out the competitive juices and leads to that switch being made.

It’s a mentality that each of the players in the field has within them, but some know how just how to approach

it to have the success they are looking for.

However, there is a reason why there has only been six multiple time winners in the history of THE PLAYERS.

That is a proven track record that the course is not only difficult, but it is also one where players with varying styles of play can win.

Being a long hitter or short hitter off the tee does not mean as much as consistency and making sure to hit fairways and greens in regulation.

In many ways, it could be described as the way golf was meant to be played, and that has remained the same over the years.





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A look at THE PLAYERS Charities of the Day

By Shaun Ryan

THE PLAYERS continues its tradition of highlighting a different local nonprofit each day of the tournament. Here's a look at this year's Charities of the Day.

Blue Star Families (Tuesday, March 7)

Blue Star Families was founded in 2009 by military spouses. It connects military families to civilian neighbors and organizations to create strong communities of support. The organization helps in a variety of ways, connecting families to resources in job and career training, family care and support and more.

"Blue Star Families Jacksonville is grateful to be Riley Green's charity of choice in coordination with the TPC," said Chapter Director Wendy Layton. "Blue Star Families' mission is to strengthen military families by connecting them with their neighbors and create vibrant communities of mutual support. Blue Star Families provides Jacksonville a way to show our military, their families and our veteran community how much we appreciate their service and sacrifice. This generous gift will fund BSF's local programming and help military-connected families thrive."

In 2022, Blue Star Families hosted 132 local events free of charge, including movie nights, outdoor hiking and history, Jaguars games, Jumbo Shrimp games, baby showers and Starbucks coffee connections, to name a few.

Learn more at bluestarfam.org.

THE PLAYERS Center for Child Health (Wednesday, March 8)

Established in 2011 with a \$1 million gift, THE PLAYERS Center for Child Health at Wolfson Children's Hospital promotes safe and healthy childhoods for kids in Northeast Florida. Areas of focus include access to health care, education programs, child safety and injury prevention, health and wellness and legislative advocacy.

Learn more at wolfsonchildrens.com/about/child-advocacy.

Edward Waters University Women's Golf Program (Thursday, March 9)

Located in Jacksonville, Edward Waters University is one of only two historically black universities in Florida to offer a dedicated women's golf program. The program was launched in 2007 but had to be discontinued in 2015 due to budgetary challenges. Golf was reinstated in

2021 with a \$50,000 donation from THE PLAYERS. The grant helps the university fund student-athlete scholarships and operational expenses.

"We are beyond excited for Edward Waters University Women's Golf to be selected as THE PLAYERS Championship Charity of the Day by Grant Thornton," said Dr. Ivana Rich, associate vice president and director of intercollegiate athletics. "The support received through this initiative will assist EWU in continuing to provide a holistic student-athlete experience while supporting the growth of our blooming women's golf program. We are so thankful for continued support of The PLAYERS Championship and its incredible leadership team."

The women's golf program is competing in its inaugural season under the leadership of Coach Kelly Allen, former Benedict College men's golf standout and Jacksonville native. This season the team will complete a modified schedule, which includes the Jim Thorpe Invitational, Women in Golf Foundation Championship and the PGA Works Championship.

Learn more at ewutigerpride.com/sports/womens-golf

Active Minds (Friday, March 10)

Incorporated in 2003, Active Minds seeks to change the way mental health is talked about, giving young people the support and encouragement they need to reduce the stigma. The national organization uses education, research and advocacy to effect change. It employs initiatives to help students in kindergarten through grade 12, as well as young adults.

Learn more at activeminds.org.

Nemours Children's Health (Saturday, March 11)

Nemours is a large integrated pediatric health system that cares for about 480,000 children each year. It has two freestanding children's hospitals and addresses a host of health issues. Beyond medical care, Nemours employs advocacy, education and prevention. In October, THE PLAYERS announced that it would match up to \$2 million in donations to help in the redesign and expansion of Nemours Children's Health Jacksonville's center for cancer and blood disorders.

Learn more at nemours.org.

First Tee (Sunday, March 12)

THE PLAYERS gets underway with practice rounds

The following are photos from THE PLAYERS practice round on March 7. The vibe is much more laid back during the practice rounds, from the players wearing shorts to the seemingly endless opportunities for children to get autographs of their favorite players.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Avery Nilsson smiles big as she holds up a big souvenir golf ball she had signed by several players.



Alex and Jonny Sprowles show off their autographed flags.



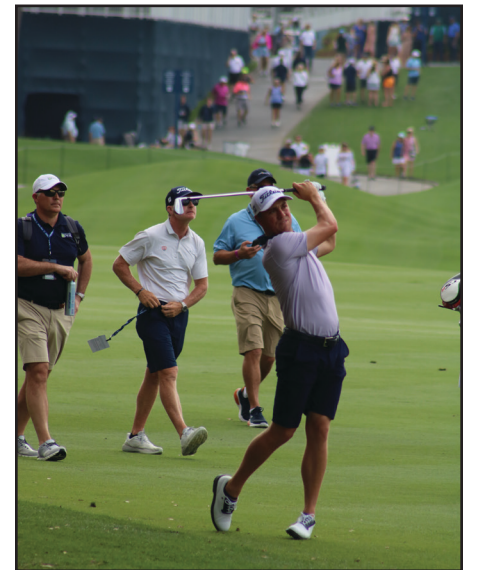
Brendon Todd practices on the driving range.



Fans gather around the driving range to get a close look at the players.



Justin Rose signs autographs for some young fans.



Justin Thomas eyes a shot from the 18th fairway.



The practice round on Tuesday offered the players the chance to test out the shots they will be making when it counts in a couple of days.

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First Tee

Continued from 38

sports such as basketball, baseball, football and hockey.

“It has the capability to switch to about 16 different sports, which then gives us the avenue to help introduce them to golf eventually,” Willoughby said.

According to Willoughby, one of the ways they intend for this to happen is that playing the sports they are familiar with and having fun doing that, they will eventually give golf a try on the simulator as a result.

“We can even pull up the 17th green at THE PLAYERS,” Willoughby said. “This technology is a real gamechanger. We’ve found that once they give the golf a try, they just want to keep at it until they get better.”

The First Tee of North Florida will be recognized as the “charity of the day” on Sunday during the final round of this year’s THE PLAYERS.

“To be put in the spotlight like that really helps us spread our mission, because we are so much more than just golf,” Willoughby said.



Photo courtesy of First Tee of North Florida

The First Tee of North Florida strives to introduce the game of golf to children that comes from families with parents who do not have a golfing background.

Just like volunteers are so important to the foundation of THE PLAYERS and how they run a smooth operation during tournament week, the First Tee of North

Florida is always looking for volunteers to help the cause.

“You don’t even have to know golf to a volunteer or coach,” Willoughby said.

“I didn’t know much when I started 13 years ago, and I eventually had a five handicap. You end up learning just like the kids do.”

Charities

Continued from 44

First Tee was launched in 1997 as a means to make golf affordable and accessible to all kids. It integrates the sport with life skills curriculum, helping the kids to build inner strength, self-

confidence and resilience. First Tee is a partner with the PGA TOUR.

“As a nonprofit in North Florida, our No. 1 goal is making a difference in the lives of the children and setting them up for the journey we call life,” said Jeff Willoughby, executive director for First Tee — North Florida. “Whether it is learning how to deal with challenges or setting goals to accomplish their

dreams, we want all children to know they have a path towards being a leader in their community.

“THE PLAYERS, Proud Partners, and many other organizations work just as hard as we do to give back and make a difference. Being selected as one of the charities of the day simply helps showcase the work we do in our community and brings awareness to some

that may not know the work that we do. Morgan Stanley not only believes in the work that we do, but they invest in helping us grow our mission. We can’t thank them enough and the return on investment is the children, our leaders of tomorrow!”

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Newborns

Continued from 42

from the 15th hole at TPC Sawgrass. THE PLAYERS is now offering a free shuttle from Nocatee that will run Friday, March 10, through Sunday, March 12, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The shuttle will run continuously from Palm Valley Academy, Valley Ridge Academy and Pine Island Academy and drop off at the Nicklaus entrance.

Bag Policy: Opaque bags measuring 6-by-6-by-6 inches and smaller or clear bags 12-by-6-by-12 inches and smaller are allowed inside the course grounds.

Outside Food: 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. Fans can refill their empty water bottles at the filtered water stations. THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 oz. at entries, if they are empty.

Strollers: Strollers, small diaper bags, plastic baby bottles and other essential baby supplies are permitted. The infant must be with the carrier. Items are sub-

ject to search.

Family Lounge presented by Wolfson Children’s Hospital: When it’s time to change a diaper or nurse your child, go to the Family Lounge presented by Wolfson Children’s Hospital, an open-to-the-public, climate-controlled venue that serves as a comfort station for mothers, fathers and their little ones. And don’t worry about bringing diapers or wipes – the Family Lounge will be providing them free of charge.

Morgan Stanley Eagles for Impact Tent: Located along the 18th fairway, fans are invited to visit Morgan Stanley’s Fan Experience to learn about their Eagles for Impact program benefiting the First Tee’s Diverse Coaching Initiative and putt for a chance to make an eagle in the putting simulator, win prizes and more.

Military Members and Veterans: Military members, veterans and their families are invited to experience Patriots’ Outpost. At this military-exclusive hospitality venue, attendees can enjoy complimentary refreshments while enjoying the tournament action from some of the best seats on the course.



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THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Hardage-Giddens hosts grand opening ceremony for St. Johns location



The following are photos from the festivities that recently took place during the grand opening ceremony for Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes' newest St. Johns location. Several people dressed up to embrace the "Roaring '20's" theme for the party.

Photos by Anthony Richards



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Fish on the buffet



Chicken wings

Contributed photos

Crabcake Factory Seafood Grille & Bar returns

The famous Crabcake Factory Seafood Grille & Bar iconic establishment in Jacksonville Beach has re-opened after a nearly 12-year hiatus.

First Coast entrepreneur and philanthropist Brandon Groover and Chef Kahn Vongdara said they are excited to see the return of families and friends who will once again make the Crabcake Factory their first choice for dining.

“Initially, the plan was to create a new restaurant from scratch,” said Groover. “But the Crabcake Factory had a great brand, and the community missed it. I reached out to Chef Kahn Vongdara and he was on board to bring it back better than before, and that’s how the Crabcake Factory was reborn.”

“I’m excited to have the opportunity to work out of a newly designed kitchen to bring guests an extraordinary culinary experience,” said Vongdara. “I am bringing back the longtime Beaches’ family favorite, the renowned signature Chesapeake, Maryland-style jumbo crabcakes, along with other seafood delicacies, including lobster, blue crab, crabcake melt, bangin’ shrimp and a range of Atlantic and Pacific fish, gum-bos and bisques paired with crisp house salads.”

For guests who desire a hand-cut USDA-certified Angus steak, a well-infused chicken dish, or a more traditional menu, Vongdara has many delicious options to choose from, including a Kid’s Menu.

The local favorite Super Sunday All-You-Can-Eat Brunch Buffet is also back, along with bottomless

mimosas.

The buffet options are presented on a specially designed, expansive wooden ship. Large hand-painted murals with pelicans, a lighthouse, fishermen throwing nets to gather fresh fish and larger fishing vessels all showcase ocean scenery on the restaurant’s walls.

Fine dining boasts a large selection of local and national brand beers on tap and a well-stocked liquor bar. For sports fans, there are plenty of wall-mounted televisions to watch their favorite teams.

“I’m so glad to have the opportunity to bring this wonderful location that was the home of the previously successful Crabcake Factory back to life,” said Groover. “It was a shame to have it sitting idle when it’s such an asset to the Beaches community.”

Space includes opportunities to book parties for birthdays, anniversaries or corporate events. Diners can dine in or call to order take-out.

The restaurant is located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge on the southern corner of Beach Boulevard and Penman Road. Guests can eat inside or outside, and there’s plenty of parking.

Hours are 3-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for brunch and 3-9 p.m. for dinner.

Crabcake Factory Seafood Grille & Bar is located at 1396 Beach Blvd. (at Penman) in Jacksonville Beach.

The phone number is 904-372-0366. For more information, go to CrabcakeFactoryJax.com.



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In the Arts

Send your arts news to
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Featured artist thinks outside the frame



Photos by Shaun Ryan

Artist Chase Parker with his eye-catching work, "Poe," at the Grand Bohemian Gallery in St. Augustine.



Detail from "She Let Go in Lavender," an acrylic sculpture featuring butterflies by artist Chase Parker.

By Shaun Ryan

There's a portrait of Edgar Allan Poe hanging on one wall of the Grand Bohemian Gallery in St. Augustine, but it's not like any other portrait you've likely seen.

The "canvas" is a collage of pages torn from a book of Poe's writings and arranged to appear as though they are swirling out of the tome, which projects from the bottom of the piece.

But pages are not all that have departed the book. Black feathers fluttering about the piece suggest that the raven in Poe's eponymous poem has burst from the text and taken flight, perhaps to alight upon a bust of Pallas somewhere.

This 30-by-40-inch piece, named "Poe," is but one of the eye-catching works by Tampa-based artist Chase Parker on exhibit at the gallery.

There are three sculptures depicting women's heads and torsos made entirely of acrylic butterflies. On the fronts, these brightly colored butterflies conform smoothly to each nuance of the sculpture, but on the backs, they flutter away en masse.

Another piece looks different depending upon the angle from which it is being viewed. Named "Dali," it is a portrait of Salvador Dali when viewed from the left side. But as one moves to the right, the image transitions into a painting of one of Dali's works.

"That's definitely an attention-grabber," said Parker. "I love watching the reactions when people see the change."

This effect is accomplished by essentially painting slices of each image on opposing sides of the long, triangular pieces of wood that make up the work's surface. Creating "Dali" required a lot of mathematical computations because all the pieces must fall into place when viewed from extreme perspectives.

Parker is unafraid to try new things, such as what he calls "the worst idea I probably ever had" — the creation of a woman out of nothing but 9mm bullet shells. Hanging it, he made a discovery.

"It turns out bullet shells weigh a whole lot more than I had calculated," he said, laughing. "This thing was probably 120 pounds!"

Asked where he gets his ideas, Parker said it was just how his brain worked.

"It's always been that way," he explained. "Even as a child. For instance, my mom bought the first Dell computer

when it was coming out on the market. Well, I decided to break the thing down to see if I could put it back together again. And I could not."

This is an early manifestation of Parker's philosophy.

"The recipe for any artist is experimentation and exploitation," he said. "You experiment, experiment, experiment until you get it right. Then, you exploit it."

Surprisingly, Parker hasn't had an art class since he was in the fourth grade. But he had always turned to sketching to deal with life's stresses.

When he was 5, he lost his younger brother. He was then placed in foster care for a while.

"The only good memories I have as a child were when I would finish a drawing and seeing the people's reaction to it," he said.

Adulthood brought more stresses, but he wanted to maintain some normalcy for his daughter, so he built her a craft room. But slowly, as Parker sought solace in his art, that room became a studio with a five-foot printer, easel, paint and more.

The tools of his art began to take over the house.

"We had three CNC [computer numerical control] machines cutting out butterflies running on our dining room table, almost 24/7," he said.

He recently acquired a studio offsite, however, and now he's got his home back.

As he developed his art, he hadn't intended to post pictures of it online, but someone he knew did that for him three years ago and the reaction was quick. He was hired to do a commission.

And he experienced that same joy he'd remembered when, as a child, he was praised for his art.

Then, last year, entrepreneur Richard C. Kessler of The Kessler Collection issued an open call to emerging artists nationwide, a search for The Next Original. More than 1,800 artists responded.

Parker was one of nine finalists selected to display his work in Times Square and at several Grand Bohemian Galleries, including the one in St. Augustine.

"I am so grateful for the Grand Bohemian," Parker said. "They have been absolutely amazing."

Anyone wanting to see Parker's work can visit the gallery at 49 King St. It is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. To see some of Parker's other work, go to artcparker.com.

Photo Credits: 2022 Jenny Anderson



Nadina Hassan (Regina George)



Pictured from left: Adante Carter (Aaron Samuels) and English Bernhardt (Cady Heron)



English Bernhardt (Cady Heron)

‘Mean Girls’ coming to Jacksonville

The FSCJ Artist Series has announced that the first national tour of “Mean Girls” — the record-breaking musical comedy based on the hit film — is coming to the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts on April 20-25.

“Mean Girls” features a book by nine-time Emmy Award winner Tina Fey, based on her screenplay for the film; music by three-time Emmy Award winner Jeff Richmond; and lyrics by two-time Tony Award nominee Nell Benjamin. Tony Award winner Casey Nicholaw directs and choreographs.

“Mean Girls” opened on Broadway in April 2018 to rave reviews at the August Wilson Theatre, following its world premiere at the National Theatre in Washington, D.C., in the fall of 2017.

What it’s about

Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the wild and vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois. How will this naïve newbie rise to the top of the popularity pecking order? By taking on The Plastics, a trio of lion-

ized frenemies led by the charming but ruthless Regina George. But when Cady devises a plan to end Regina’s reign, she learns the hard way that you can’t cross a Queen Bee without getting stung.

Get more information about Mean Girls at www.MeanGirlsOnBroadway.com.

Tickets

All performances of “Mean Girls” in Jacksonville will be at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts, 300 Water St. Performances are 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Saturday, and 1:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are available now at fscjartistseries.org or by calling 904-632-5000.

Groups of 10 or more are eligible to a discount on tickets to most shows. To receive the best pricing, reserve group tickets today and place reservation requests at this time by emailing groupsales@fscjartistseries.org or calling 904-632-5050.

To see a list of safety and security protocols, go to fscjartistseries.org.

MOCA Jacksonville exhibit examines ‘mapping’

MOCA Jacksonville has announced its upcoming exhibition, “Contemporary Cartographies.” The exhibition is on view at MOCA Jacksonville now through Oct. 15.

Exploring the differing ways each of us maps our world based on our unique experiences, “Contemporary Cartographies” includes works from MOCA’s permanent collection, complemented by works on loan from local and national artists, including Lisa Alvarado, Jessica Borusky, Keith Doles, Doug Eng and Kenny Nguyen.

“I was interested in highlighting artists who are charting their surrounding landscape both literally and figuratively,” said Shana Dickler, assistant curator, MOCA Jacksonville. “While exploring the museum’s permanent collection, I noticed a thematic thread linking artists who have drawn upon mapmaking and placemaking to explore how our way of mapping is conceptually layered with historical, social and political meaning, all of which are filtered through our unique experiences.”

A map is commonly defined as a graphic representation, drawn to scale, that concretely depicts features of an area. However, exhibit organizers say, the way in which each of us maps our world is abstract and individualistic.

The exhibition features a section dedicated to Jacksonville, and in particular to mapping in relation to the concepts of redlining, segregation and the continued

economic disparities of the city as reflected in the work of the artists.

“Contemporary Cartographies” was curated by Dickler. Support for MOCA Jacksonville is provided by the City of Jacksonville, the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, the National Endowment for the Arts and the University of North Florida.



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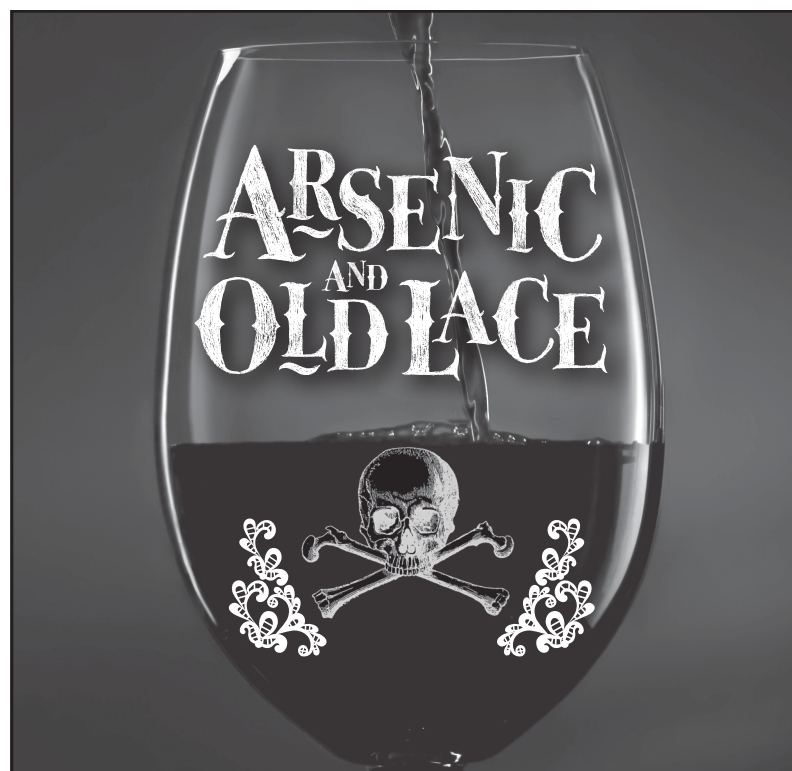


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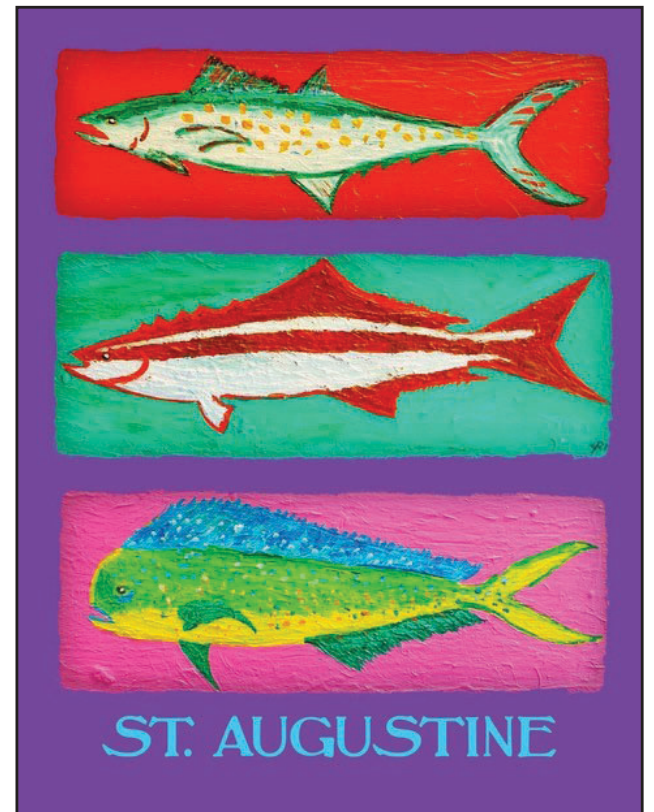
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Jimmy Reynolds' depiction of the Castillo de San Marcos.



One of Jimmy Reynolds' paintings.

P.A.St.A. Art Gallery welcomes painter James Reynolds

The Professional Artists of St. Augustine (P.A.St.A.) Fine Art Gallery, of 214 Charlotte St., St. Augustine, has added new artist James “Jimmy” Reynolds to its membership. Reynolds hails from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where the Chesapeake Bay is not only an inspiration for many artists, but holds a long-standing tradition of water crafts and lifestyles.

Reynolds studied fine arts at the University of Delaware with a focus on printmaking and photography. He has been painting professionally for 20 years. During his career as an educator where he instructed adults with mental illnesses and children with a variety of learning difficulties, his hands-on academic and arts-based educational activities provided many students with an important outlet for their creative energies. He founded the Radcliffe Creek School Seadogs Boatbuilding program while an instructor at Radcliffe. He was the art director at Radcliff Creek School from 2004 until his retirement to paint full time in 2010.

In 2021, Reynolds founded the Choptank Tolomato Legacy Project, an arts education nonprofit, to bring historical and environmentally focused public arts experiences to rural communities of both the Upper Eastern



Jimmy Reynolds at work on a painting.

Contributed photos

Shore of Maryland and North East Florida.

In 2022, the nonprofit facilitated the creation of a series of community-created murals in the Chesapeake region. Reynolds plans to bring this same energy and expertise in public arts to St. John’s County in the fall of 2023.

His energetic painting style reveals life on the water, whether from the viewpoint of a working boat or the comfort of a beach chair. Bold colors and expressive brushstrokes bring to life his scenes of working boats, wildlife, docks and coastal towns, whether from the Eastern Shore or Northeast Florida.

Reynolds and his wife, daughter and two dogs live under the spacious limbs of old live oak trees in Elkton.

See Reynolds’ work by going to pastagalleryart.com or on its <https://www.facebook.com/pastaartgallery> Facebook page.

The Professional Artists of St. Augustine Fine Art Gallery was founded in 1982. The gallery has served an international clientele a wealth of local talent and award-winning local artists. The gallery’s mission is to showcase local and regional art and to educate and encourage area artists.

Sports



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Photos by Stacy Bunkosky



The Ponte Vedra High boys basketball team finished Class 6A state runner-up for the second year in a row.



The Sharks have gotten used to making trips to the final four in Lakeland after doing it for two years in a row.

Sharks' run ends in title game second year in a row

By Jim Moyes

Make it two years in a row now for the Ponte Vedra High boys basketball team, continued their memorable run with a second straight trip to Class 6A state championship game in Lakeland on Feb. 4.

The Sharks secured their spot in the title game following a 63-41 romp over Wekiva in the state semifinal in Lakeland.

Despite coming up short in the end with a 51-40 defeat against Dwyer (29-1), finishing runner-up in the state back-to-back years is an accomplishment that will be remembered for some time within the basketball program.

The Sharks entered the championship playing their best basketball all season and looking the part in their semifinal win over Wekiva.

Sam Ritchie was hotter than the current

Florida weather as he put on a shooting performance for the ages.

The 6-foot-1 junior scored a career-high 34 points, the fourth highest point total in a game in school history.

He was a perfect 12-12 from the field, including a program record eight three-pointers, before he finally missed a shot late in the second half.

Ritchie scored 26 points in the first half, which was six more than the entire Wekiva team scored in that half.

The Sharks put the semifinal out of reach early as they played nearly flawless basketball and had only five team turnovers when they entered the fourth quarter with an incredible 30-point lead, 55-25.

The Sharks won with ease despite their leading scorer on the season, Israel Nuhu,

on the bench for much of the game with early foul trouble.

First year head coach Ben Wilson got a big lift from Nuhu's replacement, 6-foot-5 junior Tyler Cowan, a starter early in the season for the Sharks before he came down with an illness during the holiday break.

Cowan was a force defensively as he had four rebounds and two blocked shots while chipping in five points.

Senior playmaker Nate Bunkosky, the regional 6A MVP, was the conductor for the Sharks' offense with his usual steady floor game as he finished with seven points and six assists and completely locked down Wekiva's leading scorer on the season, K.J. Robinson, who finished with four points.

The six assists gave Bunkosky 191 on

the season, surpassing the former season assist high of 187 held by Jackson Johnson from the 2013-14 season.

The Sharks battled Dwyer after they clinched a spot in the semifinals with a 52-39 victory over Wharton.

There is only one team that gets to hoist the trophy at the end of each season, and although the Sharks were not that team this year, it does not take away anything from the incredible run for the squad and the number of obstacles and challenges they had to overcome along the way to knock on the door of a state title two years in a row.

For seniors Bunkosky, Ty Clarke, Nuhu, Jack Gore, Ben Ritchie and Darius Ferraro, the last two years will be among their sweetest memories they will look back on from their times in high school.

Jaguars begin to fill offseason questions with Ridley reinstatement, Engram tag

By Anthony Richards

The first major pieces of the Jacksonville Jaguars offseason to-do list have been checked off after wide receiver Calvin Ridley was reinstated by the National Football League and the franchise tag was applied to tight end Evan Engram March 6.

Ridley's reinstatement means that he is now a member of the team's active roster, while Engram's franchise tag will bring him back to the Jaguars for another one-year deal.

Prior to being reinstated, Ridley had been serving a one-year suspension by the NFL for gambling on league games.

"Today's reinstatement by the NFL

brings an end to a challenging chapter of my professional career, one that was self-inflicted and began with an isolated lapse in judgement," Ridley said in a statement. "I have always owned my mistakes, and this is no different. I have great respect for the game and am excited for the opportunity to restart my career in Jacksonville. I look forward to showing

my new coaches, teammates, and the entire Jaguars organization exactly who I am and what I represent as a player and person."

The Jaguars traded with the Atlanta Falcons for Ridley on Nov. 1, who is 28 years old and had 248 receptions for

OFFSEASON continues on Page 54

CROSSWORD													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
13								14					
15							16	17	18			19	
20						21					22		
23						24				25			
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			31						32				
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35	36	37					38						
39						40					41	42	43
44					45						46		
47				48								49	
50			51						52	53	54		
55		56						57					
58								59					

ACROSS

- 1. Half-conscious states
- 8. Unnatural
- 13. Deep regret
- 14. Rogue
- 15. Taken without permission
- 19. An alternative
- 20. After B
- 21. Partner to flowed
- 22. Weekday
- 23. Body part
- 24. World's longest river
- 25. One of the Greats
- 26. Make clean
- 30. C. Canada indigenous peoples
- 31. Japanese seaport
- 32. Most unclothed
- 33. Small grouper fish
- 34. Soluble ribonucleic acid
- 35. Distinguishing sound
- 38. French realist painter
- 39. Popular beer brand
- 40. Views
- 44. God depicted as a bull
- 45. Relieve
- 46. Residue after burning
- 47. Habitation
- 48. Poe's middle name
- 49. Japanese title
- 50. TV series installation (abbr.)
- 51. Beloved country singer
- 55. Single unit
- 57. Genuine
- 58. Develop
- 59. Traveled through the snow

DOWN

- 1. Clues
- 2. Do again
- 3. Current unit
- 4. Neither
- 5. Corporate exec (abbr.)
- 6. Second sight
- 7. The absence of mental stress

8. Supplemented with

- difficulty
- 9. Stop for good
- 10. College dorm worker
- 11. Bones
- 12. Most supernatural
- 16. Spanish island
- 17. Unlimited
- 18. Where golfers begin
- 22. No charge
- 25. Print errors
- 27. Professional drivers
- 28. Kiss box set
- 29. Short, fine fibers
- 30. Administers punishment
- 32. Czech city
- 34. Normal or sound powers of mind
- 35. The academic world
- 36. Crustacean

37. Currency

- 38. Pastoral people of Tanzania or Kenya
- 40. Cloth spread over a coffin
- 41. Grouped together
- 42. On land
- 43. Glistened
- 45. A type of extension
- 48. One who assists
- 51. College sports conference
- 52. Zero
- 53. Midway between northeast and east
- 54. Type of screen
- 56. The 13th letter of the Greek alphabet

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

Jaguars win Flag Football League Championship



Contributed photo

Pictured from left: Assistant Coach Paul Schlicht, Isaiah Duarte, Eli Hatfield, Reid Schlicht, Hudson Gassner, Easton White, Gage Schlicht, Asher White, Charlie Fowler, Olivia Neary, Hayden White, Zach Galley and Head Coach Brian White.

The Jaguars completed an undefeated season with a 19-6 win over the Raiders last Saturday to win the i9 5/6 grade Flag Football League Championship. After falling behind 6-0, the Jaguars scored 19 unanswered points and leaned on their defense to seal the victory.

All of the Jaguars' scores came through the air as Asher White threw three touchdown passes, two to Hayden White and one to Hudson Gassner.

Defensively, Zach Galley and Easton White provided intense pressure on the

Raiders QB while Isaiah Duarte and Reid Schlicht shut down the run and any underneath passing.

Eli Fowler and Gage Schlicht were perfect on the day, grading out 100% from the center position. Unfortunately, due to injury, Olivia Neary and Charlie Fowler were unable to play but supported their team as captains while they were out.

Coach White praised the entire team saying, "This was a great team win and I couldn't be more proud of this very deserving group of kids."

Offseason

Continued from 53

3,342 yards and 28 touchdowns in 49 games during his four seasons with the Falcons.

Ridley played college football at the University of Alabama where he finished his college career with 224 receptions, 2,781 yards and 19 touchdowns through the air and was selected by the Falcons as the 26th overall pick in the 2018 NFL Draft.

The Jaguars released the following statement following word of the reinstatement:

"The Jaguars organization is aware of the NFL's ruling to reinstate Calvin Ridley. We look forward to building a relationship with Calvin as both an individual and as a player. Calvin is a proven playmaker, and we are excited to see him compete among and with his

new teammates, first during our offseason Program in April and ultimately into the 2023 season, as we collectively pursue a championship for Jacksonville."

Engram signed a one-year contract with the Jaguars last offseason and proved to be a valuable member of the offensive attack and a reliable target for second-year quarterback Trevor Lawrence as the season went along.

Both sides made it known publicly since the season ended that they were very interested in getting a deal done and the result was the placement of the franchise tag, which will ensure Engram is on the team for another year.

Resigning players, free agent pickups and selecting players out of college through the NFL draft are all tools the Jaguars will continue to use moving forward into the offseason as they form the makeup of their team heading into the start of next season.

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