



## In the News

In case you missed it, we were recently featured in a Florida Times Union article discussing the Universal Design movement. The idea behind this design concept is to make homes and furnishings that work for people of all sizes, shapes, ages, and abilities. With more baby boomers caring for their longer-living parents, universal features, such as “slope-in” showers, larger door frames, and grading instead of ramps, are becoming more popular, and we expect this to continue. The trend is reinforced by a recent poll taken by the National Association of Homebuilders in which 75 percent of remodelers said they were getting more requests for universal designs.



## Introducing Custom Additions by J.A. Long

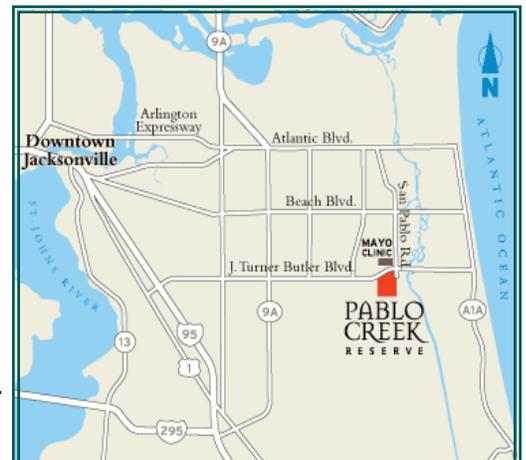
As demand has risen over the last few years, we have designed and built more home additions, and the feedback has been outstanding. By combining customer requests with our expertise and creativity, we have created structures that not only satisfy customers' practical needs but also their aesthetic ones.



It is a great time to build a custom addition. Material and labor pricing are favorable, and high quality labor is readily available. As the new home market recovers, these variables will inevitably change. Therefore, if you are interested in a J.A. Long custom addition, we encourage you to start your project while conditions and pricing are ideal.

## J.A. Long is Going Coastal

Does living near the beach sound appealing? If so, we welcome the opportunity to build your coastal dream home. In fact, we are currently building a custom home in Pablo Creek Reserve—a private gated community located near the Intracoastal Waterway, Mayo Clinic, and J. Turner Butler Blvd. After comparing multiple custom builders, our Pablo Creek Reserve customer discovered that we offer outstanding quality and significantly better pricing than the custom builders currently building near the coast.



## Great Fleming Island Lots are Almost Gone

As you know, Eagle Harbor is almost sold out. However, J.A. Long has a few lots available in neighborhoods like Rolands Way, Spring Creek, and Salt Creek. These lots offer the very last opportunities to build in Eagle Harbor.

J.A. Long also has two lots remaining in Romeo Point, just south of the Doctors Lake Bridge on Highway 17. Romeo Point Lot 28, priced at \$120,000, is 96 feet wide and offers an outstanding opportunity to build a custom home with a beautiful view of Doctors Lake. Priced at \$197,500, Romeo Point Lot 6 is 94 feet wide and has canal access leading to Doctors Lake, making it the perfect place for your custom home.



*Canal Leading to Romeo Point Lot 6*

## Summer Energy Saving Tips



- Fluorescent lights are ideal for use in place of incandescent lights that are used more frequently (more than three hours a day).
- Clean air conditioning filters monthly and replace when needed. A dirty filter restricts airflow causing the unit to lose efficiency.
- Keep all air supply registers to all rooms open and the return air pathways free from obstructions (furniture). Doors should be kept open to any room that has a supply air register but no return vent within the room.
- Keep plants and obstructions at least three feet away from the outside unit to prevent interference with air circulation.
- Consider raising the thermostat a few degrees and using a ceiling fan during sleeping hours.
- When not being actively used, turning the computer off is most economical. However, if the computer must be left on, turning off the monitor will cut the electric consumption in half.
- Keep aquariums covered to reduce the amount of moisture escaping. Elevated humidity levels in the home increase human discomfort.
- Run full loads of laundry. Regularly check your dryer vent pipe for lint build up, which causes the dryer to run longer.
- Turn off the water heater if you will be away from home for two or more days. Set the thermostat between 120 and 140 degrees. The lower the setting, the more energy it will save.

Source: Clay Electric



## Summer Lawn Tips - August

- Trim and shape summer annuals and vegetables only as needed, removing spent bloom heads and harvesting vegetables earlier rather than later. This will reduce heat stress and water needs and produce additional blooms and vegetables.
- Watch for signs of cinch bug damage along hot edges of concrete and curbing. Begin to raise the level of your mower blade to three inches to protect the root zone of the sod.
- Remove any seed heads from your zinnias, cosmos, and marigolds and sow directly into the soil adjacent to the original plant. They will continue the color massing after the original plants cease to produce.
- Avoid heavy trimming of shrubs and trees during this month to avoid a flush of new growth that can be damaged by lack of water and intense heat during the day.



- Check and replenish mulch to conserve water and keep weeds under control.
- A light application of pine needles or decomposed pine bark is better than a heavy layer of cypress mulch.

Source: Jacksonville Magazine, June 2008

## Homeowner Spotlight

Gene Smith was promoted to executive director of college and pro personnel for the **Jacksonville Jaguars**, effective January 2008. He'll lead a staff of eleven scouts and assume the responsibilities of both the college and pro departments. His duties include the scouting and evaluation of hundreds of college players on an annual basis, and the continued orchestration of the college draft process, along with directing pro free agency.

Smith is one of 15 staff members who joined the franchise in 1994. He has been a part of building Jaguars teams that have made eleven playoff game appearances, including two AFC Championship games. Congratulations, Gene, and thank you for choosing J.A. Long to build your home!



Source: Jaguars.com

## Cleaning Tips for Granite, Marble, and Corian Countertops

- For general cleaning, try warm water first. Towel dry to remove any streaks.
- Wipe up all spills and messes immediately. A mild dishwashing liquid works best on granite surfaces.
- Do NOT use Windex, 409, Pledge, or other wax products on your stone work.
- Some colors of corian may require frequent cleaning to maintain a uniform finish. Lighter colors tend to require less attention than darker colors.
- Use coasters or trivets to place hot items on your countertop to prevent scratching or etching.
- Seal the surface about once a year to keep the beauty and shine of your stone work.

Source: A1StoneWorld.com

