

the thirty-a REVIEW™

of 30-A • people • places • things

INSIDE:

- Delicious Dining on 30-A
- 30-A's Special Communities
- Hot Real Estate
- Health & Wellness
- Art, Business, Culture & More...

THE HOLIDAY ISSUE



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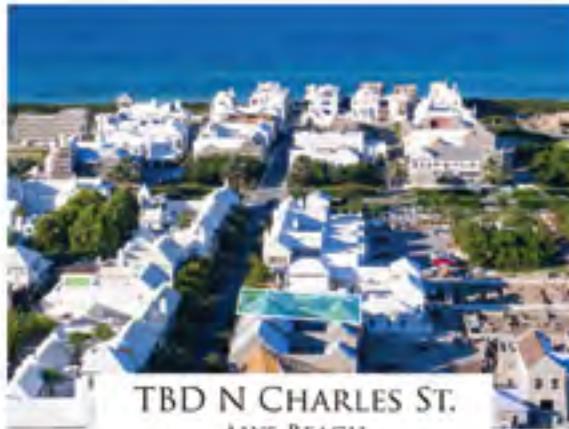
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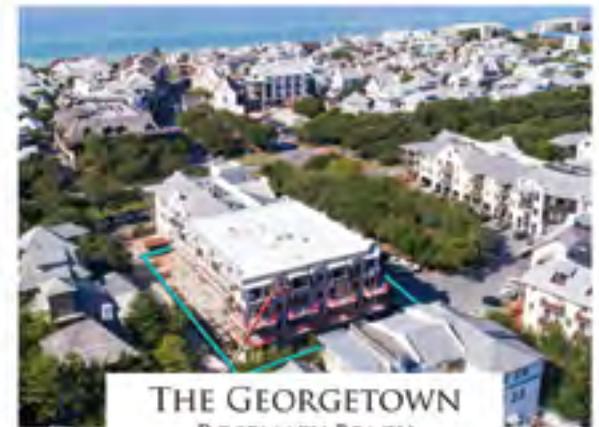
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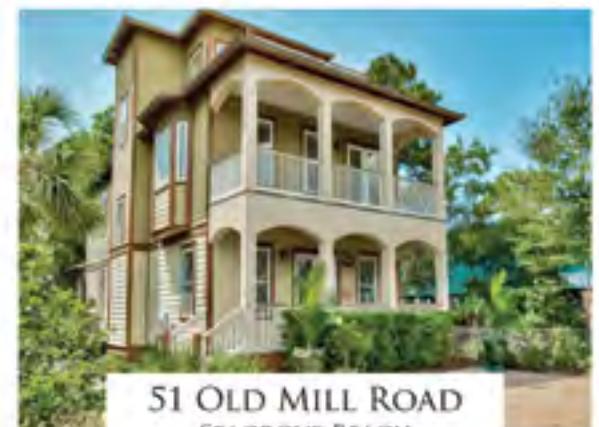
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letter from the publisher

THE HOLIDAYS



The holidays are here again. Festivities at the beach take many forms. Whether you prefer a traditional table or a casual one, the beach provides the perfect backdrop of serenity and contemplation.

As always, this issue is filled with the finest dining, culture, and lifestyle choices that 30-A has to offer. We are a vibrant community of creative and soulful people. And the visitors to the area give our community the extra panache that makes it a pleasure to serve our community on a daily basis.

So whether you're here for a fall/winter getaway, or looking to make this a family holiday to always remember, we invite you to enjoy every minute of the time you spend on 30-A. Peruse the pages that follow and read about some wonderful events, dining, and more.

Here's to lasting memories,

Miles K. Neiman

View the entire publication online at www.ThirtyAReview.com



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REAL ESTATE
OFFERINGS
ALYS BEACH



MM2 · 13 SEA VENTURE ALLEY

Designed by Kinney Morrow Architecture, this home marries exquisite design with an abundance of outdoor and indoor spaces including two pools to choose from—one at courtyard level and the other on the 4th-floor rooftop looking out to the Gulf of Mexico.



A7 · 54 SEVEN WELLS COURT

This 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home offers a welcoming interchange of outdoor living and natural light. The first-floor master suite, living and dining rooms, followed by the kitchen, feature expansive windows that look upon the beautiful courtyard and pool.



A11 · 46 NORTH CHARLES STREET

This home is designed by Steve Mouzon and captivates you immediately upon entering the Zaguán to the courtyard. The 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath, 2,584-square-foot courtyard home provides inviting indoor and outdoor living.



LUCIAN 401 · 29 N. SOMERSET STREET

Indulge in Gulf views from the balcony of this new fourth-floor Lucian residence. Located on the top-west corner of the first building in the growing Alys Beach Town Center, the 3-bedroom 3.5-bath open-floor plan condominium has just been completed.



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Showbiz and Events in November and December



Photo courtesy Alys Beach

ALYS BEACH

Alys in Winter Wonderland in Central Park

November 24, 2017

Join Santa for cookie decorating and Holiday cheer! Cookies to decorate will be available for purchase in Central Park, 2 cookies for \$5. We'll be accepting unwrapped children's toys for donation to a local Angel Tree Program and nonperishable, non glass food items for Food For Thought Outreach Inc.

ALYS BEACH CENTRAL PARK

Every Christmas Story Ever Told

November 25, 2017

Three actors, in what starts out as a pared-down version of the Dickens classic, stage a mutiny and, in an effort to breathe new life into an old tradition, attempt to tell "Every Christmas Story Ever Told" in the space of 50 minutes. Nothing is spared in this rollicking tour de farce! The story of the stingy and sour Ebenezer Scrooge is there too, but it seems the actors have overlooked "It's a Wonderful Life," so Scrooge morphs into Jimmy Stewart combining two of the greatest Christmas stories ever told. Brought to you by Seaside

Repertory Theatre. *Free and open to the public.*

ALYS BEACH AMPHITHEATRE

Holiday Movie featuring Arthur Christmas

December 30, 2017

Join us for a movie in the park. Bring blankets and low-back chairs. *Free and open to the public.*

ALYS BEACH AMPHITHEATRE

Salute 2017

December 31, 2017

Salute 2017 at Fonville Press before you ring in the New Year! Join us for lite fare, cocktails, and live music. *Free and open to the public.*

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ROSEMARY BEACH

OLD TOWN HOLIDAY (Thanksgiving week)

MONDAY

Caravan Holiday Jazz Band

Monday, November 20, 3pm - 5pm

Caravan brings the sound and atmosphere of 1930s Paris with a touch of Disney! Don't miss this must see performance as they stroll around town spreading holiday cheer!

Making Memories – Snow Globe

Monday, November 20, 2pm - 5pm

Strike a Pose in the Largest Snow Globe on 30-A! Step inside a life-size snow globe and become a live part of the wintry scene. Snap a photo and make memories at Rosemary Beach*!

TUESDAY

Festive Face Painting

Tuesday, November 21,

12:00pm - 2pm

Festive Face Painting is the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit! Bring the kiddos and watch as they are transformed into creative creatures!

NORTH BARRETT SQUARE

"Every Christmas Story Ever Told" Live Theatre

Tuesday, November 21, 2pm

Don't miss the REP's smash hit, "Every Christmas Story Ever Told" showcasing all your favorite beloved holiday classics crammed into a performance full of high-energy jolly, frivolity and hilarity. Fun for the whole family! Chairs and blankets welcome. Come early and get your face painted before the show!

NORTH BARRETT SQUARE (The Pearl Ballroom if raining)

WEDNESDAY

Twisted Treats

Wednesday, November 22, 3 - 5pm

Look for our talented artist strolling the streets on stilts making festive balloon objects and animals.

TOWN CENTER

Moonlight & Movies- A CHRISTMAS STORY

Wednesday, November 22,

6pm - 8pm

Bring the family for a wholesome, fun night under the stars. Chairs and blankets welcome!

WESTERN GREEN

THURSDAY

30A 10K & 1 Mile Fun Run

Thursday, November 24, 7:30am

Tour scenic Highway 30A and give yourself an excuse to go for that second slice of pumpkin pie. To register or learn more about this event visit www.30A10K.com

NORTH BARRETT SQUARE

FRIDAY

Merchant Holiday Open House

Friday, November 24, after the tree lighting

Visit the Town Center Merchants after the tree lighting for a very special evening of holiday shopping and refreshments!

SATURDAY

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, November 26,

8am - 10am

Bring the kids to Santa's Workshop for a magical morning filled with delight! Included are a boxed breakfast, a professional color photo with Santa, and a special goodie bag from Gigi's! Tickets are \$20 and available at the door.

TOWN HALL

Holiday Market

Saturday, November 26

10am - 4pm

Forget the hustle and bustle of the mall. Browse through booths filled with unique gifts you can't find anywhere else including hand-crafted jewelry, pottery, paintings and more.

WEST & EAST LONG GREENS & NORTH BARRETT SQUARE

THE REP THEATRE

REP Tribute Concert

November 14, 2017

Fundraiser for The REP

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Tickets: \$70

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MAINSTAGE

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November 30, Dec. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9

Doors: 7:30

Tickets: \$30

THE REP THEATRE

MAINSTAGE

Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and Then Some!)

MAINSTAGE

Matinee: 2pm: December 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29

Evening: 7:30pm: December 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29

Tickets: \$25

TOUR (Free Performances):

Rosemary: 11/21, 2pm

30A 10k: 11/22

Naturewalk: 11/24, 2pm

Alys: 11/25, 10am

Seaside: 11/25, 4pm

Big Bad Breakfast is All Day

BY SARAH MURPHY ROBERTSON

Big Bad Breakfast, in Inlet Beach, is bigger, badder, and way more than your average breakfast spot. But from their name alone, you may not realize they offer breakfast and lunch creations all day long as well as boasting a full bar and a great wine list. With something for every taste bud and drinks to wet any whistle, this adorable space adjacent to The Pointe is serving up freshly prepared food done the right way.

Opened on the eastern end of 30-A June 2017, this is the third location conceived by James Beard award-winning chef John Currence. He opened the first Big Bad Breakfast in Oxford, Mississippi with the resolve to give reverence and respect to the most important meal of the day. As GM Meighan Morris shares, the Inlet Beach location has taken Currence's philosophy and added nods to the beloved cuisine of this area with fresh seafood. It has also kept the commitment to serving custom-created meats, freshly made fruit preserves, and biscuits baked daily from scratch.

Starting at 7 am every day, all the favorites of the most important meal of the day are at the ready. The inviting and bright space and has combined indoor and outdoor seating for 130 and poolside service to guests of The Pointe.

The "Redneck" Benny is an open-faced benedict dish built with biscuits, country ham, eggs, and your choice of a traditional Hollandaise sauce; or going the distance and ordering the sausage gravy. I think you know what's the right call here.

Like mentioned earlier, many dishes include fresh gulf seafood. One favorite is their Oyster Scramble. This dish starts with smoky bacon, onions, tomatoes, and roasted peppers folded into fluffy scrambled eggs, and then topped with golden cornmeal encrusted Gulf oysters. Since no detail is overlooked at Big Bad Breakfast, Morris divulges even their cornmeal is a fresh, course ground, thus adding the perfect crunch.

The Fatback Meat Project is their own meat processing operation in North Alabama. All the restaurant's meats are handmade and cured in the company's development



Inlet Beach Location



Mimosa



Avocado Toast



"Redneck" Benny



Big Bad Burger



Fried Oyster Scramble

Since many guests of the Inlet Beach location are visitors on well-earned vacations, their famous made-from-scratch Bloody Marys and Irish coffee (inspired by the original recipe from San Francisco's Buena Vista Cafe) are must orders. Big Bad Breakfast has a full bar and every drink starts with housemade mixers and freshly squeezed juices.

As they say: when on 30-A!

Sweet tooths can order Belgium waffles, stacks of buttermilk pancakes, and will most certainly sing the praises of their French toast. It is brandy-spiked and then bruleed, adding that characteristic sugary shell.

Leaner plates, like their Avocado Toast, are a yummy alternative when looking for a healthier option. Nutty, toasty wheatberry bread is spread with creamy avocado, sprinkled with peppery arugula, and then two perfectly poached eggs and housemade pico as the crowning jewels. Insider tip: get this dish with lump jumbo crab, taking toast to a whole new level.

Keeping with their something for everyone, their Kids' menu has a sampling of breakfast treats like pancakes and eggs, tot faves like grilled cheese and chicken fingers, and even a pint-sized shrimp plate.

Morris hopes to add live music and Happy Hour drink specials, as the young restaurant moves into their first full high season next spring, so stay tuned. She also plans to expand their catering arm, so contact them with any questions regarding that side of the business. And as for everyone else: if you name it and crave it, Big Bad Breakfast makes it.



kitchens. This ensures quality control and a keen attention to the spice mixes and ingredients in all their proteins.

Speaking of meats, let's talk about the Big Bad Burger. This guy is a mile high and made with a half pound of fresh ground chuck. Its texture is tender, fall-apart heaven sent, and it comes dressed with American cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, and their tangy "Comeback Sauce". You may find yourself needing this burger even if it is 8 am.

Open daily from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Big Bad Breakfast is located at 10711 E. Hwy 30A in Inlet Beach. Follow them on Facebook or contact them at (850)532-6952.



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The Emeril Coast

BY LIESEL SCHMIDT

When your name is Emeril Lagasse, it's pretty much a given that anything you put your name on will BAM! Be a success...But while it could be simple to brand a concept and let things unfold, Chef Emeril takes on every new restaurant venture as a personal mission, to nurture and grow from the smallest idea beginnings to a full experience where guests can taste what makes this chef such a raging success.

One of Lagasse's newest, Emeril's Coastal Italian, is bringing diners in droves to the shiny new landmark of Lagasse located in Grand Boulevard—notably his very first restaurant in Northwest Florida. And while the simple utterance of his name could easily grant him entrée to almost any point on the map, the good chef had reason for setting up his kitchen in this beach enclave. "I love this community, and this has become primarily where my family and I live," says Lagasse. "I want to make a difference in the dining scene in Northwest Florida, and using the fantastic resources available here—the local ingredients and the fresh seafood caught by local fishermen—as much as I possibly can gives me the ability to really make the kind of difference that I feel needs to come."

Everything at Emeril's is naturally reflective of that desire to let freshness, seasonality, and locality drive the menu. So, too, is Lagasse's love of Italian cuisine and coastally inspired fare. As the name implies, the Italian coast is the true inspiration, and the new restaurant is his first "coastal Italian" concept thus far. Much with anything he puts his hand to, Lagasse's talent and understanding of how to let food become a thing of beauty—whether creating the simplest dish with only a few well-chosen ingredients or constructing something elegantly elaborate—shines through in every plate. Each sauce is a testament to his skill to achieve depth of flavor, with each pasta a handmade work of art. "This food is all special to me, something that's unique and different, and you can really taste the difference in the quality of the fresh ingredients we use here," he says.

Of course, Lagasse's vision could hardly be accomplished without the proper team; and he's entrusted his kitchen to the capable hands of his Chef de Cuisine, whose own culinary talents are truly masterful. Combining their passions, the two chefs have devised a menu of traditional Italian-inspired dishes imbued with the freshness of the seafood so abundant along the Gulf



Skillet Shrimp



Emeril's Coastal Italian's interior



Meril's Linguine & Clams



Dolce Tazzo

Photos courtesy Colleen Duffley

Coast. Offering an impressive array of small plates, fresh pasta dishes, flatbreads, and other signature dishes that bear Lagasse's creative spin, Emeril's Coastal Italian is proof that truly artful food needs neither to be over-the-top nor fussy.

Further proof is in the pudding—Chocolate Hazelnut Pudding, to be precise; or perhaps, in the cream pie? Whatever the case may be, even Emeril's decadently-devised dolce are evidentiary of the pride and care that go into every creation, delicately balanced with the desire to keep the element of fun well represented. Among the most popular of his "Dolce Tazzo" (sweet cups), is the signature Banana Cream Pie, a creamy custard confection that is the perfect marriage of sweet and tart served in

Each sauce is a testament to his skill to achieve depth of flavor, with each pasta a handmade work of art.

a parfait glass. As suggested by the menu heading, these particular delights are all served in glasses—perhaps a departure from the clean lines and tight presentation of desserts artfully arranged on a plate, but one that diners love with every bite. "We're having a lot of fun with this menu, and I think the guests are responding well," says Lagasse.

Not that anyone would expect otherwise. Anything presented by the world-renowned chef is generally received—and tasted—with enthusiasm; but Lagasse is hardly one to bank solely on his reputation or allow ego to blind him. In fact, he takes his guests' experiences to heart, making his greatest goal

to provide them with food that exceeds expectation. "Our teams are always working on how to be better every day, with all of our concepts newer or older; but having such supportive response from people with the new restaurant has been truly wonderful. Our customers seem to be happy that we're here, and

they really do appreciate what we're trying to do. For me, as a chef—and for my team—that's why we love what we do. We're just trying to make people happy and give them an unforgettable experience."

Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach, Florida 32550. Open Sunday - Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Friday - Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. For more information, call (850) 608-7040 or visit www.emerilsrestaurants.com.



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Chef Profile: Chris Joyner of Saltwater Grill

BY SUSAN BENTON



Chef Chris Joyner

and its nonstop parade of exotic sea creatures. Patrons are also serenaded nightly by Michael Rorah, making magic happen on the keys in the onsite piano bar.

In the kitchen however, Chris Joyner is at the helm. Joyner was recently brought in to join the team as the executive chef of Saltwater Grill with diners already singing his accolades.

Originally from Ashford, Alabama, Joyner is a Navy veteran with submarine experience. While in the military he began thinking about his passion in life: cooking, and so attended Gulf Coast State College, where he received a degree in Culinary Management in 2002.



Crab Cakes



Seared Tuna



Shrimp and Grits

area at the time, Onano served coastal Italian cuisine specializing in Gulf seafood and fresh pastas.

With such a rich journey through the local culinary scene as a cook, chef, and partner in many of the coveted 30-A restaurants; not to mention being a Panama City resident since 1999; Joyner was the natural fit for Saltwater Grill when the Spell Restaurant Group was seeking new talent. Joyner says, “I am committed to this area and to bringing the highest quality of food to the guests at Saltwater Grill. I enjoy using Florida’s citrus as it really brightens the dishes. I source Greg Abrams for seafood, Florida Seminole for beef, and have standing orders with local farmers for produce.”

Though Saltwater Grill offers an abundance of the freshest Gulf seafood and a dazzling array of choice steaks, if in the mood you can choose your own from Maine Lobster flown in twice weekly and found in the live lobster tank. You might also be tempted to try one of the most popular dishes, the gluten free Grouper Imperial. It is perfectly grilled before being topped with succulent jumbo lump crabmeat and finished with a decadent sherry beurre blanc sauce.”

Joyner says, “I tend to lean toward Mediterranean flavors. I like the simplicity and balance, and it suits our fresh from the Gulf seafood so well. For example, most grilled fish pair perfectly with lentils. Add some fried potatoes and arugula dressed with lemon-olive oil to the plate, and you’ve got a balanced dish where the flavors shine and the protein is the star.”

In his time off, Joyner enjoys running and spending time with his wife Betty, an English professor at Gulf Coast State College.

TripAdvisor ranks Saltwater grill among the top fifteen restaurants out of close to five hundred in Panama City. With Chef Joyner’s credentials it is no surprise.

Saltwater Grill is located at 11040 Hutchinson Blvd., in Panama City. Hours of operation are Sunday to Thursday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday to Saturday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Plan on taking advantage of the call ahead seating so that your table will be waiting upon arrival. Please visit their website www.saltwatergrillpcb.com for more information, or call (850) 230-2739.

Susan Benton is a food and travel writer with published articles, recipes, and photography in many local, regional, and national publications. Her website is 30AEATS.com where she writes about the secrets of Gulf Coast food.

“I tend to lean toward Mediterranean flavors. I like the simplicity and balance, and it suits our fresh from the Gulf seafood so well.”

Food and music are key elements that most are seeking when on vacation. They are also important for locals who also want the freshest coastal cuisine: a place to meet with friends, and experience the nightlife.

Saltwater Grill in Panama City Beach offers those things, along with a panoramic view of the their 25,000-gallon tropical saltwater aquarium upon entering the restaurant. Both the Café dining room and the more intimate bar area offer dazzling views of this tropical reef

His reputation grew with positions he held at WaterColor Inn & Resort, where he was later promoted to Sous Chef; and then Chef de Cuisine at the property’s Baithouse Restaurant, which was featured in *Southern Living* magazine.

Joyner, seeking his own restaurant space and wanting to be his own boss, became a partner in the popular Onano Neighborhood Café in Rosemary Beach. Known for being one of the few upscale establishments in the



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The Underwater Museum of Art

BY ANNE HUNTER

The Beaches of South Walton will soon be home to first submerged sculpture park in the United States. A submerged sculpture park is essentially an underwater museum: a curated installation of sculptures, submerged in a specific plot of seabed. There are a handful of submerged sculpture parks located around the world. Two of them; one located in the Caribbean Island of Grenada, and the other on Cancun, Mexico; were created by sculptor Jason DeCaires Taylor. His sculptural creations serve as the inspiration for the submerged sculpture park in that will be located in Grayton Beach.

The Cultural Arts Association (CAA) developed the idea for the Underwater Museum of Art (UMA) and then approached SWARA (South Walton Artificial Reef Association). The organization has been creating large, successful artificial reefs on plots of seabed along

taking steps toward that. The Underwater Art Museum was my only big idea that rang true of something that we can do here,” says Allison Wickey, President of the Board for the CAA. “The fact that the land was available through SWARA is huge. It was perfect. The UMA covers so many bases. Not only does it make us more cosmopolitan, but it also ties into the CAA’s education community enrichment initiatives. We are leaders in how art will be driving the art scene in the community. This is the direction that we want to go - current, relevant and fresh, attracting artists from all over through thoughtful tourism. This project touches every cornerstone in our mission statement and has endless potential.”

The inspiration for the UMA came from the combination of watching the installation of our local artificial reef and learning about the existing submerged

sculptures in other parts of the world. “The CAA always looks for new and creative ways to fulfill our mission with partners who understand the capability of the arts to solve community-wide issues. Working with SWARA and gaining support from national and state agencies have made it possible to get this project going so quickly, and we think it has the potential to make substantial impact in the art world and put Walton County on the map as a center for cultural excellence,” says Steele.

The sculptures will be targeted for installation in spring 2018. “There are so many opportunities for education, observation, and creativity that are springing from this partnership that we can’t wait to explore,” says Steele. The first step to getting involved is to become a member of the CAA by going to: www.culturalartsalliance.com/join-now/.

This is the direction that we want to go - current, relevant and fresh, attracting artists from all over through thoughtful tourism.



Artist Jason deCaires Taylor created this sculpture park in Cancun.



The sculptures will be transported via barge and submerged in 2018.

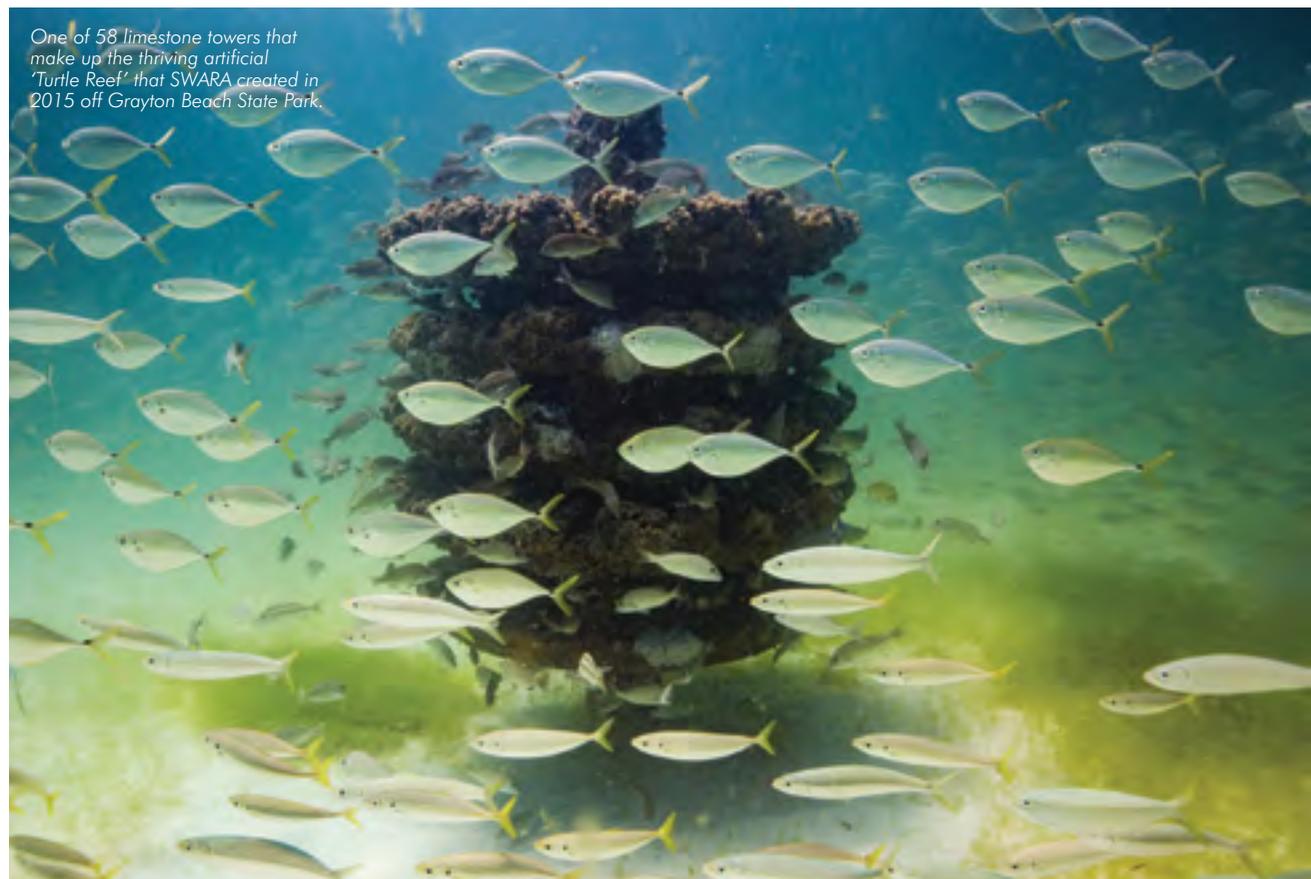
the Emerald Coast. SWARA’s immense knowledge of the technicalities and permitting process surrounding the development of an underwater museum was crucial to the project.

“They are as excited as we are about the idea,” says Jennifer Steele, Executive Director for the CAA. “Without SWARA, there would be no UMA.” Together the CAA and SWARA have applied for and received support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Alys Foundation, Visit South Walton, and Visit Florida; and have plans for fundraisers and other sponsor solicitation.

“We could not be more excited to introduce the Underwater Museum of as the first official project for the Cultural Arts Association’s Art in Public Spaces program, which will create and support public art projects and improve access to art by the community we serve,” says Steele.

SWARA has secured nine plots of seabed along the panhandle. Each plot includes nine acres, bringing the total to 81 acres. One corner, located approximately 3/4 mile off of the shores of Grayton Beach, is designated specifically for UMA. With a depth of 55-feet, the location is an optimal spot for SCUBA diving. Grayton Beach State Park is centrally located, has facilities, and has ADA compliant access to the shore.

“I became a member of the CAA with the excitement and intent to modernize the association and I’ve been



One of 58 limestone towers that make up the thriving artificial ‘Turtle Reef’ that SWARA created in 2015 off Grayton Beach State Park.



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Joan Vienot – En Plein Air

BY ANNE HUNTER

Neighboring Colorado teachers who enjoyed outdoor activities, Joan Vienot and Helen McCall moved to Seagrove Beach in the fall of 1981 to open a campground the two women felt would allow them to pursue their interests. Vienot and McCall operated the campground for 6 years.

But ultimately, Vienot's pursuit was art. "I sold small ink drawings at the open air market area that was to become Perspicacity when Robert and Daryl Davis first began to develop Seaside. When the late Susan Foster opened her Gallery in Grayton Beach, I was her featured watercolorist."

In recent years, Vienot switched to oil paints for her creative medium and has become one of the region's premier realist landscape artists painting en plein air. En plein air is French for "in the open."

Vienot now resides in Point Washington. Born and raised in Colorado, the outdoor artist earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Art from the University of Northern Colorado, with an emphasis in life drawing and a certification in public school teaching. She taught art in a Colorado high school for three years before moving to Northwest Florida in 1980.

An avid paddle boarder, canoeist, nature photographer, and outdoor enthusiast, Vienot finds inspiration anywhere there is light. Her adventures often lead her to return to scenic areas, brushes and palette in hand. "My idea of a good time is paddling our scenic waters with dear friends. There is a spiritual balance and a joy that comes from being on the water, where I become more aware of my oneness with others and with the planet."

Vienot started a swimming pool service business in 1983, giving her less time to devote to the pursuit of art. When the economy changed in 2007, it allowed time to refocus on her passion. "On Wednesday evenings I began participating in the figure drawing sessions that Colleen Duffley offered at Studio B in Alys Beach. I attended a course on The Artists Way handbook, presented by Joyce Hogue at A. Wickey Gallery in late 2012, and in 2013, I began learning to paint en plein air.



Painting at Deer Lake State Park



Joan Vienot

Vienot soon had enough paintings to be able to say, "yes" when Cheri Peebles invited her to for solo exhibition at Grayton Grounds of Monet. "Soon after that, Cheri asked me if I would paint en plein air at a wedding she was coordinating. I painted the scene at their reception and when the first dance started, I shot several photos and completed a quick pencil sketch of the lovely couple, and blocked them in on the painting, to finish later in the studio."

The artist was painting at a wedding reception when one of the guests asked that she include a rainbow in the painting, because whenever the bride saw a rainbow, she felt the sweet presence of her departed grandmother. "There was a glint of light running up and down the tall glass vase on the table nearest to me, so when I painted it, I created a prism of color for the highlight. Grandma winked from heaven."

Like everything in South Walton, Vienot feels that the art scene has exploded over the years. The Town of Seaside began bringing movies and events to South Walton; Susan Foster opened her Gallery in Grayton Beach, and with the help of Jan Clarke and a few other visionaries, started the Grayton Beach Fine Arts Festival. The Cultural Arts Alliance was formed and the festival evolved into the present-day CAA ArtsQuest

Fine Art and Music Festival. Now South Walton enjoys art events and art educational programs, and entertainment, every day, year-round. "I am proud to have served on the Board of Directors of the CAA from 2011 to 2017," says the arts advocate. "I predict that South Walton County will become a premier destination for working artists, with more and more programs like Escape to Create, that support up-and-coming creative people."

Her favorite place to paint in South Walton is the coastal dune lakes. In the coming year, her self-challenge is to paint all of them, en plein air. "The greatest pleasure for me as an artist is the capture of the present moment, a little piece of now," Vienot inspires. "It is my pleasure to share with others, the beauty I see."

I predict that South Walton County will become a premier destination for working artists, with more and more programs like Escape to Create, that support up-and-coming creative people.

*For more information: Joan Vienot (850) 259-8394; www.joanvienot.com; joanvienot@gmail.com; www.30AWeddingPainter.com; or visit *Bohlert-Massey Interiors in Seacrest Beach, On the Waterfront Gallery in Apalachicola, and A. Wickey Gallery in the Shops at the Hub.**



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Samantha Hill Farm

BY JESSICA HOLTHAUS BADOUR



Gabriel and Natalie Gray

the main river system that feeds into the bay that runs out to the Gulf of Mexico. This was of special interest to Gray, with his background in conservation. “As soon as I saw Samantha Hill Farm, I fell in love with it. When I found out about the creek that ultimately feeds into the Gulf, it brought back the kid in me and I immediately wanted to explore it,” he says. “I want kids to understand that there are plenty of places to explore – but we have to cherish those places and protect them. I can teach them by showing them that the way we farm and treat our land ultimately affects the waterways around us, and could impact our drinking water and the Gulf.”

To that end, the Grays started a grassroots project “Fight to Save Our American Rivers”, designed to capture the interest of youth and adults through adventure, while sprinkling in conservation along the way. Gray travels the country speaking, teaching classes, and working to inspire students while emphasizing the importance of clean water.

His conservation trips include people from all walks of life and all ages (“Eight to 88!” he laughs). Additionally, he plans to start a new project this year called Native Waters, paddling across the Southeast exploring local waterways.

“My goal of working in conservation is to help get kids back outdoors and reconnected to nature. With my passion in water and the outdoors, it’s very cool that this

For a boy who grew up on a farm in Monticello, Fla., life has come full circle now that he and his wife have started their own 100 acre farm in Chipley. Today, Gabriel Gray is working to live off the land and encourage others to see the importance of reconnecting to the outdoors and treating Mother Nature well.



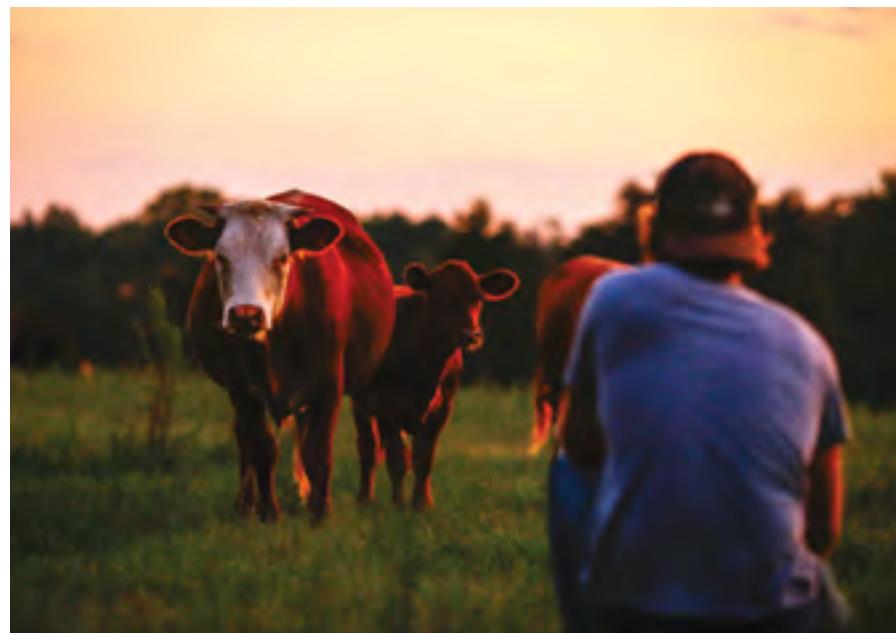
Gabriel and his dog Bindi

Gray and his wife Natalie purchased Samantha Hill Farm about a year ago, an hour north from 30-A and the Emerald Coast. He works as a firefighter/EMT for South Walton Fire District, in addition to working on the farm and running his paddleboard and conservation business, Gray Outdoors. Gray has watched the communities along 30-A grow over the past decade and, for him, getting off the beach and onto the farm brings him back to his roots.

“There are certain things that are ingrained in a person. I was lucky to grow up the way I did, with nature, outdoors, farming and animals,” he says. “Now that I

am on my own farm, I’d like to raise grass-fed beef cattle, and have a large enough garden to feed my family and friends. Growing a large enough herd to sell grass-fed beef to the restaurants here on 30-A would be my long-term goal.”

The farm just so happens to have a small creek on the back corner, which meanders its way into a larger creek that eventually meets up with



Top: Photo by Jackson Berger
Left: Photo by John Rathwell
Above: Photo by Desiree Gardner



Left: Photo by Desiree Gardner
Top: Photo by Jackson Berger
Above: Photo by John Rathwell

creek connects Samantha Hill Farm to the Gulf of Mexico out past 30-A,” he says. “This new Native Waters project will start with a six-day journey starting at the farm and ending in the Gulf.

“When I go to schools, kids come up and tell me, ‘That’s inspiring, but I don’t have a place like that near me,’ and it breaks my heart,” he continues. “I tell them, yes you do – put down your phone and go outside and listen to the birds singing and the squirrels moving through the trees. Start in your own backyard or ask your parents to take you to the nearest park. Get outside!”

Gray knows that living off the land is never easy, and running Samantha Hill Farm has definitely been a labor of love in its first year – but looking back, he wouldn’t change a thing.

“I always knew I wanted to settle back down here in the South on a farm – I didn’t know when, where, or how, but luckily my wife and I were able to work hard, save, and make our dreams come true,” he says. “Now we sit on our front porch and sometimes it’s hard for me to believe that all of this is ours. That’s what I want to show our youth: If you work hard and you love something, you can take your passion and turn it into something special.”

To learn more about Gray’s conservation trips, visit www.GrayOutdoors.com, or find him on Instagram @GrayOutdoors and Facebook. Additionally, like the farm on Facebook at www.facebook.com/samanthahillfl.

Arriaga Jewelry Store – Seacrest Beach

BY KEMPTEN TAYLOR

Diamonds might be known as “a girl’s best friend”, but that girl probably hasn’t come across the gorgeous jewelry designs of Arriaga Originals, located off of County HWY 30A in Seacrest Beach. This deluxe jewelry store features nature-inspired, handcrafted pieces comprised of the finest 18-Karat gold, pure silver, high-quality pearls, turquoise, opals, and unique gem stones that can’t be found anywhere else in the world. “If it’s not an Arriaga, it’s not an original,” says Shellie Arriaga, co-owner of Arriaga Originals.

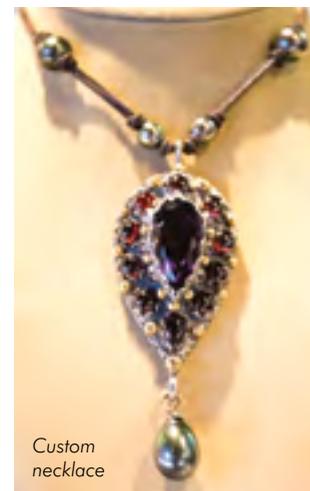


Custom ring creation

Arriaga Originals is quite the family affair; Richard, wife Shellie, and son Max Arriaga work tirelessly together to bring the Emerald Coast their beautiful handcrafted designs. For Richard art and design is an evident lifelong passion. He started at the young age of 10 years old and is a self-taught jewelry designer, sculptor, and painter. Hailing from the lone star state of Texas, Richard worked from childhood throughout his high school years honing his craft and excelling in art. In 1985 Richard began working with a partner in Texas for a



Dressed in pearls



Custom necklace

The couple’s son Max joined the family business after finishing high school; and he and Richard create all of the jewelry they sell, while Shellie handles the business side of Arriaga Originals. “Each piece is meticulously handmade and is one-of-a-kind, which is what we are known for,” says Shellie. Nature is the inspiration behind the pieces and designs at Arriaga Originals and the white, sugary sand, emerald-green water, and calmness of the beach is clearly manifested in each original piece of jewelry. “Nature is full of textures and shapes that are awe inspiring and keeping with nature and organics is important to us and what we all truly love. And apparently, so do our wonderful clients who continue to collect year after year,” says Shellie. Arriaga Originals is also known as the home of “pearls gone wild”.

“This winter, we have a royal purple pear shape Amethyst set in pure silver surrounded, with cabachon-cut red garnets, and accented with 18-Karat gold with a beautiful tear drop shape peacock Tahitian dangling from the main attraction. It is elegant, beautiful, and timeless. It’s one of my favorites available this season,” says Shellie. The Arriaga’s matchless style embraces the natural properties of metals and gems, where each piece of jewelry is textured in a way that gives the elegance of wear and age of a treasured heirloom and is not-to-be-missed for those visiting 30-A.

Arriaga Originals brings unique, one-of-a-kind, handcrafted jewelry to Seacrest Beach and is located at 10343 E. Co. Hwy 30A #111. The showroom is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. weekly. For additional information, call (850) 231-0084 or visit richardarriaga.com.

Nature is full of textures and shapes that are awe inspiring and keeping with nature and organics is important to us and what we all truly love.

small, family-owned jewelry store. After a yearlong stint, he then moved to another family-owned jewelry store for a brief period, before he and wife Shellie decided to take the plunge and embark on a family business of their own. They spent years creating their own line that was shown at juried art shows around the state. After a decade of success in Texas the couple decided to move with their young son to Shellie’s hometown of Destin, FL, so they could be near family and raise their son in a small town atmosphere. “My father was in Destin and it was where I grew up. We wanted to raise our son Max in a small town

with clean air and beautiful beaches. The panhandle is where we call home,” recalls Shellie.

In 2002 the dynamic duo opened in Grayton Beach where they had a retail space for a year. Then they moved to a three-story home with a retail space on the first floor in Blue Mountain Beach, located adjacent to Gaffery Art gallery. They operated out of that space for three years as they grew the business to a point where a new, more formal showroom and retail space was needed. In 2007, Arriaga Originals moved to Seacrest Beach where the store currently resides.

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Pronto Delivery

BY JESSICA HOLTHAUS BADOUR

With a long to-do list of places to go and things to see while here on 30-A, Pronto Delivery offers solutions to some of the ongoing realities: Traffic, parking, and restaurant wait times.

There is a plethora of dining options here: from low-key to fine dining. No matter your preference, no one likes to eat out or cook every night, especially on vacation. And no one can argue that parking along 30-A is a challenge. Enter Pronto Delivery, which offers locals and visitors alike the next best thing: Direct delivery of a meal from some of your favorite local dining hot spots, right to your door or beach access point (as their tagline says, Fresh food, fast!).

“Everybody has their favorite ‘spots’ when they are here. But you’re staying at a beautiful place, may be paying a considerable amount for it, and you might want a few nights to appreciate it, hang out, and relax,” says Partner/Co-Founder Christopher Cumby. “And when you’re here with kids (from one to many), going out to eat is not an easy task. This offers a convenient alternative.”

Starting with when they opened, Fourth of July weekend, 2017, Pronto saw a myriad of orders for families living or vacationing along 30-A. Knowing the demand to accurately provide the supply was, and is, important to Cumby for the business model to be successful.

“We track where our concentration is, because we want to understand the market demand and grow from there – I always say, walk as far as you can see, and you’ll see a little farther,” Cumby quips. “There are a lot of people who want the convenience. It’s something people can relate to and a service they actually want...I’m a sales consultant by trade, so I like helping companies solve problems. This was an opportunity to solve a problem while building a platform and a solution.”

But the 30-A community design makes a traditional delivery service ineffective. Hence, Cumby instituted electric bicycles. This is important because the bikes not only keep the environment beautiful, they don’t add extra cars while offering a speedy option (the chargeable bikes can reach speeds up to 25 mph) to provide meal deliveries in 30 minutes or less.

Safety is a major priority. “You have a tremendous amount of foot traffic, other bikers, and lots of drivers here,” Cumby points out. “We want to bring awareness to the rules of the road. You have to keep your head about you even when you’re on vacation. Some people just aren’t paying attention; we want to remind the community to be aware and be safe, for everyone on the road.”

Toronto-born Cumby came up with the business idea while living here in Florida and waiting to complete



Co-Founder Chris Cumby at the Pizza Bar

his U.S. immigration status. His friends Rob Truax (originally from New York) and Glen Metropolit (also from Toronto) were on board to implement. This year, the service was offered at 10 restaurants with delivery in a four-mile radius through Grayton, WaterColor, Seaside, and Seagrove.

“I can see it expanding fairly quickly. With millions of visitors, it’ll be interesting to see where it goes,” Cumby says. “Many people really appreciate the service. It may be seasonal, but if it can grow as a brand in residential areas, there may be some pivots the company needs to look at to reach new levels.”

For Cumby, that’s meant getting a lot of feedback from the restaurants and fine-tuning the business model based on what the data told him. “Once I had my team and the bikes, I needed data to understand the potential,” he says. “We learned through action and mistakes – the good news is we never made a mistake with any deliveries!”

Cumby describes working with 30-A restaurants as a partnership. The restaurants started pushing the service to their customers as soon as they saw the delivery option worked. The benefit to the restaurants is all orders

funnel through Pronto Delivery (no restaurant phone lines jammed up with delivery requests), keeping it a simple solution.

“Servicing their food past the dinner table makes sense. We use technology to help the restaurants streamline the process and we help them reach more people. It’s about taking their food further,” he says. “The beautiful thing about Seaside and 30-A is that innovation is really embraced and everyone here is trying to create new solutions.”

Now that the first summer season was a success, Cumby and his team plan to figure out the next steps. What will it look like next summer? Stay tuned...

The company plans to build in new delivery service hours to include lunch and dinner options. For the latest information about restaurants included in the Pronto Delivery service and delivery hours, please visit www.pronto30a.com or like their Facebook page, www.facebook.com/pronto30a.



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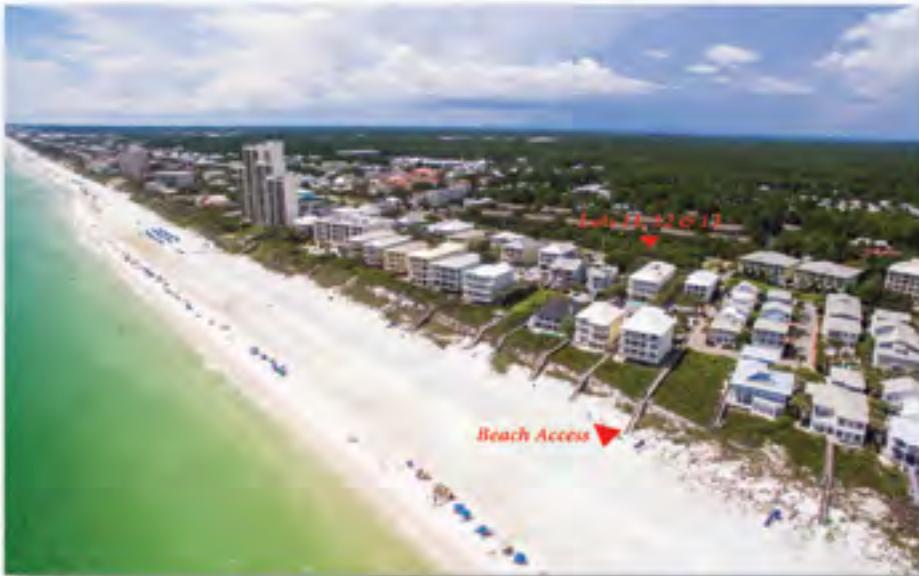
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A Life in Bloom

BY LIESEL SCHMIDT

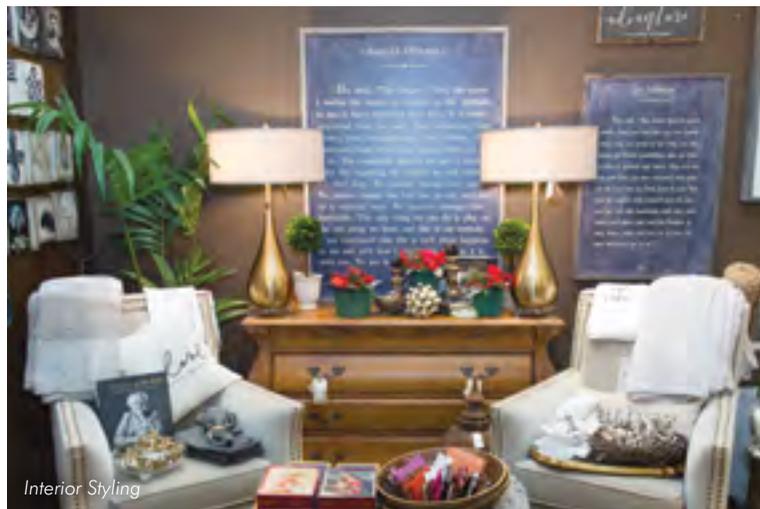
Offering everything from handcrafted original note cards and beautiful watercolors, to elegant pieces of jewelry and home accessories; for the past twenty-five years Magnolia House in Grand Boulevard has been far more than just a shop—it has essentially become a gathering place and a remarkable treasure that well represents the passionate heart of the woman behind the brand.

Having grown up in Memphis, Tennessee, Nancy Veldman was naturally attuned to the music scene thriving so near in Nashville. Combined with the natural grit and grace of a Southern woman, that affinity for music grew into talent and a desire to make a difference in the world that she nurtured throughout life. At her core, one might say that Veldman is a Renaissance woman of sorts, a talent in many artistic and intellectual realms. And while she might have spent much of her adult life as a legal secretary and then in the laboratory-side of the cattle industry, Veldman took a leap of faith twenty-five years ago to explore her true passions of painting, writing, and music: well proving that it is never too late to burst into bloom.

“I really feel that’s something important to share with other women,” says Veldman. “It often doesn’t happen when you’re young and raising a family, but later on, there’s a greater opportunity to find new passions that enrich your life. It gives you a new sense of purpose and that’s a really a beautiful thing. That’s the real story here.”

So too is the life she’s created for herself, carving out her own little niche as a painter, musician, and published author who now happily calls Sandestin her home. She pours herself into everything she puts her hand to, and that shows not only in her books, CDs, and watercolors, but also in the magical store she owns in Miramar Beach. “I try to surround my customers with things they love. That’s important to me—but even more important are their hearts,” she says.

It’s a sense of peace and that connection to the heart and soul that Veldman hopes most to engender and share with the people around her. Rather than simply considering herself an artist or a shop-owner, she considers it her mission to minister to the people in her path. And with so many beautiful things enticing people into her store, her field of ministry is certainly large. It’s an inspiring place to be, this peaceful place full of so many treasures; but Magnolia House also offers a soundtrack of Veldman’s soul-touching music: CDs whose moving messages have served as a source of healing



Interior Styling



In Store Reading Room

in ways that she might never have envisioned, making their way nationwide into hospitals, cancer treatment centers, doctors’ offices, and schools to offer hope and encouragement to those who might need them the most.

Among the many hats that she wears, Veldman is also a humanitarian, one recognized by her native city of Memphis, in fact. “I was awarded the Key to the City for my work in the community and for the impact that my music was having in so many hospitals and cancer centers,” Veldman explains. “I have a heart for people—I want to see them thrive and succeed, no matter where they are in life.” That desire extends not only to the sick and hurting but to the homeless, as well. “I have fed the homeless in Destin, along with hundreds of others. In fact, one of my novels takes place in Destin and it’s changed the opinions of my readers about homeless people.”

Whether working with customers in her store or out in the community, Veldman is a treasure in her own right—a late bloomer, perhaps, but one whose strength of character makes her all the more magnetic. “People ask me how I do what I do, and the answer to that is that I’m driven to do it. It’s my joy and my purpose. And even though it takes discipline and much sacrifice, the blessings I’ve been given while walking it out are so much more than the sacrifices I’ve made. It takes not only passion, but also determination and an innate ability to push through no matter what. The thing I most want people to see is that as we age, our lives still matter. What we have to give matters. And in the end, we all want our lives to count for something.”



Holiday Tablescape

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Do You Need Liver Support?

BY DR. BART M. PRECOURT

In Chinese medicine there is a saying, “You LIVE by way of your LIVER.” It has long been known that our liver is one of, if not the most, important organs in the human body, and it is at the root of “anti-aging”. Unfortunately, it is often overlooked. If your liver is overworked and tired it will show up in three major areas: your skin, immune system, and energy levels.

LIVER FUNCTION:

A large meaty organ that sits behind the right side of your rib cage, the liver has over 500 vital functions. Some of its more known functions include producing bile, which carries away waste and debris and aids in digestion, detoxifying chemicals, and metabolizing medications. It's also responsible for converting glucose into energy or storing it for later use.

All of the blood leaving your stomach and intestines passes through the liver. This is when the liver goes to work trying to break down, balance, and metabolize everything that enters your body. The more chemicals, alcohol, and medications you are exposed to, the harder your liver works; and if it cannot keep up with the demands, then you start to become toxic, a.k.a. age faster.

TOP 3 LIVER STRESSORS:

1. **Toxins/Chemicals.** Any and all forms. This includes environmental toxins such as pollen and ragweed. Industrial toxins such as paint, cleaning products, pesticides, mosquito sprays, sunscreens, soaps, makeup, flame retardants found in mattresses and kids clothing, and many others. And of course, one of the most compelling chemical toxins: FOOD. Of the greatest concern for us are GMO foods, which are exposed to Glyphosate, the active ingredient in a pesticide called RoundUp. We should all run as fast and far away from this as possible!
2. **Alcohol/Medications.** Not much explanation is needed here. These both put undue stress on your liver. Ignoring this fact doesn't make it go away. Often, I get the question “What's the best alcohol for you?” Yikes... Alcohol is never good for us, but maybe the best answer is to drink Organic Dry Farm Wines. These wines still have some good ingredients that haven't been damaged by the processing. But surprisingly, most wines may be the worst! On average, wines contain 50-70 different chemicals that are not labeled on the bottle.

Dr. Bart M. Precourt



3. **Stress.** In Chinese medicine, it is said that emotional stress, especially emotions of worry, obsessive concern, anger, and frustration decrease your liver Chi (energy). You might see now how following a stressful day with a chemical-filled glass of wine could be a habit to modify.

TOP 3 LIVER SUPPORT:

1. **Hydrate.** This is too easy and helpful not to do. Proper hydration takes stress off the liver by helping the body stay clean. Good hydration works as a natural filtering system for your body. Ideally drinking one half of your body weight in ounces of water is a good daily target. E.g.: 120 lbs = 60 oz (approx. a half gallon of H₂O).
2. **Emotional releases.** We all need more play time! More time spent with family and friends just having good times. A mental break of sorts. Life can have a way of feeling like a struggle, but it's not designed to be so. Go outside and play.
3. **Supplements.** Clinically, this is probably where the biggest gains can be made. Two specific ways to help the liver are liver support and

liver detox. For liver support, you want to provide the liver with all of the tools the liver needs to function properly. Like gas for a car. In my clinic, I most often use Livaplex from Standard Process. This is an amazing liver support that uses whole food ingredients, including desiccated glands.

For liver detox, I use a commonly known herb from Medi Herb called Silymarin (Milk Thistle). This herb can help you increase your natural production of an important antioxidant called glutathione. Eating liverwurst is also a good option.

About lab work: Relying on blood work alone to determine proper liver function is not accurate enough. In fact, most lab work will only show when the liver is under heavy distress, in cases like fatty liver. Clinically I recommend evaluating lifestyle in conjunction with the appropriate testing. Consult with your doctor before taking liver support supplements if on medications.

Bonus GOOD news: Your liver is truly an amazing organ. It's the only organ that can heal itself! The key is that you help it do so by reducing liver stressors and increasing liver support. If your habits i.e.; alcohol, stress, and foods have been putting a beat down on your liver for years or maybe even decades, don't stress! You can rejuvenate your liver by rejuvenating your lifestyle.

Dr. Bart M. Precourt is a Holistic Doctor, chiropractor, acupuncturist and nutritional consultant. For nearly 20 years he has helped people get healthy, lose weight and create healthy sustainable lifestyles. He currently practices in Seagrove Beach, FL at Balance Health Studio, www.balance30a.com. For a consultation contact Balance Health Studio at (850) 231-9288.



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Understanding a Pioneering Real Estate Market

BY RON ROMANO

It is an opportunity to invest in the most beautiful part of the country that is only beginning to be discovered.

I still laugh as I look back on how we “discovered” Northwest Florida. We lived in Colorado at the time and always wanted to live on the water. My wife and I were on a dive trip to the Cayman Islands. The dive masters we were with had lived on beaches all over the world. We had to ask them: “Where are the best beaches in the world?” They smiled and said, “You are never going to believe us, but the best beaches in the world are in the Florida Panhandle”. That was in 1999; we visited the next year and spent two weeks traveling from Panama City to Gulf Shores. We hit 30-A, fell in love, and the rest is history.

Even with as much growth as we have seen in the last 20 years, our market is still a “Pioneering Market”: a market that remains relatively undiscovered and is still trying to figure out what it is and what it will become. During real estate cycles, prices in pioneering markets will tend to fluctuate more than in established markets. When traveling, maybe 1 in 50 will understand or even know where we live, even here in Florida! However, there is no place where I would rather invest in real estate over the next 10 to 20 years. It is an opportunity to invest in the most beautiful part of the country that is only beginning to be discovered.

Travel to and from our area is becoming easier with many new air carriers and non-stop routes. US 331 widening and expansion will make the trip much easier as well. The entire area is transforming with the redevelopment of Panama City Beach to shipbuilding and Airbus expansion in Mobile and surrounding areas. Our substantial military infrastructure continues to grow as well, with Eglin being the largest military base in the world, along with Naval Support Panama City, NAS Pensacola and Tyndall Air Force Base. The former “Quaint Little Fishing Village” of Destin has grown up



but the fishing is still world-class, and rivals Cabo San Lucas for the title of “Best Sport Fishing in the World”. The Choctawhatchee Bay provides wonderful recreational experiences from fishing to aquatic lounging at Crab Island.

30-A is a truly special place that draws comparisons to Nantucket, Martha’s Vineyard, and even Malibu. It has become a hiding place for the rich and famous and those that are simply looking to “get away from it all”. Seaside was the birthplace of new urbanism in the early 80’s and remains a model in town planning. WaterColor, Rosemary, Alys Beach and WaterSound provide luxurious settings for families and couples alike. You can get away from it all in Point Washington, Grayton Beach, Seacrest, and Blue Mountain Beach. More than seventy percent of the land in Walton County south of the Choctawhatchee Bay is designated as State Park or State Forest, and Grayton Beach is consistently on the “Best Beaches” list. The preservation land and 50’ building height limit serve to make Scenic 30-A a truly special place.

Our area still represents a “Great Buy” when compared with other coastal market: just ask those in California and South Florida. As real estate has come back throughout the country we are seeing an increase in 1031-tax-deferred-exchange money and from others that are getting nervous over an inflated stock market. The majority of our purchases are still being made without mortgages further solidifying our market and making 30-A the place to invest for returns and your family.

Ron Romano is Co-Owner of The Beach Group along with Andy Wiggins. Romano and Wiggins have been Real Estate Brokers for nearly 30 years. The Beach Group is located next to WaterColor on Scenic 395, learn more at www.TheBeachGroup.com or reach out to Romano at Ron@TheBeachGroup.com.

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Gary Wise of 30-A Carroll Realty

BY SUSAN L. CANNIZZARO



Gary Wise

and putting an organized plan in place to make those dreams come true,” he says. “It is a big mix of buyers and you cannot beat this great coastal lifestyle.”

Gary met Larry Carroll a year ago and convinced him that he needed to open an office on 30-A. Carroll is celebrating his 30th year of having the Coldwell Banker Global Luxury Carroll Realty offices in Panama City and Panama City Beach, and is excited for the newest office in 30-A. “To have our brand recognition and instant credibility, we offer a lot of benefits to our clients, and that sets us apart from the competition,” says Carroll. The average tenure of his agents tends to be 12-13 years. “Our agents have a wealth of experience and knowledge and we strive to give the best customer satisfaction,” he adds.

“Last year with the combined Coldwell Banker Global Luxury Carroll Realty offices, we had the highest sales volumes of all real estate offices our size in the Southeast,” Carroll continues. “Gary has outstanding leadership, skills and the ability to get along with everyone. What sets him and our other agents apart is their ability to give the best customer service experience. We will do well in the 30-A area with our outstanding agents and having Gary at the helm.” Carroll offers free training, provides mentors, has no desk fees, no website fees, and no educational costs. “I encourage people to get their broker licenses and I never compete with my agents,” he adds.

Wise says, “The area of Santa Rosa Beach and the 30-A Corridor is not just an incredible beach destination. The rare coastal dune lakes and the environmental positives are incredible. The spring fed lakes and aquifers are a topic of interest that many people are just discovering. The entire area is an incredible place to invest; not only monetarily, but also for families and couples. The area is very accepting and the beaches are less dense due to local building codes that do not allow building above 50 feet.”

He adds, “Real estate is a better long-term investment and one that you can actually enjoy. Many baby boomers are buying in this area and looking toward future retirement here. This is a good indicator of market stability.”

I enjoy listening to my clients and learning the vision they have for their real estate dreams and putting an organized plan in place to make those dreams come true.

Carroll chimes in. “The average home price in this area is around \$700,000, although you can find homes in the high \$300’s. Beachfront homes are available from \$2.3 Million to \$10 Million+. People are drawn to this area due to great laid-back atmosphere and the accessibility. There is a walk/bike trail that is 17 miles long and people are on it all day long. Our beaches are some of the prettiest in the world and this area attracts sophisticated buyers,” says Carroll.

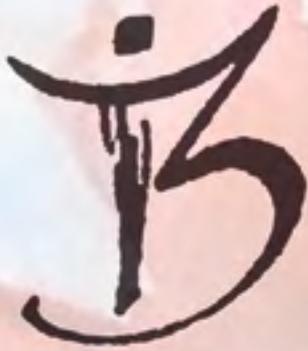
“Years past we were a drive-to market with most buyers coming from the Southeastern States. Now we have buyers from all over the United States,” says Wise.

During Wise’s tenure in Atlanta he met John, who is the owner of a civil engineering firm. “I have known Gary for over 30 years and he has used my engineering services. We have done some commercial work together and we have been equity partners. Gary has been very inspirational in helping me find many investment properties in the area and most recently a home in Alys Beach,” John says. “Gary is smart, resourceful and he really goes the extra mile to help find the right home in the right area,” he adds.

Call Gary today to find out how he can help you find the perfect home. To contact him, call (850) 890-1117, or visit the office at 9961 E. County Highway 30A Seacrest, FL 32461.

30-A has a newer real estate company in Seacrest, but it is far from being new. Coldwell Banker Global Luxury Carroll Realty opened their doors one year ago and the Managing Broker for this office is Gary Wise. Originally from Atlanta and Thomaston GA, Wise has been in real estate for 37 years and he has lived in the South Walton Beach area for 17 years. Gary and his wife Madge have been married for 37 years and have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

Wise enjoys helping all his clients and works mostly with second homebuyers, investors, and primary homebuyers as well. “I enjoy listening to my clients and learning the vision they have for their real estate dreams



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Carroll Realty – Real Trust

BY LIESEL SCHMIDT

We provide our clients with extensive experience in sales, marketing, building, and developing real estate to offer the best possibilities for selling or purchasing their property.

When you're building a foundation on a company with as much presence and brand-recognition as Coldwell Banker, there's a certain expectation of excellence, expertise, and service that comes in aligning yourself with that level of distinction. For Larry Carroll, owner and founder of Coldwell Banker Carroll Realty, planting his feet on that trusted name was not an opportunity to let the Coldwell's long history as an industry leader carry his firm along. Instead it has been an incentive to maintain the bar and raise it even further, as he and his team of agents serve clients and work with them to achieve real estate goals that will set them up for future success.

Having always had a passion for real estate, Carroll started his company 30 years ago and has since expanded his team to include three offices in Panama City Beach, Panama City, and 30-A. Across the board, his agents bring a level of excellence and personal service to their clients that one would hope to find in real estate; providing an experience that proves the pride they take in all that they do. Over his three decades in the industry, things have become much more global, expansive, and inclusive; and to stay at the top of his game and keep his firm on the leading edge, Carroll has implemented internet-driven marketing tools and media outlets, as well as web-based portals that keep agents and clients closely connected and up-to-date.

"Our base of knowledge is extremely deep. We have 47 agents with an average of 12 years with the company. That naturally gives our agents the edge in knowing how to make sure the transaction is smooth, but we've also



Kathy Docken, Larry Carroll, Dana Ford, James Williams, Linda Lee, LeAnn Nethery, and Gary Wise

supplemented that expertise with technology that really brings added value to what we do," Carroll explains. "For sellers, we use Circlepix, which is a social marketing program second to none in getting their properties high visibility, and our entire team are premier agents on Realtor.com. Our 30-A agents have access to Global Luxury, which is the premier marketing tool for properties in the luxury property market and serves the higher end of the industry. We also provide use of Zap, a very well-liked mobile app that links our agents with the client."

Being so technologically driven could seemingly take the personal touch out of things, but the client experience is still the number one priority at Carroll Realty. "We listen closely to our clients to learn their vision and work to put a plan in place that will make those dreams come true," says managing partner of the 30-A location, Gary Wise. Bringing more than 37 years of his own in real estate, Wise shares Carroll's passionate drive and focus, leading his South Walton-based team to serve a market whose needs run to the higher end of the market. "We provide our clients with extensive experience in sales, marketing, building, and developing real estate to offer the best possibilities for selling or purchasing their property; and that really helps create personal relationships with our clients that grow into lifelong professional friendships."

Friendship is, of course, based on trust and integrity; and such characteristics set the precedence at Carroll Realty. "We know the importance of being completely honest with our customers," says Carroll. "We tell them what their property is worth, which is not always what the client wants to hear; but being realistic is crucial in being able to serve our clients and protect their interests."

It's that far-sighted vision that has kept the Carroll team successful: that dedication to meeting their clients needs and build relationships, rather than simply going after the numbers. "Our agents have truly been what makes us what we are and has let us achieve our level of excellence. I like to say that customers should always choose their agent by the company they keep," Carroll says. "We've built a reputation of trust." And that's a reputation worthy of recognition.

Coldwell Banker Carroll Realty operates offices at 2551 Jenks Avenue, Panama City, Florida 32405; 10930 Hutchison Boulevard, Panama City Beach, Florida 32407; and 9961 East County Hwy 30A, Seacrest, Florida 32461. For more information, visit www.coldwellbankerpcfl.com.

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1st Half 2017 – 30-A Home Sales & Average Sales Prices

BY ERIN ODEN

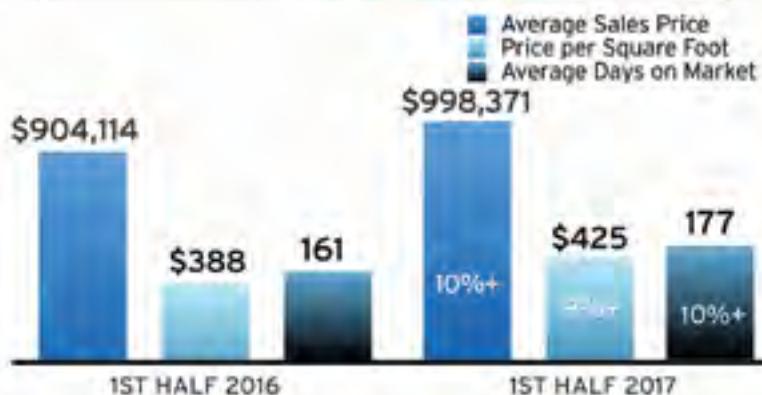
30A CORRIDOR

Statistics are defined residential, unimproved lands, and condos only. EXCLUDES second home.

CLOSED TRANSACTIONS & CLOSED SALES VOLUMES



AVERAGE SALES PRICES



IT IS EXCEPTIONAL TO NOTE THAT THE AVERAGE HOME SALES PRICE FOR THE FULL 30A CORRIDOR HAS REACHED JUST UNDER \$1 MILLION, UP 10%

THE 30-A HOME MARKET CONTINUES ITS STRENGTH

Home prices along Scenic Highway 30-A's coastal corridor have continued to climb into 2017.

There was certainly no softening of the 30-A corridor home and condo sales momentum for the first half of 2017. Total closed volume hit \$750 million—up 27% over the prior year. Sales were strong in both of the first two quarters. Below are noteworthy statistics that propelled this first half volume increase:

- Number of transactions - up 15%
- Average sales price - up 10%
- Dollar per square foot - up 9% (8% and 13% in Q1 and Q2, respectively) for sold properties

The average sales price was over \$1 million in Q2 (a statistic we have not seen since 2007). With June 30 inventories 4% below those of a year ago, one may anticipate prices to continue to rise.

I look forward to continuing to be a resource of current insight into the positive market trends within each of 30-A's main planned communities as you look to upcoming issues of The 30-A Review for a source of local information.

Be inspired to spend more time here at the beach in the coming seasons!



Erin Oden is the principal broker and owner of Coastal Luxury and maintains a strong emphasis on intimate market knowledge and expertise in the luxury and gulf-front market. Erin can be reached at (850) 502-1220 or erin@coastalluxury.com. Or stop by Coastal Luxury, located directly on 30-A, the first office east of Alys Beach. Search all available properties at coastalluxury.com/SEARCH

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What Happens When A Loved One Dies?

BY KIMBERLY WATSON SEWELL AND FRANKLIN H. WATSON

Whether a loved one's passing is unexpected or not, dealing with the death can be extremely stressful. Aside from the funeral, mortuary services, and hosting a gathering of relatives, an important part of this event is knowing what should be done as far as that person's finances.

Multiple Copies of the Death Certificate

If you happen to be the executor or executrix of the decedent, it is critical that you obtain certified copies of the death certificate as soon as possible. You will need several copies—20 copies are not too many. Banks, the state and federal governments, creditors, insurance companies, and many others will not even give you the time of day to discuss your loved one's financial affairs until you are able to produce a death certificate. Do not underestimate the importance and the necessity of getting these copies right away.

Other Important Documents

Experts say that one of the most arduous tasks in tying up the financial affairs of someone who has passed away is collecting the various pieces of documentation that should be retained routinely. If the decedent has not done a good job of keeping records, it can be like searching for needles in haystacks—a real frustration. It is best to create a list of all your assets, accounts, and property while still alive, and keep it safe. Let your spouse or other trusted person know where the list is kept. When you pass, the executor of the estate will have an easier time organizing the assets and settling matters more efficiently. Some of these important documents include:

- The ultra-important copies of the death certificate;
- Will and trust documents;
- Life, health, and other insurance policies;
- Recent credit card statements;
- Investment accounts and pensions;
- Checking and other financial account statements;
- Recent mortgage statements;
- The past two years' tax returns;
- All relevant marriage and birth certificates; and
- An up-to-date credit report.

Obtain Letters Testamentary or Letters of Administration

You will need proof that you have authority to deal with the decedent's financial affairs prior to contacting the institutions with which the decedent was doing business: you need letters testamentary or letters of administration.

It is best to create a list of all your assets, accounts, and property while still alive, and keep it safe.

An estate planning attorney can handle obtaining these documents and assist with probate. When probate is opened, the will is validated, and the court gives the authority (via the letters testamentary) to settle the estate and act on behalf of the decedent, as specified in the will. Again, get multiple certified copies.

If there is no will, the court can issue letters of administration to a surviving spouse or next of kin after a death certificate has been produced. This individual likely will be the administrator of the estate.

Make Notifications

Notify these organizations of your loved one's death:

- The Social Security Administration;
- His or her employer;
- Insurance companies;
- Credit bureaus and credit card companies;
- The post office; and
- Creditors.

Cancel subscriptions, memberships, and credit cards right away. You should transfer any utilities, such as the water or cable, to the surviving spouse.

Speak with an Experienced Estate Planning Attorney

One thing that will reduce stress is to seek the advice of a qualified estate planning attorney. He or she can simplify the process of settling an estate and avoid any issues. Retain an attorney who practices in estate planning and trusts—doing so may relieve some of the stress of going through this process. An estate planning attorney will offer guidance and support to help save you time and energy and give you greater peace of mind.

Ask yourself these questions regarding what happens when a loved one dies:

1. Are you or will you be the executor or executrix of a decedent loved one's estate in the event they pass away?
2. Do you know how to obtain critical legal and other documents when the time comes so

you can process a decedent loved one's financial affairs?

3. Will you be able to easily access the decedent's will and trust documents, insurance policies, credit card statements, investment accounts/pensions, financial/mortgage statements, the past two years' tax returns, relevant marriage and birth certificates, and an up-to-date credit report?
4. For proof regarding your authority to deal with the decedent's financial affairs, do you know how to obtain letters testamentary or letters of administration?
5. Will you be able to notify the proper organizations upon a loved one's death, such as the Social Security Administration, employer, post office, utilities, creditors, and memberships?
6. Have you consulted with an estate planning attorney to ensure the proper documents are in order for your executor in the event of your own passing?



Kimberly Watson Sewell
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Point Washington Medical Clinic

BY SUSAN L. CANNIZZARO

Point Washington Medical Clinic is a ministry outreach for the whole community from the Point Washington United Methodist Church and is encouraged by other denominations in the community. All donations are tax deductible, monitored, and transparent with supervision by an accountant and a supervising board.

The idea behind this much needed and much utilized resource came about when local resident Jackie Ward connected Dr. Patsy Vargo and Dr. Hillary Glenn, DNP, where they discussed the idea of a volunteer clinic. After this meeting, Vargo reached out to the mission council at Point Washington United Methodist Church (PWUMC), where she is a member, and suggested they forgo an international missionary trip, so that the funds and efforts could be applied closer to home. The council agreed to donate the space and the initial funds to get the clinic up and running. Four months later the free clinic opened. The pop-up clinic is available to the community from 7:30 am-1:30 pm every Wednesday.

Dr. Vargo is a retired Montana physician that recently moved to the area. “We do not receive any government funding and as a result, we have no prerequisites nor requirements to qualify for care. Point Washington Medical Clinic sees all comers and serves the entire community. We have had a local urgent care donate exam tables, and the local fire station offered an AED machine to us at a very reduced cost, which a local resident bought for the facility,” says Vargo.

If a patient needs medications, imaging studies or appointments with specialists, the clinic will work to find the most cost-effective cash pay options. “We would like to serve the community more than 6 hours, one day a



Dr. Patsy Vargo & Hillary Glenn, ARNP



and moments of memory loss, Dr. Glenn told her to come to the clinic for blood work. “Dr. Glenn thought I may have thyroid issues and after the blood work results came back, the diagnosis was hypothyroidism. I was so glad to have met Dr. Glenn and found this clinic so I could get the right diagnosis and medicine,” says Anne.

All the workers at the clinic are dedicated volunteers and many come every week to help. “We have 4 registered nurses, translators, a health care educator, parking attendant, front desk assistants, and just last month we added a nurse practitioner and another retired MD. It is very multi-generational here. I love that we are all in the same room, for the same cause, with multiple languages, multiple ages and cultures,” says Glenn.

Jamey Gaines is one of the very energetic nurse volunteers and has been at the clinic from the beginning. She had been an ER nurse for over 20 years and loves the time she gets to spend at the clinic. She shares, “I am so proud to be associated with this group. We can handle so many things, including dog bites, infected nails, pap smears, and much more. It just warms my heart to be able to help so many people each Wednesday.”

“I love that we are all in the same room, for the same cause, with multiple languages, multiple ages and cultures.”

week, so the goal would be to have our own brick and mortar building with two private rooms,” says Glenn. The first major fundraiser was occurring at press time to raise money for a building fund.

They have seen as many as 26 patients in one day. “The average is usually 15-20 patients each Wednesday. We have some patients coming as far as Ft. Walton Beach,” says Glenn. They see patients that cannot afford

health insurance or lost insurance due to a layoff or job change, as well as the working poor and neighbors with insurance that simply choose to visit the clinic due to convenience and wish to support the noble cause.

Anne, a recently uninsured patient, was thrilled to have found the clinic after having issues with her hair falling out. After meeting Dr. Glenn during a yoga class and explaining her symptoms, which included fatigue

For more information, visit thepwmc.org or call (850) 231-4928. Donations can be made to the Point Washington Medical Clinic through the Point Washington United Methodist Church, noting it is for the medical clinic. The address is 1290 N. Co. Hwy 395 Santa Rosa Beach, FL. 32459.



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Thirty A: Life in a doGooD Society

BY KERRI PARKER

It is easy to allow life's burdens to drift away when your toes are covered in velvet sand, and Florida sunshine brightens your view of our Gulf's emerald green water. Our beach community is primarily portrayed as perfect, the all-American beach vacation destination, a life void of real people living and working among visitors. On the contrary, we too have families to support and real-life burdens like any other community. We are not extras on the set of the Truman Show filmed at our beloved Seaside holiday town.

You might be entranced by skyrocketing home values in South Walton and wonder how it's possible an estimated 23% of Walton County children are barely surviving in homes below poverty level. Stretching beyond Walton County is Okaloosa County, where adjacent beach communities of Destin and Fort Walton have an even higher percentage of families living in poverty conditions.

Thankfully, there is something special about our community beyond our preserved land and pristine beaches – we are a society that chooses to do good. You may be a do-gooder; you may also be a beneficiary of our desire to do good. Regardless, it is almost impossible to not find yourself doing good in our community each time you attend an event.

From school events, community races, eating at local restaurants or shopping at local merchants, almost every dollar you spend has a beneficiary in our and neighboring counties.

This issue marks our debut of recognizing our doGooD society. With each issue, you will be introduced to organizations or individuals who find their life purpose in doing good for our community.

Children's Volunteer Health Network (CVHN) works tirelessly to improve the health and wellbeing of children in need in Walton and Okaloosa counties. CVHN has a network of nearly one hundred providers who volunteer their time to provide medical, dental, vision, and specialist care to local children in need. Their mission is solely dependent upon the private sector for funding. In the current climate, organizations dependent on government state and national funding

can be instantly wiped out. Instead, CVHN aligned their financial strategy with those who have the innate desire to serve others in the community. Ninety-four cents of each dollar of the funds raised each year directly supports CVHN's programs.

In 2005, one caring adult recognized a child in pain, and she took her first step to help him. Step by step that child received the care he deserved; and from that life-altering process, CVHN was established. A faith-based organization, their mission is to ensure that all children



Above: Photos by Tommy Crow

in Walton and Okaloosa County envision their future as limitless; a never-ending mission to do good.

Due to the overwhelming dental need CVHN operates a dental bus and dental office, which are staffed year round with fulltime dental and client care professionals. The do-gooders in our community allow CVHN to provide this essential care at no cost to our local kids in need.

Among the army of volunteers who relentlessly recruit throughout our community are also those who serve as board members. The board and staff at CVHN are held to the highest ethical principles as they strive to be pillars of moral character.

CVHN has numerous supporters, from individuals and small businesses to one of the most influential charities in the region: Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation (DCWAF). Major community developments

such as Alys Beach and St. Joe have humbly contributed to the success of CVHN fundraising events as major event sponsors, year after year.

In September of 2017, Bud & Alley's in Seaside hosted the 13th Annual Hurricane Party, which raised over \$62,000 in one night.

"We are excited to host our newest fundraiser, the 2nd annual Smile Mile and 5K Run on May 12th, 2018 at WaterColor," says board president Mike Gavigan. "This year we are focusing on rallying the community to competitively raise money through team fundraising." The CVHN race committee will soon announce a "Team Captain Kick Off

Party" where they hope to inspire doing good for CVHN while emphasizing the FUN in fundraising through friendly competition.

"We would love to see real estate brokerages, rental management companies, restaurants, merchants, schools, and churches engage in the event, raising money and doing good for children in need in Walton and Okaloosa County," says Gavigan.

To learn more about volunteering, donating or about the Team Captain Kick Off Party, please visit CVHNkids.org.

Kerri Parker is the founder of doGooD LLC, a marketing strategy company with the core purpose of doing GooD for small businesses and non-profit organizations.



Kerri Parker

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Putting Keys to Make More Putts

BY TOM FITZPATRICK



Rotate each palm slightly outward with your thumbs right on top of the grip.



Setup parallel to the target line with eyes over the ball. The shoulders and arms form a triangle.



Keep the left wrist firm through impact. Hold the finish!

Putting is often called a game within a game. It bears no resemblance to hitting a long drive, but both count as one stroke. Some of us may be limited towards making a full swing, but anyone can make a 10-foot putt. Here's some putting advice that I often taught students at my Pebble Beach corporate events.

Grip the putter in the palms so the hands and wrists become less active. Rotate your hands more outward, as opposed to the inward full swing grip.

Most golfers use the reverse overlap grip by placing the left forefinger over the right pinky. The left hand low grip has gained popularity because it locks your wrists into place.

One of the best putters, Brad Faxon, says he'll take a few extra seconds to aim the putter square to the target, and not leaning open to the right. Aim your feet and shoulders parallel to the target, with your eyes over the ball.

When making the stroke, focus on the triangle formed by your shoulders and arms. Keep the triangle intact thru the finish. Remember that a 'firm left wrist' thru the ball is far more reliable than flicking with your wrists.

Pros work on rolling the ball the correct speed to increase their chances of making the putt. Too strong a putt rarely goes in – and weak putts never go in. To optimize speed, make a longer backswing for longer putts and a shorter backswing on shorter putts.

Tie everything together with great tempo. A cadence of One-Two should be the same on both short and long putts.



Tom Fitzpatrick and Nick Price sharing a laugh at David Leadbetter's Birthday Party

GETTING OUT OF NICK PRICE'S WAY

Sports psychologists talk of getting out of your own way to achieve your true potential. That makes sense, except the day I played a round with top-ranked Nick Price at Lake Nona. Nick started on a tear thru the front nine with a 31, and then birdied #10. When we realized that he was on pace to break the course record, I began thinking that I hope my game doesn't interfere with his ability to concentrate. I became very self-conscious. Will I hit a bad shot that will cause Nick to not break the course record?

My third shot on the par 5 11th hole was a simple 120 yard pitching wedge. I misjudged the turf and took a massive divot and the ball went half way to the green. I wanted to hide and get out of Nick's way.

It's human nature to lack self-confidence from time to time. I feared the moment, instead of embracing the challenge. Getting to witness a great

round from the #1 ranked player at the time was an honor!

Tom Fitzpatrick has conducted corporate golf events, worked for David Leadbetter, and is an active realtor with Scenic Sotheby's Intl Realty. Reach him at (850) 225-4674 or visit tom.scenicsir.com



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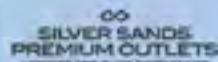
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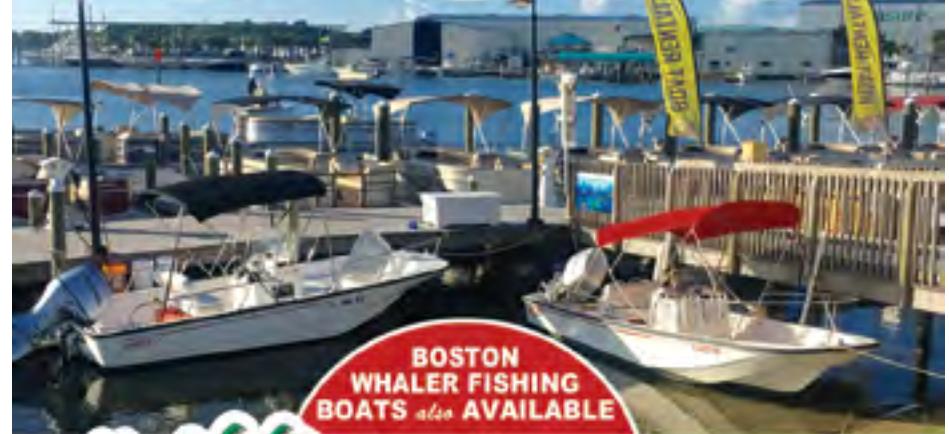
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2,536SF | \$839,000
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LOT 2 - MLS753404
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Lot 9 - MLS777681
3,108SF | \$1,069,900
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