

Oil (per barrel)	\$105.45	\$106.71
Gold (per oz.)	\$1,642.90	\$1,694.20
Silver (per oz.)	\$32.180	\$33.580
Euro (vs. dollar)	\$1.3024	\$1.3073

# BUSINESS

## \* LOCAL

### Flagler County businesses combine forces

**FLAGLER BEACH** — Two businesses here — Re/Max Oceanside and Preferred Management Services — have merged with real estate brokerage Commercial World of Palm Coast.

The combined firms will do business going forward under two names: Re/Max Oceanside for real estate leasing and sales; and Preferred Management Services for property and association management services.

Re/Max Oceanside will continue to operate out of its offices at 2561 Moody Blvd., on the mainland side of Flagler Beach.

Preferred Management will continue to be at 411 S. Central Ave., in the beachside area of Flagler Beach.

Rob Robinson, the broker/owner of Commercial World, has closed his office at 1 Hargrove Grade and moved to the Re/Max Oceanside offices.

Robinson incorporated his Commercial World real estate brokerage in 2003.

Preferred Management, which specializes in residential and commercial property management as well as association management services, was founded in 1995 by owner/president Lea Stokes.

Re/Max Oceanside, a real estate brokerage that handles both commercial and residential transactions, was launched in 2009 by broker/owner Donna Tofal. The merger of the three firms closed on Feb. 28.

Details regarding the merger are still being finalized, Stokes said.

— Clayton Park

### FLORIDA HOSPITAL

#### Pharmacy director hired

**ORANGE CITY** — Florida Hospital Fish Memorial in Orange City has hired Eugene

## Gasoline prices top \$4 a gallon

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW YORK** — Gasoline is now more than \$4 per gallon in four states and Washington, D.C., as a three-month surge in pump prices continues.

The nation's capital, Illinois, California, Alaska and Hawaii all posted averages above \$4 on Wednesday, according to AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. Prices in several other states, including Oregon, Connecticut, New York and Washington, are almost there.

Nationwide, gasoline has soared by nearly 54 cents this

year to an average of \$3.81 per gallon.

The average price in the Volusia-Flagler area on Wednesday was \$3.82 a gallon for regular unleaded, up a penny from Tuesday and from the week ago average, according to AAA.

Prices are rising as service stations pass along the higher cost of crude. Benchmark oil prices have risen by nearly 8 percent since January.

Pump prices also tend to jump this time of year as gasoline suppliers sell off their remaining stocks of winter gasoline to make room for a different grade

Area Gasoline Prices	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
Regular	Premium
\$3.82	\$4.10
<b>TUESDAY</b>	
Regular	Premium
\$3.81	\$4.10
<b>WEEK AGO</b>	
Regular	Premium
\$3.81	\$4.11

SOURCE: AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report

"It's just like everything in life. You have to deal with the problems. If you push them to the side they only get bigger, and that's what we've seen. That's one of the reasons we've seen such lingering in this economic recovery, because we haven't dealt with our problem."

**BRUCE PAGE**

President and CEO of Intracoastal Bank in Palm Coast

