



Funding for Nonprofits

By Joe Steckler, President, Helping Seniors of Brevard County

Believe it or not, there might be as many as 4,000 nonprofits in Brevard County. Are all necessary? Well, that is a matter of opinion. What you should know is how a nonprofit uses your donation. I have always tried to educate donors to the Alzheimer's program and Helping Seniors about what those organizations did to help people. This task is now easier with the opening of our Senior Resource Center at 1344 S. Apollo Boulevard, Suite 2-C in Melbourne.

Remember, nonprofit just means that an organization operates tax free. It is still subject to the same costs that businesses pay. Since many donations are restricted to a specific use, the problem most nonprofits have is developing unrestricted funding to pay general expenses such as payroll, rent, electricity, and marketing. Payroll, the most expensive operational cost, is the one most difficult to meet and controls staff size.

Brevard is home to several well-established and vital nonprofits like the Women's Center, Crosswinds, Aging Matters, Helping Seniors, the Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation, and the Sharing Centers, which help people daily and require paid staff to continue their services.

These organizations all run close to a financial margin but must still pay bills, the majority of which are paid from unrestricted funds.

This underscores the importance of the one-million-dollar line item in the Brevard County budget that was removed by the County Commissioners in 2020. This single act put what is commonly known as the HURT LOCKER on many nonprofits serving the senior population in Brevard because this money was UNRESTRICTED money and could be used to pay operational bills.

Seniors and those who care for seniors can make their County Commissioner aware that senior support of the County budget is vital to meeting increased costs. It would also appear logical that the Commissioners would be more attentive to the growing needs of a greatly expanded number of those who pay taxes. Here I might add that Commissioners will never know your needs unless you tell them.

When I was a small boy, many towns had an insane

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SENIOR SCENE MONTHLY TRAVEL TIPS

12 Tips On Hotel Tipping From Senior Travel



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Senior Travel Agent Chris Morse has over 35 years travel agent experience.

When we asked Senior Travel for their guidelines on hotel tipping, they emphasized that tipping is very much a personal decision. So, consider these recommendations a framework, not a formula, and remember it's up to you, and the service you receive. That said, in the U.S. and countries where tipping is the custom, an employee's livelihood depends on tips. And in these post-pandemic times, when labor is in short supply, it's important to recognize that most workers are being stretched to their limit. Here are some basic guidelines:

1. Housekeeping tips should be placed in an obvious location like the dresser or the bed. Because you may have a different housekeeper each day, several advisors suggested tipping daily, "which also might get you better service. The average suggested tip amount is \$2-3 per day and up to \$5 per day if you're staying at a 4 or 5-star hotel.

2. It's fair to take into consideration how much mess you

leave for housekeeping to deal with. Did your kids spill something on the couch or make a mess that will take extra time to clean up? That deserves combat pay.

3. The tip also should vary depending on how many people are in your room or suite. If you have three or more travelers staying together, increase the tip by \$1 per additional person.

4. Valet tipping averages between \$3-5 and is presented after the valet retrieves your vehicle. This is customary for any hotel valet, even if parking is included. No tip is expected when you drop your vehicle off.

5. Bellmen should be tipped \$1-\$2 per bag. You can also tip \$5 flat plus an additional \$1 per bag if you're traveling with a large group. If your bellman provided an excellent orientation, you might consider tipping a few dollars more.

10 Tips On Hotel Tipping... cont'd on page 49

Are you retiring or downsizing? Have you been thinking about buying or selling a home in 2023?

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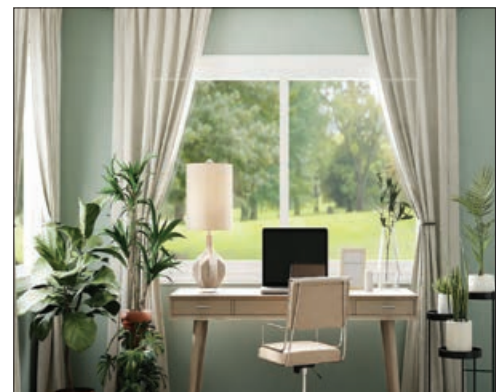
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