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eNews August 2, 2011

Chamber Chair-Elect Tom Van Berkel to Speak to Downtown Council August 5

Date/Time: Friday August 5, 11:30 a.m.

Speaker: **Tom Van Berkel**, Main Street America Group, Chair-Elect
Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce

Place: **University Club**, 1301 Riverplace Blvd, 27th Floor.

Parking: Free with Validation - lot in front of Crown Plaza or parking garage to east.

Tom Van Berkel is chairman, president and chief executive officer of Jacksonville-based The Main Street America Group, a super regional property/casualty insurance company. Tom joined Main Street America in 1990 as vice president, marketing, and was promoted to senior vice president, insurance operations, in 1993. He was elected president and chief operating officer in June 2001 and appointed chief executive officer in January 2002. Tom was elected chairman of all of The Main Street America Group's operating companies' boards in September 2006.

Tom is chair-elect of the Jacksonville, Fla., Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and will serve as chair in 2012. He currently is chair of the Chamber's Board of Governors. Tom is past chair of the Chamber's Finance and Insurance Services Committee, past treasurer of the Chamber board and past chair of the Chamber's JAXUSA Partnership (formerly Cornerstone).

Let's Get Ready for Football
Annual Painting of Paw Prints on Bay Street
Come join the Downtown Council and Jaxson De Ville

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2011

Time: 8am

Where: LAZ parking lot next to Chamber offices on Bay Street

Join Jaxson de Ville, the Downtown Council and special guest Mayor Alvin Brown for the Annual Painting of the PawPrints from Bay Street to EverBank field. Free coffee, orange juice, water, bagels and doughnuts will be provided, in addition to free parking at the LAZ Parking lot adjacent to the Jacksonville Chamber.

Afterwards, enjoy a complimentary mimosa at the celebration event to be held in the parking lot at the corner of Bay and Newnan Street.

Contact Bonnie Arnold at bonnie@bonniesfloraldesigns.com or (904) 346-3300 or (904) 699-0961 to:

- Get more information
- Join a team
- Create your own team

[Download Flier for more information](#)

Date/Time: August 19, 7:30 a.m.

Speaker: Paul Anderson, CEO Jacksonville Port Authority

Place: Currents Riverview Bistro, 841 Prudential Dr, Aetna Building

FREE PARKING Ground floor in second garage

Downtown Council Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of each month

1st Friday LUNCH: University Club, 1301 Riverplace Blvd (Top of the Wachovia Tower on the Southbank);
Time: 11:30 a.m. Networking and Lunch, 11:50 Self Introductions and Program to follow. Meeting will end at approximately 1 p.m.

3rd Friday BREAKFAST: Currents Riverview Bistro, 841 Prudential Drive (The Aetna Building), 2nd Floor
Time: 7:30 a.m. Networking & Breakfast, 7:45 self-introductions and program to follow. Meeting will end at approximately 9 a.m.

We accept checks, cash, MasterCard, Visa & American Express.



About Downtown Council, Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce

Our Council is devoted to enhancing and improving the business climate in Jacksonville through the association of business professionals and the core district of our community.

Members enjoy an exceptional networking experience and valuable programs at our meetings and mix business with pleasure at our social events. We work together to cultivate ideas, grow business opportunities, and improve the quality of life for all our residents. In the process, we help develop business owners and managers into business leaders, while they grow their businesses.

Great cities are known for their great Downtowns. If you want to be part of the excitement and opportunities at the center of our community, check out www.downtowncouncil.org. The time is now, the place is Downtown.

DOWNTOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE NEWS

DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Downtown Enhancement Committee (DEC) meets monthly to plan and organize events that will add to the Downtown area and also may raise funds to promote Downtown Council events and activities. Next DEC meeting Tuesday Aug 23rd 8:00 a.m. Einstein's Bagels in Riverside.

DOWNTOWN COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Downtown Council is Proud to Sponsor the Julia Landon School

If you would like to become involved in the Downtown Council's Education Committee, please contact: Cynthia Farmer at cbell@nova.edu , or Ray Hays at RHays@PRCdigital.com . *Or, attend any Downtown Council meeting and volunteer.*

Downtown Council Website Be sure to visit our website. You can link to our Facebook and Twitter pages. You can read past news stories... and much more. www.downtowncouncil.org

Site built by our own Downtown Council member Geer Services

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Win a \$50 Gift Card-

All for attending Downtown Council meetings. A new council attendance recognition program for Downtown Council members. Each time a member signs in a meeting his or her name will be entered for a drawing for a \$50 gift card. The drawing will be held quarterly. So, if you attend each meeting in the quarter you will have 6 chances in the drawing. The April - June drawing will be held in July and you must be present to win. Remember to join us for every meeting and please SIGN IN to be eligible.

Meet Your 2011 Officers & Board of Directors

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Pat Geer, [Geer Services](#)

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