

November
2021



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NEWS INFORMATION FOR & ABOUT RESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN ST. JOHNS COUNTY FL

Saint Augustine Ballet stages 2021 Nutcracker



Tickets are on sale for this holiday classic, Dec. 18-19
in Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College

The Sugar Plum Fairy, the Mouse King, Clara, Uncle Drosselmeyer and all the Nutcracker characters will return to the St. Augustine stage this holiday season. Saint Augustine Ballet presents the 13th Annual Nutcracker to the community — a timeless classic featuring professional ballet dancers and dance students from St. Augustine and surrounding areas. This holiday favorite will be staged December 18-19, 2021 in Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, 14 Granada St., downtown St. Augustine. Tickets are available at saintaugustineballet.org (continued on page 8)

Sebastian Segui Books, PJs, and Backpacks Project

By Mimi Cooper

The Sebastian Segui Books, PJs, and Backpacks Project got its start with a very simple gesture by a very sweet little boy named Sebastian Segui, who is Marci Segui's son. Marci is a member of Altrusa International of St. Augustine.

At the time, Sebastian was 6 years old, and he and his mom were talking about different ways to help out their local community. First Sebastian and his cousin, Ian Segui, held a lemonade stand and donated the money to the St. Johns County Homeless Coalition. Then, Sebastian came up with the idea to give presents to the children at the Coalition. Marci told Altrusa about what Sebastian wanted to do for the children. Altrusa thought it was a great idea to give presents for the children's birthday — especially since part of the gift was books and improving literacy is one of Altrusa's main projects. When Marci and Sebastian delivered the presents for the first time and found out that the children loved their gifts, Sebastian wanted to give more gifts. Sebastian enjoyed shopping for the PJs and filling the birthday bags for the children.



Caption: Zachary Segui
Delivering the Birthday
Backpacks and Books

Altrusa has kept Sebastian's simple and kind gesture going and now this is one of the main projects of the club that brings joy to the children of the Coalition. When the project first started, the gifts contained a brand new pair of PJs and a book in a birthday bag. Today, each child receives (continued on page 6)

Chamber Ambassadors Latest Community Outreach

Recently 2 dynamic local community groups worked together towards a better Community. One is a locally based non-profit begun by Aubrie Simpson-Gotham called 'Fostering Connections'. The other is the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. The Ambassadors are the volunteer arm of the Chamber. Its members often serve as the public face of the Chamber at community events such as ribbon-cuttings, Chamber events and networking groups. Each year at least four local Chamber non-profits are targeted for help by the Ambassadors. The most recent beneficiary is Fostering Connections. Mrs. Simpson-Gotham conceived of this outfit when she was training in the education field. She quickly noticed that those in the foster care system often required additional materials and attention to function at their best. With that in mind she eventually founded her group to try and create a place where those in the foster system could find a central place for services they need and physical goods that benefit those needing care. Currently she has expanded her reach to several North Florida counties.

To help Fostering Connections the Ambassadors gathered items ranging from gift cards and money to diapers and kitchen essentials including foods. To find out how you can help Fostering Connections go to: www.fosteringconnectionsstjohns.org. To find out more about the Ambassadors contact Lauren Clark with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce at 904-829-5681.



Chamber Ambassadors & Fostering Connections Members

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Happy Thanksgiving
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St. Augustine Observer

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The purpose of the St. Augustine Observer is to serve residents of St. Augustine area Communities.

First priority will be given to reporting news and activities of the residents of the St. Augustine local communities, and other news and events that directly affects the St. Augustine area. Second priority will be given to articles of general interest as space permits.

Information should be received by the 15th of the month in order to appear in the following
"Follow us on Instagram and Facebook: @staugustineobserver"

month's issue. Articles or information may be sent to the St. Augustine Observer, 1965 A1A South #120, St. Augustine Florida 32080-6509. Information may also be e-mailed to clifflogsdon@att.net.

All materials submitted to the Observer is subject to editing. Publishing of submitted letters and information is at the discretion of the publisher. Views and opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not express the viewpoint of the publisher or editorial staff of the Observer.

Information, articles and other materials published are believed to be accurate at time of publishing. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement or approval of any product or services by the Observer or its staff. It is agreed that the Observer and its staff will not be held liable for information provided herein by submitters/advertisers, including pictures, graphics, websites, dates, times and/or emails listed, that may have the potential to constitute fraud or other violation of law including copywriting infringements. The publisher reserves the right to refuse materials that does not meet the publication's standards.

St. Augustine Shores Community Calendar

The Shores Service Corporation
Shores Homeowners Association
(904) 794-2000
www.staugshores.org

Shores Monthly Meetings

- **Shores Service Corporation** monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Virtual Meetings are at 6 p.m. at the Riverview Club due to the COVID-19 virus until further notice.
- **Conquistador Condominium** Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6

p.m. at the Riverview Club.
• **Fairview Condominium** Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 4 p.m. at the Fairview Condo club house.

• **Greens Condominium** Board meetings will vary. Contact Jeff Edwards at Sovereign-Jacobs at 904-461-5556.

• **Casa Bella Condominium** 2020 Board Meetings: March 16th- 6pm (Annual Meeting), April 20th- 6pm, May 4th- 6pm, June 15th- 6pm, July 20th- 6pm, August 17th- 6pm, September 21st- 6pm, October 19th- 6pm, November 9th- 6pm, December 21st- 6pm. For Information contact Ellen Lumpkin at 904-461-5556.

St. Augustine South Community Calendar

St. Augustine South Improvement Assoc.
709 Royal Rd. St Augustine, 32086
email: staugsouthimpassoc@gmail.com
www.staugsouth.com
(904) 794-5129

SASIA Meeting 3rd wed at 7:00 PM

Please join us and bring your ideas on how to improve our wonderful neighborhood! Connect with us on our Facebook.com and NextDoor.com pages: St. Augustine South Improvement Association.

Residents interested in joining SASIA please see for application below:
<https://www.joinit.org/o/st-augustine-south-improvement-association>

Monthly Meetings at Clubhouse

Yoga - Join Registered Yoga Teacher Emily Flagler for Gentle Flow Yoga on Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30! Just bring your yoga mat, towel, and water. Try your first class for free!

Tai Chi - Join Instructor Katie Monaghan for a donation based Tai Chi class on Tuesday's at 6:00PM. For more information please contact Katie at (904) 377-3390 or email at KatieMonahanTaiChi@gmail.com

SASIA Board Members

- President - Alan Chappell
- 1st V.P. - Robert Kennedy
- 2nd V.P. - Josh Silcox
- Secretary - Kate Anreise
- Treasurer - Jerri Sue Dawson
- Board Member - Ruth Hope
- Board Member - Cindy Zimmerman
- Board Member - Nicolette Soucy

Community Classifieds

The Observer offers free community classified listings for USPS selected addresses in Southern St. Johns County and paid subscriptions. Classified ads will not be printed without a name, address and phone number included with the request. 5 items or less should be sent. Free ads are not for Business or Personal Service ads. Placement is not Guaranteed.

Business, Service, seeking work, etc. may be placed in the classified section: (1-4 lines) \$5, (5-8 lines) \$10, (9-12 lines) \$15, (13-16 lines) \$20. These Ads should be paid in advance before placed. Send your listing and payment, if required, to Observer, 1965 A1A South #120, St. Augustine, 32080-6509. You may email your ad to clifflogsdon@att.net. Deadline for all listings or ads is the 15th of every month for the next monthly issue.

FOR SALE: Portable Gas Generator. 5KW new and never used. Comes with vinyl cover and operators handbook. \$400. Call 904-679-4832.

FOR SALE: (1) Massage Table with accessories \$85 (2) Smith Torch with gage and hose \$75 (3) Mini Fitness Trampoline \$25 (4) Short Ladies Mercury Wetsuit size S-M \$30 (5) Pool Ladder \$15. (6) 30 x 80 wood Bi-Fold door white \$25. Call 860-514-1325.

FOR SALE: Brand new heavy duty Invacare electric hospital bed includes mattress & trapeze bar/handles used only 3x for after back surgery \$450. (new is \$1500+) Call 904 377-3270.

FOR SALE: Translator - Rollator and Transport Chair 2 in 1 By DRIVE. \$150. Purchased from Ward Medical for \$295 on 7/16/21 Used only 3 times. Use as walker with seat then can use with footrests that swing to front as a transport chair. Weight Capacity: 300 lbs. Call: 904-501-4126.

FOR SALE: (1) Two Botanicals by Artist John Hill Botanical III & IV. Plates# 3 & #25. \$300. (2) Thompson Crowe print #232 signed & dated 2 black Labs in the water. \$300. (3) ART DECO- Star/Sun burst ceiling lamp shade Chandelier No flaws \$500. (4) ART DECO- table lamp DAV-ART Cherub on base with glass shade. \$500. (5) mid-century marked ROSEVILLE USA 15 1/2" tall VASE.

Art Pottery CLEMATIS flowers. Arts & Crafts mission style. Earthy colors \$400. Call or text 513-288-7789.

FOR SALE: Antique, handmade, wool carpet, vegetable dried, tribal carpet \$100. Call 904-417-3210.

STREET YARD SALE: November 13, 2021, Saturday from 9:00 am - Noon. Household Items, Christmas items, Home decor, Blankets, Sm TV, Disney prints. Address - Escalante Court, in the Shores. If questions call 904/484-7200.

WANTED: Old Radios that have Tubes, even broken radios with tubes, 1970-1940. Please text or leave a message with a phone number for Markus in The Shores. Please Call 571-243-2604.

WANTED: Riding lawnmower less than 5 years old in good condition. Quality brand, fair price. Call Shores resident Rev. Larry DuBose @ 412-215-9541.

WANTED: Female seeks walking partner in the Shores. Please call 904-687-3362.

WANTED: Silver Coins, Gold and Jewelry at great prices. Call Mike at 904-501-1449.

WANTED: I buy old record collections. I am not a re-seller but a serious listener. Your records will go to a good home. Call John 904-325-9802.

FREE: 2 Kittens needs a home. Please call 470-577-4452.

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St. Augustine Shores & South News & Events



Shores Communications Corner
News & Information from the
Shores Service Corp.

Shores Riverview Club Activities

OCTOBER DANCES: RSVP required: Call 904.794.2000 or www.staugshores.org/dance-rsvp.

Guests: \$15.00/pp. Dance Club Members: Free ****BYOB****



Early Social
Bold City Classics
Sunday, Nov 7th
6 pm to 9 pm



Main Social
Traces of Gold
Sunday, Nov. 21st
6 pm to 9 pm

FREE for Activity Members, guests are \$5.00/pp/class (unless specified).

- Tai-Chi** Class led by Robin, Tuesday at 5:30 pm. Learn the principles of Tai Chi and help your overall health and well-being!
- Barre Workout** Class led by Mary, Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. Classic Barre is a dance-based fitness class designed to sculpt, stretch, and strengthen. Class size is limited.
- Line Dancing** Class led by Jinny, Monday at 6:30 pm and Wednesday at 10:00 am.
- Chair Yoga** Class led by Nancy, Mon, Wed & Fri at 10:45 am. A gentler form of yoga for those whom balance is an issue.
- Yoga** Class led by Nancy, Mon, Wed & Fri at 9:00 am.
- Exercise Class** Class by Marcia Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 am.
- Evening Yoga** Class led by Annamarie, Wednesday at 5:30 pm.
- Art Group** Wednesday (November 3, 10, 17) at 1:30-4 pm.

Upcoming Events at the Riverview Club

Christmas Social: Frank Saffi
Friday, December 17th - 7 pm to 10 pm

New Year's Social: Nostalgia
Thursday, December 30th - 7 pm to 10 pm

Temple Bet Yam of St. Augustine presents SUNDAY AT THE MOVIES!

On Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 1200 noon for the National Geographic film, JERUSALEM, is showing at the IMAX Theater in World Golf Village, St Augustine, FL. This wonderful experience takes you on a journey to one of the world's most beloved and beautiful cities. Three teenagers, a Jew, a Christian, and a Muslim, who all live in Jerusalem, will take you through the city and share where they go and how the city is important to them. An archaeologist from the University of North Carolina accompanies them and helps explain the finds and secrets which explain the Jerusalem's past.

The Washington Post described the panoramic photography as "at once awe-inspiring and intimate" and said watching the film "may be as close as a person can get to praying at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and the Western Wall, without actually going there."

We hope you will join us at the 275 seat IMAX Theater where social distancing is easy. For the \$15.00 admission, you can enjoy popcorn and a beverage while you watch the movie. To register for this event, let us know who you are, address and phone number, how many of you will be joining us, and the total amount enclosed. Please make checks payable to Temple Bet Yam, indicating IMAX in the memo, and send it to Temple Bet Yam, P.O. Box 860098, St. Augustine FL 32086. Registration deadline is November 18th. Questions? Contact Carol Levy at (954)895-7332.



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Lest We Forget

It is finally November, a very special time for many people as they look forward to the Holiday season and associated festivities. For others, November is also a very special month but for a very different reason.

At 11 am on the 11th of November 1918 the Armistice was signed in a railway carriage in a forest near Paris, bringing to an end the carnage of World War 1, The Great War, "the war to end all wars". Armistice Day became a day of commemoration and reflection in many of the nations that had suffered such terrible losses during the conflict. Over time, Armistice Day evolved and became established as Veterans Day in the U.S.A. while many of the other allied countries chose to commemorate the day as Remembrance Day. The red field poppy was selected as the symbol of remembrance, a flower that grew in profusion on the broken ground of "No Man's Land" between the shell holes and around the barbed wire. As time passed (and wars did not end), Remembrance Day came to encompass all those who were lost or wounded in body or soul during the many wars and conflicts that continued to send our young people off to fight.

To this day, the people of many nations still wear a stylized poppy at this time of the year as a mark of respect for all those who, without hesitation, chose duty and sacrifice before all else. There is a short verse that is always a part of the Service of Remembrance:

"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them."

On November 11th, please take a minute to think of those people of all nations who sacrificed themselves for those beliefs that they held dear – Lest We Forget.

It is with sadness that we must report the passing of Ron Carey. A Marine, Firefighter and St. Augustine Shores Corporation Board member, Ron fully embraced the ideal of service to others. He will be greatly missed by the whole community.

St. Augustine Shores Service Corp.
790 Christina Drive | St. Augustine, FL 32086
904-797-6441 | www.staugshores.org

SASIA News and Calendar of Events

by Ruth Hope, SASIA Board

All SASIA Events take place at the Clubhouse, 709 Royal Rd unless otherwise stated.

SASIA General Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month, at 7pm in the Clubhouse 709, Royal Rd. Most meetings have outside speakers on topics of interest to St Augustine South residents. All neighbors are encouraged to attend.

Children's "petting zoo": postponed from the end of September because the mother of owner of the animals was taken seriously ill back in his country of origin. We now hope that the local small holder will bring a variety of small farm animals and fowls for children to see, learn about, and in some cases stroke. One Saturday in November – watch out for the date on social media! Free range eggs will be on sale.

Fall Plant & Seed Swap: Saturday November 6 in the picnic pavilion 709 Royal Rd 11am to 1pm. Usual format: bring plants – they do not need to be fancy planted in pots: plastic bags work just fine for plants that have to be replanted in the ground. For seeds: put them in envelopes or snack bags, but please label them with the name of the plant. Showing photographs of the plants in your garden helps neighbors know what you are offering. Please bring Florida native and friendly plants, and avoid bringing invasives

SASIA Arts & Crafts Fair: Saturday November 13, at the Clubhouse 709 Royal Rd 10am to 2pm. Browse the village square set up of artists' and crafters' stalls by the picnic pavilion 10am to 2pm. A great opportunity to find unique and beautiful holiday gifts while supporting the local economy!!! Bypass the supply chain problems of the big box stores and online merchandizers. BBQ and beverages sales, too. (see page 5)

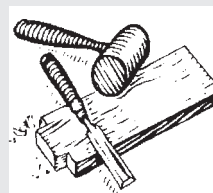
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Shores References Available

Top Lions Clubs International Executive to Speak at the 75th Anniversary of the St. Augustine Lions Club

On November 13, 2021, Dr. Patti Hill, 2nd Vice President of Lions Clubs International will be the keynote speaker at the 75th Anniversary Celebration Dinner of the St. Augustine Lions Club being held at the World Golf Village Renaissance St. Augustine.



The St. Augustine Lions Club is known for its annual Seafood Festival which generates funds for the Club to provide financial support and assistance to non-profit organizations and people in need within St. Augustine, St. Johns County, as well as Lion organizations around the state, nation, and world.

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world. More than 1.4 million members in over 48,000 clubs are serving in 200 countries and geographic areas around the globe. Since 1917, Lions have strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects, and we extend our service impact through the generous support of our Lions Clubs International

Foundation. We are focused on supporting vision, the environment, childhood cancer, hunger, diabetes, and other pressing humanitarian needs to help address some of the biggest challenges facing humanity. For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit lionsclubs.org.

Dr. Hill will be holding a press conference at 5:30 pm on November 13th at the Renaissance. We rely on members of the media and our Lions to help share our life-changing stories and inspire our communities to put their kindness in action. Media members who plan to attend are encouraged to notify Jerry Skufe at jskufe@comcast.net.



St. Augustine South Reflections

by Ruth Hope, SASIA

We last left the history of St Augustine South with the building of the Community Clubhouse and grounds at 709 Royal Rd and reflected on the lasting benefit from the generosity of the early residents who funded the construction in cash and kind. Just this October we held our Fall Festival in the grounds, enjoying live music from Dr Eric Searcy and the Driftwoods as well as a cookout and activities for our younger neighbors. One might think that the 60 intervening years might have been idyllic, but like many neighborhoods, St Augustine South has had its ups and downs – very many happy community events, the issues mostly minor, some challenges from the weather, and some disappointing disagreements.



House on corner of Shore Dr and Neptune Rd, built in 1964 by Henry Mueller up for resale 1969

The County Commissioners regularly came to talk to SASIA general meetings, which in the old days were often accompanied by a potluck supper. “Hatches, matches and dispatches” were recorded in the columns of the St Augustine Record, and quite a few other happenings were newsworthy. Lots continued to be cleared and homes built; some houses came back on the market as resales. In April 1968 SASIA approved the purchase of additional lots adjacent to the clubhouse that brought the SASIA holding to 10 lots. One sign of the times, they also approved purchase of burglar bars for the clubhouse windows.

Early morning, Saturday October 19, 1968, Hurricane Gladys still packed plenty of punch when she arrived in St Augustine before moving out over the Atlantic. The eye of the storm passed over just after 7am, the calm lasting for nearly two hours. The windspeeds were 65 miles per hour, and some trees were uprooted: there was a report of a tornado passing through St Augustine South. Mrs. L H Stevens, who lived on Shore Drive, had previously lived in Missouri and recognized the sound like a rumbling train as that of a twister. A hand-written note in the SASIA archive states “St Augustine South lost many of its lovely trees.” Local Artist Hugo Ohlms who painted the murals in the Cathedral Basilica, and a mural in the County Courthouse lobby, appeared before the County Commissioners with another drawing in December 1968. The drawing was of the “shanty town” – boat houses and docks placed on County parkland on Shore Drive. Ever thrifty St Augustine South residents had made the structures of “driftwood and scrap lumber”, and no one wanted to spend money on maintaining them. Ohlms considered the structures on County land as illegal – a view shared by the County Attorney, who guided the Board of Commissioners on establishing zoning requirements for County parkland. The contentious issue was the ownership of the marshland adjacent to the Shore Drive Waterfront Park which some residents said was privately owned “it is not,” the Commissioners said.

In January 1969, a barge carrying “six million dollars’ worth components for a nuclear power generating station being built south of Miami, ran aground in the Intracoastal Waterway off St Augustine South. That early excitement was followed by a year with home break-ins – one home on Shore Drive put its loss at over \$1,400 [about \$10,465 in today’s values]. By December of 1969, increased prices on the year’s Christmas tree crop sent some onto private property seeking a bough for decorating and one “thoughtless individual” chopped down a Southern Cedar tree that had been planted 9 or 10 years previously in front of the SASIA clubhouse. SASIA was not wishing seasonal glad tidings on the miscreant.

SASIA News and Calendar of Events

(continued from page 4)

SASIA Holiday Event: Change of Date December 11. Santa’s arrival and Holiday tree lighting, hot apple cider from 5pm to 6-30pm; Live music, mulled wine and adult social from 7pm. SASIA Clubhouse 79 Royal Rd.

Clubhouse Rentals: The SASIA Clubhouse at 709 Royal Road is available for private hire. Call Theresa on (904) 794-5129 to make your booking.

SASIA needs new members to join the Board for 2022, and volunteers to help with publicity, fundraising and community events. SASIA is a voluntary community association that aims to increase the quality of life for everyone living in “The South”. It is not a home owners’ association, SASIA doesn’t set or enforce rules and regulations, but works to share information about issues and events important to the Community. Everyone in ‘The South’— owners and renters – is welcome, and those living in nearby neighborhoods are most welcome at our social events.

Connect with us on our www.Facebook.com and our www.NextDoor.com pages: St Augustine South Improvement Association.

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News From Around St. Johns County

St. Augustine Travel Club

St. Augustine Travel Club Cruise

The St. Augustine Travel Club will again be sailing the seas – well, not right now but planning - on Saturday, March 26 –April 2, 2022 on the beautiful Norwegian Escape out of Port Canaveral to the Eastern Caribbean ports of Puerto Plata (Dominican Republic), Tortola (British Virgin Islands), St. Thomas and Norwegian's private island Great Stirrup Cay in the Bahamas for a 7-day cruise. Prices start from \$1059.39 per person, double occupancy, for inside cabin, inclusive of all port fees and taxes. Balconies, Oceanviews and Studio Singles are also available at additional cost. Book now with a \$250 p.p. deposit and receive \$100 per stateroom On Board Credit, Free Beverage Package and more. Should NCL have to cancel the cruise, full refund would be issued by NCL. Call Peter, St. Augustine Travel Club at (904) 797-3736.

St. Augustine Travel Club Meetings - Postponed until sometime 2022

The Southeast Branch Public Library has been evaluating on a month by month basis as to when the best time to resume activities that utilize the conference rooms. We will not resume the Travel Club this year, 2021. We will reassess the situation and advise what our schedule for 2022 will be. We are being cautious for the safety and well-being of our audience. We will update you by email. For those of you who do not know about the club, it is formatted as an armchair travel presentation with a brief lecture and a video highlighting areas around the world, with focus mostly on Europe. Also, some of our participants have provided a presentation based on their own travel experiences. Look for future presentations in upcoming local papers like the Shores Observer and the Palencia and Beaches papers, as well as the library website and their monthly printed program available in the lobby. We also organize a cruise in the Caribbean region once a year.

2021 St. Augustine Walk to Defeat ALS®

We are once again able to bring those affected by ALS together to defeat this devastating disease. On Saturday, November 6, The ALS Association Florida Chapter is inviting the entire St. Augustine community to participate in our annual Walk to Defeat ALS®. Last year, the ALS community did not join hands in the fight, but instead hosted individual walks. This year, we'll safely meet at *Ripley's Believe It or Not!* to gather support to defeat ALS together.

WHAT: Everyone will be able to unite safely and social distance while walking a couple of laps around St. Augustine.

To participate, register a team by contacting Michelle Decker at mdecker@alsaf1.org or 888.257.1717 x130. Or visit <https://www.als.org/florida>

WHEN: Saturday, November 6, 2021

8:00 AM– Walk Registration Begins, 9:00 AM - Walk Begins

WHERE: Ripley's Believe It or Not!

19 San Marco Ave | St. Augustine, FL 32084

WHY: The ALS community in Florida needs help now more than ever to fund research that leads to breakthroughs in treatments and an eventual cure for this fatal disease. Participation in the St. Augustine Walk to Defeat ALS® goes towards local care services, resources and more as The ALS Association Florida Chapter continually serves those living with ALS in Florida.

About ALS: ALS Progressively paralyzes its victims, attacking nerve cells and pathways in the brain or spinal cord, stripping away their ability to walk, talk and eventually breathe. With no known cause or cure, we are rallying statewide support to change that and offering a great experience in return.

About The ALS Association Florida Chapter: Since 1987, The ALS Association Florida Chapter has been "covering all the bases for people living with ALS in Florida." We provide patient programs, advocate on behalf of patients with our government leaders, create awareness of the disease, and fund research. In addition, the organization provides financial support to our statewide multidisciplinary ALS clinics and research facilities, enabling them to increase patient care. For more information, visit us on our website at www.als.org/florida or on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram @ALSFlorida.



Garden Club of St. Augustine

The Garden Club of St. Augustine has two upcoming events over the holidays.

Garden Club of St. Augustine's Fall Arts and Crafts Festival. Sunday, November 14

The Garden Club, 3440 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine FL 32086 - 10am to 4pm Gifts galore! Members' beautifully handcrafted wreaths and ornaments, centerpieces, live floral pumpkin arrangements, aprons, jewelry, scarves, quilted and crocheted items, themed gift baskets, homemade baked items, candies and marmalade, trays, cork creations, kitchen and home decor, seashell frames, embroidered pillows and more. Proceeds assist with college scholarships, Camp Wekiva, educator stipends for school gardens, children's summer programs on pollinators at St. Johns County libraries, community gardening outreach and environmental programs, etc. FREE admission. Please wear masks.

Garden Club of St. Augustine's Christmas Arts and Crafts Festival. Sunday, December 12

The Garden Club, 3440 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine FL 32086 - 10am to 4pm. Holiday shopping! Live wreaths, garland, and swags, member-designed live floral arrangements, tree ornaments, handcrafted animals, quilted & crocheted gifts, themed gift baskets, cork creations, Christmas wreaths and decorations, seashell frames, embroidered pillows, jewelry, scarves, kitchen & home decor, baked items, marmalade, candies, and more. Funds go towards college and Camp Wekiva scholarships, teacher stipends for school gardens, children's summer pollinator programs at St. Johns County libraries, community gardening, design and environmental programs, FREE admission. Please wear masks. If you have any questions or more information, please contact 904-794-5274 or swain.ellen@comcast.net.

Sebastian Segui Books, PJs, and Backpacks Project

(continued from page 1)

a backpack filled with PJs, books, a blanket, and a birthday card. In May 2020, Altrusans named the project the Sebastian Segui Backpack and PJs Project. Sebastian has since graduated from high school, but he still helps in shopping for gifts for the children. Marci's nephew, Zachary Segui, now helps Marci deliver the backpacks each month to the children. The employees of the Coalition share with Marci how much the children enjoy receiving their gifts, and they really do make a difference in their lives. This warms her heart knowing that Altrusa is making these children feel special on their birthday. It does show that a little kindness does go a long way.

The funds to support this program as well as other service projects of the Altrusans come from member contributions and fundraisers. For more information about Altrusa in St. Augustine, visit our website www.Altrusastaugustine.org or contact us at altrusastaugustinepres@gmail.com.

GriefShare, Continues at Crescent Beach Baptist Church

GriefShare, a place to find healing for men and women seeking answers to difficult circumstances after the death of a loved one. A journey from mourning to joy.

August 18, 2021-November 10, 2021

Wednesdays, 6pm-730pm

Crescent Beach Baptist Church, St. Augustine, FL 32086

Contact, Melanie 904-759-1054 or rscogn@gmail.com or GriefShare.org under Find a group to register. You are welcome to join anytime during the 13 week period.

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The Wildflower Meadow Group

by Cindy Taylor



Rattlebox



Swamp Sunflower



Spider Lillies

The wildflower “star” of the month is more than a little obvious. As I write this early in October, it’s the rattlebox. Since the inception of the meadow almost twenty years ago, there have always been a few in the meadow but never as many as this year. Last month I wrote about yearly differences in what nature does and the abundance of the showy rattlebox this fall is more proof of that.

The swamp sunflower we planted in the lower meadow last spring, thanks to Pat’s donation, is blooming and, each time I go over to look, there are more and they’re taller. The Elliott love grass and muhly grass are putting on a show now too with their florescence, or flowering.

Nature decides when and what grows and blooms in a wildflower meadow and knows better than we what the right balance is, given the conditions.

As of early October there are still some horse mint, goldenrod, wood sage, and rosin weed but they’re going to seed so they’ll be more next year. In addition to the swamp sunflowers, rattlebox, and Elliot love grass, there are golden aster, blazing star, horseweed, blue curl, Spanish needle, a few spiderwort, spider lily, and the ever blooming honeysuckle vine and fire bush. We also see hints of what’s coming: flat topped goldenrod and bushy aster, among others. So you see? There’s the past, present, and future, not just one.

A special thanks to Marlene, Janet, and Pat for their photos.

Late in September we walked in Hewitt Mill Park and in November we’ll have our annual picnic in Faver Dykes Park.

We meet at the meadow near the Riverview clubhouse at about 8:30 the first Saturday of each month and usually work for a couple of hours. We also try to have a hike once a month. We’re an informal group without officers or dues and hope you will join us. You can join us for hikes only, work in the meadow only, or both.

Call Cindy at 904-797-3931 or Marlene at 305-968-0447 for more information. If we can’t answer leave a voicemail or message and we’ll call you back. And feel free to call if you’re interested in sharing your photos of the meadow.

Melissa McCall Owens
REALTOR

St. Augustine Shores, 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Block Home on large Cul De Sac Lot. Open Floor Plan with lots of light. New Patio Doors to side and rear Patios. Back yard is expansive and includes a shed.. New Roof 2021, plumbing repiped in 2020, New AC 2017. Enjoy quick trip to the Beach, shopping and shopping. St. Augustine Shores Golf Course & Riverview Club part of The Shores Community.

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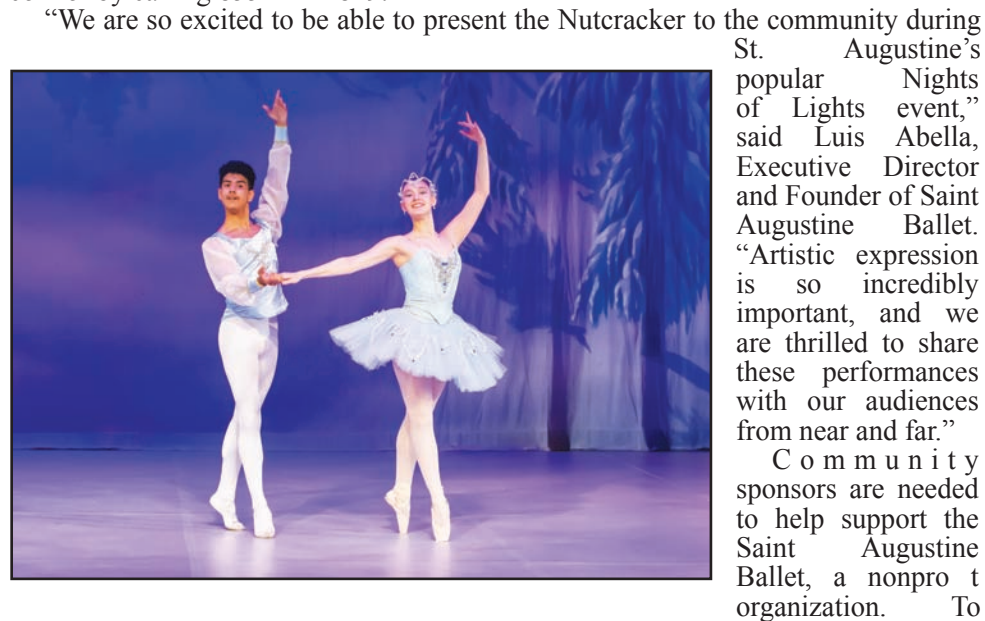
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2021 Nutcracker

(continued from page 1)

Show times are 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, December 18; and 2 p.m. Sunday, December 19, 2021. Tickets are \$35, \$45 to \$50, available at saintaugustineballet.com or by calling 855-222-2849.



“We are so excited to be able to present the Nutcracker to the community during St. Augustine’s popular Nights of Lights event,” said Luis Abella, Executive Director and Founder of Saint Augustine Ballet. “Artistic expression is so incredibly important, and we are thrilled to share these performances with our audiences from near and far.” Community sponsors are needed to help support the Saint Augustine Ballet, a nonpro t organization. To

become a sponsor of the Nutcracker and the spring show, please contact Meghan Deputy at MeghanDeputy@sjrstate.edu or call 386-538-0464.

Saint Augustine Ballet offers performance opportunities to dancers from St. Augustine, St. Johns County and the surrounding area. The Saint Augustine Ballet is a nonpro t performing arts organization founded in 2010. For more details, go to saintaugustineballet.com

IF YOU GO to the The Saint Augustine Nutcracker Ballet!

WHEN: 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, December 18; and 2 p.m. Sunday, December 19, 2021 WHERE: Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, 14 Granada St., downtown St. Augustine. TICKETS: \$35, \$40 and \$50 per seat

RESERVATIONS: saintaugustineballet.com or by calling 855-222-2849

Christmas Market Local Crafters and Bake Sale

The Shores United Methodist Women is hosting their annual Christmas Market on Saturday, November 13th from 8 a.m. to noon. Bring your Christmas Shopping List for remarkable low prices for handcrafted items! There will be Christmas aprons, fine handmade products of knitting and crochet items as well as other handmade Christmas decorations by local crafters. Visit the Bakery Shop for Georgia pecans and a variety



of delicious homemade baked goods and treats. For all those attending, Christmas Raffle tickets can be purchased for a chance to win a range of fantastic prizes! Prizes include Restaurant Gift Certificates, Handmade Baby Items, a Beautiful Quilt, Handcrafted Greeting Cards and much more!

The Christmas Market will be held in the Christian Education Building on the church’s campus. There is plenty of free and accessible parking. Proceeds from

the UMW sale benefit local community charities. Shores United Methodist Church is located at 724 Shores Blvd, between the golf course and Hartley Elementary. For More information call 797-4416 or visit www.shoresumc.org.

Elks Care, Elks Share

by Tatiana Diaz

St. Augustine’s Elks Lodge #829 donated \$2,000 to Wildflower Healthcare along with \$800 worth of donated goods. The Wildflower Healthcare clinic has been serving St. Augustine’s residents since 1995. Helping uninsured and under-insured residents with medical and dental services, the clinic is a long-standing staple in the community. For more information on the Elks Lodge #829, visit www.elks.org. To find ways to help Wildflower Healthcare or for more information, visit www.wildflowerhealthcare.org.



Caption: Elks Lodge #829 members presenting Wildflower Healthcare members with donation check and goods on Oct. 4, 2021.

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Riverwood Women's Club Raises Funds for Alpha-Omega Miracle Home

by Tatania Diaz

In September 2021, the Riverwood Women's Club of Del Webb Ponte Vedra in Nocatee raised \$10,800 for Alpha-Omega Miracle Home in St. Augustine during their sixth Pick-a-Prize raffle.

The mega-size check was presented to AOMH in October. AOMH is a non-profit organization in St. Johns County providing housing and support to women in all stages of life, from single and expectant mothers to senior women. For more information on how to get involved with AOMH, visit www.aomh.org.



Caption: RWC representatives present AOMH members with a \$10,800 check on Oct. 1, 2021.



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Each real estate brokerage has different operating business models and yet all need to meet their legal obligations as prescribed by DBPR - the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Let's look at some various practices:

1. Charging "TRANSACTION FEES" - brokers are allowed to charge them and they vary from \$150 to \$495. Brokers are also supposed to inform consumers what additional services are provided for the extra fees (over and above ordinary RE services). I would simply refuse to pay them unless the broker provides a written explanation!

2. Asking Buyers to pay fees that are ordinarily paid by Sellers. For example: TITLE INSURANCE - historically, Sellers will pay for a title search to prove that they are the rightful owners of the property and the title insurance policy costs to cover the purchase price. Buyers typically pay a nominal fee (about \$150) for what they call a "duplicate" or "simultaneous" (sometimes referred to as the mortgage policy) for insurance provided to the lender for the mortgage amount. Some brokers ask the buyers to pay for the Sellers policy which can incur a significant and unnecessary

expense. DON'T DO THAT! Some Brokers even have an ownership interest in the title companies that they recommend you use and pay for and that fact should be disclosed (unethical practice in my sole opinion).

3. ONE STOP SHOPS - Brokers who provide "One-Stops" where they handle title insurance, mortgages, surveying, inspections and repairs and more. If a Brokerage has an ownership interest in any of these it could become a conflict of interest and it should be disclosed! All Brokers can provide you with names of highly reputable and efficient service providers but, when the Broker is a part owner in any of these businesses, they need to tell you. At least that provides informed consent!

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"Diaries of a Shores Grand-Dad"

by Dirk Schroeder

There are so many incredibly nice neighborhoods on the South side of town (where The St. Augustine Observer is delivered). The two largest, St. Aug. South and St. Aug. Shores, have so many great attributes. St. Augustine South has a phenomenal Oak canopy throughout, two boat ramps, a clubhouse at 709 Royal Road and a number of small parks within the community. With no HOA fees or deed restrictions, owners are (within guidelines) allowed to park boats and RV's on their property. Almost all homes are on County water and have a septic tank (or two) and drainfield. The best attribute in my opinion is that, even though the subdivision spans about 2 miles of Intracoastal Waterfront, that waterfront is undeveloped - creating a massive waterfront park unparalleled in our County.

St. Augustine Shores has about 3/4 of a mile of developed waterfront with Intracoastal access along Alcalá Drive and the stretch between the South end of Alcalá and the South end of the Conquistador condos is about another 3/4 mile of waterfront. It is in this stretch where some of the great assets of The Shores are located - Canopy Shores Park (a 32 Acre Nature Preserve with paved trail, parcours stations and a playground and there's the Fishing Pier, the Riverview Club and its near Olympic-sized pool, the Pavilion, playground, horseshoe pit and volleyball court. South of the Conquistador there is almost a mile of marshfront property yet to be developed that extends to the very North end of the Water Management Lands - the Moses Creek Preserve. Unlike St. Aug. South, "The Shores" community is an HOA and is deed restricted. Monthly dues are at \$30.90. Other amenities include an RV and Boat storage yard, baseball field, tennis/pickleball courts, all in-ground utilities, miles of sidewalks (for an excellent "walkability score") and many beautiful lakes throughout the community. There are homes,

condos and apartments within the subdivision and even churches and commercial property and of course W.D. Hartley Elementary School.

Some people like St. Aug. South for its uncomplicated lifestyle while others prefer The Shores for the amenities and the deed restrictions where, for example, no boats, RV's or commercial vehicles may be parked on any residential lot. Since I live in The Shores, I have however heard some complaints about some errant violations of the above concept. Most property owners assume that their property line goes all the way out to the street but it does not. In The South, most of the lots stop within about 15 feet of the edge of your road pavement. You may maintain that but it belongs to the County. In The Shores, your property line stops on the house-side of the sidewalks. The sidewalks and the swales are also owned by the County but maintained by the HOA. Technically, the HOA does not have jurisdiction over the right of way and their enforcement powers are limited in this St. Johns County right-of-way. The Shores is also a self-policing HOA so the HOA is not proactively seeking out violators; neighbors who know of deed restrictions violations would report them to the St. Aug. Shores Service Corporation for enforcement and that's the process (in case you did not know).

If you want to know more about either of these neighborhoods, you can go to staugsouth.com and staugshores.org. If you want to know more about all of the other awesome subdivisions on the South end of town (many of which have large lots of at least 1/2 Acre and up) - I invite you to stop by our Century 21 office at 2820 US 1 South and pick up a copy of Estate Life magazine.

I hope everyone had a safe Halloween and I will have a special Thanksgiving edition of The Diaries for you next month. Until then, I wish you all, as always, a Sunshine State of Mind.

Garden Club of St. Augustine's Fall Arts and Crafts Festival

by Tatiana Diaz

The Garden Club of St. Augustine is kicking off the holiday season with back-to-back festivals. Up first is the Fall Arts and Crafts Festival which will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 14 at The Garden Club, located at 3440 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine, FL 32086.

GCSA members have created an assortment of household decor and handmade items to sell during the festivals like wreaths, floral arrangements, soaps and candles, jewelry, and much more. The second festival, slated for December 12, will also feature indoor and outdoor Christmas decorations. Admission to the festivals is free. Masks are requested.

Proceeds from the Fall and Christmas Arts and Crafts Festivals help the GCSA with their community outreach efforts across St. Augustine like college scholarships, children's summer programs, community gardens, and more.

For more information on the Fall and Christmas Arts and Crafts festivals or the GCSA, visit www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org or call (904) 686-9320.



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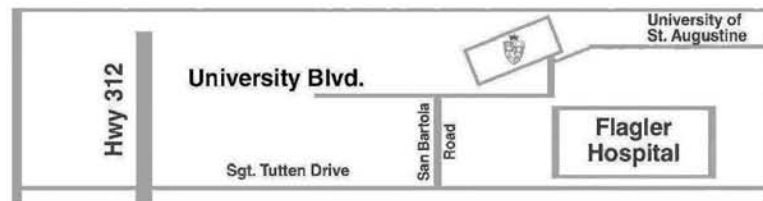
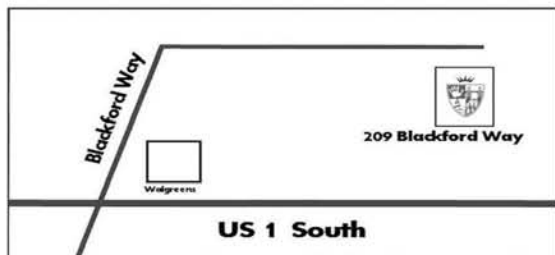


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What have you Mastered?

By Rob Stanborough
PT, DPT, MHSc, MTC, CMTPT, FAAOMPT
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Webster defines becoming a master as “a person with exceptional skill at a certain thing “or mastering as “becoming proficient in the use of something”. We are all master’s of compensation - meaning we all have great proficiency in making small, subtle changes in the way we move enabling us to master any and all tasks at hand.

Sometimes compensating or adapting movement is a good thing. All top athletes are able to make small changes in their movements or reactions to meet the needs of each play. But all too often compensations are counter-productive and can even have negative, dysfunctional side effects. Multiple compensations can turn into accumulated dysfunction.

How and why do we compensate? We compensate because we are living and we have an ever changing body. Along with everything else we learned in Kindergarten, we learned to compensate. We were told to sit and be still. Our bodies are made to move yet many of us become less and less mobile through the years and even more since covid. We sit at computers, in front of TV’s, at events, in cars and the list goes on. Our pelvis supports us as gravity pushes the trunk and head forward into a varying degree of a slump. The compensation manifests when we have to stand back up. Instead of keeping our head down, looking at the ground, we pull our head up and bring the eyes to the horizon, a motion that should transition through several segments of the spine – not just the upper levels of the neck.

There are all types of compensatory masters. Which one are you?

The Limp Master: The individual who lacks full range of motion in the lower extremities following trauma or surgery. The results may be an altered gait pattern, hip knee or back pain.

The Mother Master: The mother who has difficulty restoring full motion back in the spine following pregnancy or tends to stand leaning to one side with a child resting on the hip. Both problems may hinder regaining much needed core

stabilization and result in sacro-iliac dysfunction or low back pain.

The Robot Master: This is the person who lacks neck or shoulder mobility following a whiplash injury or other type of neck trauma. The movements tend to look robotic as the head is kept stiff, making up for the lack neck motion in low back rotation or extension.

The Sitting Master: This person sits at home or office a large part of the day, developing tight anterior hips, which then resist full straightening with standing putting undue pressure on the lumbar spine.

We have all become masters to one degree or another and therefore guilty of ignoring such adaptations year after year. To minimize compensations, first seek analysis or assistance. Second, move (see last month’s column on Pandiculation) but learn to move properly and move regularly. Improper movements may simply lead to more compensation and further dysfunction.

Becoming a master at most things takes years of practice and dedication. Becoming a master of compensation is easy - it just takes years to see what kind of master you’ve become.

Rob Stanborough is a physical therapist serving St. Augustine for nearly 20 years and has presented both nationally and internationally. He was one of the first PT’s to be permitted to use DN in FL and doing so since 2017. He has trained others in DN since 2010 as a Senior Instructor for Myopain Seminars (www.myopainseminars.com). He is a co-owner of First Coast Rehabilitation (www.firstcoastrehab.com), and co-author of Myofascial Manipulation: Theory & Application, 3rd ed by Proed Inc. Read previous columns posted on www.firstcoastrehab.com.



Theatre Returns to St. Augustine: A Classic Theatre Season 2021-2022

by Tatiana Diaz

A Classic Theatre’s latest season has some exciting productions coming to the heart of St. Augustine. The 2021-2022 season kicked off in late October (and continues into early November) with “The Dining Room” by A. R. Gurney.

During the pandemic, the community theatre group wasted no time in coming up with new ways to bring stories to life and to theatre lovers in St. Augustine.

“We just sort of did an evaluation on where we were, where we wanted to go, what the problems were, how we could grow,” said A Classic Theatre Artistic Director Cindy Alexander.

“When I started working with A Classic Theatre in 2017, and Amy (Goldin) also was working there, she and I talked about the fact that we really liked contemporary American theatre. Stuff that has been recently off Broadway, things that were maybe a little edgier, and we wanted to add that into the mix. And so we worked on our mission statement, and we added not only classical and historical plays but contemporary. So that was something that I think we’re trying to focus on in addition to always having that idea that we would pay homage to significant historical incidents that have been dramatized. And if they can be about St. Augustine all the better.”

This season features four productions: “The Dining Room” by A. R. Gurney, “The Sisters O’Toole” by Amy Lauer Goldin, “No Exit” by Jean-Paul Sartre and “The Immigrant” by Mark Harelik. The

debut play of this season, “The Dining Room,” was chosen with intention in the mid-post pandemic world we live in today, according to Alexander.

“The four plays that we chose, we did take into consideration the fact that we knew that our first play would probably be the first time a lot of people had been back in the theater,” said Alexander. “So we chose ‘The Dining Room.’ The premise of ‘The Dining Room’ is that at one time the dining room was a very, very important central room in the house for most Americans.

People sat down at night and had a meal together. And that changed, of course, you know, over the last three or four decades. But during the pandemic it sort of worked its way back into the American consciousness that having family time was important... So ‘The Dining Room’ explores that idea and essentially looks at the changes in American customs, traditions, mores.”

“The Dining Room” debuted on Oct. 29 and runs through November 7, 2021. For show times and tickets visit www.aclassictheatre.org.

A new theater season also calls for new actors and stage hands at a A Classic Theatre. Auditions dates are posted A Classic Theatre’s website. For those who are unable to attend auditions and would like the opportunity to audition at a later time, email Cindy Alexander at calexander@aclassictheatre.org or act@aclassictheatre.org.

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November brings us a number of events. Our First Friday Opening on November 5th will Feature Artist of the Month Nancy Willoughby. Her works with a brand new Member's Show will open from 5pm to 8pm and run through November.

Nancy considers herself a leisure artist, maybe even a better critic of art than a painter. Forty years ago, she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from James Madison University in Virginia with a concentration in painting and drawing. Real estate became her profession by necessity.

When she and her husband visited St Augustine for the second time by boat they decided to make it their home. After living aboard and traveling the intracoastal for four years they put down their roots on Anastasia Island. In 2011 while walking on the beach Nancy found a little art studio under construction and thought, this is the time and place to get involved and hopefully inspired. Since then, most of her time has been dedicated to her garden and volunteer service in her neighborhood and The Art Studio.

Nancy's motivation and inspiration come from a local and internationally known artist, Mary Hubley. After 40 plus years and a few painting classes she had regained her confidence to paint and display again. The series is called "Seeking my style" and will be shown at the Studio in November. This is her attempt to visually describe a place or emotion, but as Claude Monet said, "My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece" Through The Beach Art Studio and Gallery, she has also been able to teach painting classes for beginners, called Happy Hour Painting with Nancy.



We are proud to be partners with the City of St. Augustine Beach to bring back the Annual Beach Art Walk on Saturday, November 27th from 2pm to 7pm. This will kick off the "Light Up the Beach" Season which will culminate with the "Light Up the Night" celebration on New Years Eve with a spectacular Fireworks Display.

The Art Studio is located at 370 A1A Beach Blvd. in the St. John's County Pier Park and is open 7 days a week from 12pm to 5pm. We are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit organization that brings Art

and Cultural to the community and offers classes, special events, exhibitions and rental space. For more information visit us at www.beachartstudio.org, Facebook or call 904-295-4428.

Computer Corner

by Steven Aldrich
904-479-5661



What is Cryptocurrency?

You can't watch the news, or any financial related news source without hearing something about Bitcoin or cryptocurrency. So, what is it, and why should anyone care?

Given all of the hype, you might think that it is a new thing. The idea of digital currencies has been around for over 50 years. Many of the early academic papers about digital currencies were seeking to do away with cash for various reasons. Anti-Money-Laundering was a primary driver in many of these ideas.

Bitcoin has been around since 2009 and was the first digital asset that was provably secured against double spending. Double Spending was the biggest problem with digital cash ideas, until Bitcoin. The same way that you can't hand a \$10 bill to one person, and then later hand that same \$10 bill to another person, you can't "double spend" Bitcoin.

Blockchain may be a new term to many readers. The idea is that all transactions get written into a ledger, which is immutable, and each block (think of it as a batch of transactions) is connected to the previous block in a chain, and cannot be removed, edited or falsified. It is also transparent; in that you can trace funds as they move from one "wallet" to the next.

You can trace each transaction all the way back to the genesis block of the chain. Which means that unlike cash, you can't "cook the books". Plus, cryptocurrencies can't be counterfeited.

Why Crypto? It is the cryptography that provides security and assurance that does not require any central authority, like a bank or national treasury. Your holdings are protected by the fact that only your cryptographic signature can release funds.

Is crypto used by criminals? Hundreds of times more funds are laundered in fiat currencies (typically the US Dollar) than in cryptocurrency. Bitcoin accounts for \$2.5 billion of money laundered since its inception in 2009. This amount is significantly smaller than the annual \$1 trillion money laundering statistics estimated in US Dollars.

Where can I learn more? There are thousands of hours of Youtube videos created every day about cryptocurrencies. Caution is imperative, as the space is like the wild west. However, there are some very good sources of traditional economic reasoning that have begun to explore and comment on the cryptocurrency space. I personally like Raoul Pal and his Macro-Economics channel called Real Vision.

NOT Financial Advice! Crypto is very volatile and can be quite risky as an investment. This article is not financial advice. Consult your favorite person for such advice.

Steven Aldrich is a technology advisor with decades of experience as an IT Director and is the owner of First Coast Computer Services. Contact Steven if you need a trusted advisor to come to your business or home and help with your technology. See my ad on this page. Steve@fccspro.com or (904) 479-5661.

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