



YARD OF THE QUARTER

CHARLENE & KEVIN JENKINS

1742 COLONIAL DRIVE

The Magnolia Point Landscape and Irrigation Committee announces the Charlene and Kevin Jenkins residence located at 1742 Colonial Drive as our selection for the 2nd Quarter 2024-Yard of the Quarter. They are the first owners of their beautiful home which was completed in July of 2020.



The building package included the pool/screened enclosure, outdoor kitchen and landscape design and installation. Charlene and Kevin worked with the landscaper to design the garden area, placement of trees and choosing the plants. Soon after they moved in, they found that the deer loved some of their landscape choices as much as they did. This required a change in some of the landscape choices.

The Jenkins love to work in their yard and gardens. They use color, shape and texture of the leaves to provide contrast. In two of the front beds, they planted sunshine Ligustrum, chocolate Loropetalum and Podocarpus (Japanese Yew). there is a large bed with azaleas and 2 areas near the front door with ferns and bromeliads. There are two large ligustrum on either end of the front gardens, framing the house. Charlene is interested in topiary and has four beautiful specimens flanking their front door that she meticulously maintains herself.

They planted two crape myrtles in the front lawn for added color and have two large staghorn ferns suspended from the live oaks on either side of the front lawn. There are two new additions to the back yard, as the Jenkins purchased and had two large Sylvester date palms recently installed.

- CINDY FRANCISCO



Continued





YARD OF THE QUARTER



Continued





What are some of the main improvements you've done to the yard?

We purchased the Property from the next-door neighbor and built the home, so we are the first owners. The building package included landscaping the yard.

What was your first 'success' with it?

We worked with the landscape designer to pick the trees and shrubs and moved plants around during the installation process.

What do you enjoy most about your yard?

We enjoy working on the yard and then sitting on the front and back porches relaxing and enjoying the fruits of our labor.



What are your plans, if any, going forward?

We just added two large Sylvester Palms to the back yard. We purchased the day before we did this interview!

Do you work with a landscaper on design ideas?

Yes we did. The builder had a landscaper as part of the package who we worked with to come up with the design. Since then we've been on our own.

What do you consider when shopping for flowers, shrubbery, or ornamentals?

We like to go to local nurseries for inspiration and then research the plants on-line.

Please share your tips for fertilization and watering of your yard and its featured plantings.

We have used "The Lawn Care Nut" website as well as the Scott's app for advice for years. We are a retired military family and have moved frequently.

Do you do your own maintenance, and what does that entail?

Yes we do. We mow, trim, prune, weed, and replace, add and move plants. For example, when our crotons died off during the freeze we had in Dec 2022, we did research on the plants that grow well here the Jacksonville area and toured the neighborhood to see what was growing well in Magnolia Point that appealed to us.



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

Do research and ask questions. Then **do** it!

