

February
2018



Free Delivery by US MAIL
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St. Augustine Homes Monthly
St. Augustine Shores
St. Augustine South

St. Augustine Observer

NEWS INFORMATION FOR & ABOUT RESIDENTS OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FL

The Ancient City Artists Presents 5th Annual Show & Sale



The Ancient City Artists will be presenting their 5th Annual Show and Sale on Sunday, February 11th, from 1:00PM to 4:00PM, at the Riverview Club on Christina Drive in the Shores. The event is open to the public free of charge, and includes a wine reception (donation) and light hors d'oeuvres.

Approximately 15 area artists will display their watercolor paintings, as well as some photography and handmade jewelry. Watercolor subjects include florals, nature and wildlife, landscapes, cityscapes, still life, and

portraits in a variety of styles individual to each artist. Meeting once a week at the Riverview Club, members work on their individual (continued on page 7)

Santa Visits St. Augustine South Elderly

Christmas was made just a little brighter for several senior citizens and shut-ins who live in St. Augustine South. Several volunteers had assembled gift baskets for them, and Santa made an unscheduled stop to help his elves deliver them. The recipients were grateful for this bit of Christmas cheer and eagerly accepted the baskets.



St. Augustine Ballroom Dance Association Hosts Valentine Dance February 10th



Newly installed Vice President Joe Burch and his lovely wife Ann, enjoying themselves at a recent dance.

The St. Augustine Ballroom Dance Association will host a Valentine dance on Saturday, February 10th from 7 to 10pm at the Riverview Club, 790 Christina Drive, in St. Augustine Shores.

Beautiful dance music will be provided by the Ray Mezo band, one of the top dance bands in the area. Hors d'oeuvres, desserts and coffee will be served throughout the evening.

Guests pay just \$20. Appropriate guest attire is a dark business suit with tie, or a tuxedo, for the men and a cocktail dress or gown for the women. For a reservation, call Dennis or Mary Larimore at 904-825-4902. For more information and pictures, visit facebook.com/sabdastaug.

What's Inside The Observer This Month...

- **St. Augustine Shores:** December Board Update
- **Health Update:** Hurting Hands
- **Computer Corner:** Password Revoverly!
- **Financial Focus:** Put a Trusted Quarterback on Team
- **In the Law:** Beware! Fraud in Real Estate
- **Sheriff's Corner:** CodeRED Program
- **Fire Prention Corner:** Home Smoke Alarm Safety
- **Civic Association:** Community Volunteer Needs Help
- **Diaries of a Shores Grand-Dad**
- **AARP Offers Free Tax Preparation**

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St. Augustine, FL 32080-6509



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The St. Augustine Observer

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The function of the St. Augustine Observer is to serve residents of St. Augustine areas 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 month's issue. Articles or information may be sent to the St. Augustine Observer, 1965 A1A South #180, St. Augustine Florida 32080-6509. Information may also be e-mailed to clifflogsdon@att.net.

All material 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.

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St. Augustine Shores Community Calendar

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

- Shores Service Corporation monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Meetings are at 7 p.m. at the Riverview Club.
- 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 Steven Sheremeta at Sovereign-Jacobs at 904-461-5556.

- Casa Bella Condominium Board 2016 meetings- March 14th (Annual Meeting) - 6:30 pm, April 11th, 6:30 pm, May 9th, - 6:30 pm, September 12 - 6:30 pm, October 10th, - 6:30 pm, November 11th - 6:30 pm, December 12th - 6:30 pm.

St. Augustine South Community Calendar

The St. Augustine South Improvement Association
 (904) 794-5129
 www.staugsouth.com
 Associate News Editor
 Joan Nizza 904-687-8726

- Women of the Moose-1101 - 2nd and 4th Thursdays "Women of the Moose-1101" meet at 7pm.

- DAV Meeting -3rd Tuesday of the month DAV monthly meeting at 7pm.

- Vietnam Vets Meeting - 4th Tuesday of the month Vietnam Vets meet at 7pm.

- Bingo - Every Thursday at 1pm except Holidays, light lunch, from 11:30 to 12:30. Open to the Public.

Board Member & Officers

Theresa Nizza – President
 Keith Rowland – Treasurer

Louis Zimmer – Vice President
 Lynn Rowland – Secretary

SWEETHEART DANCE

Presented by Women of the Moose-1101

SAS Clubhouse-709 Royal Road

Dinner 6 to 7pm, Dancing 7pm to 11pm

Music by D.J. Terry Hunter

Door prizes, 50/50 drawing, Raffles and Fun

Donations: \$12 members \$15 non-members BYOB and mixers

Call for reservations-Sandra @806-0535 or Theresa @ 794-5129

Sharon's Hair Studio Nail Spa

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www.shoresumc.org

8:45 a.m. Traditional Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Community Classifieds

The Observer offers *free individual community classified ads to Shores and South residents*. Classified ads will not be printed without a name, address and phone number included with the request. *Free ads Are Not to Promote a Business or Personal Service.*

Business, Services, seeking work and others may be placed in the classified section according to the following rate schedule: 1/2" (1-4 lines) \$5, 1" (5-8 lines) \$10, 1 1/2" (9-12 lines) \$15, 2" (13-16 lines) \$20. These Ads should be paid in advance before placed.

Send your ad and payment if required to Observer, 1965 A1A South #180, St. Augustine, 32080-6509. You may email your ad to clifflogsdon@att.net. Deadline for all ads is the 15th of every month for the next month's issue. Free ads up to 5 items only should be sent.

FOR SALE: 1. Ab Lounge Ultra: Abdominal workout chair for focusing workout on stomach muscles. Good workout while watching the NFL playoffs ; only \$40. 2. Schwinn 203 Recumbent Exercise Bike \$79... SAVE 20 bucks if buying both; only \$99 for complete home workout set! **EXCLUSIVE BONUS BUY - 3.** Vintage 1960 baseball cards found inside attic of rural Georgia farmhouse: total 63 different cards in very good condition includes Bob Clemente, Ernie Banks, Nellie Fox, and Minnie Mino. Rare find! \$125 Call 904-794-1299.

FOR SALE: Dining room table w/4 chairs dark brown wood 150\$, Lazyboy recliner brown 250\$, 32 inch flat screen HD TV 150\$, loveseat sofa bed brown 250\$, 3 piece bedroom set dark brown wood 300\$. Call Karen for more info 904-445-0494

FOR SALE: Jamis Citizen 1, bicycle, 5'-5'4" women, used a few times only, \$159 (Orig. \$380). Keen hiking boots, women's 8.5 worn twice, \$69 (orig. \$135). Boc black women's 8 shoes, \$20. Beautiful

Scully attaché case, Italian leather, pigskin lined, \$150 (orig. \$300), Pennsylvania House cherry oval, drop leaf coffee table, like new, \$65. Silverplate flatware set by Rogers, "Eternally Yours" in lined box, \$179 OBO. Vintage hand crocheted linen disks, made in Italy tablecloth/napkins, \$195. Original oil paintings and drawings by local artist. Call 904.794.2594.

FOR SALE: Pro Form 415 Crosswalk Tread Mill Exerciser. Great Condition. \$200. Call 904-429-7139.

FOR SALE: (1)Pride Mobility 3 wheel Scooter - never used. \$875 (2) Moren Kingsley Chrome Grab Bars - still in package. One 36" \$65, One 12" \$45, Two 24" \$55 each or all for \$200. (3) 70" Gold Sofa excellent condition \$85. (4) Toupe Recliner very good condition \$35. (5) Tunturi Rower \$10. Call 904-687-9149.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Learn to draw, or to paint in oil or acrylic, or both. It's never too late. Private or semi-private. Instructor holds BFA, Painting, Certified Art Educator. 904.794.2594.

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St. Augustine Shores Club News

February 2018 Riverview Club Calendar

FEBRUARY DANCES - Dance Club Members: FREE, Guests: \$15.00/pp

EARLY SOCIAL
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
BYOB
Friday, February 2nd
Entertainment by Frank Saffi
Hosted by: R. Gardner & L. Butler

MAIN SOCIAL
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
BYOB
Saturday, February 17th
Entertainment by Southern Style Vocal Band
Hosted by: Dennis & Cheryl Donahue



RSVP: call 904-794-2000 or at
www.staugshores.org/dance-

FREE for Activity Members, guests are \$5.00/pp/class.

Bridge	Fridays 1:00 pm.
Bridge Lesson	The class is geared to all levels. Thursday at 10:00 am.
Chicago Bridge	Must have a partner to play , Monday and Thursday at 12:30 pm.
Card Game	Calling All Card Players! Card game group on Tuesdays, at 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Come and share your favorite card game: 500, Euchre, Pitch, Pinochle, Canasta, etc.
Mah Jongg	Tuesday at 1:00 pm & Wednesday at 10:30 am.
Chair Yoga	Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 10:45 am. A gentler form of yoga for those whom balance is an issue. Wednesdays class offers a 30-minute floor stretches after class!
Yoga	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:00 am. Bring a non-skid mat & wear comfortable clothing. The class is geared to all levels.
Exercise Class	Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 am.
Tai-Chi	NEW Beginner Tai-Chi, Tuesday at 8:00 am. Learn the principals of Tai Chi with John Doody and help your overall health and well-being!
Dance Class	Ballroom dance with Dennis Thursday at 2:00 pm. Dance Class is FREE for Activities & Dance Club Members. No classes on February 22nd.
Line Dancing	Every Monday at 6:30 pm and Wednesday at 10:00 am. Class is FREE for Activities & Dance Club Members.
Zumba	Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. Low-impact Zumba to protect joints. Come sweat, lose weight, meet people, and have a blast!
Writers in the Shores	Tuesday February 13 th and 27 th at 1:00 pm in the Library— topic for January 27 th is "The worst thing I ever said ..." For information call Donna at 794-0789.

Upcoming Events at the Riverview Club

March Mah-Jongg Madness: Monday, March 5th (10 am – 4 pm)
Presentation by Cindy Clardy: *Your Signature Look.* Saturday, March 10th (10 am – 11 am)
Early Social: Friday, March 2nd (7pm to 10pm) – Entertainment by Tim Rippey
Main Social: Saturday, March 17th (7pm to 10pm) – Entertainment by Phil Farino

Riverview Club Events

FEBRUARY DANCES

Dance Club Members: FREE, Guests: \$15.00/pp, RSVP at <http://www.staugshores.org/dance-rsvp> or call 904-794-2000.

EARLY SOCIAL

Friday, February 2nd 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm Entertainment by Frank Saffi *BYOB*

MAIN SOCIAL

Saturday, February 17th 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Entertainment by Southern Style Vocal Band *BYOB*

New Beginner Thai-Chi Class

Tuesday at 8:00 am. Learn the principals of Tai Chi with John Doody and help your overall health and well-being!

Art Show by Ancient City Artists at the Riverview Club

Sunday, February 11th 1pm to 4pm. Wine & Cheese Reception, Paintings, Photography & Jewelry by local Artists from St. Augustine, Palm Coast and Jacksonville. Participating Artists by ACA only, for further information contact Bea @ 904-429-7887.

FREE Introductory Fitness Pole Walking Clinic with Sheila

- Wednesday, February 14th at 12:30 pm - Meet in ballroom of the Riverview Club.

- Pre-registration is required: to register call 904-540-1067, or email Sheila: walkyourpath406@aol.com. Pole Walking is a fun and easy way to get a very effective and efficient total body aerobic workout! Please wear comfortable walking shoes and demo Walking Poles will be provided.

Ballroom dance with Dennis

Thursday at 2:00 pm - no classes February 22nd. Dance Class is FREE for Activities & Dance Club Members.

St. Augustine Shores Service Corporation December 14th Board Meeting Summary

"This Summary is an overview by the Observer Editor and is not the complete meeting minutes. Minutes are to be approved and posted at the Riverview Club and Association Website."

The St. Augustine Shores Service Corporation's Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President James O'Such at 7:00 P.M. Present: Vice President Dietly, Treasurer Claire Lorbeer, Director Jeremy Duncan, Director Thomas Filloramo, Secretary Nicolas Arocha. Absent: Director Van Tiem. The Invocation was given by General Manager Smith followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Arocha made motioned to accept the minutes of November 9, 2017 as presented, Seconded by Director Filloramo and carried unanimously.

Treasurers Report was presented by Treasurer Lorbeer and accepted for audit. General Manager Smith explained the decrease in the operating funds and the increase in the reserve funds.

Managers' Report - Joseph H. Smith III

Discussion on Amendments to Deed Restrictions – Jeremiah Mulligan: Coquina Law Group submitted a proposal that outlines the procedure to amend the Deed Restrictions. Mulligan explained the process. His main concern is time available for marketing these changes. Director Duncan would like the Board to proceed with the amendments during this fiscal period. He recommends that we change the voting percentage first. President O'Such supports that idea. Mulligan recommends that we change the voting percentages this year and work on the other amendments next year. Mulligan will provide an outline for the January Board meeting.

Deltona Maintenance Easement Release Request – Jeremiah Mulligan: Discussion on the screen enclosure and fence that are encroaching on the maintenance easement at 432 Maribella court was reviewed. Mulligan wants to make sure the association is treating everybody equally based on similar issues from the past. He requests that the homeowner provide a new survey that delineates the lot, the easement, and the fence placement. Motion by Director Duncan that we follow the attorneys advise and have him send a letter to the homeowner requesting a new survey, Seconded by Secretary Arocha. President O'Such suggested that we set a time line on when the new survey will be returned to the Board. Motion amended by Duncan to add that the new survey needs to be returned to the Board of Directors by January 4, 2018 and Secretary Arocha seconded the amended motion and carried unanimously.

Storm Water Drainage System Update - G & H Underground submitted a proposal of \$ 64470 to line the 200 foot 24" corrugated metal storm water drainage pipe between Cecilia Court and Baracoa Court. We are in the process of soliciting two more bids for the project. Motion by Director Duncan that we solicit two more bids and discuss this issue at the January 4, 2018 Special Board Meeting, Seconded by Director Filloramo and carried unanimously.

Progress On Board Goals

Curb Appeal - Pine straw has been installed in the medians, at the entrances, and at the Riverview Facility. We have fertilized the common areas. The rye seed in the medians is germinating.

Safety/Security - We are soliciting bids for a stand-alone gate operator for the Boat/RV storage compound.

Committee Reports

ACC – General Manager Joseph Smith: The ACC held one meeting in the month of November. They reviewed 13 applications: 6 fences, 1 Florida sun room, 1 new home, 2 screen rooms, 1 pool enclosure, 2 sheds. Total YTD 66.

Riverview Building and Grounds – Mary Arocha: The minutes were distributed to the Board. Mary Arocha inquired about the trip hazard in front of the Riverview Facility. DN Concrete to submit a bid. Smith provided the specifications to epoxy the front entrance floor.

Home Office Applications - Resident at 600 Domenico Circle Apt.C 14, for the purpose of a cleaning business. She agrees to abide by County Ordinance 95-9. Motion by VP Dietly to approve the home office application for 600 Domenico Circle Apt C 14. Seconded by Secretary Arocha and carried unanimously. Resident at 394 Madruga Avenue, for the purpose of a house cleaning business and a babysitting business at the client's home. Motion by Director Filloramo to approve the home office application for 394 Madruga Avenue, Seconded by Secretary Arocha and carried unanimously.

Deed Violation Report Presented

Directors Comments: Treasurer Lorbeer commented on marketing our amendments to the Deed Restrictions. Vice President Dietly commented on marketing to our community. Secretary Arocha inquired about the pier. He inquired about the dog breeding issue on Domenico Circle. Director Duncan inquired about the executive session to conduct the General Managers performance review. The Special Closed Board of Directors Meeting was scheduled for January 4, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Director Filloramo commented on marketing the amendments to the Deed Restrictions. President O'Such discussed marketing on social media.

Members Comments: Eric Blacker discussed the failed storm water drainage pipe at Crystal Lake. He discussed an issue he had about a fence on Altara and stated that a chart that was supplied to him was for structures and buildings and not fences which is referenced in section 13 of the ACC manual. Kaitlyn D'Corazon inquired about enforcement of restrictions. Charles Bouton inquired about the missing sidewalks in San Savino. Tony Wilmoth inquired about the Deed Restriction amendments.



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- Graduation Party
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- Memorial Service
- Engagement Party
- Office/Holiday Party



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www.shoresRiverviewClub.com



St. Mary's by the Sea National Catholic Church (PNCC)

Mass Time - 10:00 Sundays

Healing Mass 1st Wednesday 12:00 Noon

All are welcome!!



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News Around Southern St. Augustine

Shores United Methodist Church Children's 13-Week Camp "Rock Solid Followers"

Lace up your hiking boots, grab your backpack and get ready for an adventure at Rock-Solid Followers! Parents plan now to have your child participate in the fun of Rock-Solid Followers—a 13-week camp adventure in discovering who we are in Jesus and the richness of His love.

Each Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Christian Education Building, your child is invited to a time of Games, Bible stories, Nature crafts and Creative art! Tour guides are waiting to lead your child in the adventure of the new year. Rock-Solid Followers begins Wednesday, January 10, 2018!

The 13-week camp is opened to all elementary schoolers Pre-K 4 to 5th grade. The church will provide a pizza supper with juice, dessert and special treats each week.

Shores United Methodist Church is at 724 Shores Blvd., between the Shores Golf Course Clubhouse and Hartley Elementary. All children are welcome! Randy Strickland is the pastor. For information, call 797-4416 or go to shoresumc.org.

Shores United Methodist Church Sunset Circle High Tea & Crafts

The Sunset Circle at Shores United Methodist Church will once again hold a "High Tea & Crafts" on Saturday, February 17, 2018, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. This very popular, free event will allow participants to sample a variety of traditional tea sandwiches, desserts, coffee and tea AND to learn a new craft or two. Areas will be set aside for crafting three different items that could be used as gifts. The event is free and reservations are appreciated but not necessary. Call the church at 797-4416 to save your seat!

Shores United Methodist Church is located at 724 Shores Blvd, between the Shores Golf Course and Hartley Elementary. Rev. Randy Strickland is the pastor. www.shoresumc.org

Writers In The Shores

By Donna Johnson

The February meetings for Writers in the Shores will be on Tuesday the 13th and again on the 27th. The chosen subject is to be "The worst thing I ever said ..." and, is suggested for this month's topic to write about on the 27th. Come join us, you just might like us! Everyone is welcome and we would like to invite anyone who loves to write. You do not have to be a member. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month, at 1pm here at the Riverview Club Library. We are a casual group who enjoy sharing their work and related discussion with each other. There are no officers, dues or requirements. All genres are encompassed. For information call Donna at 794-0789.

Temple Bet Yam's Deli Nite Returns!

Reserve the date – Thursday, February 15, 2018! Temple Bet Yam's eagerly awaited DELI NITE is back for your deli-dining pleasure! Your choice of our famous overstuffed corned beef, pastrami, and turkey sandwiches are available along with the usual beverages, sides, and dessert. To entertain you, Bill Rosenthal returns with his comedic magic act. Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

This popular venue fills up quickly so make your reservations early. No tickets will be sold at the door. The cost per person for this fundraiser is \$30. Please RSVP Terre Wallach at 904-826-0821 or wandmtby@gmail.com by February 5, 2018.

Quit Tobacco Class

Want to start the new year off Tobacco Free? Join us for a FREE Tools to Quit class at Good Samaritan-Wild Flower Clinic on February 13, 2018 from 5:30pm-7:30pm. FREE patches, lozenges, and gum! FREE quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more. Call to register and learn about more classes near you Northeast Florida AHEC (904) 482-0189.

"Mardi Gras" Dance Party

Come To A "Mardi Gras" Dance Party Featuring "THE SOUTHERN STYLE VOCAL BAND". It is scheduled Saturday Evening, February 10th, 2018 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at th Corpus Christi Marion Hall, 6175 Datil Pepper Road, St. Augustine, FL 32086.

Admission is \$15 per person. BYOB & any table snacks, if you desire. Water & Ice is provided. For information & reservations, please contact Sue Ann Nanney - (904) 501-0326 (or) Theresa Coomes - (904) 806-5273.



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St. Augustine Travel Club

Our next Travel Club will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at 3:00 pm, at the Southeast Branch Public Library. This topic is Safari Serengeti. It will be presented by one of our travel club attendees, who recently returned from a safari and will share her experiences with us. The Travel Club is free to all St. Augustine residents and their friends and no preregistration is necessary. Any questions, feel free to call Peter Dytrych at 904 797-3736.

Travel Club Sailing in April

The St. Augustine Travel Club will again be sailing the seas on Sunday, April 8 to Sunday, April 15, 2018 on the Oasis of the Seas out of Port Canaveral to the ports of St. Maarten, San Juan and Labadee for a 7-day Eastern Caribbean cruise. Prices start from \$875.54 per person, double occupancy, for inside cabin, inclusive of all port fees and taxes. Oceanview and balcony cabins are available at higher cost. Book now with a \$250 pp deposit and receive a \$50 per cabin On Board Credit. Call Peter, St. Augustine Travel Club at (904) 797-3736 for more information and reservation.

"Mah Jongg Madness" March 5th

Shores Recreation offers Mah Jongg Madness Monday, March 5, 2017 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Riverview Club in the Shores community. Limited space is available and cost \$20 per person. The Riverview Club is at 790 Christina Drive. There will be prizes for highest scores, Door prizes, and lunch & beverages provided. For more information and to make your reservation, call Marcia no later than February 23rd at 904-794-7888.

Made in St. Augustine

Celebrate everything made in the nation's oldest city on February 11, 2018 at Made in St. Augustine™, a handcrafted festival. Come hungry (and thirsty!) and explore the many tastes of St. Augustine under one roof. Sample signature dishes produced by the city's master chefs. Pick-up your weekly produce directly from local farmers. Quench your thirst with drinks created by our local coffee roasters, beverage specialists, mixologists, distillers, brewers and vintners.

Shop in a market-like atmosphere for exclusively local and handmade goods. Meet our local artists, jewelers, craftspeople, sculptors, designers, apothecaries, woodworkers, bakers, sauciers and makers of all kinds. Learn about the oldest city's vast history, culture, maritime heritage and natural resources. Explore all the opportunities and services available in our own back yard.

Do it yourself! Create your own masterpiece at one of Made in St. Augustine's™ workshops or Junior Made stations. Need a break from all of the activities? Listen to tunes, relax and let the kids play!

The Ancient City Artists

Art Show at Shores Riverview Club

The Ancient City Artists Annual Art Show, Sale, and Wine and Cheese Reception is on February 11th, 2018 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Come see Paintings, Jewelry and Photography by award winning local artists that will be available. The annual event is presented by St. Augustine Shores Riverview Club at 790 Christina Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32086. For more information contact: Bea Hand at 904-429-7887 or mrsbea74@aol.com.

Wags 'n Whiskers Pet Shelter Buy a Table Spot Flea Markets

The pet shelter, Wags 'n Whiskers, on Old Moultrie Road in St. Augustine is a volunteer organization sheltering and fostering pets (dogs and cats), and works with Petco as a venue for the adoption days. They are always looking for ways to raise funds as they neuter and provide all the pets with their necessary medical needs and tests before any pet is released to a new home. Also included is a chip for each pet. If you are ready to adopt or foster a pet, please check their website for your next companion. Their website is www.petrescue.org.

Wags 'n Whiskers Pet Shelter at 1967 Old Moultrie Road, St. Augustine will be organizing a monthly flea market at their parking lot, every second Friday of the month for the remainder of the year. The next one will be on Friday, February 9, 2018. Rain date will be February 16 if needed.

Sellers would be able to buy space for \$10.00 for the day, bringing their own tables and marking their goods to sell. They are looking for 10 or more vendors to participate. The function will last from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please call Denise Click at 904-392-7896 to reserve your spot.

ALLIGATOR FARM CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY

The St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park this year celebrates its 125th Anniversary. The beloved Northeast Florida destination will mark its century-and-a-quarter birthday with a wide range of celebrations and special events, most notably the opening of a brand-new attraction, Oasis on the Nile.

A History of Crowd-Pleasing and Conservation - The St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park was founded in 1893 as a small exhibition of Florida reptiles, and it soon became a quintessential Florida attraction. In 1937 it was purchased by W.I. Drysdale and F. Charles Usina, who began acquiring additional animals from other alligator farms, zoos, and museums, and by the 1950s, The Alligator Farm had become world famous. In the 1970s, scientists from the University of Florida began research on the premises, and exhibits were improved, with additions including the theater, outdoor amphitheater, and the stunning rookery boardwalk.

Since 1989, The American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) has extended accreditation to The Alligator Farm, elevating the institution to a select list of zoos, aquariums, and other zoological facilities throughout the nation recognized for the quality and care of their collections.

A new milestone in reptile keeping was achieved when Land of Crocodiles opened in 1993. The St. Augustine Alligator Farm is now the only facility in the world exhibiting living specimens of all 24 currently recognized species of crocodylian. The Alligator Farm's appeal was widened further with the opening of Crocodile Crossing Zip Line in 2011 and Python Challenge climbing wall in 2014.

Today, The Alligator Farm functions as a modern zoo serving the public and the scientific community with educational shows and exhibits, important research, and worldwide conservation efforts.

News From Around St. Johns County

SJR State's Corporate College Offers Spring Mini Courses

REGISTERED CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE PRE-LICENSING (FL 4-40 RCSR) - This online course is a 40-hour, non-credit, pre-licensing course for those interested in beginning a career in insurance and risk management. Classes are online and self-paced from January 8 – April 27, 2018. Registration deadline: February 28, 2018

REAL ESTATE PRE-LICENSING COURSE (63 Hours) - SJR State has teamed up with First Coast School of Real Estate to offer this course. Students are required to complete 63 classroom hours. Passing the pre-licensing test permits students to take the state Real Estate Sales Associate Exam, which requires a score of 75 percent or higher to pass. Held at St. Augustine Campus, Saturdays and Sundays, January 13 – February 11, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Registration deadline: January 13, 2018. Register online at <http://www.firstcoastschoolofrealestate.com/63hrregistration>. For additional information, call 386-312-4183.

First Coast Card Club Let's Play Cards!

Saturday, February 3rd. Lunch 12:30A. Cards: 1:30P-3:45P. Restaurant-St Augustine. Please contact Lea to know restaurnt and to be added to the Attendee List. Limited To 12 Attendees. RSVP EARLY!

Tuesday, February 6th. Main Library, 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St Augustine. Refreshments. 1:00P

Sunday, February 18th. Coffee/Cafe Lunch & Cards. Lunch-1:00P. Cards: 2P-4:30P. Bistro Cafe-Volano. Please contact Lea to be added to the Attendee List. Limited To 12 Attendees. RSVP EARLY!

Thursday, February 22nd. Anastasia Library-124 Seagrove Main St., St Augustine Beach. Bring Your own food, food to share, beverages. Lea Will bring Refreshments. 12:00Noon.

Tuesday, February 27th . Main Library, 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St Augustine. Refreshments. 1:00P

Meet more card players at our Community Libraries Every Month. Your Support Is Appreciated. Contact Lea at: 904-829-0643 for more information and verification of events.

First Coast Newcomers Club

Saturday, February 10th. Chocolate Valentine Holiday Van Tour # 1. 10A. Breakfast Food, Pastries, Coffees, Candies, Chocolates, Sweets Shoppes. Refreshments. 2 City Exhibit Markers For Photo Taking. Lunch-Hyppo Cafe. Chocolate Valentine Treat Bag. Meet at Publix Grocery-Mission Trace Plaza-955 FL Hwy. 16, St. Augustine. Total 8 Stops. Tour Cost: \$10. Contact Lea to reserve your seat. We have room for 3 Member Riders.

Sunday, February 11th. Repeat Chocolate Valentine Holiday Van Tour # 2. 10AM. 7-8 Stops. \$10. Contact Lea to reserve your seat. We have room for 4 Member Riders.

Tuesday, February 20th. Vaill Point Park/Trails Walk 5:45PM. Well Mannered Dogs Welcome On Leash.

Wednesday, February 28th. Monthly Trivia. World Golf Village Restaurant. St Augustine. Dinner 6PM. Trivia 7PM.

Please Contact Lea-Organizer for more event information and how to Join Our Club. 904-829-0643.

St Augustine Genealogical Society Meeting

Join the St Augustine Genealogical Society on February 17, 2018, at the St John's County SE Branch Library to hear Connie Bradshaw explain Autosomal DNA testing. So you had your DNA tested, now what? Learn about Autosomal DNA testing and what to do with the results, including best practices for contacting matches and downloading raw data.

Connie Bradshaw is the owner of I Dig Your Roots, a research firm that focuses on genetic genealogy. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the International Society of Genetic Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, and numerous state and local genealogical societies.

After conducting over thirty (30) years of personal family history, Connie completed Boston University's Certificate Program in Genealogical Research in 2012 and opened her own research firm. She is the volunteer project administrator of three family DNA projects at Family Tree DNA, the family genealogist for the Historic Carson House located in Marion, North Carolina, and coordinates several family reunions.

Connie is a twenty-six (26) year Navy veteran originally from Spokane, Washington. In the twenty (20) years since leaving her military career, she and her husband, Doug, have traveled throughout the United States, affording her the opportunity to do what she loves – hunting for elusive ancestors. Information at: <https://sagsonline.org>.



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The Ancient City Artists Presents 5th Annual Show & Sale

(continued from page 1)



paintings, share information and resources on area art events and opportunities, and share their artistic insights and expertise with each other.

Several members of the Ancient City Artists also belong to the St. Augustine Arts Council and participate in local and area art shows, some winning awards at juried shows in St. Augustine, Jacksonville and Palm Coast. In the past, guest teachers of the Ancient City Artists have included Shirley DePasquale, Rosamond Parrish (author and illustrator of the book, 'Lincolnvillle') and Charles



Stratman, area artist.

The Ancient City Artist group was formed by former students of Shirley DePasquale, well known and respected watercolorist and teacher, after her retirement from teaching in 2015. Mrs. DePasquale has resided in St. Augustine for the past 16 years and has been very active in the local arts community, being a key member of the Arts Association and an active participating member of PASTA gallery, on Charlotte Street.

Come and enjoy an opportunity to browse, meet the artists, and enjoy a relaxed Sunday afternoon enjoying the arts.

Computer Corner

by Steven Aldrich



Password Recovery! Lessons you don't want to learn

Recovery with Secret Questions - Sometimes the answers are long lost secrets as well... Password recovery or reset often requires answers to questions that were answered when the account was set up, possibly years ago. Many questions are not well thought out. Such as; "What country would you like to visit?" This may not be the same answer forever. If you answered this sort of question 10 years ago, you may have different travel dreams now.

Many folks do not like providing factual personal information as answers to security questions. The reluctance is understandable. However, failing to write these fake answers down leads to possible future failures on recovery efforts.

I am currently working with a client whose children gave her an iPad several years ago. Apple takes account security very seriously, and because the password was incorrectly entered several times, they have disabled her AppleID, which in turn disabled the iPad. The only way to recover her use of the iPad requires the reset her AppleID password. We are in the process of getting in touch with each of her children and attempting to piece together the answers that Apple requires. Each time it is incorrectly answered, we have to wait a day to try again. If we don't get it right, the iPad is un-recoverable and will need to be replaced.

WRITE IT DOWN, and store it in a secure place. It is very common for clients to have a notebook of passwords. It is also very common for these notebooks to have numerous edits, strikethroughs and other manner of corrections. Often there are scraps of paper stuck in the notebook, and no good way to tell which is the current information. I suggest that you leave plenty of space between entries in your notebook, for edits as the years go by. Date each new entry, and make sure it is legible.

Take the time to accurately document your passwords, and security questions for each of your online accounts. It is worth spending the time to ensure that you have this information for every account you have. Realizing that you are locked out of an account, and there aren't any good notes, can lead to expense and anxiety.

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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Wild Flower Meadow Group

by Cindy Taylor

The annual mowing in December was postponed because of the holidays and cold weather. By the time you read this, I hope to goodness it will be done and we can start looking forward to spring blossoms. Our outing to Princess Place in December was postponed for the same reasons and here's looking to a forward to better weather in February.

The only flowers I saw blooming early in January were conradina (false rosemary) and honeysuckle vine. The frost didn't kill them and there's a lesson there. The bushy bluestem, Elliott's love grass, and muhly grass weathered the hurricane and frosts too and were showing their beautiful late fall florescence. We're going to encourage more of them to grow this year. Grasses? You may ask. Yes, but native grasses, NOT lawn grasses. They "flower" after other wildflowers stop blooming and are hosts to swallowtail larva and other beneficial insects. And? There's a chance they might vanquish the lawn grasses that want to take over the meadow.



We occasionally visit state and county parks and welcome newcomers, even if you want to come only on the outings. Our group meets the first Saturday of each month by the Riverview Club House at 8:30. Our goal is to preserve the wildflower meadow, learn about native plants, and those that grow in this location. We're an informal group without officers or dues and hope you will join us.

Call Claire at 904-826-5366 for more information.



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Considerations for Moving a Business to Florida

by Colby Keefe, Esq.
Jackson Law Group
904-823-3333

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law on December 22, 2017, has far-reaching implications for many Americans. The new federal tax bill generally favors more competitive, low tax states such as Florida. Therefore, Florida may see an increase in companies that call Florida home. For years, Florida has boasted a favorable tax climate for businesses. Some tax incentives that attract business owners include a broad range of sales and use tax exemptions available to businesses, as well as the absence of corporate taxes for limited partnerships and some other entity forms, to name a few benefits.

While these tax benefits are nothing new, the recent federal tax law further highlights Florida's advantageous business climate. Consequently, some analysts anticipate business owners relocating to Florida. Some basic questions a business owner should review when considering a move to Florida include:

(1) What type of entity is the business and what are the options for moving it to Florida? Depending on what type of entity it is (for example, a corporation vs. a limited liability company vs. sole proprietorship), there may be multiple options for operating the business in Florida. Some options for LLCs and corporations include registering in Florida as a "foreign" entity, while still operating in another state; merging a former entity with your newly created Florida entity; or, liquidating or dissolving the former business and forming a new business in Florida. On the other hand, a sole proprietorship may require registration of a Doing Business As ("DBA"). Each of these options has unique tax implications that should be carefully considered in the decision-making process.

(2) How many owners or shareholders does the business have, and what are the terms of

the operating agreement or other controlling documents? For example, shareholders may be paying taxes on the liquidation of appreciated assets. Considerations such as this may affect the analysis and require discussions in advance, as well as require certain documents to be executed.

(3) What steps need to be taken to "close down" business in the former state? There may be applicable local tax, license, or permit issues that warrant attention. The business may also need assistance filing a Final Tax Return and a full review of the tax implications for liquidating, dissolving, or merging a business.

Out-of-state business owners seeking to benefit from Florida's tax climate would be well-advised to research and determine which option is best suited to their needs.

Colby Keefe is a second year associate at Jackson Law Group. After earning her Bachelor of Arts from Flagler College in 2012, Ms. Keefe earned her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens, Georgia.

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Fire Prevention Corner

By Robert Growick, Division
St. Augustine Fire Department
Chief/Fire Marshal



Home Smoke Alarm Safety

This new year I have a fire safety message regarding working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are an essential part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly. In order to eliminate false alarms, the placement is very important. Each home should have working smoke alarms inside and outside of their bedrooms to ensure that everyone in the home can be awakened by the alarm.

Here are several safety hints for a fire safe home.

1. A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.
2. Larger homes may need extra smoke alarms.
3. It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.
4. Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
5. There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use of both types of alarms in the home.
6. A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Read the manufacturer's recommendations for installation locations.
7. People who are hard of hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms can have strobe lights and bed shakers.
8. Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
9. Smoke alarms are an important part of your Home fire escape plan.

Changing of the batteries in the electric operated smoke alarms should take place a minimum of once a year. The date can be at the owner's birthday or a holiday. Did you know the newer battery operated smoke alarms have a 10-year sealed battery so the maintenance for changing the battery and chirping is eliminated until the 10th year arrives reminding you to replace it? Don't forget to test and clean your smoke alarm every month to maintain the integrity of its operation.

If you have questions you can contact the St Augustine Fire Department at 904 825-1098 or visit us at www.citystaugfire.com.

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St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS)

St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS) was established in 1989 as a private, nonprofit 501c3 organization in St. Johns County, Florida. SAYS provides 24-hour residential therapeutic care to young males—age 6 to 17—diagnosed with mental health issues; a result of their vulnerable backgrounds, where they were victimized and traumatized. SAYS provides an average of 16,790 daily shelter stays annually to children who require structured intensive residential therapeutic services. St. Augustine Youth Services shapes the future of Florida's at-risk youth by providing coaching, counseling and care in family style, therapeutic group homes and outpatient community services.

In 2015, SAYS launched into community based services such as; a Mobile Crisis Response Team, Target Case Management and Transitional Life Coaches (Flagler, Volusia, Putnam, St. Johns Counties) programs were launched thus elevating the focus on youth mental health needs. With the support of community residents, businesses and foundations, SAYS achieved a major goal in April 2013 to purchase property and move its residents into the Hutson Family Campus, which includes an administration building and three residential homes to house 30 boys.

Community support plays a major part in SAYS' sustainability and successes. Annual fundraising events, major gifts, grants and trade/securities donations continue to move SAYS toward financial security. SAYS is an active and founding member of the St. Johns County Behavioral Health Consortium, which is comprised of stakeholders, providers, St. Johns County Administrators/Commissioners, school personnel, law enforcement, physicians, Community Based Care, Department of Children and Families, Department of Juvenile Justice, attorneys, National Alliance for Mental Illness, and behavioral health consumers.

National Stats & Risk Factors for Foster Kids, youth who have aged out of foster care vrs youth raised in permanent homes. At age 23:

- 7x more likely to have been homeless
- 4 x more likely to receive government benefits
- 5 x more likely to have been arrested
- Median income \$8,000 less than half the national average
- 50% are unemployed

SAYS Opportunities:

- Host small porch or home party for outreach with SAYS youth and staff to present for 10 mins
- On-call office and front desk assistance/event volunteers/donation procurement & errands
- Civic advocates
- Follow SAYS on Facebook/Instagram
- Funds to build donation closet -\$1000
- Build out of 24 corner closet shelving and/or under bed storage box on wheels for added storage
- Monetary donations for summer camp, field trips, after-school sports/uniforms, building fund, etc.
- Seeking experienced & vetted tutors and mentors
- Seeking operative un-used car donations

For more information contact Jennifer Sartinano, Development Director, St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS), 201 Simone Way, St. Augustine FL 32086, 904-829-1770 Office (Ext. 337) email: JenniferS@sayskids.org

"St. Enda of Aran Formation Center" St. Anastasia Catholic Church Parish Hall

The long-awaited new Parish Hall of St. Anastasia Catholic Church on Anastasia Island has a new name. A fundraising election among parishioners led to the building being named the St. Enda of Aran Formation Center.

The St. Enda of Aran Formation Center is on schedule to open by April, 2018. The center will be dedicated by Felipe de Jesús Estévez, the Bishop of St. Augustine, in the near future. The 22,000-square-foot Formation Center will host a number of parish programs and functions, and includes 10 classrooms, three meeting rooms and a choir rehearsal room. Its main room, the St. Jude Celebration Hall, can be configured for table dining, or with chairs for musical, theatrical and dance performances, both religious and secular. "The St. Enda of Aran Formation Center is one of the ways in which St. Anastasia Catholic Church continues to be a part of the greater community," said Father Tim Lindenfesler, pastor of the church. "It's the first gathering area of its size south of the city of St. Augustine in St. Johns County."

The church is taking reservations for wedding receptions, corporate meetings, fine arts performances and organization events for up to 300 people beginning in April, 2018 in Celebration Hall. It's receiving a large number of inquiries, and has booked several dates. The availability of parking is a major benefit of holding events in the new hall: St. Anastasia Catholic Church has 404 parking spaces. Other key amenities include a professional kitchen for caterers, a long pedestal in the main room that can serve as a buffet, free high-speed, fiber optic Wi-Fi and a performance stage with a state-of-the-art sound system for live music. The classrooms and other rooms are a key part of the St. Enda center's mission.

"Formation" is a word used by the Catholic Church to describe a broad program of education and dedication. As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops writes on its website, "The Church's catechetical mission aims to help the faithful of all ages to grow in both human and Christian maturity, enriching the whole of life with the leaven of the Gospel ... understanding and communicating the faith, skills needed for personal growth, the experience of family life, relationships, public service, and concern for the common good."

For additional information about the St. Enda of Aran Formation Center, or to request information about reserving the Celebration Hall for an event, please call Brian Schoonover, Ph.D., at (904) 471-5364, or email info@sacfl.org. More information about St. Anastasia Catholic Church can be found at www.sacfl.org.

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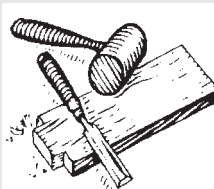
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AARP-OFFERS FREE TAX PREPARATION

TAX-AIDE, which is sponsored by AARP, is again providing their free tax preparation service. Last year TAX-AIDE assisted more than 3000 individuals in St. Johns County. The service this year will be available from February 1 through April 17 and is available to taxpayers of all ages. Membership in AARP is not required. The service will do all personal returns with the exception of those which involve depreciation for businesses or rental property; or those which involve business losses or expenses in excess of \$25,000.

The tax preparation service is provided locally by approximately 50 volunteers, all of whom have been trained in both the current tax regulations as well as in the use of the IRS approved tax software and have passed advanced certification exams. Those using the TAX-AIDE service will be able to have their tax returns filed electronically at no charge.

The tax preparation service will be available at the following locations and times:

- Main Library: Monday from 11AM to 3PM, and Friday, and Saturday from 10AM to 2PM
- Southeast Library: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10AM to 2PM
- Anastasia Baptist Church: Tuesday and Thursday from 10AM to 2PM
- Solomon Calhoun Center: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 10AM to 2 PM
- Hastings Library: Thursdays from 1PM to 6 PM
- Council on Aging: Mondays from 9AM to 2PM

The service at Anastasia Baptist Church (1650 A1A South) replaces service previously at St Augustine Beach City Hall and the St Augustine Beach Library. All locations are on a first come first serve basis except for the Main Library and Council on Aging locations where appointments are available by calling 827-6940 for the Main Library and 209-3655 for Council on Aging.

Taxpayers seeking assistance should bring with them a copy of their 2016 tax return, photo ID, social security cards for themselves and dependents, and any documents such as W-2 forms, 1099 forms, health care forms purchased through Federal or State exchanges, or other documents related to the income they received in 2017 or any possible deductions. If a taxpayer anticipates a refund and wants to have it deposited directly to their bank account, a blank check is also required. Direct deposit allows refunds to be expedited.

Taxpayers should plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to closing.

Hurting Hands

By Rob Stanborough
PT, DPT, MHSc, MTC, CMTPT, FAAOMPT
(904) 829-3411



Not "Helping Hands" but Hurting Hands. I use my hands all day, every day. Like many others, it's just part of my occupation. I use my hands for physical therapy treatments, teaching techniques, checking off my honey-do list and more. I think most everyone uses their hands regularly, some more forceful and some with more detailed control. But my hands don't hurt. I think it is because I am cautious to use them correctly at work but also due to routine maintenance.

There are many things that can cause hand pain including both trauma and disease. Rheumatoid arthritis is a debilitating autoimmune disease causing chronic inflammation in the joints. Swelling causes stiffness and soreness and in the worst cases the fingers can deviate to the side making them extremely difficult to bend or hold things. Osteoarthritis, is a degenerative disease and although more common than rheumatoid

arthritis it's every bit as painful. With OA, the joints also swell due to inflammation causing enlarged joints in the hands called Heberden's nodules. Symptoms vary but often include pain after use and/or stiffness after periods of non-use. There are simple steps that may help to keep the hands whether its rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis or even trauma healthy. This is what I do.

If I find my hands have grown stiff, one of the first things I do is wash or rinse under warm water. This promotes circulation as well as gets the fluid in the joint moving for better lubrication. I also rub my fingers and hands for the same reason – promote circulation and movement. Occasionally, if they are more stiff than usual, I'll dip my hands into a hot wax called paraffin for more heat. (Home paraffin units are fairly inexpensive and can be found at local department stores). If I feel my hands getting sore during work and think it may be from inflammation, I'll wash my hands in cold water, also including gentle rubbing for motion. This cool water feels good and may help minimize inflammation during use. I also pull or distract my fingers during or following the rinse to keep the joints from compressing. This also helps to improve movement.

While working, it's not uncommon to see me in the clinic standing, talking to someone while leaning on my hand. Most patients don't even realize what I'm doing or why. But, I do this to stretch my fingers and wrist back on a table. Because during most of the day and night my hands are used/rest in flexion (a more closed position) and less in an extended position (or fully stretched) I need to stretch the muscle in my hands and forearms out to prevent over-shortening.

Lastly, I exercise my hands. I do this more for mobility than for strength. I use the squeeze balls we have in the clinic but wash cloths also work well. If you need a higher level exercise, exercise rice buckets are easy and cheap. Or, if you desire more high tech, theraputty, web grips and digitflex can easily be purchased online. The key is to move the joints to promote lubrication and mobility.

I realize these are simple things but they've worked for me all these years. There's no reason why they shouldn't keep working for me to prevent loss of function and no reason why they shouldn't work for you.

Rob Stanborough is a physical therapists, president and co-owner of First Coast Rehabilitation (St. Augustine 904-829-3411 or Palatka 386-325-2721). He is co-author of Myofascial Manipulation: Theory & Application, 3rd ed by Proed Inc. He's certified in manual therapy and a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Therapists. Read previous columns posted on www.firstcoastrehab.com.

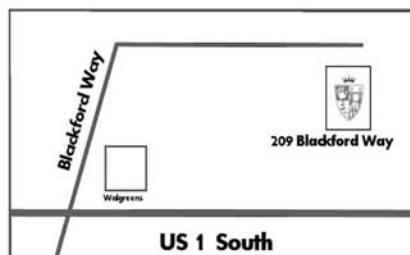


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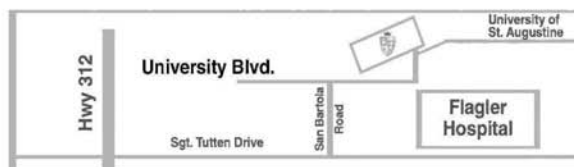
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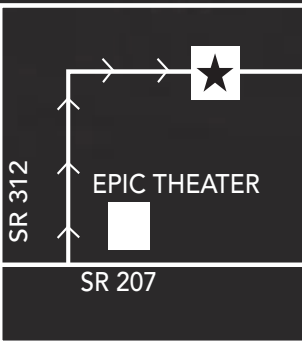
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St. Augustine Beach Civic Association

by Bill Jones, President
www.thecivicasociation.com



Community Volunteer Needs Help

A man who has given significant time to our community over the last decade is in need of our help. Paul Slava who was instrumental in the startup of what we know as the Art Studio Group, volunteer at the Wednesday Market and eventually a Board Member with the Civic Association is in need of organ transplant. Paul is a single Dad with three terrific children. He's been dealing with a multitude of health issues over the last 18 years and is now in a life or death situation. There is an online fund-raising campaign that I urge you to check it out. A link to Paul's story and how you can help can be found on several places including our Facebook pages, St. Augustine Pier Music by the Sea, We Love St. Augustine Beach and our website at www.sabca.org. Please give generously!

We have received an offer from St. Johns County that would give The Wednesday Market a two month lease extension at Pier Park. This offer came with a significant price tag of \$500 per week. The County Commission arrived at this very arbitrary number at their final meeting of 2017. This number equates to nearly 50% of our gross revenue and we're a non-profit group that puts our money back into the community.

After the decision was made we reached out to Commissioners to learn about the rationale that led to this number. All Commissioners cited a lack of information on costs incurred to the County in regard to

our market. We did some research and at the January 16th County meeting our Market Committee provided the following details to Commission for their consideration; The Civic Association pays the City of St Augustine Beach for trash collection, pays for an off duty police officer to direct traffic during peak season and hours, pays for all marketing and liability insurance. The County does not provide any staff for this event. The County does pay the electric bill at Pier Park. We've learned the County is on a Government Bulk Rate with FPL and pays just over one half cent per kilowatt hour. About one-fifth of our market vendors (15 -18) use power for 5 hours per week which equates to a cost of less than \$10 per week and less than \$500 per year to the County. Our presentation closed with a request for a reduced weekly fee that was realistic and a meeting with the County Administrator to find a long term solution.

The Commissioners voted 4-0 to reduce the fee to \$250 a week. If adopted on an annual basis would bring in \$13,000 a year to the County and it's a number we could live with long term. There is a way to keep our market at Pier Park for the foreseeable future. Please help us Save the Market and Save the Music. Contact your County Commissioners and the County Administrator. Email addresses can be found on our website at www.sabca.org

2017 Tax Rolls Now Open County Property Tax Roll Totals \$436,068,135

The St. Johns County 2017 property tax rolls are now open for collection. Notices will be sent to customers via email and mail Oct. 31. Payment can be made effective immediately.

Questions regarding homestead exemptions and property assessment should be addressed to the St. Johns County Property Appraiser, who is responsible for providing the St. Johns County Tax Collector with the tax roll. Any questions regarding the individual taxing authorities' millage rates, CDD rates, assessments and exemptions listed on your notice should be addressed to those individual authorities provided on the insert in your tax notice.

Total taxes to be collected by the St. Johns County Tax Collector are \$436,068,135. This is an increase of \$24,303,992, compared to the 2016 tax roll of \$411,764,143, and includes notices for real estate, tangible personal property, railroad, and non ad-valorem assessments.

"For the past 27 years, your Tax Collector's office has maintained a 99.3 percent or greater collection rate, with this year's collection rate standing at 99.82 percent," said St. Johns County Tax Collector Dennis W. Hollingsworth, CFC. "Ultimately, this assists all local taxing authorities to finance services for the citizens' needs."

Although all tax notices become due Nov. 1, 2017, they are payable through March 31, 2018, without incurring a penalty. The greatest savings will come to those who opt to pay their taxes in November when they can get a 4 percent discount allowed by law, FS 197.162. The amount of the discount decreases by 1 percent every month until March 2018 when taxes must be paid and no discount is applied.

There are various methods of payment available to St. Johns County property owners. The easiest, most efficient and economical means is by e-check payment on the SJTC website, www.sjctax.us. Online payments can be made via e-check for just \$1.30, or by credit card for a 2.5 percent transaction fee paid to the financial institutions. Payment can also be made by mailing a check or visiting one of our four office locations.

In addition to the 71,083 tax notices sent to property owners, 44,193 tax notices were sent to mortgage companies with escrow accounts. Property owners with escrow accounts should receive an "information only" notice detailing your tax status and stating, "THIS IS NOT A BILL-DO NOT PAY- YOUR BILL HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO YOUR ESCROW AGENT."

Anyone unable to pay their homestead property taxes should contact the St. Johns County Tax Collector as early as possible to determine eligibility for the Homestead Tax Deferral.

If you have questions, comments or suggestions regarding payment of taxes or the operation of the St. Johns County Tax Collector's office, please do not hesitate to contact Hollingsworth at taxcollector@sjctax.us.



Financial Focus

Information Provided by

Edward Jones

Put a Trusted "Quarterback" on Your Financial Team

On February 4, the eyes of most of the country – and much of the rest of the world – will be on Minneapolis, site of Super Bowl LII. As a fan, you can admire the way Super Bowl quarterbacks direct their teams. But as an investor, you can learn something from the big game by putting together your own team to help you achieve your financial goals – and you may find it helpful to have your own "quarterback."

Who should be on your team? Your financial strategy will involve investments, taxes and estate planning, so you will likely need a financial advisor, a tax professional and an attorney. Ideally, your financial advisor – the individual with the broadest view of your financial situation – should serve as the quarterback of this team. And, just as a quarterback on a football team must communicate clearly with his teammates, so will your financial quarterback need to maintain consistent contact with the other team members.

Let's look at a couple of basic examples as to how this communication might work.

First, suppose you are self-employed and contribute to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRA. Because your contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. (In 2018, the maximum amount you can contribute is \$55,000.) Your financial advisor can recommend investments you can choose from to help fund your SEP IRA. Yet you will want your financial advisor to share all your SEP IRA information with your tax professional. When it's near tax-filing time, your tax professional can then let you and your financial advisor know how much room you still have to contribute to your SEP IRA for the year, and how much you

need to add to potentially push yourself into a lower tax bracket.

Now, let's consider the connection between your financial advisor and your attorney – specifically, your attorney handling your estate planning arrangements. It's essential that you and your financial advisor provide your attorney with a list of all your financial assets – IRAs, 401(k)s, investments held in brokerage accounts, insurance policies and so on. Your attorney will need this information when preparing your important legal documents, such as your will and living trust – after all, a key part of your estate plan is who gets what. But it's imperative that you and your financial advisor convey some often-overlooked details that can make a big difference in the disposition of your estate. For example, your financial advisor might suggest that you review the beneficiary designations on your IRA, 401(k) and life insurance policies to make sure these designations are still accurate in light of changes in your life – new spouse, new children and others. These designations are meaningful and can even supersede the instructions you might leave in your will or living trust. Consequently, it's important for you and your financial advisor to share this information with your attorney.

It can be challenging to meet all your financial objectives. But with the right team in place, and a quarterback to help lead it, you can keep moving toward those goals – and you might cut down on the "fumbles" along the way.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

"Diaries of a Shores Grand-Dad"

by Dirk Schroeder



Hopefully you enjoyed last month's Diaries - a dedication to my mother. Compassion begets gratitude (grace); a lifetime (hers) in a word (his). A brief explanation may be due here. To me, my mother's word of a lifetime is Compassion (hers) and the one word that my father spoke of, more than any other on Mom's parting day, was the gratitude (his) that he felt for her. We are into a New Year now and it may be quite appropriate, as most everyone seeks resolutions, to talk about the virtue that my father's lifetime provided to me: in a word - sacrifice.

Many begin the New Year prepared to make sacrifices: cut out foods, sugar-bomb drinks, exercise more, weigh less and other familiar resolutions. Those are nominal sacrifices and ones that often have a short shelf life. A true sacrifice, however, is engrained in your personal beliefs - it is part of what makes you who you are. Dictionary.com lists the Noun as: "the thing so surrendered or devoted". My father would surrender his homeland (West Germany) in 1969 for a financially risky future in the US of A. His employer, German-based VAW Aluminum, gave him three years to have its only US factory turn a profit or the entire family could face a return trip to Germany. It was a tricky task. Many sacrifices were going to be required on his part to succeed. Alliances within the company executives, within the Union, within the town, and even in the neighborhood had to be crafted carefully. Ellenville, New York in the 1970's was a small sprouting town where everyone knew your business. His business was one of only two major businesses in town - the other being Channel Master, an electronics firm and that firm didn't last very long with the onset of Japanese electronics.

The time and energy (aka hard work) that he devoted into saving the company would also become a sacrifice for our family. It was a double edged sword; as he made sacrifices for the company, he also sacrificed being able to enjoy his family. It's a delicate balance to successfully have both. He did succeed in keeping the factory open even during the union strikes of the early 1970's. By 1979, VAW expanded the company by buying the closed Deltona factory on Riviera Boulevard in St. Augustine Shores. Now he would have to travel from New York

to Florida and, in turn, to Phoenix where the next factory opened and then further to Tennessee, where another factory bore the VAW name. He entrenched himself with an overabundance of obligations to expand this company. His business influence in the towns in which the factories were located was well known and respected.

All of the time (35 years) that he surrendered in this risky venture - that time flew by and it became time for him to retire. The sacrifices seemed to have paid off. Yet in 1995, as his mind began to consider what to do with his new found freedom, his new life - he was diagnosed with a cancer. He made it through a life changing operation. Three years later in 1998, Mom was diagnosed with ALS and she passed in 2000. Dad re-married in 2002 only to pass away in 2003. So why is sacrifice such an important virtue if you can work yourself to the bone and then sometimes not get to enjoy it? Dad's work took him all over the world: Japan, Australia, South Africa, Russia and more. His sacrifices made it possible. Hard work is the price he paid for the enjoyment of life. Our family would be able to visit friends and family in Germany, Sweden, England and many other parts of the world. He was famous for coming to the office on Sundays and calling all those people from all over the world.

Sacrifice is a virtue of a lifetime - just remember the life that was sacrificed for the forgiveness of all of our sins or the lives that have been surrendered for our freedoms. As I have come to reflect on my father's life, he was fortunate to enjoy some of the fruits of his labor; the travels, the graduations, the weddings, the bearing of grand-children, as I witness the bearing of our own. He could surrender his life on his parting day knowing that he left us in good standing. He didn't need to hold on to any fears.

The New year brings many beginnings and lessons from the past. I learned from his past; what to do and what not to do. I hope that our three sons will learn from us in the same way - not the short-lived trivial stuff but the eternal virtues for a lifetime.

Look for The Diaries next month as I reveal another lifetime in a word. I wish you a prosperous and eventful New Year and, as always, a Sunshine State of Mind!

Hypnotherapy=Stress Reduction

By Cheryll Robertson, Clinical Hypnotherapist

I am quoting from an article written by Jeffrey Rose, Clinical Hypnotist, for Recover magazine. "Hypnosis is one modality people can use to relieve their stress. Since our beliefs and attitudes can influence how capable and confident we feel about ourselves, they can influence how stressed we feel when we have to deal with life's challenges. With hypnosis, people can change the underlying attitudes and beliefs in their subconscious mind, and meet life's challenges in a more resourceful, less stressful way. In addition, hypnosis can be used to help people experience and incorporate stress reducing, relaxing mental and physical states into their everyday lives. For all these reasons, hypnosis is the easiest and quickest way to alleviate stress and live a healthier, relaxing life."

Make 2018 a healthier, happier year for you. Remember, if you don't take care of yourself, how are you going to take care of someone else?

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DID YOU KNOW

Informatively Speaking...

- In St. Augustine Shores in 2016 there were 120 single family home sales (MLS 1/1/16-12/14/16 YTD) with an average sales price of \$186,700 and a average Days on Market (DOM) of 98 days.
- In St. Augustine Shores in 2017 there were 125 single family home sales (MLS 1/1/17-12/14/17 YTD) with an average sales price of \$203,800 and a average Days on Market (DOM) of 65 days. That's a 9% increase in the Average Sales Price. The highest Sales Price in 2017 is \$694,453.
- In the Conquistador Condominiums, the average DOM went from 87 days in 2016 to 83 days in 2017 and the Average Sales Price went from \$104,000 (48 sales in '16) to 114,000 (35 sales in '17) - a \$10,000 increase on average and a 9.6% increase.
- In The Greens, the average DOM went from 79 days in '16 to 64 days in '17 and an Average Sales Price of \$133,000 in '16 to \$143,000 - also, a \$10,000 increase on average and a 8% increase. Most recent sales indicate strong values.
- In Casa Bella, there was only one closed sale in '16 but 4 in '2017 averaging \$251,000.

We can pull MLS statistics to provide Generic Market Data and it will be much more accurate than other databases such as Zillow and Realtor.com. Yet these statistics are not specific enough to provide any homeowner with a valuation for their properties.

Consider this: (2017 Stats from St. Aug. MLS based on CONSTRUCTION TYPES in the Shores)

- Single Family Homes built prior to 1978 that are FRAME construction averaged \$149,000 (18 sales), built between 1979 and 2000 averaged \$248,300 (17 sales) and built between 2000 and 2017 averaged \$352,800 (13 sales).

- Single Family Homes built prior to 1978 that are BLOCK construction averaged \$164,000 (20 sales), built between 1979 and 2000 averaged \$203,500 (49 sales) and built between 2000 and 2017 averaged \$287,500 (5 sales).

What this shows is that Real Estate Values are not just local, they are age specific, construction specific and more. Want to know more from a Realtor who've been serving St. Augustine Shores for 35 years? Contact: Dirk Schroeder, Broker/Owner at 904-540-2360 or dirkschroeder@msn.com



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