



THE ST. AUGUSTINE  
**RECORD**

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# Holidays are 'Our time to shine'



Ed Miller is Postmaster of the St. Augustine Post Office and is headquartered at the main King Street location. [PETER WILLOTT/THE RECORD]

**US Postal Service aims for customer service over holidays — and mostly delivers**

By Colleen Jones  
cjones@staugustine.com

Even with 25 holiday seasons under his belt with the U.S. Postal Service, each year around Thanksgiving Ed Miller mentally prepares

himself for the avalanche of packages about to descend upon his post office.

That means 12-hour shifts, lines out the lobby door, impatient customers and inevitable mishaps.

Despite the challenges, Miller, who is the St. Augustine Postmaster, looks at it as a time to aim high.

"It's all about customer service; it's in our name,"

Miller said. "It's our time to shine."

With online retail increasing package volume every year, the roughly six weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's are a frenzy of activity in post offices across the county.

This year, the USPS will deliver a projected 800 million packages nationwide during that peak period.

The week of Dec. 16 through Dec. 21 traditionally sees the highest number of pieces of mail — more than 28 million per day — en route to their given destinations.

In St. Augustine, Miller said the post office will process an average of 22,000 letters and packages a day during the holiday season.

See MAIL, A4

## Historic day of debate held in House

Jesus got 'more rights' than Trump and other quotes from the impeachment debate

By Bart Jansen, Maureen Grope and Ledyard King  
USA TODAY

The House of Representatives took on the task of impeaching a president on Wednesday with a full day of debating that has included Republicans and Democrats making their case for and against.

Democrats touted their effort as a way to fight what they say is President Donald Trump's abuse of power and Republicans repeated their protests against a "sham" investigation and "witch hunt."

Speeches and debates led to memorable quotes ahead of the actual impeachment vote.

These are some of the quotes that will likely be remembered as the inquiry against Trump continues through the House and likely to a Senate trial. The final House vote was expected to take place late Wednesday night.

**'He gave us no choice'**

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi "solemnly and sadly" opened the debate with a floor speech that drew on the nation's founders and the reason they enshrined impeachment in the Constitution.

"Our founders' vision of a republic is under threat from actions from the White House," she said. "If we do not act now, we would be derelict in our duty. It's tragic the president's reckless actions make impeachment necessary. He gave us no choice."

**'The people of America see through this'**

Georgia Rep. Doug Collins said the Founding Fathers were concerned about a partisan impeachment process in which the majority could do what it wants.

Collins dismissed the first article of impeachment — abuse of power — by saying Trump did nothing wrong. He described the second article — obstruction of Congress — as akin to petulant children saying they didn't get what they wanted when they didn't ask in the right way.

Fellow Republicans nodded as Collins said the GOP will take their case to American voters.

"It is a matter for the voters,"

See TRUMP, A4

# Prized keepsake lost in St. Augustine returned to owner

**Charm made to commemorate deceased son found by visitor, given back to Lakeland woman**

By Colleen Jones  
cjones@staugustine.com

Thanks to the keen eyes of an area resident, a sentimental one-of-a-kind charm lost in the crowds at last weekend's Nights of Lights in St. Augustine is back in the hands of its grateful owner.

Heidi Allegato, of Lakeland, took in the holiday spectacle

Saturday night and when she got back to her hotel realized the silver medallion she wears every day was not hanging from her necklace.

The charm holds special value because Allegato had it made as a tribute to her son, Mark, who in 2010 died at age 28 of heart failure. It features an imprinted thumbprint of Mark's as well as his birth and death dates and a garnet, the birthstone for January.

"I never take it off," Allegato told The Record

See CHARM, A4



Frank Allegato, left, and Heidi Allegato, right, met up with Thomas Kilpatrick Monday in Orlando so Kilpatrick could return the charm he found in St. Augustine to Heidi. [CONTRIBUTED]

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TODAY  
Some sun  
60° / 53°

FRIDAY  
A shower  
67° / 58°

SATURDAY  
Showers  
71° / 61°



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