

Whispering Stories

For contributions or suggestions to future editions, please email whisperingstoriessta@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

December 2 – Christmas Parade 9 am-10 am
Downtown St. Augustine

December 2 – Surf Illumination 4 pm-7 pm
St. Augustine Beach Pier

December 9 – Santa Suits on the Loose 5k 8 am
St. Augustine Beach Pier

December 13 – Christmas with Cops and Claus 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
SABPD



December 25 – Christmas Day

December 31 – Light up the NIGHT! Fireworks Show 8:30 pm
St. Augustine Beach Pier



CONTRIBUTORS to this quarter’s newsletter are Christy Stanzcak, Lorna, Kirkham, Mike Martin, Sheila Farland, and Vanisha Patel-Martin.

Christmas Caroling

If you would like to join your neighbors this year for the annual WOHA Christmas Caroling around the neighborhood, meet at Bob Parker’s house on the evening of **Thursday, December 21st at 5:30 pm.**



WOHA Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! The WOHA annual meeting will take place at Bob Parker’s house on **Saturday, January 27th at 9 am.** The WOHA ballot and request for annual dues will be sent in mid-December and are due on January 27th. They can be mailed in advance or brought to the meeting.

Thank you to the Binders!



Nick and Norine Binder, long-time residents of Whispering Oaks, moved to St. Augustine in 2005 following their retirement from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. Nick's passion for preserving the boardwalk and Norine's service as WOHA Secretary and Treasurer reflect a deep commitment to the well-being of their neighborhood.

Nick's recent appointment by the Governor to the St. Augustine Port, Waterway, and Beach District Commission is a testament to his expertise and the trust placed in him by the local government. It's heartening to know that such dedicated individuals are actively involved in decision-making processes that affect the community and the environment.

Their years of hard work and dedication are undoubtedly appreciated by the residents of Whispering Oaks. It's people like Nick and Norine who contribute significantly to the well-being of their communities, leaving a positive legacy for future generations. A big thank you to them for their service!

Winter in Florida

is quite different from many other places, but there are still some things you can do to keep your yard in good shape. First off, the milder temperatures mean you can continue to mow your lawn, though less frequently. Aim to keep it around 2.5 to 3 inches tall.

Watering is also important, especially if it's a dry winter. While you may not need to water as much as in the summer, make sure your plants are getting enough moisture. Early morning is the best time to water.

Consider adding some winter annuals to your garden for a burst of color. Plants like petunias, pansies, and snapdragons can thrive in Florida's winter climate.



Winter in Florida (cont'd)

Keep an eye out for pests (chinch bugs, grub worms, sod webworms, and mole crickets), as they can still be active during the winter. Treat any issues promptly to prevent them from becoming a bigger problem.

Lastly, if you have any cold-sensitive plants, be prepared to cover them on nights when the temperature drops below 32 F. Overall, Florida winters are relatively mild, so your yard care routine will be less intensive compared to other parts of the country. Enjoy the mild weather and your beautiful Florida yard!

Pet Report

Hi, I'm Carl. You may have seen me on one of my walks around the neighborhood with my dad Joe. I've slowed down quite a bit, but I used to be really fast. In fact, before it was outlawed, I used to run a lot of races at the Daytona race track. I won 10 times and came in 2nd and 3rd a bunch of times also. My professional name was Shawn's Driven.



Being a professional racer really wasn't a very good life, but my human parents saved me from all that. I really won the top prize when I came to live in WOHA. I love my home, my neighbors, and even our cat, Gia.

I still get too excited, due to my training, by anything with wheels and other dogs. If I bark at your car or another four-footer, it's only because my old ways of surviving as top dog haven't all been sorted out yet.

I do like other people a lot, and I am still trying to be my best self, so if you've never met me, go ahead and put your hand under my nose (that's how I say hello). I will remember you and know that you're my friend.

You can also call out "Happy birthday Carl!" to me, because I just turned 15!