

Is Your Roof Hurricane Ready?



East Coast ROOFING

We established this company to provide the best roofing services anywhere in Brevard, Indian River, Volusia and Osceola Counties. Promising hard work and comprehensive offerings, our team will provide you with the residential or commercial services you need.

We strive to give you everything your roof needs, whether it requires a simple repair or a complete replacement.

Trust the experts here at East Coast Roofing to get the job done.



At a glance, here are the top shingle colors for 2022

- * Greens that are light and subtle (forest green, hunter green, rustic evergreen)
- * Blues that are light and pale (Atlantic blue, sky blue, denim)
- * Off-white and beige (stone, khaki, tan)
- * Colors of taupe and light brown (sand, desert, taupe gray)

Complete Roofing Services for every reason & every season



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FREE
Estimate

Stormproofing & Storm Repair Specialists Local
References Available
Licensed & Fully Insured



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Whole -House Reroof

Coupon good through May 31, 2022. Must present at time of estimate.

Affordable Housing, Part V

In the past four articles in this series, I have highlighted an issue that affects many different age groups in our community. How many of you have noticed that we're actually talking about not one, but two simultaneously occurring problems? Namely, these are a lack of affordable housing and homelessness.

For many years, "affordable housing" was a term applied primarily to persons aged 20 to 50 who needed a place to rent because they could not afford to buy a home. The homeless were those who asked for a hand-out to get by. However, I believe that now we have an almost categorically shifting age grouping that is eliding a lack of affordable housing with homelessness in all demographics.

My belief is based on actual calls we get on our helpline. We are seeing a rising need for housing, whether it be for a place we pay for to lay our heads at night or a place that costs us nothing. Imagine a person who can not afford to pay a security fee plus first and last month rent, much less other living costs. How do you assist a 90-year-old woman who lives in her car? What would you say to a mother and father who live in a tent with their three children and have been flooded out? These are real life situations. They are not the result of anyone's choice.

I will say that a program called Saint Stephen's Way is under construction in our community to offset family housing needs – but what about the other untold number who need assistance? Saint Stephen's Way is a privately funded project. What about the millions of dollars that are available in government and public funds? Now is the time to develop the funding necessary to build housing that will meet homelessness and affordable housing needs. These needs will



**HELPING SENIORS
OF BREVARD**
JOE STECKLER

grow because we ask people to come to Florida to live.

Like you, I am the constituent of some legislators. My tax dollars go for their monthly pay. I doubt any of them live in the woods or are concerned where they will sleep each night. Legislators have nice offices and good salaries. The person who for any number of reasons needs affordable housing, who has \$1,200 or less a month to spend on housing (the amount considered by law enforcement unsafe for raising a family) deserves a fair shake.

There are ways to build a plan to make it work for all, but it will take money, cooperation, and leadership. Let's use government funds like the Sadowski Fund to develop a matching grant type program where the 67 Florida counties could benefit fairly from an annual distribution of the fund. Use them for affordable housing and also serve to reduce the homelessness problem. Or, County Commissioners could develop a program similar to the Works Progress Administration (WPA), a New Deal program started by President Roosevelt circa 1935. This might put some seniors to work at a second job doing county work at an acceptable rate that would reduce homelessness or pay for affordable housing. More to come.

Contact Helping Seniors at 321-473-7770, at www.HelpingSeniorsOfBrevard.org, or at P.O. Box 372936, Satellite Beach, FL 32937.

Calendar

From page 1

learn Deaf and Hard of Hearing awareness and be able to put sentences together. Classes will take place Saturdays, May 14, 21, 28, and June 4, 11, and 18 from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Franklin T. DeGroot Public Library, located at 6475 Minton Road in Palm Bay. Cost: \$30 per person (cash or checks payable to: Rock the Silence. Payment is due in full before May 7. Limited Seating. For more information, contact: 321-446-1802 - PO Box 101085, Palm Bay, FL 32910.

Saturday, May 28

Malabar Community Market: The market is a place to showcase local vendors and businesses, meet and chat with your neighbors and to enjoy the Malabar Community park. There will also be an area set aside for residents to set up a yard sale table (email for a reservation). Non-profits groups welcome as well! Everyone is welcome. The Market is located at Malabar Community Park at 1840 Malabar Road every 4th Saturday of the month. You don't have to live in Malabar to come and enjoy our nice park and community. There is no cost.

Basic Sign Language Classes: This class will

bring you through the basics from A,B,C's, family, friends and other common signs. You will learn Deaf and Hard of Hearing awareness and be able to put sentences together. Classes will take place Saturdays, May 14, 21, 28, and June 4, 11, and 18 from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Franklin T. DeGroot Public Library, located at 6475 Minton Road in Palm Bay. Cost: \$30 per person (cash or checks payable to: Rock the Silence. Payment is due in full before May 7. Limited Seating. For more information, contact: 321-446-1802 - PO Box 101085, Palm Bay, FL 32910.

Monday, May 30

Annual Memorial Day Tribute: Come out to Riverfront Park, located at 401 Riveredge Blvd in Cocoa Village for the annual Memorial Day Celebration on Monday, May 30 (Time TBD). Every year the City of Cocoa takes time to honor the fallen veterans of war with a Guest Speaker, special Flag folding ceremony, 21-gun salute, the playing of taps, a moment of silence, entertainment and much more. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.cocoafl.org

Saturday, June 4

Basic Sign Language Classes: This class will bring you through the basics from A,B,C's, family, friends and other common signs. You will learn Deaf and Hard of Hearing awareness. **See OUT, page 3**