



Tickets on sale for 14th annual St. Augustine Film Festival

Big names in film will be in St. Augustine, Florida for the 14th annual Saint Augustine Film Festival, taking place January 11-14, 2024 in St. Augustine venues. Films will screen in Lewis Auditorium and Gamache-Koger Theatre, both at Flagler College, and in the Alcazar Room, part of City Hall at Lightner Museum. Tickets are on sale now at staugfilmfest.com.

Special guests on January 12 include Rod Lurie, Mark Ciardi, and Mike & Eileen

Flynt, from the film THE SENIOR, a stirring sports drama starring Michael Chiklis as Mike Flynt and Mary Stuart Masterson as Eileen Flynt.

Pamela Poitier will attend on January 13 for the film SIDNEY, an 2022 American documentary directed by Reginald Hudlin and produced by Oprah Winfrey. The film is a portrait of the life and legacy of actor Sidney Poitier in his final appearance.

Melora Hardin, known for her roles in The Office and Monk, will be in St. Augustine on January 13 for a screening of GOLDEN VANITY. After an unhinged stage crash at a 1967 awards show, faded movie star Mabel Montgomery-Mayflower flees and barricades herself in her mansion to tape-record her life story. In a solo tour de force, Melora Hardin (NBC's The Office) powerfully and painfully embodies the end product of Hollywood's use-them-up and spit-them-out machinery.

Denny Tedesco (son of musician Tommy Tedesco) and Leland Sklar (member of James Taylor's backing band) will attend the 2024 Saint Augustine Film Festival on January 13 for IMMEDIATE FAMILY. This documentary tells the story of four musicians who find lasting success but stay (conttinued on page 14)

St. Augustine South Reflections

by Ruth Hope

It seems that every month recently has another "new" experience in St Augustine South. I am sitting writing on a December Saturday night with a gale blowing round my eaves and the sound of heavy rain bouncing on my patio. Actually, like many people, I have tired of the cold, wet, windy weather we are experiencing this year. I came to the US from the United Kingdom with my work. However, I chose to move to St Augustine and not return to the UK, as I do not like British weather. But please do not blame me: I really did not bring the weather with me. We held out Silver Wedding celebration in St Augustine in December 2015. That year was warm and sunny during the day,

although like most years we needed jackets in the evening when we all went on a Night of Lights Trolley Tour. Although locals only go in the sea wearing wet suites at this time of year, our British guests enjoyed swimming in the sea in December as the water temperature near the fishing pier in December is the same as the water temperature in July round the British Isles. I cannot imagine that anyone was out enjoying Nights of Lights during the current Nor'easter. The heavy seas are exciting for our surfing community.



Notwithstanding the cold windy weather, the SASIA Holiday season is under way. The Arts and Craft Fair gets bigger and better each time. This December 2, the rain held off for the Arts and Craft Fair and many people took the opportunity to come and look for Holiday gifts for their family and friends. We could even get a quick lunch from the Lovin' Oven food truck.

On December 16th, SASIA held its annual Holiday Celebration with Santa.

Although SASIA invited Santa to visit during the Covid epidemic as an outdoor event, Santa's visit is now inside the Clubhouse and there are crafts and games to entertain the children who came to see Santa and have their photo taken in front of the 'fireplace'. One little tot came in a green Christmas tree dress! As in recent years, SASIA organized a Holiday Lights contest this year, with a twist. Instead of SASIA Board members driving round and judging the holiday lights, this year SASIA invited community members to vote for their favorite Holiday lights. Yard signs were placed strategically round the neighborhood announcing the competition and voting with a QR code to scan and get taken to the online map and voting. Clever!

The SASIA Board was to announce results

of the lights contest

at the SASIA December General Meeting and Holiday Dinner, December 20. This was after the copy date for the December Issue of the St Augustine South Observer, and so I will include them in the January SAS Reflections. If the cold wet weather continues, we will all be cheered by homes that leave up their lights through January!



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8th Annual Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam

Prodvided by Barbara Golden, FHC Communication Manager

The Biggest BBQ Competition in Northeast Florida Returns January 6, 2024! Honoring Popular St. Augustine figure James Wray, The 8th Annual Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam Serves up Live Music, Great Barbecue and Supports Multiple Community Programs

BBQ lovers rejoice! The Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam is returning to the St. Johns County Fairgrounds on Saturday, January 6, for a day filled with smoke, music and a

new addition, a throwdown of the best chowder around. It is presented in partnership with Title Sponsor MasterCraft Builder Group.

deep passion for helping others and continued doing so

The Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam is named for James Wray, affectionately called Jimmy Jam by his many friends. He managed the local Betty Griffin thrift store in St. Augustine, which helps fund the Betty Griffin Center. The Center provides a safe and secure shelter for victims and survivors of domestic or sexual assault. James had a

up until his passing from cancer. His love for barbeque and cars helped inspire the event. Every dollar raised by the Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam continues his philanthropic work, helping members of

the community who find themselves in need.

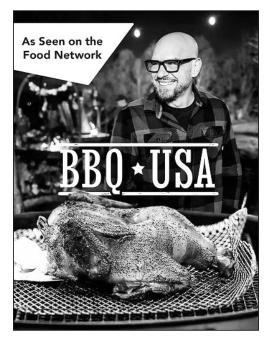
While the BBQ takes center stage, there are plenty of fun activities for the whole family! Everyone from gearheads to kids will flip over the car show, featuring classic cars, trucks and motorcycles. Trophies will be presented to the finest rides. A cornhole tournament kicks off at noon. Competitors can register beginning at 11 a.m. for \$25 per person. The kid's zone will provide hours of entertainment for the littlest guests while over 50 local vendors offer an array of goods, from Datil sauce

and candy to art, candles and jewelry.

Live music provides the soundtrack for a day of barbeque, cars and fun. Beginning at 11 a.m., performers include Orlando Mendez, David Loose, Rambler Kane, Skin & Bonz, Kirk Whalen and Stephen Quinn. A selection of drinks, cold beer and various food trucks will be on-site to quench your thirst and stave off hunger until the BBQ is ready!

To plan your hotel stay and other area activities, visit www. FloridasHistoricCoast.com. The Jimmy Jam BBQ Slam takes place Saturday, January 6 at the St. Johns County Fairgrounds, 5840 FL-207 East, Elkton, FL. Gates open at 10 a.m., and parking is free. Admission is \$10 per adult; children 10 and under are free.

For a full event details and to purchase tickets, visit www. jimmyjambbqslam.com.



Living with Cancer Support Group Our Living with Cancer support group has moved to Cancer Specialists of North

Our 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 11:00am. 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.





For three days, enjoy folk, Americana, and bluegrass music from dozens of bands featured on four stages at the 28th Annual Gamble Rogers Folk Festival, to beheld April 12-14, 2024 at the St. Johns County Fairgrounds. Celebrating one of St. Augustine's most admired natives, the festival honors Gamble Rogers and his musical storytelling



that forever changed folk music. Headlining the festival is AJ Lee & Blue Summit and the John Jorgenson Quintet, with supporting acts including Verlon Thompson, Jerron "Blind Boy" Paxton, Remedy Tree, The Krickets, Red and Christopher Henry & Their All Star Band, Wyatt Ellis, and more!

Primitive camping and RV sites are available for purchase

Primitive camping and RV sites are available for purchase as a festival ticket add on. Kids 16 and under are free. There will be food trucks, local artisans, craft vendors, activities for kids, workshops, and more. Pets are also welcome on a leash. Bring your blankets, hammocks, and chairs to relax and revel in the mastery of the wonderful tradition of folk music!

On site camping is available during the Festival. Weekend camping passes (Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights) may be purchased with a festival ticket. Get yours soon, they will sell out fast! For camping related questions, email gamblerogerscamping@gmail.com.

RV sites are \$100 per RV campsite for the weekend. There are 119 RV campsites available with various amenities. Camping options will appear as an "add on" to the festival tickets during purchase. First come, first served basis. Good RV spots will sell out fast. As they sell out, each RV option will disappear as an "add on", leaving only the remaining available campsites.

St. Augustine Travel Club

We want to wish you and your families a splendid holiday season full of joy and merriment, along with good health.

The St. Augustine Travel Club will present on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 3pm at the Southeast Branch Public Library, US 1 South, near SR 206. We will present on NEW ZEALAND, covering both the North and South Islands, exploring the beaches, mountains and glaciers along the colorful towns and the native Maori culture.

For those of you who do not know about the club, it is formatted as an armchair travel presentation with a brief lecture and a video highlighting areas around the world, with focus mostly on Europe, but also other parts of the world. Also, some of our participants have hosted a presentation of their own based on their travel experiences. If you are interested in doing a presentation about your unique travel experiences, please let us know. The Travel Club also organizes a cruise in the Caribbean region once a year, and is published in the St. Augustine Observer, the Palencia Press, and the Beaches papers. The Travel Club is free and no registration is necessary. If you require any further information, please call Peter Dytrych at (904) 797-3736.



St. Augustine Observer

Published monthly for residents and visitors of St. Augustine Florida area 2465 US 1 South PMB #8 • St. Augustine, FL 32086

Email: clifflogsdon@att.net • Online: www.StAugustineObserverOnline.com

Cliff Logsdon Publisher/Editor

(904) 607-1410 Email: clifflogsdon@att.net



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

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

Information should be received by the 15th of the month in order to appear in the following month's issue. Articles or information may be sent to the St. Augustine Observer, 2465 UŠ1 South PMB #8, St. Augustine Florida 32086. Information may also be e-mailed to clifflogsdon@att.net.

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

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

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St. Augustine Shores Community Calendar

The Shores Service Corporation Shores Homeowners Association (904) 794-2000

www.staugshores.org

Shores Monthly Meetings

- · Shores Service Corporation's monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Meetings are at 6 p.m. at the Riverview
- Conquistador Condominium Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Riverview Club.

(904) 615-6916

January Community Meetings

17th at 7:00pm. A representative from

Parks & Rec will be in attendance to

provide updates on the Royal Road Park

amenities (tennis, basketball, pickle ball,

etc.) They will also provide an update on

the Shore Drive path as well. Community

meeting are held the third Wednesday

of each month at 7:00pm at the SASIA

SASIA Board Members

clubhouse, except July and August.

President - Jerri Sue Dawson 1nd V.P. - Mick Jones

2st V.P. - Nicolette Soucy

Treasurer - Margo Geer

Secretary - Kenneth Rainer

Sharon Green, Linda Stegall

Please join us on Wednesday, January

- Fairview Condominium Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 4 p.m. at the Fairview Condo club house.
- Greens Condominium Board meetings will vary. Contact Jeff Edwards at Sovereign-Jacobs at 904-461-5556
- Casa Bella Condominium Board Meetings are 3rd Mondays of each month at 6pm. Meeting location will be determined posted on the bulletin board 48 hours prior to each meeting. For Information contact Property Manager Piper Hareland at 904-471-6606 ext 123.

St. Augustine South Community Calendar Classes at the SASIA Clubhouse

St. Augustine South Improvement Assoc. 709 Royal Rd. St Augustine, 32086 Movin' with Melinda – Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-9:30 am. A \$5.00 donation is requested. email: info@staugsouth.com Contact Melinda at slidermomma@yahoo.com. www.staugsouth.com

Line Dancing – Wednesdays 1:00-2:30 pm: Join Dianne and Ingrid for a beginning level class. A \$5.00 donation is requested.

Yoga with Joi - Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00-7:00 pm: Yoga for 50+ Build Strength, Stability + Flexibility Donation-based class. Bring a mat and comfortable clothes to move in.

Sound Bath - Mondays at 2:00 pm Starting January 8th. Immerse yourself in the vibrational sound of Tibetan & Crystal Bowls mixed with elements of nature and the Native American flute. Providing healing on a physical, mental and emo-

Tai Chi – Tuesdays 10:00 -11:00 am. Starting January 2nd. Develop a strong and healthy body so you live longer healthier and live your life to the fullest. Learn basic Tai Chi moves for stability, coordination and health.

Residents interested in joining SASIA may do so at www.staugsouth.com

student lab microscope, model 4102. Included is about 50 slideds of flora and fauna. It is brand new, never out of the box and has all original printed materials. \$90.00 Call John at 904-347-3395

FOR SALE: Dining table & 4 chairs. 45" diameter cherry stained birch table top with a "pie wedge" inlay pattern. The base is matte pewter & bronze curve and scroll metal. 4 neutral color cushioned cloth chairs with wood and metal backs. Excellent condition. Asking \$475. 904-687-9149

FOR SALE: (1) Eight metal display screens for Art shows/events. Each 3'×6'. All hardware+free-standing feet+extras. Made in PA,USA. Can text photo. \$440.00. (2) Elephant = beautiful, antique handcarved teak wood, 20"×22". \$350. Call 904.429.2306.

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Community Classifieds

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

Business, Service, seeking work, etc. may be placed in the classified section: (1-4 lines) (5-9 lines) \$10, (10-14 lines) \$15, (15-19 lines) \$20. Ad \$10 for single line border. Ads should be paid in advance before placed. Send your listing and payment, if required, to Observer, 2465 US1 South PMB#8, St. Augustine, 32086 or email your ad to clifflogsdon@att. net. Deadline is the 15th of every month for the next monthly issue.

FOR SALE: Celestron 400x power

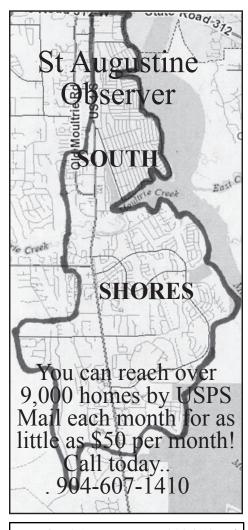
FOR SALE: Vintage Milton Bradley electronic Grandmaster chess game. Works perfectly, very little use. Complete with original box and dust cover. Asking \$195.00 OBO. Call or text Bill C. at (904) 710-6049.

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FOR SALE: MacPro 2006 "Quad Core" 2.0 ghz, 4 gb memory. One 500 gig hard drive with OS 10.7 Lion and one 80 gig hard drive with OS 10.10 Yosemite. Only computer and power cord include. No keyboard or mouse. Works as intended. \$90. Call 904-607-1410



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Dave Whitaker, Melissa

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

President's "Shores" Update

We were thrilled to see such a great turnout at our December 14th monthly Board meeting, especially on a night with high winds and heavy rains. We were also thrilled that the Riverview Club shined brightly and stayed dry inside, thanks to the successful completion of the recent roof and renovation project.

The Board shared a list of issues that need to be researched and prioritized in 2024 and the years to come. Issues that impact the health, safety and welfare of our residents and issues that impact the effective operations of the organization were given the highest priority. A motion was passed to hire a drainage consultant and valuable suggestions were received from homeowners on the ball field/tennis court amenities.

The ongoing vandalism to our swales will not be tolerated. In addition to meeting with the county regarding potential cameras and repairs, we are asking all residents for their help. We have approximately 3500 homes and at least 10,000 cell phones in the Shores. If it's safe to do so, take photos or videos and call the Sheriff and the HOA office to report suspicious activity. We are offering a \$250 reward for the successful arrest and prosecution of the person(s) committing this crime.

Our General Manager briefed us on all of the new and exciting activities that will be coming to the Riverview Club. Starting in January, new classes in Art, Belly Dancing and Zumba will be added to the schedule. The HOA dues collections process has now been streamlined and the board approved an 18% interest payment on past due

We were thrilled to see such a great mout at our December 14th monthly ard meeting, especially on a night th high winds and heavy rains. We balances beyond 30 days. Rebranding is underway with a beautiful new logo that was well received by the membership.

All of our committees are doing incredible work. Each of our committees will be holding their meetings at the Riverview club and announcing their meetings in advance. This is a great opportunity for any homeowner to drop in, learn what the committee is working on and get involved. Our Building and Grounds/Beautification Committee has a "hit list" of projects that it wants to tackle. Our Architectural Control Committee has had an increase in permit applications coming in every month. New volunteers stepped up to be part of the Recreational Vehicle Compound Committee and the Deed Restrictions Committee. Our new board member, Jill Kieffer, will be working with our Activities Committee to plan special events. Our Communications Committee continues to expand our communications outreach and improve the quality of our monthly newsletter.

With election season around the corner, we are also looking for volunteers to Chair our Director Search Committee and our Election Committee. There will be three Director seats up for election next year. The deadline to apply to serve on the Board is February 16, 2024 with election results announced at the Annual Meeting in May.

2024 is going to be an exciting year for the Shores and a great time to get involved. I look forward to all that we can accomplish by working together!

Happy New Year, Mary Jenson

St. Augustine Shores Riverview Club 790 Christina Drive – St. Augustine 904-797-6441

Class w/ Fee \$	Day	Time	Instructor	Room
Vinyasa Yoga	MWF	9-	Arthur	Mini Ballroom
		10:15am		
Chair Yoga	MWF	10:30-	Arthur	Mini Ballroom
		11:45am		
Ballroom	Mon	1-2pm	First Class	Mini Ballroom
Dance			Dance	
Square Dance	Wed	7:00pm-	Mike	Mini Ballroom
		9:00pm		
Dance Synergy	Thur	10:30-	Mary	Mini Ballroom
		11:30am		
Art Class	Thurs	3pm-5pm	Jenny	Mini Ballroom
Barre Class	Tue	5:30-	Mary	Mini Ballroom
		6:30pm		
Belly Dancing	Tues	6:45pm-	Gina	Mini Ballroom
		7:45pm		

FREE Classes	Day	Time	Host	Room
Stetch N Flow	Mon 12- 1pm	12-1pm	Sharon	Mini Ballroom
Stetch N Flow	Thur 12- 1pm	12-1pm	Sharon	Mini Ballroom
Art	Tue	12-3pm	Una	Mini Ballroom
Scrabble	Wed	12-3pm	Edith	Multipurpose
Line Dance	Wed	1-3pm	Ginny	Main Ballroom
Cards	Mon	1-3pm	Bonnie	Multipurpose
Writers	Thur	2-3pm	Bernie	Conference Room

*Please visit <u>www.staugshores.org</u> for instructor contact info and the most up to date schedule

Christmas Tree Recycling

St. Johns County Parks & Recreation is hosting "Treecycling" for residents of St. Johns County to have an opportunity to "recycle" their Christmas trees into mulch. Trees must be real, clean, and all decorations must be removed. The tree will be donated as mulch to the County's parks. Dates for drop off will be Dec. 26, 2023 to Jan. 3, 2024, from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Tree drop-off locations:

- Ron Parker Park, 607 Old Beach Rd.
- Mills Field, 1805 Racetrack Rd.
- Davis Park, 210 Davis Park Rd.
- Tillman Ridge Transfer Station, 3005 Allen Nease Rd.
- Stratton Rd. Transfer Station, 250 North Stratton Rd.



St. Augustine Beach Democratic Club

The SAB Democrats will have its next gathering on Tuesday, January 2, 5:30 pm at the Anastasia Island Branch Library. Our speaker for January will be Liz Smith of the Fish Island Community Alliance. She will talk about the work of the Alliance in preserving the Fish Island area and other environmental work to preserve and protect the St Johns County environment including our trees, birds, and local waterways.

The February meeting will be on February 6 and the speaker will be Professor Michael Binder, Director of the Public Opinion Research Lab (PORL) of the University of North Florida (UNF). PORL is a research facility which conducts public opinion polling including political polling. Professor Binder will discuss polling methodology and issues in the current climate.

Please join us and bring your questions. The St Augustine Beach Democrat Club's focus is on current local issues affecting those living in St Augustine Beach. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity to get to know the elected representatives, mingle with Democratic candidates and socialize with our Democratic neighbors.

The SAB Dems Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Sea Grove Main Street, 5:30 pm, plenty of parking available. For additional information, please contact sab-dems@googlegroups.com.

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Free copies are also available at the Riverview Club office and the Main & Southeast Libraries or at the website, www. StAugustineObserverOnline.com.

If you do not live in the mailing areas, contact me at 904-607-1410 or clifflogsdon@att.net for an annual monthly subscription for \$12 to cover a portion of the postage. The paper is made possible by our advertisers. Visit and thank them whenever possible.



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SASIA News and Calendar of Events

January 2024

All events are held in the SASIA Clubhouse at 709 Royal Road. If you wish to contact SASIA please email info@staugsouth.com.

Check out SASIA's Facebook page www.facebook.com/staugsouth, Nextdoor page (search for St. Augustine South Improvement Association), and Instagram page www.instagram.com/saintaugsouth/. Like and follow us so you can see what is happening at the SASIA clubhouse each week.

Please consider joining SASIA. For the nominal fee of \$24.00 per year you can be a member, receive benefits at events, and discounted clubhouse rental. For more information, and questions about renting the clubhouse, please contact us at info@ staugsouth.com or 904-615-6916.

SASIA Community Meetings

January Community Meeting Wednesday, January 17th

Please join us on Wednesday, January 17th at 7:00pm. A representative from Parks & Rec will be in attendance to provide updates on the Royal Road Park amenities (tennis, basketball, pickle ball, etc.) They will also provide an update on the Shore Drive path as well.

Community meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the SASIA clubhouse, except July and August.

Food Truck Nights

Food Truck Nights are 5-7 pm at the Clubhouse (709 Royal Road)

Friday, January 12 - YAMO Italian Street Food Truck Friday, February 12 - El Hombre Taco Food Truck

Friday March 8 - Uncle KCs Hotdogs

Food Truck events are subject to change in the event of inclement weather. Check our social media for updates.

Upcoming Events 2024

YAMO Food Truck – Friday, January 12th El Hombre Taco Food Truck - Friday, February 12th

Uncle KCs Food Truck - Friday, March 8th

Spring Arts & Crafts Fair – Saturday, April 20th

SAS Garden Tour – Saturday, May 11th

Fall Festival – Saturday, October 26th

Arts & Crafts Fair - Saturday, December 7th

Holiday Celebration with Santa – Saturday, December 14thDates are subject to change

MAMI Family-to-Family

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 8-session education program for family, friends and significant others of adults with mental health conditions. NAMI Family-to-Family provides information about anxiety, depressive disorders, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and other mental health conditions. Other topics covered include communication, problem solving, treatment and recovery.

NAMI Volusia/Flagler/St.Johns

Family-to-Family Education Program

January 28- March 17, 2024

Sundays, 2:00-4:30 PM

Flagler Hospital, St. Augustine

To register, contact cabrabjr@att.net or 352-246-9519

The course is designed to increase understanding and advocacy skills while helping participants maintain their own well-being. The program is taught by trained family members who have a loved one with a mental health condition. NAMI Family-to-Family is an evidence-based program (EB). For information on the research base for the program, visit nami.org/research.

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? Please forward them to the Editor for consideration for the monthly Observer. Please contact Editor clifflogsdon@att.net or call 904-607-1410.



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Sheriff's Update

By St. Johns County Sheriff Robert A. Hardwick

9 PM Routine Reminder

Happy New Year!! This is a friendly reminder to please do the 9pm routine before going to bed every evening. The 9pm routine is a national campaign that the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office regularly participates in by asking citizens to do the following each night: Remove guns from your vehicle, remove valuables from your vehicle,



lock all vehicle doors, close your garage door, lock the door between your garage and house, activate all alarms and security systems, and keep exterior lights on or use motion detecting lights. Thank you for your participation in this initiative and don't forget to do the #9pm routine nightly.

GriefShare

GriefShare, a weekly seminar designed to help you rebuild your life after the loss of a loved one in a comfortable, casual environment

Starting February 7, 2024–May 1, 2024, Wednesday's from 6pm-730pm
Crescent Beach Baptist Church, St. Augustine Fl 32086
Contact Melanie, 904-759-1054 or email rscoggn@gmail.com or GriefShare.

org under Find a Group to register. You are welcome to join at any point during the 13 weeks

Writers Group resumes at Riverview Club

The Writers Group is back at the Riverview Club. The weekly group now meets on Thursdays at 2 pm in the conference room that formerly housed the library. The group is opened to both new and experienced writers.

An additional evening session of the group is being considered, beginning after the holidays and it will include screenwriting. There is no charge for the afternoon group, but there may be a minimal charge for the evening group.

The writers wish to thank the Shores Country Club for hosting our meetings during the Riverview remodeling. For more details, call or text Bernie Pope at 352-551-6913.

St. Augustine Orchid Society Meeting

January 2 - Tale of Two Cattleyas Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids

Francisco Miranda will talk about the dynamic duo, Cattleya walkeriana and Cattleya nobilior. These Brazilian cattleyas grow in dry habitats. Francisco will have lots of pics showing how they grow in situ, to guide you in growing them.

Francisco is a taxonomist, naturalist and orchid grower, who travels extensively in the U.S. and internationally speaking at orchid-related events and meetings. Miranda Orchids started in 1999, It is a nursey specializing in growing select Cattleya

alliance species. In a sense, it is a continuation of Boa Vista Orchids, a nursery he ran in Brazil from 1986 until he and his wife Cristina moved to the USA.

We normally meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The main meeting begins at 6:30 with a plant sale followed by a review of the show table plants and presentation by an orchid expert. The meeting closes

with a plant raffle where members can expand their collections. Members bring their orchids for display on the monthly show table. If you have some divisions or extra plants you would like to share, feel free to put them on raffle table. It's fun and informative for beginner and experienced growers. Join us, visitors and guests are always welcome!

When: First Tuesday of Each Month at 6:30 pm

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church, Enter Hall from Back Parking Lot 3375 US 1 South, St. Augustine

St Johns County Republican **Executive Committee Meeting**

The next meeting is January 11, 2024 at the Renaissance Downtown St. Augustine, 6 W Castillo Dr (and San Marco Ave). See the website http://www.stjohns.gop for more information and reservations or contact Susan Singer, Susanlsinger@aol.



The Wildflower Meadow Group

by Marlene Land

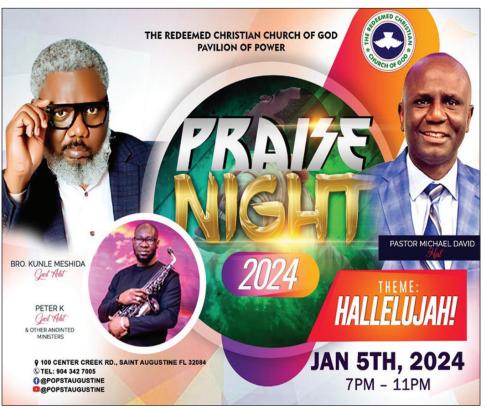






The Wildflower Meadow group meets the first Saturday of each month at about 8:30 a.m. by the Riverview Club House and we usually work for a couple of hours. Our goal is to preserve the wildflower meadow, learn about native plants that grow in this area, and enjoy the outside. We're an informal group without officers or dues and hope you will join us. We occasionally visit state and county parks and welcome newcomers.

Call Cindy at 904-797-3931 or Marlene at 305-968-0447 for more information, If we can't answer leave a message and we'll call you back. Call for more information about the meadow and our walks to state and county parks.



Garden Club of St. Augustine Hosting 3 January Events



January 10— General council meeting open to flower/garden enthusiasts interested in possibly joining 9:30am

enthusiasts interested in possibly joining. 9:30am.

January 19 — Florida Arbor Day Tree Giveaway— Over 100

FREE young potted trees (Live oak, Wax myrtle, and Red cedar) 9am to 12noon. Open to St. Johns County residents and businesses.

January 24— Fun with Flowers—Observe arrangements being created and raffled by designer members, and make your own arrangements to take home. 1pm to 3pm \$35 Limited to 28 individuals. Info to attend at gardenclubofstaugustine.org and our address is 3440 Old Moultrie Road, St. Augustine..





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A Classic Theatre Adds an Original **Staged Reading to their Season**

A Classic Teatre (ACT), continuing their support of local artists, adds a staged reading of Salon De Paris by local St Augustine playwright Amy Lauer Goldin, and



directed by Grace Reed. One performance only will be held at the Center for Spiritual Living at 1795 Old Moultrie Road on Friday, January 12th at 7:30

Following on the heels of the successful and well received staged reading of ART in October, Salon De Paris is a story of second chances. A parolee, a long estranged unrequited love, a lonely widow, and even a historic building work their way through obstacles in this funny, poignant and relevant play.

In the New Year ACT will also offer staged readings of Christopher Durang's play For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls on February 9, 2024, and Other Desert Cities on April 12th, 2024. For tickets go to www.aclassictheatre.org.



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Berta Odom

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by Amy Lauer Goldin Directed by Grace Reed

An original play. A funny and poignant tale of culture clash and second chances set in an elegant salon catering to "mature"clientele.

January 12, 2024 - 7:30pm



All of our staged readings will be presented at

The Center for **Spiritual Living** 1795 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine

For Whom The by Christopher Durang

Directed by Dawn Knipe A hilarious parody of the Glass Menagerie where Amanda

tries to face everything with "charm and vivacity," but sometimes just wants to hit somebody!

February 9, 2024 - 7:30pm

Get your tickets now! www.aclassictheatre.org



St. Augustine South Improvement Association 709 Royal Road, St. Augustine, FL 32086 (904) 615-6916





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Happy New Years from the Art Studio. 2024 has plenty in store for the Studio and we are proud to be restarting our very popular "Artist of the Month" Program! First Friday Art Walk was never the same without it and this Month we will be Featuring the Couple that Paints Together; Judy and Dave Snyder! So please visit us at the Art Studio & Gallery in Augustine Beach for their Opening Reception December 5th from 5:00pm-8:00pm. Please visit us to see, not only their show, but all the other Member's beautiful new pieces. We have many new artists to come out and see. Here's a little background on our Artists of the Month for January:

Nebraska boy meets Nashville girl in L.A. on February 9th, engaged on the 14th, and married on the 28th, 1970! That's how our story begins. After several moves and four children,

lessons. Upon our return to the United States

she continued painting and developed her

eclectic genres including fantasy, tropical, and guitars, primarily painting in the Van Gogh imposto method. Dave also picked

up his brush influenced by a photo gifted

by a friend and one by his daughter, who

just became a member. Dave and Judy

joining in prayer and painting together have

discovered the "Joy of Painting". "Our love for the lifestyle of the tropics influenced our move from the Midwest to Florida, and

our membership at The Art Studio from our

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.

The Art Studio is located at

move to St Augustine".

we ended up as missionaries to Mexico, the Philippines, and Beijing, China. During this time, Judy practiced her art on and off including taking Chinese painting

The Art Studio District Co. First Friday Opening January Artists Of The Month
Judy & Dave Snyder January 5th - 5pm to 8pm Art - Music - Snacks - Beverages - Free Plus Member's Show - Runs through January The Saint Augustine Beach Art Studio and Gallery 370A A1A Beach Blvd. St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080 904-295-4428 www.beachartstudio.org

SILVER LININGS SENIOR SEMINARS

- Recent Loss of Family Member
 Home Sale, Cleanout and Preparation
- Senior Housing Guidance

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January 16th<mark>, 2024</mark>, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM St. Johns County Main Library 1960 N. Ponce De Leon BLVD.

January 25th, 2024, 10:30 AM - Noon Garden Club of St. Augustine 3440 Old Moultrie Road



Beth Hurewitz **CSHP**

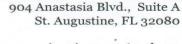
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Rob Cook, Esq.

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ONLY YOU KNOW & I KNOW

In this Edition of the Only You Know, I would like to say Thank You to a number of people and groups:

Augustine South and St. Augustine Shores and the Club Ballroom. Book your events there surrounding areas.

Thank You to the St. Augustine South Improve- Contact them at 904-797-6441 or visit ment Association and their Board of Directors and staugshores.net. **Group of Volunteers for all of their time and talent** that they donate to provide excellent programs at their Know and I Know" and the "Diaries Clubhouse, for the care and maintenance of the Club- of a Shores Grand-Dad" articles and house and all of the activities they plan for their com- "Estate Life" magazine and to my munity. All this with no mandatory dues but a lot of vol- San Savino neighbors who receive

Thank you to the St. Augustine Shores Service Keep Reading! Corporation and their HOA Board of Directors, the

Thank You to Cliff Logsdon and his Team for all of new General Manager and all of the Committee the hard work that they put in to make the St. Augustine Members for all of their accomplishments this last Observer possible. It's nice to have more genuine local year. Now, St. Augustine Shores has the premiere content delivered to approx. 9,000 homes covering St. event location-the Pride of the South Side: The Riverview

and overlook the Intracoastal Waterway!

Thank you for reading the "Only You the "Good to be Home" magazine.



Dirk Schroeder

Direct: 904-540-2360

2820 US 1 S. St. Augustine FL 32086



Diaries of a Shores Grand-Dad

by Dirk Schroeder

"Maphead" by Ken Jennings. It's a good read and relatable since, I too am a map head. Just come by the office and I'll show you a local map collection that will blow you away. Like Ken, I recall that, in my youth, we had Atlases laying around and the subscription to National Geographic magazine which usually came with a folded map that I would unfold and study. Mom and Dad had even bought us a really cool globe that had an electronic pen that you could point and touch to the globe surface and you would listen to a voice description of what was represented there - like early onset Alexa; a bit robotic but it made learning geography fun.

Speaking of geographic fun, my sister also turned me on to an app called "The Conqueror". I have completed a number of "challenges" - Mt. Fuji, the Pacific Crest Trail, the Florida Keys, London/Paris/Rome, the Jesus Trail and now, the Camino De Santiago. The app keeps you motivated and on the move along the digital version of the trail. Every day when I log in my mileage (walking, biking, other), I see the map of my new destination and then I will click on the Google "pegman" to move around and visually check out the surroundings. Very interesting - thanks, Tania!

We don't have to look far for motivation or inspiration - it's all around us. Take Ken Jennings's book. Here is just one part of one sentence(this quote

My sister recently sent me the book I will use out of context): "...and they had no way to transcend the limits of their own viewpoint." I took a pause in reading and dog-eared the page because I love the sound of this expression. Don't we all have an issue with this on a regular basis; trouble transcending the limits of our own viewpoints? Let's get inspired and work on that in 2024.

Speaking of inspiration, Jennings also devoted a full chapter in "Maphead" to "Geocaching". In May of 2000, GPS (Global Positioning System), was publicly enabled and a man named Dave Ulmer was inspired to use GPS to hide a five-gallon bucket of random items, post the GPS coordinates of the "hide" on the Internet and wait for a response. The "hide", to be eventually rebranded as a "geocache", was born and today there are well over 1.5 million caches worldwide. It's a GPS driven treasure hunt and it has motivated 5 million people to go outdoors and get some fresh They are sensible, temperate souls, not prone to crazy obsessions of any kind, and so they are deeply respected by their neighbors and community. Let us speak no more of them" - Jennings describing Geaocachers.

I once gave a fancy compass to my British nephew. He looked at it and then at me, puzzled. I told him that he would always find direction in his life. I'm not sure if he kept it. Wishing everyone, motivation, inspiration and direction in 2024 and I wish everyone, as always, a Sunshine State of Mind.

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St. Johns County Selects FCC Environmental Services Florida, LLC as Solid Waste Provider

On December 19, 2023, during the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Regular Meeting, FCC Environmental Services Florida, LLC was identified as the top ranked firm, and a contract for residential solid waste collection including household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection services was approved. The new contract begins August 1, 2024. There will be no increase in customer fees for the first year of service. All current service levels will remain in place which include weekly curbside collection of household garbage, yard waste, recycling, and bulk waste as well as scheduled services like appliance pick up requested by customers.

The current Solid Waste Municipal Service Benefit Area (MSBU) assessed to each customer in St. Johns County is \$254 per year. Based on the bid by FCC Environmental Services Florida, LLC as well as an existing Waste Management disposal contract, the solid waste services projected costs are \$343.21 per year. However, the BOCC voted to use solid waste reserve funds and an internal loan to offset the cost difference in the first year of the contract with incremental increases to customers in future years.

St. Johns County Beach Services to Accept **Applications for Beach Toll Attendants**

St. Johns County Beach Services will begin accepting beach toll attendant job applications between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Jan. 9, 11, and 12, 2024.

Pay for attendants starts at \$12 hourly but goes as high as \$14 based on sperience and the level of responsibility an attendant is willing to take on. Shifts will be around five hours long depending on the weather.

The season will begin mid-February and end the last weekend in September. Toll attendants will be responsible for selling vehicle beach access passes and providing customer service for St. Johns County beach

In 2023, Beach Services' nine booths have sold more than 74,000 daily and annual beach passes, with proceeds going toward funding for local law enforcement, marine rescue, and maintenance of beach parks and beach access points. Some attendants will work from newly constructed booths during the 2024 beach season.

Those interested in this seasonal position are encouraged to visit the St. Johns County Beach Services Office at 901 Pope Road to obtain and complete a job application. For more information, contact Dean Walker, Beach Toll Supervisor, at 1 jwalker@sjcfl.us or (904) 209-0383.



Free Monthly Education Classes and **Support Groups**

For more information on any of the following, please contact Oncology Navigation at 904-819-4793 or OncologyNavigation@FlaglerHealth.org

Living with Cancer Support Group

3rd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am at Cancer Specialists of North Florida 121 Whitehall Drive

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.

Breast Cancer Support Group

1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm in Flagler Hospital's Matanzas Room

The mission of the Breast Cancer Support Group of St. Augustine is to give help, comfort and friendship to breast cancer patients, survivors and their families. They invite many guest speakers, including doctors, pharmacists, nutritionists, educators, etc. They gather together to share the company of others with similar experiences and offer each other comfort and support. For more information, visit www.bcsqofstaug.com or email bcsgofsa@gmail.com.

Restorative Yoga: Rest, Heal, Restore

Every Wednesday from 1:00-2:00pm at The Wellness Center 120 Health Park Boulevard

Taught by Certified Yoga Instructors through the Christina Phipps Foundation

Restorative yoga encourages physical, mental and emotional relaxation. Ease into this yoga session with gentle stretching and breathing techniques that allow you to experience the following benefits that

- Restorative Yoga offers:
 Relax the mind and body
- Enhance your mood Soothe the nervous system
- Reduce chronic pain Improve sleep

Scan for more information







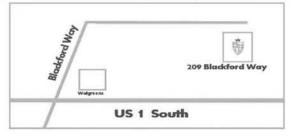
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A New Year of Health

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

Perhaps it's my age, but it seems years seem to be going by faster and faster. Here we are already starting 2024. We often use these transitional periods as times of reflection as well as looking ahead. I imagine for most of us 2023-2024 will be no different.

Physical therapists are not only in the injury recovery business, but we are also in the injury prevention business. And during times of new beginnings, i.e. New Year, beginning of summer, or significant birthdays, or whenever else people may look to make a change in their physical activity, there is a risk of injury due to starting of something completely new and unfamiliar, without giving the tissue of the body sufficient opportunity to accommodate. This can result in soreness, injury, and even abandonment of the program itself. The result is no lifestyle change at all and disappointment. It doesn't have to be that difficult, that traumatic, or that extreme. It can work.

A recent article in the British Journal of Sports Medicine showed a low-dose of moderate to vigorous physical activity may reduce mortality by 22% in adults over 60 years (Hupin D, et al. BJSM 2015;49:1262-67).

It is known that regular physical activity increases life expectancy. The Physical Activity Guidelines Advisory Committee Report recommends a Rob Stanborough is a physical minimum of 150 min of moderate to therapist serving St. Augustine for vigorous activity. Exercise or Physical Activity can be measured using METs, or the Metabolic Equivalent of Task. Moderate exercise is the equivalent of a brisk walk, as if one was in somewhat of a hurry but chose not to run. Vigorous exercise would be the run, not a sprint, but a run. With the brisk walk on the low end and the run on the high end of what is required, this seems very doable for many, including those over 60 years of age.

Do the math. Sixty times 22% equals 13.2. That means one could reduce the mortality rate by 13.2 years. But that's not all. More importantly, when the rest of what is known about regular exercise is also considered, it could mean 13.2 years of improved mobility, strength, function and energy levels.

It seems our busy lives leave less and less time for exercise. But according to this study, 150 min per week, or 30 min a day for 5 days is sufficient to reduce mortality by 22% in adults over 60. The results would certainly be the same for all ages. What the article does not say is whether the exercise time needs to be in 5, 30-minute blocks, 7, 21-minute blocks or 15, 10minute blocks. Imagine if every time you visited the store you parked in the space furthest way instead of waiting for the closest and walked "briskly to the door? What would happen if you "ran" to the mailbox instead of walking? Or strolled during the first part of your dog walk, allowing your dog to take care of business, and then walked briskly on the return? both would benefit. It's physical activity at the moderate level. Run and it becomes vigorous.

Spend 1-2 weeks looking for opportunities where your activity level could increase with simple daily tasks and start there. Then, challenge yourself to try a few - parking lot, mail, dog-walk, shopping, etc, and see what happens. Don't do them all at first, just a few. Turn it into a contest with your spouse, friends, children, or grandchildren. Keep it simple and fun. Before you know it, you could be adding years to your life.

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



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Lion Club Participated in the St. Augustine Christmas Parade

The St Augustine Lions Club marched in the St Augustine Christmas Parade on Saturday, the 2nd of December, to raise awareness for the upcoming Seafood Festival, Club recognition, and to have lot's of fun! Lions Club members handed out a bunch of candy, and Lion Amy Moring wore the Lions costume to the delight of the children.

The St Augustine Lions Club has been around for 75+ years, serving the community. The big fundraising event every year is the St Augustine Lions Club Seafood Festival, next year 6-7 April 2024. The Club raises money to support dozens of charitable organizations within the county. Betty Griffin, St Augustine Youth Services, Alpha Omega House, Boys and Girls Club, Take Stock in Children (INK), several food banks, Veterans Council, Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, and many many more receive help from the St Augustine Lions Club, through the county and city's support of the seafood festival. The community comes out to support the festival!

In addition, the Lions Club, through the help of the community support, goes into St Johns County Schools and conducts vision screening for the children. Your St Augustine Lions Club is active, everywhere! The Club, with "we serve" as it's motto, provides manpower, funding, and assistance wherever it can. We're proud to help with Salvation Army bell ringing, collection of empty prescription bottles for recycling, a monthly service project for food banks and other needs, and eyeglass/ eyecare assistance. The Club has 35 members. and we are constantly in movement!

If you'd like to join the St Augustine Lions Club in serving a wide swath of charitable organizations in St Johns County who are doing good work, contact us on our website, or via email at info@staugustinelions.com. Hey! We're having fun now!





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Recovery from a Total Joint Surgery

By: David Lomaglio MPT, OCS, CSCS, TPI, CGFI

Joint replacement surgeries are tough. In most cases they are the last resort following years of increasing pain with multiple attempts of more conservative measures. Despite all efforts, at times the procedure is unavoidable.

Recovery from a joint replacement starts before the surgery. Maximizing your range of motion and strength leading into the procedure will help ensure the best outcome. A good understanding of what to expect and do immediately post-op helps to set you up for a good recovery as well. A challenge often overlooked is the number of years of pain and declining function that led to the procedure. Again - most



joint replacements follow ongoing attempts at other interventions until there is nothing left to do. The weakness, range of motion loss, years of swelling and decreased activity. It takes a toll and the expectation that you will wake up and the timeline will be magically be set back five years is unrealistic and inaccurate. In fact, the exact opposite is often the case as you are now trying to recover from a very invasive orthopedic procedure with a body that has been operating less than optimally for quite a while. Early intervention is

imperative, but can be tough. That's why STARS Rehab has started a new program for post-operative patients who have Medicare as their primary insurance. We can send a physical therapist to your home to get you started with the rest of your life. We will help you out with household mobility, protecting your new joint, wound care, starting the right exercises. As soon as you are ready we can transfer your care to one of our awesome, experienced clinicians in office to complete your rehab. We've listened and learned from years of working with patients, saw a need, and are filling the gap to help you achieve your best outcome. Call any one of our offices for more information on the program. At STARS we are always seeking new and innovative ways to Improve Function and Enhance Lives.

Saint Augustine Film Festival

(continued from page 1)

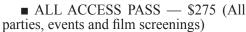
out of the limelight while performing with iconic singers Phil Collins, James Taylor, Carole King and others.

Special guest Wendie Malick will be in St. Augustine on January 14 for 7000 MILES, a film that follows Jo, a passionate pilot who is inspired by her grandmother's mysterious legacy, and must decide what is more important, protecting the innocence of those you love or famed success. Malick starred as Judith Tupper Stone in the HBO sitcom Dream On, and as Nina Van Horn in the NBC sitcom Just Shoot Me!, for which she was nominated for two Primetime Emmys and a Golden Globe Award. She also starred as Victoria Chase in the TV Land comedy series Hot in Cleveland. She is also known for her recurring role as Gayle Buchannon on Baywatch as well as Ronee Lawrence on the final season of Frasier.

The 2024 Saint Augustine Film Festival will include 32 films, three awards to actors, and six parties — at iconic and fun St. Augustine locations, including a cruise during Nights of Lights! Passes are available now and individual film tickets go on sale soon at staugfilmfest.com.

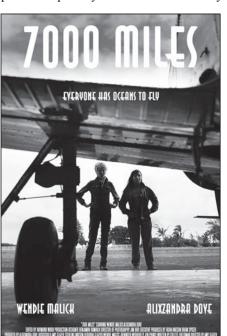
The Saint Augustine Film Festival is an outreach program of the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival. The event is supported in part by the St. Johns County

Tourist Development Council, the St. Johns Cultural Council and the Florida Division of Arts and Culture. Founding sponsors are Arnold and Barbara Grevior; along with Allen and Cathie Altman, and Shirley and Kenneth Walker. For the 2023 Saint Augustine Film Festival, festival sponsor opportunities also include parties and individual films. For sponsorship information, visit www.staugfilmfest.com/ sponsors. Follow The Saint Augustine Film Festival on Facebook at www.facebook. com/staugfilmfest and on Instagram at @ saintaugustinefilmfest to stay updated. 2024 The Saint Augustine Film Festival Passes are available at www.staugfilmfest.



■ ALL FILMS PASS — \$110 (Áll films in screening venues)

■ ALL LEWIS PASS — \$75 (All films in Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College)





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