



THE ST. AUGUSTINE REPORT

Local news in our Nation's Oldest City



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Burger King out, Zaxby's in

The Burger King on North Ponce de Leon Boulevard is gone - but fast food at the location isn't.

Zaxby's, a fast food chicken franchise created "to fill a niche in the restaurant business that was missing," according to its developers, is planned for the location opposite McDonald's.

The name is a combination of the co-founders' names, Zach McLeroy and Tony Townley, childhood pals whose start-up restaurant in Statesboro GA in 1990 has grown to 356 locations in nine southeastern states, with plans for 1,000 restaurants by 2010.

Challenging numerous chicken franchises they decided "weren't getting it right," the duo is riding on a menu of wings, fingers, nuggets, sandwiches, and salads, "cooked in a variety of ways, with a range of flavorful sauces."

Work will begin soon to transform the Burger King property into one of three signature building styles for Zaxby's.



Pssst - There *IS* free parking!!

"In St. Augustine?? Nah."

Well, yeah!! You can snub your nose at city parking meters and terminals Monday through Saturday after 5 p.m. and all day Sundays and national holidays.

Sorry - can't include the Historic Downtown Parking Facility (HDPF) in these periods.

The rest of the time - how about parking anywhere at 50 cents an hour? ("In St. Augustine??" etc.) And how about parking in the HDPF for about a buck a day?? ("In St. Augustine??" etc.).

Yeah!! There's the **ParkNow** card - like a credit card. Just charge one up at the Financial Services Center behind City Hall - they even have a meter and terminal there to show you how to use the card.

The ParkNow card is good at HDPF, too, but there's also the HDPF **Proximity card**, at \$32 a month plus tax - to park there all the time, anytime. You can get that at the parking facility.

Check out the city [website](#), call 904. 825.1034 or stop by the Financial Services Center for details, and a turn at the meter and terminal.

(There's free parking out front 24/7).

CodeRed for today's world

Lots of hot air

Our Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) will consider at its October 6 meeting a request to allow a hot air passenger balloon ride site as a permissible use by exception.

Vida Szatkowski Poli Enterprises, Inc. proposes to set up shop - er, balloons - on the former Bozard Ford lot on Ponce de Leon Boulevard, just south of the Old Town Trolley Tours Welcome Center.

The former Bozard lot was purchased by hotelier Kanti Patel's Vista Hotel IV, Inc., and has been leasing space until the economy - hopefully to be spiked by our upcoming commemorations - makes hotel development possible.

Sadly, it's a dangerous world out there today, and Sheriff David Shoar hopes to raise your comfort level in facing it.

Everything from fires, dangerous water conditions, and missing children to evacuation notices and routes can be reported directly to you through CodeRed, a high-speed telephone emergency notification service capable of sending out pre-recorded emergency messages to 1,000 phones a minute.



Initiated by the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, the St. Augustine Police and Fire Departments are among area agencies signed on to this advanced notification system.

It can only work for you if you sign up at [CodeRed](http://CodeRed.com) 904.810.6690.

Read the full story on our city's [website](#).

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A People United - back to work

A People United, an initiative of Rev. Ron Rawls of St. Paul AME Church to draw our wealth of community resources together, will gather for its third meeting Thursday September 24, from 6-7 pm in the church at 85 ML King Avenue.

Previous meetings in January and April drew enthusiastic attendees from all areas of our community, to "create a hub into which community organizations feed information on services they provide - a clearing house for community service."

High on the People United agenda is our youth, and it's drawn together numerous programs:

- A Young Men and Young Ladies of Excellence mentoring program at Murray Middle School
- Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Church assisting up to 40 students
- American Legion Post 194 working with some 22 students in mentoring and homework
- Memorial Presbyterian Church tutoring boys at St. Augustine Youth Services
- Habitat for Humanity's full scholarship program for Habitat families
- Our school district's Communities In School and Take Stock in Children programs
- The Embrace Our Youth Summer Program
- A College Reachout Program offering Day Summer Camp for middle and high School students



Embrace our Youth kids visit Colonial Spanish Quarter during summer program

From skate, to snow, to kiteboarding

There's something new in the air, and a Flagler College freshman hopes to make it an organized club on Flagler's extended campus - the Atlantic Ocean.

Joining skateboarding, snowboarding, surfboarding, and other recreational boarding is kiteboarding, and Chaz Lawrence



hopes to see its official inclusion into the Flagler College club program - Chaz and at least 71 others who have filled out application forms, he says.

Kiteboarding is a sort of hybrid sport with elements of surfing, wakeboarding and kite handling. The kite catches wind gusts to propel the kiteboarder, who may sail up to 30 feet above the ocean before descending on a wave of his or her liking.

Chaz envisions the Flagler club joining the Collegiate Kiteboarding Association, and competing in such events as the annual Tampa Bay Kite Masters race.

The drawback: the gear costs about \$3,000. Undaunted, Chaz plans fundraising events, donations and sponsorship discounts to purchase club gear.

"Kiteboarding is a sensation that everyone should experience," says Chaz. His story's in the Flagler College [Gargoyle](#).

And [Kiteboarding Magazine](#) can provide a primer.

The St. Augustine Report is published by the Department of Public Affairs of the City of St. Augustine each Tuesday and on Fridays previewing City Commission meetings. The Report is written and distributed by George Gardner, former St. Augustine Mayor (2002-2006) and Commissioner (2006-2008) and a longtime newspaper reporter and editor. Contact The Report at gardner@aug.com

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