



INSIGHT

INTO YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT

February 2011
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City of St. Augustine
P. O. Box 210
75 King St.
St. Augustine, FL
32085-0210

www.staugustinegovernment.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Fire/Non-Emergency	825.1098
Police/Non-Emergency	825.1070
Water Bills/Customer Service	825.1037
Utility Dept/After Hours	825.1044
Planning/Building	825.1065
Public Works	825.1040
City Clerk	825.1007

Updates

Lincolville Project

The Dept. of Public Works held another public meeting on the Lincolville Improvement Project January 13. The slide show of the project and the minutes are on the COSA Web site under Special Notices.

Preliminary work by Florida Power and Light and ATT began in January and is continuing.

Updates are regularly posted to the COSA Web site or call Public Works at 825.1040.

Bridge of Lions Landscaping Project

Sun State Nursery & Landscaping, Inc., of Jacksonville has contracted with the Florida Department of Transportation to landscape and install an irrigation system on both sides of the Bridge of Lions and install lighting on the west side of the bridge. The contractor began work in early February and the work should be completed this summer.

The project cost is \$339,211.76.

A total of 5,974 plants and trees will be planted including 2,402 beach sunflowers, 52 cabbage palms, 350 coastal saw palmettos, 1175 muhly grass plants, 16 Sylvester's Wild Date Palm and 895 dwarf Yaupon holly's.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE ● THE NATION'S OLDEST CITY

Nelmar Terrace upcoming designation as a NRHD

Nelmar Terrace is in the process of being added as the seventh neighborhood to be designated as a National Register Historic District.

North City consists of two distinct historic areas, the first immediately north of the City Gate to San Carlos Ave., the post-1821 city limit. The second

Nelmar Construction and Architecture

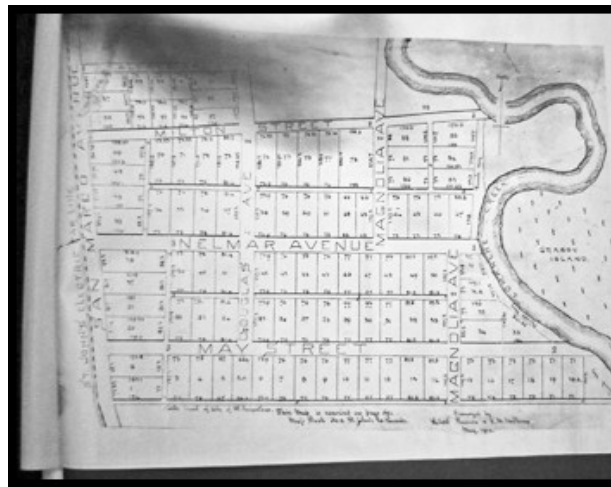
The buildings in Nelmar Terrace are post 1913, when the former Raney Tract was re-subdivided and wholesale residential construction began. The period of development and architectural styles, including Bungalow, Colonial Revival, and Mediterranean styles are similar to Fullerwood Park. Residences on Nelmar Ave., however, are larger and more detailed than any in the city north of San Carlos Ave. The neighborhood includes small concentrations of buildings which appear to be have been built by building contractors from similar plans. A series of Colonial Revival homes are concentrated along Nelmar Ave. between Douglas and Magnolia. Four Spanish style residences are located in the block east of Magnolia between Nelmar and Milton. Milton St., between San Marco and Douglas, contains a concentration of Bungalows. May St. is the location of the Moorish Revival Adrian Pillars House, many Bungalows and several Tudor style residences.

Development of Nelmar Terrace was completed in the post World War II years with little building occurring in the area during the pre-WWII and the Depression years.

Other NRHD

The other National Register Historic Districts are City of St. Augustine (downtown St. Augustine,) Model Land Company, Abbott Tract, Lincolville, North City and The Fullerwood Park District.

The City of St. Augustine's Comprehensive Plan calls for the city to attempt to achieve national register designation status for neighborhoods.



The city application was recently presented by the State of Florida, Division of Historical Resources, to the Florida National Register Review Board. Since it was approved, the formal nomination will now be submitted to the Keeper of the National Register, Washington, D. C. for the final decision.

The city will be notified when that decision is made, however Mark Knight, Director of Planning and Building stated "the application is in order and is expected to be approved, thus adding another neighborhood to the National Register in St. Augustine."

Nelmar Terrace Background

The Nelmar Terrace District covers all or parts of nine blocks, approximately 29 acres, with 100 contributing buildings and is roughly bordered by Hospital Creek on the east, San Marco Ave. on the west, San Carlos Ave. on the south and Milton and Alfred streets on the north.

major area is located north of San Carlos Ave. Significant development of this area occurred only after 1900. Prior to that period the area was mostly cleared and used for defense and agricultural purposes. Only three buildings in the area date from the 19th century with concentrated development at the beginning of WWI in the Nelmar Terrace and Fullerwood Park Subdivisions. (The Florida School for Deaf and Blind dates to the mid - 1880's.)

The topography of Nelmar Terrace is flat and only between five and ten feet above sea level. The neighborhood is further enhanced with mature magnolia, oak, pine, palm and willows. Oak canopies are along May, Magnolia and Nelmar streets with a palm row along Nelmar Street. These streets are some of the most picturesque in the city. The wideness (mostly 50') of the streets of the district give Nelmar Terrace a sense of place unique to St. Augustine.

One year in *The Break Room*

The Break Room is broadcast on WFCF 88.5 FM, Radio with a Reason, each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 8 a.m.

The 15 minute program is hosted by Director of Public Affairs Paul Williamson and offers the community a look into the behind-the scenes of the day-to-day workings of their city government.

As *The Break Room* celebrates its first year of broadcast, Williamson said “I hope people will listen and get to know about the how our city works by hearing directly from the people who know, city staff.”

www.staugustinegovernment.com

The City of St. Augustine Web site offers much information on subjects of interest specifically for city residents and businesses.

The site is organized by ‘who are you’ whether a resident, business or visitor. Handy sites are on the front page and stories are informative and timely.

New to the site is an up to date calendar which has city meeting agendas posted when they are distributed.

All previous stories are archived chronologically under [Featured Stories and Archives](#).

Stimulus project begins

The City of St. Augustine was awarded a grant in the amount of \$19,000 last year in stimulus funds for tree trimming and root rejuvenation and the work began at the end of January.

Char Putz, Manager of Streets and Grounds, said the work started on Magnolia Ave. a popular and much photographed street with overhanging mossy limbs from live oaks which were planted more than 100 years ago. The street was the focus of an article in the February 1966 issue of National Geographic Magazine.

Work on trees in the Plaza de la Constitución will begin in March. The plaza has six different species of trees and are in need of both trimming and root rejuvenation.

Feed the koi in Alcazar pond

Good ideas come from all over and David Wheelus, Custodian II, who works at City Hall, gave City Manager John Regan a great idea a few months ago.

As an eight year employee, David has received many requests for fish food to feed the Japanese koi located in the Alcazar Courtyard pond. Many of the fish are more than 15 years old and weigh up to 15 pounds so they like to eat, David said.

David’s idea to City Manager John Regan was to install fish food feeding dispensers for the public.

Regan, believing it to be a great idea, had the dispensers installed.

Now anyone can enjoy feeding the fish with food from dispensers located at both ends of the bridge.

Menéndez Noche de Gala this month

Menendez Noche de Gala, the 492th birthday of St. Augustine’s founder, don Pedro Menendez de Aviles, will be held Saturday, February 26.



The event, now in its 15th year, has earned a tradition of elegance, with fine dining and dancing for all guests participating in the memorable evening.

The black tie or 16th century period party takes place in the ballroom of the Lightner Museum where guests are surrounded by priceless art and sculpture while dressed in period attire.

This year Chad Light, a resident of St. Augustine for more than a decade, will portray Menéndez.

Light has a BA in history and has been reenacting since he was a boy. Since then, Light has reenacted as a frontiersman in a French and Indian War and a Spanish Marine in St. Augustine. He also appeared in the movie *The Last of the Mohicans* with St. Augustine’s Men of Menéndez.

For two years, Light has submerged himself in the

‘Lift-Up Lincolnville’

‘Lift-Up Lincolnville’ is a city project to bring ‘curb appeal’ to the Lincolnville neighborhood.

Recently a public meeting was held to identify ways to make Lincolnville more attractive to the neighbors and the public.

Since then sidewalks have been repaired and restored and properties have been identified for code enforcement action.

For more information on how you can participate in this project call Planning and Building at 825.1065.

study of Menéndez, his speech patterns and mannerisms, and the 16th century Spanish colonial period. He has gained most of his knowledge on the era and the life of Menéndez from prior research conducted by St. Augustine’s Eugene Lyon and Albert Manucy. Both Lyon and Manucy were authors of many historical works and are regarded as experts on Spanish colonial history.

This year’s proceeds are dedicated to further preservation of the Spanish Constitutional Monument in the Plaza de la Constitución.

Attendance is limited. For reservations or more information, call the Department of Heritage Tourism at 825.5033.

You can read more about the Gala on the COSA Web site at www.nochedegala.com and follow the Gala on Facebook at www.facebook.com/menendeznochedegala.

The St. Augustine Police Dept. has a telephone number for residents and businesses to call for anonymous crime tips.

The number is 209.3482 and you can leave a message.

Concerts in the Plaza

Save the date for *Concerts in the Plaza* which is now in its 21st year of great entertainment in a great place.

The concert season starts with an afternoon performance on Memorial Day in the Plaza de la Constitución and continues all summer long on Thursdays at 7 p.m. The concerts conclude, as does summer, on Labor Day with another afternoon performance.

The music ranges from bluegrass to country and blues. Most of the musicians are local favorites who have participated for a number of years.

All concerts are free and attendees should bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are popular, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the Plaza.

Notes of interest

Each Friday *News and Notes*, an email newsletter, is sent to interested residents and businesses.

Included is news of road closures, traffic interruptions and city agendas for the city commission and appointed boards. To be placed on this list, email cdupont@citystaug.com or call 825.1053.

In an effort to further lower the cost of flood insurance to residences and businesses, St. Augustine is a participant in FEMA’s Community Rating System (CRS) Program and is undertaking a campaign to promote the benefits of flood insurance as a property protection measure.

This campaign will contribute to the city’s rating and help policy holders save up to 15% on the cost of flood insurance. For more information, you can go to COSA Web site at www.staugustinegovernment.com under [Flood Hazard Information](#).

Chris Masters, Dept. of Public Works, was named COSA Employee of the Year. Chris was recognized in part, for his unique ability to resolve mechanical problems successfully.

ParkNow cards can be obtained from Customer Service at 50 Bridge St.

The cost increments are \$20, \$50 and \$100 with a one time charge of \$2.50 per card.

With the *ParkNow* cards, the cost of parking downtown is 50 cents per hour and the cards can also be used at the Historic Downtown Parking Facility.

For more information on the *ParkNow* cards call 825.1034.

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