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A Social Newsletter Exclusively for Venetian Bay Residents

MAY 2017

Living



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Area Information & Points of Interest

Contact Information for City members:

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City Commissioner - jreiker@cityofnsb.com
City Commissioner - jsachs@cityofnsb.com
City Commissioner - jmcguirk@cityofnsb.com
City Commissioner - kjones@cityofnsb.com
City Planner - jgove@cityofnsb.com

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AREA DIRECTOR

Kimberly Anderson
(386) 453-1906
Kimberly.Anderson@n2pub.com

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Debbie Amatucci - Classic Photography
Dorian Anderson - DAndersonPhotography

ARTISTIC GRAPHICS/ PHOTO ENHANCEMENT

Dorian Anderson - DAndersonPhotography

DESIGN TEAM

The Ad Junkies

EDITOR

J.R. Anderson

CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS

David Carson
Kelly DeSuza
Dr. Samira & Vartan Karakossian

Stephen Laub
Faith Stouffer
Lori Willick

N2 DESIGN TEAM

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editor's note

by J.R. Anderson

When I was in the service, we used to have a massive briefing every June, kicking off the 101 Critical Days of Summer—the period between summer solstice and Labor Day where service members were most at risk of harming themselves while engaging in traditional summertime activities. Here in Florida, the mild winters mean the onset of spring kicks off the "Six Critical Months of the Year!" This month, keep yourselves and your children safe from the sun's rays by following the expert advice of Volusia Pediatrics. But no matter how much we try to maintain a grip on what's within our realm of control, we must be prepared for the unexpected. Volusia Memorial

Park & Funeral Homes provides us with guidance on how to hope for the best and plan for the worst of circumstances. But the dangers of the warmer months are no reason to shield ourselves in a bubble -- embrace the beauty of spring with vigilance and style! Meet Dana, an entrepreneurial stylist, and her beautiful daughter, Stella, who know how to Florida right and look good doing it! This month's issue is our spring kickoff, so read on and enjoy!



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Venetian Bay
GOLF CLUB

a note from management
To The Venetian Bay HOA Residents,

By Todd Moseley

Spring Has Sprung!



Another month has passed and it is official, spring has sprung in Venetian Bay. As many of you have noticed, the community has gone through major improvements this last month. From palm tree trimming to brand new mulch, in addition to the complete overhaul of one of the north medians, the community is looking great. The Board of Directors, along with Geosam and Evergreen, is dedicated to continued improvements in the community. We know that this is the community to live in and we want to see beauty in every aspect of Venetian Bay. Keep a watchful eye as many other projects are in the works to continue this improved look.

You may have also noticed one of our own local residents helping us in the “spring cleaning” process. Mr. Pressure Washer has begun a power washing program to help us make the community curb appeal really pop. The entire north half of the community sidewalks along Airport road have been pressure washed, including the town center clock tower, which looks great! We have planned for further pressure washing later in the year to complete the south end of the property sidewalks.

In addition to the landscape and pressure washing, we have also contracted with a company to begin clearing out the three miles of drainage ditches. This will help ensure that the property is ready for our rainy season and will be able to handle the increased waterfall. These ditches are vital to the drainage of VBHOA and the health of Spruce creek.

Some of you may have noticed that both Boren Beauty and Geosam Capitol held private community

events for the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and development and city officials to honor the people of Venetian Bay and the city, bringing attention to surrounding areas and showcasing the beauty of Venetian Bay. Both events were a success, with great feedback and community interaction.

With so much going on, our lifestyles department has been busy planning and executing more community events. As we mentioned in the previous issue, there are monthly community events planned to bring families, friends and neighbors together and enjoy what makes Venetian Bay so great—the people! As you can see from some of the photos, we had a fun St. Patty’s day party in the park, with games, magic, music and good ole’ fashioned fun. Orlando Event Pros helped us out, and DJ Joe Magic was a hit. We look forward to working with him more in the future, so keep your eyes open for flyers and banners around the community. Our next event is our Spring Celebration and egg hunt. With bounce houses and over 1,000 Easter eggs, there will be loads of fun! We will be updating all of you in the next issue of the magazine.

Don’t forget that the Association now has its offices in the town center at suite 119. We are just west of the Johnson Group office and are available weekdays from 9 am-5 pm. Be sure and stop by with your comments & questions or just stop in and say hello.

Sincerely,
 TODD MOSELEY, LCAM
Evergreen Lifestyles Management

a note from management con't ...

‘Gut Feeling’ Prompted Canadian Developer To Invest In New Smyrna Beach

By Clayton Park



When Canadian developer George Armoyan’s Geosam Capital company acquired several lots in the roughly half built-out Venetian Bay community in New Smyrna Beach in 2011, it was done from afar without having visited the area.

So when Armoyan made a business trip to Jacksonville later that year, he decided to take a side trek to personally check on his new investment.

“I was overwhelmed,” he recalled of the first time he laid eyes on Venetian Bay, the sprawling 1,425-acre master-planned development just west of Interstate 95, between State Road 44 and Pioneer Trail.

“I was blown away by how beautiful this community was,” he said.

Armoyan, on that first visit, had lunch with Venetian Bay’s original developer, veteran builder Jerry Johnson of The Johnson Group, to learn more about the project, which had been stalled by the Great Recession.

That was enough to convince Armoyan to explore the possibility of acquiring Venetian Bay so he could carry out Johnson’s vision of creating a 2,000+ home community where people could live, work and play.

Johnson began efforts to develop Venetian Bay, along with his late son, Jerry Jr., in 2001-2002.

Geosam became Venetian Bay’s master developer in 2012, which has seen a flurry of new home construction as of late, with the help of builders Adley Homes, Holiday Builders, KB Home, Paytas Homes, Platinum Builders and The Johnson Group.

Armoyan’s company also has plans to develop additional communities in New Smyrna Beach, including the 844-acre Coastal Woods development along the east side of I-95, just north of SR 44.

All told, Geosam is looking to develop “at least 3,000 to 4,000 homes [in New Smyrna Beach] over the next seven or eight years,” Armoyan said.

While Geosam has developments in other parts of the country as well, including Atlanta, Georgia, Charlotte, North Carolina, and South Florida, Armoyan decided to make Venetian Bay the location of the headquarters for his U.S. operations.

He and his wife, Sime, also plan to soon begin construction of their “U.S. home” at Venetian Bay.

Armoyan, his wife, and his son, George Jr., were on hand to greet people at a special event Thursday evening to celebrate the recent expansion of Geosam’s U.S. headquarters, whose staff, which numbered just three when it opened in 2013, now employs more than two dozen workers.

“If we didn’t believe in this community (New Smyrna Beach), we wouldn’t invest as much as we have here,” Ar-

moyan said, adding that the size of his investment locally is in the “tens of millions” of dollars.

Armoyan said he “fell in love” with the area, which prompted his decision to acquire Venetian Bay. “Sometimes it’s just a gut feeling,” he said, adding that he feels strongly that the area is poised to attract newcomers for years to come, thanks to the rebounding local economy, the proximity to the ocean, as well as the affordability of real estate compared to South Florida and the Orlando area.

“Forbes [magazine] just said this area, Volusia County, is the fourth fastest-growing area in the country,” Armoyan said.

He added that Johnson has become a “friend of the family” and has even visited them in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, where the Armoyans have their primary residence, as well as the headquarters for their Canadian operations.

“Jerry’s a great guy,” said Armoyan. “I’m benefiting from his vision. I was in the right place at the right time. We owe a lot of our success to him.”

Johnson, whose Johnson Group offices are also at Venetian Bay, said he has been pleased to see Armoyan carry out his vision for the community.

“George is not a fancy guy -- he’s a real worker who likes to work his backside off,” said Johnson of the Canadian developer.

Johnson added of Armoyan: “He has done everything he’s promised.”

Clayton Park can be reached at clayton.park@news-jrnl.com or at **386-681-2470**.





School attendance represents a unique opportunity to address nutrition and physical fitness. Each day, 55 million American students attend school, which constitutes nearly one-half of their wakeful hours. In light of the rising rate of overweight and obese children, schools have come under increased scrutiny. Within the school environment, there are competing calls for stricter standards and greater academic achievement, as well as calls for schools to provide greater opportunities for non-sedentary daily activity. Even with ample evidence of a whole-child benefit from recess, significant external pressures, such as standardized cognitive testing mandated by educational reforms, have led some to view recess as time that would be better spent on academics. Time previously dedicated to daily activity in school, such as physical education and recess, is being reallocated to make way for additional academic instruction.

Ironically, minimizing or eliminating recess may be counterproductive to academic achievement, as a growing body of evidence suggests that recess promotes not only physical health and social development but also cognitive performance. Although recess and physical education both promote activity and a healthy lifestyle, it is only supervised, unstructured recess that offers children the opportunity to actually play creatively. In this sense, then, pediatricians support of recess is an extension of the AAP's policy statement supporting free play as a fundamental component of a child's normal growth and development. On the basis of an abundance of scientific studies, withholding recess for punitive or academic reasons would seem to be counterproductive to the intended outcomes and may have unintended consequences in relation to a child's acquisition of important life skills.

In their role as child health experts, the pediatricians of the AAP stress the following perspective to parents, teachers, school administrators and policymakers:

- Recess is a necessary break in the day for optimizing a child's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development.
- Cognitive processing and academic performance depend on regular breaks from concentrated classroom work. This applies equally to adolescents and to younger children. To be effective, the frequency and duration of breaks should be sufficient to allow the student to mentally decompress.
- Recess is a complement to, but not a replacement for, physical education. Physical education is an academic discipline.
- Recess can serve as a counterbalance to sedentary time and contribute to the recommended 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity per day, a standard strongly supported by AAP policy as a means to lessen risk of obesity.
- Whether structured or unstructured, recess should be safe and well supervised. Although schools should ban games and activities that are unsafe, they should not discontinue recess altogether because of concerns connected with child safety.
- Peer interactions during recess are a unique complement to the classroom. The lifelong skills acquired for communication, negotiation, cooperation, sharing, problem-solving and coping are not only foundations for healthy development but also fundamental measures of the school experience.

Excerpt from.... Pediatrics January 2013, VOLUME 131 /ISSUE 1 From the American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement | Lead Authors- Robert Murray, MD Catherine Ramstetter, PhD

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kid's health talk

Sun & Water SAFETY TIPS

As warmer months are upon us, it is the perfect time of the year to take advantage of outdoor activities in our beautiful Sunshine State! It is important to be diligent about safety while enjoying the sunshine and warm water with children of all ages.

Sun Exposure:

Babies under six months:

The AAP recommends avoiding sun exposure for babies under 6 months. Always keep babies under shaded areas, wearing light weight clothing that covers arms and legs and use wide brimmed hats to shield their face and head.

For All Other Children:

The first line of defense against harmful ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure is covering up. Stay in the shade whenever possible, and limit sun exposure during the peak intensity hours - between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wear a hat, sunglasses, and clothing with a tight weave. On both sunny and cloudy days, use a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or greater. Reapply sunscreen every two hours or after swimming or sweating.

HEAT STRESS IN INFANTS

- Every year, children die from heat stroke from being left in a hot car.
- Always check the back seat to make sure all children are out of the car when you arrive at your destination.
- Avoid distractions while driving, especially cell phone use.
- Be especially aware of kids in the car when there is a change from your normal routine.
- Have your childcare provider call if your child has not arrived within 10 minutes of the expected arrival time.
- Place your cell phone, bag or purse in the back seat, so you are reminded to check the back seat when you arrive at your destination.
- Never leave a child alone in a car, even if you expect to come back soon. Lock your car when it is parked so children cannot get in without supervision.

POOL SAFETY

- Never leave children alone in or near the pool or spa, even for a moment.
- Whenever young children are in or around water, an adult should be within arm's length, providing "touch supervision."
- Install a fence at least 4 feet high around all four sides of the pool.
- Make sure pool gates open out from the pool and self-close and self-latch at a height children can't reach. Consider alarms on

the gate to alert you when someone opens the gate.

- Avoid inflatable swimming aids such as "floaties." They are not a substitute for approved life jackets.
- There is no evidence that swimming lessons or water survival skills courses can prevent drowning in babies younger than 1 year of age.
- The decision to enroll a child over age one in swimming lessons should be made by the parent, but swim programs should never be seen as "drown proofing" a child of any age.
- Avoid entrapment: Suction from pool and spa drains can trap a swimmer underwater. Do not use a pool or spa if there are broken or missing drain covers.
- If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool or spa first.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING

- Never swim alone. Even good swimmers need buddies! Younger children should be closely supervised while in or near the water—use "touch supervision," keeping no more than an arm's length away.
- Ocean swimming should only be allowed when a lifeguard is on duty.
- Teach children about rip currents. If you are caught in a rip current, swim parallel to shore until you escape the current, and then swim back to shore.

For more tips on sun and water safety, visit www.healthychildren.org

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St. Patrick's Day Event At Venetian Bay

Family, Games & Fun

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Orest Krajnyk, MD, is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist, who has been practicing specialty eye care and surgery for over nine years. Dr. Krajnyk graduated from Rutgers University in 2004 with an undergraduate degree in Biology and Rutgers Medical School in 2008, receiving his Doctor of Medicine degree. Dr. Krajnyk began his career in Volusia County in 2012, when he joined Kutryb Eye Institute in Edgewater, working alongside Michael Kutryb, MD.

Since acquiring the practice in January 2016, they continue to grow and maintain the highest expectations of quality care and patient satisfaction. The practice has added several state of the art technologies to give patients the best in precision, especially when it comes to cataract surgery. Dr. Krajnyk added the Callisto Vision System to the practice, which, with the aid of advanced technology lens implants, can eliminate the need for glasses entirely after surgery. This includes patients who have astigmatism, which is a recent breakthrough in cataract surgery.

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welcomes new patients and most visits are scheduled within two weeks of your call. Many local primary care physicians refer their patients to our office for evaluation and treatment.

Less commonly known is that Dr. Krajnyk is also certified to perform Botox, for both cosmetic and medical diagnosis, such as eyelid or facial spasm and Juvederm injections.

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family spotlight

Meet *Dana & Stella*

By J.R. Anderson, Photos By Classic Photography



Meet Dana and her three-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Stella. They moved to Venetian Bay a year and a half ago and love the area—particularly the beaches and Disney. Dana is the divisional manager for the Jacksonville Kiolbassa Provision Company. She doubles as an independent stylist with Stella & Dot, an online boutique-style jewelry store listed as one of America's 500 Fastest-Growing companies.

Quoted from the Stella & Dot website: "I love the fashion, the flexibility, the fun and being part of this amazing community of women. Stella & Dot is a social selling company that creates flexible opportunities for women to be work-from-home entrepreneurs."

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resident recipe

Submitted By Resident Faith Stouffer

Zucchini Shrimp Scampi

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 pounds raw, peeled, and deveined shrimp
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4 cup chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 small to medium-sized zucchini, cut, sliced or "spiralized" into spaghetti-like strands

Directions:

Heat butter and olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add shrimp, garlic and crushed red pepper flakes. Cook, stirring occasionally, until shrimp are pink, about 3-5 minutes. Stir in chicken broth, lemon juice and lemon zest; season with salt. Bring to a simmer; stir in zucchini noodles until well combined, about 1-2 minutes. Enjoy!

Makes 2 servings. Per serving: 1 Leanest, 3 Green, 2 Healthy Fats, 3 Condiments



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meet
Oscar!

precious pets

Submitted by Residents **Larry and Judy Nickles**
Photos By **DAndersonPhotography**

Family Member Names: Larry and Judy Nickles

Pet's Name: Oscar

Type of Animal/Breed: Shih Tzu

Male or Female: Male

Pet's Age: Seven

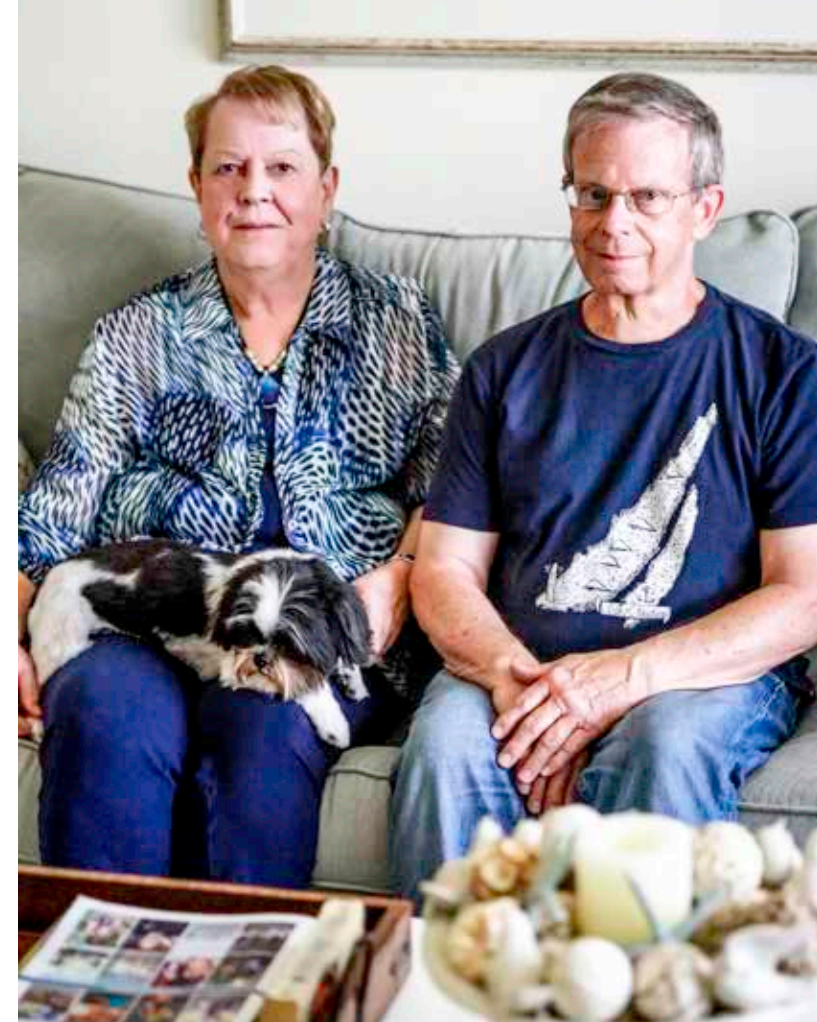
Where/Why did you get your pet? Our daughter likes to tell people that we got Oscar from a Sam's Club parking lot! Larry had contacted a breeder from Welake, Florida, who was bringing a black Shih Tzu puppy for another person. She also brought her black and white puppy for us to meet, and it was love at first sight! Our good friends who had a darling Shih Tzu were with us. Our friends commented that they would purchase Oscar if we didn't!

Is there a story behind his name? Yes, he was named after my father who had just passed with cancer. My father's name was Oscar, but he was called "Red" because of his hair color. My father loved baseball, napping and listening to a certain commentator on the news. Whenever this newsman appeared on television, our puppy would sit up and look at the TV. With the puppy's love of ball playing, napping, and listening to the same TV program as my father, we had to name him "Oscar."

Anything special or unusual about them? Oscar loves to ride in a car and falls asleep almost immediately. We travel back and forth to Illinois several times a year, and Oscar sleeps practically the whole trip in his soft cage. Oscar enjoys going to the nursing home in my hometown because he loves the attention he gets from the residents. He is so happy to meet new people, no matter where we go. We taught Oscar to find his way home whenever we walked. When we were considering a move to our current home, we walked Oscar in this direction. He walked in front of this townhome, stopped, sat down, and stared at the front. He had never been on this street. It was as if he knew this would become his future home. (We moved to VB in 2002 and have lived in three different homes in this development.) Oscar has lived in three different homes and stayed with us in motels and different apartments when we travel. He has always settled in and been comfortable and accepting of his surroundings.

What do you like best about your pet? It would have to be his personality and loving nature. He was my companion when I had stage 3 breast cancer, surgeries, chemo and radiation. His calmness and loving ways bring us such joy. However, there are times we think that he has the personality of a cat ... "I will do it if I want to." If he has one flaw, it is his fear of storms.

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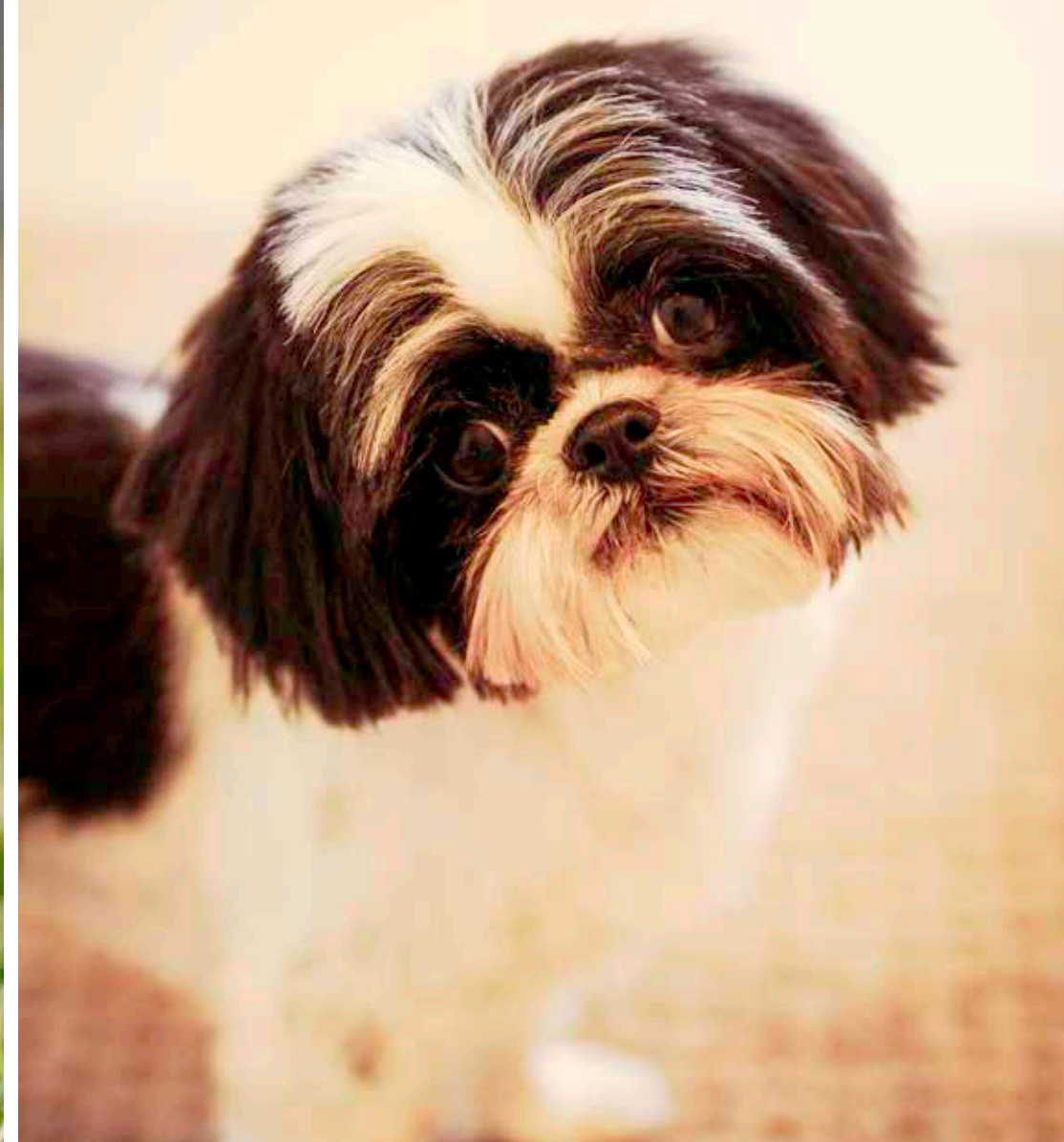
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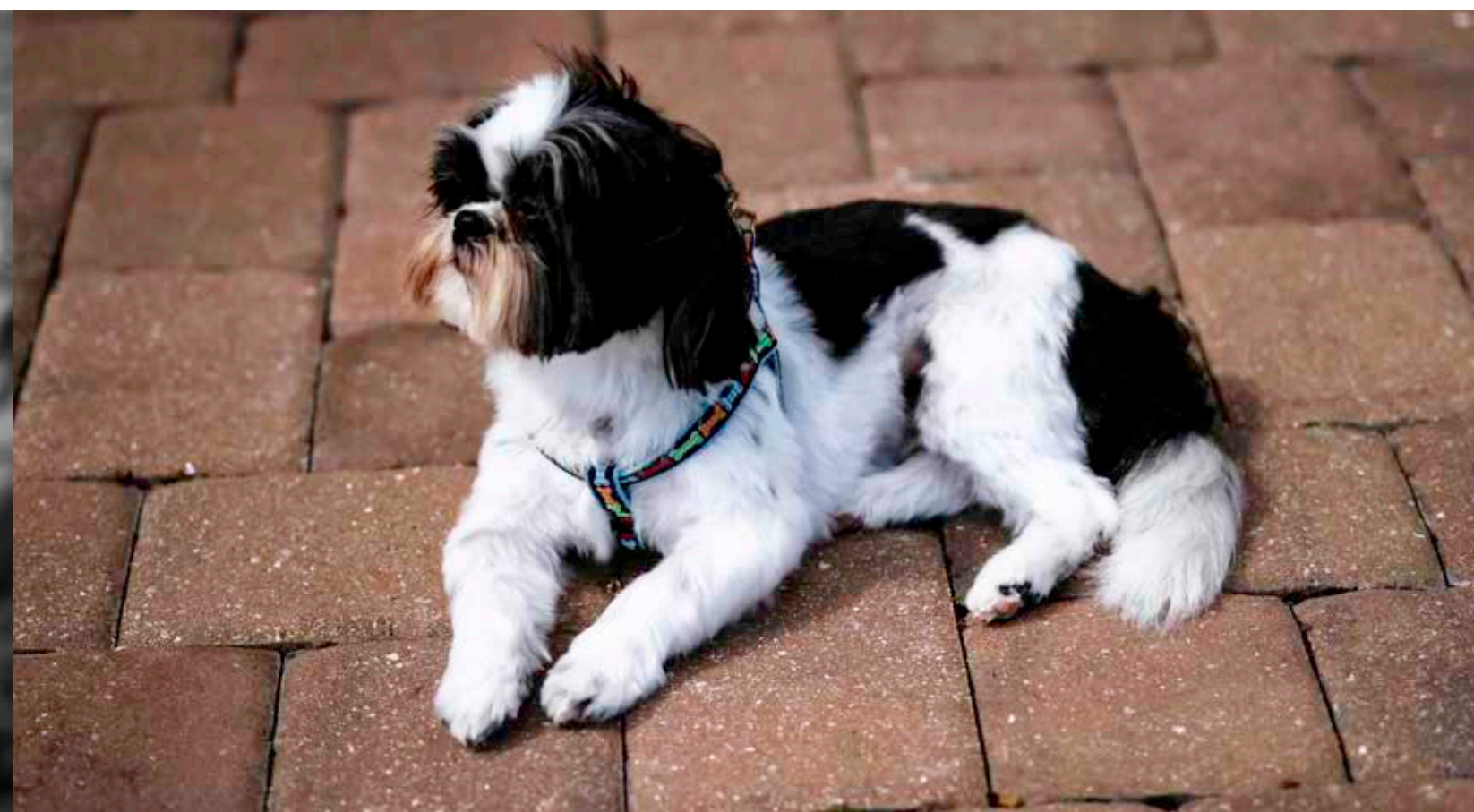
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Any funny stories? Oscar loves to go to the Drive-In Christian Church since he gets treats before, during and after church. He sleeps on my lap during the service, but as soon as the music starts playing for the offering, he sits up and looks out the window. He knows that he will be given a treat when the usher stops the golf cart at the car. In fact, when we stayed at a complex that used golf carts, Oscar ran to the cart expecting a treat.

Oscar loves to get brushed. He runs to where we keep the brush when we ask him, "Do you want brushed?" However, he hates getting his face brushed or washed.

How spoiled is your pet? He's such a laid-back dog that he isn't demanding, nor does he bark to get a treat at a certain time. However, Oscar always plays ball or with his squeak toys before he eats his meals. He will often not eat his treat until he has chased the ball at least one time.

What else should we know about your pet and/or how has your pet enriched your home/family? Oscar is such a loving dog and never meets a stranger. He sits patiently when children pet or talk to him. He is still somewhat shy with other dogs but Oscar absolutely loves cows, horses and other large animals.





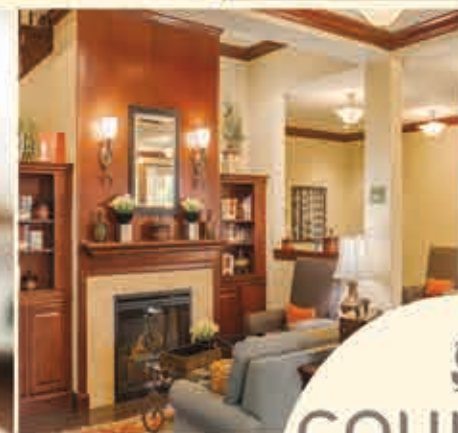

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Meet Rita Watts

By J.R. Anderson, Photos By DAndersonPhotography

Rita Watts has come a long way since her upbringing in Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina. She moved away when she was 23 years old, “married to a military man,” and lived all over as a result. Rita moved to Sanford, Florida, 12 years ago and has been a resident of Venetian Bay for one and a half years.

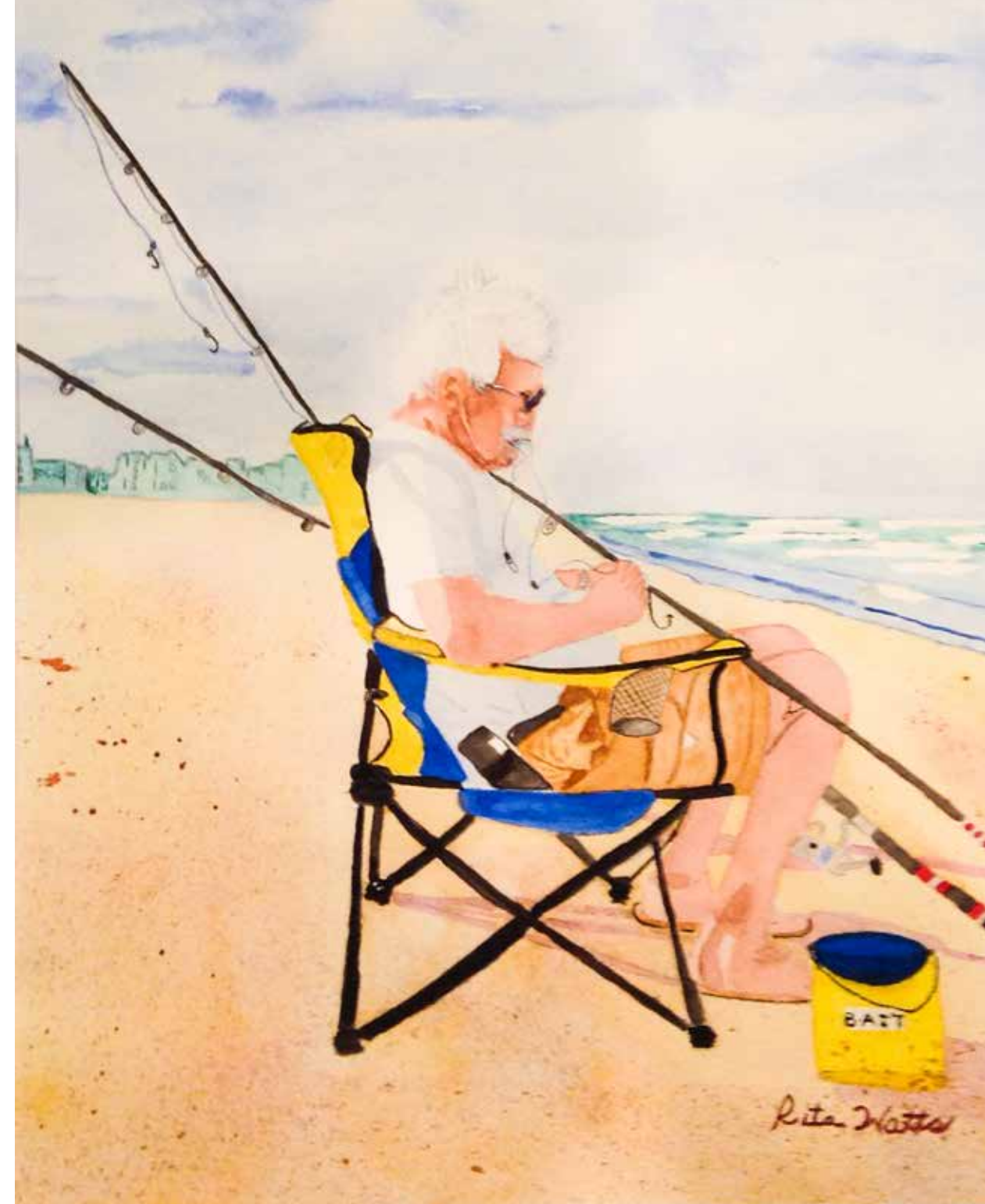
Unfortunately, Rita suffers from rheumatoid arthritis, of which her doctor told her to do something with her hands lest her condition would worsen. She soon attended courses at the Crealdé School of Art in Winter Park to reignite one of her favorite high school activities—watercolor painting. Five years later, Rita has transferred the pain in her joints to the pleasure of her eyes and the eyes of all who witness her work.

Like every artist, Rita prefers particular subjects when it comes to her craft:

“I like painting flowers; I like painting animals; I like painting people,” said Rita. “I do not enjoy painting plein air!”

Plein air is the art of painting outdoors in natural light. Given Rita’s painting method—not to mention Florida’s weather—it makes sense why she prefers to execute her craft indoors. Rita begins with a photo shoot, taking dozens of shots of anything that inspires her. After careful selection, she chooses the best photo as the subject of her next project. Then, just as even the greatest writers often pre-write, Rita often pre-paints.

“Sometimes I’ll paint the picture before I paint the picture,” Rita said. “I work all of the kinks out that I should have caught in a preliminary drawing. A preliminary drawing and painting will catch those things and then I’ll decide if I like the colors.”



Rita’s color palate reflects the very subjects that inspire her; she prefers the bright, luminous hues instead of the dismal and uninspiring.

“I paint very vivid colors,” Rita stated. “Everything I paint is very vivid; you’ll never see me paint anything dull.”

In addition to traditional painting, Rita crafts notecards and birthday cards inspired by the delicate wild flowers on the many trails of Venetian Bay. Using her cellphone camera to record subjects, she





never misses an opportunity to capture the moments exhibited in her work.

“The other day, my husband and I were coming in on a boat to Ponce Inlet,” said Rita. “As we were coming in, I turned around and there were all these sailboats coming in behind us. I thought these would make great paintings. There was the lighthouse, and right behind us were two great sailboats and I’m in the back of the boat clicking, clicking, clicking!”

Rita’s love for watercolors extends beyond her work. She is part of a network of artists who not only share her passion but also perform workshops to hone their skills. She is the membership chair of the Central Florida Watercolor Society, five years running. She is also a part of the New Smyrna Beach Artist Workshop.

“I believe it’s important to belong to organizations because you get to see strong painters come through and give demonstrations,” Rita said. “Plus you get to meet and work with people who are stronger painters than you are.”

Outside of painting, Rita enjoys any activity that involves water. She enjoys fishing, scalloping, shrimping, kayaking, clamming and crabbing. If one thing’s for certain, Rita’s active lifestyle is not only a treatment for her arthritis but also the impetus for many great works to come.



family matters

Our Services

By Resident Brenda Campbell



As one of North America’s largest providers of funeral, cremation and cemetery services, the Dignity Memorial® network is the name families turn to for compassionate and professional final arrangements. Dignity Memorial providers care for more than 300,000 families each year and understand the importance of thoughtful, personalized arrangements.

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When a death occurs, it often happens unexpectedly. Many decisions have to be made in a short period of time leaving many families feeling overwhelmed. Often, these decisions must be made when a family is grieving and least prepared. That’s why it’s important to consider preplanning your funeral or cremation service. Many people have done everything they can to protect their family from events that may happen, such as purchase fire or theft insurance but the one event in life that we know will happen with certainty is often ignored. Preplanning will help protect your family from some of the emotional and financial burdens that often occur after the loss of a loved one.



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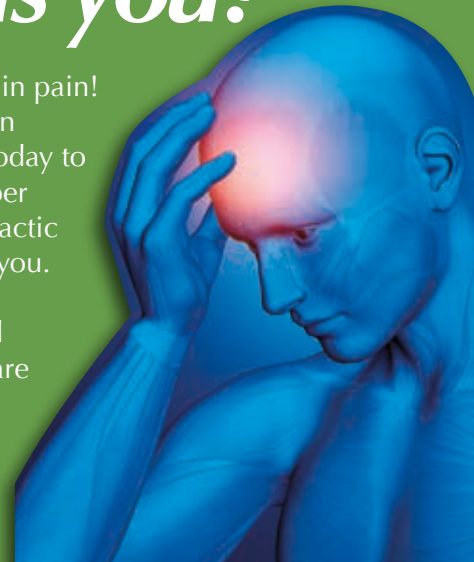
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tech talk

"STORAGE ALMOST FULL"

By Ken Gelineau



It's one of the most common issues we see with smartphones. Not only is it frustrating when you go to take that once in a lifetime picture and instead some pop up says "There is not enough available storage," it can also cause your gadget to generally run slow. So, how do we fix your storage problem?

No different than your closet when you can't fit any more clothes in—it's time to clean out the junk.

1. Delete what you don't use. This sounds very easy, but most of us don't do regular house cleaning of our phones. Uninstall the apps, games and other media you no longer use.

For iPhone users, go to Setting > General > Storage & iCloud Usage > Manage Storage, and see what are some of the biggest culprits. Tap "Delete App" to uninstall it.

For Android, the process can vary some, but go to Setting > Applications > Application Manager and tap to uninstall.

2. Clear your cache. Basically, so that web pages can load more quickly, the browser will download a portion of web pages to your phone, this is known as cache. If you go on the internet frequently, clearing your cache (emptying it) can free up valuable storage space.

3. Delete and reinstall Facebook app. No, this won't delete any of your data, just the cache. The Facebook app does not automatically clear its cache. After deleting the app, shut down and restart your phone.

4. Transfer photos and videos to external storage. By transferring data to a computer or the cloud, you can save all your media and gain your phone

storage back. There are several different approaches that can accomplish this process; pick what's best and easiest for you! One free option for cloud/external storage is to use Dropbox. It can be set to automatically download photos from your phone to both the cloud and your computer.

5. News Stand app. Some magazine apps from your newsstand may not automatically delete old issues or copies. Generally, most magazine apps keep the latest three issues in the app. Old issues are deleted as new ones appear. However, there are some that will just store the entire history of old issues within the app.

These are a few suggestions for making your tech world a little more user-friendly. If we can be of further assistance, please let us know!

Thanks for your time, Ken Gelineau



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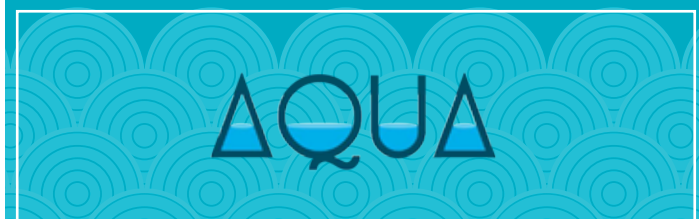
Shopping for a swimming pool is viewed by most homeowners the same way as purchasing a car. When purchasing a car, you know what you're getting -- cars all come from the manufacturer built by robots. Swimming pools, however, are manufactured in your backyard by humans. The construction process and quality varies tremendously from company to company.

At the first meeting with the designer, ask for a minimum of ten references, some recent and some older. Most importantly,

contact the references and speak directly with those owners if possible. You may also want to look at all of the online review resources available, such as Angie's List (free now to home owners) and Google reviews. Angie's List reviews can only be written by the home owners whereas Google reviews could come from anyone and should be scrutinized for authenticity. Finally, look at the company's website for overall quality of products, portfolio and customer testimonials.

Note that after purchasing your new pool, the city and/or county will issue a permit and then require inspections (plumbing pressure, rebar, etc.) that are put in place to protect the homeowner and to hold the pool contractor accountable for those items. However, not all things can be inspected. For example timeliness, quality of craftsmanship, follow-up, follow-through and so on. You cannot expect to shop for a pool "apples to apples" -- it will always be "apples to oranges."

Most importantly, your buying decisions need to incorporate the Return On Investment. That being said, here are some considerations: 1. Your budget should be around 10 percent of the value of your home. This depends on the value of the property. The budget needs to include everything to finish the scope of construction, such as the pool project, screen enclosure, irrigation, grass repairs, landscaping, and/or fenced perimeter costs. If you're getting a hot tub, budget for the cost to install a gas tank with mechanical hookup. 2. Decking, concrete vs. pavers, the look. 3. Sanitation or water quality; either salt water chlorine generation; Ozone or Ultraviolet. Note that Ozone and Ultraviolet will still need chlorine as a backup. 3. In-floor circulation and self-cleaning systems; this product has a tremendous ROI, such as quality of life--not having to deal with cleaning robots and water heating will save you money. If you go to www.allaquapools.com, head to the bottom of each page to watch the video to see how this system works. 4. Interior finish products and warranties; Standard Quartz interior finish comes with a five-year material warranty, whereas Pebble Tech finishes are lifetime material warranty.



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security & safety news

By Peter Stanton

Video surveillance is becoming the norm for homeowners and businesses as the price of the technology has come way down. It used to be that most people wanted video surveillance but thought it was too pricey at \$10,000 for a professionally installed system. That is not the case anymore. Technology has come a long way, both in quality and cost. Now you can get a professionally installed video surveillance system for about a grand. You can even find do-it-yourself systems at the local big-box stores. These are good starter systems; however, they do have a few issues to keep in mind. Most of the kit systems have a pencil-thin mounting bracket for the camera that can be easily broken, even in installation. I recommend a good vandal-resistant dome camera that you only have to install once.

The things to consider when investing in a video surveillance system are as follows:



1. What do you want to see? The best place to mount cameras are in the corners of the home. This will provide a wider viewing area than if you mounted a camera flat on the wall.

2. Do you want to see at night? This is when a lot of the vandalism occurs, so make sure the cameras have infrared lenses that illuminate up to 80-100 feet.

3. Obstruction of view: We all have trees and shrubs that grow and have to be trimmed. When placing cameras, keep that in mind, otherwise in a year you will not be able to see through the trees.

4. Picture quality: Make sure you are getting true high-definition, 1080P cameras. Anything less you won't be happy with. You remember the videos they show on the nightly news of the old convenience store robberies. Those types of systems are a waste of your money. Do your research. Ask your neighbors who they use.

5. Recording: This is a must. Without a recorder the cameras are only good if you are watching them all the time. The recorder should be a high-definition recorder and should have an ample hard drive to record for about a month. A normal video surveillance system for a home should have at least a 2TB hard drive to record for a month. After a month the recorder will record over the oldest video first. I recommend setting the recorder to only record motion. This way if something happens you can go right to the time and watch it.

6. Internet and phone access: Almost everything manufactured today is internet and phone capable. You should have a free website to view your cameras online, and there should also be a free app to view on your phone. Be sure to set up your own user name and password after the installer has left.

7. Police need video: If something happens in your neighborhood, the police may stop and ask if they can see your video. It is always good to review, and if you find something useful, simply burn it on a thumb drive.

In closing, do your research, and you will be fine, no matter who installs your video surveillance system.

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344 Leoni Street	Arbor Lakes	\$ 395,313	4	3	2,405	2
3602 Maribella Drive	Maribella	\$ 319,900	3	2	2,250	2
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 249,900	3	3	2,345	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 230,000	3	3	2,208	1
3370 Gallia Street	Savona	\$ 224,900	4	2	2,042	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 220,000	3	2	1,862	1
3523 Casalta Circle	Parkside	\$ 219,900	3	2	2,060	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 212,900	2	2	1,684	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 199,500	2	2	2,208	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 199,000	3	3	2,208	1
424 Luna Bella Lane	Tuscany Square	\$ 179,900	3	2	1,862	1



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Buddy Davenport opened his State Farm Insurance Agency in New Smyrna Beach in 1975. After graduating from University of Arkansas in 1974 with a Bachelors in Business Administration, he moved to Florida, discovering beautiful New Smyrna Beach. He attended the Gemological Institute of America and became a Certified Diamond Appraiser in 1975, working as the Assistant Manager at Gordon's Jewelers.

He started his insurance business with State Farm by going door to door. Since his time here, he has immersed himself into being an active community supporter as former vice president of the South East Volusia Advertising Authority, Chamber member since 1975, former vice president NSB Housing Authority, member of the Masonic Lodge of NSB, NSB Shriners Club, former member of the board of directors for United Way Volusia County, former board member of Daytona State College Foundation, founding board member of the Margarita Charity Ball / Toys for Tots for Children, bringing the idea of NSB Charity Ball to Kaye Walker NSB, founding board member of Marine Discovery Center, member Elks Club South East Volusia (SEV), Affiliate member of New Smyrna Beach Board of Realtors,

Board member Prison Ministries of Volusia County, member of New Smyrna Beach Kiwanis Club, member NSB Yacht Club, member National Association Financial Insurance Advisors, member of National Association State Farm Agents, director of committee Florida Agents.

Professional Memberships

- New Smyrna Beach Chamber of Commerce board member
- National Association Of Insurance and Financial Advisors - NAIFA
- National Association of State Farm Agents (NASFA)
- Former vice president of the South East Volusia Advertising Authority
- Director Committee of Florida Agents (State Farm Political Action Committee)
- South East Volusia Chamber of Commerce
- Former vice president of the New Smyrna Beach Housing Authority
- Masonic Lodge New Smyrna Beach
- New Smyrna Beach Shriners
- Former member of the board of Directors, United Way Volusia County
- Former board member of Daytona State College Foundation
- Former board member of Atlantic Center of the Arts
- Former board member of WCEU television station
- Founding board member of the Daytona Beach Margarita Charity Ball/Toys for Tots
- Board member of the Prison Ministry Group
- Founding board member of the Marine Discovery Center in New

- Smyrna Beach
- Member of the Elks Club South East Volusia County
- Member of the New Smyrna Beach Kiwanis Club
- Affiliate member of New Smyrna Beach Board of Realtors
- Recently appointed as one of five Commissioners of the Utilities Commission, City of New Smyrna Beach

Accreditations and Achievements:

- Raised over \$85,000 in toys for children in Volusia County in 2013
- Has won numerous awards with State Farm Insurance including; Presidents club, Ambassador Travel, Chairman's Circle
- Sponsored and put together the Worlds Miniature Golf Tournament in New Smyrna Beach News Journal's Star of the South Award for 2016, voted best insurance agency

Buddy is very excited about the future of South East Volusia County and the opportunity it provides to all of us. His success can be attributed to the loyal team members he's had over the years and all the hard work combined with the support he's had from the community.

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CREATING A Charitable Giving Strategy

financial fitness
Submitted By David Carson

For many of us, the new year signifies a fresh chance to align our spending with our priorities. If charitable giving is an important part of your budget, now is a good time to take a step back and reevaluate your giving strategy. There are a myriad of causes and organizations you can support, which can leave even the best-intentioned philanthropist confused and overwhelmed. The following steps can help ensure your money is being used effectively and efficiently by the organizations you choose to support.

Step 1: Clarify your own values and preferences.

Before you reach for your checkbook, ask yourself a few questions. What causes are important to you? Is there a particular demographic or group of people you would like to support? Would you prefer to give to a local,



regional, national or global organization? As a donor, what do you hope to see in the organization's leadership or structure? The answers to these questions can help you make a list of charities that will allow you to align your financial resources with your personal values—making your donation even more meaningful.

Step 2: Consider each organization's mission. Once you have determined which organizations meet your criteria, research each charity to make sure their programs, mission and goals match your expectations. Consider meeting with an executive or local leader to hear about the charity's strategy and their impact on the community first-hand. During the meeting, ask about the organization's short and long-term goals, as well as how they measure success. You want to be sure that the charity is making progress toward achieving its goals.

Step 3: Investigate each charitable organization's financial health.

Look into how each donation is used and what percentage of the money goes directly to the cause. Fundraising and administrative expenses help the charity do its work, however you should be cautious about organizations with higher overhead costs. Ask the charity for a copy of their most recent annual report and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990. These forms outline the charity's budget allocation and financial plans, and can provide you with insight into how your money is used to make the intended impact.

If you'd like an objective perspective on a charity's financial health, fundraising practices, day-to-day efficiency and accountability standards, look at how watch dog groups evaluate the organization. BBB Wise Giving Alliance (www.give.org), GuideStar (www.guidestar.org) and Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) are several national groups that offer unbiased evaluations.

Step 4: Make giving part of your financial plan. As you figure out your donation strategy, consider meeting with a financial planner or tax advisor who can help you select the most appropriate donation method for your financial situation. These professionals can also work with you to create a strategy for ongoing contributions or to make giving part of your legacy. Keep in mind that there may be legal or tax considerations, depending on the amount and form of your donation (i.e. check, investment donation, etc.).

By taking the time to thoroughly evaluate charitable organizations, you'll give yourself the peace of mind that your money is being used wisely, effectively and for the purposes you intended.



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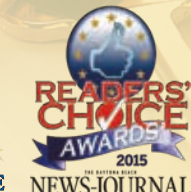
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By Tracy LaFon

This love of community -- and the people that make it up -- meant the team at N2 couldn't look the other way. They couldn't ignore the epidemic creeping into every city across our country. There is a truth that people rarely acknowledge: human trafficking. Making money by enslaving human beings. It's prevalent, has destroyed millions of lives, and often unfolds closer to home than most think.

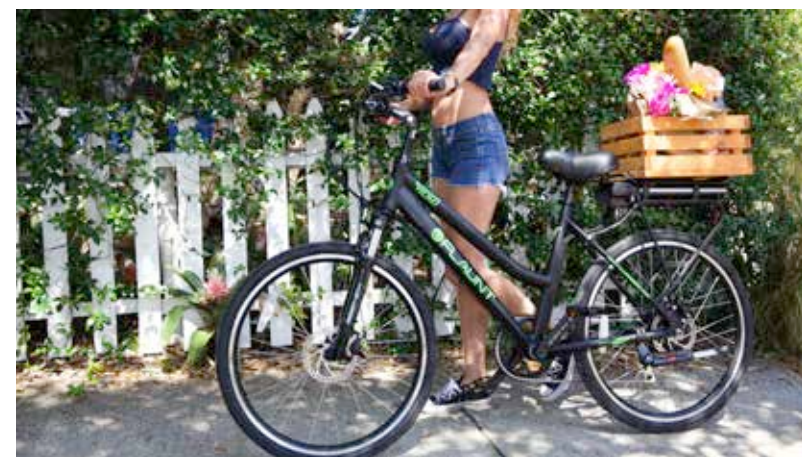
Leveraging the success of N2 Publishing, they decided to take action. **N2GIVES**, the philanthropic arm of N2 Publishing, was born.

A small team assembled to vet groups fighting human trafficking across the world. Many months of research narrowed the list of hundreds of potential organizations to a few dozen. Each partner actively rescues the victims of trafficking and assists with their healing. They also prosecute the offenders, educate those that can intercept, and increase awareness of the problem.

The 34 partner organizations received more than two million dollars from N2GIVES in 2016.

Shortly thereafter, **N2GIVES.com** launched. This is the concrete foundation of N2's commitment to provide help and hope. This site highlights the stories and photos of the organizations working in the trenches of this war. There are videos giving a first-hand account of why these leaders continue the fight. There are links to follow **N2GIVES** on Facebook and Twitter, too.

Consider joining in the effort with **N2GIVES**. No action or contribution is too small. Pass on the information to friends and neighbors. Talk to groups in your community. Give money, time, or ideas. Prove to the world that there is help for the helpless and hope for the hopeless. People should care and people do care.



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