

# metro

## PLAN YOUR WEEK

Find a calendar of area events

Story, B-4

# Run, hide or fight seminars growing

Program offers tips for dealing with shooters in places like restaurants

By Teresa Stepzinski  
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PONTE VEDRA BEACH | They might not have thought about escape when they walked into the dim high school auditorium, but within 90 minutes surviving a mass shooting was foremost in the thoughts of about 100 Northeast Florida residents this week.

“You have to think about

survival first,” Reserve Deputy Mark Smith of the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office emphasized Tuesday night during the agency’s Active Shooter Incident Seminar at Ponte Vedra High School.

Smith led the free public awareness and education session. The community-oriented program was punctuated with portions of security camera video

that recorded the 1999 Columbine High School massacre, and an unrelated shopping mall mass shooting.

“It could happen anywhere. ... We would like to know what to do,” said Celia Moore, who along with her husband, Joe, were among those listening as Smith offered straightforward but sometimes blunt advice about what to do during an attack in a workplace, school, shopping mall, theater or other pub-

SEMINARS continues on B-2



An estimated 100 people from St. Johns, Duval and Clay counties attended a St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office seminar Tuesday about what to do during an active shooter situation in the workplace or in public. (Teresa Stepzinski/Florida Times-Union)

# 1 slain, 3 injured in weekend violence

7 people have been killed or injured in shootings since Friday

By Teresa Stepzinski  
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A man was shot to death and three other people injured in four more apparently unrelated shootings as violence continued throughout Jacksonville over the weekend.

Police haven’t named the victims, nor identified any suspects in the most recent shootings spanning late Saturday night through early Sunday.

The reported shootings resulted in a total of seven people killed or injured in Jacksonville since Friday night. No arrests have been reported in any of those cases.

Officers found a man shot to death at the wheel of a SUV in the middle of the roadway in the 9400 block of Lem Turner Road about 12:20 a.m. Sunday while investigating a report that someone had been shot, the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office said.

It appeared the shooting occurred on the east side of the road, according to Sgt. Chuck Ford of the Sheriff’s Office Homicide Unit.

Family members identified him as 19-year-old Darryl Mack, according to Times-Union news partner, First Coast News. Posts on his public Facebook page, showed he played football for Mandarin High School, where he recently graduated. Friends voiced shock at his death, and offered condolences to Mack’s family via Facebook and other social media posts Sunday evening.

Sunday afternoon, several neighborhood residents told the Times-Union they didn’t see or hear anything until officers arrived and blocked off the road.

Sheriff’s Office detectives had been talking to some possible witnesses following the discovery of his body.

About 4:45 a.m. Sunday, a person was shot while trying to run away during a robbery near Pinebrook Apartments, 7500 Powers Ave., according to the Sheriff’s Office.

The victim was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The shooting occurred after several residents went to investigate a disturbance they heard in the apartment complex parking lot, police said.

They found several unidentified people attempting to break into a vehicle. The suspects then turned their attention to the residents and robbed them of their personal property.

In another shooting,

VIOLENCE continues on B-2

# Splashing in the sun



Raquel Ferreira takes one for the team as she lifts her daughter, Bianca, 2, out of the path of a wave at Atlantic Beach on Sunday. Hot weather sent some to the beach for relief. (Bob Mack/Florida Times-Union)



Neptune Beach Ocean Rescue lifeguard Grant Patton watches the crowd. Farther up the beach, an Atlantic Beach Ocean Rescue lifeguard does the same.



Autumn Redden, 1, is a little surprised by the water splashed by dad Robert Redden as mom Hannah Laymon watches.

## Jacksonville City Council

# Panel to address Mandarin zoning issue

Residents say road too narrow for heavy traffic

By Amanda Williamson  
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Jacksonville City Council members will vote at their Tuesday meeting on what has become a contentious development proposal for the historic Mandarin area.

Off County Dock Road, a developer wants to build a 21-home subdivision, Docksides Estates, on property currently zoned to allow only one house per acre.

At least 100 residents in the surrounding neighborhood voiced opposition to the project, saying they felt it impacted the quality of life in the neighborhood. However, the City Planning Department and Mandarin City Council representative Matt Schellenberg say the project is exactly what the area needs.

“I know the people there. I love Mandarin,” Schellenberg said. “I’m not going to destroy Mandarin for a few houses. I want people to move there, but the only way we are going to have that is if we have more houses.”

The Jacksonville Land Use and Zoning Committee proposed con-

ditions on the project: access to nearby Loretto Road will be eliminated; a traffic and environmental study will be completed; and all removed trees over three feet in diameter will require mitigation. Also, if a traffic study deems County Dock Road should become a one-way street, developers must cover the cost of signage and striping.

Mandarin Road, Loretto Road and County Dock Road, which border the 9.3 acres in question, meander through an extensive tree canopy dotted by riverfront, estate-sized residences and historical structures. The roads weave past refurbished farmhouses and the Walter Jones Historical Park, which houses an 1875 homestead farmhouse, barn and outbuildings.

The three roads form Jacksonville’s only scenic and historic byway — and they reside in a designated protected area that mandates controlled development and extensive tree protection. The property in question sits just outside that overlay.

City planning staff says this means the lots are not covered by

## GET MORE ONLINE

Read previous stories about the controversial Mandarin zoning issue. [jacksonville.com/news](http://jacksonville.com/news)

any preservation measures included in that overlay. Residents who live near the property, however, say certain provisions in the overlay do reach the property in question owned by Helen Simon.

Schellenberg said he can see why his constituents feel they way they do. “What they are saying is that their emotions trump the rights of the property owner,” he said. “By right, that property owner can sell and develop nine homes. We are just talking about 12 other houses that would have access to County Dock Road.”

To Schellenberg, keeping it at nine houses would be unfair.

In almost all these situations, he said, it isn’t a greedy developer that’s the problem, but the cost of the land. On top of that, Schellenberg said he recently learned Duval County suffered a housing shortage that could be mitigated with increased development.

ZONING continues on B-4



call box

sandy.strickland

# The Floridan had cooled rooms, big-game trophies

**Dear Call Box: My grandfather was Gustav Muller, who was a city commissioner around 1900. He was also a businessman who owned the Floridan Hotel and had other businesses in Jacksonville. What can you tell me about the hotel?**

**B.M., Jacksonville**  
Dear B.M.: The roof-top sign letting a city known for its humidity know that its rooms were “Air Conditioned” glowed in the night sky like a neon beacon.

The Floridan Hotel was a downtown landmark, not only for its sign, but for its age and staying power.

It was known as the Hotel Burbridge when it opened on Dec. 29, 1911, at West Forsyth and Clay streets.

William Burbridge had commissioned Henry Klutho to design the seven-story hotel, which had 175 guest rooms and a lobby decorated with hunting trophies from Alaska and Africa. His brother Ben Burbridge, owner of a Jacksonville real estate company and a famed game hunter, supplied the trophies, The Florida Times-Union reported. He also delivered the first gorilla to Europe at the Antwerp Zoo.

Armed with a motion picture camera on one hunt, he photographed and produced the first film of gorillas in the wilderness called “The Gorilla Hunt.” It was popular fare in 1926.

Here’s how the Times-Union described the Burbridge at its grand opening:

“From the moment one enters into the broad swinging doors leading into the main lobby, a sense of great beauty and charm is presented. To the left, one sees a broad space, luxuriantly fitted with massive leather chairs... To the right is the desk and hotel office... a broad, white-marble counter supporting mahogany and plate glass windows and frames, while the general furnishings of the office harmonize in detail with the outer arrangement.”

An early postcard listed its rates as \$2 a day with bath and \$1.50 with running water. Access to its rooms was via hand-cranked elevators. Some were furnished with spool beds, carved dresser bases and hat racks.

In the early days, guests were cooled by ceiling fans. There were giant end-of-hall outside fans in addition to those in rooms. The rooms once were equipped with louvered doors, permitting the solid doors to be opened for ventilation.

It was in 1915 that your grandfather became associated with the Burbridge and later its owner for a time.

During World War II, the Burbridge became the Floridan. Through remodeling, the number of rooms was cut to 131.

Among the celebrities who checked in were comedian George Jessel, jazz king Paul Whiteman, band leader Woody Herman and wrestler Haystack Calhoun. During visits to Jacksonville, the old Atlanta Crackers baseball team stayed there.

It was one of Jacksonville’s major hotels for about 60 years before the decline of downtown. The hotel stayed in business after the George Washington was torn down in 1973, the Seminole in 1974 and the Jefferson in 1975.

But not for long. The hotel was sold in 1973. During its last years, it

HISTORY continues on B-2

# Plenty to see at African Village Bazaar



Brenda Frinks (at right) describes a costume headdress and Rhythmetron accessories, circa 1970, on display in the Dance Theatre of Harlem exhibit. On Sunday, the Ritz Theatre and Museum in Jacksonville hosted the monthly African Village Bazaar showcasing local vendors and small businesses. The Ritz and several local groups bring the event to the community on the last Sunday of every month from June until November. Many visitors also enjoyed the exhibits in the museum dedicated to the legacy of Jacksonville's African-American community and the current featured exhibit on the Dance Theatre of Harlem. (Photos by Bob Mack/Florida Times-Union)



**Left:** A group of children watch and listen as an animatronic depiction of James Weldon Johnson describes the Jacksonville Great Fire of 1901. The exhibit features renditions of Johnson and his brother, John Rosamond Johnson, who collaborated together to write the African-American anthem "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."  
**Above:** Taniyah Jones, 9, applauds at the conclusion of the animatronic presentation of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" as she sits with friend Alena Hicks, 9.

## First Coast Happenings

### MONDAY

**Flagler County Stamp and Coin Club meeting,** trade/buy/sell with dealers and club members, 5 p.m.; meeting 6 p.m.; VFW Post 8696, 47 Old Kings Road, Palm Coast. Speakers are club member Anatoly Gorenshyeyn on "How to Start a Stamp Collection;" and Ray Herz, a numismatist from Jacksonville, with a talk on coins. (386) 437-0368 or stampandcoinclub.com.

**Baptist Ministers Conference City Wide Revival,** 7 p.m. Monday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, First Timothy Baptist Church, 12103 Biscayne Blvd. Theme is "A Conquering Church in a Critical World." Schedule: Monday, moderator is Eugene Diamond, evangelist is James B. Sampson, president of Florida General Baptist Convention; Tuesday, moderator is Elder Lee Harris, evangelist is Barnard Yates, president of National Primitive Baptist Convention. (904) 765-3111.

### WEDNESDAY

**Women's Wednesday Speaker Series,** cocktails/connections 5 p.m., talk 6:15 p.m., The Treasury on the Plaza, 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 111, St. Augustine. Speaker is Melanie Lawson, News 4 Jax anchor. \$20. (904) 315-8833 or sheisfiercehq.com/womens-wednesdays.

**"Annie,"** starring Carlie Julia Barnes from Queen's Harbour, as one of the two actresses playing Annie, doors open/meal 5:30 p.m., show 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; meal 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., show 1:15 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; meal 12:15 and 5:30 p.m., show 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sundays; Alhambra Theatre & Dining, 12000 Beach Blvd. Grand Opening Gala, doors open 5:30 p.m. Friday. Reservations, (904) 641-1212 or alhambrajax.com.

**Music by the Sea** music and food celebration, 6-9 p.m., St. Johns County Pier, 350 Florida A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine. Features the Jax English Salsa Band with Latin La Strada Italian. Series continues through Sept. 13. (904) 347-8007 or visitstaugustine.com/event/music-sea.

**Diana Ross,** 8 p.m., Daily's Place, next to EverBank Field. Opener is daughter Rhonda Ross. Tickets start at \$55.50. (904) 633-2000 or dailysplace.com.

**"Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,"** as part of the Movies by the Bay series, 8:30 p.m., Colonial Music Park, 27 St. George St., St. Augustine. Film rated PG-13. Movies repeat Wednesdays through Aug. 9. Free. facebook.com/saintaugustineerleplays.

### THURSDAY

**Concerts in the Plaza,** 7-9 p.m., Plaza de la Constitution's Gazebo, King Street and Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. Features Big Pineapple with Hawaiian jazz. Series continues through Aug. 31. (904) 825-1004 or concertsintheplaza.com.

### FRIDAY

**Dan TDM,** 7:30 p.m., Daily's Place, next to EverBank Field. Tickets start at \$55. (904) 633-2000 or dailysplace.com.

**Bring It! Live Tour 2017,** 8 p.m., Florida Theatre, 128 E. Forsyth St. \$43-\$63. (904) 355-2787 or floridatheatre.com.

**"Topdog/Underdog,"** 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, The 5 & Dime, 112 E. Adams St. \$20. the5anddime.org.

**"Legally Blonde: The Musical,"** 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Orange Park Community Theatre, 2900 Moody Ave. (904) 276-2599 or opct.org.

**"The Jungle Book,"** as part of the Moonlight Movies series, Where the Stars Meet the Sea, 9 p.m., SeaWalk Pavilion, Jacksonville Beach. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and a picnic; vendors available. Free. jacksonvillebeach.org.

**Fax to (904) 359-4478 or email events@jacksonville.com. To put your event in the online calendar, go to events.jacksonville.com.**

## Veterans Calendar

### TUESDAY

**Korean War Veterans Association,** 1 p.m., Fleet Reserve Association Branch 126, 7673 Blanding Blvd. (904) 384-2031. **Dinner** featuring meatball subs, 6 p.m., American Legion Post 283, 9459 Fort Caroline Road. Includes trivia at 7 p.m. (904) 641-8111.

### WEDNESDAY

**Dinner** featuring baked chicken, presented by the auxiliary, 5:30 p.m., American Legion Post 283, 9459 Fort Caroline Road. Includes bingo at 6:30 p.m. (904) 641-8111.

### THURSDAY

**Open House,** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., K9s For Warriors 114 Camp K9 Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. Features guided campus tours of Camp K9, the organization's beautiful, state-of-the-art facility; meet K9s staff members. Includes a free K9s For Warriors car magnet. Reservations required. Email publicrelations@k9sforwarriors.org. **The St. Johns County Veterans Council,** 7 p.m., County Health and Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View, Muscovy room, first floor, St. Augustine. (904) 829-0381 or veteranscouncilofstjohns.org.

### FRIDAY

**Dinner** featuring pulled pork, presented by the auxiliary, 6 p.m., American Legion Post 283, 9459 Fort Caroline Road.

Includes music by Double Down at 7 p.m. (904) 641-8111.

### SATURDAY

**Karaoke,** 7 p.m., American Legion Post 283, 9459 Fort Caroline Road. (904) 641-8111.

### MONDAY

**Trustee meeting,** 6 p.m.; E-Board meeting, 7 p.m.; AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. (352) 231-2029.

### JULY 5

**Burgers,** presented by the Sons, 6:30 p.m., AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. Darts at 7 p.m. \$6. (352) 231-2029.

**Vietnam Veterans of America,** Chapter 1046, social 6:30 a.m., meeting 7-8 p.m., Elks Lodge, 1855 West Road. (904) 419-8821.

**Ladies Auxiliary meeting,** 7 p.m., AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. (352) 231-2029.

### JULY 6

**Legion Post 137 meetings,** Voiture 304 (40 and 8), 7 p.m.; Auxiliary general meeting, 7:30 p.m.; American Legion Post 137, 5443 San Juan Ave. (904) 387-3373 or 387-1581.

**Marine Corps League Detachment 059,** 7:30 p.m., 5 Star Veteran Center, 40 Acme St. (904) 693-0280.

**VFW Post 4761,** 7:30 p.m., 1601 N. Main St. (904) 710-5855 or myvfw.org/fl/post4761.

### JULY 7

**Dinner** featuring ham and scalloped potatoes 6:30 p.m., AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. \$8. (352) 231-2029.

**Northeast Florida Veterans Council,** 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post 197, 2179 Benedict Road. (904) 768-1206.

### JULY 8

**82nd Airborne Division Association,** Jacksonville Chapter, 10 a.m., Golden Corral, 11470 San Jose Blvd. All qualified parachutists eligible. (386) 325-0271.

**WACVA/Army Women United,** Chapter 56, bag lunch 12:30 p.m., meeting 1-2:30 p.m., Spring Glen United Methodist Church, 6007 Beach Blvd. (904) 744-8212.

### JULY 9

**Riders meeting,** noon, AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. (352) 231-2029.

**Charles E. Bennett VFW Post 1689 auxiliary meeting,** 1:30 p.m., post home, 3409 St. Augustine Road. (904) 399-1689.

### JULY 10

**AmVets meeting,** 7 p.m., AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. (352) 231-2029.

**American Legion and Auxiliary meet-**

**ings,** 8 p.m., American Legion Post 316, 1127 Atlantic Blvd., Atlantic Beach. (904) 249-0202.

### JULY 11

**Mandarin American Legion Post 372,** 7 p.m., St. Johns Elks Lodge 2866, 4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive. (904) 536-3144. **Disabled American Veterans Chapter 38,** regular meeting, 7 p.m., 470 Madeira Drive, Orange Park. Help available for veterans and families, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. Wednesdays. Main fundraising event is bingo, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Appointments, (904) 269-2945.

### JULY 12

**VFW Post 5968 meeting,** 7:30 p.m., post home, 187 Arora Blvd., Orange Park. (904) 276-5968.

### JULY 14

**Dinner** featuring a pork buffet, presented by the auxiliary, 6:30 p.m., AmVets Post 86, 6685 Brooklyn Bay Road, Keystone Heights. \$8. (352) 231-2029.

### JULY 15

**Gathering of Veterans,** gather 10:30-11 a.m.; speakers, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; buffet, 12:30-1 p.m.; Veterans Memorial Arena. (904) 672-5872 or facebook.com/vets-4vetsnjax. **Fax to (904) 359-4478 or email events@jacksonville.com.**

## ZONING

Continued from B-1

For the most part, however, residents seem to believe they aren't denying the property owner any rights. As it is now, the property owner can develop. No one, a resident said during the recent land use committee meeting, needs 21 houses on such a small space. In fact, they say allowing more than nine homes is adding to Helen Simon's rights.

Sid Ansbacher, who represents Rosalind and Dennis Sandell, said Florida law does not automatically grant developers the greatest density that happens to

exist in an area. The place should be transitional, he added.

Residents, such as Jeff Edwards, believe the Planning Department ignored key facts about the nature of the area and its relation to both the vision and comprehensive plan.

Even more, they felt the increased density of the subdivision would contribute to safety concerns along County Dock Road. The street is only about 16-feet wide and — even by county standards — is considered substandard. Two cars can barely pass each other, and trucks must move to the side if another truck tries to pass. It is also used, many say, as a short-

cut for people hoping to avoid San Jose Boulevard's heavy traffic.

According to Schellenberg, an initial police department search yielded no traffic incidents along County Dock Road. During the recent land use meeting, he suggested the road might be better suited for one-way traffic.

Some residents said the traffic pattern change would be unfair to people who've traveled the roadway for years — or even decades.

"If safety is the issue, I'm always going to defer to safety. Safety to me trumps almost everything else," Schellenberg said. "The better I make Mandarin a more livable place, the

more people will continue to live there."

Edwards says he is concerned the one-way road, as written in proposed legislation, could happen without any public input. To him, that controversy could be even bigger than what's happening currently with the Docksides Estates proposal.

The City Council will address the issue Tuesday night at 5 p.m. in the Council Chamber. The rezoning proposal already went through the Planning Commission, where it was recommended to be denied for safety reasons, and the Land Use and Zoning Committee, where it was recommended to be approved.

## FIND IT

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