

VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 2015 • NORTH BREVARD • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • PAGE 6

Building a Senior Provider Network

Dear friends,

In several counties in Ohio, the citizens have passed tax levies on property to help fund services to seniors. While I am not proposing a tax levy at this time, we should start thinking about how to help seniors who cannot pay for the services they need to stay in their homes, which is a cheaper way to help than putting them in a nursing home.

Although we do have federal and state dollars to help fund these services, they simply are not enough, and seniors and their caregivers do not know how to access them. My column today is about building a network to help others in and "elder-friendly" community.

Helping Seniors of Brevard, a nonprofit organization committed to educating and informing seniors about elder care resources, is now developing a "go-to" directory of community partners characterized by their honest, trustworthy, reasonably priced and quality service to seniors. This provider network will work together with Helping Seniors radio, television and print resources to help complete the care equation in Brevard, not compete with any established care program.



**PRESIDENT,
HELPING SENIORS
OF BREVARD**
JOE STECKLER

You can help identify organizations to be part of this network. There will be a nominal charge for providers to join the network, but in return, they will receive publicity via:

- Helping Seniors radio show each Thursday at 1 p.m. on 50,000-watt AM1060 WMEL
- Helping Seniors TV shows airing on Space Coast Government TV, Bright House Networks and on-demand YouTube
- Helping Seniors newsletter, published in center section of "Senior Scene Magazine," plus columns in Hometown News, "Spotlight Magazine," Ebony News Today and Al Dia Today
- Helping Seniors social media network
- Publication in provider directory for assisting seniors
- Participation in a TV program to spotlight provider services. Provider will receive DVD and digital copies of the show, which will be archived on the Helping Seniors website.

The objective is to build a quality provider network that will match senior needs to solutions, while upholding the trust and integrity that seniors deserve.

Become a part of this outreach program by calling Kay at (321) 473-7770 and telling her about a service provider you think would be a good member of this network.

Help us build an elder-friendly community in Brevard that can and will assist seniors and those in needs. Call to make this happen, we need all the help we can get.

Joe Steckler is the president of Helping Seniors of Brevard, a nonprofit organization designed to advocate, educate and fundraise on behalf of Brevard's senior citizens.

Feel free to contact us at info@helpingseniorsofbrevard.org or call (321) 473-7770.

A boat full of fun



Alex Schierholtz/staff photographer

Skyla Jennings, 3, of Cocoa Beach captains her boat during the 'Space Coast State Fair' Thursday, Nov. 5 at Space Coast Stadium in Viera.

Rants & Raves

Got something to say?

Email the Hometown Rants & Raves at brevnews@hometownnewsol.com or call (321) 242-1276.

Callers are asked to refrain from making slanderous statements.

Paper or plastic?

Given the choice of paper or plastic, I say "neither" and suggest instead cloth or yarn.

I challenge all those who quilt or knit or crochet to design and make shopping bags. People, we can do this. We can make a huge difference.

There must be tons of yarn and scraps of fabric stashed away in drawers and closets, not to mention unfinished projects just waiting to be made into beautiful shopping bags. Any bits of fabric or yarn, all the col-

ors of the rainbow could be used. This project would continue "The Days Of Generosity" by giving the bags to the homeless or by selling them for a modest price, then passing that money on for some other good cause.

I vote for Home Rule, but Brevardians need not wait for a lawyer to act. We can get on and do the job ourselves.

Finally, will someone revive the noble art of basket making?

See RANTS, page 15

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My Hometown News

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