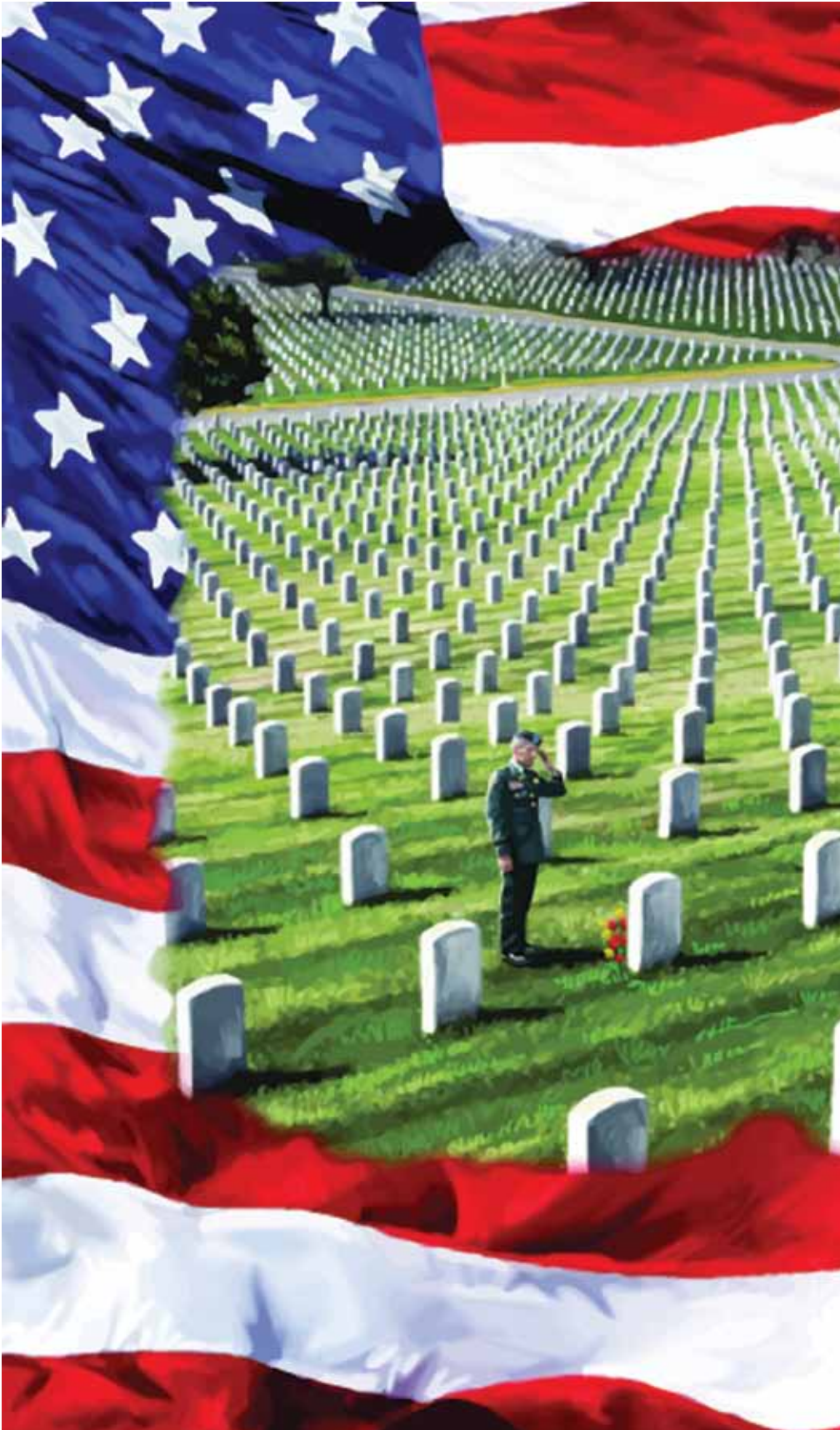


STONEHURST PLANTATION  
**Living**  
Your guide to the good life

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## What Heroes Gave

by ©2001 Roger J. Robicheau  
(Sp 5, US Army)  
The Poetic Plumber

*Each donned their uniform to be  
Defenders of our liberty*

*Their mission sure, their spirits bright  
Guard freedom's home, be brave to fight*

*One final day each faced their call  
Each gave their best enduring all*

*We'll never know what they went through  
But know they loved this country true*

*Deep down inside we should all feel  
What heroes gave, their cost so real*

*We must stay thankful, grateful of  
The gift of freedom through their love*

*Their loved ones bore the gravest pain  
What we can't know, some now sustain*

*To God I pray their pain will cease  
And each will find long-lasting peace*

*Remember this from year to year  
What heroes gave – shan't disappear*

*We'll never let their special day  
Their time for honor slip away*

*These brave fought for a nation free  
If not for them, where would we be?*



## Know the Rules

Have you checked out the HOA's covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) lately? If not, now's a great time to brush up on the do's and don'ts of the community.

For those of you who were unaware, CC&Rs play a crucial role in keeping the association running smoothly. CC&Rs are legally binding rules and regulations that each homeowner agrees to when he or she purchases a unit within the association. If owners rent out their homes, it's the owner's responsibility to inform the new residents of the bylaws as well. CC&Rs include stipulations on assessments, building design and additions, and the governance of the association. All residents need to understand these CC&Rs so they don't unintentionally violate them; owners can be fined by the

association and—in extreme cases—sued for violating the CC&Rs. Owners are empowered when they understand the CC&Rs and the procedures for changing or amending them when they are no longer applicable or relevant to the community.

While they may seem arbitrary, the CC&Rs are legally enforceable. They also help ensure the association as a whole can thrive and that members are treated fairly and equally. So don't be left in the dark—check out the association's CC&Rs today!

A Note of Great Importance - You are subject to fine if you start an improvement or repair to your property WITHOUT obtaining ARC Approval first.

If you don't have a copy of the CC&Rs, visit our website [www.stonehurstplantation.org](http://www.stonehurstplantation.org).

## Social Committee Event Calendar

Each month we will update our calendar so you know what fun and new events are coming up. Volunteers are always welcome just notify the committee via email at: [stonehurstsocial@gmail.com](mailto:stonehurstsocial@gmail.com).

### Fri, May 10 (raindate 5/17)

6-9pm

Cabana Night: Live Music

\*Food for sale at the event provided by local Food Truck Vendor

### Sat, June 8 (raindate 6/15)

6-9pm

Cabana Night: Live Music

\*Food for sale at the event provided by local Food Truck Vendor

### Sat Jul 4

9am

4th of July parade and hotdog social

\*Starts at Ivyhedge and Stonehurst Pkwy, ends at amenities field

### Fri, Jul 19 (raindate 7/26)

6-9pm

Cabana Night: Live Music

\*Food for sale at the event provided by local Food Truck Vendor

### Sat, Aug 24 (raindate 8/31)

6-9pm

Cabana Night ADULT ONLY: Live Music

\*Food for sale at the event provided by local Food Truck Vendor

### Fri, Sept 13 (raindate 9/20)

6-9pm

Cabana Night: Live Music

\*Food for sale at the event provided by local Food Truck Vendor

**Fall:** Fall Family Festival, more details to come!

## Garden Checklist

**Annuals:** You may get surprise afternoon storms toward the end of May. This may mean toppled tall flowers. Spend some time staking these flowers and pruning off broken portions. Now is a great time of year to be a vigilant scout for pests. Annuals to plant this month are celosia, coleus, coreopsis, crossandras, gaillardias, gazanias, hollyhocks, impatiens, kalanchoe, marigolds, nicotianas, ornamental peppers, pentas, portulaca, salvia, thunbergia alata, torenia, verbenas, periwinkles, and zinnias.

**Bulbs:** If the weather is windy, the taller plants such as African lily, amaryllis, and gladiolus are often affected. Keep some stakes and tape handy to give these plants a little support when needed.

**Herbs:** Anise, basil, bay laurel, borage, caraway, cardamom, chervil, chives, coriander, culantro, dill, ginger, horehound, lemon balm, lavender, marjoram, mexican tarragon, mint, parsley, oregano, rosemary, sesame, and thyme can be planted now.

**Lawns:** Check St. Augustine for chinch bugs. The damage usually occurs in sunny locations near the streets, sidewalk, or driveway. The grass dies in patches and turns straw brown. Damaged areas do not recover and must be plugged or sodded. Treat damaged areas with an approved insecticide or ask a pest control company to treat them. It is the beginning of mole cricket season for bahia, Bermuda, and zoysia lawns. The mole crickets have been busy laying eggs that can start hatching this month. They are the number one lawn pest problem in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. Water the lawn before applying an insecticide. Use Bifenthrin, Cyfluthrin, Fipronil, Imadacloprid Lambda-cyhalothrin or Permethrin. Another option is to introduce a nematode (steinernema scapterisci) that will not harm plants. Fertilize with 15-0-15 or 16-4-8 this month, water as needed (every 5-10 days). Using a coring-type aerator, aerate the lawn to allow better drainage, improve grass root growth and reduce thatch build-up. Allow the cores to dry, and then mow them to scatter the soil back over the grass. Caution: Aeration may allow more weeds to grow in the lawn.

**Perennials:** Perennials may die back to a small rosette then grow back during the spring season. Make sure each plant has room to grow or make plans to move them later in the year. This is a good time to give all perennials a label so they won't be forgotten during the dormant season.

**Trees:** Some magnolias may drop their leaves during the spring months. This is normal, as they replenish the foliage. Some magnolias will even drop most of their leaves before putting on new growth. Fertilize palms. Peaches, nectarines, and plums begin ripening in late May. Harvest them as soon as they mature - before squirrels and birds get them.

**Vegetables:** Scout for insects and hand remove if possible. Check the underside of leaves for eggs and aphids. Remember some of the insects are predators. These predators are an important part of keeping the pests from totally vegetables. Keep ripening vegetables harvested to lengthen the time the plants produce. Vegetables to plant this month are lima beans, eggplant, okra, Southern peas, and sweet potatoes

MAY



The function of StoneHurst Plantation Living is to serve the entire StoneHurst Plantation development. Priority will be given to reporting news and activities of StoneHurst Plantation neighborhoods, community organizations and other news and events that directly affect the residents of StoneHurst Plantation.

Second priority will be given to articles of general interest as space permits. Articles and photos must be received by the 4th Wednesday of the month prior to publication and sent to Editor, stonehurstliving@yahoo.com. Due to space limitation, all articles are subject to editing.

Letters to the Editor must be signed, as well as brief and in good taste. Views expressed are those of the writer and do not express the viewpoint of the editorial staff, the StoneHurst Plantation Homeowners Association Board or Stazac Management Inc.

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StoneHurst Plantation Living is published for the residents of StoneHurst Plantation. StoneHurst Plantation Living is a product of The Florida Times-Union.



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- Keri Lambert** – Vice President
- Dimple Smith** – Secretary
- Scott Neeley** – Treasurer
- Pete Wilson** – VP of Engineering

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**Help contribute to your neighborhood magazine!**  
StoneHurst Plantation Living is produced for StoneHurst Plantation residents by StoneHurst Plantation residents — just like you! If you'd like to offer content for publication, here's how to get started.

**Stories/Photography:** Send your articles and/or high-resolution jpegs to Editor at stonehurstliving@yahoo.com. Please do not use the "e-mail" function offered through photo software of web sites when sending photos.

**Editorial Deadline:** June issue – May 20

**Advertising Deadline:** June issue – May 22

**StoneHurst Website:** StonehurstPlantation.org



# The Prez Sez



ADAMS

## Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The other morning...early...I thought that I awoke to a very loud bird out in the backyard. As I gained complete awareness, I realized that it wasn't a bird at all, but someone's car alarm!!! Which didn't stop until I was out of bed and on my feet. This little adventure reminds me to remind everyone that we don't all live on 2 acre estates here in

StoneHurst. Spring is definitely here and we are all outside much more than in the cooler months. Be thoughtful of your neighbors with outdoor parties and leaving pets outside as well.

With the coming of Spring, we are all out looking at our lawns and what damage has been left from the Winter. I've seen a lot of us out getting rid of the weeds and encouraging the green to come back to our grass and the flowers to bloom. It looks good! Our community common spaces are

looking good too with a new planting of colorful flowers. Thank you for the care and pride in taking care of your property.

The pool is ready for swimmers, so please ensure your assessments have been paid and you have key card for entry. We'll meet you there! Summer is fast upon us and with it, the kids will be out of school and vacations will be taken. A reminder to be safe and watch out for each other when on the roads and as neighbors when you see something suspicious.

Our StoneHurst children at the Easter Egg Hunt had a fun time, and hopefully many of you had a profitable turnout if you participated in the Community Yard Sale. At the end of this month, we observe Memorial Day. Let's take the time to honor our military fallen, their families and those who have gone before us.

HAPPY SPRING!

Regards,  
Jeff Adams

## Babysitting Course Offered in StoneHurst

**When:** Wed, June 12th from 10am-3pm

**Where:** StoneHurst Amenity Center

**To register:** [www.shpcabs.eventbright.com](http://www.shpcabs.eventbright.com)

### Child & Babysitting Safety

This class is designed to familiarize and to provide youth with the basic knowledge and skills needed to care for infants and children. Learn the characteristics and skills that parents are looking for in babysitters. This is a 5 hour course and upon successful completion, students will receive official certification cards from the American Safety and Health Institute.

#### Course topics include:

- \* Starting Your Business
- \* Before the Parents Leave
- \* Playtime
- \* Taming the Tots/We Shake Rattles, Not Babies
- \* Telephone Calls/When a Stranger Knocks
- \* Handwashing
- \* Water Hazards
- \* Infant Feeding/I'm Hungry
- \* Diapering Procedures
- \* Infant Sleep Time/Child Sleep Time
- \* Choking and CPR\*
- \* First Aid\*

Get the skills and certification and then advertise in our StoneHurst newsletter!

## STONEHURST CLASSIFIEDS!

### REAL ESTATE:

3 1/2 acre, lot, 376' frontage on water, Middleburg, gently sloping, heavily treed. \$89,900 owner financing considered, \$10,000 down. Great investment! Steve @ 994-7616

### SERVICES:

**After School and Weekend Babysitting** by responsible and mature teenager. CPR and First Aid certified with three years experience. Contact Arianna @ 904-460-5262 or ariolvera15@gmail.com

**Vintage Brooch Bouquets & Boutique Bows** Custom design brooch bouquets for weddings (bridesmaids, cake tops, silk flower bouquets) or any special occasion. Girls 4" hair boutique bows made to order \$4. Give me an example and I will make it! I work with you to create your custom designed bouquet to fit your unique style, colors, personality and budget. Check out my Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BTPnow> or call Kathy @ 904-230-1751

**Mom of four able to offer babysitting services** or after school services at your home or mine. Please call 904 657 7360 Rhonda for reasonable pricing

**Pro Air Contractors Air Conditioning** (live and work in StoneHurst). Provide service, replacement, and maintenance for all makes and models. Discounts for local residents, on service calls and replacement costs. Open 24/7 @ 904-450-3457. ProAirjv@yahoo.com. License number in the add. RM14016984 / BL-5493

**Irrigation, Turf & Plant Management** Licensed irrigation contractor in NE, South and SE Florida. State Certified CPO. Please call Rich @ 904-657-7281 or Text 904-509-9857

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Licensed and Insured BL-5487

### Additional Categories:

ITEMS FOR SALE • LOOKING TO BUY • HELPED WANTED • LOST & FOUND

Send your classified to [stonehurstliving@yahoo.com](mailto:stonehurstliving@yahoo.com)





## WHO?

Spring is in the air and many in our community can be found sprucing up their yards, beds and lawns. Such was the case when, in doing my (almost) daily walk, I came upon the Alex family as they were watering their newly sodded front yard and I stopped to compliment them on how good it looked. We took up a conversation and as a result I thought their StoneHurst neighbors would like to meet them, up close and personal. So, let me introduce you to Ferncreek residents Mike and Jackie Alex.

## WHERE ARE YOU ORIGINALLY FROM?

Mike was born and raised in a small, rural town outside of Indianapolis. His family operated a large dairy farm. Mike was one of 13 in his graduating class. The year was 1963 and he was growing tired of milking cows so, at the age of 17, enlisted in the US Navy. Jackie was born in Rockville Center, N.Y. and shortly thereafter moved to Huntington, Long Island. Physical fitness was an activity she enjoyed in high school. She was the youngest of three siblings and, as you can imagine, was always blamed for everything. A family move to Florida and then to San Diego resulted in her meeting Warrant Officer Mike. Their meeting was actually a blind date. Both had been previously married but after four months of pestering by a fellow crewman they finally did meet and, as they say, the rest is history. But, like many in this situation, slow as she goes was the command. You see, Jackie came with Angela, a 12 y/o. Neither adult was in any hurry for anything more than friendship, but cupid intervened one day when Angela asked her mom, "Why don't you marry him?" That was the confirmation Jackie needed and a date was set.

## TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF?

Mike will never forget the day he graduated from boot camp, as it was November 22, the day Pres. Kennedy was assassinated. Thanks to the Navy, Mike traveled the world and spent a great deal of time in Japan, an experience he would come to greatly benefit by in later years. He rose to the rank of W-4 Warrant Officer when he retired in 1990, after 27 1/2 years of service. Following this, he and Jackie moved back to central Indiana where he took a job with NSK, a world leader in the production of auto and machinery bearings. Mike again rose through the ranks where local management noticed him, as he was (from his Navy days) fluent in Japanese and was the only one who could speak to visiting engineers from the home office in Japan. After 16 years at NSK, Mike and Jackie decided to leave their log home on 2 1/2 acres and move to the Sunshine State. Mike now enjoys working in the Garden Shop at Lowes. Jackie took courses in interior design (her talent was obvious as I toured their home), but ended up with a long career in the banking field. During her (previous) 6 years in Florida,



she lived in St. Augustine where she served as assistant director of the Chamber of Commerce. For the past 7 years, she has greeted members and guests at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club.

## WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN?

When the Garden Shop manager was about to toss out a pot of wilting orchids, Mike said, "I'll give you quarter for them." He accepted and thus began what has become a fun and creative hobby, as you can see in the accompanying photo. You can see another of Mike's passions, that of restoring Ford pickup trucks. The photo of his 1955 F-100 is the 5th of his efforts. Jackie still pursues her fitness routine with daily walks with Mike. She uses her "green thumb" on her home's plants and flowers in a planter Mike built for her. Jackie has a big heart and while in St. Augustine was a member of the Junior Service League, who completed the total renovation of the lighthouse keeper's house. In fact, her name can be found on the memorial plaque. Jackie also was a member of Sertoma and stepped up to be the Easter Bunny in the city's annual Easter Parade. In that year she says it had to be the hottest parade ever! She marched as a clown in

other parades. Much of their efforts were dedicated to the school for the deaf and blind. Her Italian heritage has blessed her with a recipe for lasagna that is to-die-for.

## WHY STONEHURST?

Not necessarily in order of importance but as retired Navy, Mike needed to be close to a military installation to receive and enjoy his benefits. He and Jackie drove through MANY communities and noted the family atmosphere and the fact that all of the homes were so well maintained. (I think there were kudos directed to our Board of Directors and to Stazac Management.) Lastly, their daughter, Angela, after graduating from Perdue took a job in Jacksonville and today heads up H.R. for Kemper Insurance. Mike and Angela are also awaiting word of their first grandchild. (A true blessing, as this reporter and wife Janet have just been blessed with our first grandchild, Clara!) I do hope you have the opportunity to meet Mike and Jackie, a great couple and just another reason why StoneHurst is a great place to call home.

**Stay tuned for next month's StoneHurst Spotlight on a resident in the community. It could be you! Submitted by: Steve Melching**





StoneHurst Plantation

# The Great East





# Easter Egg Hunt





WANDA WHITE

**By: Wanda M. White, Realtor®, LMC**  
Watson Realty Corp

**Question: My sister got a job transfer and sold her home as a short sale about three years ago.**

**She has been renting and is again interested in buying another home. Her credit has been hit by the short sale, but she has been current on all of her other bills. What do you think are her chances of getting a loan?**

Answer: Families who lost their home to foreclosure following the housing crash are now re-emerging and looking to buy again. According to The Wall Street Journal, in order to qualify for a mortgage backed by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), families must wait three years or more to apply again following a foreclosure or short sale. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac require a much longer wait than FHA to qualify for a loan after a foreclosure or short sale, up to seven years.

Your sister would still have to show a strong credit score and meet stringent

underwriting standards.

I would recommend contacting a mortgage company to find out their mortgage eligibility rules for short sales.

### REAL ESTATE UPDATE

Home prices nationwide, which includes distressed sales, soared 10.2 percent year-over-year, according to CoreLogic's February report. It's the largest year-over-year increase in home prices since March 2006. It also marks the twelfth consecutive monthly increase in national home prices, according to CoreLogic's report. When excluding distressed sales, home prices rose 10.1 percent year-over-year in February, according to CoreLogic.

"Nationally, home prices improved at the best rate since mid-2006, marking a full year of annual increases and underscoring the ongoing strengthening of market fundamentals," says Anand Nallathambi, president and CEO of CoreLogic. CoreLogic predicts that home prices -- excluding distressed sales -- will likely rise 11.4 percent year-over-year from March 2012.

Source: Realtor.com 4/4/2013



### STONEHURST MARKET UPDATE

#### March 1 - March 30

Homes For Sale . . . . . 1  
Average List Price . . . . . \$260,000  
Average Price/Sq Ft . . . . . \$79.29  
Average Days on Market . . . . . 307

Pending Home Sales . . . . . 4  
Average List Price . . . . . \$182,700  
Average Price/Sq Ft . . . . . \$91.54  
Average Days on Market . . . . . 10

Homes Sold . . . . . 1  
Average Price . . . . . 189,300  
Average Sold Price/ Sq Ft . . . . . \$93.19  
Average Days on Market . . . . . 23

**Do you have real estate questions for Wanda? Submit them by May 1, to: [WandaWhite@watsonrealtycorp.com](mailto:WandaWhite@watsonrealtycorp.com).**

**Wanda M. White, Realtor®, cell (904) 707-6294**

**Email: [WandaWhite@watsonrealtycorp.com](mailto:WandaWhite@watsonrealtycorp.com)**

**Web: [www.WandaMWhite.com](http://www.WandaMWhite.com)**

**Wanda White is your Neighborhood Real Estate Specialist with Watson Realty Corp.**

## YARDS of the MONTH



2124 S Cranbrook



2178 S Cranbrook





## Missing Wallet? Make Haste

Take action the minute you notice your wallet or purse is missing. Thieves often want more than cash when snatching your belongings; they want to assume your identity. The immediate steps you take can make the difference between some missing money and months (or years) of headaches and frustration.

### **The Federal Trade Commission suggests you:**

#### **File a report with police immediately.**

This provides needed proof of the crime for your bank, credit card company and insurance company.

#### **Cancel each credit card.**

Ask for new cards and new account numbers. Then, call the major credit reporting agencies to report missing cards and place a fraud alert on your accounts. Equifax: (800) 525-6285. Experian: (888) 397-3742. TransUnion: (800) 680-7289. Ask for credit reports, too, to search for any discrepancies.

#### **Call your utility companies.**

Inform them someone may try to receive new service with your identification.

#### **Contact the Social Security Administration.**

Call (800) 772-1213.

#### **Report the loss to your bank.**

Cancel checking and savings accounts. Open new ones, and stop payments on outstanding checks. Ask for a new ATM card, account number and PIN or password.

#### **Call the state department of motor vehicles.**

Report your missing driver's license. Get a



new number that's not your social security number.

#### **Change the locks.**

If keys to your car or home were taken, you don't want to give an identity thief access to more personal property and information.

#### **Contact your insurance companies.**

Prevent an identity thief from adding himself or herself to your policies.

Once you take these steps, pay close attention to your accounts. Be your own fraud investigator by taking notes of everyone you speak to, the date and time of the call and what you talked about.

It's always important to be wary of thieves. Try not to stuff your purse or wallet with all your things—from your checkbook, pay stubs and credit cards to ATM cards, driver's license and health insurance cards. It can take years to recover from identity theft because thieves can hold onto your information and trade it with others. Order your free credit report annually to watch for suspicious charges or accounts.

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your home each month -  
Please do your part  
to say "THANKS!"**

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## Summer Day Trip



“Where can we go? What can we do?” are two questions which will be often asked this summer as families cope with having children out of school and, if lucky, having some time when they can do things together for fun. Saving money is always a priority and, with gas prices being what they are, we’ve decided to come up with some summer day trip ideas. For beginners, let’s go to Fort Clinch.

Ft. Clinch is in Fernandina Beach. The fort is located near Main Beach off of Atlantic Avenue. Fort Clinch was named for General Duncan Lamont Clinch, an important figure in Florida’s Seminole War of the 1830s. The Federal government began construction of the fort in 1847 and continued during the War Between the States. Initially occupied by Confederate forces when the war began in 1861, it was taken by federal troops when Gen. Robert E. Lee ordered a withdrawal the following year. Fort Clinch was reactivated in 1898 for several months during the Spanish-American War.

Today, it remains in a remarkable state of preservation. In 1935, the State of Florida purchased 256 acres, which included the abandoned fort. It was the beginning of a program to acquire lands and begin development of one of the first and finest state parks in Florida.

Franklin D Roosevelt’s Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for the initial building

and development of the park, which was formally opened to the public in 1938.

In part of his welcome to Fort Clinch State Park Manager Peter J. Scalco said, “Sunbathing, swimming, and beachcombing are popular activities at the beach.” Anglers can fish from the pier or take advantage of excellent surf fishing. Hikers and bicyclists can enjoy a six-mile trail through the park. Self-guided nature trails provide opportunities to learn about and observe native plants and wildlife. A full facility campground and a youth camping area provide overnight accommodations.

The entry fee is \$5 per vehicle, for up to eight people. It costs \$2 per person ages 6 years old and up, to enter the Fort and there are no discounts for age. Should you walk or bike into the Fort, the fee is \$1 per person.

A “living history” program involving a number of “soldiers” who live in the same manner as their real counterparts normally occurs the first full weekend of each month. Otherwise, a least one soldier is on duty from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday to answer questions and give an idea of what living was like. It is also possible to set up a special tour Monday-Friday, for an additional \$20 fee, but you need to contact the Fort at 904-277-7274 at least a week in advance.



## The **Sweet Smells** of Selling Your Home

So your house is on the market and you're ready to make a dynamic first impression on potential buyers. Besides ensuring that your house looks and feels inviting, making sure it smells pleasant can help generate interest during showings. While traditional wisdom suggests that freshly-baked chocolate chip cookies will add a homey and enticing scent to your abode, new research indicates that the smell of these baked goods may be overwhelming to purchasers.

According to *The Wall Street Journal* ("Using Smell to Make a Sale," February 15, 2013), complex scents—like cookies and potpourri—can accidentally distract potential buyers from focusing on your home because they could be subconsciously trying to decipher the aroma. Researchers tested this theory by adding various scents to a home décor store in Switzerland: Of the 402 people observed, consumers on average purchased 31.8 percent more when the store was scented with a simple scent—such as orange or vanilla—than when it was scented with a complex scent; consumers on average purchased

23.6 percent more when the store was scented with a simple scent than when it wasn't scented at all.

Eric Spangenberg, Dean of the College of Business at Washington State University and a member of the research team, says people selling their homes can apply the same principles as well. He recommends using simple scents such as lemon, pine or basil to scent your home for showings because it's easy for people to process these aromas. Without having their focus pulled away by complex smells, potential buyers can give more focus to the house and in turn be more open to spending. To ensure you're home smells great, try using cleaning products that have a citrus smell, or use vanilla-scented candles or sprays in your home. Better yet, use the real thing to freshen up your house by bringing a basil plant into the kitchen during showings. Try to stick to one simple scent that unobtrusively permeates the house, and make sure your scent matches the atmosphere of your home, such as adding a pine or cedar scent to a log cabin.

