

Rosemary Ramblings

BY PRICE RAINER

Spring and early summer are my favorite time of the year for enjoying Rosemary Beach. The warmer temperatures and bright sunshine make this time of year perfect for exploring the brick-lined streets with unique village shops, quaint restaurants and community green spaces. It is refreshing to see all types of people outside enjoying the weather, the beach and a myriad of outdoor activities after the chill of winter. Spring activities in Rosemary Beach include the **Spring Fling Family Nights** with games and outdoor concerts, the **Route 30-A Car Show** and the annual **Cottages for Kids** fundraiser to name a few. It seems like there is always something going on, and both new and familiar faces to meet and greet.

I have spent quite a lot of time in Rosemary Beach this year and have realized that the community has so much to offer. There are countless amenities including beautiful stretches of private beach with eco-friendly dune walkovers designed to protect the coastal environment. There's the **Rosemary Beach Racquet Club** with eight fast-dry clay tennis courts and tennis pros on staff to instruct and assist. Winding throughout the community is a 2.3 mile fitness trail with four fitness stations complete with exercise apparatuses for stretching and strength training, and a first-class fitness center that offers top-of-the-line equipment along with yoga and spinning classes. Four dazzling pools are spaced throughout community including one with year-round access. Additionally, there are several parks and green spaces spaced throughout, perfect for anything from quiet reflection to pick-up games to events.

What I enjoy most is simply walking through the community with friends or especially with new customers. The distinctive West Indies and Dutch-style architecture and the superior quality of the homes never cease to amaze and inspire. Our conversations move from personal dreams to comments regarding the homes, the greens spaces and the overall unique feeling of the community. Rosemary Beach offers many other things than what might be expected—behind, beside and along the homes you will find fountains, wonderfully landscaped private courtyards and patios, pools and even a couple of Zen-inspired gardens. The quality of what has been created within the community of Rosemary Beach is something that our 30-A corridor can be proud of and

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will serve as a great asset to our area for some time.

Rosemary Beach is a place that continues to motivate me on several levels as a realtor. Almost always, my conversations with clients and friends turn to the real estate market in Rosemary Beach. Interestingly enough, the market has a story that is contrary to what most expect. Home sales in Rosemary Beach have increased dramatically over the last nine months. In July 2009 there were about 99 homes for sale, and as I write this in late March 2010, there are only 67 homes on the market.

The town of Rosemary Beach is truly unique in its feel and design, almost magically transporting you to another place and time where life is simpler and everything you need is a bicycle ride away. It offers such a tranquil experience for the people who live, vacation or just come to play for a day. If you decide to

come and visit Rosemary Beach, I challenge you to park your car and just spend some time walking around and letting yourself appreciate what has been created. It is a very special place. I could tell you more about the sales taking place and how the market is changing, but I'd rather that you fall in love with what Rosemary Beach has to offer—the lifestyle, the people and the places. As a realtor, my job is finding you the perfect place to “hang your hat,” and Rosemary Beach may just be that place for you.

I believe that the evolution of the 30-A area will entail becoming a premier destination for visitors from all over the world, and the quality of communities like Rosemary Beach will further the appeal of our little stretch of beach. I like the direction we are headed, and as progress continues to change this once sleepy hamlet into whatever the future has in store for us, I think you could not be in a better place.

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