



St. Augustine Beaches

News Journal

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT RESIDENTS OF THE ST. AUGUSTINE BEACHES AREA

Sons of Italy Bocce Court Gets Repair & Update



Son of Italy volunteer workers - L to R - Gino Morici, Roy Torboli, Troy Jones, Don Peplinski, Tim Ryan, Jim Browne, Reno Mondazzi, Larry Creasy and Angelo Caiozzo

The St. Augustine Beach Bocce Courts beside Pier Park were built 10 years ago by the Sons of Italy in conjunction with the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association. The courts are used by our members regularly and by the general public and are always open. They were in need of total renovation and the Sons of Italy undertook the task again. Monies were received from the Sons of Italy, President Steve Melnick. We got financial donation's from Home Depot and the Beach Civic Association. Robert Samuels, the civic association (continued on page 3)



Amphitheatre Sets New Record: Over 100,000 Tickets Sold in 2013

2013 was a banner year for the St. Johns County Cultural Events Division. Year-end ticket sales topped 100,000 tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, up from 84,000 tickets in 2012. The Amphitheatre's regular concert season began with a sold out show by the legendary Hall and Oates on March 1, and recently ended with a performance by Grammy nominated band Alabama Shakes on December 7. Other notable sell out shows included Matchbox 20 on March 17, Styx, REO Speedwagon and Ted Nugent on May 3, Bob Dylan on May 5, Imagine Dragons on May 11, Alan Jackson on May 17, Alabama on August 9, Steely Dan on September 8, The Lumineers on October 18, John Fogerty on October 26, and The Avett Brothers on November 15 among many other international touring acts.



The 100,000 ticket statistic does not include the many free or non-ticketed community events, including the Community First Credit Union Night Owl Cinema Series, which brought back the beloved free movie series to the Amphitheatre this summer, or the Community First Credit Union's A December to Remember free event series which runs until December 22.

The St. Johns County Cultural Events Division also served as advisors to the City of St. Augustine and was heavily involved in all aspects of planning and execution of the Gentlemen of the Road St. Augustine Stopover featuring Mumford and Sons. This event sold 25,000 tickets and brought a new audience of travelers to St. Augustine. In addition to advising many events and festivals around St. Johns County, the Cultural Events Division also manages the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, which sold over 12,000 tickets this year and hosted private rental events and fundraisers. (continued on page 2)

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City Hall Update

At its December 2, 2013 meeting, the St. Augustine Beach City Commission took the following actions:

1. Approved the plans and costs to beautify the southeast corner of Pope Road and A1A Beach Boulevard.

2. Heard an update report from the city's events coordinator, Mr. Michael Cunningham, about the city's upcoming New Year's Beach Blast Off event on December 30th and 31st at the county pier park; and approved the mayor signing an agreement with the Tourist Development Council for a \$27,000 grant, which will be used to advertise the 2013 New Year's Eve event and other city events during 2014.

3. Approved an ordinance on final reading to allow the city's building official and code enforcement officer to issue citations for junk or abandoned vehicles parked on the right-of-way of streets.



4. Approved two budget resolutions: the first to transfer \$5,000 to pay the Friends of the A1A Scenic Coastal and Historic Byway for the printing of brochures; the second to appropriate money for 800 megahertz radio equipment, the cell phone stipend for police officers, and a fence for the police station's parking lot.

5. Approved amending the planned unit development ordinance for the proposed Courtyard by Marriott Hotel to require the preservation of two trees, reserving in perpetuity 10 lots, which the developer, MSB Hotels, owns between 7th and 8th Streets, for parking by the hotel guests and the public, and reducing from \$560,000 to \$316,000 the payment by MSB to the city for the vacating of the 6th Street right-of-way between A1A Beach Boulevard and 2nd Avenue. The proposed Marriott is to be built across the right-of-way. (See pg 3)

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Happy New Year

What's Inside The News Journal This Month

- Message from the new Mayor
- **City Manager: Focus**
- **Financial Focus: Financial Resolutions for the New Year**
- **Spiritually Speaking: "Hope Going forward"**
- **St. Augustine Beautification Committee: Sage Advice from a Parrot**
- **Sheriff's Corner: Neighborhood Watch Program**
- **Health Focus: You Are What You Eat**
- **Chief's Dish: RISI E BISI**
- **Safety Tips for this Holiday Season**

St. Augustine Beaches News Journal

St. Augustine Beaches News Journal

"Official News Source for the City of St. Augustine Beach"

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City of St. Augustine Beach

Mayor Andrea Samuels
City Manager Max Royle

www.staugbch.com
sabadmin@cityofsab.org

The function of the Beaches News Journal is to serve the Neighborhoods of the St. Augustine Beaches area.

First priority will be given to reporting news and activities of beaches residents and organizations, as well as news and events that directly affect the St. Augustine Beaches community. Second priority will be given to articles of general interest as space permits.

Articles or information may be sent to the Beaches News Journal, 1965 A1A South #180, St. Augustine

Beach, Florida 32080-6509. Information may also be e-mailed to beachesnewsjournal@yahoo.com or the editor at clogsdon1@yahoo.com.

All **articles, news, ads, or other information submitted** to the News Journal are 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 News Journal.

All **ads submitted** for publication in the Beaches News Journal should be received by the 15th of the month in order to appear in the following month's issue.

Matters concerning **advertising** should be referred to the General Manager or mailed to 1965 A1A South #180, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080-6509.

The Beaches News Journal's acceptance of advertising, articles, advertising, or other information does not constitute endorsement. Nor will the Beaches News Journal and its staff be held liable for information provided herein by submitters, including websites and/or emails listed, that may have the potential to constitute fraud or other violation of law. The publisher reserves the right to refuse advertising or information that does not meet the publication's standards.

The Beaches News Journal is published by an independent publisher and is not affiliated with any St. Augustine Beach community development, management company or Homeowners Association.

Beach Parking Passes On Sale for 2014

St. Johns County is offering 2014 Beach Parking Passes at pre-season prices of \$30 for County residents and \$40 for non-residents. These passes are now available for purchase



at the St. Johns County Pier and at the Beach Services, County Tax Collector, and Recreation and Parks offices. Discounted passes will continue to be available at all locations through March 1. Beginning March 2, 2014, prices will increase and passes will only be available at beach toll booths.

Beginning March 1, vehicle owners who choose to access St. Johns County

Beaches will be required to display a season pass permanently affixed to the front right corner of their windshield or purchase a day pass at the toll booth. From May 1 through October 31, vehicle access gates open at 8 a.m. and no vehicles may enter the beach after 7:30 p.m.

As a special "Beach-Bum" promotion on February 7, 2014, the first 50 people who have 10 or more years of Beach Parking Passes on their vehicle window will receive a free 2014 Annual Beach Pass. This promotion will take place at the St. Johns County Beach Services office, located at 901 Pope Road, and more details will be available in the near future.

Current information on beach regulations will be provided when obtaining an on-beach parking pass. For additional information, visit www.co-st-johns.fl.us/Beaches/index.aspx or call Beach Services at 904.209.0331.

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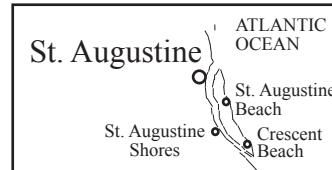
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News From Around St. Johns County

Sacagawea, King George or Cleopatra...It's All Relative!

by Susan Johnson, Council on Aging

My sister tried an online ancestor search application a few years ago and discovered – much to everyone's surprise - that our family was directly descended from Sacagawea. I was immediately skeptical...the Three Stooges, maybe... but Sacagawea? As it turns out, and over a period of a few years, I have met many more of my Shoshone relatives, each of who made the family connection via the same Internet application.

Enter Denise Olson. Denise leads genealogy workshops every Wednesday from 1 – 2:30pm at COA's River House 179 Marine St. (Fees are \$3 for River House

activity members and \$4 for all others.) I told her about my connection with Sacagawea but she didn't seem impressed with my lineage. "Most people want to discover that they are related to someone famous" laughs Denise. "However, if you want to base your family history on actual fact, there are research strategies that can help you do that!"

Denise was born and raised in St. Augustine and has been interested in genealogy for as far back as she can remember. "I grew up hearing all kinds of stories about my relatives and I often wondered how much of what I heard was fact and how much was embellished. So, I decided to find out for myself!" But, where to start?

According to Denise, the best place to begin is by pestering the people around you with a bazillion questions about your family! "Any history is colored by the viewpoints of the person doing the telling. So talk to as many relatives as you can, evaluate your sources to determine how reliable they are and discover different perspectives that you can blend together to paint an accurate family portrait." Other great resources include historical societies, land records, wills and birth and baptism records.

If you're interested in learning more about your roots, please contact COA's River House at (904) 209-3655. A factual family tree makes a great gift for people of all ages but genealogy can also provide a means for families to connect their past with their present - and offer a foundation on which future generations can build! And remember! A River House or Players Community Senior Center activity membership entitles you to reciprocity at the other! For more information about activities and services of the Council on Aging, please visit www.coasjc.com.

Yiddish Folk Singer Maida to Perform at Temple Bet Yam

On Sunday, February 9th, at 4:00 P.M., singer Maida Feingold (known fondly as Maida) will present a program of Yiddish and English songs of social significance, at Temple Bet Yam in St. Augustine.

Maida is an accomplished singer-guitarist with a beautiful voice, engaging style and rare bilingual repertoire that delights audiences of all ages. She is a frequent performer at music festivals, on the radio, and with traveling Yiddish theatrical groups.

Maida will sing songs of social significance, both in Yiddish (with translations) and in English, drawing from the songs of struggle sung by Jewish immigrants in the sweat shops to the songs sung on picket lines, freedom songs and songs of protest from the 60's. She also delights in having the audience join in as much as possible.

Temple Bet Yam invites the public to join them for this wonderful performance. Tickets are \$18.00. Please mail checks, payable to Temple Bet Yam, to: Temple Bet Yam, P. O. Box 860098, St Augustine FL 32086-1146 Please place the notation "Maida" on the memo portion of the check. Tickets will be waiting at the door. For questions,

contact Andi Marx: amarx46@comcast.net, 904-460-9569 or Terre Wallach: terretsp@bellsouth.net. Early reservations are strongly suggested. Temple Bet Yam is located at 2055 Wildwood Dr, St. Augustine. Telephone 819-1875.



Amphitheatre Sets New Record: Over 100,000 Tickets Sold in 2013

(continued from page 1)

"It is because of the hard work, creativity, passion and dedication of the Cultural Events Division staff that we have been able to reach such a significant goal," said St. Johns County Cultural Events Division General Manager Ryan Murphy. "Each year gets better and better and it proves to us that we have truly created an organization that can work not just harder, but smarter in bringing quality cultural

events to St. Johns County."

2014 is already shaping up to be quite a year, with tickets currently sold out for Santana on April 27, and tickets on sale today (Friday, December 13) for The Moody Blues. Please stay tuned for many more blockbuster announcements in early 2014. For general information, please contact our Box Office at (904) 209-0367, or visit our website at www.staugamphitheatre.com.

News From Around The Beaches

City Hall Update

6. Heard a report by Chief Robert Hardwick on the progress the police department is making towards accreditation.

7. Discussed allowing golf carts in the city, and directed the city attorney to prepare an ordinance which will state which streets golf carts cannot be ridden on.

8. Heard a report by Commissioner Samuels on the award to the city of a \$44,000 grant for public transportation improvements, and agreed that

Commissioner Samuels should continue with working on using such a grant to enhance public transportation in the city.

9. Approved a non-ad valorem assessment of \$74 per household for solid waste disposal.

10. Elected Commissioner Andrea Samuels as mayor and Commissioner Rich O'Brien as vice mayor for 2014.

The commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the commission meeting room at city hall. The public is invited to attend.

CITY CHARTER REVIEW UPDATE

The St. Augustine Beach charter review committee held its fifth meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, and did the following: a. added that the current city manager can be fired only by a supermajority vote (four of the five commissions would have to vote in favor of a motion to fire); b. added to the list in the charter of the city manager's responsibilities that he insure all employees receive at least an annual evaluation; c. added that a majority vote of the full city commission be required to appoint or remove the chief of police; d. talked about putting a limit in the charter of the amount of debt the city could incur, but decided not to recommend this (the city's comprehensive plan already limits the amount of debt to 2% of the assessed value of all privately-owned real estate in the city); e. decided not to add to the charter language concerning the city's budget, when it's to be submitted, having an independent audit, etc., as such matters are

already regulated by state law; f. discussed whether the sale of city-owned parkland should be first approved by the voters (the city's facilitator, Ms. Marilyn Crotty, will draft language for the committee to review at its December meeting); g. discussed putting a height limit on buildings in the charter. The city's director of planning and zoning, Mr. Gary Larson, will provide at the committee's next meeting examples of how the city currently defines and determines building height.

The charter review committee's December meeting will be held early, on Wednesday, December 18th, at 6:30 p.m., because of the Christmas holiday. The public is invited to attend. Citizens can submit suggestions for changes to the charter to the deputy city clerk, Ms. Cathy Benson, at cbenson@cityofsab.org; or by telephone (904/471-2122), or by regular mail, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080.

St. Johns County Commissioner

Rachael Bennett Selected as Vice - Chair

Anastasia Island resident Rachael Bennett was recently selected as the St. Johns County Commission Vice - Chair in her first term representing District 5 on the Commission. She graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree (BLA). She began her career here for St. Johns County as the Assistant Zoning Manager and had the opportunity to interact with a wide cross-section of the residents, businesses, and professionals. It was during this time that she became thoroughly familiar with the County growth management regulations and policies. Rachael continued her experience becoming involved in project planning and

management, and interaction with regulatory agencies. Rachael now has an independent consulting company in St. Augustine specializing in land management, permitting issues, ad valorem property tax management, management of farming leases, and helping farm and timber properties to qualify for Best Management Practices standing with various Florida agencies. She is active within the community and member in the St. Augustine Art Association, St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Library, St. Johns Federated Republican Women, St. Johns County Republican Executive Committee, Betty Griffin House, and Habitat of St. Johns County. She can be contacted at bcdd5@sjcfl.us, her office (904) 209-0305 or Cell (904) 315-7260.



Police Department Accreditation & Update



At the December Commissioner meeting Chief Robert Hardwick provided an update on the Police Departments process of obtaining professional Florida State Accrediation Law Enforcement Agency with the State. Since hired by the Commissioners January 7, 2013 as Police Chief, Chief Hardwick has been reviewing and making modifications to policy & procedure needs as required for the City of St. Augustine. The following general areas were presented to the Commissioners with specific summaries of their progress: 1. Accomplishments 2. Current Shortfalls 3. Personnel 4. Evidence 5. Policies & Procedures 6. Accreditation 7. Budget 8. Progression of Agency.

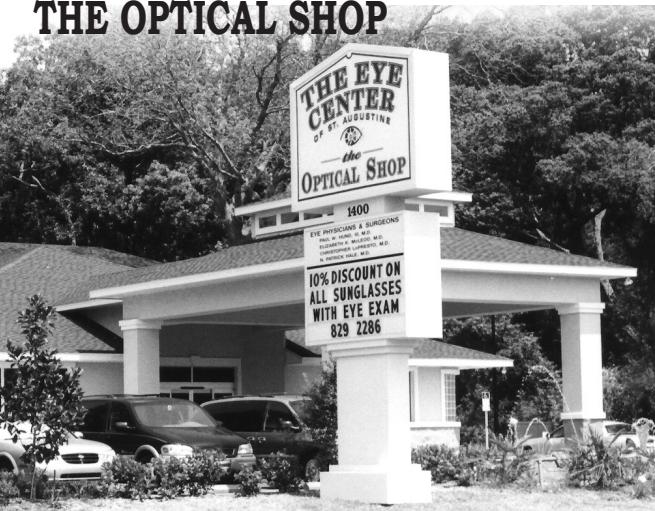
Successfully completing these areas will lead to the St. Augustine Beach Department as a State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency. In November 2013 the application was processed with the State of Florida. The city Police Departmen has 2 years to complete the accreditation. Neptune Beach Chief Sembach has agreed to become the State Accreditation Cetified Assessor in January 2014 to work with the police agency. In June 2014 Putnam County Sheriff Hardy agreed to also assist through the initial state inspection providing feedback and recommendations. By September 2014 the Police Department will request the final inspection by the Florida Accreditation Commission and by December 2014, the city is expected to be a State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency.

Chief Hardwick informed the Commissioners that the Police Department is making steady progress to become a first class, best practice agency in Florida.



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Bocce Courts

(continued from page 1)

Vice President, (pictured in center front photo), not only was a tremendous help in getting us financial backing, he pitched in and helped manually. The Department of Public Works director, Joe Howell, supplied

additional workers and heavy equipment to help our members to get the job done. Sons of Italy member, Roy Torboli, supervised the day to day construction and his son-in-law, Troy Jones, operated the bulldozer.





Message from the Mayor

Andrea Samuels, Mayor
City of St. Augustine Beach, FL
comasamuels@cityofsab.org

As I start my tenure as Mayor of St. Augustine Beach I want to first wish everyone a safe and happy New Year. I believe that the commission as a whole wants only to enhance our city and its residents. So I thank my fellow commissioners for their trust and will do my very best to be a source of pride for them and for my city. I look forward to the coming year.

We, as a commission are looking to complete ordinances related to the use of Golf Carts and Pedicabs on our city streets. Working with City staff and the Police Department we will be vigilante to ensure

public safety. A policy in regard to Social Media is actively being worked on that will help define what constitutes social media, what is the appropriate use and what would be considered appropriate postings. This policy will establish guidelines and standards that we can all adhere to.

Another positive direction is the initiation of an event coordinator for the city. This position is focused on promoting our city and our businesses through events and the media. Our city and pier park area has become more of a focal point for major events. The event coordinator is an integral part of the team that will work to insure the best possible outcome of these events. This team also consists of our Police and Public Works Departments. With the cooperation and input of all the city departments we can expect the best outcome for public safety and enjoyment of all types of events that make our city the best place to live.

In closing I encourage every citizen of the City of St. Augustine Beach to either attend or watch your Commission meetings. You can also write or call us individually to express your thoughts and ideas. We have citizen advisory boards that need your involvement.

Please check the city web site www.staugbch.com for more information or call (904) 471-2122.

St. Augustine Beach Civic Association

by **Bill Jones, President**
www.thecivicasociation.com



2014 promises to be a fun filled year with some changes at the St Augustine Beach Civic Association. Longtime President Bob Samuels stepped down from that office last February and remained on the board as a Vice President. Now that 2014 is here the Civic Association says goodbye and thank you to Bob for over a decade of exemplary service to our group and the community. Instead of just saying thank you the Civic Association, we will be honoring Bob by presenting an annual Community Service Award in his name. In February we'll announce criteria and instructions on how you may nominate someone to receive the Robert Samuels Award for Community Service.

The Wednesday Market is coming off it's most successful year ever. Market Manager Nico Recore has done an incredible job working with vendors and the local media to raise awareness of the many products that can be found at the Wednesday market. We look forward to working closely with our family of over 80 vendors to make the shopping experience even more enjoyable for our locals and our many out of town patrons. The Wednesday Market is open year round from 8 am until 12:30 pm at the St Johns County Pier Park.

In 2014 we hope to improve our communication and become more efficient in the way we operate. The Civic Association is bring on an intern to assist us with Social Media tasks and other marketing related duties. We welcome Flagler College junior Anna Ruth

Bernhardt to our family. We are very excited to have Ann Ruth on our team and we hope this internship will be ongoing. A big thank you to Flagler College for helping us find a great person and student to help us!

We have confirmed out calendar with the St Johns County Parks & Recreation Department for 2014. Save these dates; Music by the Sea free concert series starts Wednesday May 14th and runs for 21 consecutive weeks through October 1st; Taste of the Beach to benefit the Betty Griffin Shelter for victims of domestic violence will be held Sunday may 18th. That event is also a part of the Romanza Week Festivale; Surf Illumination Holiday Tree Lighting will take place on Saturday December 6th. All of these events will take place at the St Johns County Pier Park at 350 A1A Beach Blvd

2014 Civic Association memberships are now available. Individuals pay just \$10 per year and Family & Corporate members pay just \$20 per year. Membership in our group helps support our many local activities and we give our members a chance to recoup their money very easily. Just present your membership card at over 75 local businesses and you'll save 10% or more an all of your purchases. Shop local and your membership is more than covered by the great discounts! Visit our website at www.thecivicasociation.org and click on the Membership page or join at our first meeting of teh new year Tuesday January 14 at 7 pm at City Hall in St Augustine Beach.

Have News?

We welcome Community and Civic news and information about the Anastasia Island area.

Please forward those items of general interest to the General Manager or Publisher/Editor.

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The Art Studio of St. Augustine Beach

by Jan Heusdens
heusdensjan@yahoo.com
www.beachartstudio.com

Holiday Art Show on First Friday Art Walk

Zoe Lewis, international folk musician, will be performing at The Art Studio Saturday, February 1st.

A silent auction and music by The Island Duet will begin at 6:00 PM. The concert will follow at 7:00 PM. For tickets and more information, please call Jayne Moon at 904-377-2892.

The Art Studio welcomes local artist Joan Dorrill. She will be teaching a watercolor class on Mondays from 10-12 noon starting January 20th. For more information or to register, please call Joan at 904-471-3439 or visit <http://joandorrill.com/homehtml>.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year from everyone at The Art Studio. Please visit our website at www.beachartstudio.com.

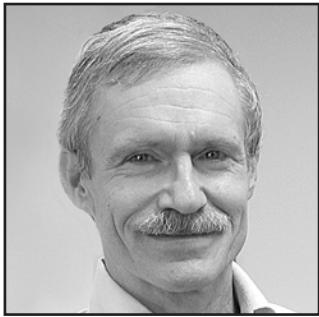


St. Augustine Travel Club

Please join us for our FREE St. Augustine Travel Club get together on Wednesday, January 8, at 3pm at the Southeast Branch Public Library on U. S. 1 when we will present on ITALY's Great Hill Towns. I have been in the travel industry for 40 years and retired with a love of travel, and volunteer at the library to share my extensive background in the field. The Travel Club is intended to be educational and fun. We hope you will be able to come. The club is open to all St. Augustine residents and friends.

Cruise to Southern Caribbean March 15, 2014

The St. Augustine Travel Club will again be sailing the seas on Saturday, March 15 to 23, 2014, on the beautiful Carnival Breeze out of Miami to the Southern Caribbean ports of Turks & Caicos, Dominican Republic, Aruba and Curacao for an 8-day cruise. Prices start from \$863.00 per person, double occupancy, for inside cabin, inclusive of all port fees and taxes. Book now with a \$300 deposit and receive \$100 per stateroom On Board Credit. Call Peter Dytrych, St. Augustine Travel Club at (904) 797-3736 for more information and reservations.



FOCUS

By Max Royle
St. Augustine Beach City Manager

This little essay may be appropriate for the occasion, which is the arrival of a new year when the thoughts of some of us are focused on a fresh start and those pesky resolutions to change this or that habit. But instead of giving you "Maximum Maxims from Max" for your resolutions, I want to bring to your attention a man whose life was a prominent example of one well-focused and who I doubt ever felt the need to waste time on New Year's resolutions. He knew at an early age what he wanted to be (a pilot), knew as well the young woman he would marry for a union that lasted an amazing 65 years.

Colonel Paul R. Von Ins, United States Air Force, Retired, died at age 90 in early November 2013. His name is likely unfamiliar to many of our city's residents, but there was a time in the city's history when Paul was a significant contributor to its well-being; when he was a leader who saw problems and issues that needed to be solved and resolved; when he took action and supported others who were working to improve the city and give its government stability and a new direction.

But first: One of the first actions I took when I was hired as city manager in 1989 was to make an index of the minutes of city commission meetings. Such hadn't been done since the commission of the then newly incorporated Town of St. Augustine Beach held its first meeting in January 1960. The creating of the index required that I read the minutes of every commission meeting held over the years, so that I could create an alphabetized/chronological list of the topics discussed and the decisions made. Interesting reading. I learned that from the mid- to late 1980s our little corner of the Florida paradise experienced a series of upheavals that could have done it in, i.e., created a potentially unstoppable ground swell of citizen discontent that might have resulted in the city's dissolution. There were grand jury investigations, removal of two commissioners from office by the governor for Sunshine law violations, removal of a city manager for misuse of city personnel and property, firing of another city manager for incompetence, the removal of a building official for questionable credentials, a controversy over Muscovy ducks that tore apart a neighborhood and the city, and seemingly endless squabbling by citizens and commissioners over issues, major and minor, that consumed time and delayed the commission from giving its full attention to a multitude of issues, such whether to levy a property tax for street paving and drainage improvements, doing comprehensive land use planning, and remodeling the downstairs of the former beach hotel to convert it from its previous uses (arcade, restaurant, dance studio) to a city hall with offices for employees and a meeting room for the commission.

What saved the city was a nucleus of like-minded citizens who wanted an end to the seemingly unstoppable merry-go-round of strife. These were community movers and shakers like Emmett Pacetti, Tom Wilson and John Rowland, who were already on a city board, or on the commission, or were interested in winning election to the commission, or were officers of the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association. Then there were the "powers behind the throne," citizens like Betty Norris,

Barbara Kay, Virginia Rowland, and Bill and Phyllis van Marter, who organized themselves as an unofficial political action committee to scout out and encourage sensible, credible citizens to run for the commission and steer the city on a productive course.

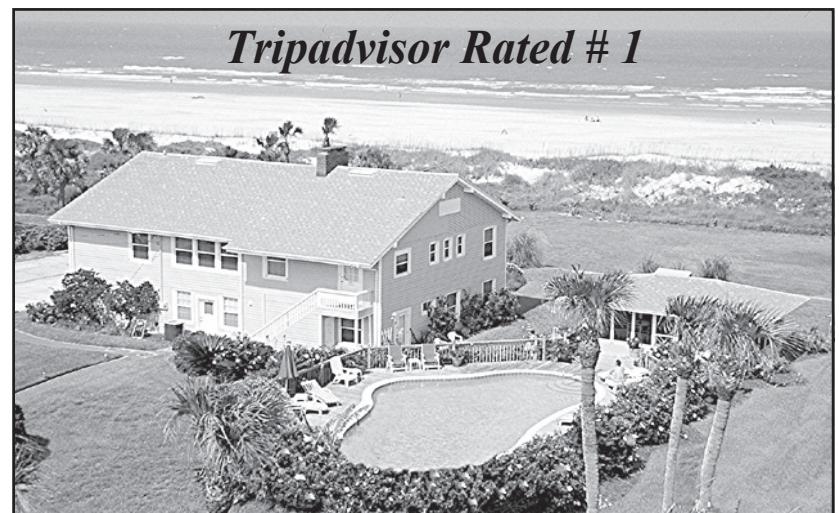
Paul Von Ins was a member of that nucleus of citizens who wanted to move the city from its state of stagnated turmoil. The first mention of him in the city's records is his appointment to the planning board in October 1982. This was after he had retired from a 31-year distinguished military career as a pilot and administrator, and moved with his wife Sarah to St. Augustine Beach. He was working at the time as a civilian administrator at the Grumman Aerospace facility in St. Augustine. That he was the board's chairman by April 1983 is testimony to his leadership abilities. In January 1985, he was appointed to the commission to serve the remainder of the term of a commissioner who resigned. He then was elected to the commission by the citizens, and was selected by the other commissioners to be the city's mayor in 1986, 1987 and 1988, and for the first six months of 1989, when the commission decided to go back to selecting the mayor and vice mayor in June instead of January.

He was a member of the commission that interviewed me for the position of city manager in mid-July 1989. I remember him asking questions in a firm, quiet tone. He didn't try to dominate the interview and his manner was far from the snap-to, take-charge image of the career, high ranking military officer that I had had. Though my answers during the interview likely underwhelmed him, he still voted to hire me, perhaps because he saw something in me that made him think I could do the job. I certainly hope so, for to be positively measured by such a man as Paul would be a high compliment.

Paul and I worked well together during the remaining five months of his term in office. He wasn't a "helicopter commissioner," i.e., he didn't hover around city hall to micro-direct. I appreciated that, though, in a way, I wish that he had been in my office more often, because then I might have found out more about his background and learned what an extraordinary man he was. I saw a hint of his uniqueness when he apologized to me on the dais at a commission meeting. I don't recall what the issue was, but Paul admitted he had been wrong. It was the first time in my then-12 years as a city manager that I saw an elected official do this to a city staff person.

It was, regrettably, from his obituary that I learned more about him, and what a record of achievement he had. Paul joined what was then the Army Air Corps in 1942 and graduated from pilot school. He was triple rated in three skill areas: Command Pilot, Navigator and Bombardier/Aircraft Observer, and attained 8,000 flying hours in mainly bomber aircraft: the B-24, B-29, B-47 and B-52s. He also was awarded the Missile Badge and spent eight years in the strategic missile program. During World War II, he trained bombardier students, B-24 crews and A-26 pilots. He was in the Strategic Air Command for 20-plus years; participated for four years in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the Soviet Union; and served as

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deputy assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. After he retired from military service, he worked for the Grumman Aerospace Corporation and lived four years in Iran to work on the F-14 fighter jet aircraft program with that country. At the Grumman facility in St. Augustine, he assisted in establishing and operating the company's aircraft renovation program from 1980 to 1989, when he retired. However, for Paul, "retired" seemed not to have much relevance. Instead he "transitioned" himself to other activities, such as serving on the Council of Aging Board of Directors and United Way Committees, being president of the Northeast Florida League of Cities, and being a member of various veterans' organizations. He was also intensely involved with his church, Anastasia Baptist, where he served as a deacon and was chairman of the Stewardship Committee and of the Building Committee. It was at his funeral that I learned

of the significant leadership role Paul had had in the Church's expansion.

Above all else, there was his 65-year marriage to Sarah and his role as father to three sons. His family was the crucial anchor of his life.

If there's one word that could summarize Paul's life, it might be "focus," a focus that wasn't on the shallow and transitory values of our country's celebrity-besotted, pop culture, but on the strong, enduring values found in an unwavering commitment to family, church, community and country.

Paul's funeral was held at the Anastasia Baptist Church on, appropriately, Veterans Day. There was the flag-draped casket, and, to pay respect, members of the family; clergy, current and one retired, of the Church; a pianist to accompany the hymns; perhaps 50 other persons, likely some of them veterans. The service was a fitting tribute to Paul: simple, dignified, unpretentious.

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St. Augustine Beaches Beautification Advisory Committee

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Sage Advice from a Parrot in a Papaya Tree

For the New Year, "Write on your heart that every day is the best day of the year." — Ralph Waldo Emerson. After the wrapping papers have been saved or crumpled, boxes relegated to the big blue bin, thank-you notes written and mailed and before January's bills arrive, it might be a good time to consider the sage advice of a parrot in a papaya tree. The abridged version of the parrot's advice is like the proverbial New Year's resolution: Express gratitude, dream big dreams and live each moment as if it were your last.

Gratitude for where you have been is a good way to move forward. Your history is a gift and in most cases the "been there, done that" provides a retrospect of pitfalls to avoid and a new direction to build on. However, the City of St. Augustine Beach may find a learning curve ahead because for the first time in fifty-four years, the sitting mayor is a woman, Andrea Samuels. An old Irish toast may be appropriate:

"In the New Year, may your right hand always be stretched out in friendship, but never in want." In the spirit of a time-honored sports tradition, congratulations are in order. Some condolences may also be in order because all eyes will be on the new mayor. The learning curve for the job of being a public servant is on par to mastering the north inside curve at Daytona Speedway. It's not easy driving in bright sunshine.

The P.I.M. — the previously important mayor — Gary Snodgrass, will continue his term as a commissioner, providing his vast experience, and cast his one vote and serve as one of five V.I.C.s. Being a public servant is not a job for sissies. Thank you, Gary, for your service.

The second advice from the parrot in the papaya tree is to dream big dreams. Kudos and best wishes to Eric Chaconas,

chairman of the BAC, who will be stepping down in order to focus his energy on educational goals. Eric will be pursuing a PhD from the University of St. Augustine and, like the school's founder Dr. Stanley Paris, Eric is a man on the move. Dr. Paris leads by example on land or sea, unafraid of failure. He pursues his dreams. Dr. Paris and Eric exemplify the extraordinary gift of dreaming big dreams. Good luck, Eric.

The BAC will be looking forward to attending your graduation party.

The following was in response to the challenge offered by the BAC, to light up our fair city for the holidays with energy-efficient LED lights and recycled decorations while incorporating nature's sheer beauty. More is not always better, but persuading Mr. FPL Watt to dress down the wattage will not be easy. In the spirit of the season, the following account describes an attempt to follow the challenge. Fostered with a sense of humor, the small Florida

Friendly Yard located at 213 10th St. was transformed into a Tropical Holiday design. Out with the old — partridge in a pear tree — and in with a parrot in a papaya tree. Think local, think native, think solar. All lights were LED and all but one set in the shady papaya tree were solar. Several surfer Santa dudes with surfboards greet each wave of visitors. Only a few visitors have ventured to the end of road, a cul-de-sac with recently completed roadwork, so this Tropical Holiday design is a gift to the brave-hearted residents who live on the street. Santa hats and stockings hung on the fence were purchased from the St. Vincent de Paul Society thrift store, which serves many in need year-round. A fancy bird cage in the papaya tree was another rescued item; however, the parrot has not decided to move in yet because he is on loan from (continued on page 10)



Parrot in a Papaya Tree

Spiritually Speaking

By Fr. Nicholas A. Marziani, Jr. D. Min.
askfrnicholas@aol.com

Pastor, St. James Church, a Catholic Community of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter



"Hope Going Forward"

It does the heart good to realize, in the midst of so much that is awry in our world, that the spark of goodness and decency still glows in the human heart, a product to be sure of the Grace of God, but a Grace that requires some kind of response from us to make it real.

How about this for "being real?" There was a short piece — too short in my opinion — in the December 9th issue of USA Today that I picked up at a major evening church event in Jacksonville (Immaculate Conception parish in the downtown, the place where I was ordained a Catholic priest on Father's Day, 2012, had just been named a "minor Basilica", and at the Mass of Thanksgiving reception held in a hotel across the St. Johns River there were still some morning papers hanging around). Flipping through the rag I saw this article entitled, "Growth in online 'Giving Tuesday' numbers 'inspiring'." Now, whenever I see the word "inspiring" in a secular paper, I immediately take notice. I learned something of which I was previously unaware, namely that there is such a thing as "Giving Tuesday", a new initiative barely one year old that is the charitable donation answer to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Who knew?

Turns out that online giving skyrocketed 90% during the December 3, 2013 installment of "Giving Tuesday" over the previous year, from \$10.1 million to \$19.2 million. Some 3,800 non-profits were recipients of the public's largess, according to BLACKBAUD, and the average online gift was just over \$142, up from barely over \$100 the previous year. Notably, donations flowed in from small towns and big cities alike, suggesting a general groundswell of interest in the concept. According to the folks who sparked this initiative, the need for donations remains ongoing, and is certainly not restricted to that single Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

Now what's really interesting is that even as the #GivingTuesday (the pound sign is intentional) movement was posting such a huge uptick, Black Friday's numbers were down by 3%. Just exactly what this all portends is difficult to say, but I would

like to believe that Americans are perhaps not as fixated on mere materialism as has been supposed. As we begin a new year, maybe we should all take encouragement — and a challenge — to increase our own sense of social justice and compassion during 2014. With the naming of Pope Francis as the Person of the Year by Time magazine last month, all of us have an additional incentive, whatever our belief system, to make service to the needy (and not merely the "truly needy", as our own prejudices might define them) a priority. Given the social foment of a divided nation, such as we have become, this may seem an unrealistic hope, but it is hope alone that provides the energy to propel us successfully into the future, and not fall victim to despondency. During January many folks experience symptoms of major depression, as we all know. Maybe the therapy for them — and all of us — is to go outside ourselves and do something for someone else beyond our accustomed comfort levels of altruism. At least it can't hurt!

God bless you all, and Happy New Year, Fr. Nick.



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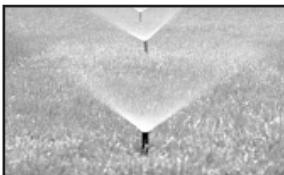




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City of St. Augustine Beach Selected as National Award Winner

~30th Anniversary "National Night Out" (NNO)~

Mayor S. Gary Snodgrass announced that the City of St. Augustine Beach was selected as a National Award Winner for its outstanding participation in the "30th Anniversary National Night Out" (NNO) crime, drug and violence prevention program.

The award is presented by the National Association of Town Watch, an organization whose mission is to help neighborhoods everywhere bring back a sense of community and cooperation with law enforcement. The City of St. Augustine Beach is 1 of only 4 cities in the state of Florida to win this national honor in 2013; the other cities in Florida are Orlando, Temple Terrace and Palm Beach Gardens. The award is to honor

the city's efforts in hosting the August 6, 2013 National Night Out at Beach Pier Park. There are 10 categories; St. Augustine Beach is a first time winner of Category 5, population under 15,000.

Chief of Police, Robert Hardwick, said, "Winning this award was a team effort. More than a dozen state and local law enforcement agencies were involved in the planning and execution. I would like to personally thank Oasis Restaurant, Old Town Trolley, Pro Show DJ Service, St. Johns Law Group, St. Augustine Civic Association, St. Augustine Lighthouse, St. Augustine Pirate Museum and Sunset Grille. Their donations each year make this event possible. The City of St. Augustine Beach is honored to host and we look forward to our next National Night Out, August 5, 2014.

For more information or to become involved contact Michael Cunningham at mcunningham@cityofsab.org.



St. Johns County Sheriff's Corner

By David Shoar, St. Johns County Sheriff

Neighborhood Watch Program

During these tough economic times, residential and vehicle burglaries continue to be prevalent, not only in St. Johns County, but throughout the country. Many thieves gain entry simply by opening unlocked doors and windows. I urge each of you to remember to lock your doors and windows in an effort to stop these burglaries. Another tool in combating neighborhood crime is through the Neighborhood Watch Program offered here at the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office. By banding together with law enforcement, neighborhoods are more apt to prevent crime before it occurs. This community-based program has been proven to deter crime. The National Neighborhood Watch Program, which began in 1972 through the National Sheriffs' Association, unites law enforcement, local organizations and citizens in a community-wide effort to reduce residential crime. Thousands of these programs have been developed throughout the country and many thrive here in St. Johns County.

The concept for the program is simple: Neighbors looking out for neighbors. Any community resident can take part, young and old, single and married, renter and home owner. Just a few concerned residents, a community organization or the Sheriff's Office can spearhead the effort to organize a Neighborhood Watch. Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and the neighborhood, and, most importantly, REPORT activities that raise their suspicions to the Sheriff's Office. You can form a Neighborhood Watch group around any geographical unit such as, a block, apartment building, park, business area, housing complex, office or marina. Watch groups are NOT vigilantes. They are extra eyes and ears for reporting crimes and helping neighbors. The programs also builds pride and serves as a springboard for efforts that address other community concerns, such as recreation for youth, child care, and affordable housing.

If you are interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch in your area, and one does not exist, form a small planning committee. Set a date and location for an initial neighborhood meeting. Then contact the Sheriff's Office and request that a Crime Prevention Officer come to your meeting to discuss your specific community's problems and needs. Contact as many of your neighbors as possible and ask if they would be willing to meet to organize a Neighborhood Watch group in your area.

Once your program is beginning to get under way, there are several concrete steps you should take to make the organization successful. Contact the Sheriff's Office for help in training members in home security and reporting skills as well as for information on local crime patterns. Select a coordinator and block captain who will be responsible for organizing meetings and relaying information to members. Recruit new members and notify any new residents moving into the area. Make special efforts to involve the elderly, working parents, and young people into the program. You can then organize citizen patrols with assistance from law enforcement.

Some things to look and listen out for: Screaming or shouting for help; someone looking into windows of homes or parked cars. Unusual noises. Property being taken out of houses or building where no one is at home, or the business is closed. Cars, vans or trucks moving slowly with no lights or with no apparent destination. Anyone being forced into a vehicle. A stranger running through private yards or alleyways. A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child. Abandoned cars. Most importantly try to obtain a tag number and direction of travel of a suspect and pass that information to the Sheriff's Office. Remember, don't investigate these problems yourself. Report these and any other suspicious incidents to the Sheriff's Office as they are happening.

Once you get started in organizing a Neighborhood Watch, there is virtually no limit to the innovative ways to combat crime and increase involvement of your community. Your neighborhood will not only become safer and more secure, but will have the added benefit of neighbors brought closer together, with opportunities to rekindle the sense of community that many areas of the country have lost over the years.

For additional information on the Neighborhood Watch program or any of the other Crime Prevention programs, please contact Corporal Diana Bryant at 209-1551, or Deputy Melissa Swindull at 209-1553. There is much more information available to our residents on our many programs offered at your Sheriff's Office from our website at www.sjsso.org. For those of you on Social Media, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter and please download the SJSO mobile Ap to connect with your Sheriff's Office. As always, please feel free to contact me anytime at my e-mail address at dshoar@sjsso.org. Thank you and it is our hope that you have a very happy and safe New Year.



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You Are What You Eat

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

When I was younger my mother used to tell me, "you are what you eat", which did not make sense at the time. The child motivated response was, "am I going to turn into a chocolate cookie?" The truth of the matter is our bodies, actually the cells and tissues of our bodies, require nutrition for fuel to make us go, grow and heal. That includes the joints.

In construction and manufacturing joints are the moving parts. It's the same in the body except the tissues of our joints are living and ever changing compared to man-made plastics and metals. Similar to man-made joints, natural joints have two sides that fit together in a specific way. If too tight the materials may

wear down prematurely. If too loose, the movement can be sloppy and not well controlled or unsafe. In many cases joints, such as door hinges, can be replaced if worn out. I'm not sure our joints were intended to be replaced but I know many folks who are thankful someone figured out how to do so. And that's a good thing. So, how to keep a joint healthy, which brings me back to "you are what you eat".

Most tissues in the body get nutrition directly from the circulating blood but not joints. Most moving joints in the body are what we call synovial joints. They consist of two articulating surfaces, are held together by a capsule, reinforced by ligaments, and coated in a slick but tough surface called cartilage. The interesting thing is there is no blood inside of the joint. Instead a clear fluid (synovial fluid) fills the joint, providing lubrication and nutrition. The fluid is circulated by movement. So, you are what you eat – joints 'feed', if you will, from the synovial fluid. But if there is little movement there will little 'feeding'.

It seems our society is becoming less and less mobile, like slowly drying concrete. We move less and less with each day, starting at earlier and earlier

– sitting in school, at the computer, texting, gaming, eating or even sleeping in chairs, cars, airplanes.

When my children were young they would just run to run, squat fully because they could and fling their arms and legs about because it was fun. When was the last time you flung your arms and legs about either in public or the privacy of your own home? It's been a while for me too.

The point is, we are made to move. We need to move. The health of our joints depends on it. Their nutrition and health depend on it. If we don't move, they don't eat. Why starve a joint. We feed the hungry. We save the whales. We protect the rainforest. Why not feed a joint. It's easy. All you have to do is move.

Have a great 2014 – make it the year of moving.

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



Chiropractic Care

By Dr. Jack R. Thompson
Doctor of Chiropractic
105 Mariner Way, Suite 204
(904) 794-5500

Questions about Chiropractic Care

I've been a Chiropractor in private practice since 1996 and love helping people feel better and regain their health through natural means. Over the years I've come to understand that, in general, people are confused as to exactly what a Chiropractor does and how he or she is able to help them with a stubborn back pain or other ailment. In this short article I've listed several of the most common questions and/or observations I've come across. Maybe it will help you understand better just exactly how Chiropractors help people.

"I don't believe in Chiropractic." - I'm the first to say that even though Chiropractic is different compared to traditional medical treatment, it certainly isn't something you have to "believe in" for it to work. Instead, Chiropractic results are produced by adhering to the scientific facts relating to the function of the spine and how it can affect the brain and nerve system. Removing dangerous nerve pressure by gently moving locked-up spinal bones is how Chiropractors help patients to heal - without taking drugs.

"Do the treatments hurt?" While I would never tell you that treatments never hurt, I will tell you in most cases, there is very little discomfort from a Chiropractic treatment. I routinely treat children, who, in general, will enthusiastically climb up on my treatment table and anxiously await their treatment. (We all know children WILL NOT allow a doctor to give them a painful treatment without usually pitching a fit!)

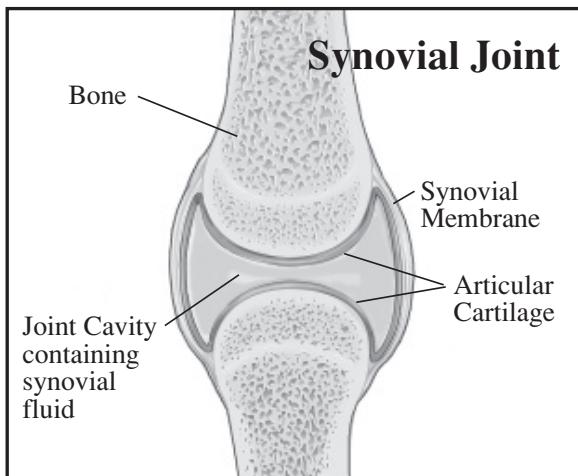
"I've heard that once I start seeing a Chiropractor, I'll have to go for the

rest of my life?" - How long a patient decides to benefit from Chiropractic care is always their choice. Since many spinal problems get started from accidents or injuries early in life, permanent correction can be difficult. Years of muscle damage, scar tissue, and ligamental instability can set the stage for relapse. Most of my patients who undergo initial intensive care continue on with regular treatments to protect the progress and investment they've made and to avoid relapse.

"I've heard Chiropractic treatments can wear out your joints?" - In actuality, just the opposite is true. Joints that stop moving properly are much more prone to degenerative joint disease than joints that move freely through their full range of motion. Chiropractic treatments are designed to restore full range of motion to the joints of the spine.

"Is Chiropractic safe?" - Critics of Chiropractic often mislead the public by saying that Chiropractic treatments (especially to the neck) are dangerous and can lead to a stroke or other problems. If this were true and the spine was that fragile, then just about anyone involved in even a minor auto accident would be in much more danger of having a stroke than a person receiving a Chiropractic treatment. The techniques used by Chiropractors are highly specific and have been taught and used safely and effectively for over 100 years.

If you have a headaches, neck or back pain, or a stubborn health condition that has not responded to traditional medical care, you might want to consider giving Chiropractic care a try.



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Happy New Year!



Beaches Bistro

By Paolo Pece, Cafe Atlantico
cafeatlantico@comcast.net

RISI E BISI

A typical Chardonnay appears overly heavy in this traditional Italian rice and pea soup. The saltiness in the prosciutto and the cheese, is better balanced by the acidic style of Sauvignon Blanc. Serves four to six.

- 1 medium onion, chopped
 - 3 tbsp. unsalted butter
 - 2 slices prosciutto, diced
 - 4 cups of fresh chicken broth or canned low salt chicken broth
 - 1 cup Sauvignon Blanc
 - 1 cup uncooked Arborio rice
 - 2 cups small green peas
- salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

- 3/4 cup freshly grated Asiago cheese
- 2 tbsp. minced Italian parsley for garnish

Sautee the onions in the butter in a large saucepan until tender. Add the prosciutto and cook for 2 min. or longer.

Add the chicken stock and wine. Bring to a boil. Stie in the rice gradually and reduce the heat. Simmer until the rice is almost tender.

Add the peas. Return to a simmer and cook for 3 min. or just until the rice and peas are tender. Season with salt and pepper. Ladle into soup bowls and garnish with cheese and parsley.

A Life Insurance Primer

By Jane Tucker, First Florida Insurance

When you buy life insurance, you want coverage that fits your needs. First, decide how much you need - and for how long - and what you can afford to pay. Keep in mind the major reason you buy life insurance is to cover the financial effects of unexpected or untimely death. Life insurance also can be one of many ways to plan for the future.

Ask an insurance agent or company you trust to help you review your own insurance needs and circumstances. They will help you choose the kind of policy that has benefits that most closely fit your needs.

Be sure that you can handle premium payments. Can you afford the initial premium? If the premium increases later and you still need insurance, can you still afford it?

Don't sign an insurance application until you review it carefully to be sure all the answers are complete and accurate.

Don't buy life insurance unless you intend to stick with your plan. It may be very costly if you quit during the early years of the policy.

Don't drop one policy and buy another without a thorough study of the new policy and the one you have now.

Read your policy carefully. Ask your agent or company about anything that is not clear to you. And, remember to review your life insurance program with your agent every few years to keep up with changes in your income and your needs.

Next, learn what kinds of policies

will meet your needs and pick the one that best suits you. Some questions to ask yourself:

1. How much of the family income do I provide? If I were to die early, how would my survivors, especially my children, get by? Does anyone else depend on me financially, such as a parent, grandparent, brother or sister?
2. Do I have children for whom I'd like to set aside money to finish their education in the event of my death?
3. How will my family pay final expenses and repay debts after my death?
4. Do I have family members or organizations to whom I would like to leave money?
5. Will there be estate taxes to pay after my death? How will inflation affect future needs?

As you figure out what you have to meet these needs, count any life insurance you have now, including any group insurance where you work or veteran's insurance. Add other assets you have: savings, investments, real estate and personal property. Which assets would your family sell or cash in to pay expenses after your death?

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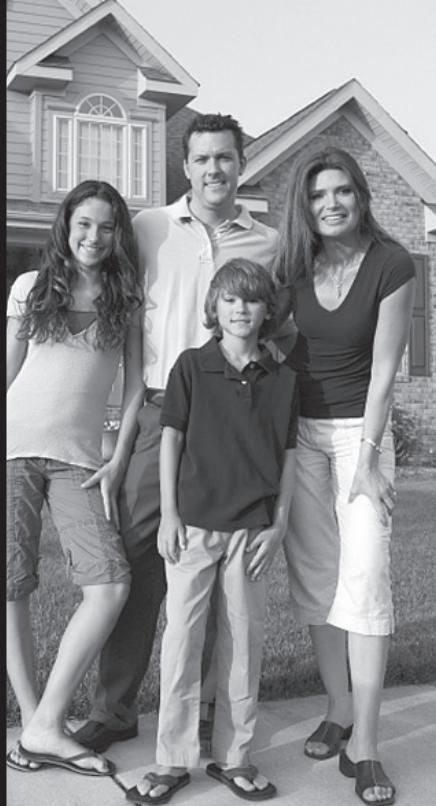


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Ask Mow?

Answering Questions About Homeowner Lawn Equipment.
Featuring "Mow", St. Augustine Power House Spokesperson.

The Holidays are approaching and it's time to be with family and friends to celebrate the Holidays and another year coming to an end. Thanks, to all of our customers it has been a great year and all of us here at St. Augustine Power House want to wish everyone Happy Holidays! We look forward to serving you in the New Year.

Mow, with the Holidays coming do you have any suggestion for holiday gifts?

Good question, with winter upon us and the leaves are gathered in our yards. Leaf Blowers are an idea as a gift for the person who is raking and removing the falling leaves. There are different types from Hand Held Blowers to Back Pack Blowers that can meet anyone's price range or needs. Chain Saws are another idea for the person who is trimming the dead limbs on the trees or gathering fire wood for the wood burning fireplaces and fire pits. There are many different types of chain saws from top handle saws good for trimming limbs to rear handle saws for log cutting, they priced for anyone's price range and needs.

Mow, what is the best way to prepare our outdoor power equipment for winter storage?

Great question, with all the fuel issues we are seeing with equipment if possible drain your fuel tanks and run all the fuel out of your equipment. If that's not possible use a fuel treatment that works to slow the effects of Ethanol. An example is premixed fuel i.e. True Fuel which has stabilizers and additives already in it and has a shelf life of 2 years, which regular fuel only has a shelf life of 30 days. Winter is also a good time to bring your lawn equipment to the Power House for annual service so it will be ready for spring.

That's all the time we have for now, come by and check out all of our Holiday Specials on Chain Saws, Leaf Blowers and many other items that would be great for Holiday gifts. Come visit us at 125 Pope Rd. or at www.staugpowerhouse.com and if you have any questions for Mow email him at askmow@staugpowerhouse.com.

Sage Advice from a Parrot in a Papaya Tree

(continued from page 7)

Mr. Chips Boatwright, a wonderful Santa's helper. This hesitation may indicate a desire on the parrot's part to join the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). Based on the votes submitted the winners of the holiday lighting awards are: Best Residential for energy efficient (LED lighting): 22 Surfcrest Street, Best Residential for use of recycled materials: 213 10th Street, Best Neighborhood Subdivision Entrance: Spanish Oaks Subdivision.

Once again the library is going to the birds, for the Great Backyard Bird Count. From Feb. 14-17, 2014, the Anastasia Island Library will be hosting this event. GBBC activities will include a bird feeder art contest in three categories: adults, kids (up to 16 years old) and families. Email aibirdcount@gmail.com for applications and guidelines, or call the Anastasia Island Library at 904-209-3730 and ask for C.J. An Audubon member will talk about gardening to attract birds to your

yard and how to identify birds. There will be a community-wide bird-a-thon for St. Johns County residents, which includes counting and identifying birds and then turning their lists in to the library or the bookmobile (or bird mobile, as we are calling it). Nursing home residents are encouraged to participate. On Saturday, Feb. 15, a fun community birding day is planned, we hope at the St. Johns County Pier Park & Pavilion on A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach (tentative at this point). We will have bird guides on site, with spare binoculars for the community to participate, and have fun learning to identify and count birds.

One last piece of sage advice from the parrot in the papaya tree is summed up in the words of the English writer, Rose Tremain: "Life is not a dress rehearsal." So preen your feathers and be as happy as a parrot in a papaya tree, living in the most beautiful city by the sea. Happy New Year and peace to all.



Financial Focus

Information Provided By
Edward Jones

Financial Resolutions for the New Year

About 45% of Americans usually make New Year's resolutions, according to a survey from the University of Scranton. But the same survey shows that only 8% of us actually keep our resolutions. Perhaps this low success rate isn't such a tragedy when our resolutions involve things like losing a little weight or learning a foreign language. But when we make financial resolutions — resolutions that, if achieved, could significantly help us in our pursuit of our important long-term goals — it's clearly worthwhile to make every effort to follow through.

So, what sorts of financial resolutions might you consider? Here are a few possibilities:

- Boost your contributions to your retirement plans. Each year, try to put in a little more to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plans. These tax-advantaged accounts are good options for your retirement savings strategy.

- Reduce your debts. It's not always easy to reduce your debts, but make it a goal to finish 2014 with a smaller debt load than you had going into the new year. The lower your monthly debt payments, the more money you'll have to invest for retirement, college for your children (or grandchildren) and other important objectives.

- Build your emergency fund. Work on building an "emergency fund" containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a liquid account that offers a high degree of preservation of principal. Without such a fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for emergencies, such as a new furnace, a major car repair, and

so on. You might not be able to finish creating your emergency fund in one year, but contribute as much as you can afford.

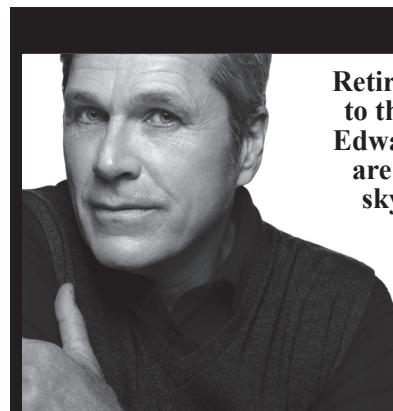
- Plan for your protection needs. If you don't already have the proper amounts of life and disability insurance in place, put it on your "To Do" list for 2014. Also, if you haven't taken steps to protect yourself from the considerable costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, consult with your financial professional, who can suggest the appropriate protection or investment vehicles. You may never need such care, but that's a chance you may not want to take — and the longer you wait, the more expensive your protection options may become.

- Don't overreact to market volatility. Too many people head to the investment "sidelines" during market downturns. But if you're not invested, then you miss any potential market gains — and the biggest gains are often realized at the early stages of the rally.

- Focus on the long term. You can probably check your investment balance online, which means you can do it every day, or even several times a day — but should you? If you're following a strategy that's appropriate for your needs, goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, you're already doing what you should be doing in the long run. So there's no need to stress yourself over the short-term movements that show up in your investment statements.

Do whatever you can to turn these New Year's resolutions into realities. Your efforts could pay off well beyond 2014.

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



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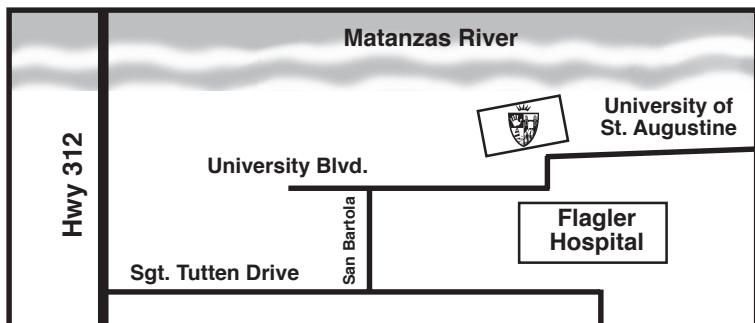
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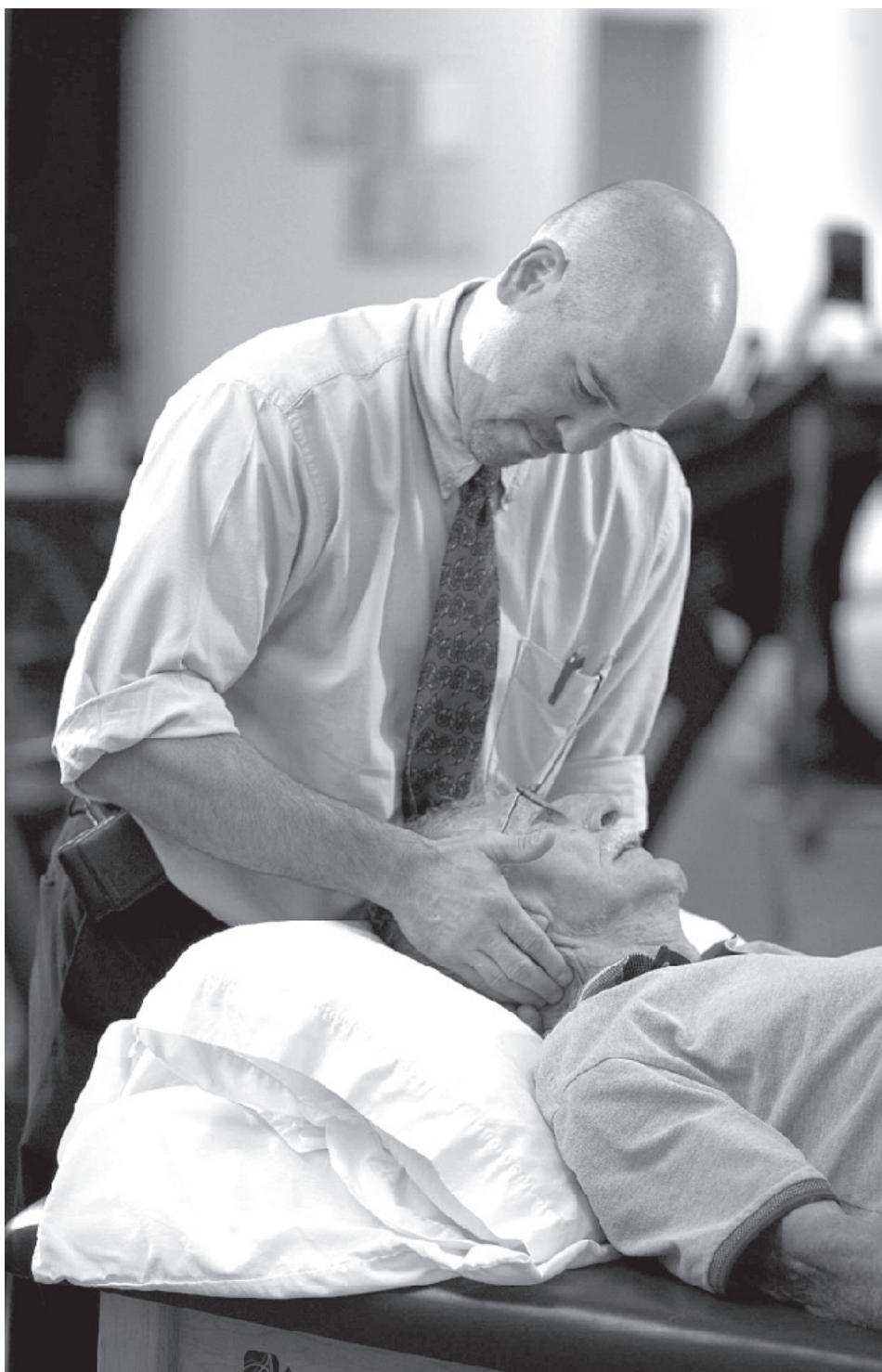
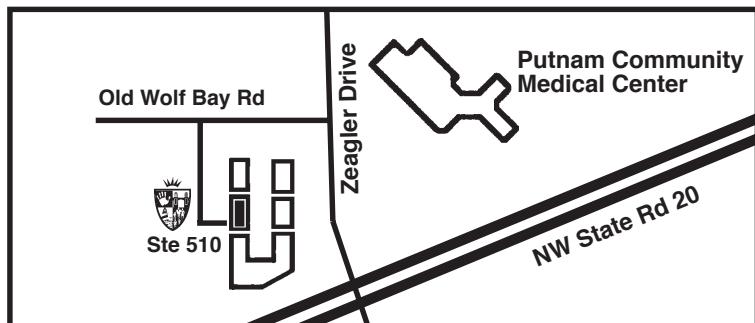
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OVERLOOKS PRESERVES & LAKE. 177 Casa Sevilla Avenue. This beautiful 4BR/3BA Ryland built Lennox model has 2,939 sf of living space—all on one floor. Home features a den, great Florida Room and separate dining room. Large laundry room. Spacious 3 car garage with storage. Yard with invisible pet fence. **\$289,000**



LOTS OF ROOM AND A POOL! 401 Woodbluff Terrace. This lovely 6BR/4BA home has fresh paint inside & out. New in summer of 2013. One new HVAC unit. New appliances and carpet. Enjoy the interior inground pool w/outside shower & bar areas. A must see! Buyer to verify measurements. **\$474,900**



PRIVATE SETTING IN SEA COLONY. 916 Ocean Palm Way. Pristine 5BR/5.5BA home will impress and inspire the most discerning buyer. This gorgeous home's floor plan w/first-class finishes offers picturesque vistas from each deck and every room. Gourmet kitchen, Bonus Room, patio with pool and spa.. **\$1,395,000**



PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE OCEAN! 716 Ocean Palm Way. 4 BR/5 BA European style home w/upgrades--great architectural features, high end windows & doors, coquina shell concrete walkway, privacy wall and driveway. Premium lighting. Quality cabinets w/stone countertops and Viking appliances. **\$1,997,000**



QUADPLEX STEPS FROM THE OCEAN. 4 B Street. Two buildings/4 units—all with BR/BA/kitchenettes—2 with balconies & ocean views. Carriage House has been remodeled & converted to suites. Rental program generates over \$52K in yearly gross income—monthly and short term. Garages and off storage parking. **\$799,000**



REMARKABLE ISLAND ESTATE! 413 Night Hawk Ln. Beautiful custom home w/new roof, boasts 4,950 sf of living area w/5BR/5.5BA, multiple decks & 4 car garage-- A/C & wkshp. Screened Patio and Pool. Separate guest qtrs perfect for visitors, 25x20 bonus/media room, 2 full kitchens (Stainless apples), fireplace—all this, only a short stroll to St. Aug beach! **\$739,000**



ADORABLE HOME IN OAK GROVE. 4225 A1A South, #106A. This tidy 1/BR/1BA mobile home has 94 yrs left on the lease. Brand new carpet, refrigerator and range. New roof in 2009. Located in lovely gated community with large pool and lots of outdoor spaces. Low HOA fees include water, cable, internet, security, clubhouse, pool and dock. **\$85,000**



SALT RUN ESTATE. 953 Lew Blvd. 5BR/4BA waterfront estate with private entry. Old World Charm with all the amenities—Chef's kitchen, distressed hard pine floors, wood burning fp, beveled glass French doors, pool and Jacuzzi, patio w/beadboard ceiling and balcony views from 2 floors. 35' deep water access with floating dock. Dusk to dawn lighting. **\$1,975,000**



BEAUTIFUL DEEP WATER LOT ON THE INTRACOASTAL. 120 Grand Oaks Dr. Amazing water views with a shared dock and private boat slip. Located in a small exclusive enclave of custom homes. Just a few minutes' walk to the beach, shopping, restaurants, and endless water activities. Bring your plans and build your perfect dream home. **\$535,000**



DIRECT OCEAN FRONT CONDO! 8550 A1A South, Unit 259. Recently remodeled 2BR/2.5BA — new Lennox 2 Ton A/C and air handler with 10 year warranty. New paint, carpet, balcony and much more. Completely furnished and located in a complex with 4 heated pools, tennis, racquetball, playground, and boat storage. **\$369,900**



NEW HOME. 353 Ocean Forest Drive. Open living spaces in this 4BR/3.5BA home in Anastasia Dunes. Gourmet kitchen features large island and is open to the Dining Room. Large storage space under the house—great for boat or beach toys. Oversized porch w/fireplace and patio. Side entry garage with extra storage to help keep your dream home organized. **\$749,900**



SEA COLONY GORGEOUS! 464 Ocean Grove Circle. 4BR/4.5BA open floor plan home built with the finest maintenance-free materials. Windows are hurricane resistant to 125 MPH. Kitchen w/granite, stainless steel appliances and more. Beautiful gated community with pool, clubhouse and private access to the ocean. **\$1,190,000**



ADORABLE COTTAGE IN SEAGROVE. 488 High Tide Drive. Lovely 3BR/2BA cottage w/Chef's kitchen—granite and 42" upper cabinets w/crown moulding. Two covered patios—one is screened in. Seagrove community has Clubhouse, pool, boat ramp, Town Center with restaurants, and City Library. Just minutes from the Ocean. **\$289,000**



GREAT INVESTMENT CONDO. 880 A1A Beach Blvd #2306. Beautiful 2BR/2BA Tommy Bahama look in this furnished unit. Steps from the ocean in well-maintained complex -- Jacuzzi, 2 pools (including a heated pool), tennis courts, clubhouse, racquetball courts, private ocean walk-over, and on-site rental program. This condo is on the income-producing program. **\$167,000**



THE WOWHOUSE!!! 312S Forest Dune Dr. Spacious 5BR/4.5BA home in the gated community of Sea Colony. Chef's kitchen with all the bells and whistles & large bkfst room. Elevator takes you to all 3 levels of this magnificently appointed home. Maintenance-free decking on front porch, Anderson wndws, wd flrs, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, much more to see. **\$1,365,000**

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