



St. Augustine Beaches NEWS JOURNAL

NEWS INFORMATION FOR & ABOUT ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH & ANASTASIA ISLAND

St. Augustine Beach and Beyond...

By Lorraine Thompson (staugbeachwatch@aol.com)

October is the month for residents to play tourist! If you are full time residents of St. Augustine Beach or nearby areas, October is our month!

The number of vacationers dwindles, kids are back in school, the weather is cooler, beach vehicle tolls are no longer required effective October 1 (until March 1, 2026).

There are plenty of activities to enjoy—some annual events. Others are new. Some require fees. Many are free. One of the highlights of every month, and particularly October, is the glow from the St. Augustine Lighthouse. A nighttime drive on Anastasia Island or on the nearby mainland is made easier for drivers who catch the glow coming from atop the Lighthouse.

It will be 151 years on October 15 since the Fresnel lens began to light the way in 1874 for mariners traveling the nearby Atlantic as well as for land travelers in the area. The original Fresnel lens still serves the beacon, but today it is lit by a 1000-watt bulb.

The Lighthouse complex, located off Anastasia Boulevard at 100 Red Cox Drive, is St. Augustine's oldest surviving brick structure. It rises 165 feet above sea level and contains 219 steps that may be climbed by visitors. Weather permitting, those who make the climb (there is no elevator) are treated to beautiful and historic sites that encompass the beach and ocean to the east and the city of St. Augustine to the west.

For more information on the Lighthouse, its history, hours of operation and programs, visit www.staugustinelighthouse.com.

Fall produce time:

October is also the perfect time of the year to enjoy fall harvested vegetables and fruits. Two weekly community fresh produce markets are available on the island offering local and seasonal produce.

The Saturday market is held on the grounds of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, 1340C A1A South. It offers local fresh food produce straight from the farm, handmade arts and crafts, and live entertainment on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free parking is available at the Amphitheatre, nearby Elks Lodge and R. B. Hunt Elementary School. Information: <https://www.theamp.com/community>

The Wednesday market, located at the St. Augustine Beach Pier Park, 350 A1A Beach Boulevard, is open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon May through October and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from November through April. Parking is free. Information: staugpiermarket@gmail.com

OTHER OCTOBER EVENTS:

Washington Oaks Gardens State Park is a hidden jewel located off A1A, south of Marineland, at 6400 North Oceanshore Boulevard in Palm Coast.

The formal garden, located on the west side of A1A, is the centerpiece of the park, with displays of native and non-native plant species including azaleas, camellias and bird of paradise.

On the east side of A1A, Washington Oaks is famous for the unique shoreline of coquina rock formations along its Atlantic beach.

Parking is \$5 per vehicle. Most activities at the park are free. Events coming up include: (continued on page 7)



2024 National Night Out October 7

St. Augustine Beach will join thousands of communities nationwide to celebrate National Night Out. The local event will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7 at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Boulevard. The free event is presented locally by the St. Augustine Beach Police Department in conjunction with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and the St. Augustine Police Department.

The community is invited to the festival, a unique crime/drug prevention event presented nationwide by the National Association of Town Watch, an organization dedicated to crime and drug prevention and safety awareness.

The local event will feature free food and beverages, music, exhibitors, free goodie bags, raffles for locally donated prizes, and exhibitors. Law enforcement personnel will be on hand to answer questions and emergency vehicles will be on display. For information call 904-471-3600.



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NEWS JOURNAL

TRICKS AND TREATS
AT THE BEACH PD TREATS

POLICE
ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH
OFFICER
ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH
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FL

Friday, October 24th
5:30 PM

St. Augustine Beach Police
2300 A1A South

R.I.P.



5th Annual
Festival of Trees

PRESENTED BY
Piñata Falls
MINIATURE GOLF

November 21st - 23rd
at Anastasia Catholic Church Celebration Hall

Join Us for:

Friday Night:
A Festive Night Market

Saturday Morning:
Breakfast with Santa, Story time with Mrs. Claus, cookie decorating

Saturday Night:
Elegant Jingle Ball, with holiday cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live music and dancing, and more!

Sunday Morning:
Final walkthrough for silent auction filled with beautiful wreaths and trees

For more information, contact Kate Batzel at k.batzel@stfrancissshelter.org

Benefitting homeless youth, men, women & families served by St. Augustine Society, Inc.




St. Augustine Beach Police Department presents
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2025

2025 NATIONAL NIGHT Out
POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Tuesday, October 7th from 5pm-8pm
St. Augustine Beach Pier
350 A1A Beach Blvd

Join us and enjoy a night of fun!
FREE FOOD, MUSIC, GIVEAWAYS, RAFFLES
LAW ENFORCEMENT, NON-PROFITS



Together, we are making communities safer, more caring places to live and work.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL SABPD AT
904-471-3600 OR EMAIL RECORDS@SABPD.ORG

An Art Affair
llc

Whether you are a serious collector, someone looking to refresh your decor, or just like to browse the local art galleries, we look forward to you visiting our ever-changing collection of fine art and local art. With more than 150 pieces in our collection, the art changes a little bit every month! While you're here, sign up for our newsletter to hear about monthly events & new art.




Eleven 14th Lane - Suite B - St Augustine Beach
facing A1A Beach Blvd, across from Beachside Diner,
with free parking on the side of our building.

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YOU ARE INVITED TO SABPD'S
NOT SO Spooky
CARNIVAL

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24TH
5:30PM-7:30PM
2300 A1A S, ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH FL 32080

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT
CONTACT@SABPD.ORG OR 904-471-3600



FREE ONLINE!

St. Augustine Beaches

NEWS
JOURNAL2465 US 1 South PMB #8
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clifflogsdon@att.net“News Source for the City of
St. Augustine Beach”

City of St. Augustine Beach

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sabadmin@cityofsab.orgPrint Distribution Locations for
the Beaches News Journal

- St. Augustine Beach City Hall
- Anastasia Library
- St. Johns County Pier Park
- YMCA
- Main Library
- Southeast Library

The purpose of the St. Augustine Beaches News Journal LLC is to serve neighborhoods of St. Augustine Beach and other communities on Anastasia Island.

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

Information and ads 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 Beaches News Journal, 2465 US1 South PMB #8, St. Augustine Florida 32086. Information may also be e-mailed to clifflogsdon@att.net or clogsdon1@yahoo.com.

All materials submitted to the Beaches News Journal is subject to editing. Publishing of submitted 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 Beaches News Journal.

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St. Augustine Beach City Hall Update

On Thursday, September 4, 2025, the St. Augustine Beach City Commission held two meetings: the first a public hearing on the millage and budget ordinances for Fiscal Year 2026, which will begin on October 1, 2025, and end September 30, 2026. The second meeting was the Commission's regular meeting for the month of September. Here is a summary of the actions taken at each:



1. Approved on first reading two ordinances: the first to set 2.5000 mills as the property tax millage to provide money for City operations during the new fiscal year. The same ordinance also set the millage of 0.0841mills to provide money to pay the City's long-term debt. This is the last year property owners will be charged a debt millage. The second ordinance was to adopt the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2026. Both ordinances will have a final reading at a special meeting on September 22, 2025.

2. The budget meeting was followed by the Commission's regular meeting for September. At that meeting, the Commission:

a. Approved a mural that will be painted by a St. Johns County firefighter, Mr. Luke Nehemias, on the south wall of the City's former police garage at Pier Park. The mural will be of a sea turtle.

b. Approved the request by the City's Sustainability and Environmental Planning Advisory Committee to plant a Tiny Forest on a parkette at the northeast corner of D Street and 4th Avenue.

c. Heard a presentation by Mr. Courtney Pittman, Interim Executive Director of the St. Johns County Airport Authority, of his plans for airport infrastructure improvements and to involve the Authority with other local governments in the County.

d. Decided not to approve the signing of perpetual easements for City properties

adjacent to the beach. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is now requiring all upland property owners to sign the easements as a condition for future beach restoration projects. The Commission directed the City Attorney to compare the terms of the perpetual easement agreement with the agreement that's been in effect for beach restoration projects since the late 1990s.

e. Approved on second reading two ordinances: the first to change the regulations for the replating of private property; the second to vacate the alley between D and E Streets and 2nd and 3rd Avenues in the Coquina Gables subdivision. Both ordinances will have a final reading at the Commission's October 6th meeting.

f. Approved a resolution to change construction and permitting fees.

g. Approved a budget resolution to transfer \$23,000 to the legal fees account for the Code Enforcement Department.

h. Approved the use of the City's logo on a flier that will be used by the Icemen, Jacksonville's professional ice hockey team, to promote City Government Employee Appreciation Night on January 25, 2026.

The City Commission will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, October 6, 2025, in the Commission meeting room at City Hall. The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. for discussion of changes to the City's Comprehensive Plan.

City of St. Augustine Beach
October Commission Meeting Agenda

The City Commission will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, October 6, 2025, in the Commission meeting room at City Hall, 2200 A1A South. Please note that the meeting will begin at 5 p.m., an hour earlier than the usual time. Topics on the agenda may include:

1. Discussion of proposed changes to update the City's Comprehensive Plan.
2. Proclamation to declare October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
3. Proclamation to declare October 20-26, 2025, as Florida City Government Week.
4. Report by Reuben Franklin, St. Augustine Assistant City Manager, regarding the STAR circulator transportation service for St. Augustine's Nights of Lights event.
5. Two public hearings: a) the final reading of an ordinance to vacate an alley between D and E Streets and 2nd and 3rd Avenues in the Coquina Gables subdivision; b) the final reading of an ordinance to change the regulations regarding replats of private property.
6. Budget resolutions for adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. The fiscal year ended on September 30, 2025.
7. Discussion of changes to the City Charter.

Information about the above list of topics will be available for viewing online a week before the October 6th meeting at staugbch.com. Citizens with requests about any of the topics may contact the City Manager at mroyle@cityofsab.org or (904) 471-2122.

Do You Have Community News to Share?

Do you have news, events or personal interest information that are relevant to our communities in and around St. Augustine Beach? Please forward them to the Editor for consideration for the monthly News Journal. Please contact Editor clifflogsdon@att.net or call 904-607-1410.

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St. Augustine Multiple Sclerosis Support Group

The National MS Society maintains a network of affiliated groups to provide opportunities for people living with MS to connect with others in their community. Every group is unique and welcoming — contact the group leader for more information. Join Us! We are recognized by the National MS Society and the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

We meet every 4th Tuesday at 1:00 pm at Anastasia Branch Library, 124 Sea Grove Main Street, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080. For information or to RSVP, contact: Anita Clark johnita0013@gmail.com or call 305-898-1432.

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www.templebetyam.org

Holiday Christmas Market St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church

724 Shores Boulevard, St. Augustine, FL 32086
November 15, 2025 8:00am-12:00pm

Christmas items, baked goods, homemade goods, books and puzzles, pecans, and a raffle will be available. Please join us!

Corpus Christi Catholic Church Annual Oktoberfest October 25th

Come join us at Corpus Christi Catholic Church for our annual Oktoberfest Saturday, October 25, 2025 in Marian Hall. Doors open at 5:00-6:00pm. The church is located at the intersection of U.S. Rt 1 South and Datil Pepper Road.

We'll be serving a traditional German dinner including (but not limited to) Bratwurst, Pork Loin, Sauerkraut, Red Cabbage, homemade German Potato Salad, Bavarian Soft Pretzels, a variety of homemade desserts, and beverages. All this for \$17.50 (Children 6-12: \$5.00.). The parishioners at Corpus Christi cook all the food, so it's prepared fresh and on premise.

Come enjoy some great food and camaraderie with new friends. Tickets are available before and after all Masses the weekends of 9/27 & 28; 10/11 & 12; and 10/18 & 19, at the Rectory on campus between 9:30-12:30 M-F, or at the door. We hope to see you there.

Temple Bet Yam High Holy Day Services

We would like to welcome you to Temple Bet Yam's High Holy Day services. WHILE THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND, VISITORS MUST MAKE A RESERVATION. A PHOTO ID WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER. Call our office at 904-819-1875 to make a reservation. Security will be on-site. Temple Bet Yam is located at 2055 Wildwood Drive, St. Augustine. Wishing you a very healthy and happy new year.

Erev Yom Kippur: October 1, Kol Nidre Service: 7:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur Services: October 2 Morning Service 10:00 a.m., Afternoon Services: (Yizkor & Neilah) 3:30 p.m.

Sukkot and Simchat Torah: October 10, 7:30 p.m.

Living with Cancer Support Group

The Living with Cancer support group has moved to Cancer Specialists of North Florida. 121 Whitehall Drive, St. Augustine 32086 on the third Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am. We still have the ability to ZOOM in if needed. This is an informal gathering for adults with any type of cancer and their caregivers.

It is open to all affected by cancer. This group will provide the opportunity to meet others in similar situations, share your stories, provide practical suggestions and offer support to each other. If you prefer to participate virtually via Zoom, please call 904-819-4793 for further instructions.

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St. Augustine Beach Democratic Club

The SAB Democratic Club's next meeting is on Tuesday October 7, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Sea Grove Main Street, St Augustine Beach. Our speaker on October 7 will be Trina McCowan Adams, Director of Library Services at Flagler College. Director McCowan Adams will be presenting an "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence: How it works and how the average person can use it." Please join us.

The St Augustine Beach Democratic Club's focus is on current issues affecting those living in the St Augustine Beach area. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity to hear from a variety of speakers, get to know elected representatives, mingle with Democratic candidates and socialize with our like minded neighbors. The Club meets at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Sea Grove Main Street, 5:30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month. There is plenty of parking available. For additional information, please contact info@sabdem.org.

The Friends of the Anastasia Island Branch Library

by Mollie Meikle

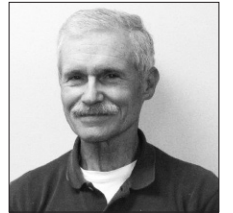
The Friends of the Anastasia Island Branch Library will hold our next board meeting on Thursday, October 16th at 5pm at the Anastasia Island Branch Library. All are welcome!

Thank you to everyone who came out and Bowled for the Library! It was a great afternoon. We hope to see you at our next event or at the library!

To sign up for our newsletter and email alerts, or to learn more about Friends of Anastasia Island Branch Library, please email us at anastasiainlandfaibl@gmail.com

Can Man

By Max Royle
St. Augustine Beach City Manager



How did it begin? To the best guess of my Swiss cheese memory, it started more than a decade ago when a Public Works employee, down on his financial luck, asked me if I would help him supplement his income by picking up discarded aluminum cans during my daily walk around our fair City. With the cans he collected, he would take them to a recycling center. At that time, the going rate for a pound of scrap aluminum was 21 cents, which the employee told me was a good price.

Picking up junk aluminum cans—a most humble activity that was endowed with noble purpose: providing a helping hand, modest though it was, to a fellow human. It was also an activity that revealed how carelessly piggish some members of humankind can be. I know, that comment smears with a harsh, insulting brush the intelligent, friendly members of the domesticated porcine family, but the brush must be wielded with all due apologies to Porky and Petunia.

I wonder if a behavioral scientist has studied why some persons do not deposit their trash in proper receptacles, are so unthinking of the negative effect on the physical environment that they would never, ever condescend (oh, perish the thought!!) to NOT nonchalantly with an arrogant flick of hand and wrist toss empty cans, glass and plastic bottles, food waste, the wrappings of candy and cigarette packages, plastic bags, empty energy drink containers, and all manner of other types of trash from their vehicles to litter streets and sidewalks. What are the reasons for such behavior? Should we blame their parents for not teaching them habits of tidiness at an early age and not expecting others to pick up after them? Were their childhood bedrooms a mess?

I have read that the study of trash, ancient and modern, can yield clues about the persons living at the time the trash was discarded. From the roadside litter in at least our fair City, I must conclude there are more consumers of Coca Cola than its rival Pepsi. Also, cans that once contained one of the various brands of beer brewed by the Budweiser company outnumber Coors cans.

What may be most revealing about our modern society are the empty, so-called energy drink cans. I read the labels and am dismayed by the list of ultra-processed ingredients and the stratospheric number of calories, grams of carbohydrates, sugar (usually high fructose corn syrup) and often caffeine. Will a sociologist studying our roadside junk 50 years from now conclude that we were a society that sedated itself with beer and woke itself with energy drinks?

To conclude my rant: Though the Public Works employee has retired, I still pick up discarded cans to be recycled. I see others, likely City residents, also removing roadside litter. We are neat freaks doing what we (please pardon the atrocious pun) can to make our fair City a less-cluttered City. Likely our parents would be proud.

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12th Annual Gullah Geechee Festival and Rails to Trails Celebration Dec 6th

by Mary Kellough, lkellough@comcast.net

The SEA Community Help Resource Center (seachrc.org) invites everyone to their 12th Annual Gullah Geechee Festival and Rails to Trails Celebration on Dec. 6, 2025, rain or shine. Admission is free as is parking at the St. Johns County Fairgrounds in Armstrong on SR 207.

Free shuttles will run during the festival. Rails to Trails bicycling activities begin at 9 a.m. and the Gullah Geechee Festival commences at noon, ending at 5 p.m.

Come and enjoy authentic southern cooking, including low country boil, BBQ, sweet potato pie and jambalaya. Experience exciting African dancing, the Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters and regional musical talent! There will be informational booths to learn about the Gullah Geechee culture of which Armstrong is an official partner. For more information, visit www.gullahgeecheefestival.com

Homeport Christian Church Fall Fest

Sunday October 26th 5 pm-6:30 pm

FREE TO THE COMMUNITY

There will be a Chile Cook-Off, Trick or Treat, an Obstacle Course, and of course a Cake Walk, and Much, Much More! Join us at 5605 US 1 South. If need more information contact Candice Childers at 904-797-8927.

Families Anonymous Support Group

At your wits end? Tired of lies? Is someone you love destroying your family harmony? Families Anonymous is a free weekly meeting for mothers of addicted loved ones. We have walked your path and are here for you.

We meet Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. at Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, 2487 A1A S. Street, St. Augustine (Use red back door entrance). For more information to restore peace and harmony, contact 843-367-1475.

Being a domestic goddess is not as easy as it looks!



A Classic Theatre begins its new season with a deliciously dark comedy about sex, cake and the quest to be the perfect housewife.

by Laura Wade
Directed by Dawn Knife

Oct 3-12, 2025
at The Waterworks

GET YOUR TICKETS AT
www.aclassictheatre.org

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The Waterworks is available through the generous support of the City of St. Augustine and the St. Johns Cultural Council

Pumpkin Patch Opens October 12th

Join us for fun-filled family events at St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church, 724 Shores Boulevard, St. Augustine, FL 32085

Saturday 11am-6pm,
Sunday 12pm-6pm,
Monday-Friday 2pm-6pm

And, Trunk or Treat October 31st 6pm-7pm.



Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregiver Support Group

If you are a caregiver for a Alzheimer's or Dementia loved one, and looking for encouragement, support and to share, this is the place for you.

The second Thursday of each month, next meeting will October 9th, 10:00am-11:00am at Homeport Christian Church, 5605 US 1 South, St. Augustine It is SSponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. alz.org. Contact Nancy Wright 904-347-6299 for more information.

St. Augustine Orchid Society

Janis Croft

October 7 - Blooming Cattleyas

Courtney Hackney, Hackneau Art & Orchids

Dr. Hackney will talk about growing and flowering cattleyas to perfection. Cattleyas are known as the queen of orchids and commonly used in corsages. Courtney has been creating better cattleya hybrids for years. He'll talk about how best to grow cattleyas to get the best blooms. He is Emeritus Professor of Biology and the former Director of Coastal Biology at the University of North Florida who has written numerous articles and also published "American Cattleyas", a book which summarizes in old photographs and prints how all of the modern cattleyas came to be.

Bring your blooming orchids for the Show Table. Plants will be available on the sales & raffle tables. The St. Augustine Orchid Society welcomes all to our monthly meetings. No charge. <https://www.staugorchidsociety.org>

When: October 7, 6:30 to 9 pm

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church
Drive around to the back entrance
3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086




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Garden Club of St. Augustine
54th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes
December 14 Noon - 5 pm
Enjoy the Holiday Tea & Boutique at the River House
179 Marine Street | Noon – 4:00 PM

Indulge in holiday cookies, coffee, and tea, all prepared by Garden Club members. The Boutique offers handmade wreaths, ornaments, baked goods, fresh floral arrangements, and gift baskets — perfect for seasonal shopping. A “Will Call” area is available for guests to hold purchases while they tour. Additional Details:

- This is a self-paced walking tour. Comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate clothing are encouraged.

- Limited transportation is available from the City Parking Garage to the River House, with possible drop-off points near the homes.

- Some homes may have steps or stairs. Tickets: \$50.00 per person Advance reservations are required — this popular event sells out quickly. Tickets go on sale October 1, 2025. Purchase Online: Visit www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org Local Ticket Outlets (Cash or Check Only):

- Southern Horticulture - 1690 A1A S | (904) 471-0440

- Leonardi's Nursery - 902 Anastasia Blvd | (904) 829-5909

- Flowers by Shirley - 2200 US 1 South | (904) 824-8163

- Herbie Wiles Insurance - 400 N Ponce De Leon Blvd | (904) 829-2201 Don't miss this unforgettable celebration of holiday beauty, tradition, and community spirit!



Sheriff's Update

By St. Johns County Sheriff Robert A. Hardwick



Halloween Safety

Please review the below safety tips as we approach Halloween season:

1. Make sure costumes and candy bags or pails are reflective. Costumes shouldn't drag too far on the ground to avoid tripping, and masks, hats, and shoes should be well-fitting.

2. If you plan to be driving during trick-or-treat hours, watch for children walking on roadways, medians, and curbs. Be sure to enter and exit driveways carefully.

3. Stay in well-lit areas and bring a flashlight or glow stick. Always use the sidewalk, and do not cut across yards or use alleys. Wherever possible, cross the road at a crosswalk.

4. When in doubt, throw candy out. Avoid candy that has loose wrappings, is completely unwrapped, has puncture holes, or is homemade and not factory wrapped.

Registered sexual offenders and predators have additional restrictions on Halloween, including:

- No Halloween themed decorations
- No offering or distributing candy or treats to children
- Porch light or any exterior lights must be turned off
- No participation in Halloween parties, events, or festivals where minors are present

SJSO has a very proactive Sexual Predator Offender Tracking (SPOT) initiative which includes deputies and specialized detectives staying in constant contact with registered sexual offenders and predators in St. Johns County. Please contact SJSO if you have any questions or need assistance.

Non-emergency: 904-824-8304

Emergency: 911

Fall Craft Fair Memorial Lutheran Church 3375 US 1 South Nov 18th 9am - 1pm

Outdoor space is available for \$20. Per 10x10 space. Anyone interested in setting up a tent on our front lawn please contact Carol Hollis at carolhollis@att.net

Sunday, December 14, 2025

12pm to 5pm

The tour of homes will include six homes in the Historic District, decorated by the Garden Club of St. Augustine with live plant material.

Ticket sales start: **October 1, 2025** Ticket Price: **\$50**

Holiday Tea, Raffles, and Boutique
12pm to 4pm

At The River House
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www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org
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St. Augustine Beach and Beyond...

(continued from page 1)

***First Friday Garden Walk**, starting at 10 a.m., Friday October 3,

***Second Saturday Plant Sale**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, October 11.

***Music in the Gardens**, 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday, October 19, featuring music by America Idol performer Michelle Marie. Food trucks will be available. There will be fun for the whole family including special activities for children in the Kids Zone.

For more information visit <http://www.washingtonoaks.org/music-in-the-gardens.html> 2025 National Night Out October 7

St. Augustine Beach will join thousands of communities nationwide to celebrate National Night Out.

The local event will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7 at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Boulevard. It is presented locally by the St. Augustine Beach Police Department in conjunction with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and the St. Augustine Police Department. Admission and parking are free.

The community is invited to the festival, a unique crime/drug prevention event presented nationwide by the National Association of Town Watch, an organization dedicated to crime and drug prevention and safety awareness. The event will include food and beverages, music, goodie bags for children, raffles, exhibitors and vendors. Local law enforcement personnel will be on hand to answer questions.

Tricks and Treats at the Beach October 24

The St. Augustine Beach Police Department, 2300 A1A South, continue their community fun and informational offerings with a free family-friendly Halloween event from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 24. Tricks or Treats at the Beach will include spooky crafts and games, popcorn, and candy. Children as well as adults are encouraged to wear costumes and to explore the city police cars, fire trucks, and visit special guests from the National Park Service.

The 2025 sea turtle nesting season ends Oct. 31. The mid-September report from St. Johns County shows a total of 991 nests so far this season on county beaches. More than 52,809 hatchlings from 616 nests have headed seaward. Because it is still sea turtle nesting season, beach ramp gates will continue to be locked at 7:30 p.m. and will reopen at 8 a.m. daily through October 31 or until the last sea turtle nest is hatched, whichever occurs later. Beach lighting restrictions are also enforced. One way beach traffic, designated parking areas, and 10 mph speed limits are enforced year-round. The toll booths are scheduled to return on March 1, 2026.

The Garden Club of St. Augustine October 8th Meeting

The Garden Club of St. Augustine began a new year Saturday, Sept. 13 at 9:30am at the clubhouse, 3440 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine. with refreshments followed by a presentation given by Dr. John Rossi/ St. Johns Botanical Garden... and a monthly business meeting.

With over 200+ energetic women and men, the GCSA is a beehive of activity. Last year's Garden Club's activities, which officially end in May, continued into the summer with the kids' Nature Detectives Pollinator programs at four local libraries, the Boys and Girls Club planting and learning sessions, and landscaping new Habitat for Humanity homes.

The October meeting and future general meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month, same time and place. Tom Torretta and Julia Wesling from Habitat for Humanity will speak Oct. 8, 2025. www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org



October is All About the Kids! Our October First Friday on the 3rd will feature works culminated from our 2 Children's Classes and our Special Needs Class. Norah Sutphin teaches her S.T.E.A.M. rooted class, standing for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. She also heads up our Free, Second Saturday morning Kid's Class. Mandy Frevele holds a Special Needs Art Club on First Sundays of the month in the evening. All 3 classes will show off their accomplishments starting at 5pm. There will be kid friendly snacks and beverages as well as live music and prizes will be awarded.

Later in the month on October 18th the Art Studio gets spooky with The Tale Tellers of St. Augustine's "Ghost Stories at the Beach"! Come at Dusk if you dare to hear the ghoulish tales of the troupe and join in if you have a favorite one of your own. Sign-up starts at 6:30pm. Snacks and a special beverage from the "Cauldron of Blood" will be available.

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



*Tale Tellers of St Augustine
And
The St. Augustine Beach Art Studio & Gallery
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Ghost Stories At the Beach

Featuring Tale Tellers of St Augustine

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cauldron for a
chance to tell
YOUR scariest
story

**Drink from the
Cauldron of Blood
- if you dare**

**October 18, 2025 starting at twilight (7:00 pm)
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Interested in the Civil War?

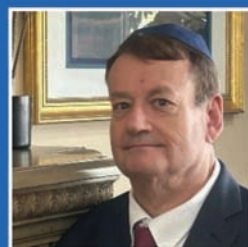
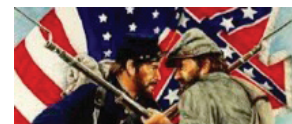
Please join our Civil War Discussion Group.

Our next presentation will be Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 1pm, at the Anastasia Branch library in Sea Grove.

The October presentation will be with Len Whiteside on "Jeb Stuart: The Rebel Cavalier". It will examine the life and exploits of this daring and dashing confederate cavalry leader in General Lee's army, along with the major battles of his time.

Hope you can join us. For questions or comments, please contact Len Whiteside at armyfam831@gmail.com

Additional 2025 meetings will be held on Nov 4 and Dec 2, same location and time.



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“DARK AND STORMY NIGHT” Wednesday, October 22 THE LIMELIGHT THEATRE

Hear stories to curl your toes and chill your blood at “Dark and Stormy Night”, a Tale Tellers of St. Augustine production, on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 7:00 pm, at the Limelight Theatre, 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. Thrill to expertly woven stories by Kathy Duffy, Margaret Kaler, Chris Kastle, Kathy Kniery, and Rita Saker. Not intended for the faint of heart. For further information call: 904-540-0402. Tickets available at the event or in advance at taletellers.org.



The show features a broad range of talent and expertise: Kathy Duffy tells tales from the lighthearted to the grim and scary; Margaret Kaler is an accomplished director, actor and storyteller; Chris Kastle is a critically acclaimed and award winning storyteller, songsmith, and author; Kathy Kniery shares traditional and historical stories with a twist; Rita Saker tells traditional tales with style and flair.

For over 32 years, Tale Tellers of St. Augustine continues to be a performing guild devoted to the advocacy of storytelling as an art form and entertainment medium. It is a Florida not-forprofit corporation with a 501(c)(3) designation. www.taletellers.org.

St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS) Santa Suits on the Loose 5K Dec 13th



St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS) 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. SAYS has had a focus and specialization in youth mental health for over 36 years. SAYS fundraisers directly impact our youth and the communities we serve. For our residential youth you help us to provide summer camps, birthday gifts, school supplies, recreational activities, and other normal life experiences. For our community families you provide food and gas assistance, basic necessities, and additional normal life experiences like birthday gifts and school supplies. This year our Santa Suits on the Loose 5k returns on December 13, and we would be very grateful to count on your support as a sponsor. Last year our race was attended by 1,100 participants, making it the third largest run in St. Johns County! All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated!

Fundraising Provides: Summer Camps, After School Activities, Equine Therapy, Food Assistance, School Supplies. For more information please e-mail santasuitsontheloose@gmail.com or call us at 904-829-1770.



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Rob Cook, Esq.

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The Garden Club of St. Augustine October 8th Meeting

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Notice from the City of St. Augustine Beach

By Max Royle, City Manager

Attention Owners of Property Bordering St. Augustine Beach. If you are thinking of a major remodeling of your property, changing its land use from residential to commercial or vice versa, or tearing down an existing building to construct a new one, the City of St. Augustine Beach can provide timely and efficient review and permitting services. The only condition is that the property will need to be annexed into the City. Persons with questions may direct them to Max Royle, City Manager, at mroyle@cityofsab.org, or telephone (904) 471-2122.

St. Augustine Genealogical Society

The St Augustine Genealogical Society holds its monthly meeting the 2nd Saturday of each month in the Southeast Branch of the St Johns County Library. The SE Library Branch is located at 6670 US Hwy 1 South. Check in for our meetings is 12:45 and meeting starts at 1:00 PM.

Our Genealogical Society is open to all. We encourage visitors, as well as current and former members to join us. Refreshments will be served, and feel free to bring your favorite. For information visit website StAugGenSoc.org.




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St. Johns Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve

The Green Thumbs, the gardening volunteers, will be offering their personal expertise on Saturday, October 11 from 10:30 am – 3:00 pm. (Rain date: Oct. 18). Specific talks include garden basics, gardening with native plants and propagation techniques.

The first talk begins at 10:30, with a break for lunch, followed by a walking tour of the nature preserve and the native gardens, ending with a demonstration of how to propagate succulents and other plants. There will also be a plant sale.

The volunteers will be available throughout the day to answer questions and offer in depth knowledge about maintenance requirements to keep your garden looking its best.

A food truck will be on site or bring a picnic lunch and enjoy one of the shaded picnic areas. Garden admission is required (members are free). For more information, visit stjohnsbotanicalgarden.org or its Facebook page.



8310 County Road 13 South
Hastings, FL 32145
(904) 540-3294

stjohnsbotanicalgarden.org

St. Augustine Travel Club - Peter Dytrych

The October gathering of the St. Augustine Travel Club will be on Wednesday, OCTOBER 8 @ 3:00 PM. We meet at the Southeast Branch Public Library on US 1, South. We will cover India and the highlights....Exploring Northern India and the capital territory Delhi, experiencing the teeming streets of Old Delhi, its shops and temples. Admire the famous Taj Mahal in Agra, one of the world's man-made wonders.

The St. Augustine Travel Club is open to all residents and no registration is required. The program is formatted as arm-chair travel, meaning a brief lecture of the destination we cover, along with a video. Our program is held at the Southeast Public Library, 6670 US 1, St. Augustine. We look forward to seeing our regulars and newcomers! Any questions, please call Peter at 904-797-3736.



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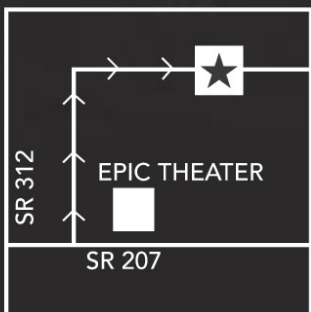
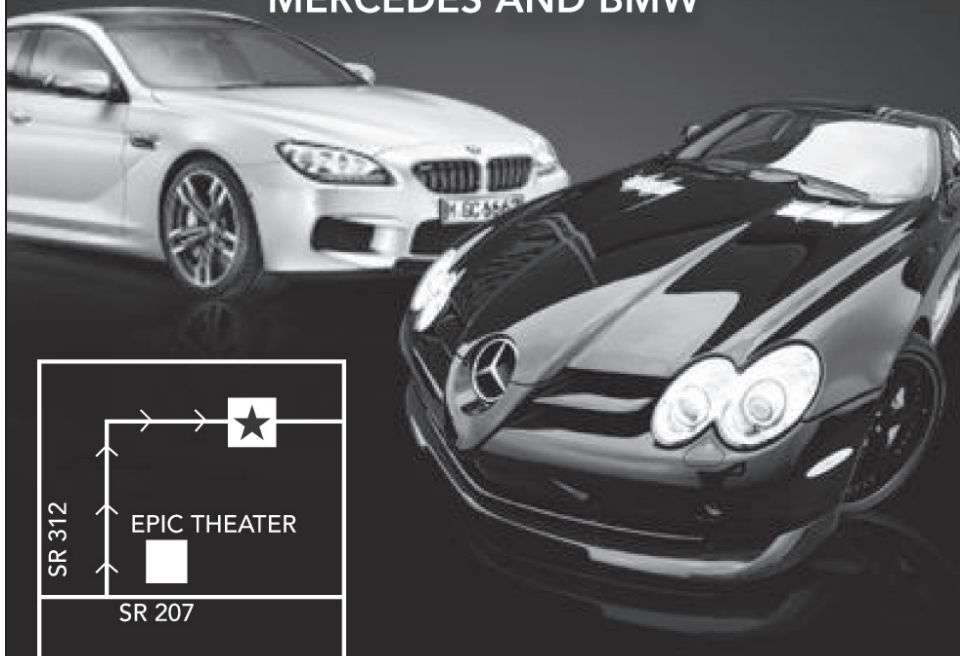
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Financial Focus

Information Provided by

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When investing, one of the best abilities is durability

You've probably heard about "genius" investors or those who got in on the "ground floor" of a company that grew to be a huge success. These stories may be interesting, but they are also rare — and sometimes not even true.

The truth is that successful investing isn't glamorous, and it isn't necessarily quick. Instead, a well-founded investing strategy is a durable one — one that can withstand the test of time.

Here are some actions that can help you build durability.

- **Take your time:** Most individual investors make their money over time, not overnight. Despite stories about fortunes made on one or two trades, you're more likely to be successful making money over time. You'll want to own a well-diversified portfolio of quality investments — and plan to own those investments for the long term.

- **A long-term perspective** can help you ignore the constant noise in the markets and stay invested. When you hear about the latest "hot" investment tip, especially if it's already performed well, the best advice is this: Ignore it. Although it may be tempting to buy a popular investment, it may not fit with the rest of your portfolio, it may have already peaked and it may be riskier than you expect. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

- **Invest in quality:** When building your investment portfolio, quality should be a top priority. For stocks, quality is frequently measured by the steadiness of earnings and dividend growth over time. For bonds, one measure of quality is an investment-grade credit rating, which indicates that the borrower has a good track record of making its promised interest and principal payments and the bond has a relatively low risk of default.

- **Quality investments** are more likely to overcome temporary challenges, which is why a good track record can be an indication of quality. Don't reach for yield by looking for investments offering the highest dividend or interest rate without considering the risk. Remember, there is no perfect investment — a higher rate generally means higher risk.

- **Stick to your strategy:** Building a long-term strategy can anchor your decisions and provide a roadmap for your investment choices. Your strategy should consider your goals, tolerance for risk and the time needed to save toward each goal.

- **Within that strategy,** you can be flexible. Buy and hold, for example, doesn't mean buy and forget. Over time, your goals may change, or you may choose to hold more conservative investments. But it's important to make changes for the right reasons, not simply because stocks or your other investments may have dropped in price.

- **Perhaps one of the biggest mistakes** you can make is trying to time the markets, moving in and out in response to short-term declines or the latest prediction. This often results in getting into and out of the market at the wrong times, costing time and money — and resulting in lower returns over time.

Remember that investments don't all move up or down at the same time but portfolio diversification can help smooth the ups and downs of the market. A long-term perspective can help you see past short-term fluctuations in some investments.

Successful investing isn't about making dramatic moves or chasing the latest trends. It's about developing a durable strategy personalized for your life, then sticking with it through market ups and downs. In investing, as in life, slow and steady could help win the race.

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

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Medicare 2026 Part D Changes:
What Beneficiaries Need to Know

Carol Bogart, Palencia Resident
904-648-6488
Carol@AskCarolB.com

As Medicare beneficiaries prepare for 2026, significant changes are coming that will impact prescription drug costs, coverage limits, and out-of-pocket expenses. These changes stem largely from provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which introduced new cost-saving measures for seniors while also implementing inflation adjustments.

Major Part D Prescription Drug Changes
Higher Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Limits

Medicare Part D beneficiaries will face increased costs in 2026. The maximum deductible that Part D plans can charge will rise to \$615, up from \$590 in 2025. This represents a \$25 increase that could affect millions of Medicare enrollees at the start of their prescription drug coverage each year.

The out-of-pocket spending threshold will also increase to \$2,100 in 2026, up from \$2,000 in 2025. While this \$100 increase means beneficiaries will need to spend more before reaching catastrophic coverage, once they hit this threshold, they'll pay nothing for covered Part D drugs for the remainder of the year.

Simplified Cost Structure

- The 2026 Part D benefit structure will work as follows:
- **Deductible Stage:** Beneficiaries pay 100% of drug costs up to \$615
 - **Initial Coverage:** After meeting the deductible, beneficiaries typically pay 25% of drug costs until reaching the coverage limit
 - **Catastrophic Coverage:** Once out-of-pocket spending reaches \$2,100, costs drop to \$0 for the rest of the year

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Improvements

Starting in 2026, the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan (MPPP) will become more user-friendly. Beneficiaries who participated in this program, which allows spreading prescription costs over the calendar year rather than paying in full at the pharmacy, will be automatically re-enrolled each year unless they choose to opt out. Plan sponsors will also be required to process opt-out requests within three calendar days.

What Beneficiaries Should Do
Plan for Higher Initial Costs

With the increased deductible and out-of-pocket threshold, beneficiaries should budget for potentially higher prescription drug costs early in the year, while keeping

in mind that catastrophic coverage will provide complete protection once the \$2,100 threshold is reached.

Review Plans Annually

Medicare costs, benefits, and provider networks can change each year. The Medicare Open Enrollment period (October 15 - December 7, 2025) will be crucial for beneficiaries to review their options and potentially make changes to their coverage.

Seek Assistance

Beneficiaries should work with their healthcare providers, pharmacists, and Medicare counselors to understand how the new benefits will affect their specific situations.

The St. Augustine Film Society
October Film Schedule

Sunday October 5th Doors open 3:30pm. Film begins at 4:00pm. At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2487 A1A S, St. Augustine, FL 32080 **“The Class”** (French: *Entre les murs*) is a 2008 French drama directed by Laurent Cantet, offering a vivid, cinéma vérité portrait of a year in a tough, multiracial Parisian middle school, with real teacher François Bégaudeau playing a fictionalized version of himself. Set entirely within the confines of a secondary school in a working-class district of Paris, the film tracks French teacher François Marin and his diverse class of 25 adolescents over a tumultuous school year. Academy Award nominee and Palme D'or winner.

Friday Oct 24th Doors open 6:30pm. Film begins at 7:00pm. At The Waterworks, 184 San Marco Ave, St. Augustine, FL 32084

Halloween Party! Costumes optional but encouraged.

“Jeepers Creepers” is celebrated for revitalizing the road-trip horror formula with increasingly distressing tension and supernatural escalation. Filmed almost entirely in Florida, Jeepers Creepers stands as a defining horror film with a gripping narrative, innovative monster mythology, and a legacy marked by both critical acclaim and ongoing debate. Jon Beshara, one of the actors in the film, will lead the Q & A after.

Sunday Oct 26th Doors open 5:30pm. Film begins at 6:00pm. At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2487 A1A S, St. Augustine, FL 32080

“The Penguin Lessons” is a heartwarming 2024 comedy-drama directed by Peter Cattaneo, starring Steve Coogan and Jonathan Pryce, that tells the true story of a disillusioned English teacher transformed by his unlikely bond with a rescued penguin in 1970s Argentina. Set against the backdrop of the 1976 Argentina military coup, an emotionally detached educator at an exclusive boys’ school unexpectedly finds new purpose after rescuing a penguin from an oil spill.



Garden Club of St. Augustine
Educator Stipends

The GCSA is offering six educator stipends to school based teachers in St. Johns County for \$600 each for a project designed by you for your class or school which follows our pledge “to protect and preserve our natural resources by promoting education so all may become better caretakers of this earth”. For information and application, please contact: maggieweaver1951@gmail.com

Grant will begin in October and run through April 2026. Garden Club of St. Augustine Educator Stipends

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Grant will begin in October and run through April 2026.

Medicare

If you are turning 65 and to understand Medicare as well as review available plans, appointments are free and there is no obligation to enroll.



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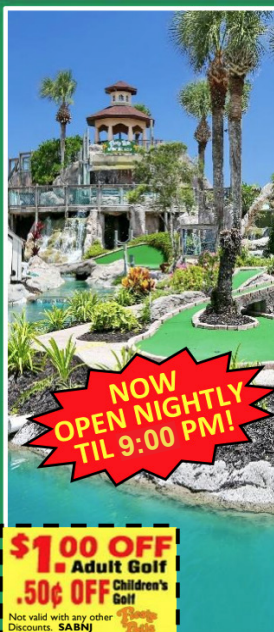
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