Readers' Choice 2023 lists the best businesses, services and more in Putnam County as chosen by the community. This special section reflects the opinions of our readers and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Palatka Daily News or staff.

Palatka Daily News

2023



1%



# Auto Body & Painting St. Johns Auto Body

Honorable Mention: Fruitland Body Shop

#### Auto Detailing Auto Spa

Honorable Mention: Laibls Tire King Service & Detailing

# Auto Repair St. Johns Super Service Center

Honorable Mention: Eugene and Sons Tire and Auto

We are truly honored to be voted your #1 tire store for the 14th time!



Thank You for Voting Us Best Auto Detailing





We offer unlimited monthly washes starting at \$25 per month!

# 276 HWY 17 N, PALATKA, FL

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Thank you, Putnam County! We are honored by your votes.

Financial Planning Wealth Management Portfolio Analysis Retirement Planning Business Consulting Succession Planning Estate Planning



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# Auto Towing Johnson's Towing & Recovery

Honorable Mention: St. Johns Auto Body

### Car Wash Blue Lagoon Car Wash

Honorable Mention: Auto Spa Honorable Mention: Caliber Car Wash

### Dealership Beck Ford

Honorable Mention: Beck Chevrolet

# Lube, Oil,



We appreciate your vote for Best Auto Dealership. Our mission is to provide our customers with excellent automotive services and products at the best price. We are glad to know that you think we are doing a good job. We appreciate your loyalty and support.



4 • Readers' Choice 2023

#### Filter

St. Johns Super Service Center

Honorable Mention: Quick Lane

Sales Person Michael Bates

Honorable Mention: Scott Brooks

# Tire Store *Toby's Alignment, Inc*.

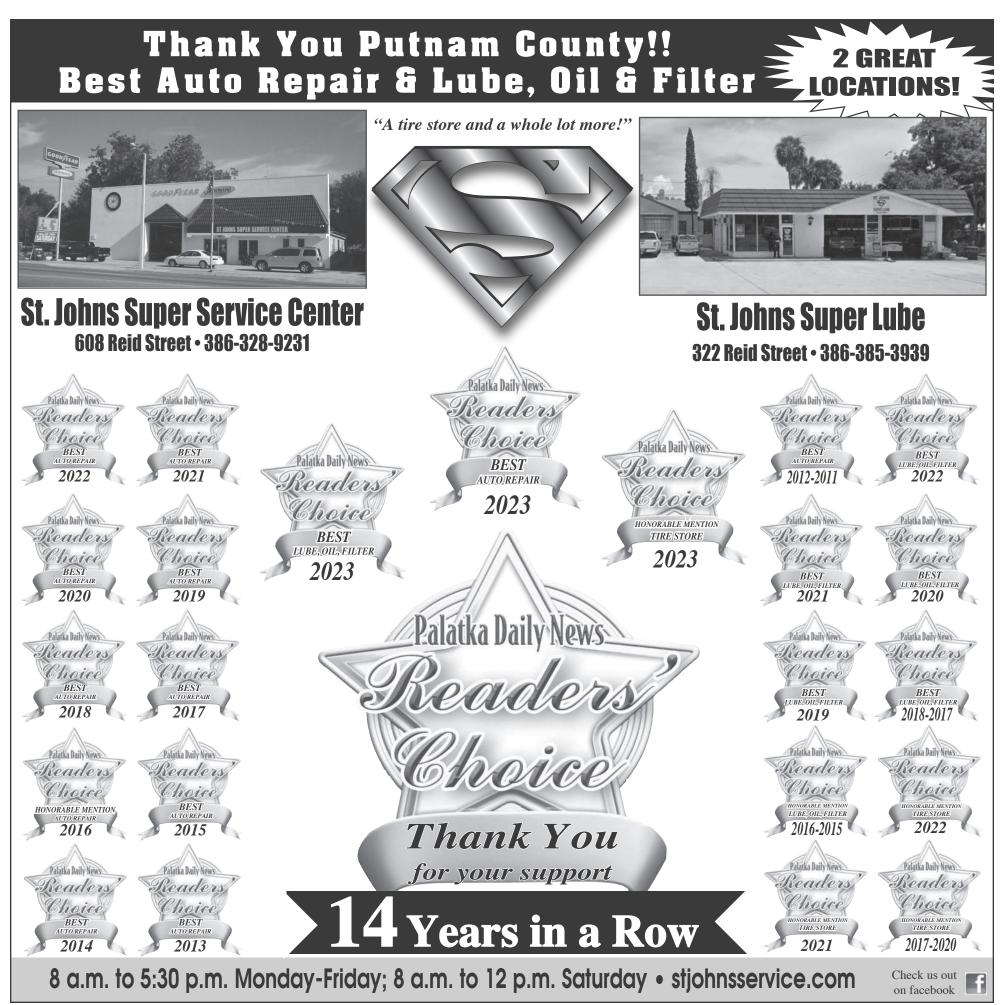
Honorable Mention: St. Johns Super Service Center

# Recreational Vehicles St. Johns Powersports

Honorable Mention: New Horizons RV Center

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!** We sincerely appreciate everyone who voted for us.





Readers' Choice 2023 • 5



AC/Heat Parker Heating and Air

Honorable Mention: Southern Air

### **Barber Shop**

Dapper Dan's Barber Shop

Honorable Mention: Rusty Clippers Barber Shop

**Carpet Cleaning** 

Servpro

Honorable Mention: Mike's Carpet Cleaning

Thank You For <u>Again</u> Voting Us The Best Heating & Air Conditioning Company.

Parker Heating & Air of NE FL Inc.

> Residential and Light Commercial

Rodney & Wesley Parker 386-983-9832



# Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We're only #1 because of you, our customers!

ATMOSPHERE



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Best Spa

Best Massage Therapist Kelly Starr

Honorable Mention Facial Specialist Hannah Harvey

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ACE Award for top

1% for service,

reliability &

professionalism.

# **Coin Laundry** A & B Laundromat

Honorable Mention: Spin City

**Contractor Riverside Builders of Putnam County, Inc.** Honorable Mention: Wayne Annis Construction

# Crematory Masters Funeral Homes

Honorable Mention: Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home & Crematory

# **Day Care** Round Lake Academy

Honorable Mention: Academy of Rising Stars Inc.



10 Years in a Row! Too busy or too tired to face laundry? Let us do it for you! Wash, Dry & Fold Service **Convenient Drive Thru** Monday - Friday • 7am-5pm

Self Wash Air Conditioning • TVs Front & Top Load Machines **Come See Us!** Open Everyday 7am - 10:30pm

Thank You For Your Support! **Owner: Mike Lawson** 

#### A & B Laundromat 807 S. SR 19 • Palatka, FL 32177 (Winn Dixie Shopping Center) 386-328-7212







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Thank You Putnam County for voting us your #1 Towing Service for 12 years in a row!



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VISA



# Electrician Preston Electric

Honorable Mention: Kessler Electric

Facial Specialist Jolie Dwyer

Honorable Mention: Hannah Harvey

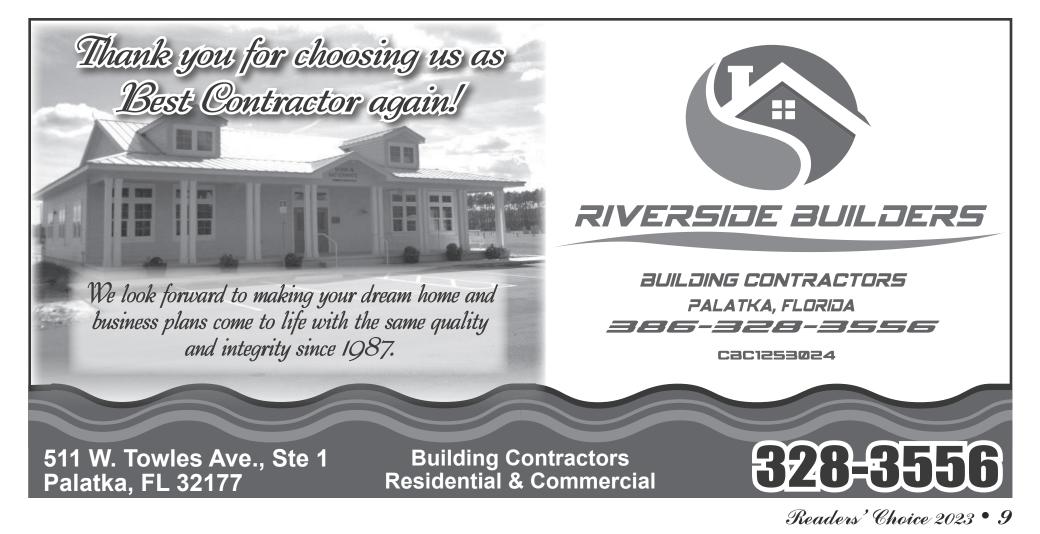
# Floor Covering Palatka Flooring

Honorable Mention: Lowe's Flooring

### Florist Palm Florist, Inc.

Honorable Mention: Flowers By Melanie





**Full Salon** 

NiCole's Salon

Honorable Mention: Shear Design

#### Funeral Home Masters Funeral Homes

Honorable Mention: Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home & Crematory

Hair Stylist Trisha Dwyer Blount

Honorable Mention: Julia Creech

#### Hotel Hampton Inn

Honorable Mention: Best Western Inn of Palatka

We are honored by your confidence in voting us the #1 Funeral Home and #1 Crematory in Putnam County. Thank you!

"Putnam's Most Trusted Family in Funeral Service."



Affiliated with Palatka Memorial Gardens On Site Crematory







All of us at Palm Florist would like to thank you for voting us #1 Florist.

You and your confidence in us are truly valued.



# **Auto Insurance Agency** State Farm Insurance

Honorable Mention: Bates Hewett & Floyd Insurance Agency

# **Health Insurance Agency**

### State Farm Insurance

Honorable Mention: Bates Hewett & Floyd Insurance Agency

### **Home Insurance Agency** State Farm Insurance

Honorable Mention: Bates Hewett & Floyd Insurance Agency

# **Thank You!** For Voting **Mathews Moving & Storage BEST STORAGE** FACILITY!

Your trusted movers in business for 79 years at the same location!

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Thank You for Voting State Farm Insurance and our offices the Readers' Choice Award for Putnam County! We are proud to represent the #1 Home Insurance Provider, Auto Insurance Provider Health Insurance, Life Insurance and Insurance Agency.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank our customers for their business!



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Susan Helwig, ChFC CLU State Farm Agent 836 S. Moody Road Palatka, FL 32177 Bus: 386-312-1002 Toll Free: 866-312-1002



Ken Henley, ChFC CLU State Farm Agent 119 North 4th Street Palatka, FL 32177 Bus: 386-328-1523



STATE FARM IS THERE.™

### Insurance Agency State Farm Insurance

Honorable Mention: Bates Hewett & Floyd Insurance Agency

# Life Insurance Agency State Farm Insurance

Honorable Mention: Bates Hewett & Floyd Insurance Agency

Massage Therapist *Kelly Starr* 

Honorable Mention: Pam Lail

#### Nail Salon Kelly's Nails and Salon Honorable Mention: Atmosphere Bouti

Honorable Mention: Atmosphere Boutique Day Spa





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12 • Readers' Choice 2023



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Now celebrating our 40th year, we are blessed to have the most wonderful customers in the world. We appreciate your many years of loyalty and support. Thank You!

> JIM ANDREWS, Founder Ryan Eubanks, Partner • Jordan Andrews, Partner

# Pest Control Florida Pest Control

Honorable Mention: Sentry Termite and Pest Control, Inc.

# Pet Grooming Jessie's Dog Grooming

Honorable Mention: Southern Style Pet Salon

# Photographer Tallerico Photography

Honorable Mention: Jim Bailey

# Plumber

# **Bellamy Plumbing**

Honorable Mention: Tom Wall Plumbing Inc

# Congratulations to our winner of \$250! Janice Comer

**Thank You** to everyone who filled out a questionnaire, voting for their favorite 2023 Putnam County businesses, professionals and more!





Readers' Choice 2023 • 13

#### **Pressure Washing**

# Sunshine Cleaning Service

Honorable Mention: Elliott Ortiz's Pressure Washing

School Teacher Jeremi McGee Palatka Jr-Sr High School Honorable Mention: Haley Ridenhour Kelley Smith Elementary School

# **School Principal**

Beth Nelson James A. Long Elementary

Honorable Mention: J.T. Stout Palatka High School

#### *Thank You For Voting Us #1 Local Hardware Store!*

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# Spa Atmosphere Boutique Day Spa

Honorable Mention: NiCole's Salon

**Storage Facility** Mathews Moving & Storage Honorable Mention: Champion Self Storage



# Antiques Elsie Bell's Antique Mall

Honorable Mention: Urban Farmhouse

#### **Thank You Putnam County For Your Votes!**

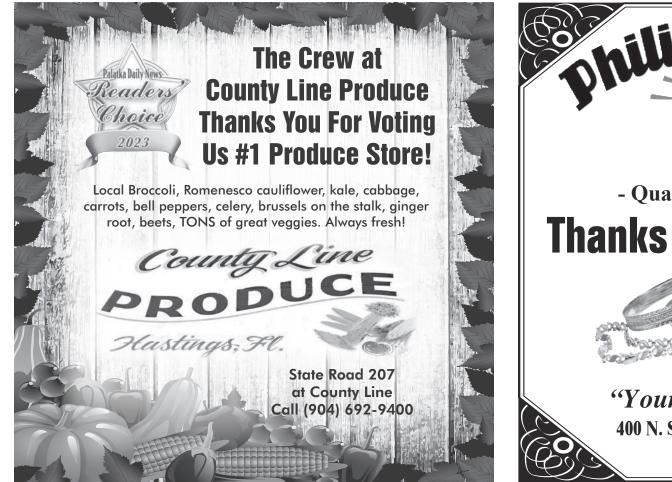


Vintage • Home Decor • Reloved • Repurposed

#### **Urban Farmhouse**

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Readers' Choice 2023 • 15

# Downtown Shop Lady Bug's Gift Shoppe

Honorable Mention: Urban Farmhouse

#### **Furniture Store**

#### **Badcock Home Furniture & More**

Honorable Mention: McKinnon's Home Furnishing

### Gift Shop Lady Bug's Gift Shoppe

Honorable Mention: Hog Wild Country Cafe

# DOUGLAS LAW FIRM



This is such an honor! I want to thank everyone for their vote of confidence.

Charlie Douglas

Business & Corporate Law • Estates, Trusts, Wills & Probate Personal Injury & Wrongful Death • Real Estate Criminal Defense • Family Law

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# Rotary Network International is a worldwide organization of more than

Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. As signified by the motto, Service Above Self, Rotary's main object is service - in the community, in the workplace and throughout the world. In Putnam County, there are five Rotary organizations, providing services throughout the community and world with service projects chosen by club members. Below is a small sampling of what projects local Rotary clubs are involved in.

#### **Rotary Club of Crescent City**

The Crescent City Rotary Club was founded in 1927 and has always been a vital part of the community, bringing many services and improvements to the area over these 95 years. Among the areas of support for Rotary has been the development of the annual Catfish Festival, with its hundreds of community volunteers. The festival has supplied over \$500,000 since 1978 in scholarships to needy students at Crescent City High School for college and trade school tuition, books and supplies. The club is also the force behind the annual Swine and Wine BBQ which raises money for South Putnam youth sports and other charities. Rotary continues as a leader in the South Putnam community and plays its roll in international good will and world service such as eliminating polio from the face of the earth, polio being the second world-wide disease to be eliminated. For more information about the Crescent City Rotary Club go to rotaryclubcrescentcity.com

#### **Rotary Club of Hastings**

The Rotary Club of Hastings was founded in February of 1927 and the club is focused on literacy, education, and economic development in and around the region as well as providing cultural opportunities. Annually, the club raises funds to support a Christmas toy drive, Rotary Youth Leadership Academy scholarships for Pedro Menendez students who qualify, and the Hastings Team Up partnership. Through Team Up, Rotary helps support over 400 students with back to school needs, participates in the local festivals and the Christmas Parade as well as the Breast Cancer Walk and Trunk n Treat. The club is actively involved in the Hastings revitalization and local agritourism development. Club members are proud to serve both local and global neighbors. For more information contact HastingsFLRC@gmail.com or visit the website at HastingsFLRotaryClub.org.

#### Rotary Club of Interlachen and Lakes Area

Thank

You!

The Rotary Club of Interlachen and Lakes Area's primary mission is to enhance the educational opportunities for the children in our community. Since our Rotary Club chartered in April 2014, our members have provided shoes and socks to children in need at Interlachen, Melrose, and Ochwilla Elementary Schools; given each third grader at these three schools their own personal dictionary; donated books to the three elementary school libraries; maintained two "Little Libraries" in the community; led a partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Palatka Sunrise and Crescent City to provide an equipped mobile dental unit for the children of Putnam County; and awarded numerous scholarships each year to graduating seniors at I.H.S. Our club also operates the football concessions at Interlachen High School, and for the 2022 season was able to give back \$10,000 in profits directly to the football and band programs there.

#### **Rotary Club of Palatka**

The Rotary Club of Palatka was founded in 1920. The club orchestrates an annual blood screening project that benefits Putnam County in two dramatic ways. The low-cost screenings give local residents an opportunity to detect health concerns at a fraction of the cost normally associated with such testing. Proceeds from the screenings are then used to help community projects such as, Roberts Hospice Care Center, Rotary PLAY Park playground and the New Riverfront Park. The club also puts together an annual Health Fair.

#### Rotary Club of Palatka Sunrise

Sunrise Rotary, "Florida's Friendliest Club", serves our community through various projects such as providing scholarships to local students, "Senior Santa" the delivery of Christmas gifts for over 60 nursing home residents, prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinner annually to the ARC patrons, cook and serve over 300 meals on Senior Day at the Putnam County Fair, provide funding for "tracking bracelets" for individuals with autism, dementia and/or Alzheimer's disease. Our "Heart and Sole" project provides socks and shoes for needy elementary school children, our "Literacy Project" provides books for children who do not have access to them and we volunteer as "readers" at various elementary schools. Our Cooking Team provides catering for the One Book One Putnam Community Read kickoff, assist other Rotary Clubs in the area with events, and holds the annual Wild Game Feast Fundraiser.

# **Grocery Store Publix Super Markets**

Honorable Mention: Hitchcock's Markets

#### **Local Hardware Store** Hagan Ace Hardware

Honorable Mention: Bryan's Ace Hardware

#### **National Hardware Store**

# Lowe's Home Improvement Honorable Mention: Home Depot

#### **Jewelry Store**

# Philip's Jewelers

Honorable Mention: Treasure Fine Jewelers



**Liquor Store ABC Fine Wine & Spirits** 

Honorable Mention: Winn Dixie Liquor

**Pawn Shop** Palatka Pawn

Honorable Mention: Lending Bear

# **Produce Shop County Line Produce** Honorable Mention: The Stand Matt & Luanne's Produce

# **Thrift Store** Lee Conlee House Thrift Store

Honorable Mention: Goodwill Thrift Store



# Legal/Financial/Real Estate

# Apartment Community Barrington Apartments

Honorable Mention: Palatka Oaks Apartments

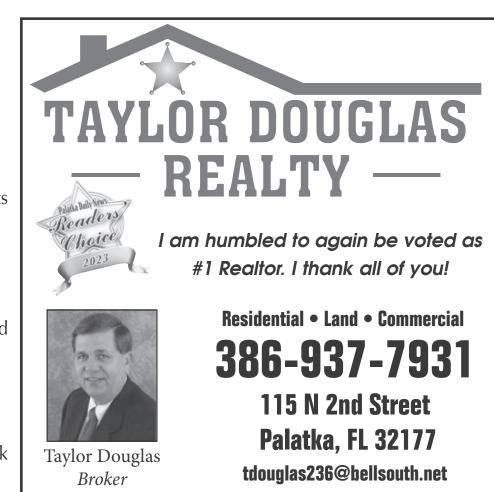
Attorney Charles Douglas Jr. Honorable Mention: Garry Wood

Bank

Capital City Bank

The Stand

Honorable Mention: Ameris Bank



# Thank You For Your Vote!





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Readers' Choice 2023 • 19

#### Banker Terre Strunk Ameris Bank

Honorable Mention: Teresa Wilkerson First Coast CCU

### Bookkeeper Sadler Bookkeeping

Honorable Mention: Dede Martin

#### CPA Mark P. Stanton, CPA

Honorable Mention: John Rowe, CPA

#### Credit Union Vystar Credit Union

Honorable Mention: First Coast Community Credit Union

# Financial Planner *Riverside Wealth Advisors*

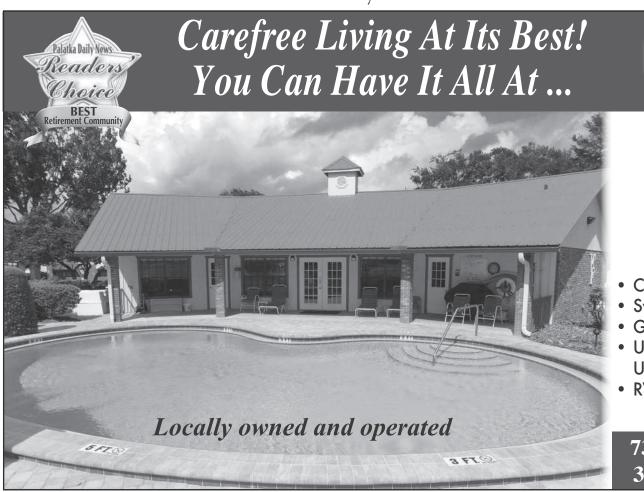
Honorable Mention: Ed Jones Investments

# Realtor Taylor Douglas - Taylor Douglas Realty Inc.

Honorable Mention: Carolyn Beckham - Century 21 Beckham Realty

# Real Estate Company Century 21 Beckham Realty

Honorable Mention: Coldwell Banker Ben Bates, Inc.





#### Active 55<sup>+</sup> Community

- Clubhouse
- Swimming Pool
- Great Location
- Underground Utilities
- RV & Boat Storage



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20 • Readers' Choice 2023

# Chois/

noun

An act of selecting or making a decision when faced with two or more possibilities.

*adjective* Of very good quality.

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#### Bait Shop Messer's Westside Bait

Honorable Mention: Bass Capital Tackle

**Boat Dealer** 

### Sunrise Marine

Honorable Mention: Big Boys Play Toys

# Civic Organization Rotary Club of Crescent City

# Rotary Club of Hastings Rotary of Interlachen & Lake Area Rotary Club of Palatka Sunrise Rotary of Palatka

Honorable Mention: Feed the Need of Putnam County, Inc.

# Dance Studio All That Jazz

Honorable Mention: USA Gymnastics

# Festival/Event Blue Crab Festival

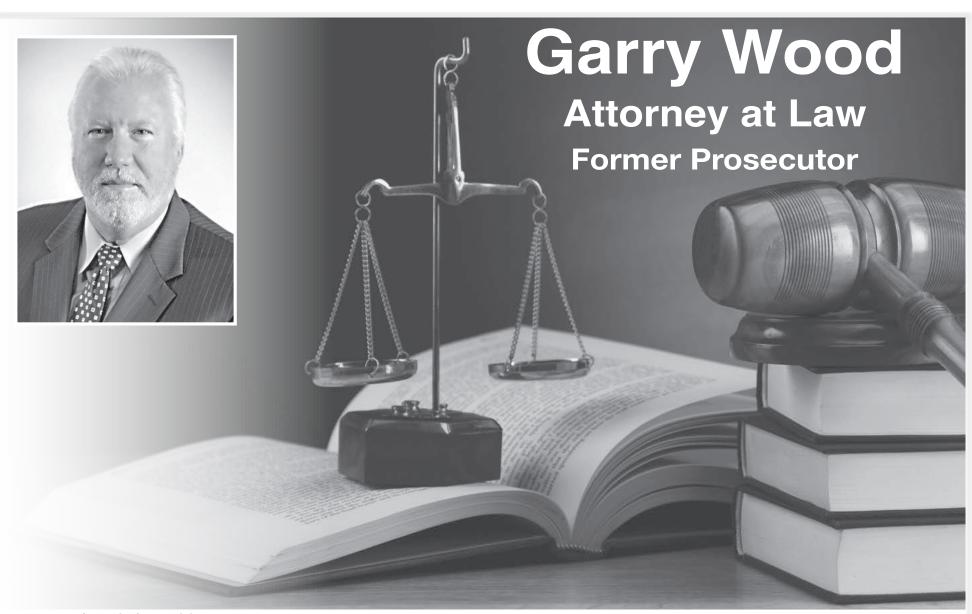
Honorable Mention: Catfish Festival



FCC First Coast

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# "Thank you!"

Thank you Putnam County for Voting for Us! I have now been providing legal services in Putnam County since 1989.

415 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, FL 32177 · 386-326-3993 www.putnamlawyer.net Gym *Planet Fitness* Honorable Mention: Bailey's Health & Fitness

Marina *Crystal Cove Marina* Honorable Mention: The Boathouse Marina

Retirement Community Villa Farms

Honorable Mention: River Villas

# Wedding Venue Rodman Plantation

Honorable Mention: Coventry Oaks Farm





# ★ Best Overall Restaurant ★



#### THURSDAY

All U Can Eat CatfishWhole	16.95
	17.95

Prime RibQueen	Cut	20.95
Prime RibKing	Cut	23.95
All U Can Eat Catfish	Whole	16.95
	Filet	17.95

Readers' Choice 2023 • 25

Eats & Drinks

Bar Uncork & Unwind Craft Beer & Wine Lounge

Honorable Mention: Azalea City Brewing Company

Bar & Grill Chili's Grill & Bar

Honorable Mention: Velchoff's Corner

Barbecue Woody's Bar-B-Q Honorable Mention: Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q

# Best Outdoor Dining Velchoff's Corner

Honorable Mention: Corky Bell's Seafood & Steaks

#### Breakfast Colee's Restaurant

Honorable Mention: Lil Bits Country Diner (formerly Lori's)

Chinese Red House (Formerly China One)

Honorable Mention: China Wok

# Coffee Scooter's Coffee

Honorable Mention: Palatka Coffee Co. 26 • Readers' Choice 2023



Amazing People, Amazing Drinks ... Amazingly Fast!



### Family Friendly Eats Hog Wild Country Cafe

Honorable Mention: Bradley's Steak & Seafood

Fast Food Zaxby's

Honorable Mention: Taco Bell

Hamburger Angel's Diner

Honorable Mention: Burger King

Hot Wings *Mr. Jaybees Wings N Things* Honorable Mention: Zaxby's

# thank you readers for your support! Closer to home. Closer to Care.



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Now Accepting Newborns and New Patients

Readers' Choice 2023 • 27

# Ice Cream Dairy Queen

Honorable Mention: Hoot Owl Farm House

# Lunch Colee's Restaurant

Honorable Mention: Bradley's Steak & Seafood

#### Mexican La Hacienda III

Honorable Mention: Salsas Cocina Mexicana





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28 • Readers' Choice 2023



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As the largest not-for-profit hospice in the area, we are proud to provide compassionate care to patients. Thank you for welcoming us into your homes for over 40 years as your neighborhood hospice!

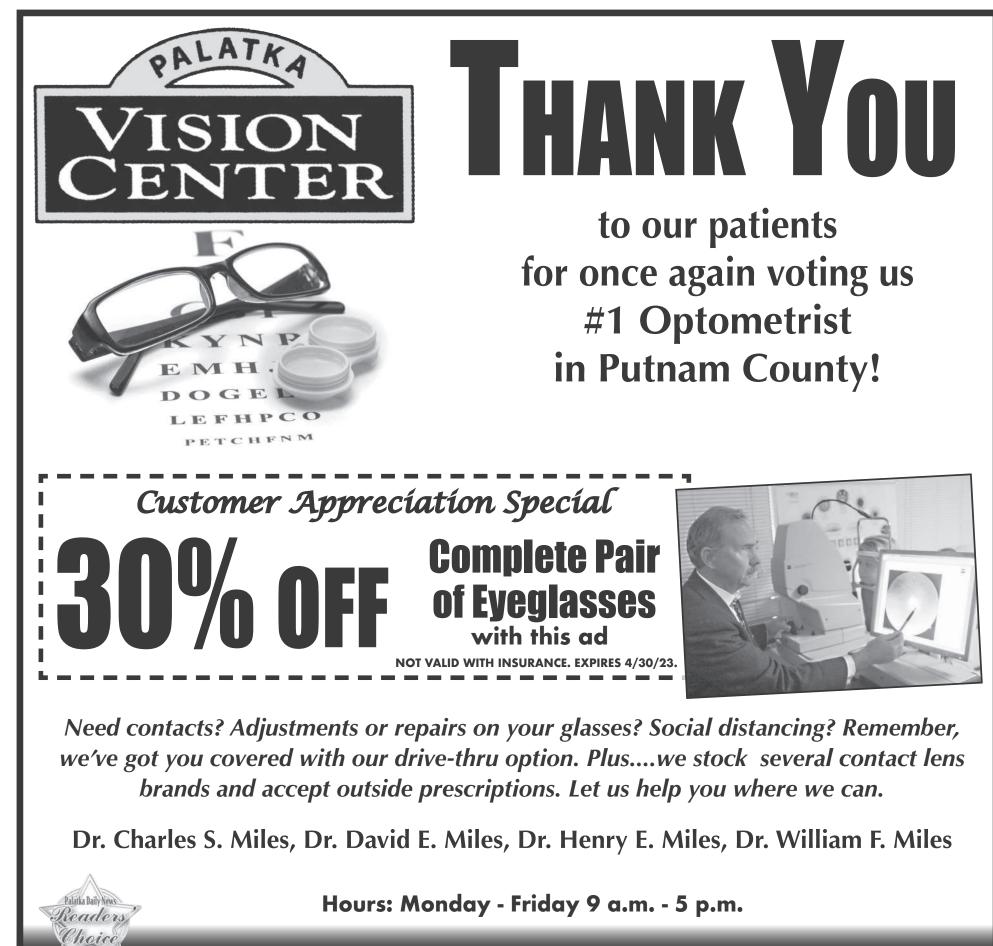
Let us share how we can help you and your family. When health becomes a challenge, we will be your haven.



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30 • Readers' Choice 2023

202

# Overall Restaurant Bradley's Steak & Seafood

Honorable Mention: Velchoff's Corner

Pizza Pizza Hut

Honorable Mention: Niko's Pizza

# Seafood

# Corky Bell's Seafood & Steaks

Honorable Mention: Musselwhite's Seafood & Grill

#### Shrimp *Musselwhite's Seafood & Grill* Henerable Montion: Carley Poll's Seafood & Steaks

Honorable Mention: Corky Bell's Seafood & Steaks

# Sweet Tea Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q

Honorable Mention: Hog Wild Country Cafe



# Assisted Living Vintage Care

Honorable Mention: Kiva of Palatka

# Chiropractor Dr. Kyle Draney

Honorable Mention: Monahan Chiropractic Medical Clinics, Inc.

# Your #1 Choice for 14 Years! Best Physical Therapy

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- Locally owned and operated
  - Celebrating our 26th year

KENNEDY REHABILITATION 386-325-1001

3603 Crill Avenue • Palatka



Readers' Choice 2023 • 31

#### Dentist

Daniel Brauneck, DMD

Honorable Mention: Stephen Beckett, DDS

# Hearing Aid American Hearing Aid Centers

Honorable Mention: US Hearing Aid Centers, Inc.

### **Home Health Care**

# Mederi CAREtenders

Honorable Mention: Brooks Rehabilitation Home Health



32 • Readers' Choice 2023

# Hospice *Haven Hospice*

Honorable Mention: Community Hospice and Palliative Care

# **Imaging Center**

# **Express Imaging Center**

Honorable Mention: Putnam Radiology Group

# Medical Clinic Express Medical Group

Honorable Mention: St. Johns Urgent Care



**3301 Crill Avenue** 

Palatka, FL 32177

#### **Nursing Home**

# Palatka Center for Rehabilitation & Healing

Honorable Mention: Radiant Nursing & Rehab at Palatka

# Ophthalmologist W. Nicholson Ainsworth, MD

Honorable Mention: Eye Center of St. Augustine

#### Optometrist

### Palatka Vision Center

Honorable Mention: St. Johns Eye Care

#### **Local Pharmacy**

#### A-1 Pharmacy

Honorable Mention: Angel's Pharmacy

### **National Pharmacy**

**CVS/Pharmacy** Honorable Mention: Walgreens

### **Physical Therapy**

### Kennedy Rehabilitation

Honorable Mention: Palatka Physical Therapy

### Podiatrist Foot Clinic of Palatka

Honorable Mention: Coastal Foot & Ankle Wellness Center

Physician Neil F. Benson, MD

Honorable Mention: Rebeca Juarbe Arrillaga, MD

# Pediatrician *Kids Care Pediatrics, PA*

Honorable Mention: Raybon Pediatrics

#### Veterinarian Animal Medical Clinic/Dr. Wall

Honorable Mention: Animal Health Center/Dr. Smith



# Crescent City Firefighter *Firefighter Matt Pope*

Honorable Mention: Firefighter Jon Fisch

# Interlachen Police Officer Chief Larry Wilburn

Honorable Mention: Officer Ricardo Mendez



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- Bone Density (DEXA) Scan
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- Offering advanced detection, unmatched comfort
- and half the radiation dose of other mammogram



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#### **Express Family Care**

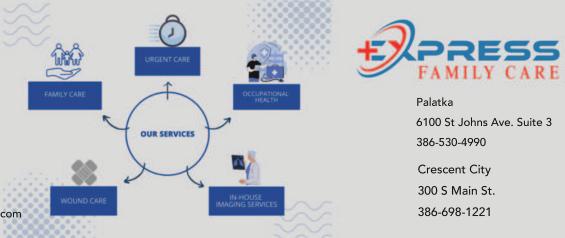
At Express Family Care we create a specialized health plan for your individual needs, our full range of services include:

Men's Health & Testosterone Injections. Yearly Physicals & Wellness Checks. Women's Wellness Visits. Diabetes. Hypertension. Cholesterol. Arthritis Management. Auto Accident Care. Weight Loss. On-site Labs & More.

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Honorable Mention For Adult Physician: Our very own Dr. Rebeca Juarbe

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#### **Putnam Deputy Sheriff** Sargeant Nick Vieira

Honorable Mention: Sheriff Gator DeLoach

### Palatka Firefighter Firefighter Jared Bradley

Honorable Mention: Firefighter Lauren Futch

#### **Paramedic/EMT**

#### Lieutenant Beau Cox

Honorable Mention: Paramedic Samantha Ennis

# Palatka Police Officer **Detective Mike Lassiter**

Honorable Mention: Lieutenant Ashton Cassidy

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# **FHP** Trooper Trooper Kelvin Vega

Honorable Mention: Trooper Justin Bedenbaugh

# **Volunteer Emergency Responders** EMR/Vol. Brittany Dunham

Station #5 Southwest VFD

Honorable Mention: Battalion Chief Joe Guthrie

Station #11

# Welaka Police Officer Chief Michael Porath

Honorable Mention: Officer Todd Bryant

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