



INSIGHT

INTO YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT

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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

St. Augustine's 450th Commemoration Commission

Florida will celebrate two major historical milestones in the next few years with the 500th anniversary of the landing of Juan Ponce de Leon in 2013 and the 450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine, the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in the United States. These two anniversaries will bracket a planned three-year linear event, the St. Augustine 450th Commemoration, an initiative created by an act of the United States Congress and executed by President Barack Obama on March 30, 2009.

The Commemoration will be directed by a Federal Commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, as well as a Steering Committee formed of regional agency and organizational heads. The event will commemorate the important role of the colonial city.

Bridge of Lions

The opening of the Bridge of Lions to traffic is anticipated to occur in early 2010.

For more information on the Bridge of Lions Rehabilitation Project, please call 825.3647.

Please see *The '27 Club* story next column.

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

16th Year of Nights of Lights downtown...come see!

When *Nights of Lights* begins its 16th year on Saturday, November 21, it will be the continuation of what has become an evening of traditions in this city of age-old traditions, especially for what has come to be called *Light-up Night*.

As an introduction to the exciting evening, at 4 p.m. a musical performance will begin at the gazebo in the Plaza de la Constitución and at 6:30 p.m. the city's mayor and other officials will stand ready to light-up the city.

Mayor Joe Boles will lead the crowd in the countdown to lighting the city's tree. From its position of prominence in the center of the Plaza, decorated in traditional style with hundreds of handmade red bows, the tall tree will burst into

colored holiday light.

With residents and visitors alike the countdown will begin and afterward over two million white lights will fill St. Augustine's every corner with brilliant and magical holiday sparkle,



transforming the Nation's Oldest City into an enchanted city of light.

The City of St. Augustine manages the installation and maintenance of displays at over

100 locations, including buildings, parks, medians and gardens throughout the city, but much credit for the continued success of the *Nights of Lights* goes to area businesses and residents who voluntarily and at their own expense participate in the event.

Because they join in, the city truly becomes a city of light. For more information about *Nights of Lights*, visit www.nightsoflights.com.

The *Nights of Lights* is funded by the City of St. Augustine and the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council.

For a brochure on all the activities during the 10-weeks of the *Nights of Lights*, contact the St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and the Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau at 1.800.653.2489 or online at www.getaway4florida.com.

City celebrates reopening of Bridge of Lions with *The '27 Club*

In just a matter of weeks, the St. Augustine community will celebrate the reopening of the historic Bridge of Lions and its return to service after over 42 months of extensive rehabilitation.

To commemorate the event, the City of St. Augustine is cooperating with the Florida Dept. of Transportation, Skanska, and Save Our Bridge by planning a small, yet significant ceremony.

Although the exact opening date has not been determined it is expected to occur in early 2010. Planning, however, is underway for a ceremony that will include remarks by officials, a ribbon cutting, and a procession led by a group of selected pedestrians and antique vehicles. The selected pedestrians, 27 in

all and called *The '27 Club* because the bridge first opened in 1927, will be the official first pedestrians to cross the restored Bridge of Lions.

The Ancient City Auto Club will participate by providing a car from each decade of the bridge's service starting with the 1920's and continuing into the 21st century. Time will then be allowed for the general public to walk the bridge before it is brought into full service by switching vehicular traffic from the temporary bridge.

Following the reopening, the project continues with the dismantling of the temporary bridge and landscaping installation which will take approximately another year. The completion of the entire project will be marked by

the return of the two lion statues from which the bridge gets its name. That is likely to happen in late 2010.

The drawing for *The '27 Club* is free and open to anyone of at least school age (5 years old on December 4). Only written entries accepted, no phone calls, with one entry per person and one entry per letter, postcard, fax or email.

All entries must be received by 5 p.m., Friday, December 4. To enter, send name, address, phone number and email address to: City of St. Augustine, Attn: The '27 Club, P.O. Box 210, St. Augustine, FL 32085; Fax: 904.825.1096, Attn: The '27 Club; Email: the27club@citystaug.com.

For more details, visit www.the27club.info or call 825.1004.

National Register Historic District

The City of St. Augustine learned last month that the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, has designated the North City Neighborhood as a National Register Historic District bringing to five the total number of such designated areas within the nation's Oldest City.

North City, bounded by Old Mission Ave. on the north, San Marco Ave. on the east, W. Castillo Dr. on the south and Ponce de Leon Blvd. on the west, received the designation on October 1, according to Barbara Mattick, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer.



Locally, the name North City is used to refer to the general area along the length of San Marco Ave, but this specific neighborhood, dating from post Civil War days, was the original neighborhood called "North City."

Areas which have the designation prior to this most recent addition are the city's downtown area designated as the City of St. Augustine, Model Land Company, Abbott Tract, and Lincolnville. Currently under review are applications for two other areas, Nelmar Terrace and Fullerwood Park neighborhoods.

The City of St. Augustine's Comprehensive Plan calls for the city to attempt to achieve national register designation status for as many neighborhoods as possible. However Mark Knight, Director of Planning and Building stated, "this is a designation the city would pursue because of our history and our desire to keep the historic nature of the city in the forefront."

Water restrictions change with Eastern Standard Time change

Daylight savings time ended November 1 and the St. Johns River Water Management District reminds residents and businesses that watering restrictions have changed. Please see the schedule below to determine when to water your lawn. For more information go to <http://sjr.state.fl.us>.

Time of Year	Home with odd number or no address	Home with even numbered addresses	Nonresidential properties
Eastern Standard Time	Sat	Sun	Tues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water only when needed and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Water for no more than one hour per zone. Restrictions apply to private wells and pumps, ground or surface water and water from public and private utilities. Some exceptions apply. 			

Discover First America: Legacies of LaFlorida

St. Augustine's 450th Commemoration Commission has announced its initial project, a seven part series of lectures and performances offered to members of the community including teachers, students, tour guides, business owners and public officials.

The project is an opportunity to become experts in the city's rich history and is free to interested individuals who want to become knowledgeable of St. Augustine's history.

A series passport will be issued and stamped at each program. Those with their passports filled at the end of the series will be recognized as certified hosts for St. Augustine's 450th Commemoration.

The event is co-sponsored by Flagler College with each event held at Flagler College Auditorium, 14 Granada St. from 7 to 9 p.m.

The first event was held November 5 and was titled, *Peoples Before Ponce de Leon*.

The remaining events are as follows:

November 23, *First America: Colonial St. Augustine*
Chaz Mena, Chataqua performance as "Pedro Menendez"; Dr. Kathleen Deagan, Distinguished Research Curator, UF; and Carl Halbirt, Archaeologist, City of St. Augustine;

December 9, *Pirates! Fact & Fiction*
Dr. Pat Croce, Pirate Soul Museum creator, author and entrepreneur and Brendan Burke, Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program;

January 7, *The British are Coming!*
Bill Barker as Thomas Jefferson (presented through Colonial Williamsburg Foundation) and John Stavely as Jesse Fish, and British Night Watch;

February 5, *The Great Southern Cracker Roadshow*
Janis Owens, author and storyteller; Dana Ste.Claire, Director, 450th Commemoration Celebration and the Bluegrass Musicians;

April 13, *Palaces in Paradise: Flagler's Age of Opulence*
Dr. Tom Graham, Professor Emeritus of History, Flagler College; John Blades, Executive Director, Flagler Museum, A Conversation with Henry Flagler; Tom Rahner as Henry Flagler and Mayor Joseph Boles, Jr., as himself;

May 18, *Road to Freedom; African-Americans in Florida*
Derek Hankerson, Actor and Creative Director and James Bullock, Actor and Creative Director.

For more information on the series, contact Jamie Alvarez at the City of St. Augustine's 450th Commemoration Office at 209.4226.

Notes of interest

Residents and businesses are reminded by the Solid Waste Division that if you have professional landscapers or tree trimmers, the contractor must remove the debris prior to leaving the site.



The toll free number for Florida Power and Light Company is 1.800.468.8243. Their automated service is for light outage, downed wire, street light outage or dim lights.

For street light outage, locate the number on the pole and the closest street address before calling.



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 citizen boards. To be placed on this list, email cdupont@ci.st-augustine.fl.us or call 825.1053.



Water covers nearly 75% of the earth's surface. In its life cycle, a water molecule may spend over 3,000 years in the salty oceans. It may travel in clouds in the atmosphere for up to two weeks before falling to earth as snow or rain. Then, perhaps after spending less than a month in freshwater rivers and streams, it will flow back into the sea.



St. Augustine is known as a walkable city, friendly to pedestrians.

A reminder to residents and business owners that pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks.

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