

Dan Rattiner's Podcast: Jim Turner, Singer-Songwriter of Jim Turner Band

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Dining & Gifts

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Visiting the PGA National Resort

I had the pure pleasure of being pampered at the luxurious, newly renovated PGA National Resort in Palm Beach Gardens.

It has new owners who have invested more than \$100 million to make the resort match its renowned golf courses. Their motto is "experience legendary moments" — and I did. They just received the 2022 Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice award.

Their six championship golf courses and world-class resort lived up to the hype, as did the state-of-the-art sports and racquetball club, the exclusive membership club, and the luxurious hotel. I was also impressed that they boast a ballroom for 700 people and many rooms for meetings. It's a true destination location.

The drive from Palm Beach to Palm Beach Gardens is 30 minutes north of where I'm staying. As the massive doors to the resort opened I felt I walked into

another world. The warm, almost glowing environment matched the warmth of the people greeting me.

I was walked into the resort with Bernie, one of the attendants, who took my hand — which I appreciated since it was my first day walking with no cane, after recovering from an injury — to lead me to the locker room.

She carefully explained how to use the lock, but then with a wink she said, "Don't worry. I will be here for you with a key if you forget the code." I appreciated that.

Then she led me to the dimly lit room where I was to get a facial and introduced me to the smiling esthetician who had prepared a heated bed for me. The hour with her left me feeling rejuvenated. Her professional



hands did their magic.

From there I was shown by the helpful, smiling staff to the hot tub. They offered me water as I luxuriated in the warm waters. There was a sauna and steam room in the space so I could go from one to the other. I felt all the tension in my body lost in the bubbling waters. The showers were equipped with fragrant washes for my body and hair. It felt so good.

I took advantage of the calm quiet resting room to just relish the wondrous care I had received.

There was a makeup room and Bernie helped me blow dry my hair as I slowly made my way back to reality.

I was escorted back to the front desk but not before I stopped at the well-merchandised gift store.

I couldn't resist buying a purse laminated with pages from *The New York Times*. After all, they are now the printers of our weekly newspapers, so we're part of

their "family."

I bought one for my friend Denise Arbesu, who is a transplanted New Yorker, as is her husband Peter Meyer, thinking that "you can take the girl out of New York but you can't take New York out of the girl." She loved the bag too.

From the gift store after making my purchases the director walked me to the resort restaurant to meet Resort Manager Matt Kiner and his associate Torreka Canady, the guest relations manager, who had the perfect welcoming smiles.

I had lunch in Honeybelle, one of the hotel's four restaurants that have an extensive brunch menu that I chose from for my meal after the treatments.

Sitting in a beautiful tropical setting, having lunch, was the end of a picture-perfect day at the stunning PGA National Resort. Visit their website at pgaresort.com.

Art by Craig Alan