

Ponte Vedra NewsLine

JULY 2020 Volume 7 Issue 7

Ponte Vedra, Palm Valley, Nocatee and South Ponte Vedra Beach

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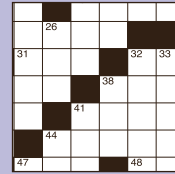
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Breadbox Papers provide fascinating look into history

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Almost 200 years ago, on July 10, 1821, Spain transferred its flags in St. Augustine to the United States of America. At this time, according to St. Johns County Clerk Historian, Dr. Susan Parker, officials with the United States attempted to seize as many important records and documents from the Spanish period as possible — instead of allowing the departing Spaniards to take the papers with them to Havana. The so-called



Photos by Martie Thompson
St. Johns County Clerk Historian Dr. Susan Parker measures the size of the pages of the Breadbox Papers.

“East Florida Papers,” which were the Spanish government’s documents, stayed at the Government House in St. Augustine until around 1870, when they were transferred to Tallahassee and then in 1905 to the Library of Congress. One particular set of papers, referred to as the “Breadbox Papers” because they were stored in a metal breadbox, was left behind.

“We don’t know why, but the Breadbox Papers didn’t go with the others,” Parker said. “As far as we know, the papers have always been in St. Augustine. They were apparently in private hands for approximately 40 years and then were brought to the City Clerk of Courts office in

Breadbox Papers cont. on pg. 5

It is hard to miss Bob Davenport when he visits Mickler’s Beach.

He’s the guy carrying two cameras, two buckets and a trash grabber — spending three early morning hours every day cleaning the beach and taking surfer photography. Somewhat of a fixture on the beach and fondly known as “Bucket Bob,” Davenport also finds lost items and feeds a colony of area cats.

Davenport has been doing this religiously for the past five years, only missing one month last year for open heart surgery.

“Once I stopped working, I actually got to re-engage with the beauty of the beach and my love of photography,” said Davenport, who moved from Virginia to Florida with his wife in 1995.

Both worked in the mortgage industry at the time.

While taking pictures, Davenport could not overlook the trash strewn all over the sand and water and began cleaning the beach daily. He collects seven to 10 pounds of trash every day. He said cigarette butts, plastic pieces, cello straw wrappers, bottle caps, straws and food wrappers make up the biggest part of the trash.

As a self-proclaimed “Navy brat,” Davenport said he learned very early in life to respect the environment. What he saw on the beach angered him.

“The rate of abandonment is mind-

blowing,” said Davenport, referring to everything from toys, floatables and canopies. In some cases, the items are so mistreated and large that he has to cut them up and remove them from the beach.

Davenport also recovers many items that he feels need to be reunited with their owners, and he has found an efficient way to do that through Bucket Bob’s Beach Finds — a Facebook page he recently created to feature the items.

He offers this service at no cost and simply wishes to get the items back to the rightful owners.

Davenport felt that the past system of an old hanging basket at the beach didn’t quite succeed in that mission.



Photo courtesy Tiffany Merlo Phelps
Bob Davenport on the beach cleaning.

“Bucket Bob” dedicated to keeping beaches clean and finding lost items

By Tiffany Merlo Phelps
mail@floridanewsline.com

Davenport recently put up his own sign and a new basket at the beach entrance with county approval to direct folks to Bucket Bob’s Beach Finds. On July 4, Davenport plans to present a “Top 5 Trash Display”



Photos courtesy Bob Davenport
Surfer at Mickler Beach.



Bucket Bob’s Beach Finds basket, including his logo.

and an “On Beach” Kick Butts display to remind everyone to preserve the beauty of the beach.

So far, Davenport has been able to get items

back to a few people, and he has had many others reach out for help finding items. He continually looks for specific items on behalf of the community.

One day he walks north towards the Sawgrass Club, and another day he walks south, noting that Mondays and Tuesdays tend to be big weekend recovery days. Davenport also joined forces with the Jacksonville Beaches Lost, Found & Stolen Facebook page since items will drift, thanks to the tides and currents.

The top three lost items found on the beach are credit cards, glasses and wallets. He has also found and returned a person’s car keys.

Davenport said the most interesting item that he recently found was a 25-person capacity lifeboat. Davenport contacted the United States Coast Guard and learned that it came from a Korean cargo ship and a failed drill. The lifeboat was not salvageable, so Davenport cut it up and removed it from the beach.

As for his photography, Davenport submits his surfer photos to 911surfreport.com, so that surfers can find their pictures.

“I try to get cameo shots of each individual surfer,” said Davenport, a self-taught photographer. “I’m an artist at heart. I have an eye to see things as an artist.”

Nicole Crosby, who co-founded Never Endanger Sea Turtles (NEST), said

Bucket Bob cont. on pg. 9



Bob Davenport specializes in beach photography.

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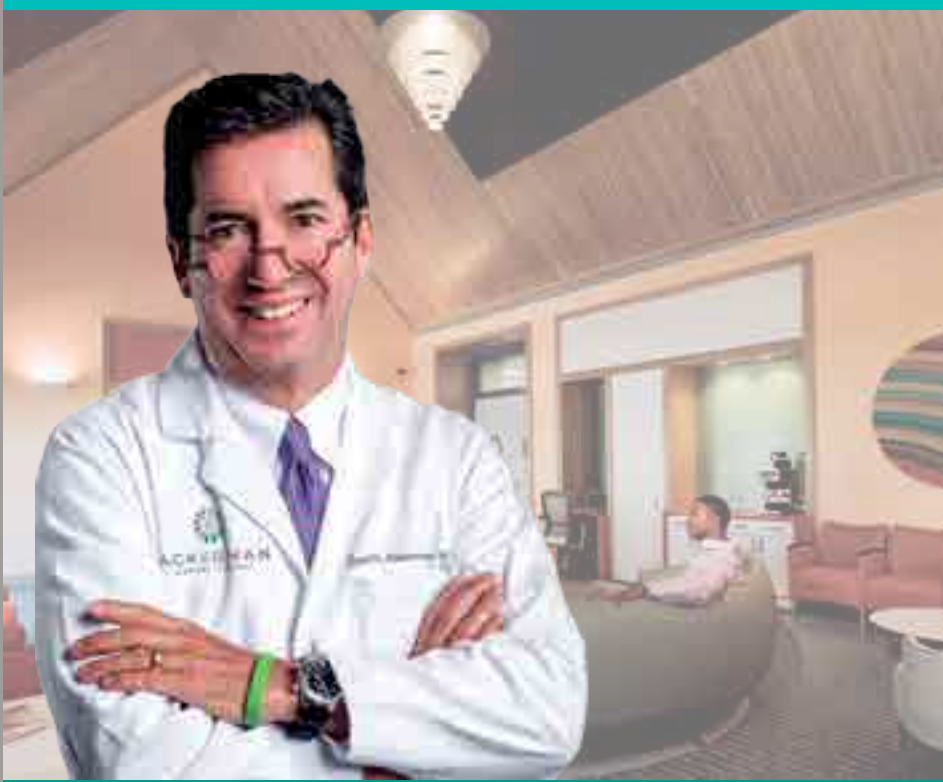

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FAVORITE TREAT:
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FAVORITE FRIEND:
Human Mommy

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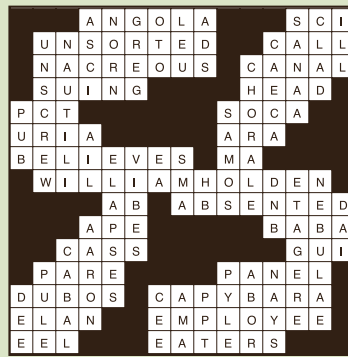
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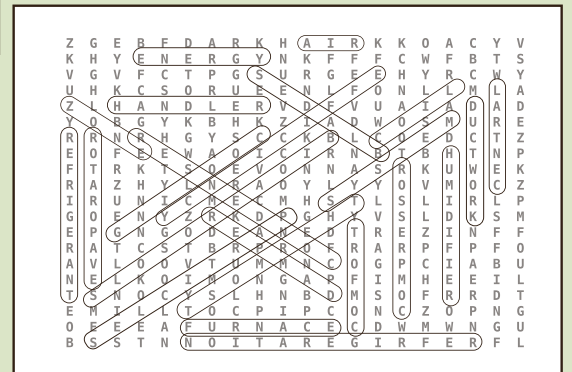
Last month's Mystery Photo was the storage facility in Nocatee near Palm Valley Academy. Our winner was Jaime-Lyn Garnecki. Congratulations!



Answers to our Puzzles
PG 10



Answers: A. cooling B. thermostat C. degree D. house



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with St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes

Q: What is the latest from your office?

A: This is a busy time, with candidate qualifying just concluding in mid-June. The primary ballots are now getting ready to go to press. We have a lot of information available on our website. Of particular interest is the list of candidates for the Primary Election, which will take place on Aug. 18.

Q: Can you give us a brief rundown of what voters can expect to see on their ballots?

A: In northern St. Johns County, Republican primary ballots will have the Congressional District 4 race. The winner will go on to face a Democrat and a Write In candidate in the November election. The Public Defender race for District 7 will appear on all ballots and be settled in the Universal Primary, since there are no Democrat challengers. There are three circuit judge races that are non-partisan and will be on all primary ballots. The race for Sheriff and County Commissioner District 1 will be on Republican ballots county-wide, with the winners going on to face challengers in the November election. The School Board race for District 2 is not county-wide and will only appear on ballots in that district. Finally, the race for Republican State Committeewoman will appear on every ballot in St. Johns County.

Q: Are there any important dates coming up in advance of the Primary Election?

A: The last day to register to vote or change party affiliation prior to the Primary Election will be on July 20. This can be done easily online.

Q: What options are available for voting in the Primary Election?

A: I'd like to encourage Vote By Mail. Return postage will even be paid by our office. Additionally, we are expanding Early Voting for both the Primary and the General elections. For the Primary Election, there will be 10 days of early voting, from Aug. 6 – Aug. 15 at our six regular early voting locations plus two additional locations that are being finalized. There will be plenty of availability of in-person voting and we will be able to spread people out and allow for social distancing.

Q: Do you have anything else to share?

A: We will have more information about the additional early voting sites in the next issue. Also, sample ballots will be available on our website by the first week of July, so everyone can prepare for the Primary Election.

Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you?

A: Readers can email me at voakes@votesjc.com or call me at (904) 823-2238. Our website, www.votesjc.com also has a wealth of information.



with St. Johns County School Board Member, Kelly Barrera, District 4

Q: Can you give us some background information about the school district's reopening plan for schools for the 2020 - 21 school year?

A: The school district is trying to be very transparent with its plan, currently in draft form and available on our website. We have had parent surveys as well as focus groups (the recording of a mid-June focus group call is available to hear on the district's website) because we want people to take an interest and hear what we are hearing from other parents.

Q: What goes into the decision to pivot from one category to another on the district's reopening plan?

A: We will listen to the local health department as well as state directives as we evaluate whether to pivot within the plan. We could have a school or schools in the north part of the county operating in one way and a school or schools in the south operating another way. The biggest reassurance I can give is that if we err, it will always be on the side of caution.

Q: Have decisions been made as to how to handle lunch, recess, and whether students will wear masks?

A: The task force is having conversations about these issues now. The state Department of Education plan gives school districts latitude to restructure some of these activities from how they have been handled in the past. There will be a point in July where we will have to pick a final plan for our district. As Superintendent Forson said at one point, we may have to change things as we move along. We have to respond to



Photo courtesy St. Johns County School District
K-8 School MM under construction in May 2020.

this health crisis as it affects us.

Q: Do you have any other district news?

A: The work of the school district continues. The energy level is fast and furious, but our decision making is slow and methodical.

With respect to the schools under construction, I'm pleased to say both are on schedule. At the K-8 School MM in Nocatee, the tilt walls have been poured and the next big event will be the tilt walls going up, which is very exciting. High School HHH has plumbing being roughed in on the first floor. Liberty Pines Academy's 20-classroom, two story expansion is wrapping up. It will be open for this upcoming school year.

We have named the principal for High School HHH: Jay Willets, who was previously the principal of Pacetti Bay Middle School. Taking his place at Pacetti Bay will be newly named principal Ted Banton, formerly the assistant principal at Nease. Expect the principal for K-8 School MM to be named near the end of 2020.

Q: How can our readers contact you?

A: They can email me at kelly.barrera@stjohns.k12.fl.us or call me at (904) 547-7510.

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Breadbox Papers cont. from pg. 1

1905, and then at some time turned over to the Clerk of Courts, where they remain today.”

The Breadbox Papers are of particular historical interest as they are the official records, dated from 1803 – 1804, during the Spanish period. There are about 350 sheets of paper containing handwritten records such as deeds, marriage contracts, affidavits and sales of slaves. Parker said it is unknown who actually put the papers in the breadbox.

“These records are well preserved due to the very good paper quality,” Parker said. “They were meant to last.”

According to Parker, the paper was most likely obtained through the Spanish government’s purchasing channels, meaning that it likely came from Spain or Havana rather than more locally, such as from Savannah, which was not Spanish-owned.

St. Johns County Clerk of Court Brandon Patty is particularly fascinated with these papers, due to their age and also timelessness.

“A lot of the records we found, we still do today,” Patty said. “These papers are unique because they are from the Spanish period, but it’s also worth noting that they represent the lineage of recording deeds and other transactions like we do today — and that 200 years from now we will probably still be doing, in some form. Our way of life is built on accurate records.”

The Clerk of Court, in addition to partnering with the court system and acting as the county comptroller, is responsible for being the repository for the county’s official records. Nikki May is the Supervisor of Records Management and said her department is responsible for the upkeep and retention of the documents. St. Johns County has a temperature and climate controlled warehouse, where all the important documents — court cases, Board of County Commission meetings, ordinances, financial and probate records — are kept, some bound in huge journals

and some in boxes.

“Since St. Johns County is the state’s oldest county, our records go way back,” May said. “We have marriage licenses that date back to the 1820s.”

May said that a lot of the county’s records back to about 1960 are available online and that generally the only people who come to the clerk’s office for a physical records request tend to be historians researching genealogy.

Patty noted that through the years, fire has been a common threat to records, and so redundancy is crucial. Today, many records are stored digitally, but many years ago the clerk or his assistant spent a great deal of time painstakingly making manual copies in an early form of redundancy.

Going forward, Patty said his office is considering the proper preservation of the Breadbox Papers, which Parker agreed would likely not be in the breadbox.

“It’s good stewardship to continue to use state of the art preservation techniques,” Parker said.

The end goal is to make the papers available for public display. Patty feels it is important for citizens to learn about the importance of historical records as well as the role of the clerk’s office in maintaining them.

“As a historian, I’m pleased about the focus on this history,” Parker said. “These records represent the history of the county. It’s important to realize that just because there are not a lot of historic buildings in the county outside of St. Augustine, it doesn’t mean there isn’t a lot of history. These deeds and records reflect that.”

Patty said that all of the official records help tell the story of St. Johns County.

“This is such a source of pride in our office,” Patty said. “We know that over the years, the personnel will change, but our activities will remain the same.”

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Photo courtesy Anitha Patel

Generous neighbors contribute to county food drive

Anisa and Dhruv Patel of Ponte Vedra Beach organized a neighborhood food donation effort on behalf of the United Way's Rock the Pantries event.



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Front line heroes treated to free painting lesson

By Tiffany Merlo Phelps
mail@floridanewsline.com

Fourteen staff members from Atria Park of San Pablo Assisted Living and Memory Care were recently treated to a free painting session, courtesy of the Ponte Vedra Beach Painting with a Twist studio and a local donor. Painting with a Twist owner Tim Laws said a local philanthropist, who wished to remain anonymous, donated \$1,000 to his studio to be used to help



Photos Tim Laws

Atria Park of San Pablo Assisted Living and Memory Care staff working on their paintings.



Staff members with their completed projects.

the community. Laws matched the donation by not charging any studio costs, making it a charitable event that he plans to continue with other local facilities. He said the donation will cover a total of 10 painting sessions. Laws intends to hold

virtual painting classes with the donation money as well, so that nursing home residents and their family members can paint together.

Atria Park executive director Linda Noel said the outing was a welcome change for her staff after 13 weeks of isolation at the facility. The group included caregivers, nurses, directors and wait staff. Everyone wore a face mask, and Noel said it was especially nice to have the studio to themselves.

"It was such a great concept," said Noel. "And it was a really nice way to thank our front line workers."

Are bicyclists allowed on sidewalks? And other things you need to know

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Walkers, joggers, and bicyclists are all taking advantage of northeast Florida's beautiful early summer weather. But what happens when these all converge on a sidewalk? Is it even legal to ride a bike on a sidewalk?

According to St. Johns County Sheriff's Office NW Commander Kevin Cronin, bicyclists are allowed on public sidewalks per Florida Statute, but must always yield to pedestrians.

"There could be different rules about whether bicycles can be ridden on sidewalks in private communities, though," Cronin said.

He recommended that everyone stay up to date with their own community's rules and regulations regarding private sidewalks and roads.

He pointed out that, regardless, bicyclists should have a horn or other device, including using their voice, to alert pedestrians on a sidewalk of their intention to

overtake. Lights are required on bicycles if operated between dusk and dawn and all bicyclists younger than age 16 must wear a helmet.

Cronin said that bicycles are also allowed on the roadway, and if they choose to do so, they must follow the same rules of the road as vehicles. They must ride with traffic — as opposed to walkers, who must walk facing traffic for safety.

"Bicyclists are allowed to ride in the lane like a motorist if no bike path is available," Cronin said. "Of course, if a bike lane is available, that would be preferred."

Cronin noted that Florida Statute 316 governs most of the state's bicycle and pedestrian regulations and deviation from the rules is punishable by citation, just like the driver of a motor vehicle.

"In fact," he said, "it's also unlawful to operate a bicycle under the influence. You could be arrested for BUI (Biking Under the Influence.)"

ST. JOHNS Business Monthly

MarketInsight



The Wonderful World of Disney's Maid

By Scott Grant
ScottGrant@StJohnsBusinessMonthly.com

Walt Disney had a live-in maid. Her name was Thelma Howard. Reportedly, she made all of Walt's meals and helped raise his two daughters. By all accounts, she was "a beloved member of the family." Some say she was the inspiration for the 1960's TV character, "Hazel." Walt Disney called her a "real life Mary Poppins."

Thelma Pearl Howard was born in Idaho in 1915. She grew up dirt poor. After dropping out of college due to a lack of money, she moved to Los Angeles. Thelma held down three jobs to make ends meet and then, in 1951, she got what must have seemed the opportunity of a lifetime. Walt Disney had a problem with his previous maid; she was a good enough cook, but was sort of mean to his children. So, he hired 36-year old Thelma Howard. Thelma moved into a mansion with a pool bigger than the house she grew up in.

For the next 30 years she took care of Walt and his family, making sure to keep plenty of hot dogs on hand. They were Walt's favorite snack. Disney's daughters recall sitting in the kitchen, with wondrous eyes, watching Thelma make dinner. Thelma was paid a modest salary for her endeavors and received free room and board in the house. The world would have long forgotten Thelma Howard, but for an odd turn of fate.

Every Christmas and on her birthday, Walt gave Thelma shares of Disney stock. Now, another housekeeper might have turned up her nose at the gift and maybe even gossiped to her friends that Walt was

too cheap to give her cash. But Thelma Howard believed in Walt Disney. It is said they had an amazing rapport. So, she held her stock and let it grow. Eventually Thelma retired, as we all do. She lived out her life in a simple bungalow and then a modest nursing home. Disney's daughter, Diane, visited her and sent her flowers.

When Thelma died in 1994, her family and friends, in fact the whole world, was stunned by the staggering fortune she had amassed. Thanks to numerous stock splits and the growth in the Disney brand name, she died holding 193,000 shares of Disney worth around \$9.5 million. She left half of the money to her son and the other half to the Thelma Pearl Howard Foundation, which supports disadvantaged youth in and around the County of Los Angeles.

Today that foundation is worth about \$5.5 million and donates more than \$400,000 per year to various charities. They have done what they were supposed to do. It is, however, intriguing to think what if they had done what Thelma did? Had they just held the stock and paid out the dividends, it would be worth more than \$35 million today and the trust would be able to pay out more than \$2 million a year. The moral of the story can be summed up in two words: buy and hold.

Scott A. Grant is a local author, historian, columnist, and speaker. He is president of Standfast Asset Management in Ponte Vedra Beach. He welcomes your comments or questions at scottg@standfastic.com.

Everything you need to know to get your business reopened

By Marge Cirillo
mail@floridanewslines.com

I know it's hard to believe ... but this is how I see it. There may be some big advantages — now is the time to think positively.

While it has been difficult, there are some big opportunities:

1. People have been forced to accept change. They're now primed to accept any changes you might want or need to incorporate into the business.
2. Now is the time to consider new ideas, niches, needs. Implementation may not be so hard with all the disruption.
3. Your competitors are most likely weaker.
4. Money has never been so cheap to borrow or get.
5. New avenues are popping up everywhere.
6. Lots of talent is now available for the taking!

When do really great organizations change? Before they have to.

You need a plan. A "continuity plan" sounds boring — until you need it! Remember, those who are prepared are the ones who will succeed. Take advantage of the opportunities and consider: being a true leader and being proactive, while protecting your investment.

Document your plan with seven sections:

1. Lessons learned and innovations observed and available
2. Financial requirements (calculate the costs with scenarios and assumptions)
3. Employees (How many will you need?)

4. Customers (capacity)
5. Growth
6. Supplier Management (Can you get the supplies for the new normal?)
7. Health and Safety (How will you keep everyone safe?):
 - Plan to re-open and reduce workplace risk. (cdc.gov has a guide)
 - Free onsite OSHA Safety and Health Consultations. (www.osha.gov/consultation)
 - Consider what employers may and may not ask employees before coming back to work: You may require temperatures to be taken; you can ask if an employee has had certain symptoms; and you can require employees to be tested.
 - Level of rehiring required
 - Re-engagement — what about employees who are not ready to return? Should you consider a leave of absence, hazard pay, remote work or unemployment compensation?
 - Security
 - Training for use of PPE
 - Retention and hiring
 - Compensation models (Do they stay the same or change?)
 - Communications plan and technology

To learn more about any of the above services and information available, contact the Small Business Development Council to set up an appointment.

Marge Cirillo is the Florida Small Business Development Council consultant for St. Johns County. She can be reached at m.cirillo@unf.edu or (904) 209-1295.

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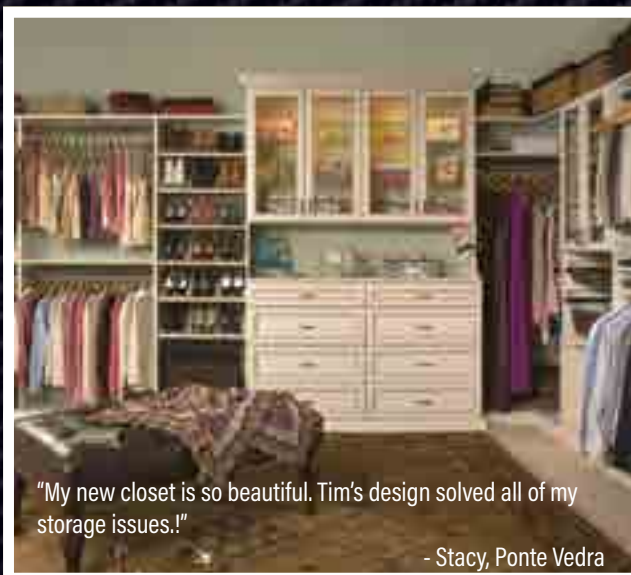
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Riverwood Women's Club gets creative to help community during pandemic

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewline.com

The Riverwood Women's Club is part of the Del Webb Ponte Vedra community in Nocatee. With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, club members had to find creative ways to continue supporting the local community.

The club's Outreach Committee's focus non-profit is the Alpha Omega Miracle Home, based in St. Augustine, which provides supportive programs and housing to single mothers, their children, and senior women in St. Johns County. Recently, members of the Del Webb Ponte Vedra Foxtail neighborhood, in conjunction with the Riverwood Women's Club board, sponsored a successful drive-by donation within Del



Photos courtesy Riverwood Women's Club
Judy Still, vice president; Kathi Reagin, president; Sue Badsky, treasurer and Foxtail residents Wendy Catucci and Franny D'Avi count checks from the drive-by donation.

demic, was the popular "Sharing Our Bounty" event. More than 90 beautiful gift baskets were raffled.

These events, along with "Split the Pot" raffles and several club donations, allowed the Riverwood Women's Club to contribute a total of \$16,038 to the Alpha Omega Miracle Home since October 2019. The home was able to purchase much needed food and living supplies, complete apartment renovations, and help to fund critical, unprecedented Covid-19 related expenses.

In addition to the Alpha Omega Miracle Home, the Riverwood Women's Club assisted other local organizations including K9s for Warriors in February 2020 and the Baptist Health/MD Anderson Buddy Bus in October 2019.



The Sharing Our Bounty fundraiser was held in November 2019.

Webb Ponte Vedra to benefit the Alpha Omega Miracle Home during the current coronavirus crisis.

The Riverwood Women's Club's major fundraiser this past November, pre-pan-



Photo courtesy Bonnie Evans

Newcomers of Beaches utilizes technology for activities

Linda Palmer, the outgoing president of Newcomers of the Beaches, held the installation of new board members for 2020 – 2021 on June 10. The new board members are: President, Bonnie Currier; Vice President, Rebecca van Beever; Secretary, Susan Niedenthal; Treasurer, Sue Hamre; Membership, Lisa Grabeman; Technology, Linda Mundy; Luncheon, Anne Herzich; Newsletter, Marsha Byers; Publicity, Bonnie Evans; Group Leader I, Karen Frank; and Group Leader II, Wenona Jones. The club is full of a fun and diverse group of women who have recently moved to the beaches and/or have gone through major life events from meeting in person. New members are looking for new friends and interesting activities. The coronavirus pandemic has prevented the social group from meeting in person, but the new board has been working hard to find ways to keep relationships alive and to create new ones. Virtual activities to be offered are virtual Bingo, virtual Canasta, virtual Bridge, virtual Jeopardy, virtual Happy Hour, virtual volunteering, virtual tours/vacations, virtual Bunco, virtual cooking class, virtual exercise class (low impact), virtual trivia and virtual morning coffee. Visit www.newcomersofthebeaches.com for more information and to apply for membership.

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Get to Know . . .

Steve Sheffield

By Tiffany Merlo Phelps
mail@floridanewline.com

All it took was one eastbound drive over the Intracoastal Waterway bridge on J. Turner Butler Boulevard for Steve Sheffield to fall in love with the Ponte Vedra Beach area. He was visiting Florida, and the beautiful water, grass and wetlands took his breath away. While he loved his home of 55 years in the Mount Vernon area of Virginia, Sheffield and his wife, Bonita (his high school sweetheart), always wanted to move south. When his oldest daughter, Sybil, moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, the perfect time presented itself in 2005. A grandbaby on the way gave them an extra incentive to move. And it was another drive — this time over the Palm Valley Bridge — that brought Sheffield to his current Palm Valley home off Roscoe Boulevard. Sheffield said he and his wife just randomly drove north underneath the bridge in hopes of finding waterfront property even though they were told it was hard to find. Sheffield said Bonita knew immediately upon entering the house that this would be their home. Five years later, his second daughter, Selena, also made the move to Ponte Vedra Beach. Sheffield feels lucky to live on the Intracoastal Waterway with all of his family nearby — now including three grandchildren, aged 15, 13 and six.

Q: You mentioned that you became very interested in beekeeping in 2014. What interests you about this hobby?

A: I just happened to Google beekeep-

ing one day, and the more I looked into it, the more I wanted to learn. I started with one colony and built up to nine colonies, which were all lost in Hurricane Matthew. Then I built up again to seven colonies, which were lost in Hurricane Irma. Then I started up again and built up to six colonies. I buy the bees from Hives and More, a honey farm in the Fruit Cove/Switzerland area of St. Johns County. I was asked to teach a course on the hobby of beekeeping at the University of North Florida, which I have done twice. I used to give people honey, and then I sold it for a short while; however, I ran out every year, so now we just keep it for our own use. I was always more interested in making more bees to sustain for the ecology of the world than selling honey. Eighty percent of crops are inadvertently reliant on bees. Losing a whole batch of bees twice was devastating to me emotionally.

Q: What does a beekeeping course entail?

A: It was a senior learning course with about 12 to 14 students. Some were interested in bees for gardening and pollination purposes, and a few wanted to become beekeepers. I was able to teach them the history of bees and talk about modern theories and techniques during the seven-week course. We took a field trip to my house, and each student was able to hold a frame of bees. They called me a “bee whisperer.”

Q: What are your other hobbies?

A: I have had a lifelong interest in boating, sailboat racing and motor cruising.



Photo courtesy Steve Sheffield
Steve Sheffield

I have been around boating all my life from the age of 10. I own two boats, and I was licensed in 1992 by the United States Coast Guard as a boat captain. I also worked part-time on the dinner cruiser “Sundance” out of Palm Coast for several years. I got ordained to be a minister, so that I could do weddings on the cruise too. I am also very interested in computers and anything to do with electronics. And I am a member of the American Legion and two Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary organizations.

Q: What is your military background?

A: I enlisted in the Navy in 1969 during the Vietnam War. I served during the war, but I was not in the war. I was in the Atlantic Fleet, and I was on active duty for two years. It was a six-year enlistment.

Q: Where did you work for most of your life?

A: I worked in construction with various companies, but mostly for my father. I worked for him as a carpenter, a foreman, drew up plans and ultimately became the vice president. He inspired me greatly. I started my own building and development company in 1975 and built more than 100 houses. In 1993, I built weekly rental, oceanfront houses in Kitty Hawk, N.C., which are still providing my main source of income. I retired partially in 1996. My life motto is “Never let an opportunity go to waste.”

Bucket Bob cont. from pg. 1

Davenport’s cleaning efforts have made a huge difference for the environment. And his photography is stunning, she said.

“Bob prevents thousands of pieces of litter from entering or reentering the ocean. The positive impact he has had on sea turtles and other ocean life is incalculable,” Crosby said. “He makes Mickler Beach more enjoyable for humans too. I hope that Bob’s selfless acts are an inspiration to others.”



Bob Davenport with Shannon Rogers and Nicole Crosby and the On Beach Kick Butts display

Crosby also said that Davenport helps by filling in holes that people dig during sea turtle nesting season; these holes can kill a nesting sea turtle if she falls in.

In 2018, Davenport had climbed up a lifeguard chair to take a photo, and he unknowingly lost his wallet as he came back down. Shortly after, he received a Facebook message from a man vacationing in the area. The man returned the wallet completely intact, and Davenport gave him a reward for the kind act. While Davenport will not accept any reward money for his finds, the experience did validate his mission.

“I was forever grateful to have my wallet returned because it would have been so hard to replace all those items. And this solidified for me the importance of helping other people to find their valuables.”

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Interested in being featured? Email Martie Thompson at editor@FloridaNewsLine.com

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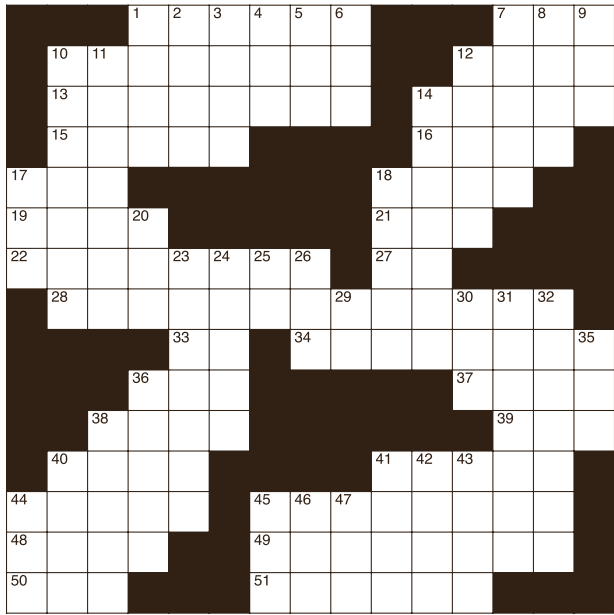
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Puzzles

Answers on page 3
Provided by MetroCreative



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. African nation
- 7. ___ fi (slang)
- 10. Not arranged according to size
- 12. A demand for a show of hands in a card game
- 13. Having a play of lustrous rain-bowlike colors
- 14. Panama has one
- 15. Taking legal action
- 16. Top of the body
- 17. Part of (abbr.)
- 18. Soul and calypso song
- 19. Murres
- 21. Irish river
- 22. Accepts as true
- 27. The Bay State
- 28. 1950s Hollywood icon
- 33. Blood type

- 34. In a way, became lost
- 36. Large primate
- 37. A spongelike cake leavened with yeast
- 38. Mama ___, folk singer
- 39. Visual metaphor (computers)
- 40. Trim by cutting
- 41. Small group of people
- 44. Pulitzer-winning scientist
- 45. Unique S. American mammal
- 48. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 49. One who works for you
- 50. Snakelike fish
- 51. Consumers

- 3. Late rocker Allman
- 4. Word element meaning ear
- 5. Amino acid (abbr.)
- 6. Promotions
- 7. Actress Lathan
- 8. Clothed
- 9. Unwell
- 10. Loosen
- 11. Cephalopod mollusks
- 12. ___ at Obdurata: Harmful papal bull
- 14. Musical composition
- 17. Irish bar
- 18. Greek island
- 20. Afflict
- 23. Goes by
- 24. Ambience
- 25. Video game manufacturer
- 26. Surplus Marketing Administration

- 29. Football position
- 30. Electronic musical style (abbr.)
- 31. Furniture with open shelves
- 32. Clouds of gas in outer space
- 35. Indian midwife
- 36. Packers' signal caller
- 38. Secret political clique
- 40. Cry weakly
- 41. Gomer ___, marine
- 42. Academic Bill of Rights
- 43. Negatives
- 44. Hip hop icon Kool Moe ___

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cylindrical sacs
- 2. Extinct North Germanic language

HVAC WORD SEARCH

Z G E B F D A R K H A I R K K O A C Y V
 K H Y E N E R G Y N K F F F C W F B T S
 V G V F C T P G S U R G E E H Y R C W Y
 U H K C S O R U E E N L F O N L L M L A
 Z L H A N D L E R V D F V U A I A D A D
 Y O B G Y K B H K Z I A D W O S M U R E
 R R N R H G Y S C C K B L C O E D C T Z
 E O F E E W A O I C I R N B T B H T N P
 F T R K T S O E V O N N A S R K U W E K
 R A Z H Y L N R A O Y L Y Y O V M O C Z
 I R U N I C M E C M H S T L S L I R L P
 G O E N Y Z R K D P G H Y V S L D K S M
 E P G N G O D E A N E D T R E Z I N F F
 R A T C S T B R P R O F R A R P F P F O
 A V L O O V T U M M N C O G P C I A B U
 N E L K O I M O N G A P F I M H E E I L
 T S N O C Y S L H N B D M S O F R R D T
 E M I L L T O C P I P C O N C Z O P N G
 O E E E A F U R N A C E C D W M W N G U
 B S S T N N O I T A R E G I R F E R F L

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- AIR
- BIOAEROSOLS
- BLADES
- CENTRAL
- COIL
- COMFORT
- COMPRESSOR
- CONDENSER
- COOLING
- DAMPER
- DUCTWORK
- EFFICIENCY
- ENERGY
- EVAPORATOR
- FURNACE
- HANDLER
- HUMIDIFIER
- PARTICLES
- REFRIGERANT
- REFRIGERATION
- SYSTEM
- THERMOSTAT
- ZONE



Solve the code to discover words related to air conditioning.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 26 = e)

A. 5 13 13 10 6 11 24

Clue: Heating and _____

B. 16 12 26 17 9 13 2 16 1 16

Clue: Measures temperature

C. 4 26 24 17 26 26

Clue: Unit of temperature measurement

D. 12 13 19 2 26

Clue: Residence

CHRIS

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Strickland uniquely qualified to be our next sheriff

By Tom Verri
St Johns County, FL

Based on my 34 years of experience in law enforcement, working for two of the country's largest police agencies as well as the US Department of State, in command-level and supervisory positions I would like to announce that I am supporting Chris Strickland for St. Johns County sheriff.

I have compared the qualifications and experience of the two current candidates: Chris Strickland and Rob Hardwick. This county needs proper administration of our sheriff's office. It is our primary law enforcement and public safety agency. With that in mind, I find that Strickland far and away exceeds his opponent. Sheriff Neil Perry appointed Strickland a deputy sheriff when he was only 19 years old. Perry saw Strickland's dedication and realized Chris had great promise. Strickland rose through the ranks as the agency and the county grew. He advanced from deputy to sergeant to detective, lieutenant, to commander and finally to the highest ranking uniformed career position, Director of the Office of Sheriff. As Director, he oversaw operations at the highest level of the agency. Strickland earned a Master of Public Administration degree and is a graduate of Georgia Command College.

Chris Strickland is uniquely qualified to be our next sheriff. In recent years, our sheriff's office has been plagued with scandals. Under outgoing Sheriff Shoar, we have witnessed the national embarrassment of mishandling in the Michelle O'Connell death investigation as well as the embezzlement of nearly a million dollars by Shoar's handpicked Director of Finance. After 16-years of no accountability for his actions, Shoar and his backers have donated hundreds or thousands of dollars and are aggressively promoting Harwick, who oversees an agency made up of about 21 officers, to be Shoar's handpicked successor. That is disturbing. Chris Strickland has been for openness and honesty since day one. Last year he promised to equip all deputies with body-worn cameras. Hardwick has not make any firm commitment to body cameras. In fact, during his tenure as chief of the 21 officer St. Augustine Beach Police Department he has never equipped his officers with them. Why?

Chris Strickland will restore excellent police and community relations by reviewing and reforming use of force training, setting up strong protocols for budgetary and fiscal management to insure accountability of taxpayer dollars and move the department into the future with his innovative platform for the agency and for all residents of the county.

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