

BRIEFS



PALMER NAMES GONZALEZ VP

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Barbara González has been appointed vice president and director of business development for the Palmer Design Co. González has been with the company for 22 years — since its inception during the early 1970s. She travels extensively in Europe, the Pacific Rim and domestically for discussions with prospective clients and participates in many trade/conference exhibitions. She is a full member of the Urban Land Institute.



Barbara Gonzalez

FOSTER PROMOTES SCHAUPETER

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Arthur Schaupeter has been promoted to lead design associate with Keith Foster Golf Course Design here. He will manage the firm's plan production and specification development. Meanwhile, Jason Hollen, a landscape architecture graduate of West Virginia University, has joined the design staff.

CUPP IMPROVING STONEBRIDGE

NAPLES, Fla. — Stonebridge Country Club, a 313-acre residential development centered around an 18-hole golf course here, has completed its first phase of improvements. Upgrades included widening the landing areas of holes 1, 2, and 4. Stonebridge developer Taylor Woodrow Communities recently acquired several preserved acres that were part of the community's property. Taylor Woodrow has committed \$300,000 to improving the golf course. Bob Cupp, who designed the original course along with Gene Bates, is overseeing the course improvements.

ST. JAMES ADDING 18

SOUTHPORT, N.C. — St. James Plantation is constructing a second 18-hole championship golf course in the community's second phase of development. Called The Members Course, the track is being built by the community's developer, Homer E. Wright, Jr. Golf course architect is Clyde Johnston & Associates, of Hilton Head, S.C. The new course complements the existing 18-hole Dye-designed layout. The new clubhouse, the second for St. James Plantation, will be designed by architect David R. Polston of Wilmington, N.C.



Clyde Johnston

Back in 1936 Tilly foresaw a world with no sand nor traps

By J. BARRY MOTHES

PORTLAND, Maine— "Golf Course of Future Will have No Sand Nor Traps, Expert Predicts"

A headline from the *National Golf Enquirer*?

No, just Albert W. Tillinghast getting a bit apocalyptic back in 1936.

Tillinghast, the Philadelphia playboy and renowned golf course architect who designed Baltusrol, Winged Foot and the San Francisco Golf Club to name a few, was hired by the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) of America in the mid-1930s to advise its member clubs on alterations. At the time, 11 national championships had been played on his courses in the preceding 16 years.

As part of his charge, Tillinghast traveled the country for more than a year as a PGA-sponsored adviser. He met with golf course superintendents and pros, toured golf courses and offered advice. By September 1936 he had visited 322 courses. In September 1936, Tillinghast visited Portland



On the golf course A.W. Tillinghast foresaw in 1936, there would be no saving or threatening sand bunkers like these at the Jay Morrish-, Tom Weiskopf-designed Buffalo Creek Golf Club in Rockwall, Texas.

Country Club here.

A few excerpts from his visit reported by the Portland Sunday Telegram:

"The golf course of the not too distant future will have neither rough nor sand, except [where] it be unavoidable," A.W. Tillinghast, widely known golf course architect, predicted Saturday afternoon.

"Mr. Tillinghast expressed his strong disapproval of sand on golf courses, and said that golf courses 10 years hence

would have none of it... Of course, he said, seaside courses will be bound to have some sand on them, but why should a beautiful inland course be cluttered with it?"

But, Tillinghast added, "Sandless courses won't be any less difficult to score than those of today... The science of golf courses will be built into the contours of the greens and the approaches to them..."

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The rebuilt 16th hole greensite as per Langford at Ozaukee Country Club in Megeon, Wis.

Q & A Forse masterminds 'oldies' remakes, longs for his own

Having grown up at the Donald Ross-designed Mountain Ridge Country Club in New Jersey, it's no wonder Ron Forse now makes his living in large part remodeling "courses by the classics." The West Virginia University landscape architecture alumnus, who has worked with architects Brad Benz, J. Michael Poellot and Ron Fream, is also designing his own tracks. He is collaborating with Ross Forbes for a new nine at Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., and the two are in the midst of eight long-range improvement plans, including a remodeling of the Herbert Strong-designed Nassau Country Club on Long Island. Managing editor Mark Leslie caught up with him at Portland (Maine) Country Club, a Ross-designed, oceanside track Forse was visiting.

Golf Course News: Are people more aware of course designers than they were five, 10, 20 years ago?

Ron Forse: Yes. Now guys who aren't big internationally are being promoted. People like Art Hills. It's like "designer" labels to some degree. People are putting the names of the architects on advertisements, promotional materials and scorecards. This is a news occurrence. People now know because of the media attention to architects. In the mid-'80s people all of a sudden became aware.



Ron Forse

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Myrtle Beach's North Course faces major changes from Palmer

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Arnold Palmer and the Palmer Design Group have returned here this summer to oversee substantial changes to the famous North Course at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club, a 54-hole complex. The course closed May 1, and is scheduled to re-open in October. The South and West Courses at Myrtle Beach National remain open throughout the summer.

The North Course was originally designed by Arnold Palmer in the early 1970s. It was among the first courses at the Beach, and one of the first courses anywhere to feature an "island" green. The North Course's par-3 3rd hole, with an island green and "SC" shaped bunkers has remained the signature hole for the entire Grand Strand.

What began as a minor updating of the North Course has evolved into a project of total course design and visual enhancement under the direction of the Palmer Group. The bentgrass greens will be re-shaped and enlarged, and then sodded with the new hybrid Crenshaw bentgrass. Many trees have been removed. Several fairways will feature increased undulation, and bunkers and lakes will be reshaped. The 3rd hole is undergoing major enhancement, with the addition of bulkheads and a new bridge.

Myrtle Beach National is owned by the Myrtle Beach National Co.