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Palm Beach real estate selling better in first half of 2010

by Kim Miller

Single-family home sales in the Town of Palm Beach jumped from 38 during the first half of 2009 to 60 in the beginning of this year, according to the Evans Report.

The report is compiled by real estate attorney and Palm Beach property owner Leslie Evans, who has been tracking sales on the island for 10 years.

The median sales price of single-family homes increased from \$2.5 million to \$2.9 million, but was marked by super high-end deals such as the \$20.5 million purchase of 850 South County Road in March.

Another noteworthy sale was the \$10.3 million purchase of the Everglades Island home of best-selling author James Patterson. Patterson is moving his family to a Palm Beach oceanfront mansion that he purchased for \$17.4 million last year.



James Patterson's former Everglades Island home

"Some of the anxiety is over," Evans said in an August <u>Palm Beach Daily News</u> article. "The market is not robust, but, for the first six months, to see prices and sales go up is encouraging. People have started to realize that (single-family-home prices) have bottomed out."

Condo sales were also up, with 152 units selling in the first quarter of 2010 compared to 114 during the same time last year. The median sales price dropped however to \$407,500 from \$562,500.

Tags: James Patterson, Palm Beach

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