



& more!



Kids Say, DIBA Block Party photos











WELCOME TO THE 2016 VOLVO CAR OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT ON DANIEL ISLAND

# **Daniel Island Safety Patrol to mobilize**

## Volunteers needed to join effort to keep kids safe

### **ELIZABETH BUSH**

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

Children should be able to get to and from school safely each day. It's a simple goal – and one that has inspired the Daniel Island Neighborhood Association (DINA) Safety Committee to help drive the message home.

Under leadership from DINA's newly instated Safety Committee Chair, Marie Delcioppo, and School Safety Subcommittee Project Manager Carina Buckman, a brand new Daniel Island Safety Patrol will soon hit the streets. The pilot program is being initiated in response to several accidents, or near misses, involving vehicles and kids biking, walking or skateboarding in areas near the Daniel Island School (DIS) campus. The first area to be targeted by the volunteer patrol will be the intersection of Daniel Island Drive and Pierce Street, where a DIS student was hit by a vehicle while crossing the street on her bike on January 20.

Delcioppo and Buckman are reaching out to the community to help find volunteers to staff the new initiative, which will require

coverage for four 40 minute shifts a day, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Dressed in safety sashes and holding flags, patrol members will offer assistance to children in crossing the street and guidance on safe practices. But they will not direct traffic. The program is designed to complement the Berkeley County School District safety rules and responsibilities for parents, students, faculty, staff and nearby residents.

"If the kids see a grown-up standing on the corner, they'll naturally slow down," said Delcioppo. "And when drivers see someone standing at an intersection with a sash and a bright flag and a group of children, they'll naturally slow down as well. We feel that if pedestrians and vehicles alike are reducing speed, this will help everyone be more mindful and cautious."

"It's just offering assistance in crossing the road and suggesting adherence to safe practices that the children are already hearing from the school and their parents," added Buckman, who stressed that the parents have primary ownership for discussing safety issues with their kids.

Those interested in serving on the Safety Patrol must attend one of two volunteer orientation sessions to be held on Tuesday, April 5, at 8:30 a.m. or Wednesday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at Daniel Island School in Vice Principal Kori Brown's office. Since volunteers must register through the Berkeley County School District to take part in the patrol, they are being asked to go the website www. bcsdvolunteers.com to complete a required background check. To register for either of the volunteer sessions, or for additional information, please email Delcioppo at safety@dineighborhoodassociation.org.

"The more volunteers, the better," said Delcioppo. "Come one, come all!"

The Safety Patrol at Pierce Street and Daniel Island Drive is expected to be in place by April 11 and will continue through the end of the school year. Buckman and Delcioppo will then evaluate the effectiveness of the program and determine next steps, such as the possibility of adding more intersections for the start of the new school year in the fall.

### ISLAND SAFETY FRONT AND CENTER

Buckman reports that the addition of Delcioppo as DINA Safety Committee Chair has given new life to the committee's efforts - and that there has been some "significant progress and momentum" in recent weeks. Buckman and Delcioppo met recently with the City of Charleston's Traffic and Transportation Department representatives to address parking violations and the island's infrastructure needs.

"Unfortunately, we don't know if more restricted parking is the answer, or if more stop signs are the answer," said Delcioppo. "Right now there are violations all over the place. So if we can get a better handle on what violations are happening and where, we can be more strategic in implementing the appropriate solutions to alleviate them."

According to Delcioppo, the city will soon be dispatching parking enforcement officers all across the island to crack down on viola-

"Once we clean that up, we can see what are those areas that are really problematic and determine the best solution," she said. "Is it a new stop sign? A new crosswalk?

See SAFETY on PAGE 10



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385 Ralston Creek Street	5BR, 5.5BA, 4,420 sq. ft.	\$1,349,000
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157 Brailsford Street	6BR, 6BA, 4,123 sq. ft.	\$1,501,423
37 Hazelhurst Street	5BR, 5.5BA, 4,612 sq. ft.	\$1,699,900
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145 Pier View Street #207	3BR, 2.5BA, 2,035 sq. ft.	\$559,500
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108 Fairbanks Oak Alley #203	3BR, 2.5BA, 3,227 sq. ft.	\$1,100,000
108 Fairbanks Oak Alley #303	3BR, 2.5BA, 3,227 sq. ft.	\$1,150,000
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334 Ralston Creek Street	Marsh View	\$699,995
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**Brian Connolly** 















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225 Seven Farms Drive Suite 108 Daniel Island, SC 29492

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The Daniel Island News is published weekly and distributed free throughout Daniel Island and down Clements Ferry Rd to residences business establishments, Bishop England and at various distribution points on Daniel Island, Mt. Pleasant, downtown Charleston and Hanahan. The entire content of The Daniel Island News is copyrighted 2016 by The Daniel Island Publishing Corp., LLC. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission from the publisher.

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Letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Please write in about any topic that stirs your fancy or raises your ire. All letters and submissions are subject to being edited for libel. space and good taste. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

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### Ten and Five Years Ago in THE DANIEL ISLAND NEWS

### Ten Years Ago Stosur defends FCC title



In the March 30, 2006 issue, the top news story was how local restaurants and retailers were struggling to get customers due to the small residential size of the island. The corporate climate remained good as the 225 Seven Farms Drive building and BenefitFocus were under construction.

Of the five restaurants we featured – Soda Water Grill. Laura Alberts, Vincent's Pizzeria, and Queen Anne's Revenge, Lana's Mexican Restaurant – only Laura Alberts remains open today. Soda Water Grill is now occupied by Vespa, Vincent's by Honeycomb Café, Queen Anne's by The Islander and Lana's by Agave. At the time, commercial realtor Pete Harper likened Daniel Island's then retail climate to that of a pioneer town where developers and merchants alike share financial risks while building a retail base together.

In other news, we featured the David and Goliath story of how Cainhoy and St. Thomas Island residents initiated and, together with Daniel Island residents, waged a successful battle six years prior to stop a massive State Ports Authority terminal project on the southern tip of Daniel Island.



Reid Davis was responsible for securing tenants for Seven Farms Square. Among the businesses that had already committed to the building were Commonwealth Financial Group, Lofton & Lofton, PC, Law Firm, Coastal Eye, Home Telecom and The Daniel Island News.



Fred Lincoln led the community in opposing the State Ports Authority. He continued the fight to help local homeowners who were forced to sell their land to the SPA.



Daisy Girl Scounts 2006: Pictured left are (top row) Bridget Reis, Mary Katherine New, McKinley Mullen, Lauren Ann Hooper and Annalise Hafner; (bottom row) Larkin Witt, Ailish Conley, Grace Powell, Lauren Quinn and Peyton Emerson. Not pictured is Lainey Beckler.

### Five Years Ago – Business Crossroads on DI: Corporate Climate good, retail and restaurants struggle

In the March 31, 2011 issue of The Daniel Island News the top story was Family Circle Cup preview and the return of defending champion Sam Stosur. Additionally, islander Shelby Rogers, who teamed with Patty Schnyder in an exhibition doubles match the previous year, were set compete together in the main doubles draw.

In top business news, 109 River Landing Drive, right next to Sermet's Courtyard, was purchased for \$1.56 million by 109 River Landing LLC, a partially owned subsidiary of Colonial Commercial Group (CCG) in Greenville, SC. The 4-story building, which was custom built six years prior, has roughly 12,500 square feet of space, of which 1,200 was available for leasing.

Major tenants at the time included Wells Fargo Advisers, Millennia Medical and

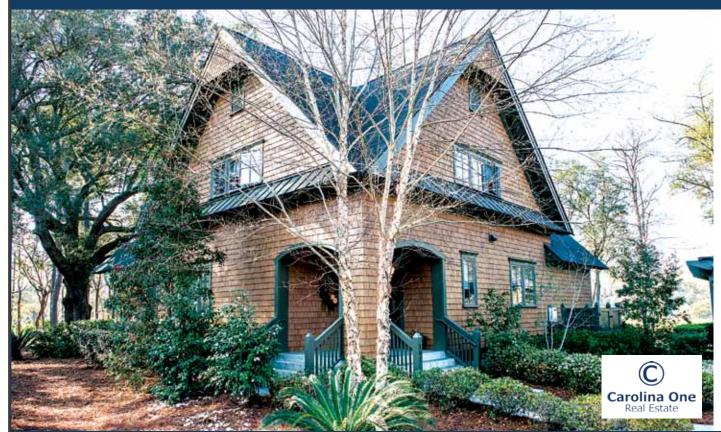


Resolution Management Consultants. In other business news, Charleston Preferred Properties, a Charleston buyers' agency that specialized in residential real estate throughout the Charleston area, hired islander Bart Jackson as a Buyer Representative.



DETAR/FILE In 2010, islander Shelby Rogers (in white skirt) teamed with Patty Schnyder in an exibition doubles match. In 2011, the duo competed together in the main doubles draw.

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GOLF TOURNAMENT Monday, May 9 THE GALA Friday, May 13 Both events at the Daniel Island Club

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### Who is your favorite professional tennis player and why?

Compiled and photographed by Søren Spina



Diokovic because he has won the Australian Open countless times. David Age 12



Nadal because he is really good on clay courts and he has a super cool headband. Chase Age 11



Serena Williams because she is a great role model and she is very successful in sports. Brittany Age 16



Rodger Federer because he shows perseverance in trying to beat Djokovic. Andersen Age 10



Stan Wawrinka because he has one of the most powerful backhands in tennis. Søren Age 11



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# My Island View



Thanks to Daniel Island resident Andrea Kelly for sending in this truly beautiful photo taken during a recent kayak trip on a tidal waterway off Ralston Creek, behind King George Street. The Kelly family recently moved from the island's south side to a new home in Daniel Island Park. This journey marked Andrea's "maiden voyage" in exploring her new surroundings. Along the way, in addition to this picturesque scene, she spotted an otter, five dolphins, an osprey and many shore birds.

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- Mount Pleasant -HJP sold 17 properties totaling \$7,013,326 6 properties over 500k
- Downtown Charleston -HJP sold 8 properties totaling \$3,767,000 4 properties over 500k
- Other areas HJP sold 22 properties totaling \$5,557,737 2 properties over 500k



### april

### **TGIFF**

Thank Goodness It's First Friday, an informal social open to all Daniel Island residents, will be on Friday, April 1 at Daniel's Landing Clubhouse 6:30-9 p.m. Come out to meet new neighbors and old friends. Bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and your favorite beverage. Lydia and Arnie Freilich will be the hosts. More info, Walter and Barbara Jenner 216-2573.

#### **DINA MEETING**

Excited about the idea of a performing arts center on the island? Come hear Mary Gould, founder of the South of Broadway Theatre Company (SOBTC), speak on the proposed plans for the Daniel Island Performing Arts Center (DIPAC) at the DINA meeting on April 5! New Safety Committee Chair will also report on the DIS Safety Patrol Program and an increase in island-wide parking enforcement officers, among other safety initiatives. DINA membership is open to all DI residents, whether you rent or own. Please join DINA at Church of the Holy Cross (299 Seven Farms Dr) on 4/5. Doors open at 6:30 pm for refreshments.

#### DANIEL ISLAND SWIM TEAM REGISTRATION

The DI Flying Fish will be back in the pool for the summer 2016 swim season very soon! All swim families please note our new website, www.swimdi.swimtopia. com. Please refer to this for important dates and information. Registration begins April 5.

#### DI GARDEN CLUB

Field trip to Charleston's historic Hampton Park is April 13. The chief horticulturist for the city of Charleston, Joanne Breeland, will share rich historical data and conduct a tour of the Park's exceptional greenhouses

and exquisite rose bed. Meet at the Governors Park on DI next to the soccer fields and dog park to depart at 12:15 pm for Hampton Park (30 Mary Murray Drive off Rutledge)

#### 2ND ANNUAL LIVE OAK LIGHTS

Illuminating Our Heritage event on Sunday, April 24, 2016. More than a dozen artisans, speakers, vendors and other contributors will be on hand for the free. family friendly festival to be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. "under the oaks" at Daniel Island Children's Park, located at 101 River Landing Drive on the banks of the Wando River. For additional information on all of the day's events, visit http://dihistoricalsociety.com/live-oaklights-illuminating-daniel-island-history/.

#### YOUNG LIFE CLUB

Every Monday high school students will gather for an amazing night of crazy fun and fellowship. For more information or to join our weekly email update, please email Joe Danehower (joe.danehower@gmail.com) and Tracey Lengyel (tlengyel91@gmail.com) or visit our website, charleston.younglife.org.

#### WYLDLIFE CLUB

Each week middle school students (grades 6, 7, & 8) gather from 7-8pm for an amazing night of fun and fellowship at the home of Kevin and Catherine Brookes (1712 Doldridge Street)! For more information or to join our weekly update, please contact Tracey Lengyel (412.852.2123 or tlengyel91@gmail.com) or visit our website www.charleston.younglife.org.

#### HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION

This college-level humanities course continues at the Daniel Island branch of the Berkeley County Library System. The free course will be taught on Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Participants can attend at any time, as each of the sessions stands on their own. The Professor is Hillyer Rudisill III, a native Charlestonian who has taught such courses for over 50 years.

### **WILLINGWAY CONTINUING CARE MEETINGS**

Every Monday 6:30-7:30 pm at The Church of the Holy Cross, 299 Seven Farms Dr. Provides a community for addicts, their family and friends to talk about their experiences and find ways to connect with 12-step recovery. Free. Contact Rhett Crull 843-323-7111 with questions.

Gaia Fit Run Club meets on Fridays 5:30 am and Sundays 7:30 am for group runs as well as First Friday Happy Hour Runs at DI restaurants. Email mary@ gaiafit.com for more information.

#### **GROUP RUN/WALK**

Every Wednesday morning at 8:30 am from Pierce Park Pavilion: Enjoy a 3-mile walk or run along the Wando River and share your thoughts and input with the Daniel Island News' writers and advertising executives.

#### BENG

"Business Executive Networking Group" meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Berkeley County Library on Daniel Island, 2301 Daniel Island Drive, 5 to 6:30pm. BENG (www.thebeng.org) is a multidiscipline networking group for mid to senior level executive professionals who are seeking a new career. Contact Cathey Petkash, cpetkash@frannet.com. Register at http://bengcharleston.eventbrite.com.

### WOMEN OF FAITH

Daniel Island ladies of all denominations gather Wednesday mornings at 9 am for an hour of prayer and sharing. Call Joan Vitalo, 884-1484, or Kay Uhler, 971-1445, for details.

### **WOMEN'S ISLAND NETWORK (WIN)**

Join professional women for a networking luncheon, which is held the last Wednesday of each month at The Islander, from 11:45am - 1pm. Contact Sheila Underwood - 843-654-6289 or email Sheila.underwood@ suntrust.com. RSVP is required.

#### **TOASTMASTERS**

Toastmasters of Daniel Island meet on the first and third Friday of every month, from 12 to 1pm at Summit Place, 320 Seven Farms Dr. For more information please contact claire@eduave.com or Brian Richards (843)

#### AA MEETINGS ON DI

Daily M-F 8 am, Tue. 7pm, Fri 7pm at Providence Baptist Church, 294 Seven Farms Dr.; Sat. 8 pm at Holy Cross Church, 299 Seven Farms Dr.

#### DANIEL ISLAND EXCHANGE CLUB

Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month (with some exceptions) at 5:30 pm at The Church of the Holy Cross, 299 Seven Farms Drive and centers its service initiatives on Americanism, youth programs, community service and the prevention of child abuse. For questions about meeting dates and programming, contact PresidentDIExchangeClub@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

#### **MOM'S PLAYDATE**

Join local Moms and kids for playdates twice a month. @ Center Park (train side) on the 1st Wed. of every month at 10am and the 3rd Wed. of every month at 11am. Erica Elmenhurst (ericaelmenhurst@gmail.com) and/or Marie Corbin (mariefw@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **MEN'S FITNESS GROUP**

F3, a free men's workout group, meets every Saturday morning starting at 6:20 am at Governors Park and at 5:30 am on Wednesdays. www.f3nation.com or email to F3Charleston@gmail.com.

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# DIPAC Advisory Board shares reasons for involvement

### **ELIZABETH BUSH**

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

The behind-the-scenes movement to bring a Daniel Island Performing Arts Center (DIPAC) to the community continues to push forward.

Project visionary Mary Gould reported to The Daniel Island News last week that they have retained a real estate attorney to begin preparations for an expected July closing on the land for the facility, which will be located on Island Park Drive. In addition, the DIPAC team has initiated a search for a development director to run the project's capital campaign. Early fundraising has been good, added Gould, and opportunities for participation in the DIPAC "Founder's Circle" will continue until May 15.

Several Daniel Island residents, business owners and other community members have signed on to participate in efforts to bring the facility to the island by joining the DIPAC Advisory Board. The Daniel Island News recently asked members to share what motivated them to get involved. Kicking off a multi-week series on the topic are

Ruthie Hill, Linda Walder, and Jan Studin.

What motivated you to become a member of the Daniel Island Performing Arts Center Advisory Board and a DIPAC supporter?



Linda Walder

"DIPAC
will be a
valuable asset
not only for
Daniel Island
but also for
South Carolina
as the state's
only theater
that will be
an incubator
for Broadway
productions as a
member of the

prestigious League of Regional Theaters (LORT)! This is the moment to become a Founder of DIPAC and we are not going to wait and miss the opportunity. We view it as an investment in our community's cultural future that will pay dividends for



**Ruthie Hille** 

years to come."
-Linda
Walder

"I am extremely excited about the opportunity for a LORT theatre to be a part of my community on Daniel Island. Because I am quite



would be the first LORT in South Carolina, and will be an incredible forum to bring world class theatre and theatre education to Daniel Island and the city of Charles-

ton. This is

a community that is passionate, supportive and we need your support! I hope you will join our efforts as we move to provide and produce innovative and creative theatre to our wonderful community of Daniel Island, as well as the city of Charleston." – Jan Studin

For additional information on the DIPAC, and opportunities to support the project, please visit www.danielislandpac.com.

familiar with the Arena Stage and Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC., both of which belong to the League of Resident Theatres. I am very confident that DIPAC will offer the same level of entertainment and education to the residents of the Charleston area. Bring it on!"

-Ruthie Hille

"I'm passionate and excited about bringing an actor's equity theatre to Daniel Island and the Charleston community. This



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### **New Daniel Island Safety Patrol will soon hit the streets**

From **SAFETY** on **PAGE 02** 

What's the best solution? I just feel like it gives us a little bit more strategy that way."

"We put these signs in place, but people aren't really following those rules," added Buckman. "So what makes us think if we put more of those things in place that they're going to follow them? Let's first address people not following the rules and then see if that brings the perceived risk level down to a satisfactory level. And if it doesn't, then maybe we can open up conversations about doing things differently outside of the current criteria."

Both Buckman and Delcioppo are eager to see the community buy-in on the idea of enhancing safety for all island residents.

"I'd like to see more of a sense of camaraderie," said Delcioppo. "Because I feel as though if people do have an enhanced sense of community, they are going to act more responsibly."

"We all have a role to play," added Buckman. "Many times I think community residents think there is some magical person whose job it is to fix all this stuff. And it's not. It's for us as a community...Change always feels clunky and uncomfortable, and I think as a community we are feeling those growing pains, but we all need to realize that if we roll up our sleeves and come into the game with a positive mindset, we can all be part of where this community goes from here."

The newly re-energized DINA Safety Committee also has some additional initiatives in the works. They plan to update the community on their progress at the upcoming DINA meeting planned for Tuesday, April 5, at Church of the Holy Cross on Daniel Island. For additional information, visit www.dineighborhoodassociation.org.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR DANIEL ISLAND SAFETY PATROL!**

Want to help Daniel Island School students safely cross the street on their way to and from school? Volunteers are needed for a brand new Daniel Island Safety Patrol, set to debut on April 11 at the intersection of Daniel Island Drive and Pierce Street. A brief orientation will be held at Daniel Island School for those interested in serving. Attend either April 5 at 8:30 am, or April 6 at 7 pm. To RSVP or for additional information, please email Daniel Island Neighborhood Association Safety Committee Chair Marie Delcioppo at safety@dineighborhoodassociation.org.



# Want to build better communities? And have fun doing it?

If so, Rotary is right for you!

Come see for yourself - Wednesdays, 7:30 AM
Daniel Island Club

Or visit us at ...

danielislandrotary.com

facebook.com/danielislandrotary



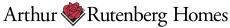






Come tour the Port Royale model at 117 River Green Place on Daniel Island. Monday-Saturday - 10:00am-6:00pm / Sunday - 12:00pm-6:00pm

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# DIBA(DanielIslandBusinessAssociation) Happy Hour

photos by Suzanne Detar



Bobby Kornhauser, Terri Craven, Chuck Lattif



Amber, Avery and Amy



The March Daniel Island Business Association Block Party was held at The Studio by Ashton Woods. Pictured – Front Row: Greystar Daniel Island Village sponsors Kayla Ailor and Colleen Hoover, sponsors from Cooper Cosmetic & Family Dentistry Dr. Amber Connar and Dr. Amy Cooper, sponsors from Oak Trust Property Management Danielle Minder and Courtney. Back row: DIBA president Dave Williams and City National Bank sponsor Faye Powell.



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# **If These Walls Could Talk**



### management moment

### **Doug Dickerson**

In this bright future you can't forget your past. – Bob Marley

Over the years I've had the privilege of visiting numerous art galleries and museums around the world. Included on the list are the National Museum of Art in Washington, D.C. and venues in other places like Boston, London, and Athens. Each have a certain appeal and allure that awaken the imagination with images and history that have enriched lives for centuries. How can one not glance upon the work of Monet, da Vinci, Raphael, or Picasso and not be inspired? The priceless pieces of work that hang on those hallowed walls is captivating.

Suppose the walls in your place of business or your organization could talk; if they could tell your story to the world, what impression would people come away with? If your place of business were to be a museum 100 years from now, what would be the main takeaway people would have about the work you did, the culture you practiced, and your contribution to those you served?

Glassdoor recently published its lists of the Best Places to Work 2016 (http://bit.ly/11N0I2p). Companies making the list include Google, Facebook, LinkedIn, Zillow, Expedia, Delta, and topping the list: Airbnb. The winners, according to Glassdoor are "determined by the people who know these companies best—their employees." I encourage you to read the list and reviews for yourself. But here is a key take-away - people thrive where people are valued.

If the walls of your organization could talk 100 years from now what would they say? The message a century from now is being scripted today. What is the message others will read about? Would you be embarrassed or proud? If your walls could speak, let these four things be your message.

### IT WAS A PLACE WITH A PURPOSE

Fundamentally the most important thing as it relates to your organization is to know your 'why'. It's as you operate in the capacity of this knowledge that everything else makes sense. Without it you are adrift and you will always struggle to find your way.

Howard Behar, former President of Starbucks writes, "At Starbucks, I've always said we're not in the coffee business serving people, we're in the people business serving coffee." Once you know your 'why' your purpose becomes clear.

Let the walls talk about what a great purpose you had and that you leveraged every resource to fulfill it

#### THEY WERE A PEOPLE WHO CARED

Many companies proclaim a strong company culture but fail to deliver. As such, trust is lost, morale is low, and productivity falters. Clearly

stated, it's not what you say that matters or makes the difference, it's what you do. If the walls of your company could speak 100 years from now how would you be portrayed in terms of how you treated your people?

An employee review for MindBody (#14) in the Glassdoor article writes, "It's a culture of happiness! I've never been in such a positive environment. Management encourages you not only professionally, but in personal aspects of life too. So thankful to work for such an amazing company!" Evidently, MindBody is a company that understands this concept and is putting it into practice. At the end of the day, people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

Let the walls speak with fond recollection of a company who knew the importance of caring for its people.

### THEY OVERCAME ADVERSITY

Today we remember triumphal moments in history not because people like the Wright brothers failed, or Edison's lab was destroyed by fire, or that J.K. Rowling's script for Harry Potter was rejected about a dozen times, or that Disney was fired by a newspaper because he "lacked imagination and had no original ideas", no- we remember them because they didn't quit!

The success of your organization rests within the will, strength, and determination of its people, to stare down adversity and come through on the other side. It's how every successful organization has done it and yours will not be an exception.

Let the walls tell the story of hope and inspiration and that when adversity came you didn't back down but instead rose to the challenges of your day.

#### THEY NEVER STOPPED GROWING

Personal growth and development is the bread and butter of leaders. Leaders who are intentional about growing and developing rise to the top. At the heart of any successful business or organization is leadership that recognizes its importance at all levels. In order to remain competitive in this global economy one must never stop growing and learning.

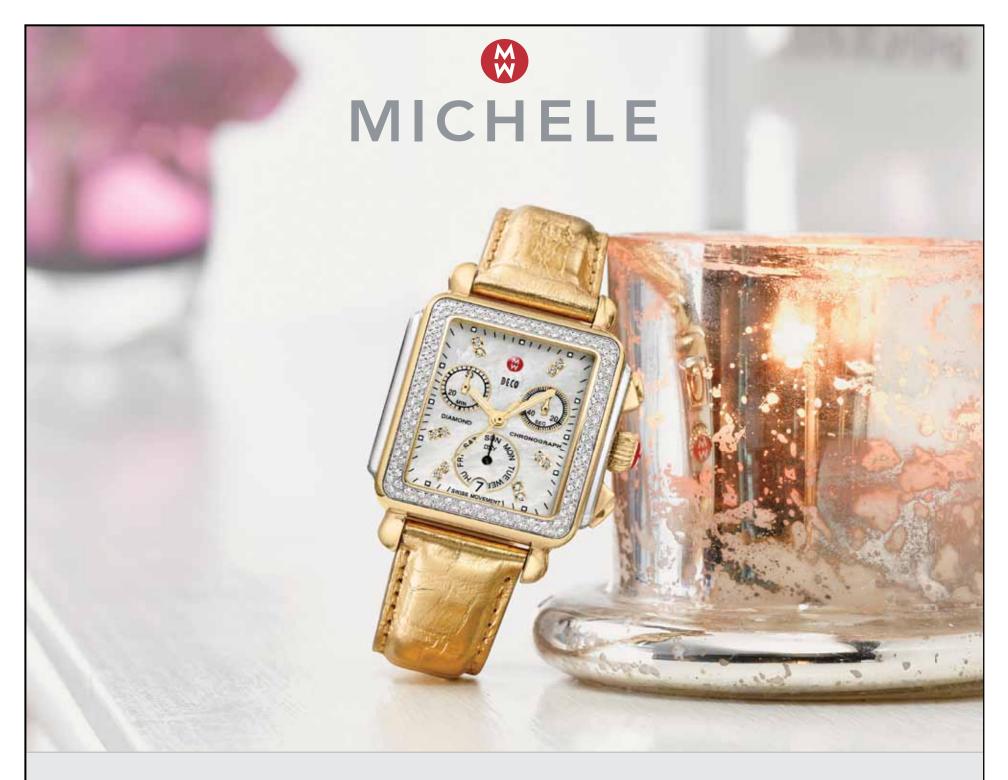
A review for Hubspot (#4) reads, "Leadership places a heavy emphasis on employee growth across all divisions, from tuition reimbursement to offering opportunities to take on challenges outside your core responsibilities." That sounds to me like a company that "gets it" and their employees applaud it.

Let the walls tell your story of relentless devotion to learning. Your commitment will ensure that your team has every resource and tool to compete and succeed. And wouldn't it be nice if the walls would say, "They're not done yet!"?

© 2016 Doug Dickerson, Doug Dickerson is an internationally recognized leadership speaker, columnist, and author. A Lowcountry resident, Doug is available to speak for your civic, business, or church group. To Learn more visit DougDickerson.WordPress.Com.







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MOUNT PLEASANT | NORTH CHARLESTON | WEST ASHLEY



DI tournament offers magical match-up for fans and players Pages 16-18

They keep coming back! Pages 20-22

Kerber defends title Pages 23-24

Familiar names in qualifying draw Page 25

Page 26

Island hopping in our tennis town Pages 28-29

Pages 32-33

# It's 'Game On' for 2016 Volvo Car Open!

### **DI tournament offers magical** served as they hit the grounds April 2 – 10 for match-up for fans and players

#### **ELIZABETH BUSH**

beth@thedanielislandnews.com

While you are not likely to see a large-sized mouse in a tuxedo roaming the grounds at next week's Volvo Car Open, formerly known as the Family Circle Cup, the experience is sure to be almost as magical as what you might find at a certain fun-filled, family-friendly amusement park in Florida.

Fresh off a program at Disney University in Orlando, VCO tournament director Bob Moran is taking a few cues from Mickey's playbook on how to create some exciting and memorable fan-fare for this year's event.

"What's our mission?" Moran said, from his office at the Family Circle Tennis Center last week. "How do we make the experience better? The Disney quote that resonated with me was really clear. Over manage the things that people tend to forget about and overlook. Where are the little areas we can make a difference?"

Moran and his team took the Disney creed to heart and are all-in on making sure fans are well

this year's tournament, now in its 16th year on Daniel Island. The biggest change is of course the event's new name. Volvo Car, USA came on as the title sponsor late last summer, a move that is certain to bring a unique flavor to the tennis showdown for both fans and players.

"I think the way we look will be different," added Moran, who stressed that the tournament is still owned and operated by Meredith Corporation and Family Circle Magazine. "Obviously our signage is all going to be different. They're getting used to us as much as we're getting used to them, but I know their on-site displays are beautiful and it's really going to step up how we look and how we feel."

Moran said the decision to name a new title sponsor was not an easy one, but he believes it was the right way to move the tournament forward.

"This is an international brand that is coming to Charleston to call it home, as we call it home," he continued. "If there was ever an opportunity to create a partnership with an international brand that made sense for us, it's Volvo."

Fans can look for Volvo car displays on the grounds and opportunities to "ride and drive,"

along with a huge presence from company representatives throughout the tournament. The top-seeded players will be given a Volvo to drive during their stay, while other players can make use of loaner cars for a few hours at a time if they want to go out on excursions.

"They love that because it gives them the opportunity to explore the area," added Eleanor Adams, tournament manager. "So many of them love to go sight-seeing and to the plantations and to the beach. This gives them a little bit more freedom to do that."

Fans will also experience a re-energized VCO team that is even more focused on customer service.

"I want anybody who walks in our gate and asks a question of anybody who works here, not just our volunteers, not just our staff, anybody that they ask a question of they can get an answer."

As in years past, Moran and his staff have worked diligently to create ways to engage fans on every level during their tournament time. In 2016, look for new opportunities to catch the on-going action on the courts.

"We're going in a different direction this year," he said. "We're always going to be very active on social media with the players...but

we're taking that up a notch."

The VCO has partnered with Stre.am, a video platform company founded by a College of Charleston student, to offer an amplified viewing experience for fans. A unique URL for the tournament will allow fans to see what's happening via live video as competitions play out across the grounds.

"They are actually going to outfit little cameras on all the practice courts, the non-ESPN courts," said Moran. "We're going to create a OR code for this. When someone comes in, this QR code will go straight to that URL. This is all about the fan experience. If someone is in the stadium, they can use their phone or their iPad and go to this unique URL...and have options to click on what's going on on the Club Court, or on one of the practice courts."

They also plan to stream content from player functions, such as the VCO Player Party, which will be held at the South Carolina Aquarium this year.

"We're dipping our toe into the water a little bit," said Moran. "But we feel like it will just be another asset that our fans can use...What we want to provide is the opportunity for people to be able to see what's going on elsewhere when they're in different parts of the facility."

According to a VCO press release, the tournament receives four days of live broadcast domestically on ESPN2 and is viewed interna-

See GAME ON on PAGE 17



### ANNE'S COMES TO DANIEL ISLAND

Visit Our Team at the Lisette L Montreal Pop-Up Shop **Tournament Grounds** April 2-10

annesdowntown.com

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### The experience is sure to be magical

From GAME ON on PAGE 16

tionally in more than 165 countries. In 2015, the event attracted some one million viewers in the United States and close to 12 million around the globe. This year, Moran estimates they could reach 15 million viewers.

Another new VCO feature in 2016 will be the addition of a second Jumbotron screen on Stadium Court.

"No one will be in the stadium now without seeing the video interaction," said Moran.

Also look for an on-court announcer at the popular Althea Gibson Court for the first time, as well as added seating. The area will be completely enclosed with bleachers this year and will include court walk-ons, music, and other features – making it more "stadium-esque," said Moran. In addition, the VCO talent hosts Andrew Krasny and Nick McArdle will be creating daily video wrap-ups, at the end of each day during the tournament, that will be sent out to fans. The Daily Slice will still be distributed in written form each morning and provided to fans as they enter the grounds.

"A lot of the things we do for the fan experience are really focused on new media, video, content, and those types of things," continued Moran. "And making it a little bit easier and more enjoyable."

#### ON THE PLAYER SIDE

Now in its 44th year, the newly renamed

VCO is the largest women's-only tennis tournament in the world. This year, expect to see many of the game's greatest players descend on Daniel Island for a chance at winning the title crown and a piece of the \$753,000 prize money pie. The 2016 player field includes six former champions – Angelique Kerber (2015), Andrea Petkovic (2014), Samantha Stosur (2011), Sabine Lisicki (2009), Jelena Jankovic (2007), and Venus Williams (2004).

"I think that's really incredible," said Adams, of the champions' return. "To have these players who want to come back year after year because they've fallen in love with the event, and they have fallen in love with Charleston and the people – that's what it's all about. I think that's a testament to Charleston and Daniel Island, that they feel at home and that they are proud of the titles that they've won here."

Adams is also excited to report that the tournament will once again boast a strong U.S. presence, with players such as Williams, Madison Keys, Sloane Stephens, Madison Brengle, Christina McHale, Varvara Lepchenko, Irina Falconi, and Bethanie Mattek-Sands. Local favorite Shelby Rogers, who grew up on Daniel Island, is set to take part in the qualifying rounds this weekend.

"It's kind of a resurgence of American tennis," added Adams. "They are very patriotic and really support one another."

In addition to vying for this year's VCO title, players will have plenty of opportunities to engage in outreach efforts in the Charleston community during their stay, including patient visits at MUSC Children's Hospital and the annual SunTrust "Tennis in the City" event for kids at the Jack Adams Tennis Center in downtown Charleston.

"We feel it's really important to take the players to that community," said Moran, of the Jack Adams event. "It's good for both the players and for the kids and their families to do that."

Players will also be treated to some good old fashioned Southern hospitality during their time in Charleston, a trademark of the VCO event. New this year will be a special "Player Dining Tent" on the VCO campus where they will enjoy a variety of athlete-friendly meals and snacks provided by Hamby Catering. New premiere sponsor Lisette L Montreal, an apparel company offering "perfect fit" pants, will host activities for both players and fans throughout the week, including a pop-up shop on site. In addition, the Family Circle Tennis Center's clubhouse will be transformed into a relaxing lounge atmosphere for players to enjoy some downtime between matches.

### DANIEL ISLAND CONNECTIONS

A variety of Daniel Island-based businesses have also stepped up to serve players and other VCO reps during the tournament. Steve and Gail Salomon of Mission Essentials will

provide the company's popular insect repellant to ward off pesky no-see-ums and mosquitos, Bohemia Salon will do the make-up for Pam Shriver's VCO live broadcasts, O2 Fitness will offer up an on-site gym for players, and Daniel Island's Fit Culture will give players an opportunity to pop in for complimentary classes at their new location on Seven Farms Drive. Other island supporters include the Hampton Inn. Publix. Daniel Island Grille, and the Daniel Island Club. In addition, several local families will provide private housing for players during their stay.

"We usually have between 25 and 30 players and coaches in homes," said Betty McMahon, VCO housing coordinator. "This year we have 10 staying on Daniel Island. The players are so appreciative of their family's support and many players have developed very close relationships with their host families and continue to stay with them for several years."

#### LET'S GO!

Armed with another recipe for success in 2016, the Volvo Car Open team is ready to roll out the welcome mat for over 100 players from all over the world and more than 90,000 fans. A surge in ticket sales this year is a good indicator that things are off to a good start, said Moran. The tournament will no doubt deliver plenty of winning moments both on and off the courts, as well as a little magic along the way. And it will be a place, for at least a select few champions, where dreams really do come true.



## **Volvo Car Open Fan Activities!**

In addition to player matches, there are plenty of other fan-friendly activities happening as part of the Volvo Car Open. Check out the following schedule of events (source: www.volvocaropen.com).

BY DAY.... **SATURDAY, APRIL 2 -SUNDAY, APRIL 10** 

### **Lisette L Montreal Pants Giveaway!**

Visit the Lisette L Montréal pop-up shop onsite all week. When you try on a pair of their pants, you will be entered to win a free pair. Drawings will take place every half hour!

### **Ban Cardio Tennis Court**

12:00 pm -12:30pm, 12:30 pm- 1:00pm Get a 30-minute tennis workout in at the Open, thanks to Ban, Cardio tennis clinics will occur twice a day throughout the week. We'll supply the equipment, just bring your A-game! Players of all abilities are welcome.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2 -SUNDAY, APRIL 3 FAMILY WEEKEND** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The theme of the weekend is bounce! Kids of all ages will experience a weekend filled with jump castles, jugglers, tennis games, magicians, trampolines and live dance

performances. Acts include the nationally acclaimed trampoline performers, FlippenOut on Saturday April 2nd and Peace, Love, Hip Hop and Kyle and the K'Otics on Sunday April 3rd. All Activities are family-friendly and can be enjoyed around the ground while taking in world-class tennis matches.

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 2**

Draw Ceremony

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Be a part of Volvo Car Open history as player names are drawn to determine who will battle it out on the courts! Interact and take photos with WTA players.

### MONDAY, APRIL 4 -SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MUSC Health Pickleball Clinics 11:00 pm - 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Hop on the short courts and play some pickleball! This sport combines elements of tennis, ping pong and badminton. Beginners and experts welcome!

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 5**

### Lisette L Montréal Ladies Day

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Join us for a special day of tennis with your best girls! For the cost of a Tuesday ticket, you'll enjoy giveaways, shopping, wine and cheese tastings and loads of activities, all while watching world-class women's tennis. Rally up the ladies and make a day of it!

#### **Girl Talk Luncheon**

11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Presented by Lisette L Montréal

The "Ladies Day Luncheon" is all about girl talk this year. Plan to be entertained by two fashionable mother-daughter duos: Snezana and Jelena Jankovic, former World No. 1 and Lisette Limoges, world-renowned fashion designer, and daughter Kathryne. Tickets are \$60 and include a catered lunch.

\* A Volvo Car Open day session ticket is required, along with the luncheon ticket.

#### BY NIGHT... HAPPY HOUR NIGHTLY 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 5**

### **Dunlop Sport/Antigua Performance Ap**parel

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Be one of the first 2,000 fans through the gate on Tuesday night, and receive a special gift. In addition, the merchandise tent will offer special pricing on all Antigua clothing. After the first match, two lucky USTA teams will compete head-to-head on court.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

### **Pink Out Night for the Cure**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Presented by MUSC Health

Join us in our effort to PINK OUT the stadium in support of the Susan G. Komen® for the Cure Lowcountry. For each person wearing pink through the gates, the Volvo Car Open will make a donation to cancer research. community health outreach and advocacy

### THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Military Appreciation Night

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

In honor of the men and women who serve our country in the Armed Forces, the Volvo Car Open, on behalf of Prudential, is proud to host military appreciation night - giving activeduty and retired military, plus their families complimentary admission. Join us in thanking our service members and their families.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 8

SunTrust Night

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Don't miss an exciting night of great matches and prizes. Join SunTrust on Friday when they host an interactive on court activity - the annual ball toss. A true fan favorite!

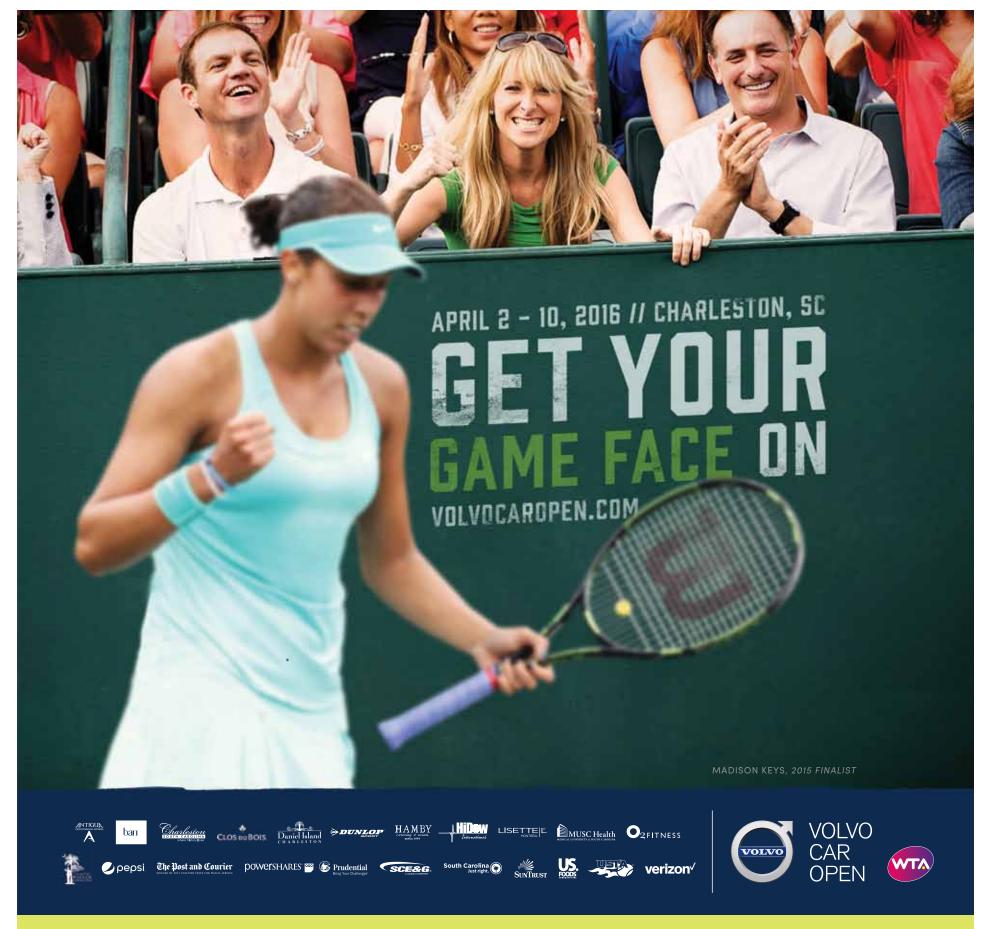
### **SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

2016 PowerShares Series!

Mark your calendars for this exciting addition at the Volvo Car Open Stadium. Andre Agassi, Andy Roddick, James Blake and Mardy Fish will play live in this PowerShares series event. To purchase tickets, call 800-677-







# THEY KEEP COMING BA

BY STEVE FERBER photos provided by Volvo Car Open



### **PROFILE**

Current Rank: 3 Age: 28 Country: Germany Languages: German, Polish, English Residence: Puszczykowo, Poland. In the heart of Poland, and located roughly 200 miles west of Warsaw, Puszczykowo is located in Poznan County and is home to over 9,000 resi-

dents. It's surrounded by the Wielkopolski National Park.\*

### **HERE IN CHARLESTON (RECORD: 7-1)**

- 2010 reached round of 16, losing to Daniela Hantuckova
- 2015 Won tournament, defeating Madison Keys in three sets

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (YTD RECORD: 13-5)

- Won Australian Open in January 2016
- Reached final in Brisbane



### BELINDA BENCIC **PROFILE**

Current Rank: 10 Age: 19 Country: Switzerland Residence: Wollerau, Switzerland – home also to tennis great Roger Federer, Wallerau is home to just over 7,000 people, nearly 20% of whom are from foreign nations. The city boasts an unemployment rate under 1.5% and is

home to Itamin, a world leader in the manufacturing of rollercoasters. The city is located 20 miles outside of Zurich.\*

#### HERE IN CHARLESTON (7-2)

- 2015 Defeated Dellacqua, lost to Kovinici
- 2014 Reached semifinals at the age of 17, defeating Errani in quarters

### WHY SHE'S COMING BACK TO

### **CHARLESTON**

Q: What keeps you coming back to Charleston? Bencic: "Well, mostly because there I had my

ANGELIQUE KERBER first breakthrough and a good result. I broke into the top 100 there and I played the semifinals. It's nice memories and also I just like the tournament."

> Q: When you think about your prior experiences in Charleston, what is the first thing that comes to

Bencic: "Yeah, the semifinal how I played and I beat Errani in the quarterfinals which was like the first big win for me."

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (YTD RECORD: 13-6)

- Reached semifinals in Sydney, Final in St.
- Defeated both Kerber and Petkovic in Fed Cup



### **VENUS WILLIAMS PROFILE**

Current Rank: 13

Age: 35

Country: United States Residence: Palm Beach Gardens, Florida – incorporated in 1960 by insurance magnate John MacArthur, the city – with a current population of nearly 50,000, was formerly home to cattle ranches, pine forests and swamplands.\*

### **HERE IN CHARLESTON (RECORD: 19-6)**

- 2014 reached round of 16
- 2013 reached semifinals, lost to Serena
- 2012 reached quarterfinals
- 2009 reached round of 16
- 2007 reached semifinals
- 2005 reached round of 16
- 2004 Won tournament, defeating Conchita Martinez in three sets



### **2016 HIGHLIGHTS** (YTD RECORD: 7-3)

 Won tournament in Kaohsiung, won both Fed Cup matches against Poland's Kania and Linette

### LUCIE SAFAROVA **PROFILE**

Current Rank: 15 Age: 29 Country: Czech Republic Languages: Czech, German, English

Residence: Monte Carlo, Monaco – located at the base of the Maritime Alps along the French Riviera, Monte Carlo is one of Europe's leading tourist resorts and known for its famous casinos. James Bond movies Never Say Never Again and Golden Eye were filmed in Monte Carlo.\*

### **HERE IN CHARLESTON (RECORD: 11-4)**

- 2014 reached quarterfinals
- 2013 Won doubles title with Mladenovic; in singles, reached quarters
- 2012 Won doubles title with Pavlyuchenkova; in singles, reached finals, losing to Serena
  - 2006 Reached quarterfinals

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (YTD RECORD: 0-2)

Coming back from an injury late in 2015



### SARA ERRANI PROFILE Current Rank: 18

Age: 28 Country: Italy Languages: Italian, Spanish, English Residence: Bologna, Italy the 7th most populous city in Italy, Bologna is famous for its towers and length porticoes, and is known as a cultural and artistic center.

Home to more than one

million people. In 2000 it was declared the European capital of culture and in 2006 a UNESCO "city of music."

### HERE IN CHARLESTON (YTD RECORD: 5-4)

- 2015 reached quarterfinals
- 2014 reached quarterfinals
- 2008 defeated Ditty, lost to Cornet

### WHY SHE'S COMING BACK TO **CHARLESTON**

Q: When you think about the Charleston tournament, both on and off the court, what is the first memory that you think of?

Errani: "... [b]ecause my coach comes with his family and two kids so we have a lot of fun there playing with the kids, so it's nice that in the tennis club there are the small courts for the kids and we go there to play with them. It's fun."

2016 HIGHLIGHTS (RECORD: 9-7)

· Reached final in



institutions, the Eur and the GSI Centre several chemical el stadt is also the sea ceutical company, N employer. The city **HERE IN CHAR** 11-3)

- 2015 reached winner Kerber
- 2014 Won tou pelova
- 2013 reached WHY SHE'S CO **CHARLESTON**

Q: "So, Andrea, 1 back to Charleston?

Petkovic: "I thinl know. It's one of m center court, and als just beautiful. You friendly, it's always back and it just feel I really enjoy it. An town with great res it so I enjoy myself

Q: "And speaking what do you do who you get out to explo

Petkovic: "Not to strolling through th a European vibe, I around and you can that's really nice. A

### TIMES IN CHARLESTON (counting this year)

- Kerber 3
- Errani 4
- •Schnyder 16

- Bencic 3 • Williams - 8
- Petkovic 4 • Jankovic - 13
- (first four in Hilton Head)

- Safarova 5
- Stosur 10

Dubai, losing to Strycova

### ANDREA PETKOVIC **PROFILE**

Current Rank: 21 Age: 28 Country: Germany Languages: French, German, English, Serbian Residence: Darmstadt, Germany – Located in the Frankfurt Metropolitan Region, Darmstadt holds the official title of the "City of Science" and houses, among other scientific

opean Space Operations Centre for Heavy Ion Research (where ements were discovered). armt of the world's oldest pharma-Merck, which is the city's largest is home to over 150,000 people.\*

### LESTON (YTD RECORD:

semifinals, losing to eventual

rnament, defeating Jana Ce-

round of 16 MING BACK TO

ell me what keeps you coming

c it's just the atmosphere, I don't y favorite courts, which is the so the Althea Gibson Court, it's can just relax, everybody is so the same people when you come s like coming back to a family so d also Charleston is a beautiful aurants and a great vibe around very much."

g of the restaurants and the vibe, en you get out to explore? Do re?"

o much, but I do enjoy just e streets because it has kind of would say, you can just walk get everywhere by foot and nd yeah, the Halls Chophouse is one of my favorite restaurants...it's really good. So, yeah."

Q: "And in the past, can you talk about some of your favorite memories both on and off the court? Like funny moments or moments that stick out to

Petkovic: "Well, I think obviously the greatest moment in Charleston was when I won it. It was really a key moment for me, and my career, and it really sort of pinpointed my comeback after all my injuries. So that was very important and very emotional. And then coming back the next year and having this huge billboard over the bridge with myself on it that was kind of special, you know. I mean I didn't have such a big billboard, but it's a different thing when you have it in Germany where you're sort of well known and having that in America in a town that's so far away was really special."

Q: "And obviously the player party appearance with Jelena Jankovic would have been a highlight for off the court."

Petkovic: "Yeah, definitely we always have great fun. And actually also playing doubles with Jelena, with JJ, we didn't play so many times, but somehow every time we played we played in Charleston and we had so much fun. I remember at one crazy point we played against Liezel Huber and Lisa Raymond actually. And we played on Althea Gibson Court and it was packed and we had a standing ovation for five minutes I think and it was so much fun and we were just enjoying ourselves a lot."

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (RECORD: 8-5)

• Reached semifinals in Doha, forced to retire due to injury



### JELENA JANKOVIC **PROFILE**

Current Rank: 26

Age: 31

Country: Serbia

Languages: Serbian, English, French, and learning

Residence: Dubai, United Arab Emirates - located on the Emirate's northern coastline, Dubai has emerged as a global city and business hub of the Middle East. In 2014, Dubai's hotel rooms were

rated as the second most expensive in the world, after Geneva. The city, home to over 2.5 million people, will host World Expo 2020.\*

### HERE IN CHARLESTON (21-11)

- 2015 had to bow out in third round, due to injury
  - 2014 reached quarters
- 2013 reached finals, losing to Serena Williams
  - 2012 lost to Venus Williams
- 2011 reached semifinals, losing to Carolina Wozniacki
- 2010 reached quarters
- 2008 reached quarters
- 2007 Won tournament, defeating Dinara Safina
- 2006 lost to Julia Vakulenko
- 2005 lost to Justine Henin
- 2004 lost to Lindsay Davenport
- 2002 lost to Stephanie Foretz

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (RECORD: 6-8)

 Reached round of 16 at Indian Wells, losing to Agnieszka Radwanska

### WHY SHE'S COMING BACK TO **CHARLESTON**

Q: What keeps you coming back to Charleston? Is it the food? The setting? Temperature?

Jankovic: "I think everything. I think, first of all, I think the people and the organization of the tournament and the people that are playing a role in organizing it are so nice and so, how do you say? They take good care of the players. They really care about us. They really want to make us feel at home and I think that's what people and players appreciate very much. And we love the courts, we love the food, we love the coziness of the tournament. It is so relaxed and so beautiful."

Q: When you think about your prior experiences in Charleston on and off the court, what memories come to mind?

Jankovic: "Winning in 2007 and overall just setting a nice time with the people there. Every time and every year I see them over and over again. I think those memories are priceless."



### **SAMANTHA STOSUR PROFILE**

Current Rank: 27

Age: 32

Country: Australia Residence: Gold Coast, Australia - Located just outside of Brisbane, on the east coast of Australia, Gold Coast is home to over half a million people, and is known as a major tourist destination, with its sunny subtropical climate, surfing

### **Q: WHAT KEEPS YOU COMING BACK TO CHARLESTON?**

#### **JELENA JANKOVIC**

"I think everything. I think, first of all, I think the people and the organization of the tournament and the people that are playing a role in organizing it are so nice and so, how do you say? They take good care of the players. They really care about us. They really want to make us feel at home and I think that's what people and players appreciate very much. And we love the courts, we love the food, we love the coziness of the tournament. It is so relaxed and so beautiful."

#### **SAM STOSUR**

"Well, I love the tournament. It gets really well supported by the fans and they love coming out and watching the tennis whether it's the qualies or the finals, so there's always a great atmosphere around the center as far as the tournament goes. And, I actually just love the city. It's one of my favorite cities in America and I've got some really great friends there that I always love to see. The food is amazing so that always helps and yeah, I just always have a great time so there's always lots of good memories."

### ANDREA PETKOVIC

"I think it's just the atmosphere, I don't know. It's one of my favorite courts, which is the center court, and also the Althea Gibson Court, it's just beautiful. You can just relax, everybody is so friendly, it's always the same people when you come back and it just feels like coming back to a family so I really enjoy it. And also Charleston is a beautiful town with great restaurants and a great vibe around it so I enjoy myself very much."

• 2010 - in 3rd round, lost to Caroline

### They keep coming back to Charleston

beaches, canal and waterway systems, theme parks, nightlife, and rainforest hinterland. The city will host the 2018 Commonwealth Games.\*

#### **HERE IN CHARLESTON (13-8)**

- 2015 lost to Lara Arruabarrena in 2nd round
- 2014 reached round of 16, losing to Lucie Safarova
- 2013 reached round of 16, losing to Eugenie Bouchard
- 2012 reached semifinals, losing to Serena
- 2011 reached round of 16, losing to Elena Vesnina
- 2010 Won tournament, defeating Vera Zvonareva
- 2007 in singles, lost to Venus Williams; in doubles, lost in round of 16
- 2006 Won doubles tournament with Lisa Raymond; in singles, lost to Lucie
- 2005 in doubles, reached quarters; in singles, reached 2nd round WHY SHE'S COMING BACK TO

**CHARLESTON** 

From COMING BACK on PAGE 21

Q: "What keeps you coming back to Charleston?"

Stosur: "Well, I love the tournament. It gets really well supported by the fans and they love coming out and watching the tennis whether it's the qualies or the finals, so there's always a great atmosphere around the center as far as the tournament goes. And, I actually just love the city. It's one of my favorite cities in America and I've got some really great friends there that I always love to see. The food is amazing so that always helps and yeah, I just always have a great time so there's always lots of good memories."

Q: "And speaking of exploring the city and everything, when you do have some time, what do you typically like to do in Charleston off the court when you have some free

Stosur: "Well I've done that horse carriage tour probably three or four times actually. And I eat lots of good food, I go out for coffee, go to quite a few of the shops there are some nice little kind of antiquey, unique kind of shops around. And yeah, catch up with those friends I've mentioned so there's never

any shortage I always hope that I do well so I'm there for the whole week!"

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS (YTD RECORD: 7-4)

- In Fed Cup, defeated both Cepelova and Schmiedlova of Slovakia
- · Reached round of 16 at Indian Wells, losing to eventual winner Victoria Azarenka
- Reached quarters in Sydney



HERE IN CHARLESTON/HILTON

• 2011 – lost in 1st round (then retired on

**HEAD (RECORD: 27-12)** 

May 28, 2011)

**PATTY SCHNYDER PROFILE** Current Rank: 455 Age: 37 Country: Switzerland Residence: Baech, Switzerland

Wozniacki • 2009 - in 2nd round, lost to Elena

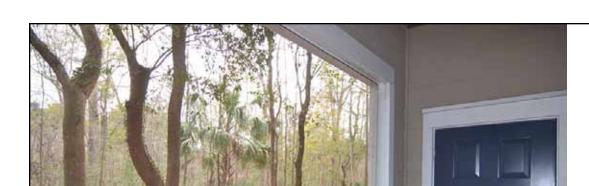
Vesnina • 2008 – in quarters, lost to Elena Demen-

tieva

- 2007 in 2nd round, lost to Shuai Peng
- 2006 reached finals, losing to Nadia Petrova
- 2005 reached semis, losing to Elena Dementieva
- 2004 reached semis, losing to Conchita Martinez
- 2003 in second round, losing to Vera Zvonareva
  - 2002 reached final, losing to Iva Majoli
  - 2001 lost in 1st round
  - 2000 reached round of 16, losing to

### Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario

- 1999 reached semis, losing to Anna Kournikova
- 1998 in quarters, losing to Monica
- 1997 reached 2nd round 2016 YTD Record: 5-2
- \* Source: Wikipedia Note: 2016 records include tournaments through March 20, 2016









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# Kerber set to defend her Charleston title against a talented field

PHILIP M. BOWMAN

It's the Volvo Car Open, now. But the tournament, formerly known as the Family Circle Cup, still has plenty of talent, plenty of familiar faces.

Eight of the top 24 players on the WTA tour are entered in this year's event, which commences Saturday with qualifying play. First round action begins Monday.

The reigning champ and five past winners are entered in this year's event, which kicks off the clay-court season.

The defending champion is Angelique Kerber, a German who is currently ranked No. 3 in the world. She used last year's victory as a springboard for a great run that has continued in '16. She won the first Grand Slam event of the year, taking home the top prize at the Australian Open in January.

Andrea Petkovic, the 2014 champ, will provide plenty of competition. Other winners of the Daniel Island tournament entered in the field are 2010 champ Samantha Stosur, 2009 winner Sabine Lasicki, 2007 champion Jelena Jankovic and 2002 champ and crowd favorite Venus Williams, who returns to Daniel Island after a one-year absence.

Kerber has won seven WTA titles, four of

which she earned in 2015. After winning in Charleston, she continued her success, winning titles in Stuttgart, Birmingham and Stanford. She captured her first grand slam in Australia.

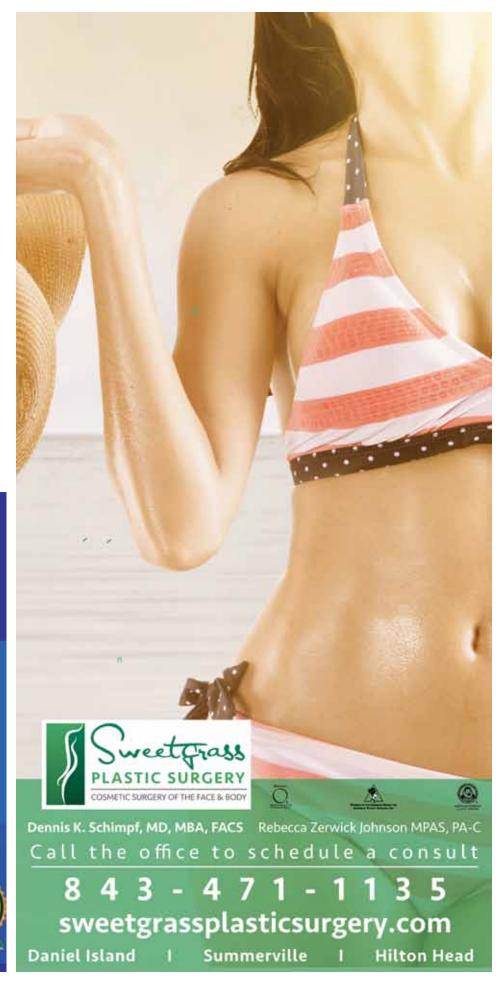
Kerber has made two previous appearances in Charleston, and owns a 7-1 record on the green clay in Charleston.

"I am eager to play Charleston again," Kerber said. "The 2015 tournament was a great week for me. I was happy with how I played, and everyone in Charleston was so friendly. I'm ready to be back and defend my title at the Volvo Cars Open."

Fellow German countrywoman, Petkovic, currently ranked World No. 21, will be making her fourth appearance in Charleston and has had great success, with an 11-2 record. After winning the Family Circle Cup in 2014, she made the semifinals last April. Petkovic has six WTA titles, most recently winning in Bad Gastein and Sofia after Charleston in 2014, and Antwerp in 2015.

"Charleston holds a special place in my heart because it's where I won my first ever premier title," said Petkovic. "It's no secret that I love playing this tournament – the energy is relaxed, the fans are encouraging and the green

See KERBER on PAGE 23







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### Eight of the top 24 players are in this year's event

From KERBER on PAGE 23



In this photo from last year's tournament, this year's 6th seed, Andrea Petkovic (left), shakes hands with last year's champion and this year's 1st seed, Angelique Kerber (right), after losing to Kerber in the semi-final round.

clay really supports my game."

Kerber is one of two top-10 players in the field. The other is Belinda Bencic of Switzerland. She is No. 10.

Bencic had much success last year, winning her first two WTA titles, claiming championships in Eastbourne and Toronto. She also reached the finals in Hertogenbosch and Tokyo.

She was extremely impressive during her championship run at Toronto's Rogers Cup, topping World No. 1, Serena Williams, Simona Halep, Caroline Wozniacki, Sabine Lisicki, Eugenie Bouchard and Ana Ivanovic.

She was only 18 when she beat Williams.

That made her the youngest player to beat Williams in a completed match since Maria Sharapova defeated Williams in the 2004 WTA Finals at the age of 17.

"I feel really good playing on the clay courts in Charleston, and have great memories from the tournament there," said Bencic. "I really love the city."

Venus Williams is currently No. 13 in the world. Lucie Safarova is No. 15 while Sara Errani is No. 18.

Promising Americans Sloane Stephens and Madison Keys are also entered. They are ranked No. 22 and 24 respectively.

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## **Qualify draw includes Charleston favorites Shelby Rogers and Patty Schnyder**

Staff report

The qualifying draw for the Volvo Car Open is officially complete for the tournament, with qualifying rounds beginning on April 2 and finishing on April 3. Volvo Car Open's qualifying draw consists of 32 players – 28 direct entry participants and four wild cards. Eight players in the qualifying field will advance into the main draw of the Volvo Car Open, which starts on April 4th.

The qualifying round highlights a range of past Charleston players, including Shelby Rogers, the local fan-favorite, who grew up on Daniel Island and volunteered as a ball girl at the tournament.

Jana Cepelova, a finalist in the 2014 Family Circle Cup, and Lauren Davis, who reached the quarterfinals of the tournament last year.

Nine Americans are featured in the qualifying draw. In addition to Rogers and Davis, Alison Riske, Samantha Crawford, Anna Tatishvili, Louisa Chirico, Jessica Pegula, Ellie Halbauer and Raveena Kingslev have all entered into the tournament.



**Shelby Rogers** 

Rounding out the draw, the Volvo Car Open has issued four wild cards into its qualifying field to Patty Schnyder, Laura Robson, Halbauer and Kingsley.

Schnyder is on a comeback tour, after retiring from the sport in 2011. She's won 11 WTA singles titles and reached a career high ranking of World No. 7. She's competed in the Family Circle Cup 15 times, reaching



**Patty Schnyder** 

two finals in Charleston and holding a 27-12 tournament record.

"There are a handful of players in our qualifying field that have large fan bases in Charleston - Shelby, Jessie, Sam and Ellie all have ties to the Lowcountry," said Bob Moran, Volvo Car Open Tournament Director. "Patty Schnyder has been playing in our tournament since before we relocated from

Hilton Head Island. She's a part of our familv. and we are thrilled to welcome her back to our tournament."

Robson is a former Top 50 player, holding a career-high ranking of World No. 27, who is making a return to tennis after a lengthy wrist injury. She's reached the fourth round in both Wimbledon and the US Open. This is her second time entering the Charleston field, having competed in the 2013 tournament.

Halbauer is a two-time Dunlop Junior champion, providing her with two past wild cards into the Volvo Car Open. Born and raised in Charleston, the 18-year-old has won one ITF title.

Kingsley earned her wild card entry into the Volvo Car Open during the SHAPE Magazine Invitational earlier this month. As the finalist of the collegiate tournament, she was granted access into Charleston's qualifying draw. The 17-year-old will play for Louisiana State University in fall of 2016.

The Volvo Car Open's 56-player draw is made up of 43 direct entries into the tournament, five wild cards and eight qualifiers.

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# Seven Americans entered in this year's main draw

### PHILIP M. BOWMAN

The Volvo Car Open will showcase an American icon, one of the greatest players who represents its proud past – and present: Venus Williams.

The tournament, which kicks off the claycourt season, will also feature two of the most promising players in America's future: Sloane Stephens and Madison Keys.

Those are just three of the seven Americans entered in this year's event, which commences with qualifying play on Saturday and first-round action on Monday.

Williams, half of the greatest sibling tennis tandem in history, heads to Daniel Island with the World No. 13 ranking. Stephens, who just turned 23 is World No. 22 while Keyes who just turned 21 is World No. 24.

Williams, a former World No. 1 and 2004 Family Circle Cup champion, will make her eighth appearance in Charleston, where she holds a 17-5 record.

In 2013, Williams made a return to the Cup's final four, losing in the semifinal to sister and World No. 1 Serena Williams. The match marked the first time the sisters met in singles since 2009, and the first time on clay



DANIEL ISLAND NEWS FILE PHOTO **Sloane Stephens** 



DANIEL ISLAND NEWS FILE PHOTO **Madison Keys** 



DANIEL ISLAND NEWS FILE PHOTO

Venus Williams

since 2002. ing the women's game Williams has been ranked World No. 1 in modern era of power a

singles by the WTA three different times for a total of 11 weeks at the top.

She became the World No. 1 for the first time on February 25, 2002, becoming the first African-American woman to achieve this feat during in the open era.

She and her sister are credited as chang-

ing the women's game and ushering a new, modern era of power and athleticism on the WTA tour.

She's won seven grand slam singles, which is good enough for 12th on the all-time list. She is one of only five women in the open era to win 200 or more main draw Grand Slam singles matches.

Stephens will be making her sixth appear-

ance in Charleston. She already has one title under her belt this year, winning the ASB Classic in Aukland. Last year, she won her first WTA title of her career with a win in the Citi Open in Washington.

She was a semifinalist in Strasbourg and Eastbourne, and was a quarter-finalist in Miami and Seoul. She reached the fourth round at Roland Garros.

"I love playing on clay, it's my favorite surface," Stephens said. "I'm excited to kick off the clay court season in Charleston again this year at the Volvo Car Open."

Keys also is no stranger to Charleston. She's having an impressive run in Miami, the tourney that precedes the Volvo Car Open. Keys defeated Roberta Vinci of Italy, the No. 9-ranked player in the world, in their thirdround match 6-4, 6-4. The victory advanced Keys to the fourth round against Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu, ranked 35th in the world

The other Americans in the field and their ranking include Christina McHale (56), Madison Brengle (60), Monica Puig (67), Allison Risk (86) and Bethanie Mattek-Sands (87).

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# Island hopping: Taking in (and taking home) the best of our tennis town

### **JENNIFER JOHNSTON**

jennifer@thedanielislandnews.com

You've heard of them, or maybe even know them personally. Or, perhaps you are actually one of them: the out-of-towner who simply paid a visit to the Holy City and her annexed island, only to be unwittingly wooed. Six months later, the moving truck is loaded and the home GPS is pointed toward Daniel Island.

It's a familiar story; happens every day around Charleston. But it seems to occur exponentially around tennis tournament time. Volvo Car Open (formerly Family Circle Cup) fans travel across the state, nation, and globe to get to our relatively quiet island community, and discover the "best tennis town" would make a pretty fabulous hometown. Volvo Car Stadium and Open General Manager Bob Moran tells a tale of a Frenchman who, after attending the tournament in 2010, decided to purchase a home on Daniel Island in 2013 and split his time between France and the Lowcountry.

Of course, not everyone who comes for the Open will stay for life. For these folks, we wanted to share a cheat sheet of the things Daniel Islanders love. Tourney ticketholders will be drawn in by tennis and charmed by the landscape, but it would be a shame for them to miss some of the very best of DI:

# If you are into history – and perhaps hauntings – but not the type to enjoy a group walking tour downtown, don't leave the island without...

... a stroll through the Lesesne cemetery. This graveyard, located in the woods behind the tennis complex, is one you nearly unknowingly enter. The marshy foliage is overgrown but somehow still lovely. The burial markers are sparse and uneven, but when you find the one from 1784, you are bewitchingly transported.

### If you are missing "real" northeast bagels, don't leave the island without...

... a stop at Blondies Bagels and Cafe. Their boiled-n-baked beauties are the stuff of New York and New England legend, just without the cranky baker or schlep through the snow. As one of Daniel Island's newest businesses, the eatery has been welcomed with open arms; even natives are in for a break from the biscuit.

## If you want to find yourself inside an image that is iconically Lowcountry, don't leave the island without...

... running, skipping, or galloping across the Barfield Park bridge. The wooden entrances to this footbridge are enchanting



Don't leave the island without a Detox Island Green smoothie from Tropical Smoothie Cafe.

enough, but those first steps onto the bridge are almost magical. Check out the expanse of marsh in both directions, notice the low (or high) tide beneath you, and thank yourself forever if you've timed it with a sunrise or sunset.

# If you went a little too late (or too hard) at the Daniel Island Grille the night before, don't leave the island without...

... a Detox Island Green smoothie from Tropical Smoothie Cafe. At 22 ounces, you can nurse this nutritious nectar for a good hour, slowly sipping those essential goodies back into your body as you stroll and shop Seven Farms, then return to the stadium for late day matches.

## If you went a little too late (or too hard) all week long, don't leave the island without...

... Juice Bar's "to-go" Daily Essential Cleanse, a powerful six-pack with such drinkable life support as Orange You Glad and We Got the Beet. The bright décor of the shop will revive your senses nearly as much as the nutrients, and the folks pressing that produce have a contagious pep.

# If you have a furry best bud who waited patiently for you back home while you got your tennis fix, don't leave the island without...

... some canine cookies and a Hugglehound from Lucia's Premium Pet. After all, what four-legged friend doesn't love a homebaked goodie and snuggly plush toy as a reward for watching the house while you were away and not having an accident

See ISLAND HOPPING on PAGE 28



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### Discover the "best tennis town"

From ISLAND HOPPING on PAGE 27

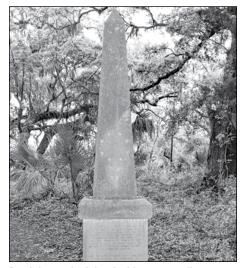
(or almost not having one)?

If you are a shutterbug or just want to take in a memorable image, don't leave the island without...

... standing under the "belly" of the Wando Bridge. Walking along the serene trails behind the Volvo Car Stadium and Governors Park, you suddenly find yourself standing beneath the piece of I-526 that crosses the Wando River. And you never realized six lanes of concrete could look so cool.

If you wanted to brag to friends back home about the amazing meal you had in Charleston but don't want to navigate the peninsula, don't leave the island without...

... savoring a plate of shrimp-overpolenta at Sermet's Courtyard. This caliber of cuisine is a reminder that Daniel Island is Charleston. You know, minus the search for a parking spot (and hunt for loose change to pay for that spot). Bonus: Restauranteur and chef Sermet Aslan is an artist, and his Courtyard is also his gallery, which means you didn't need to cross a bridge to pick up an original painting, either.



Don't leave the island without a stroll through the Lesesne cemetery.

If you've brought along young (or young at heart) explorers, don't leave the island without...

... a jaunt to the beach at the Children's Park at the end of River Landing Drive. Oh, sure, the park itself is cool, with the boathouse replica and fountain turtles. But wan-



Don't leave the island without savoring a plate of shrimp-over-polenta at Sermet's Courtyard.

der down to the water's edge at the base of the dock. Catch (and release) some fiddler crabs. Then cross the footbridge, and marvel at the dropping giant live oak branches. (Also have a little thrill-seeker in tow? Ask a local where to find the zip line.)

And if you want to leave feeling like you've been on both a sports getaway and coastal vacation, don't leave the island without...

... an hour (happy or otherwise) on the

patio at The Islander. Let traffic clear from the Open while you count your current blessings: A perfect mojito at the al fresco bar. Shrimp tacos under a giant umbrella. Cool breezes carrying the sounds from the live steel drum.

Oh, and along the way, be sure to make a few new friends. Who knows? They might soon become your neighbors.

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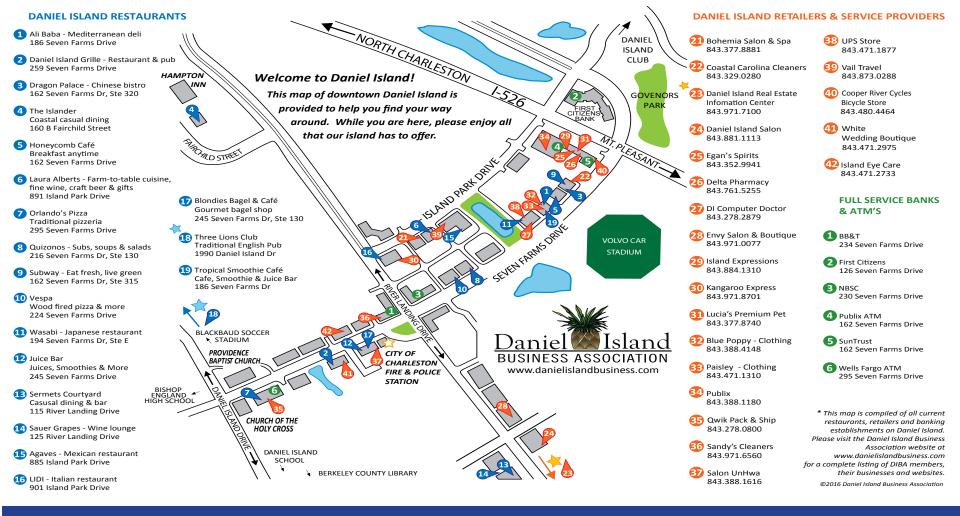
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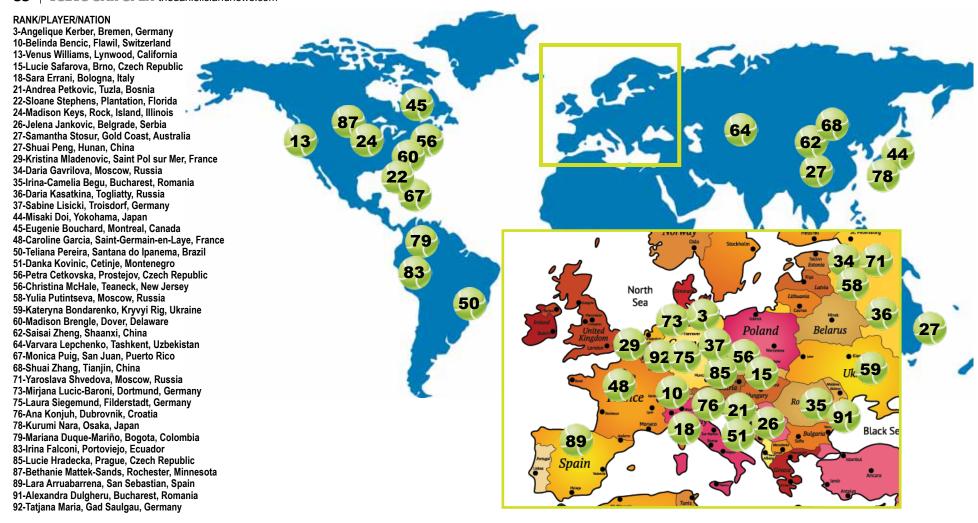




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### Volunteers are the backbone of the Volvo Car Open

### KATHERINE SMITH

katherine@thedanielislandnews.com

According to Jo Cooper, volunteer coordinator for the Volvo Car Open tennis tournament, it takes a lot of help from volunteers to ensure the success of a tennis tournament, especially one the size of the Volvo Car Open.

"More than 500 people volunteer their time at the Volvo Car Open. We could not do it without our dedicated volunteers. We have 350 people that work behind the scenes in one of 13 different departments," states Cooper of the magnitude of what it takes to organize an event of this size.

Recruiting that many volunteers is quite a task. However, there are incentives that are given to help make the process a little easier. Though there is a fee of \$60 to be a volunteer and each volunteer must work a minimum of 6 or 7 shifts, there are many extra perks depending on how many extra shifts you commit to. At minimum, all volunteers receive a uniform, a credential (which allows for admission to all nine day sessions), a hat, and two tickets to the PowerShares. But if you work more than the minimum number of shifts, extra tickets and even a debit card for food is given. That may be why so many volunteers come back year after year.

"We have 32 volunteers that have not missed a year since the tournament has been in Charleston. They have been helping us out for the past 16 years. This truly is a dedicated group of volunteers. Each year I look forward to finding out what has happened in their lives since the last tournament. Watching great tennis is a nice perk we all have in common," Cooper says.

The people who are recruited to help with the tournament come from many different places. Daniel Island certainly provides a large number of volunteers based on the sheer convenience of location. Volunteers also come in various ages.

Daniel Island resident Don Rose may be 82 years old, but he loves the hustle and bustle of the Volvo Car Open tournament. So much so, he hasn't missed a tournament in the 16 years that it has been here on Daniel Island. Most of those years he's spent his volunteer hours within the transportation department. Rose enjoys the different jobs he gets to do every year.



KATHERINE SMITH

JD Sutterlin (left) and Zade Hyatt (right) will be part of the Ball Crew this year at the Volvo Car Open. They have been training for their jobs since February. They enjoy getting up close to the players.

"The variety of duties in the transportation department is enormous. I think the main purpose of the transportation department is to satisfy the needs of the players. We take them whereever they want to go in the Charleston area, whether it's going for passport photos, a visa, or simply shopping, as well as to the practice courts and of course back and forth to the hotels," says Rose.

Another job, easily considered the most important job, is transporting the players to and from the airport. Rose looks forward to seeing the players each year, but notes that not all the rides are 'good' ones.

"The pick-ups are usually easy. The returns are more difficult because the younger players are disappointed when they lose in the first round and have to go on to their next tournament or go home. I call it the 'The Trail of Tears.' I always promise that we will see them next year and to practice," says Rose of transporting the players to and from the airport.

Zack O'Dell, who will be volunteering for the first time this year also in the transportation department, is most looking forward the possibility of interacting with the European players. Having lived in Germany, O'Dell speaks German and also hold a German driver's license.

See VOLUNTEERS on PAGE 33

### More than 500 people volunteer their time at the Volvo Car Open

From VOLUNTEERS on PAGE 32

"I hope to have the chance to converse in German with some of the German players during the tournament. As an American who has lived abroad it is always comforting to be able to speak one's native language in a foreign country," says O'Dell.

An equally important job lies within the Ball Crew department. With training sessions for volunteers beginning in late winter, the ball crew's time commitment starts well before the tournament begins. But the opportunity to be close to the players makes finding volunteers relatively easy.

"Our Ball Crew team has 200 dedi-

cated members that have been practicing since February. They enjoy up close and personal contact with our players," says Cooper.

Because the ball crew utilizes youth volunteers, it has been a great way for local Daniel Island kids to get involved with the tournament.

Zade Hyatt, 10, from Daniel Island, is in his second year volunteering for the tournament. Two years ago he was a ball crew member, then took last year off, and again is on the ball crew this year.

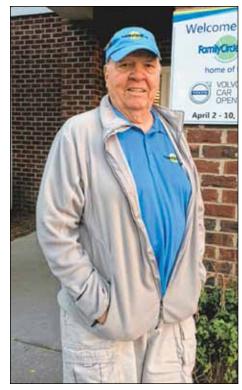
"I like getting to be next to the pro tennis players," says Zade, "And I don't get nervous...I just focus on the things I'm

supposed to do."

Another young ball crew member this year is JD Sutterlin. His experience as a tennis player makes volunteering that much more exciting. When asked what he is looking forward to the most, he says "Watching the players up close and seeing their footwork and movement on the court."

Again, the success of a well-puttogether tournament is the hard work and dedication from many people in many different areas.

"All of our volunteers are vital to the success of the tournament," Cooper says with gratitude!



ATUEDINE CMITH

Don Rose, a veteran volunteer from Daniel Island, has enjoyed transporting players to and from the airport in years past. This year he will be inside the airport to greet players as they exit the plane.

### TICKET OFFICE AND WILL CALL VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!

Friendly, outgoing people who are interested in working with a great group of people near the front gate during the tournament should contact Jo Cooper at jo.cooper@meredith.com for more information.

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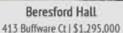
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Daniel Island News

# Fishing style: run and gun



fishing trends

GREG PERALTA

Wind and rain dominated the fishing scene this week. If the sun was shining, it was windy. If the wind was calm, it was raining (a lot). There were even a couple of days when it was windy and raining! So I did not fish a whole lot this week.

When I did fish, it was difficult. Not just because of the weather conditions but because the fish are in transition. While a few large (winter) schools of Redfish remain on the flats, most have broken up into smaller

schools of 10-20 fish. Trout are moving around on a daily basis. This week, most of my Trout catches were in 10 feet of water. Last week, most of the Trout were in 18 feet. The week before they were shallow. Once located, the Trout and Redfish are eating. It just takes a bit of looking to find them.

I expect this pattern to continue for the next few weeks (when the fish settle into their summer homes). Until that time, I recommend a run and gun strategy. Do not stay in a single area. Keep moving and checking new locations with varying depths. When you find the fish, there is a good chance they will be hungry.

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### **Famous Figures**

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### **ACROSS**

- 1 Watery defense
- 5 Weight unit
- 10 Booted
- **14** \_\_\_ mater
- 15 Electrical terminal
- 16 Popular sandwich
- 17 Famous Italian
- 20 Actress Myrna
- 21 Track event
- 22 Poker stakes
- 23 Dowries
- **24** River deposit
- 26 Watery
- 29 Natural resources
- 32 Oriental prince: var.
- 33 TV test film
- 34 Mutineer
- 36 Building beam
- 37 Large couch
- 38 Element
- 39 Conducted
- 40 Silver seeker
- **41** Desire
- 42 Portrays
- 44 Swiss abode
- 45 Pub orders
- 46 Close
- 47 Reject
- 50 Sail support

- 51 Hang down
- 54 Famous
- Frenchwoman
- 58 Plural singular
- 59 Exploits
- 60 Textile machine
- **61** Cut
- 62 Succinct
- 63 Charts

### **DOWN**

- 1 Shopping center
- 2 Bread spread
- 3 Chinese island
- 4 Color
- 5 Proofreading marks
- 6 Mighty mountains
- 7 Square
- 8 Do arithmetic
- 9 Beverage
- 10 Limits
- 11 Search
- 12 Formerly
- 13 Platform
- 18 French love
- 19 Butler
- 23 Active person
- **24**\_\_\_\_ system
- 25 Shackle
- 26 Leave the harbor
- 27 Imprint in the memo-

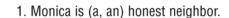
- 28 English novelist
- 29 Basketball teams
- 30 \_\_\_ by combat
- 31 Play tennis
- 33 Capacity units
- 35 Vegetable
- 37 Decorated cubes
- 40 Winnie the Pooh creator
- 41 Agitate violently
- 43 Louisiana county
- 44 Carriage
- 46 Small amounts
- 47 LA's health hazard
- 48 Biblical miracle village
- 49 Miracles
- 50 Hollywood notable
- 51 Greek portico
- 52 At the summit
- 53 Diamonds
- 55 Behind
- 56 Born
- 57 Hardwood



by Patty Gibbons Saunier

### Writing an Article

Articles are little adjectives (the, a and an) that identify nouns in sentences. Choose the correct article to be used in each sentence below.



- 2. Where can I catch (a, an) northbound bus?
- 3. Let's take (a, an) hour for lunch today.
- 4. Why did you wear such (a, an) ugly tie?



u₽ '₽ 3. an 2. 3 ns .t or have initial vowel sounds. Use "a" and "the" before other nouns. Use "an" and "the" (pronounced "thee") before nouns that begin with vowels

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