

VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017 • THE SUNTREE • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • PAGE 6

Rants & Raves

Got something to say?

Email the Hometown Rants & Raves at

brevnews@hometownnewsol.com

or call (321) 242-1276.

Contributors are asked to refrain from making slanderous or libelous statements.

Dog feces inside the store, and nothing can be done about it

I know when I take our dog to the park, I have to keep my eyes open for dog feces that has not been picked up by other dog owners.

Unfortunately, I expect this, BUT I was in Wal-Mart on Wednesday and a lady had a dog on a leash, and the dog was not wearing a service vest.

The dog started dropping feces; and when the dog pulled on the leash, the lady used a tissue to pick up some of the plops. She didn't even have a feces bag or any disinfectant with her. I have no idea what she did with the tissue. Then, when they started to walk again, the dog again dropped feces. I guess we were all lucky the dog didn't have diarrhea.

She kept walking and did not pick up the pieces. Other people saw this.

I reported it to an employee, and he said, "what can I do about it?"

I talked to another employee, and she got her manager, who was going to talk to the dog owner.

I don't know what he said, but I still saw her walking around.

The employee said they cannot stop a person from bringing a pet into the store. The only time they can say something is if the dog is in the wagon where food should be or if it is barking.

I guess pooping on the floor is OK. I know I have to watch where I walk in the park, but NOT in a grocery store.

She said they can be sued if they tell the person not to bring their pet inside.

Dog owners should be made to carry feces bags and disinfectant with them before entering a store, even if it is wearing a service vest.

a citizen'

I believe we have a fundamentally different view of America. But beyond that, it is pretty petty to get into comparing how much golf (former President Barack) Obama plays vs (President Donald) Trump.

If this is your biggest complaint, then you are lucky. However, I believe your rant goes deeper than that.

In a mere 100 days, (President) Trump has done more to protect our nation than (President) Obama did in eight long, miserable years.

For example, (President) Obama drew his infamous "red line" with Syria, calling ISIS "junior varsity." The Russian president, (Vladimir) Putin, said "boo" and must have scared (President) Obama, so (President) Obama punted.

Now, Mr. Obama, who is the "junior varsity now?"

Syria's president gassed his own people, and (President) Trump lobbied more than 59 cruise missiles to send a message: "you don't do this."

As far as Afghanistan, we were bogged down for eight years and continued loss of life because of the dug-in enemy hiding in their caves and tunnels. As you are aware, President Trump used the most damaging bomb, other than a nuke, that we have. He had the MOAB used for the first time to destroy the tunnels and caves the enemy were using. Hopefully this will expose or eliminate the enemy and reduce the loss of our greatest asset, the American fighting men and women.

As far as the road closures, etc., don't blame (President) Trump for this, he's only been in office for a scant 100 days. Our infrastructure deteriorated over eight unproductive years of (President) Obama. I am sorry you believe Obama was so pro-

See RANTS, page 7

In reply to 'From a neighbor and

Healthcare of the future



Alex Schierholtz/staff photographer

Officials and doctors of Brevard Indo-American Medical and Dental Association get ready to cut the ribbon to commemorate the Grand Opening of the '15th Annual BIMDA Medical Expo' Saturday, May 6 at Hilton Rialto in Melbourne.

A Friend to Seniors

Picking up on the many comments in Florida Today and by the Brevard County Commissioners regarding funding for nonprofits, I have the following story to tell.

This story drives through many myths about who helps and who does not, and whether or not the county has responsibility for helping the frail elderly, the homeless and disadvantaged.

Regardless of your position, it is true that there are many needs that are not being met. Community-based organization funding of \$510,000 is a small drop in our county budget; however, to the nonprofits that receive said funding, it represents community support of their efforts to help those in need.

It is one thing to say the business community will support, but another to actually receive that support. It is easy to say how something can be done, but when it comes time to fundraise, it is another ballpark – a ballpark with often-closed doors.

My story is about a local business that steps up to the plate to help others, yet receives few accolades for its work.

In 1994, I asked a car dealer to help



HELPING SENIORS
OF BREVARD
JOE STECKLER

me raise funds for Alzheimer's patients. He provided cars to raffle, gave us free advertising, hauled the raffle cars to Daytona and local events, and put on events at his store, all at no cost to us. At the same time he loaned us three vans to take clients to and from daycares.

Time moved on. After starting Helping Seniors in 2011, I went to seven car dealers for similar help, but had no success. Just recently, I called the same dealer and said I wanted to buy a car, but could not afford anything expensive. The dealer asked me to come in and talk. He insisted we get a muscle car, but I told him it would be too expensive. He then pointed to a 1951 Ford Victoria and said, "I could sell that car for (X dollars), but for you the price is zero

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Hometown News

Published weekly by Hometown News, L.C.,
5059 Turnpike Feeder Road, Ft. Pierce, FL 34951

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Phone (321) 242-1013 Fax (321) 242-1281

Classified (321) 242-0442 • 1-800-823-0466

Rants & Raves (321) 242-1276

Circulation Inquiries 1-866-913-6397

circulation@hometownnewsol.com



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Seniors

From page 6

because I want to help you help seniors.”

Yes, folks, A.J. Hiers of Boniface-Hiers gave us the car from his personal collection, and we will use it as our 2017-18 raffle fundraiser car. It is similar to the one driven by Robert Mitchum in the 1951 movie “Thunder Road,” with matte black finish, high gloss gold top, and matching interior. You can view the car at www.Helpingseniorsofbrevard.org.

The Commissioners’ decision to delete county financial aid will make it necessary for nonprofits to develop new partners. I could write several articles about A.J.’s support of charities, but I think my point is made. There are people in our community, like A.J., who will help

if asked and if they identify with the cause they are asked to support. A.J. has supported seniors and children for the 23 years we have known each other.

Raffle details and a schedule of the car’s showing can be accessed on our website or by calling us at (321) 473-7770. You can also go to Boniface-Hiers dealerships to see the car and get raffle tickets. I encourage you to stop by and also tell others about this very special car and the purpose for which it was given – to help seniors. Thank you, A.J.

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 (321) 473-7770.

Rants

From page 6

ductive. I look at it differently.

In eight years, he almost fundamentally transformed America into the Stone Age. If that’s progress, then we have a different view of America.

Since this is Good Friday, I will give you my opinion. I believe the reason (President) Trump was elected, he didn’t have much to follow, and Hillary was a terrible choice for the Democrats. But primarily, my belief is, it was divine intervention. God apparently is not finished with his shining city on the hill, America. We will

prevail, because we are America.

Response to a recent rant

In response to a recent rant from someone who is “tired of all the Rants & Raves about our new President (Donald) Trump.”

First of all, what does anti-climatic mean? Isn’t that against the climate? Do you mean anti-climatic?

This writer wants the rest of us to concentrate on local subjects here in Brevard and, apparently, leave Mr. Trump alone.

Some of us have no plans to “table Pres-
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Hometown News' 2016 Pet of The Year “Captain Leroy”



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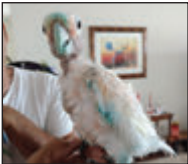
VIERA

ROCKLEDGE

Vol. 13, No. 43

www.HometownNewsOL.com

Friday, May 12, 2017



HELLO, BIRDIE

Meet our sweet, featherless fowl friend!

MAY FLOWERS

Swingtime to host popular annual dance



OFF TO THE COAST

Hometown News takes the Pacific Northwest

PET OF THE WEEK

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ENTERTAINMENT

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TOURING WITH THE TOWNIES

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Can you give 'Buddy' a home?

ADOPTABLE

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A moment of silence



Alex Schierholtz/staff photographer

Roger Hoyle of Suntree, who is also a veteran of the Vietnam and Desert Storm wars, pauses to remember those who have fallen in the Vietnam War, while viewing the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at the Florida Vietnam and All Veterans Annual Reunion Saturday, May 6 at Wickham Park in Melbourne.

Find the hidden fairies at Rockledge Gardens

By Brittany Mulligan

bmulligan@hometownnewsol.com

ROCKLEDGE – Rockledge Gardens is preparing a magical weekend for families in Brevard County, as its third annual “Fairy Garden Festival” returns - this time over a two-day period!

Admission is free both days

of the event, Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21. Adults and children alike can participate in the fairy garden scavenger hunt that takes participants through beautiful flower gardens, as well as build-your-own fairy garden workshops.

New to Rockledge Gardens and its Fairy Garden Festival

is the newly built Harry and Mary Witte Learning Center, which can be booked for weddings and special events.

The adult workshops and children's face painting will take place under the covered pavilion, during which participants can cool off from the usual Florida heat.

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Mother's Day charity brunch at Pizza Gallery

By Austin Rushnell

Staff Writer

VIERA — What's better than pizza? How about pizza with your mother that also supports a local charity!

According to a recent press release, Pizza Gallery and Grill is supporting local mothers during its fourth annual Diaper Drive on May 14. Customers who come in with a box of diapers to donate on Mother's Day, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., will receive a complementary “Champagne Lunch,” which includes a mix of items from breakfast and lunch menus, a desert bar and a free mimosa.

The event will be hosted by Pizza Gallery and Grill's location at The Avenue Viera, 2250 Town Center Avenue, in Viera.

The Champagne Lunch menu features gourmet items, such as salmon lox, made-to-order omelets, beef, chicken and seafood items, as well as a dessert bar. Donors also have a choice of a mimosa or Bloody Mary to drink with their meal.

Pizza Gallery and Grill's Diaper Drive will help support Pregnancy Resources, a Space Coast organization that provides essential resources for new mothers and also serves as a center for post-abortion support.

Pregnancy Resources provides services free of charge to local mothers in need,

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