

THE Magnolia



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MAGNOLIA POINT

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2022



OUTSIDE

POOLS • PATIOS • PORCHES



Photo: Editor

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THE MAGNOLIA - PUBLICATION POLICY

The function of The Magnolia is to serve the entire community of Magnolia Point. Priority will be given to reporting the news and activities of the neighborhood, community organizations and events. Second priority will be given to articles of general interest as space permits. Due to space limitations, articles are subject to editing. Deadlines may be found on the Magnolia News website.

MAGNOLIA POINT WEBSITES

Magnolia Point Community Association - magpt.com
Magnolia Point Golf & Country Club - magnoliapointgolfclub.com
Magnolia Point Women's Club - mpwc.org
Magnolia News - magnolianews.online

LINER NOTES

We start the 'R' months with an issue that took us all over the 'hood. 'OutSide' features a stunning outdoor kitchen and pool on Grand Victoria, (our cover photo is also by owner Gary Cummins). **Page 5.**

Becky Hinson and Donna & Chuck Habings put faces with their names on **pages 7 & 8.**

If you stopped by China Wok, say, 15 years ago or so, you'd see either of the boys hunkered down over homework at a corner table. Shy but polite, under the watchful eye of Pam Ye, owner and dutiful cashier, *maître d'*, takeout manager chief-cook-and-bottle-washer *and* mother of Michael and Jason. **Page 10.** (You'll want to visit **all** of those links!)

A tradition as storied as dropping off an apple-pie at a neighbor's or sharing a bumper-crop: helping a fellow resident. It resonates even more today in a culture with a premium on convenience and obsolescence. Or maybe you need help with that gizmo on the fritz that just has a certain sentimental value. Your invitation to 'Fix-It Fridays', **page 11.**

'Our Pages': Cissy Lorch's *K9 for Warriors* is **page 12**, and Joe Chao's 9/11 memory is **14**. Great reads!

Melanie is back, this time with Monarchs and **two** personal bests! Nature thanks her for it, and we do, too! **Page 19.**

The Wish home on Belfry Circle kicks off 'The Good Yards', another for the record-books, **pages 21-22.**

Finally, get yer melon-baller out and SERVE! Mix up the 'US Open Honey Deuce' on **page 25.**

THE MAGNOLIA NEWS

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Published on the 1st of each month at
www.magnolianews.online

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Becky Hinson

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Steve Witham



“In a Green Cove. A favorite place” - Anon

ASSOCIATION NEWS

A requirement from our covenants is to establish a committee to solicit and vet potential board members. For the last two election cycles no one has agreed to act in that capacity and we ask that you consider volunteering for this important duty. The last two election cycles also had only enough people volunteer to serve on the board as were required to fill vacancies, which meant that there were no candidates to choose between. Don't like what this board has done? This is your chance to move the community in the direction you feel is appropriate or preferred. All that is required is that you are a resident in good standing of Magnolia Point, are willing to forego some of your free time and want to serve your neighbors. There are three board members finishing their 2 year terms this winter, so this is your chance to step in. The volunteer forms are available on our website, magpt.com. If you're not sure if serving on the board is for you, feel free to contact any of the current board members to ask questions or discuss what is involved.

Thank you to all of you who took the time to read the information on the proposal or attend our informational meetings to utilize remote guards at night and then voted. We had more far responses than we normally get and you made it clear that you wanted to continue the status quo and keep live guards on station full time. The majority also voted to improve our capabilities to monitor vehicles/individuals entering the community which will allow us to ensure more accountability for visitors and sponsors.

The Access Control Committee is searching for an expert company to perform an in-depth study to get recommendations for other ways to improve neighborhood safety. A key fact to remember for all of us is that Magnolia Point is NOT a “secure” community but one with controlled access. We are looking for ways to allow everyone to feel and be safer while not spending an outrageous amount of money for limited gains. We should also take comfort that the Green Cove Springs Police Chief Guzman, briefed us recently that we live in the

safest community in Clay County.

We have retained an engineer to conduct studies to prioritize various projects which include storm water control and road repaving, filling and smoothing. Many requirements are emerging as our infrastructure ages and shows the lack of upkeep that we inherited from various developers over the years. We are also looking at increasing the number and improving location of street lights.

The Strategic Planning Committee has provided a detailed list of recommendations to improve our community. We have instituted a number of their recommendations already and are studying many others to determine how best to proceed. One obvious need is for more resident participation to institute the improvements. Please think about ways you can contribute time and effort to improve Magnolia Point. There are also opportunities and a need for people to join current committees. Again, if you are interested but not sure, contact any board or committee member and ask about needs and requirements.

A number of years ago a developer bought Tower Park (the area at the turnoff to Harbor Drive from Hwy 17) and forced the residents to pay for it. Since then, we have been responsible for maintaining the area and have borne the cost of landscaping and maintenance. The area became somewhat rundown in the past but over the last year and a half since Evergreen Lawn Specialists was awarded the maintenance contract there has been a marked improvement of the appearance of the area. Some residents like the area and others find it to be a waste of money for the maintenance. Because the area is not deemed to be commercially viable there seems to be no monetary value for the property, so the question becomes what to do with it? We plan to conduct another survey in the near future to determine resident opinion regarding Tower Park following which we will make a decision on it's future.

Want a better place to live? Treat your neighbors as you wish they would treat you!

- LARRY FRANCISCO, PRESIDENT





September



WE LIVE HERE, WE WORK HERE, WE PLAY HERE
LET THE EXPERTS HANDLE YOUR MAGNOLIA POINT HOME!

Featured Listings

For Sale

For Sale

For Sale



700 Walnut Street
\$350,000
Downtown GCS



1611 Pebble Beach
\$800,000
Magnolia Point



1976 Pebble Point
\$356,000
Magnolia West

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Magnolia OUTSIDE

How long have you lived at Magnolia Point?

Just over two years.

Have you reworked an outdoor space that was here, or was this a new build?

We added a summer kitchen to the pool area. Our grilling space was on the pool deck and since the lanai is enclosed on three sides we were left grilling in the rain!

What do you like best about your ‘OutSide’?

We absolutely love everything about it. We entertain guests often and grill burgers and chicken on the gas grill. We use the Kamado Joe for smoking pork butts, briskets, and grilling steaks. We also added a separate double burner for low country boils and making Gumbo Roux.

Do you entertain in this space?

As often as our schedules will allow!

Do the seasons obviously limit your use, or do you adapt to them?

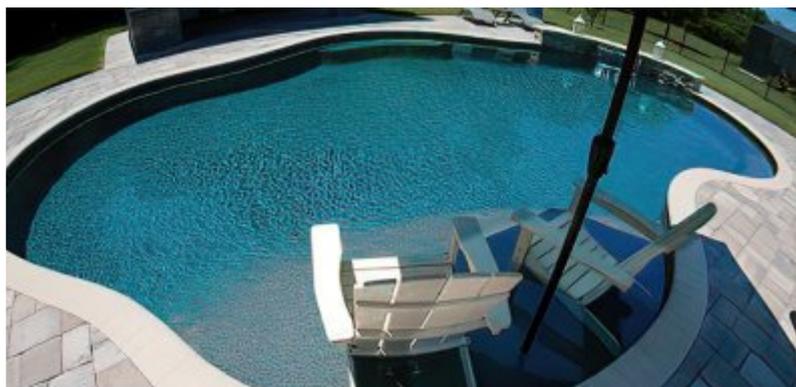
We use the summer kitchen year-round.

Were there any engineering obstacles, drainage, logistics, permitting, etc., that you overcame, or know of, that challenged the project.

The build went smoothly without any specific obstacles. We extended our existing pool paver deck to add the summer kitchen. We went with all stone and a poured



concrete countertop. We had the space engineered to withstand hurricanes and matched the shingles to the house roof. The total build time was 17 working days.



What are you particularly proud of?

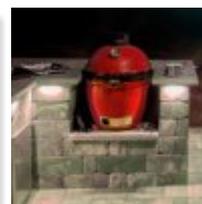
We’re proud of the space itself!

What might you want to change in your outdoor space?

Not a single thing!

What, if any, are the maintenance issues? How do you manage this?

Other than normal cleaning, the pavers, stone and countertops require re-sealing every three years.



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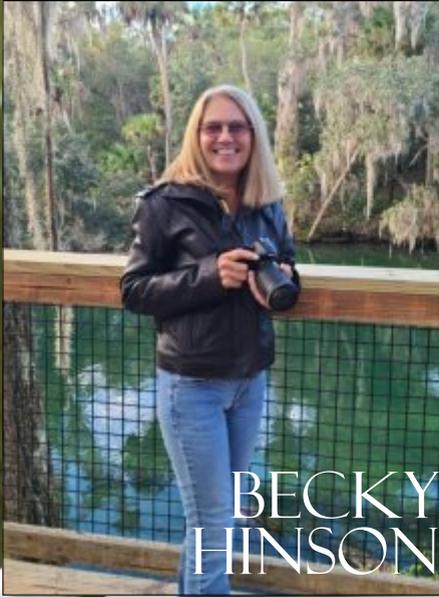
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FACES & NAMES

3400
OLYMPIC DRIVE



How long have you lived at Magnolia Point?

We have lived here for 5 years.

Who's in your immediate family, at home here or elsewhere?

I live in Magnolia with my husband, Don, and we have a daughter that also lives in Green Cove Springs. Our oldest daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren live in the Orlando area.

Do you have any pets?

Our dog, Tonka, recently passed away and we miss him terribly.

What was your passion at 16?

At 16 I was simply trying to figure out how to survive on my own. Literally. Graduation coming meant I would no longer have a home. And despite being an honor roll student, college was not an option for me.

And now?

I was married for 28 years, had two children, a successful 20-year career in medical claims, owned a restaurant and retired 23 years ago. I divorced at the age of 45 and later reconnected with a lifelong friend, my husband of 12 years, Don. My greatest passion is wildlife photography and spending time outdoors. You can find me on Instagram @bechinson, where I have over 6,500 pictures, and counting; on NextDoor, my photos have been viewed over half a million times; and of course, I love contributing to The Magnolia News!

What advice would you give to a 16-year old today? *Set a goal and believe in yourself. While some feel a college education is the only path to success, I am the definition of success without a formal education. Every child is different; follow your dreams and set your goals high. Shoot for the stars, go to college if you feel that's the right path for you or follow my lead and blaze your own trail.*

What do you like most about your home?

My backyard, the sunsets and all my wildlife friends!

Do you have any household projects in the 'planning' or 'dream' stage?

We don't currently have any household projects planned for our house here. There are some renovations in the future for our home in Jacksonville but right now I'm just going to keep taking photos in Green Cove Springs.

Do you see yourself living here in 5 years?

Time will tell. We want to stay close to our daughter who has a chronic illness. We're hoping to find the care she needs to stay healthy. When that time comes, we'll reevaluate.



FACES & NAMES

3407
OLYMPIC
DRIVE

How long have you lived at Magnolia Point?

Two years, after 5 on the river here in Green Cove Springs.

Who's in your immediate family, at home here or elsewhere?

Craig, 33 and Brian, 25. Craig and his new wife Shelby are both attorneys and live in St. John's County. Brian is a mechanical engineer who designs and builds satellites for The Space Force in Los Angeles.

Do you have any pets?

No, but we have fallen in love with Rogi, our grand-puppy, a miniature poodle.

What was your passion at 16?

Chuck: mini bikes and motorcycles in my home town of Effingham, Illinois.

Donna: a Navy brat living in the shipyard in Philadelphia. My passion was meeting boys at either the teen dances held on base or the base swimming pool.

And now?

Spending time with family and friends...Donna's three sisters and their families all live here in Clay County. The Werrings on Shinecock Drive are our longest and closest friends. We're long time members of St. Catherine Catholic Church and enjoy singing with the choir

What advice would you give to a 16-year old today?

Develop a spiritual faith, get a degree in a field that requires a license or certification, and encourage your parents to have sit-down at-the-table family dinners with no phones or TV.

What do you like most about your home?

Our long history and connection to Magnolia Point...Donna's dad worked for the golf course, her sister Mary worked for the real estate office during college. Mom and Dad Mueller lived on Winged Foot Circle for 25 years, and their nephew Chris' family, The Nelsons, live here in MP.

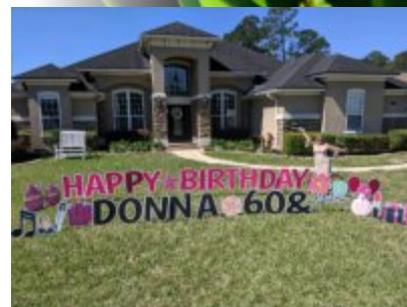
Do you have any household projects in the 'planning' or 'dream' stage?

We're currently searching for a company to build a pool and spa, for less than an arm and a leg. Wish us luck!

Do you see yourself living here in 5 years?

Yes.

DONNA & CHUCK HABING





Trusted plumbing & remodeling services since 1989, now in Magnolia Point!

Hello Magnolia!

For over 30 years, service has been our focus. When you are a family-run company that is honest and reliable and that puts attention to detail into every project, people notice that and we're thankful to our customers who have allowed us to continue as a successful business that supports our community. Now we're proud to include Magnolia Point as a community of our own, as we have recently moved here!

We do it all!

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Pamela Mason



MAGNOLIA'S *next*

Not many young folks have their own motto, let alone a tagline that's printed on bottles of sauces of their own family's recipes, available on Amazon.

MICHAEL CHEN

'Our flavors are not just eight out of ten, or a nine, or even a ten out of ten. They're a

Chen out of ten,' says Michael Chen.

You'll know if Michael is in at their home on La Costa Court, where you'll find his sneakers parked on the welcome mat outside the front door.

Michael is now a junior at MIT, major in Mechanical Engineering with a focus on Intelligent Machines, and a minor in Business. Brother Jason now holds a Master's in Biomedicine from Cornell, and is in cancer research in California.

He's not just about tasty concoctions to stimulate the palate. Spend a little time with Michael, and you'll hear how he is equally dedicated to such challenges as, for example "a sustainable way to efficiently extract water from plant matter". An invention of his with just this purpose was applied to the real-life challenges in the Third World, "A Novel Method to Alleviate the Water Crisis in Uganda" for which he won the Ricoh USA Sustainable Development Award in 2019, while a student at Ridgeview. An idea with potential to solve a humand problem on a worldwide scale, the prototype assembled in a neighborhood you'll find familiar: [Michael's Method](#)

"I wanted them to grow up and help the world!" Pam explains of her emphasis on the boys' education. She struggled to fund the boys' preschool, a resolve she knows made all the difference in their progress into



adulthood. She wakes every day motivated with a desire to give back to the community, and the country that gave her and her family a chance, an example she's proud to see resonates with her sons. Someone was watching: Michael was the recipient of a generous scholarship from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation in his senior year, in which he also ascended to President of the Florida Future Business Leaders of America.

"Everyone Should Try and Solve the Big Problems", was the TEDx talk Michael gave in 2020, having overcome his fear of public speaking. In it, he credits one of his Magnolia Point mentors, one 'Mr Luke' (Byrne) as his *casus belli* in his battle against the mental inertia that often enfeebles individual or societal endeavors. A must see: [Michael's Tedx](#)

No surprise: "I love to cook!" says Michael, who produced, staged and prepared a ceremonial **16 course Omakase** sushi dinner for randomly-selected students on the roof of McCormick Hall at MIT. You MUST witness his fluency in other Asian cuisine in: [Michael's Rooftop Omakase Experience](#). When home, he's either on duty in the kitchens of China Wok or Pan Asian Cuisine, or cooking for the family.

Michael's at home here, and admits to local 'plans' for his skills and Chen family values. *Stay tuned.*



1880 COLONIAL DRIVE Fix-It Friday



Jenn and Perry Moore have remodeled their garage, making it ideal for hosting Fix-It-Fridays

There's a new monthly Master Class in Minor Repairs of any household item you can carry into the fix-it clinic in Perry Moore's garage at 1880 Colonial Drive. Bring in that tatty table-lamp, that tepid teapot, or vapid vacuum, and he'll see what he can do. And if he can't perhaps one of the volunteers in attendance can pitch in, as they have other handy Magnolia residents who've offered their specialties to assist.



At the first meeting of FIF, neighbor Bill Blackwell stepped up with his knife-sharpening skills to put a fine edge on over 30 blades brought in for sharpening. From pocket-knives to chef blade, no point was too fine to make.



Perry is considering 'themed' events, where a specific item will be present, for example, a full-sized toilet, with troubleshooting and repair instructions 'hands-on', in 3D.



"There's nothing I can't fix...or at least try to." - Perry Moore



"The next installment of Fix-It-Fridays will take place on September 9th. Bring your items for repair, come learn a skill, or just meet the neighbors. If you have repair skills and would like to lend your wisdom please come by. Bring personal safety equipment and beverages of your choice. **Time will be from 5:00pm until we're done, at 1880 Colonial Drive. If your not sure if we can fix it please leave a comment. As always all services are free of charge."**



Photos: Perry Moore



OUR PAGE: IN THE AIR ON 9/11

I left Atlanta as pilot of an air ambulance on Tuesday morning September 11, 2001. We were to pick up our first patient in Cape May New Jersey and fly to Pittsburgh. We were, then, supposed to fly to Cleveland to pick up a patient and fly to JFK where we were scheduled to land at 3pm.

As we were talking to air traffic control prior to our approach into New Jersey, we learned that a plane had crashed into the WTC tower. The copilot and I looked at each other and thought that some idiot had crashed a small plane. That did not make sense, as the weather was absolutely what pilots call "severe clear" that morning.

The controller advised that it had been an American flight. We landed a few minutes later at Cape May and were told by police to gather all of our gear, lock the plane and not to return to the plane unescorted. As we walked into the terminal building, we watched on TV as the second plane hit the tower.

Meanwhile, we had a patient waiting in an ambulance at the terminal for the flight to Pittsburgh. After we realized all airspace would be closed indefinitely, the patient returned to the hospital.

We immediately started calling the FAA trying to assess the situation and determine when we could take off. The situation was so unprecedented that answers were not immediately available. I must say that the FAA personnel handled it as best they could, however. After many hours, the FAA cleared ambulances to fly again.

For some reason, we took the patient to Butler, PA instead of Pittsburgh. When one flies in the northeast, he must carefully and concisely execute his radio calls. He feels lucky to even get a call in sometimes. The traffic can be unreal. On the night flight from New Jersey to Pennsylvania, we heard not one other radio call. The only aircraft flying were military, police or ambulance. It was as if the whole world had perished and we were the last of the survivors. Eerie!

We landed in Butler and taxied to the ramp in the dark. We were surrounded by three police cars. As I lowered the stairway, a police officer asked what we were doing there. It is amazing that we were on an instrument flight plan and had a call sign that starts with "lifeguard" and nobody got the word. I pointed to the patient who was hooked up to a drip and on a ventilator. I guess

that was a good enough explanation.

We picked up another patient on 9/12/2001 and flew to Poughkeepsie, NY. On 9/13/2001 we flew a patient from Poughkeepsie directly to Daytona Beach. Our route took us directly over the Meadowlands, where we had a very clear view of the towers that had been destroyed. We were climbing through 14,000 feet or so, the weather was sunny and clear. I have no words to describe the feeling of loss that I had at that moment. I had flown in and around New York many times and to view the city with the crumbled and smoking towers and to consider the resulting loss of life was just hard to imagine.

We continued on to Daytona Beach and landed in 50 knot winds just ahead of Tropical Storm Gabrielle. After the ground ambulance left the aircraft, we quickly refueled and made the short flight back to Atlanta. We were still the only airplane in the US airspace it seemed.

Three weeks thereafter, I was asked to pick up a team of engineers in Charleston, WV and fly them to Teterboro, NJ.

A driver who was driving a crew cab Ford PU with a New York Port Authority emblem picked us up and took us down to the World Trade Center site. I honestly believe the Port Authority emblem must have exempted the driver from stopping at any red light or obeying any other traffic law in Manhattan.

The team invited me to go down in the hole that was created. I stayed in and around a field office on the WTC site while the engineers did what they came to do. I was overwhelmed by the huge scale and the sadness of it all. Even three weeks later, the many firefighters on site seemed to be functioning efficiently yet they also seemed to be in a daze. It must have seemed to them as if they were working in a sacred tomb. I know it felt that way to me. I felt compelled to show the utmost respect for the living and the dead.

I left New York the next day proud to be an American and I felt a deep sense of encouragement by what I had observed there. Considering where I was and the observations I made on the 11th through the 13th of September, I was thankful that I had the opportunity to visit the site. We are a blessed and great nation. I am proud to be an American!



- JOE CHAO





BECKY HINSON



OUR PAGE: CISSY, CAMEO & DANIEL

One of our neighbors, Cissy Lorch, has had the pleasure of sponsoring a dog for a veteran accepted for the service dog program through K9s for Warriors.



That dog is officially a certified service dog! Well, done, Cameo!

The process of sponsoring a dog is a journey. Cissy completed her application to become a sponsor in December 2019. K9s for Warriors is fortunate

to have many people who are excited about sponsoring a service dog and Cissy had to wait while she climbed the list to #1. That took 2 1/2 years!

80% of the Dogs are found in kill/no-kill shelters throughout the States. There are requirements for every dog selected. A few of them are age, health, intelligence, and size. Once a dog is found, a veterinarian checks the dog for fitness. After the dog travels to the K9s for Warriors kennels in Ponte Vedra, they begin their service dog training. This process varies greatly with each dog and can take anywhere from 3-9 months. When a dog passes all the testing to become a support dog, it is then matched with one of the veteran's that has also been waiting. Veterans must submit an application too. Once accepted, the veteran can be on a waiting list that is more than 2 years long! During the COVID epidemic the number of veterans and dogs were decreased. Once a match is made and a veteran is told there is a dog for them, they are very excited.

Both the dog and the veteran meet at the K9s for Warriors campus for a 3-week bonding/training period. The campus has "dormitories" that are roomy enough for the human and canine to spend 24/7 during their training. Previous to this the dog has already learned 26 commands -- now it's the veteran's turn. Graduation is the beginning of their life together. Once the veteran has his diploma, he takes the dog home with him. That isn't the end! In a year, both veteran and dog return to the campus for a week-long recertification process.

Back to our story about Cissy, Cameo, and Daniel. On July 22nd, Cissy was invited to attend the graduation at the K9s for Warriors headquarters/campus. She, along with friend Terri, were asked to arrive early for a "Meet & Greet" with Daniel and Cameo. They then attended the brief graduation ceremony. If you would like to watch any of the K9s monthly graduations, they are available on YouTube. Type in: K9s for Warriors graduation. Daniel and Cameo will be on the one for July 2022; it lasts 7 minutes. With the class of July 2022, a total of 743 veterans have gone thru the program in Ponte Vedra.

Cissy is a veteran of the Navy, having spent 20 years serving as a Nurse. Daniel is an Army veteran from New York. Cissy is very proud of her part in helping a fellow veteran knowing that the dog she sponsored will help him deal with the lasting mental damages suffered during his service to our country.

Recently K9s for Warrior opened a mega-kennel on Phillips Highway in Ponte Vedra that holds up to 150 dogs preparing to become certified service dogs. This will significantly reduce the length of time on a waitlist for future matches between a veteran and his service dog.



As you can imagine, not every dog is able to learn all 26 commands. These dogs are much sought after because they are healthy, smart, and well-trained and they immediately become available for adoption. If you are interested in having a young (2 to 4-year-old) dog that has been completely vetted and has some obedience training, one of these dogs could be yours! Just sign into the website for K9s for Warriors and look for the adoption opportunities. These are not advertised and are only listed on the website as they become available.

- CARRIE CARDASICA

(Note: Carrie first reported on Cissy and Cameo in the May 2020 issue of Magnolia Point Living.)

MPWC

MP WOMEN'S CLUB UPDATE



- SUSAN MITCHELL

AAA on Senior Driving

Laurie Lydon from AAA was the guest speaker at our July meeting. She reminded us of how the new position to hold the steering wheel of your vehicle is 9-3 or 8-4 (no longer 10-2) due to the damage caused by airbags. One important question answered was that only the State can take away a person's driver license and not a family member.

Member Activities

Upcoming programs/activities following the meeting include

- Sep 14** – Bingo (after our meeting)
- Sep 27** – Keystone Heights Tea Room
- Oct 12** – Dr. A. Martino, Speaker on Women's Health
- Oct 12** – Halloween Costume Contest
- Nov 9** – Bob H. Lee, author of Backcountry Lawman
- Dec 14** – Holiday Luncheon, no general meeting

Sep 27 - Tea Room in Keystone Heights

Members of the women's club will enjoy a social outing at the Tea Room of Keystone Heights on Tuesday, September 27, with Wednesday, September 28, as an overflow date. Reservations for the event can be made through Wednesday, September 14, by dropping off a check in the amount of \$32.00, made payable to MPWC, at Linda Werring's home, 3655 Shinnecock Lane.



Birthday Girls Nancye Hale & Diane Lang

Diaper Collection

The Women's Club will also be assisting the Way Free Medical Clinic, located in Green Cove Springs, with a diaper collection. Way Free provides diapers and wipes to forty families each month. To qualify for this program, families must be 200% below the national poverty level and live in Clay County. Members can drop off diapers, especially size 4, 5 and 6, and/or wipes to Marlene Jacobs' home between September 6 and September 14.

Hand, Knee & Foot at the Club

Thank you, Val Shepard, for hosting the August game. As a reminder, play is open to all members of the women's club and their guests. Arrive no later than 9:45am and enjoy the morning refreshments. Cost is \$2.00 for prize money and play begins at 10:00am. Lunch follows play and you can eat in or take out. Last month's winners include:

- Nancy Zavislak**, 30,690 pts
- Jola Greiner**, 29,690 pts
- Lorna Broughton**, 29,170 pts
- Susan Mitchell**, 28,960 pts
- Susan Hanline**, 27,610 pts
- Lori Miller**, 25,530 pts

Lorna Broughton will be host at the September 7th game.



Marlene Jacobs, Joanne LaBeouf, Glenda Harden, Shirley Orvosh

Continues Next Page



THE VINEYARD TRANSITIONAL CENTER

During the week of July 18-23, the Magnolia Point Women's Club conducted a donation effort for The Vineyard Transitional Center, a shelter serving the homeless of Green Cove Spring.

The shelter serves is a haven for those who seek to rebuild their lives through this faith-based center. Joanne LaBeouf met Pastor John Sanders, Director of the Center, at a Reinhold Foundation seminar last spring. She recently asked if his shelter had any needs and Pastor John asked for donations of men's pants and shoes of various sizes. As usual, the women of MPWC generously responded to the call by donating items too numerous to count.

The center will be holding a groundbreaking fundraising event in September for their new location on 518 Pine Street in Green Cove Springs and all MPWC members are invited to attend. Members, watch for an email with all the details.

For anyone interested in learning more about The Vineyard, check out their website at: <https://www.claycountyhomelessshelter.com/>

- SUSAN MITCHELL



Marlene Jacobs, Paster John, Joanne LaBeouf



New location on Pine Street, Green Cove Springs



TONY & BRENDA

FRREY



SULCATA TORTOISE



LULI

PET OF THE MONTH

The African Spurred Tortoise (*Centrochelys sulcata*), also called the Sulcata Tortoise, is native to the southern edge of the Sahara desert. It is the third-largest species of tortoise in the world. Considering her ottoman-like proportions, I'd hazard a guess that this is the largest tortoise in Clay County right now!

The owner, who moved here recently (current location not disclosed) said Luli fit in his palm when she wandered into their Miami backyard 5 years ago, a refugee from Hurricane Irma. She seems to love her new digs. Which is also an activity she does from time to time, testing the limits of their neat, yet sturdy fence.

The least fussy eater one will ever meet, preferring a diet consisting solely of their backyard's St. Augustine.

Luli can live to 150 years, which means might still be frolicking in her Magnolia Point backyard in 2167.

So, have a nice day, Luli...all 52,925 of them!



dp

MAGNOLIA POINT CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

All games are friendly and you can sign up with a partner or as a single. One prize is paid out for each table, i.e., if there are four tables, the top four scores win money.

Duplicate and Social Bridge generally play on alternate Thursdays in the clubhouse dining room from 3 to 6pm. The fees are \$2.00 for social and \$3.00 for duplicate to cover the cost of prize money and supplies.

Ladies Bridge plays on the last Friday of the month. Play begins at 10am with lunch around noon and finishes around 2pm.

CONTACT

Social: Joe Thill
JoeThill79@gmail.com

Duplicate: Roy Gulick
RoyGulick@aol.com

Ladies Bridge - Kaaren Tague
BobTague@comcast.net

Social Bridge, Thu, Jul 28

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Marty Essex & Cindy Jennings
3. Jon Bastress & Joe Thill
4. Alice Lodge & Kaaren Tague
5. David Miller & Susan Mitchell

Ladies Bridge, Fri., July 29

1. Dottie Lunt
2. Ann Burden
3. Kaaren Tague

Duplicate Bridge, Thu, Aug 4

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. (2T) Phyllis Boyd & Alice Lodge
- 2(T) Brad Lucas & Jerry Ritchie
4. Kim Belcher & Evie Ezzell
5. Leslie & Roy Gulick

Social Bridge, Thurs., Aug 11

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Evie & Joe Ezzell
3. Phyllis Boyd & Joanne Montzka
4. Nancy Ellis & Marty Essex
5. Jon Bastress & Joe Thill
6. Brad Lucas & Jerry Ritchie

Duplicate Bridge, Thurs., Aug 18

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Phyllis Boyd & Alice Lodge
3. Susan Mitchell & Sharon Sprott
4. Brad Lucas & Jerry Ritchie

Social Bridge, Thurs., Aug 25

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Phyllis Boyd & Joanne Montzka
3. Leslie & Roy Gulick
4. Jon Bastress & Joe Thill
5. Jim Cardoza & Rannel Westbury
6. Kim Belcher & Joe Ezzell



LADIES 9 HOLE GOLF LEAGUE

BY SANDY WALDRUP

Wow! The summer flew by. We admire the golfers who showed up on Tuesdays and Thursdays to play during a hot summer.

New Season

Our season begins on Thursday, September 8, with the golfers playing their own individual game, allowing those who took the summer off to get the rust out of their clubs and swings. Following play and lunch, we will have our first business meeting. The September schedule includes 1-2-3, Las Vegas Shamble and Flags.

We welcome new golfers **Bede Johnson** and **Judy Sessions**, as well as **Barbara Shinn** who is joining us after a long stint with the 18-hole ladies.

Our group will be headed by **Janine O'Connor**, President; **Dianne Dearth**, Vice President; **Val Flemming**, Secretary; and **Marian Zanetti**, Treasurer. We also have many golfers who volunteer for other responsibilities in our league.

Last Season Recap – Ringers

One of the competitions that the league plays throughout each season is called “Ringers”. Our Ringer chair, Barbara Barclay, keeps the stats as each golfer tries to improve their low score on each hole during Thursday play, and their 9-hole total score is kept as a running score throughout the season. Beginning with this year, the competition will start on the first day of play in September but golfers won't be flighted until November, when our snowbirds return. We award prizes to the first and second place in each flight on each course. Last season's ringer winners were:

Flight 1/White Course

1st Place – **Marsha Parker**
2nd Place – **Donna Hirsch**

Flight 1/Blue Course

1st Place – **Cheryle Newman**
2nd Place – **Sandy Waldrup**

Flight 2/White Course

1st Place - **Taunya Vise**
2nd Place – **Carol Webb**

Flight 2/Blue Course

1st Place – **Janine O'Connor**
2nd Place – **Susan Mitchell**



Membership

Come join us! Dues are \$30, which includes \$5 for the ringer entry. We welcome all female players with a handicap; although you can begin play without a handicap, playing while working to establish one. No golf membership is required. We play each Thursday, rotating between the front and the back courses. We guarantee a sense of camaraderie with our ladies and an atmosphere of support to each player no matter her skill level. Please contact **Janine O'Connor**, President, with any questions (helmhogs@aol.com)



WHERE MONARCHS REIGN



At the same Wedge Court address that hosts multiple Bluebird hatching events each year, Melanie Dean quickly shifts gears from the brood of one winged species to lovelies of another order: Monarch butterflies.

This one creature is a rock star in both the caterpillar and butterfly worlds, perhaps the most recognizable form of each. And raising them from tiny egg to winged beauty is a passion for many.

While the live mealworm diet of the Bluebirds makes a serious dent in the Dean's household budget, the larval Monarch's appetite takes care of anything left over. That money goes for Milkweed, the only thing the caterpillar eats.



(IMPORTANT: The Monarch butterfly is now listed as endangered. You can help by planting milkweed in your yard, available at Pat's, Ace or Home Depot.)

Four stages: egg, larvae, pupa and adult butterfly.

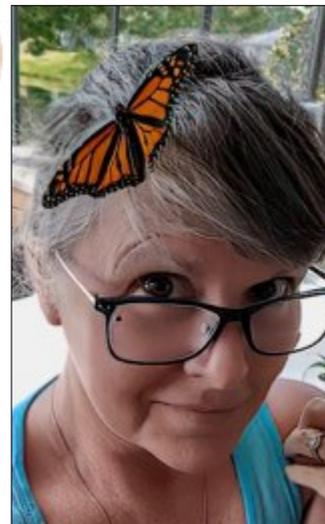
"They typically have four generations each year," Melanie says.

"It takes about 3 to 5 days, once laid, for the larvae to emerge from the egg. For the next 9 to 14 days, the larvae progresses through five 'instar' stages until fully formed."

"At the end of the fifth instar larval stage, Monarch caterpillars will stop feeding and go off in search of a spot to form their chrysalis. In the wild, this might be the underside of a leaf or branch. In a home enclosure, this means they'll typically crawl to the top of the enclosure. Monarch chrysalises look like a beautiful piece of jade jewelry with gold dots. They remain in the chrysalis for 8 to 13 days."



"Once the adult emerges, usually in early morning, it pumps fluid to its wings to give them shape. After emergence, it will take 3-4 hours for its wings to properly dry. They'll do quite a bit of flapping around to help drying process. I'll take them outside for a minute or two & sitting on my head decided which way to go."



Photos: Melanie Dean

PLANT MILKWEED NOW!

**2022 YTD: 90 Monarchs,
23 Bluebirds - a Personal Best!!**

Raise Them at Home: [SaveOurMonarchs.org](https://www.saveourmonarchs.org)



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See Page 5

HEAD GAMES

Have You Seen Me?

Photo: Ann Burden



THE GOOD YARDS

A Circle, a Drive, and a Boulevard.

There's one property unique in Magnolia Point in that it borders one of each: Belfry, Colonial, and Pebble Beach. It's officially 1692 Belfry Circle, though what Dimple and Peter Wish call their 'pork chop' yard neatly combines many familiar elements in an inviting and special habitat.

DIMPLE & PETER WISH

raised by the numerous plantings' varying textures, heights and luminance.

And now the elephant in the room: how idyllic can it be sharing what Peter calls the long side of their property a 'runway' along Colonial? (My question exactly, sharing some frontage with that thoroughfare myself.) Truth is, thanks to a nearly



(Welcome, reader. **The Magnolia** now combines here 'OutSide' and 'The Good Gardens' into 'The Good Yards', elements of soft and hardscapes with those of a third: 'lawnspace'.)

A neat ornamental aluminum fence marks off the just part of the backyard, the eastern side offering glimpses of the cart path of the Red Nine. Looking out from the back patio, over the baronial arc of a stone knee wall, the landscape blending into one restful setting, that fence subtly knitting the yard into the larger, albeit decamped Golf Club enterprise, cart path included, the whole effect warmly nostalgic just the same. The fence which in any other yard would mark the end, in theirs is really a beginning. And the yard beyond goes on. And on. And on. To Pebble Beach, Wish family solar landscape lights decorating the neat plantings all along the way. The expanse, seeming worthy of its own zip code, is St. Augustine front to back.

The plantings throughout the property are understated, a variety of native species with a palette of verdant hues dominant, interest

filled-in perimeter of Viburnum, not only is the din of the Drive's motorsport rendered completely benign, but hushed just enough to emphasize the visual interest of vehicles are glimpsed through gaps in the wall of green.



Continues Next Page



THE GOOD YARDS

What were the main improvements you'd done to your yard?

We added the fence to the backyard, a patio with pavers and added electrical landscaping lights around the front and side yards. We also put up patio lights in the backyard.

What was your first "success" with it?

The fence. We gotten numerous compliments from our neighbors on how it added a lot to the home and property.

What do you enjoy most about your yard?

The size of our yard, and the privacy. When we were looking to buy or have one built, we wanted something close to an acre. We love looking out from the back patio and listening to the sounds of nature and realizing how lucky we both are to have found such a nice neighborhood and beautiful home.

What are your plans or ideas for it?

We just had the home completely repainted on the outside. Our goal is to maintain it and keep it as nice looking as possible. I can see us adding a little bit more color, plants and flowers, in the back yard come spring.

Where do you buy or find items for plantings?

The usual local stores and nurseries.



Where do you buy your hardscape materials?

Once we have an idea, we will touch base with our handyman and see if he has any suggestions. We do a lot of searching on the internet to get the best price and quality product.

Do you work with a landscaper on design ideas?

We've been using a local landscaper for several years and they do a great job. We also ask their advice if we have an idea on what we are trying to do.

What advice would you give someone planning (any or all) of the features in your yard?

Get at least three estimates. Also, prioritize which things you want done first. They don't all have to be done at the same time and projects like a fence or having a patio built with pavers can cost between \$5-10K. You'd be amazed at the different prices you'll get. Check with friends and neighbors that may have had similar work done. You can save yourself a lot of headache and money by doing the necessary research first before signing any contract.





BECKY HINSON



MAGNOLIA HOME SERVICES
LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
JOHN CARDINELL - OWNER
904.315.4587

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MAGNOLIA.HOME.SERVICES.FLORIDA@GMAIL.COM
Magnolia Home Services, LLC - Project Management Services

Hello Neighbors,

Many have been asking exactly what services we actually provide; here's just a few: Interior and Exterior Painting, Gutter Cleaning, Light Fixture Replacement, Kitchen and Bath Faucet Updates, Dishwasher Replacement, Sink Disposer Replacement, basically anything Handyman related and so much more. We can actually assist you with larger projects as well in our Consulting Arena, roofing, windows, HVAC - if you're replacing, we can help you and save you money in the long run - get you a warranty better than normally offered, and without the hassle of dealing with it yourself.

So, that's just some of what we do, and we hope to hear from you soon for your next project or handyman job. All of our work is absolutely guaranteed.

Our Community Seniors and Military Personnel all receive a 10% LaborDiscount.

Remember! National POW/MIA Recognition Day - September 14

John Cardinell | Magnolia.Home.Services.Florida@gmail.com



MAGNOLIA ADVERTISING HELPS CLAY COUNTY RESCUE MISSION THROUGH 'CCRM+'



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GATOR WATCH



REPORT AND PHOTOS: BECKY HINSON

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

A male gator in the 10-11 foot range can be as young as 30 years or as old as 50 years. This one has obviously been living in Magnolia a long time. He's perfectly concealed under cover of duckweed, which spans the entire pond. Still, it's a challenge to get anywhere close!



The Big



There were no visible injuries on this little alligator. He was most likely in the 3-4 year range. What caused his death is a mystery.

The Sad

This gator had a very healthy appetite. This catfish was 6-7 pounds, and the speed with which he swam him down and ate him was astonishing. He ate nearly every fish in our pond. He was eventually trapped due to his large size and aggression.



The Hungry



WE NEED YOU!

The Magnolia Point Community Association Landscape and Irrigation Committee is looking for more members / volunteers. Whether you are interested in planning or would just like to volunteer to work on a project such as weeding and planting a specific area, we can really use your help!

We have ideas for future projects such as planting trees throughout the community and at the back gate entrance that need research, weeding projects such as the hedgerow on Colonial near Turkey Creek and the front and back gate planting beds that could use volunteers interested in working in the garden.

You can work as little or as much as your schedule allows. Hope you will come join us soon!

Please Contact one of the following committee members for more information

Cindy Francisco at 305 797-184 or pltluvr44@aol.com
Cissy Burnette - 850 673-1052
Ray Ferrara - 772 285-6133
Barbara Coker - 281 799-4899

LANDSCAPE & IRRIGATION

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- 1 1/4 oz Vodka
- 3 oz Fresh Lemonade
- 1/2 oz Chambord
- 3 Honeydew Melon Balls

Fill a chilled highball glass with cubed ice and add Vodka. Top with fresh lemonade and Chambord (raspberry liqueur).

Garnish with a skewer of frozen honeydew melon balls. (Good luck trying this with Lime Sherbet; I did, don't go there.)

**US OPEN THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 11**

Recipe and photo: Editor

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Espresso



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