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This page: Longtime Winged Foot Member Paul Callahan keeps the tradition of playing a few holes dressed as Santa Claus alive this year. As you can see, even Kris Kringle needs to check himself out in the mirror before leaving the locker room. Click on 'Big Picture' to read more. Photo courtesy of Barry Sloan

ENTERTAINMENT

RUBBING ELBOWS



If you love Jerry Seinfeld (who doesn't), and haven't watched his web series "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee," you might want to get on that. For starters you can watch the latest episode, which took place at Fiddlers Elbow Country Club in Bedminster, N.J. He and his guest, actress and comedian Ali Wentworth, enjoyed a cup of coffee as he does every episode, but they also found a few minutes to hit the new and improved range at the New Jersey club.



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Santa Baby

PHOTOS BY BARRY SLOAN

For the fifth year, longtime Winged Foot member Paul Callahan, who lives on the historic club's West Course, donned the red and white to play a few holes dressed as Santa Claus. The tradition of "Golfing Santa" as Callahan calls it, began when he was once asked to dress as Santa for a Christmas party in New York City. Since then, he has embraced his role. "Living on the golf course provides easy access for spur of the moment golfing," Callahan says. "It seems only fitting that Santa gets in a few holes after he spends many months preparing for Christmas." The tradition is always well-received and the members who brave the cold winter golfing temperatures enjoy his appearance, often stopping for pictures and mingling with old St. Nick.

Santa Claus rolls in a putt and celebrates on a cold winter day at Winged Foot.



After a few holes he stops in the grill room to spread more Christmas cheer. This year he ran into fellow Winged Foot member and former MGA Tournament Director Gene Westmoreland.



He doesn't go to the beach often, but when he does he gets up and down for par with ease.

HOLIDAY Wish List

BY SCOTT KRAMER

Pace and goodwill to mankind are staple holiday wishes, but golfers sheepishly know there's more to ask for this time of year. Instead of hinting for a pricey new set, may we suggest asking for more modest items that your loved ones might want to spring for.



For a great training and practice aid, **SensoGlove** (\$89)* is billed as the world's first digital golf glove. The latest version – based on PGA Pro feedback – signals you 80 times per second if your grip pressure is too strong. After all, an even pressure grip is key to a smooth swing. The glove has long battery life and an automatic pressure read. It even shows you which fingers are gripping too tightly, so you can adjust accordingly.

*This glove does not conform to the Rules of Golf and cannot be used when posting scores for handicap purposes.



Jones Sports' All-Weather Original Jones bag (\$190) is lightweight, has seam-sealed zippers, water-resistant nylon, single strap, double-zipper ball pouch, full-length outerwear pocket, and exterior umbrella sleeve. Best of all, carrying this throwback down the fairway looks plain cool.



Callaway Golf's Del Mar Zephyr shoe (\$140) has that breezy look that wears well both on and off the course. Bearing premium leather upper, lightweight EVA spikeless outsole, top-notch traction, and comfortable Ortholite 3D insole, it's Callaway's lightest men's golf shoe.

54 Holes

By Maddie Vetrano

in Mississippi

Even Huck Finn will tell you that the one part of Mississippi he regrets leaving behind is the golf. There's nothing quite like that southern hospitality to make the experience special and patrons of the Gulf Coast, newly dubbed the "Golf Coast", have shown that their courses are some of golf's best kept secrets. The bottom line is: if you haven't traveled up the river to the place where catfish are sacred and the greens are heavenly, you're M-I-S-S missing out.

COURSES

- 1 **Shell Landing Golf Club** – In 2002, this upscale public course designed by Davis Love III was named among the top new courses in America by Golf Digest. This beautiful waterfront property challenges you with its gorgeous rolling hills, intimidating pine trees and untouched marshlands, giving players a cornucopia of testing terrain.
- 2 **The Preserve Golf Club** – U.S. Open Champion Jerry Pate designed these 18 holes of "pure golf" that are surrounded by an 1,800 acre natural preserve. You won't find a more southern setting than this track, which is to be enjoyed the way nature intended.
- 3 **The Bridges Golf Club at Hollywood Casino** – It's the only Arnold Palmer course on the "Golf Coast" and it's named one of the 40 Best Casino Courses in the Country. Connected by more than 21 bridges, the setting is anchored by the Mississippi Bay, alongside sweeping magnolia trees, moss-painted oaks, and softened by landscapes of saltwater marshes. The quality of this course is exemplified through its receipt of the Audubon International's Certified Silver Signature status, a first for any resort golf course in the world.

LODGING

- **The IP Casino Resort & Spa** – The IP is the epitome of what makes Mississippi known as "Las Vegas Lite" - all of the fun with a fraction of the price. Look out your window and witness the beauty of the Mississippi Bay, The IP is Shell Landing's preferred hotel on the "Golf Coast".

OFF-COURSE

- Downtown Biloxi is overflowing with places to eat, drink, and be merry. If you're looking for the real southern food fix, look no further than The Shed BBQ and Blues Joint. It's a real BBQ joint that make your food fantasies a reality.

A DEDICATED LEADER

PARTING SHOT



After a long and renowned 25-year career 66-year-old Steve Foehl has stepped down as the executive director of the New Jersey State Golf Association. He leaves behind a legacy of accomplishment and leadership. The growth the NJSGA and their Caddie Scholarship Fund have seen during his tenure has been impressive and is something the Fair Haven resident is most proud of. Aside from his executive director duties, Foehl has also been a long-time Rules official with the USGA and currently serves on the USGA Senior Amateur Committee. Earlier this month his distinguished career and dedicated service were celebrated at the NJSGA headquarters in Kenilworth, N.J., by more than 100 colleagues, friends and family members.

Steve Foehl at a tournament speaking with former USGA Women's Committee Chairman Dot Paluck.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NJSGA

Just Say Mo

BY CHRISTOPHER POWERS



Gesualdi works in the Richter Park golf shop and often helps with after school junior camps.

Monique Gesualdi grew up in Danbury, Conn. and lived there until she was 10, when she and her family moved to North Carolina next to a golf course. She instantly became addicted to the game. “I loved the challenge, that’s what enticed me, the challenge it brought,” she said.

What she didn’t know then was that she had challenges coming in her life that would seem almost impossible to overcome. They wouldn’t pop up until well after her college career at Furman University, where she earned a full athletic scholarship for golf. After Furman, she planned on getting her golf teaching certificate. At 26, Gesualdi began having health problems and suffered flu-like symptoms; they came with a diagnosis of stage 4 liver cirrhosis. During her biopsy her liver was accidentally “nicked” and doctors gave her 24-hours to get a transplant. Miraculously she got that transplant the next day, but her **fight just began**. After surgery where she lost her pulse three times more complications arose. A fungal infection in her brain brought about a new, more difficult challenge that required two more surgeries, ultimately saving her life.

Endless hours of therapy, rest, and refusal to quit kept Monique going, and so did a world of support. “My family and friends were a huge support system,” Gesualdi said, noting her Aunt specifically, who she now lives with in Danbury. “Having people bend over backwards to help you no matter what happened, that’s what got me through.”

This past fall her perseverance was finally rewarded, and she began working again. “Once I started getting back into golf I knew, this is where my life started,” she said. “Eventually this is where I want it to end, being around golf.” She now works in the golf shop at Richter Park Golf Course in Danbury and works junior camps.

This winter she will be working at Dick’s Sporting Goods in the golf department, but the 29-year-old is far from done challenging herself. She loves to teach as much as she loves the game itself, and plans on one day becoming a head professional. Another challenge you can bet she won’t back down from.



PHOTOS BY TYLER SIZEMORE

Child's Play

BY CHRISTOPHER POWERS



Anina (right) and Hana (left) after helping the WMGA Team win the 2013 Junior Intercity Matches at Saucon Valley. While that 68 was Hana's score, Anina certainly played a big role in helping the team capture the Griscom Cup.

At the age of 14, Anina Ku of Basking Ridge, N.J. does everything and then some. The girl is the whole package, a phenomenal golfer, an excellent student, and an accomplished violinist. At just three years old she took up golf and violin, and little did she know a year later she would be playing at Carnegie Hall. A video of the performance became a YouTube sensation, receiving over 880,000 views. She has been playing both golf and violin ever since and is well on her way to becoming an expert in both fields, when she gets a break from her school work, that is. "As long as I stay focused during everything I do and try to be efficient, it isn't too overwhelming," Ku said. At the age of 12 she was playing in the U.S. Girls' Junior with her sister, 2014 WMGA/MGA Women's Public Links and Women's Met Am Champion Hana Ku. This past year she also played in the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links. In 2011 she went 12-under to win the U.S. Kids World Championship at Pinehurst, with her mom as her caddie. "I am starting to get accustomed to nerves on big stages," Ku said. "I'm still young and not immune to feeling pressure, but I have gotten better considerably."

This girl is just getting started, and as you would expect, she has high expectations for herself. "One of my dreams is to play golf for an Ivy League school, to have a great education while playing golf is something I am working hard to achieve," she said. She plans on working in economics, mathematics, or science, and hopes to one day qualify for the U.S. Amateur and U.S. Women's Open. At this point she is on pace to do all of this and more. With her passion and confidence, who is going to tell her no?



At the age of 4, Anina played the violin at Carnegie Hall. [Click here to watch the performance.](#)