



Vol. 32, No. 32

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mirim Lee Wins a Stunner in a Playoff at The ANA Inspiration



Mirim Lee, of South Korea, receives the championship trophy after winning the LPGA's ANA Inspiration golf tournament at Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage, Calif., Sunday Sept. 13. (AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)

BY DOUG FERGUSON

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (AP) - Mirim Lee ran toward the water for the winner's leap into

Poppie's Pond, and there was no blue wall to stop her.

How she even got to that Stunner - PAGE 4

Getting Involved with Collegiate Club Golf

Did you know that anyone can play college golf? The National Collegiate Club Golf Association (NCCGA) supports non-varsity golfers at over 400 colleges and universities nationwide.

Getting signed up to play is easy, you can either request to join the team if your school already has one, sign up and play as an individual, or utilize the NCCGA's resources to start a

new club golf team on campus. Club golf is competitive, yet relaxed and fun and scores range anywhere from 65-115.

Club golf is also co-ed and open to all active college students including graduate students. 3 tournaments take place in each region every semester, followed by a National Championship for the top clubs. Get

Club Golf - PAGE 6

47-Year-Old Stewart Cink Rallies to Win Safeway Open

BY MICHAEL WAGAMAN

NAPA, Calif. (AP) — Stewart Cink's long wait is finally over. He doesn't have to worry about being cast as a villain, either, as was the case when Cink outlasted fan favorite Tom Watson to win the 2009 British Open.

Sparked by a strong short game, Cink won the season-opening Safeway Open at 47 years old Sunday for his seventh PGA Tour victory and first since that win at Turnberry 11

Making it more special? Cink won with 23-year-old son Reagan alongside as his caddie, with wife Lisa — in her fifth year of cancer remission — watching from beyond the ropes.

Cink - PAGE 7



Stewart Cink celebrates with the trophy after winning the Safeway Open at Silverado Resort on September 13 in Napa, California. (Sean M. Haffey/Getty Images)

Should You Buy in a Golf Community or Outside It?



BY SHIVANI VORA

When it comes to finding a golf home, prospective buyers have two ways to go: purchasing

in a community with a golf club or outside it and near a golf club, which could be in a community that offers membership to non-

"For decades, golf home buyers bought most communities, Golf Community - PAGE 6

Pinehurst Awarded Four More U.S. Opens

The United States Golf Association, which conducts the U.S. Open, announced on Wednesday that Pinehurst, a North Carolina resort and cradle of American golf, would become the first venue designated as a recurring site for the tournament. The resort's showcase course, known as Pinehurst No. 2, was already scheduled to host the event in 2024 but will now also have the championship in 2029, 2035, 2041 and 2047.

The U.S. Open, one of golf's four major championships, has

courses around the country, with several venerable layouts making regular appearances. Next week, for example, the 2020 U.S. Open will be contested at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y., for the sixth

But as part of the U.S.G.A.'s goal to hold its signature event more frequently at revered, familiar golf courses, the Pinehurst Resort and Country Club has been established as an anchor site. In addition, other U.S.G.A.

Pinehurst - PAGE 5

Dream Homes for Golfers and Wine Lovers

BY NORA WALSH

If your idea of a dream home BY BILL PENNINGTON been played 119 times at golf includes a combination of golf, nature, quality architecture and fine wine, there are master-planned communities around the world offering the best of all

> "Some of the top golf clubs in the world also have some of the finest wine cellars," said Greg Nathan, chief business officer of the National Golf Foundation.

Perhaps the combination shouldn't be a surprise: The British Open's coveted trophy is in the shape of a claret jug after all traditionally used to serve Bor-

Dream Homes - PAGE 11



Toscana Resort Castelfalfi in the Tuscan hills of Italy is a 2.700acre retreat that includes vineyards, olive groves, lakes and woodlands. Homeowners can adopt a row of grape vines or an olive grove to receive personalized bottles of wine or olive oil refined at the on-site organic winery. (Toscana Resort Castelfalfi)



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News, Notes, Quotes & Anecdotes from the Local Golfing Community

WNYPGA Locust Hill Pro-Am Results

Dwayne Randall, PGA Professional at Bartlett Country Club won Low Professional honors at the Locust Hill Country Club Pro-Am on September 13th with a 4 under par 68. Michael O'Connor, PGA, at Kahkwa Club was 2nd with 69. Kirk Stauffer, PGA, at Chautauqua Golf Club was 3rd with 71

The 2 Professional — 3 Amateur Team of Greg Beringer, Oak Hill CC, Tim Falkner, Crag Burn GC, Jim Groark, Charles Hetterich and John Rooney won the 2 Net BB of 5 Pro-Am with a 23 under par score of 121. \blacktriangleright



The 2 Professional — 3 Amateur Team of Greg Beringer, Oak Hill CC, Tim Falkner, Crag Burn GC, Jim Groark, Charles Hetterich and John Rooney.

Scottie Scheffler Withdraws from U.S. **Open After Testing Positive for Coronavirus**

BY RYAN YOUNG

Scottie Scheffler has withdrawn from the U.S. Open this week after testing positive for COVID-19, the USGA announced on Sunday night.

Scheffler is asymptomatic and isolating at home.

"We are sorry to lose a member of the USGA family in this year's U.S. Open field, USGA senior managing director John Bodenhamer said in a statement. "Scottie has had a phenomenal

rookie season and we look forward to welcoming him back to the U.S. Open Championship for many years to come."

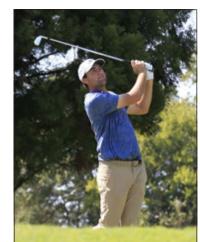
Branden Grace to Replace Scottie Scheffler

Scheffler is just the latest golfer or caddie to have tested positive for the coronavirus since play resumed in June, though is the first to have done so in more than five weeks.

Scheffler is off to a tremendous start to his PGA Tour career. He posted seven top-10 finishes in his rookie season last year, including a third-place finish at both The American Express and Bermuda Championship. He finished T4 at The Northern Trust last month after his historic 59 in the second round, too.

The 24-year-old came in fifth at the Tour Championship last week.

Scheffler will be replaced in the field by Branden Grace. The South African has one win in his PGA Tour career, at the 2016



Scottie Scheffler will not compete at the U.S. Open this week after testing positive for COVID-19. (David J. Griffin/Icon Sportswire/Getty Images)

RBC Heritage, and finished T9 at the Waste Management Phoenix Open last season.

The U.S. Open will kick off on Thursday at Winged Foot Golf Club in New York. It was rescheduled from June due to the coronavirus pandemic. \downarrow

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Assisted Living

South African George Coetzee **Wins Portugal Masters**

VILAMOURA, Portugal (AP) — South African George Coetzee shot a 5-under 66 to win the Portugal Masters by two strokes on Sunday.

Coetzee finished at 16 under par after birdies on two of the last three holes to seal the victory over Englishman Laurie Canter, who also shot a 66.

Tommy Fleetwood (64) ended another shot back after making a late charge with four birdies in his last seven holes, including the final two. The Englishman was tied for third with Swede Joakim Lagergren (65), who also finished strongly with birdies on Nos. 14, 16 and 17.

The 34-year-old Coetzee clinched his fifth European Tour



George Coetzee (AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

title with a bogey-free round that included some key par saves at the Dom Pedro Victoria Golf Course in Vilamoura. He also won last week on the Sunshine Tour.

Coetzee carried a one-shot lead into the final round. He had entered the weekend eight shots behind Julien Guerrier (72), who finished in a tie for eighth, seven shots off the lead. \rightarrow

Golf Is Embracing the 'Dark Sky' Movement



The night sky near the Oasis at Death Valley resort in California. (Xanterra Travel Collection)

BY ADAM H. GRAHAM

Golf has long had a reputation as an environmental hazard: Courses have long required large quantities of water, fertilizer and herbicides needed to maintain verdant greens, making it the sports industry's wolf in sheep's clothing.

But much of that is changing. Over 30 percent of golf courses in the United States are Audubon-certified, which ensures native grasses and habitat for insects and birds. The U.S. Golf Association and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America laid out guidelines in 2017 encouraging all U.S. courses to practice better environmental stewardship by the end of 2020, including deeper commitments to water and energy conservation and pollution prevention.

Golf courses, however, had never been major sources of light pollution. In fact, most greens, seldom lit at night, can help communities understand the importance of darkness. Many residential golf communities are now beginning to limit light pollution as part of the sport's greening process, embracing the "dark sky" movement, and the payoffs go far beyond a better view of the glittering stars above.

"With golf courses averaging 150 acres per 18 holes, they create dark spaces simply by their land mass," said Rand Jerris, the U.S.G.A. senior managing director of public services. "Courses are a way for communities to protect green space and provide proper balance to development."

The idea of preserving dark skies began in the 1970s, prompted by amateur astronomers who could no longer see certain constellations because of an increase in artificial light. The International Dark-Sky Association was founded in Tucson, Ariz., in the 1980s and has since grown into an influential conservation organization with 145 designated Dark Sky locations in 21 countries. Their aim is to reduce light pollution, often by making simple changes like turning exterior lights downward to limit impact on nocturnal wildlife

like migratory birds, bioluminescent insects and sea turtles, and help restore night skies to their natural state.

There are five types of Dark Sky designations, each with its own set of light-emitting criteria: Dark Sky Communities, Parks, Reserves, Sanctuaries and Urban Night Sky Places. Golf courses can be found in three of the five categories: Reserves, Parks and Communities.

About 90 minutes west of San Diego, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park was designated a Dark Sky Park in 2018, and the town of Borrego Springs is a Dark Sky Community. The two work in tandem to reduce lighting and monitor dark-sky quality. But the area is also home to four golf courses, which are typically not lit at night.

Death Valley National Park, designated California's first Dark Sky Reserve in 2008, is home to the challenging 18-hole Furnace Creek Golf Course, located 214 feet below sea level and part of the Oasis at Death Valley resort. While it remains one of the world's largest dark-sky parks and among California's darkest, the lights of Las Vegas, just 120 miles southeast, constantly threaten to pollute its night skies. Furnace Creek focuses on educating visitors and locals alike about dark skies by hosting star parties, led by the National Park Society and the Astronomical Society of Nevada, on its greens. (This fall, they are offering lightless night golf using glow-in-thedark balls.)

Texas is home to 15 official Dark Sky places, including national parks like Big Bend and Dark Sky communities like Dripping Springs, just outside Austin. But Cordillera Ranch, about 32 miles north of San Antonio, is one of many residential golf communities forgoing the International Dark-Sky Association's certification and creating its own dark-sky criteria. The development offers prime turf in Texas Hill Country, with quarter-acre villas, 10-plus-acre estates, valley views, hilltop homes and Guadalupe River frontage. Residents, who include the former P.G.A. champion and dark-sky

enthusiast Jimmy Walker, must significantly lower their lights every night and shield all outdoor lights.

"Cordillera Ranch encompasses 8,700 acres and over 800 residences, so there are plenty of remote vantage points within the community to stargaze," said Charlie Hill, the Cordillera chief operating officer and a resident. "Our family routinely sits on the patio in the evenings with the kids and watches for shooting stars. Those are experiences many kids don't grow up with anymore."

Another community that's dark-sky friendly but not I.D.A.-certified is Heron Lakes at TPC Colorado, an 865-acre golf community that opened in the spring of 2018 and is in the town of Berthoud, about 27 miles northeast of Boulder. The 200-acre, 18-hole course is home to elk, coyotes, foxes and osprey, and it offers stunning views of the southern Rockies' Front Range, where residents can regularly see the Milky Way, red and blue dwarves, and fading stars like Betelgeuse.

The Berthoud Heritage Metro

District takes dark-sky responsibility seriously and adopted many of the I.D.A.'s criteria, including downward-pointing light fixtures on all new buildings, strictly enforced though audits of both architectural plans and completed construction.

"We love living in a community that considers the dark-sky movement to be of value," said Sarah Kimmett-Smith, a resident golfer. "Seeing the NE-OWISE Comet from our home this summer was an incredible experience."

But light pollution is not just preventing us from seeing the Milky Way; it poses real health issues. The dark-sky movement had a major breakthrough in 2010 when the American Medical Association released a report recommending "minimizing and controlling blue-rich environmental lighting by using the lowest emissions possible." Much like the light on our smartphone screens, the report said, white LED light keeps us awake at night and can cause a variety of health problems for both animals and humans.

But the movement's watershed moment came during the coronavirus pandemic. As more people started to work from home, many started to stargaze from their own backyards. For those buying second homes, access to dark skies became a more important draw. This, in turn, led golf community developers to embrace dark skies as a marketing opportunity. A bonus: It also makes residences cheaper to maintain.

"As a result of Covid-19, we're seeing increased interest in folks moving to remote areas," said Daniel Wright, the assistant manager of Springs RV Resort and Golf Course in Borrego Springs, who has been working to preserve dark skies there for 20 years. "Their primary mo-

tivation may be getting out of cities and crowded suburbs, but as they spend more time in our area, we believe they will gain an appreciation for protecting dark skies."

While the dark-sky movement started in the United States, it has picked up real steam internationally in the last decade. Mexico may not yet have an official dark-sky park, but the private sector is forging ahead with residential golf communities like Costa Palmas on Baja's East Cape, home to residential golf communities like Four Seasons Residences Los Cabos and Amanvari Residences, where all "up lighting" is prohibited and only low-voltage lighting with a maximum of 25 watts may be used for all exterior site lighting applications.

"We have the opportunity and responsibility to develop Costa Palmas with a thoughtful approach to its natural setting and for us, that includes the spectacular night sky," said Michael Radovan, managing director of Costa Palmas.

Initially, Europe had been slow to embrace the dark-sky movement, but is starting to make up for lost time. Dark-sky parks there started in Britain and spread to the Continent. Today, Britain leads the tally with 14 official I.D.A. sites; Germany has five, and France has four. Coincidentally, these are Europe's three biggest golf markets.

What's more, in 2019, France adopted the most progressive light pollution policies in the world — imposing lighting curfews, limits in emission, significantly reduced glare and the strictest emissions of blue light, not to mention an outright ban on lasers, skybeams, lit waterways and other light "trespasses." This has been especially welcome in places like Normandy's Alabaster Coast,

Dark Sky – PAGE 12



Stunner

(Continued from Page 1)

point as the ANA Inspiration champion was shocking even to Lee.

She chipped in twice to stay in the hunt for a major title that for the longest time looked as though it would come down to Nelly Korda or Brooke Henderson. And then after a 5-wood that caromed off a temporary blue wall behind the 18th green and kept it from going in the water, Lee chipped for eagle and a 5-under 67.

That got her into a three-way playoff, and Lee ended it quickly.

She hit 5-wood just through the green — no help needed from the wall on that one — chipped to 5 feet and made the birdie putt. Korda missed the 18th fairway for the second time and made par, while Henderson's 7-foot birdie putt in the playoff stayed left of the hole.

"I must be a little crazy for winning," Lee said through a translator.

Asked on television off the 18th green if she was in disbelief, Lee was too busy wiping away tears to answer, so the translator finally offered, "Yes."

So was everyone.

Korda, the 22-year-old American going for her first major, had a two-shot lead with four holes to play and didn't have a good look at birdie the rest of the day and shot 69. Henderson, at 23 already with more LPGA victories (9) than any Canadian, also used the wall as a backstop to set up a birdie on the 18th to rally from a double bogey and join the playoff.

Lee never looked like a winner until she calmly poured in the birdie putt in the playoff, the

first major championship for the 29-year-old South Korean ranked No. 94 in the world.

It was another wild finish in the LPGA major that moved from the first weekend of April to the 100-degree heat of September, and no one was more surprised than Lee.

"I think I had a bit of luck that helped me," she said.

Lee chipped in for birdie on No. 6. Her biggest shot came on the 16th, a pitch-and-run from 90 feet to a back pin that dropped for an unlikely birdie. The only time she lost hope was after her bogey on the par-3 17th, leaving her two shots behind with one hole to play.

"My plan for 18 was just to have a birdie and do what I have to do to keep my head up," she said. "And when the shot went in, I think I was really surprised."

The wall became a big part of the story.

The tournament erected it in place of a hospitality chalet that was not needed this year because there were no spectators or clients allowed as a precaution during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The chalet in normal years has served as a buffer for shots struck too hard, but it served no purpose except for some signage that didn't really stand out. It kept the 18th green from being the island it is, and it played a huge role for Lee and for Henderson in the final hour.

"The fact is, it has been way too artificial," Hall of Famer Judy Rankin said on the Golf Channel broadcast. "There was no real reason for it to be there. There were not spectators, or clients or anything like that. And it has affected play way too much."

Lee practiced that shot earlier in the week. "I definitely thought to utilize the back board," she said of her shot.

Henderson was one shot behind on the 18th, her ball sitting up in the rough, when she hit 5-wood that came out flat and was running hot until it disappeared under the blue bunting. She was given a free drop from the temporary immovable obstruction, chipped to 2 feet for birdie and a 69 and joined the playoff at 15-under 273.

The wall didn't decide the playoff, though.

Lee hit a beautiful fairway metal that led to her up-anddown for birdie. Korda couldn't get close enough with a wedge after having to lay up. Henderson came up just short, and her eagle putt from just off the front of the green ran out an extra 7 feet on the sun-baked, fast greens of Mission Hills.

"You're playing against the best in the world out there, and it's tough to lose that way," Henderson said. "I felt like I missed a lot of putts. ... But Mirim and Nelly played great, and I really fought my way around, so I'm happy.

Henderson lost the lead with

Nelly Korda watches her tee shot on the eighth hole during the final round. (AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)



Brooke M. Henderson watches her tee shot on the ninth hole during the final round. (AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)



Mirim Lee of South Korea, jumps into the water after winning the LPGA's ANA Inspiration golf tournament. (AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)



Mirim Lee, of South Korea, kisses the championship trophy after winning. (AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)

a double bogey on the 13th hole that nearly cost her. But she birdied the 16th and 18th to at least give herself a chance. Korda had a two-shot lead with four to play, but it was her tee shots on the 18th, both into deep rough, that kept her from a reasonable chance at birdie in regulation for the win and in the playoff.

"That's what got me in trouble there," Korda said.

Even with world No. 1 Jin Young Ko and U.S. Women's

Open champion Jeongeun Lee6 staying home because of travel concerns with the coronavirus, Lee made it 10 consecutive years with a South Korea winning a major.

It was her fourth LPGA Tour victory, and first since the Kia Classic three years ago. U.S. Women's Amateur cham-

pion Rose Zhang birdied the 18th for a 72 to tie for 11th. She finished at 8-under 280, setting the tournament record for lowest score by an amateur.

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Charity Tournaments

LPGA Amateurs - Rochester Chapter Raise Money for the Susan B Anthony House



From left to right; Deborah Hughes, President of Susan B Anthony House, along with Kendall Pask, Ellie Guiffrida, Sophie Bradford and Paige Hersh.



From left to right; Stella Slaight, Valerie Goodberlet, Jane Gallagher Silverstein, and Martha Malone.

The Women's 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration Tournament was held on August 23rd.

There were 38 LPGA Amateur members and 44 Non Members who played in the tournament.

One of the scramble teams was a group of 3 high school and 1 college freshman,

Winners of the events included:

Longest drive: Kendall Pask Longest putt: Kathleen McKay Closest to the line: Mary Faggiano

Closest to the pin: Anne Levitt Elizabeth Thorley spoke, as the tournament sponsor, stating how her business is an all women business so it felt right to sponsor the tournament in honor of the 19th amendment. Deborah Hughes, president of the Susan B Anthony House also spoke of Susan B Anthony's character, some of her history as an activist, and her belief that ALL women should have their own purse.

\$1,200 was raised through tee signs, and \$1,400 was raised through 50/50 drawings which included Susan B Anthony memorabilia, a basket from WXXI, and a purse commerative of Susan B Anthony's purse she carried

We were able to raise \$10,020 in total, and were able to present the check to Deborah Hughes in front of the Susan B Anthony Museum.

MON, SEPTEMBER 21

18th Annual Golf Tournament Benefiting Volunteers of AmericaLocust Hill Country Club, \$250

WED, SEPTEMBER 30 25th Annual Salvation Army Tournament Fore! Kids

Irondequoit Country Club

Over the past 24 years, The Salvation Army of Greater Rochester's Golf Tournament Fore! Kids has raised more than \$1 million for children in need in Monroe County. This year's tournament, which will be held on September 30th will mark its Silver Anniversary. Funds raised during the tournament also help provide the basics for a youth in need. Food for a nightly meal, school supplies in the fall or a warm winter coat are all provided thanks to continued support of The Salvation Army's Golf Tournament Fore! Kids. For more information, visit RochesterNY.SalvationArmy.org or contact Robert Barlow, Media and Community Relations Coordinator for The Salvation Army of Greater Rochester by phone at (585) 987-9500 x 2320 or by email at Robert.Barlow@use.SalvationArmy.org

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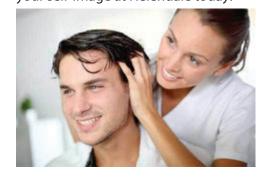


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(Continued from Page 1)

championships, including the U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Senior Open, U.S. Women's Am-

ateur and the U.S. Amateur, will

be played there more frequently. The association also announced that its influential equipment testing facility, a laboratory that determines which golf balls and clubs conform to the rules of golf, will move from the U.S.G.A.'s main headquarters in New Jersey to North Carolina. A museum and a visitor's center will

also be part of the association's

presence at Pinehurst by 2023. The bulk of the U.S.G.A.'s staff will remain at the organization's current New Jersey headquarters.

"There is no better place for the U.S.G.A. to plant new roots," Mike Davis, the U.S.G.A.'s chief executive, said in a statement. He added: "We are taking a bold step forward and forging a long-term commitment that will elevate our championships, foster greater innovation in golf, and ultimately help grow the game."

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Golf Community

(Continued from Page 1)

but since the 2008 recession, the trend has gone the other way," said Jason Becker, the chief executive of Golf Life Navigators, a matchmaking site that helps people find golf memberships and homes based on their criteria.

So should you buy inside the gates or out? Here are some factors to consider before closing the sale.

Home Maintenance Costs

In a community: Buying a home within a golf community generally requires joining its homeowner's association (H.O.A.) which, according to Becker, costs roughly \$1,000-plus per quarter in many communities.

The association usually manage your home's lawn care and pest prevention, and maintain common areas such as the clubhouse and pool. Storm preparedness is also within the purview of an H.O.A., Becker said.

The downsides may include the high price and not having a choice of who services your community's maintenance programs (that is mandated by the H.O.A.), but the benefit is the convenience. "You don't have to think about when you need to have your lawn mowed or care factors because the H.O.A. manages it," Becker said.

Outside a community: When you live in a home outside a golf community, the financial advantage is that you don't have a fixed maintenance cost and can compare prices when choosing your care providers. This could be less expensive in the long run, and you're not forced to fund amenities you don't use. On the other hand, you are responsible for scheduling and paying for lawn maintenance, pool cleaning and other upkeep.

Costs of Being a Member

In a community: In some communities, a home purchase includes membership to the golf club; these communities are considered "bundled" ones and an ideal option for avid but budget-conscious golfers.

More often than not, however, said Michael Timmerman, the chief market intelligence officer for Club Benchmarking, a financial analysis company for member-owned clubs (including ones in communities), home buyers have to pay an additional fee to join the golf club and use facilities such as the gym and pool. "You're looking at an initiation fee plus annual dues that add up to thousands of dollars a year and don't have a choice in picking your club," he said.

Outside a community: Golf enthusiasts may end up saving money by living outside of a community, according to Timmerman, because they can choose from different clubs in the area and join the most appealing and affordable one. They also usually have the option to transfer their membership — a benefit that's sometimes not available to buyers in communities.

Ability to Rent Your Home

Inside a community: Chris Charnas, the founder of Links Capital Advisors, a real-estate broker specializing in sales of golf courses and communities, said that many H.O.A.s don't allow residents to rent out their homes for additional income. "They don't want strangers living within the community, so if you're not living in your home year-round, it's sitting there empty, and you're still paying expenses," he said.

If a community allows rentals, keep in mind that the homeowner and the renter often have to follow strict protocols. For example, the owner may have to fill out a lengthy application to transfer their membership to the renter. Also, renters may only be able to play golf under "guest" policies, which, for example, could state that they're allowed on the course only during certain hours or have to pay a fee for each round.

Outside a community: In a noncommunity golf home, you have the freedom to rent out your property, whether it's for a longer period of several months or for a few days occasionally through a third-party rental site like Airbnb. "If renting your home is part of your master plan, I would suggest finding a home outside the gates of a community," Becker said.

The Noise Factor

In a community: Some noise is a given whether you live in or outside of a community, but living within the gates means that there is less likelihood of late-night partying. However, golf course maintenance vehicles during early morning hours, some of which can be loud, are common. If you're considering a home on or hear a golf hole, make sure to ask those maintenance schedule questions so you don't catch any surprise alarm clocks

Outside a community: A big advantage to living outside the community when considering noise is not having to worry about course maintenance schedules. On the other hand, you are most likely to be near interstates or busy roads.

Safety

In a community: The safety factor of living in a gated environment is one of the biggest drivers for buying a home within a community. "Safety has become even more paramount for golf home buyers since Covid," Timmerman said. Most gated clubs have a front gate security booth where all visitors check in and get a pass before they are allowed to enter. Gated communities also have security guards who regularly patrol the streets.

Outside a community: If you're not living in a community, you're relying on the overall safety of your neighborhood and local law enforcement for security. Many areas also have neighborhood patrol programs in which residents volunteer to drive through the streets to watch for any suspicious activity.

Sense of Community

In a community: Golf Life Navigators, who help golfers find homes and courses, conducted a recent survey of 25,000 people and found that the top reason for home buyers to live in a community is the opportunities it offers to socialize. Becker said that

communities host regular events for residents including barbecues and game and movie nights. "Your social life is created for you, and outside of events, there are more organic opportunities to connect," he said. On the other hand, a possible drawback is that you don't fit in with the club's overall culture.

Outside a community: While home buyers outside of communities can mingle with others through their golf clubs, they tend to miss out on the sense of belonging and close-knit feel that community residents get. "You have to work harder to connect with others as a nonresident," Becker said.

Amenities

In a community: Charnas said that amenities are a top perk of community life. Examples vary by community but could include a pool, green spaces, tennis courts, multiple restaurants, a spa, a gym, hiking and biking trails and a kids' center — all within walking distance of your home. "Communities offer a lot more diversions these days than just golf and attract plenty of nongolfers," he said.

Outside a community: Amenities are more limited for a noncommunity home. "The neighborhood your house is in may have a playground or park at best," Charnas said. On the other hand, if you're a resident member at a community club, you may be able to access its amenities. A word of caution: before joining a community's club, be sure to understand your financial commitment as a nonresident member; you could still be on the hook for any capital contributions.

Architectural Design

In a community: Generally, to keep the look of properties consistent, golf communities have homes that are built in one or a handful of architectural styles, leaving buyers with limited options for the exterior look of their home. If your home's architecture is more important to you than the golf club, Becker suggested finding a property to suit your tastes first and then consider the club.

Outside a community: When you don't live in a community, you have the freedom to choose your home's architecture. But you are also at the mercy of your neighbors and their design preferences; a neighborhood with too many varying styles has the potential to lower the market value of your home.

Ability to Sell Your Home and Leave the Club

In a community: In the event you want to leave the club, the process isn't always hassle-free and can be costly. You're likely to lose your initiation fee as a nonequity member but may have to keep paying annual dues until you've been replaced by a new member if you have an equity position.

When selling your home, most communities have a residential real estate broker or expert who can help sell your property, but keep in mind that the financial state of a club has a big impact on property values, according to Timmerman and Becker.

Outside a community: A benefit of living outside of a golf community is avoiding any potential threats of depreciation of a golf community home. While you take a financial risk wherever you buy, the risk may be greater buying a home in a club community that could have money struggles in the future. However, whether you live in a club community or not, resigning your membership can be just as pricey.

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Club Golf



(Continued from Page 1) involved with club golf today!

How the NCCGA is helping save college golf this fall. For golfers that have unfortunately seen their season disappear or postponed, the NCCGA has stepped in to provide playing opportunities to help out varsity athletes. The core mission of the NCCGA is

to ensure any college-aged golfer can play golf. Typically this means at the non-varsity level, but given the circumstances in our world, college-aged golfers, no matter their skill level, need more playing opportunities and tournaments this fall.

How I started an NCCGA club golf team. Zach Van

Dorn, an NCCGA Student Advisory Group member, gives a student's perspective on how to start a club golf team on campus. He highlights working with campus recreation to receive funding and how to recruit players around campus.

How to start playing collegiate club golf. Outlines the possible ways to get involved with club golf. You can start your own club, join an existing club, or compete as an individual. Students can always contact the NCCGA staff for assistance as well.

What to expect at an NCCGA club golf tournament. The tournament experience for club golf is laid back, but also competitive. Players can expect tee gifts at every tournament and will meet students from other schools.

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Cink



Stewart Cink reacts after nearly making a birdie putt on the first green during the final round. (AP $Photo/Eric\ Risberg)$



Harry Higgs reads the sixth green during the final round. (AP Photo/Eric Risberg)



Brian Stuard follows his shot out of a bunker up to the second green during the final round. (AP Photo/Eric Risberg)

(Continued from Page 1)

"I definitely had a lot of emotions out there today," Cink said. "I just was overcome at a few times with a feeling of gratitude and just feeling like how fortunate I am to be in the position that I'm in. It all just kind of poured together into feeling like, "Wow, this is really special.""

Cink closed with a 7-under 65 at Silverado Resort — rebounding from a bogey on the 17th with a birdie on the 18th — for a two-stroke victory over Harry Higgs.

Cink is the oldest PGA Tour winner since Phil Mickelson at 48 at Pebble Beach in February 2019. Cink's last victory came at the expense of then-59-year-old Watson at Turnberry, with Cink winning a four-hole playoff.

That was somewhat of an

awkward win because many fans were pulling for Watson, relegating Cink to basically a supporting role.

"I always felt like Tom deserved every bit of the accolades he got from his performance that week," Cink said. "People ask me this all the time, I feel like I won the Open Championship that year. I don't feel like I took it out of Tom's hands or I disappointed the world. I don't mind sharing the spotlight with him for that. In the end I got the Claret Jug."

This time the spotlight was all Cink's, sort of.

Reagan Cink convinced his father to let him caddie this week, and it wasn't just ceremonial, either. Stewart Cink noted that his son gave him sage advice throughout the week, particularly as the two were walking off the second hole in the final

"He said, 'Dad you know what, your tangibles are really, really good right now; your club, your ball, your putting. Let's just take care of the intangibles today.' He made a great point," Cink said. "To do it with Reagan on the bag, his fourth time caddying, was a 25 cherries on the top."

Cink did it the old fashioned way Sunday, with a short game that repeatedly put him in great shape on the greens. He one-putted 10 times, scrambled for pars after driving into the sand twice and had eight birdies to finish at 21-under 267.

Higgs shot a 68.

"I grew up in Kansas City and know Tom Watson well, so Stewart Cink is enemy No. 1 for Kansas City golf," Higgs joked. "All throughout today chasing him, I was like, 'I cannot let Stewart Cink beat another Kansas City golfer.' But now that it's over with, I'm thrilled for him. He's a great person."

Doc Redman closed with a 62 — matching the lowest round of the tournament — to tie with Brian Stuard (70), Chez Reavie (66) and Kevin Streelman (67) at 18 under.

Stuard, Cameron Percy, and James Hahn entered the day tied for the lead.

Percy (74) was done when he went double bogey, double bogey, bogey over a three-hole stretch on the front nine. Hahn (72) bogeyed three of the first six holes and couldn't recover. Stuard was 1 over through eight and chased the leaders the rest of the afternoon.

Cink's bogey on the par-4, 362-yard 17th was only his second of the week and trimmed his lead to one stroke after Higgs eagled the par-5 16th to get to 19 under.

After hitting his second shot on the par-5 18th into the rough behind the green, Cink chipped to 3 feet to set up final birdie, then waited for the final three groups to finish.

"It's been a while since I really played well for four rounds," Cink said. "Even here the second round I was not exactly outstanding, but I really played great over the weekend. I had a lot of good sort of vibes. It just felt like the right place for me to be up near the top of the leaderboard."

Higgs missed a 10-foot birdie putt on 17, then parred 18, a hole where he made an albatross Friday.

Redman, who began the day eight strokes behind the leaders, closed with six consecutive birdies to take a two-stroke lead. The 22-year-old stayed on top for about two hours until Cink's final push.

"The last few holes are pretty easy and I just got hot," Redman said. "It happens, so it was awesome."





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GOLF opinion & comment

Live on a Golf Course? Don't Forget to Duck

BY PAUL SULLIVAN

Quaker Ridge Golf Club is a secluded private club in Scarsdale, N.Y. It was designed by A.W. Tillinghast, the architect of the neighboring Winged Foot Golf Club, which hosts this year's United States Open Championship.

Golfers who know great courses debate whether Quaker Ridge, which opened in 1916, seven years before its better-known cousin, is the superior course. But one area that sets Quaker Ridge apart is its second hole. A slight dogleg right with out of bounds on the right, it's ranked by course raters as the fifth-toughest hole on the course.

But it may rank first in the metropolitan region for angry, litigious neighbors who don't want balls hitting their property. The house on the right, where poorly struck shots have landed, has been the subject of litigation and mitigation for about 10 years.

The house is now hidden behind gigantic, mature trees moved there from other parts of the course after the owner sued. They serve to barricade the house, as does a net the club had installed. (The owner is not a member.)

Still, balls fly into the yard. So now, to keep better track of the balls, players are handed an oddly numbered ball — 21, 55, 73 — and the number is recorded in a ledger by a marshal. When the hole is done, players put the numbered balls in a bin on the third tee and resume using their own ball.



James Wiant at Spanish Wells Country Club in Bonita Springs, Fla., where he also lives, early this month. (Eve Edelheit for The New York Times)

To some who live on courses, balls screaming into the begonias are the cost of living there. Others may not see it that way. Even some golfers who prize living on a course can become irritated when an errant shot causes damage. One way to avoid the problem is to consider the location of the property carefully.

When Jane Edwards and Lou Neudorff moved from New York to the Bay Creek Resort & Club in Cape Charles, Va., they identified some home sites with obvious problems.

"One of the lots we looked at was 50 yards from the tee box, to the right, with no trees in front of it," Mr. Neudorff said. "I said, we can't buy this lot, I know what

will happen."

Golf is one area in the United States that has boomed economically during the pandemic, with people working from home instead of commuting.

In June, almost eight million more rounds were played than in the previous June, a 13.9 percent increase, according to the National Golf Foundation. In golf-focused states, where living on a course is highly desirable, those rounds increased even more, the foundation found: Arizona was up 29 percent, Florida up 25 percent, Georgia up 24 percent and Texas up 23 percent.

Alas, frequency of play is not correlated with accuracy of shots.

While the foundation does not track errant shots, it does track the level of interest. That, too, has increased, with some 15 million people who had never played golf saying they were more interested in playing. And some of those novices could reasonably be linked to errant shots.

James Wiant, 65, who lives at Spanish Wells Country Club in Bonita Springs, Fla., did not take up golf until he retired several years ago from Tim Hortons, the Canadian coffee and doughnut company. Mr. Wiant said he was an avid, if occasionally errant, golfer.

He's had run-ins. On Christmas morning a few years ago, Mr. Wiant said, he was rooting around in someone's plantings for his ball. From inside, he heard a man yelling at him and becoming incensed as he approached the door. By the time the owner reached the door he was cursing like a sailor.

"I look up and see this guy coming through the door," Mr. Wiant said. "He's probably 89 years old and has a walker he's pushing in front of him. I got my ball and ran away, saying Merry Christmas."

But his most enduring memory is hitting not one, but two, neon-colored golf balls onto the roof of a house on the course. They clattered around and got stuck where the roof met the metal supports of the screened-in pool.

"All of my friends made fun of me," Mr. Wiant said. "Right after Hurricane Irma I went by to see if they were blown away. I

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The 19th Hole... News, Notes & Quotes From the World of Golf

East Lake Success Propels Xander Schauffele into OWGR Top Ten



Xander Schauffele

BY WILL GRAY

Xander Schauffele finished second at the Tour Championship, but the Official World Golf Ranking rewarded him like a winner.

Schauffele tied for second at East Lake with Justin Thomas, three shots behind FedExCup champ and world No. 1 Dustin Johnson. But Schauffele began the week seven shots back because of the tournament's staggered start, meaning he actually beat Johnson by four shots across 72 holes. In fact, his 15-under total was three shots better than the nearest player (Scottie Scheffler) in terms of four-round score at East Lake.

While the PGA Tour gave the Tour Championship title (and official victory) to Johnson after factoring in the starting scores, OWGR officials awarded points based solely off the 72-hole score. That means Schauffele received the 58 points that would have gone to the tournament winner, a haul that helped him move from No. 11 to No. 7 in the rankings.

Xander Schauffele had the lowest four-round total, but finished co-runner-up

Johnson finished T-3 on the 72-hole leaderboard, and the 20.3 points he received as a result were more than enough to keep him in the No. 1 spot. The top six players did not change after the season finale, with Johnson followed by Jon Rahm, Thomas, Rory McIlroy, Collin Morikawa, Webb Simpson and Schauffele. Brooks Koepka fell one spot to No. 8, with Bryson DeChambeau and Patrick Reed rounding out the latest top 10.

Other notable moves this week included Scheffler jumping from No. 36 to No. 29 with what the OWGR viewed as a runner-up performance, while Abraham Ancer went from 26th to 22nd and Harris English rose from 51st to 45th. In Europe, a sec-

ond straight top-3 finish moved former world No. 1 Martin Kaymer back into the top 100, as Kaymer jumped from No. 123 to No. 88 after a runner-up result at Valderrama.

Absent from the Tour Championship for the second straight year, Tiger Woods fell two spots to No. 20 in the latest rankings.

©Golf Channel

New Putting Grip Among Changes for Lexi Thompson (70) at ANA



Lexi Thompson

BY RYAN LAVNER

Lexi Thompson is switching things up during the heart of the LPGA's new major season.

Thompson said she ditched the claw putting grip at last month's AIG Women's Open and continued to use a more conventional grip with a narrow stance this week at the ANA Inspiration. She also put a new putter in play.

"I didn't play so great at the British, but I putted well," said Thompson, who missed the cut at Royal Troon after rounds of 78-75. "It's something I've been working on with the few weeks off and just trying to get more comfortable over the putter. It's helped out a lot."

Last summer, Thompson went to the claw putting grip and enjoyed a stretch of tournaments in which she finished second, first and second. But the success, she said, "fizzled out" and she ranked 135th on tour in putting average. This season, in limited action, she ranks 143rd.

"A few changes out there, but it's for the better," she said after a 2-under 70 at the ANA Inspiration, two shots back of the early starters.

In addition to the changes on the greens, Thompson also has

a new caddie on the bag (veteran John Killeen) and has returned to her former swing coach, Jim Mc-Lean, according to Golf Channel on-course reporter Jerry Foltz.

In three events since the LPGA restarted, Thompson has finished no better than a tie for 16th. She has slipped to 12th in the Rolex Rankings.

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Golf Community Mourns the Passing of Trailblazing Coach Dr. Catana Starks

Dr. Catana Starks, who made history in 1986 at Tennessee State when she became the first Black woman to coach a men's NCAA Division I golf team, died Sunday in Nashville. She was 75.

"The PGA of America mourns the passing of Catana Starks, a college golf coaching pioneer who broke down barriers and lived a life of inclusion," PGA of America President Suzy Whaley said. "As the first Black woman to lead a Division I men's collegiate golf team, Catana steered

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GOLF business

PGA of America Inks Extension with Michelob ULTRA as Official Beer of the PGA Championship

The PGA of America today extended its agreement with Michelob ULTRA, which will remain the "Official Beer" of the PGA Championship through 2023.

The agreement began with the 2020 PGA Championship, won on Aug. 9 by 23 year-old Collin Morikawa, who emerged from a tight and talent-heavy leaderboard to claim the first major championship of his young career.

Michelob ULTRA was previously announced as the "Official Beer" of the 2018 and '19 PGA Championships, as well as the 43rd Ryder Cup, which will be played Sept. 21-26, 2021, at Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wisconsin.

"We're elated to extend this partnership and build even more positive momentum in the coming years," said PGA of America Senior Director of Partnerships Luke Reissman. "There is a high degree of positive energy and spirit associated with our relationship with Michelob ULTRA. We share a motivation to improve year over year by reaching diverse audiences who have a passion for sports and wellness."

"Beyond partnering with an iconic brand like Anheuser-Busch, we look forward to collaborating with the Michelob ULTRA team to create on-course activations which will enhance the experiences in our Spectator and Corporate venues," added John Handley, PGA of America Director of Championship Sales & Marketing.

Michelob ULTRA will deliver cornerstone onsite activations that will be interactive for spectators and feature distinct hospitality-focused themes. Michelob ULTRA will also implement various



in-market, social and digital elements built in/around the Championship.

"Golf is a passion for many Michelob ULTRA drinkers, so we've seen firsthand the joy that the sport brings to both players and fans, on and off the course," said Ricardo Marques, Vice President of Michelob ULTRA. "Nothing excites us more than unlocking opportunities to engage golf-lovers in new, fun and innovative ways, so we look forward to extending our role as the Official Beer of the PGA Championship."

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A Message from Joseph F. Beditz

The big question in March and April was whether golf courses and retail would reopen and remain open. In May

and June, we wondered how quickly and strongly the golf economy would bounce back from spring losses. Then, in July and August, our curiosity turned towards understanding how golfers were behaving differently in the new normal, and which consumer groups were contributing to the summer spikes in play and spend.

Now, the big unknown seems to be the extent to which we might retain new golfers and sustain increased levels of play when COVID is finally in the rearview. That's of course a longer-term question, but we can certainly speculate based on past and current knowledge.

Let's first recognize how we got to this point. There's no question the leading driver of golf's nationwide surge is less resource competition — fewer commitments, fewer trips, fewer available activ-

ities, and fewer ways to spend disposable income. There've been other transient factors too, like favorable weather, extended shutdowns at golf entertainment venues, and perhaps even a pandemic-induced need for mental and physical escape.

But nothing about the past few months seems structurally different for golf, whether with the product itself, the service that supports it, or the overall user experience... unless you count extended tee time intervals, which for a time seemed to produce faster, smoother and more enjoyable rounds. Either way, we weren't suddenly marketing ourselves differently, onboarding new players differently, or managing customer relationships differently. (In fact, remote check-in procedures may have made it more impersonal.) Which is to say we should expect a similar churn rate as before, because nothing changes if nothing changes.

The ability to retain customers has been golf's Achilles heel for some time now. In the past five years alone we've "welcomed" more than 12 million people to the traditional game, and yet our 'sea level' has risen by only 200,000, give or take. It's almost inexplicable, and signals a serious issue with the experience and/or perceived value among new customers.

We can certainly hope that the pandemic reorients consumers — making them appreciate open space, fresh air and less crowded activities than before. But those are probably fleeting effects.

Perhaps the one thing that may be **Golf Business** - PAGE 10



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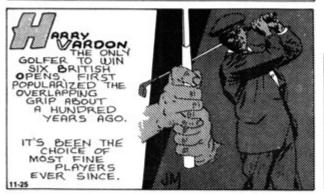
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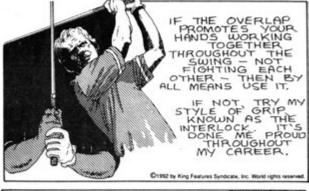
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GOLF business CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

different these days, and should contribute positively to golf's retention rate, is the fact that more and more beginners are coming in with off-course experiences under their belts — specifically golf entertainment — which means more competence and

confidence. Our data shows that beginners who've played at a golf entertainment venue are 20% more likely to say they'll stick around, barring health or financial setbacks.

This message isn't meant to be a tub of ice water dumped over the hopes of those currently celebrating golf's surge, but it is a 'bucket challenge' of sorts. If it motivates some to fight the natural tendency to relax and enjoy the extra business, and instead strive to identify our newcomers and make an

extra-large effort to ensure that their experience is sticky... then it was worth the risk of dampening some of the enthusiasm out there right now. Encouragingly, we've had recent dialogues with operators about this very topic (experience and retention), and can sense a different level of determination.

See you in a couple of weeks.

– Joe

Joseph F. Beditz, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive
Officer, National Golf
Foundation

The 19th Hole... continued from

Tennessee State to capture the 2011 Minority Collegiate Golf Championship (now the PGA WORKS Collegiate Championship) in record-breaking fashion.

"She was one who said, 'Why not?' She coached people of all socio-economic backgrounds and recruited worldwide. Catana opened new doors to the game, and made it welcoming to all. Her passion and love for collegiate golf, forever enshrined in the movie, 'From the Rough', captured her spirit and love for the next generation. From coaching Tiger Woods' former coach, Sean Foley, to inspiring individuals of all races in their pursuit of a golf career, Catana Starks' contribution to the game

is immeasurable."

Starks' trailblazing story was documented in the film "From The Rough" in 2011.

In 2005 Starks led TSU to the National Minority Golf Championship. The team shot a record-setting 840 as a unit. It was Starks' final year as the coach.

In 2014, Starks was inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, and, in 2019, TSU honored Starks by recognizing her achievements during a ceremony on campus.

Starks, a Mobile, Alabama native, was a TSU alumnus and classmate of Olympic track great Wilma Rudolph.

In 1986, when TSU joined the Ohio Valley Conference former

athletics director Bill Thomas dropped the school's swimming program and added men's golf.

Starks was the school's swim team coach at the time. The swim team was not sanctioned by the NCAA.

Starks, who earned her doctorate degree during her time as coach, also served as head of TSU's Human Performance and Sports Sciences department.

During her time as TSU's golf coach, Starks guided several successful players including Canadian Sean Foley, who went on to become Tigers Woods' swing coach, Sam Puryear, who became the first Black men's head

golf coach in a major conference (Michigan State, 2008) and is now the coach at Howard, and Robert Dinwiddie, who was an All-American at TSU and went on to become a member of the European Tour.

©PGA



(TSUTigers.com)

GOLFopinion & comment a

thought they'd be gone for sure. But they survived."

He had a well-rehearsed alibi: "I've never met the owner of the house, and I refuse to. If anyone asks if it was me, I'll deny it. I'll say, who plays neon golf balls?"

Golfers would prefer to be in the fairway, not on someone's porch. But errant shots can come from any direction.

The right side of any course is a reliable danger zone, with beginner and intermediate golfers lazily hitting balls off to the right. It's the high slice that rises and keeps going right until it falls way

off line. Beware 150 to 200 yards from the tee box. But someone who buys a house, say, 100 yards from the tee box on the left could also be in danger: This is the preserve of the duck hook.

If there is amused bafflement at the sight of a slice rising high above the trees and landing where the golfer will never see it again, the duck hook engenders no such mirth. It's a hard-racing, soul-crushing shot often followed by expletives.

The slice may splash harmlessly into a pool or come to rest in a yard. But the duck hook is a

fiercer beast, with its low, hard trajectory that can tear through screens and bruise the legs and backsides of a homeowner in the garden

John Gracik, a retired insurance adjuster who lives 100 yards from the tee on the 16th hole at The Club at Eaglebrooke in Lakeland, Fla., thought he was safe on the left. But he has had broken windows, a damaged pool screen and dozens of golf balls to prove that hooks happen, too.

"It gets kind of expensive," Mr. Gracik, 68, said. "But there's not much you can do about it. We kind of accept it."

Ms. Edwards and Mr. Neudorff of Cape Charles, Fla., eventually fell in love with a lot at Bay Creek about 140 to 200 yards from a set of tee boxes. They took comfort in the stand of trees between their lot and the cart path, but their builder knew better. "He was a golfer, and he reassured me that he would site our house on our lot to alleviate fears of golf balls whizzing in," Ms. Edwards said.

He accomplished this by building the house at the very front of their property line, which left a larger backyard. "We have berms and trees that give us privacy," she said, "and beds that give those errant golf balls more space. He understood the situation."

Still, Ms. Edwards said she found balls in her flower pots, while Mr. Neudorff collects at least a half a dozen new balls from his yard each week.

Buying an existing house can be trickier because any half-savvy



Mr. Wiant said his shots have landed in the yards of neighbors' homes along the course or, less commonly, on a roof. (Eve Edelheit for The New York Times)

never occurred to him that he was buying in the line of fire.

"The real estate people are pretty smart," he said. "We walked in the front door and looked straight through, out the back, and you could see the pool, the lake and the trees on the other side. We sort of got blinded because it was such a pretty view."

real estate agent may not point

out the flaws. Mr. Gracik said it

Mr. Wiant, the occasional house hitter, lives in a house behind a par-3 hole and has never been hit by an errant shot.

"The good golfers will not hit my house because they're using irons," he said. "The bad golfers can't make it over the water in front of the green, and if they can't make it over the water they can't hit my house."

Beyond choosing a location carefully, homeowners have little recourse if balls come flying into their yards. In many states, there's an assumption of risk in living there.

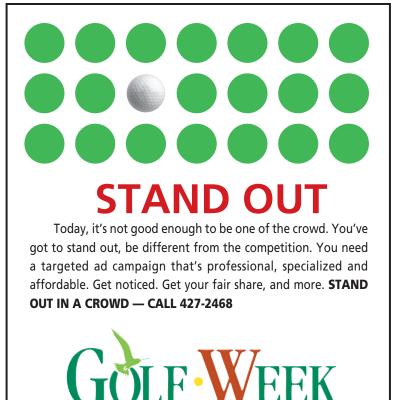
Like many things in the good life, a bit of perspective can go a long way. Ms. Edwards said her gardening was mostly a safe avocation. But there was that time a man hit a shot close to where she was tending her flowers.

"I heard a golf cart approach and heard a guy get out," she said. "Then I heard this long strain of horrible language. He saw me and was so embarrassed. He turned to me and said, 'Oh, ma'am, I'm so sorry. You have a beautiful garden.'"

It all pales in comparison to one of Mr. Gracik's neighbors in Lakeland, who came home to find an alligator in his pool. It had crawled out of a pond on the course, walked through the screen and slid from the lanai into the water.

"That's a little scary," Mr. Gracik said. "I've only had one golf ball in my pool in seven years."

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Dream Homes

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deaux wine in the 19th century. And top golfers like Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Ernie Els, David Frost and Luke Donald all have their own wine labels, said Paul T. Stringer, president of Nicklaus Design.

Here is a selection of lifestyle-driven communities tailored to bons vivants looking for world-class chipping and sipping in breathtaking settings.

Italy

Set in the Tuscan hills where the Medici family used to holiday, Toscana Resort Castelfalfi offers a taste of la dolce vita. The fertile 2,700-acre retreat is a patchwork of vineyards, olive groves, lakes and woodlands centered on a medieval village of stone structures outfitted with modern amenities.

"Unlike other golf-driven communities, this doesn't have a suburban feel," said Marco Boni, a homeowner who lives in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates.

Six sites for villas overlooking the golf course start at 1.7 million euros (about \$2 million) for a 2,580-square-foot property. New constructions (a rarity in Tuscany) must adhere to strict green-building codes. For those looking for a fixer-upper, 14 additional farmhouse ruins, some dating to the 15th century, are scattered throughout the property and are available for restoration. Refurbishment (conducted through the resort) costs about €740 per square foot. (Homeowners' resort fees start at €4,000 per year.)

Two hillside golf courses span about 32,000 square feet across varied terrain. Designed by Wilfried Moroder and Rainer Preissmann, the 18-hole Mountain Course tests veteran golfers while the nine-hole Lake Course caters to beginners.

"If I didn't play golf, I'd walk the course every day because the views are so visually arresting," said Tim Wade, a homeowner who lives in London.

To enjoy the literal fruits of Tuscany, homeowners can adopt a row of grape vines or an olive grove to receive personalized bottles of wine or extra-virgin olive oil refined at the on-site organic winery. Homeowners also have exclusive access to wine tours, tastings and discounts on the resort's various wine labels.

South Africa

The 2,265-acre Val de Vie estate is in the heart of the vineyard-lined Paarl-Franschhoek Valley in South Africa's Western Cape.

Pearl Valley, the residential development's 18-hole golf course, was designed by Jack Nicklaus and has been consistently ranked a top course by *Golf Digest* magazine.

"It's such a memorable course because the layout is challenging and the mountain backdrops are magnificent," said Hein Koegelenberg, a resident of Val de Vie



Toscana Resort Castelfalfi is centered on a medieval village of stone structures. (Toscana Resort Castelfalfi)



The Val de Vie estate is a residential development in the Paarl-Franschhoek Valley in the country's Western Cape wine region. The estate has an 18-hole golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus. (Val de Vie)



The houses in Val de Vie feature French Provençal or Cape Vernacular styles with prices ranging from \$250,000 for an entry-level 1,990-square-foot home to \$5 million for a 15,000-square-foot house. (Val de Vie)



Jack's Point is a 3,138-acre lakeside development at the base of the Remarkables mountain range. The development is near the wine-growing region of Gibbston. (Touch of Spice)

and owner of the on-site winery, L'Huguenot Cellar, which produces the estate's five signature wines. Residents can also create their own wine blends at the winery; prices start at \$700 per barrel.

While a barrel of wine will go a long way toward pleasing adults, Val de Vie also places a huge focus on family entertainment, said Mr. Koegelenberg, citing a list of kid-friendly facilities, including junior golf, tennis and equestrian academies, cricket, soccer, batting cages, polo fields, a wildlife camp and 26 miles of trails.

About 80 of the 1,700 lots are currently available. Homes feature French Provençal or Cape Vernacular styles with prices ranging from \$250,000 for an entry-level 1,990-square-foot house to \$5 million for a 15,000-square-foot home. Construction rates are about \$100 per square foot, and monthly fees start at \$225.

New Zealand

Near Queenstown on New Zealand's South Island is Jack's Point, a 3,138-acre lakeside development at the base of the Remarkables mountain range.

Thirteen hundred lots ranging from 3,230 square feet to more than 12 acres have prices from 350,000 to 3 million New Zealand dollars (about \$231,000 to \$2 million), with construction costs starting at about 325 New Zealand dollars per square foot. (Homeowners' association fees start at 3,500 New Zealand dollars per year.)

Thirty-six home sites with alpine and lake views are in The Preserve, a neighborhood fringing the 18-hole golf course designed by the project's developer, John Darby.

"Our house is low-slung and built with local schist stone, darkstained timber and a flat roof covered with pebbles to blend into the natural landscape," said Jude Roberts, a full-time resident whose sun-drenched four-bedroom home overlooks the vista.

The developer said residents were attracted to Jack's Point for its four distinct seasons and recreational facilities, which include tennis, water sports, 15.5 miles of trails, local golf courses and ski resorts.

Oenophiles can taste the terroir at Gibbston, a nearby wine-growing region famous for its pinot noir and home to dozens of wineries and wine cellars.

Argentina

Algodon Wine Estates in San Rafael, Mendoza, has luxury vineyard living on a 4,138-acre estate planted with heritage vines, olive groves and fruit orchards at the foot of the Sierra Pintada mountains.

The region's sunny climate is ideal for producing the estate's signature bonarda and malbec wines, as well as playing its nine-hole golf course designed by Ricardo Jurado Jr., the grandson of the Argentine

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Miguel Angel Jimenez Wins Champions Event In South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Miguel Angel Jimenez completed a wire-to-wire victory Sunday in the Sanford International, the PGA Tour Champions' first event with fans since returning from a break for the coronavirus pandemic.

Jimenez closed with a 5-under 65 at Minehaha Country Club to beat Steve Flesch by a stroke. The 56-year-old Spanish star won for the second time this season and 10th on the 50-and -over tour.

Tied for the second-round lead with Steve Stricker, Jimenez eagled the par-5 12th for the second time in three days and played the four par-5 holes in 4 under with birdies on Nos. 4 and 16. He parred the final two holes to finish at 14-under 196.

Flesch eagled the 16th in a 63. Stricker shot a 67 to tie for third with Bernhard Langer (65) at 12 under. Stricker won the inaugural event in 2018, then skipped his title defense last year. He was only player at Minehaha set to play next week in the U.S. Open at Winged Foot

Scott Parel was 11 under after a 62. Jerry Kelly (66) and David Toms (67) followed at 10 under.

Fred Couples, a stroke back entering the round, followed a second-round 64 with a 72 to fall into a tie for 25th at 6 under.

Country singer Colt Ford was last in the 81-man field in PGA Tour Champions debut. Playing on a sponsor exemption, he shot 74-78-72 to finish at 14 over — a stroke better than fellow sponsor exemption Gary Nicklaus.

Dark Sky

(Continued from Page 3)

home to 40 golf courses that are part of an emerald necklace preserving the region's cultural and natural landscapes.

One link of the necklace is the famed Golf d'Etretat course, which opened in 1908 on a clifftop that inspired paintings by Monet, Delacroix, Manet and Corot. Another is Terre Blanche, an exclusive residential golf community in Provence that enacted strict new lighting ordinances in early 2020, retrofitting outdoor path lighting by adding partial blackout screens to lamps and replacing sodium bulbs with oriented flux bulbs.

Asia, too, is experiencing dark-sky mania, with new I.D.A. places in South Korea, Japan and Taiwan, the continent's big-

reduce their own light pollution. Some communities are claiming dark-sky compliance without certification, while others are using dark skies solely as a marketing tool — a reminder that certification is important.

"Golf courses have the ability to respect the natural nighttime environment or increase light pollution," said Adam Dalton, the I.D.A.'s Dark Sky Places program manager. "By using lighting fixtures which have a clear purpose, are aimed only where needed, minimize bluelight emissions, and make use of motion sensors, timers and dimmers, they can serve as exemplary cases for responsible outdoor lighting."

One selling point for courses and residences may simply be to



A star-watching gathering at the Oasis at Death Valley. (Death Valley National Park)

gest golf markets. Shizuoka Prefecture in Japan is home to 88 golf courses, as well as the town of Kawanehon, known for its coal-black skies, and the Nakakawane Mitsuboshi Astronomical Observatory. On the other end of the prefecture is Ashinoko Resort Villa, where sweeping views of Mount Fuji can be seen from the greens and the stars sparkle.

There's still a lot of work to be done to help golf communities

emphasize a fundamental aspect of golf: its natural surroundings.

"Around the world, golf is leading important conversations in the relationship between recreational outdoor sports and the environment," said Mr. Jerris of the U.S. Golf Association. "Many are attracted to golf because of its connection to nature, and we have a responsibility to ensure that connection endures."

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Dream Homes



Algodon Wine Estates in San Rafael, Mendoza, is a 4,138-acre estate planted with heritage vines, olive groves and fruit orchards at the foot of the Sierra Pintada mountains. (Fernando Arcuri)



Residents of the Predator Ridge community in British Columbia don't have to drive more than 15 minutes to reach the wineries surrounding the Okanagan Valley wine region. $(Predator\ Ridge)$

(Continued from Page 11) golf legend José Jurado.

More than 100 vineyard lots, some showcasing Spanish Revival homes, overlook the golf course. (Another nine holes with adjacent lots are in the works.) Home sites range from 21,527 square feet (\$105,000) to almost seven acres (\$785,000), with construction costs around \$80 per square foot. Homeowners' association fees run about \$350 per month.

"I quickly realized I could get much more for my money in Mendoza compared to Napa, Tuscany or Provence," said John Raffaeli, a homeowner and wine entrepreneur.

At the on-site winery, homeowners can create their own private-label in collaboration with the winemaker Mauro Nosenzo. Rates start at \$2,900 and include the cost of labor, a new French-oak barrel and about 290 bottles of wine.

Further north in the province of Salta is La Estancia de Cafayate, a 1,360-acre residential vineyard estate in the Calchaqui Valley, a premier wine region

known for its Torrontes.

The 400-lot development, featuring an 18-hole Bob Cupp-designed golf course, will debut 17 vineyard homes with rustic touches like terra-cotta roofs, wrought iron and verandas with typical Argentine grills. Prices start at \$290,000 plus homeowner association fees.

"Cafayate is a quaint boutique-winery town — think Napa 50 years ago," said David Galland, a homeowner and minority partner in La Estancia de Cafayate.

Canada

Predator Ridge, a 1,200-acre residential community featuring over 700 homes and fitness and wellness amenities in the lush Okanagan countryside of British Columbia, has attracted Canadians from across the country — in part because of its amenities, Rob Davidson, Predator Ridge's vice president of product and planning, said.

"People buy our community before they buy a home," Mr. Davidson said. "We have over a thousand community events every year that residents can participate in, from fitness classes to wine-pairing dinners, cooking classes and trail walks."

Predator Ridge has 36 holes of championship golf, including the par-72 Ridge course designed by Doug Carrick that stretches 7,000 yards across rolling hills. The similarly sized Predator course features a par-71 Les Furber layout.

Homes in the Commonage neighborhood overlooking the Predator course have modern-ranch architecture, outdoor living areas and low-impact land-scaping. Lots start at 270,000 Canadian dollars (about \$202,550) for 7,405 square feet, with construction costs around 265 Canadian dollars per square foot. Homeowners' association fees are about 200 Canadian dollars per month.

Wine lovers don't have to drive more than 15 minutes along scenic back roads to sip varietals like pinot gris and pinot noir at a handful of more than 180 wineries peppering the surrounding Okanagan Valley wine region.

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