



CRA NEWS

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4/ 2009

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Bill Bosch
Michael Barr
Trevor Tucker
James Manfre
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Rediscovering Bunnell

By: Caryn Miller

Sometimes it is hard to see what you really have in your back yard until you step back and make a conscious effort to look around you. Bunnell has always had its "Old Florida" charm, small town feel, and hopes for the future. None of that has changed. However, as time goes by, the small grocer, restaurant, or retail shop begins to disappear from our daily routine and is replaced by larger, more "modern" locales. You begin to shop at Wal-Mart, or swing by McDonalds for a quick meal. There is nothing wrong with that, but stop and think of what you really have at "home".

I personally have made it my priority to rethink my actions and make a serious effort to support the local economy. Our small businesses depend on our loyalty and our support. So, I embarked into my rediscovery plan and make it a point to visit at least one business or uncover something new once a week.

I recently discovered the wonderful food and atmosphere at the Portugalia Restaurant on State Street. They offer meals for all tastes, but specially their ethnic cuisine which is to die for. Their fish is fresh and cooked to perfection and their customer service is impeccable. I urge you to visit and visit often! The old favorites such as the State Street Diner, Chicken Pantry, and Hot Diggity Dog remain true and blue. Where else can you get home cooking at its best!

A trip to Harris Grocery Store and receiving that personal service they give you reminds you that you do not get that kind of personal service at the big box grocery stores. It also reminds one of just how lucky we are in Bunnell to still have the "home town grocer" ready to serve us. As a bargain hunter I love to visit the Dollar General. I love to see the savings add up. Ace Hardware is still the best in town and the Napa Auto Parts always has what I need. I do business with Acme Trophies and K Graphics all the time and visit Insurance World regularly.

Next week I plan to revisit the Bantam Chef (killing my diet) and explore the Holden House. The Flagler Playhouse is on my "must do list" and so on and so on. It is amazing how much we have and how we tend to take it for granted.

Like Dorothy said: "There is no place like home". Let us all make it a point to revisit what we have and support our local businesses. Shopping local brings those sales tax dollars back to Bunnell and helps our economic growth.

I look forward to new discoveries and old friends.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Due to the recent flooding storms in Bunnell, Committee and Board meetings have been moved to the Bunnell Community Center until further notice. Please call the City Clerk's Office for information of dates and locations. 386-437-7500



ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS WITH SEVERAL AGENCIES

The CRA Advisory Committee has been hard at work moving forward with their plans and goals for the year. Part of their strategic plan is to meet with various agencies to explore opportunities for partnerships and using each other's resources to further the CRA's goals.

During the past three months, they have met with the Bunnell Chamber of Commerce as well as the Tourism Executive Director for Flagler County.

Discussions have been very encouraging. The Bunnell Chamber of Commerce is committed to assist the CRA in the recruitment and retention of businesses in the CRA. In addition, they will assist the CRA in the promotion and marketing efforts for the CRA.

Peggy Heiser, VP of Tourism for Flagler County provided the Committee with information related to marketing Bunnell in the tourism industry. New plans are in place to augment the information currently provided to prospective investors and visitors to the area. She provided the group with tips and information related to how the CRA can take advantage of various media to market the CRA.

In addition, a joint meeting with the Heritage Crossroads Committee is set for July 21st at the Community Center. Discussion will be related to the things both groups are doing to beautify Bunnell

The CRA Advisory Committee meets every third Thursday of the month.

The public is always welcome!

The CRA Advisory Committee has one opening for an alternate member. We are looking for someone who has a business or property in the CRA and is willing to devote 1 hour a month to attend the meetings.

The future success of the CRA depends on input from its stakeholders.

Anyone interested please call Caryn Miller at 352-455-5487 or email her at macalphin@aol.com.

CRA Board Meeting Dates



The CRA Board meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month prior to the regular City Commission meeting.

The public is always welcome!

CRA Map and Location

