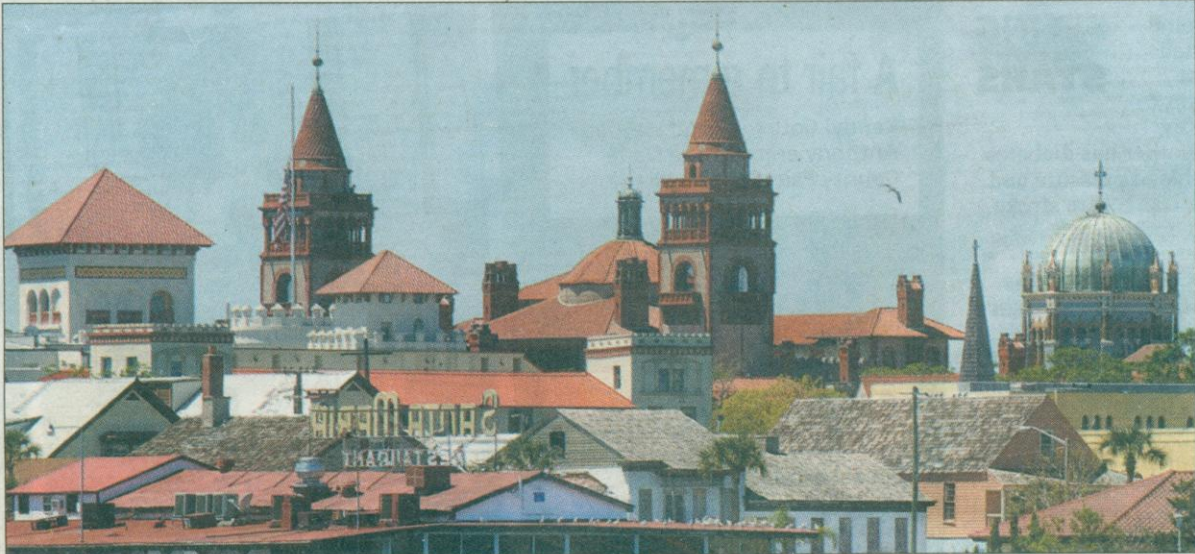




10 JUN 2009

City named in best places to live

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U.S. News & World Report ranked St. Augustine in 10 best in country

By **MARCIA LANE**
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A month ago Don Edwards was working at the Avid Angler on North Ponce de Leon Boulevard when he got a call from a U.S. News & World Report writer.

"I was the only one here, and he asked me, 'Can I ask you a few questions?'" recalled Edwards.

The questions had to do with living in St. Augustine.

Edwards, a former resident of Wisconsin and an avid in-shore and fly fisherman, didn't have any trouble explaining why he "wouldn't live anywhere else."

His answers reflect the reason St. Augustine made the magazine's annual 10 Best Places to Live list, released this week.

Economic hard times have people staying put, so U.S. News went for a "thrift-conscious approach" in offering

readers the best places to retire or work.

The cities aren't ranked, but are in alphabetical order.

In compiling the list the magazine was looking for places with a lower cost of living and strong economies plus plenty of interesting activities available.

U.S. News started with a database of 2,000 cities across the country with populations of at least 10,000 and crime at or below the national level. Next, they filtered out some locations based on cost of living and unem-

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Best Places to Live 2009

- Albuquerque, N.M.
- Auburn, Ala.
- Austin, Texas
- Boise, Idaho
- Durham, N.C.
- La Crosse, Wisc.
- Loveland, Colo.
- San Luis Obispo, Calif.
- St. Augustine
- Upper St. Clair, Pa.

Source: U.S. News & World Report

City's attractions highlighted

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This must be the week for St. Johns County and the media.

In addition to making U.S. News & World Report and Newsweek, St. Johns County earned Florida's Top kudos in the summer issue of American Heritage magazine.

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