

# DISTRICT 2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## Al Ferraro

AN EMAIL NEWSLETTER

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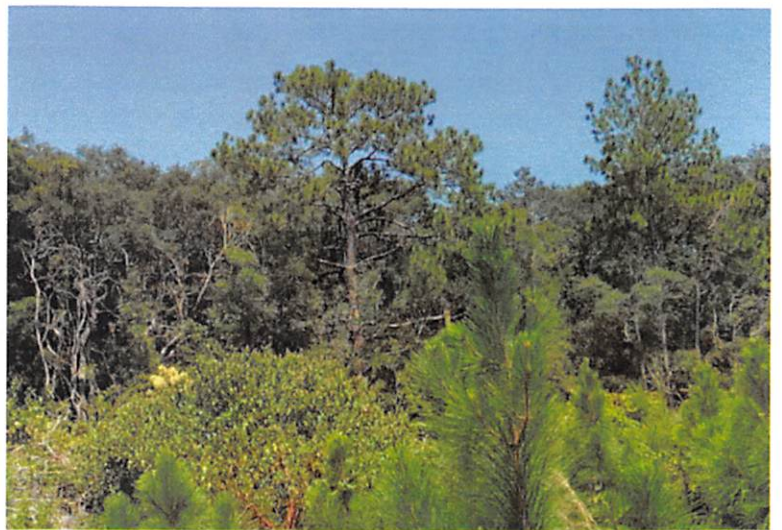
### WHAT'S NEW IN DISTRICT 2

Hi, I'm Al Ferraro, City Council Member for District 2. District 2 covers the Northside from North Main Street to the Intercoastal Waterway, and it includes Heckscher Drive to Nassau County and parts of Arlington. I will be publishing a newsletter to keep the district and city informed.

**New Berlin Road Library Update:**  
The design and permitting are underway for the New Berlin Road Library. This part of the process is expected to take 12-16 months to complete. The city is projecting the construction on the new library to begin sometime in late 2023 or early 2024.

The city does not have a construction schedule yet, but they expect the library to be open in the Summer or of 2025.

We will post more information as it becomes available.



### 340-ACRE PROPERTY ON BHI IS NOW CONSERVATION LAND

On July 21, 2022, the Trust for Public Land (TPL) purchased the 340-acre property previously owned by the Ogilvie family on Black Hammock Island. Council Member Al Ferraro is proud to have sponsored the legislation that appropriated the remaining funds from the AES Cedar Bay lawsuit settlement set aside for just this type of acquisition. Our community has enjoyed our waterways, parks, and preserves for generations, this is a great opportunity to conserve these precious resources for generations to come. Council Member Ferraro is thankful to have a community that backed him in retaining these important lands.

July 26, 2022, TPL sold the state portion of the property (240 acres) to FDEP as an addition to the Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park. The next step is to convey the National Parks Service (NPS) portion (101 acres) to be added to the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve mid-2023 after Congress passes an appropriations bill.

This property is the largest remaining undeveloped tract on BHI. It boasts pristine coastal hammocks, 1.6 miles of frontage on Pumpkin Hill Creek and another 1/4-mile fronting Sawpit Creek. Its Conservation furthers the goals of the Nassau River-St. Johns River Marshes Aquatic Preserve and will protect natural habitat, enhance coastal and community resiliency. Its management as a passive recreation conservation area will add to the 7 Creeks recreation Area, a 5,600-acre conservation area that is managed by federal, state and local agencies and non-profit organizations providing an interconnected and seamless experience for park visitors.

This property plays an important role in protecting against extreme weather events like hurricanes through the protection of marshes and native forests. In 2006 this property was previously approved for development and now it will be preserved for generations to come.

#### Contact Information

Any Questions or concerns please contact my office at  
[ferraro@coj.net](mailto:ferraro@coj.net) or 904-255-5202.