

VOTED "BEST
PIZZA" BY

FOLIO WEEKLY 1995 - 2009,
BEACHES LEADER 2000 - 2009,
JACKSONVILLE MAGAZINE 2009

Al's
PIZZA®

www.alspizza.com

Give life a slice...®

303 ATLANTIC BLVD.
Atlantic Beach
249.0002

1620 MARGARET ST.
Riverside Square
388.8384

8060 PHILIPS HWY.
Baymeadows
731.4300

635 A1A NORTH
Ponte Vedra Beach
543.1494

11190 SAN JOSE BLVD
Mandarin
260.4115

14286 BEACH BLVD.
Intracoastal West
223.0991

DELIVERY

Al's Dollar Deal
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
+ 2 pm to 5 pm
ADDED TOPPINGS EXTRA

franchise opportunities now available for more information go to www.alspizza.com

LAND GRAB

from signing his own quit-claim deed in 2005, relinquishing 4.5 acres of the 16-acre site — free of charge — to the Estates of Atlantic Beach. (Mayoral spokesperson Misty Skipper says Peyton relied on the advice of the General Counsel's Office that the deal was legal.)

Since the Folio Weekly story appeared, Harcourt Bull's granddaughter Chelly Schembera has come forward to say she supports keeping the land in the public domain. She says it's clear the land gift was intended for a park, not a private subdivision. "I want my grandfather's wishes respected," she wrote in an e-mail to Folio Weekly.

And Oceanwalk residents whose backyards border the property are working to mobilize others to oppose its development. At a meeting last Wednesday of Beaches Watch, a citizens group formed of residents from Jacksonville, Neptune and Atlantic beaches, Oceanwalk resident Mark Tomaski laid out the history of the land deal and the problems Woodward discovered.

Based on research by First American Title Insurance Company, hired to examine the chain of title, Woodward issued an 11-page title opinion declaring the land transfer from the city of Jacksonville to the Estates of Atlantic Beach

illegal. Not only does the Estates lack good title to the property, Woodward says, but company owner Sones didn't have the authority to grant a sewer easement to the city of Atlantic Beach in exchange for being able to build a road into his subdivision. Woodward went so far as to say that if Sones or anyone from either the Estates of Atlantic Beach or the city of Atlantic Beach sets foot on the land, they could be charged with trespassing.

In fact, the city has already been on the land, tagging hundreds of trees to determine which will be removed at city expense, per the deal with Sones. But Woodward advised the city it could be held liable for any damages to the land. "Nothing should be done until this all gets sorted out," he says.

Meanwhile, Atlantic Beach residents are increasingly vocal about their desire to see the land preserved and perhaps married to adjacent parkland.

"This piece of property is a corridor to Hanna Park. It would make a wonderful footpath that could open up this city to Hanna Park," says Atlantic Beach resident Cindy Corey. "I think it would be a real tragedy and an injustice to all of us as stewards of this community if we let this happen." □

LAW

GWYNEDD STUART gstuart@folioweekly.com

Matt Shirk's solicitation for new lawyers asks them to name their "salary requirements."

FILE PHOTO/ WALTER COKER



Death Warmed Over

AFTER FIRING MOST OF HIS DEATH-PENALTY-QUALIFIED ATTORNEYS, PUBLIC DEFENDER MATT SHIRK TAKES OUT A WANT AD

When State Attorney Angela Corey took office in early 2009, she'd basically promised to kill more people. To demonstrate her unrelenting prosecution of violent criminals, Corey made clear she

would more frequently and rigorously pursue the death penalty. So it was more than a little befuddling when Corey's friend and political ally, incoming Public (Continues on page 12)

curve appeal



it's you...just better!

Breast
Augmentation
\$3900
Thru 3/31/10
Saline Only.

Michael J. Duffy, M.D.
Cosmetic & Reconstructive Surgery Center
6867 Belfort Oaks Place • 904.296.2008
Be bikini ready. Call to here about our specials!

Board Certified American Board Of Plastic Surgery  Member American Society of Plastic Surgeons Inc.

Say Eye-Do
with Taylor Lane Lash Extensions



Specials of the Month

Manicure \$12

Pedicure \$20

Massage or Facial \$45

Brazilian Wax \$50

Full Set of Eyelash Extensions \$75

*Taylor Lane
& Company*

10915 Baymeadows Rd. Ste. 105
363-8990

taylorlanedayspa.net

MM# 14266

Try Honeysett Acupuncture

FREE
\$80 Value

- Safe, effective treatments for
- PAIN • ADDICTION • FERTILITY •
 - WEIGHT CONTROL • STRESS •
 - MIGRAINES • MORE •



Acupuncture Works. Period.

**HONEYSETT
ACUPUNCTURE**

904.304.5011 1050 Riverside Ave.
honeysett acupuncture .com

LAW

(Continued from page 10)

Defender Matt Shirk, decided to fire 10 of his office's most highly regarded attorneys. Not only were those dismissed among the office's most experienced — with some 300 years of collective experience — but half of those fired were certified to try death penalty cases. Their departure left just *one* attorney in the Fourth Circuit's entire Duval County Office qualified to defend death penalty cases. (The process of becoming death penalty-qualified involves trying a certain number of capital cases, as well as attending conferences that deal specifically with death penalty cases.)

Corey made good on her promise, and the Feb. 15 issue of *The Florida Bar News* reflects the predictable outcome. The publication includes a classified ad seeking death-qualified attorneys in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. And although Shirk dismissed the original crop of death-qualified public defenders as a cost-saving measure, new applicants are invited to name their "salary requirements."

Asked about the ad, former Public Defender Pat McGuinness, who entered private practice after being fired by Shirk in late 2008, laughs roguishly. "Let me think how I would word this ...," McGuinness begins. "I think it indicates a certain *lack of foresight* on his part, realizing he had a staff of death-certified lawyers whom he fired summarily without ever even having reviewed their personnel files, and did so apparently solely on the basis of saving money."

But Shirk's office insists the situation isn't as desperate as the advertisement suggests. Although there's been a "substantial increase" in the number of death penalty cases compared to years past, Shirk spokesman Matt Bisbee says there's still a total six death-qualified attorneys

Asked about the ad, former Public Defender Pat McGuinness, who was fired by Shirk, laughs roguishly. "I think it indicates a certain *lack of foresight* on his part."



FILE PHOTO/WALTER BOEKER

on staff in the Fourth Circuit, which consists of Duval, Clay and Nassau counties. One more will be death-qualified in the near future, Bisbee says, and three more by year's end.

"The Office of the Public Defender is actively grooming several current, senior attorneys to become death-qualified while at the same time preparing for the long term by obtaining a list of outside attorneys who are death-qualified in the event there becomes a need to hire additional attorneys who meet the criteria," Bisbee explains.

And lest potential applicants get the wrong idea from the ad, Bisbee says that there actually aren't any current openings in the PD's office. □

mayo clinic trained • board-certified in facial plastic surgery

**WE WANT TO DO YOUR
LAST RHINOPLASTY.** (even if it's your first)[™]

Revision rhinoplasty is more common than people think. Get it done right the first time. Choose a surgeon with the right training, experience, and specialization.



learn more and see our before and afters at:

www.JacksonvilleRhinoplasty.com

904-215-7377



DAVID C. PEARSON, M.D. / BOARD CERTIFIED, AMERICAN BOARD OF FACIAL PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY



BUZZ

buzz@folioweekly.com

PAIN IN THE ARSE

"Assholistic Healthcare: Medicine's Moral Mess: A No Holds Barred Primer for Patients"

— Title of a book by local author and psychiatrist Dr. Carl Burak. Of the book, Burak says, "As a family physician, an emergency physician and now psychiatrist ... I have enormous respect for our medical science and utter frustration about our healthcare delivery system. I care about patients and the very uneven, sometimes deplorable healthcare system we have evolved." Burak signs his book at 7 p.m. on March 11 at The BookMark in Atlantic Beach.

