

Trash camp opens eyes to waste

Campers get a close-up look at landfill, recycling

By Kelsey Mezzina
Special to the Chronicle

It is 1 o'clock in the afternoon and I'm just finishing up my lunch. As I take the last bite of my Subway sandwich, I crush my napkins, sandwich paper, and chip bag together and shove it in my cup. On the way out the door I drop my cup in the overflowing trashcan. That's it, the junk is gone. I'll never have to worry about it again.

Except that I am no longer worry free. Recently, I volunteered at the Leon County Extension Office's 'Talking Trash' camp. Camp 'Talking Trash' is a relatively new summer camp that teaches area youth about garbage, recycling, and personal responsibility. Throughout the three day program, campers traveled to Marpan recycling, the Leon County solid-waste transfer station, and the Marianna landfill, as well as Marianna's gorgeous Blue Springs.

I know that visiting different waste handling sites may not sound exciting but, as we all learned, it really is. Over the course of the camp we witnessed a huge bulldozer toppling mountains of trash, walls of recycled aluminum blocks, and several elusive methane flares rising above the landfill.

And if that isn't exciting enough, we also stood on top of a mountain of trash! Seriously, the heap of trash we stood on is the second tallest point in Florida. You can't find that in a textbook.

Whenever we weren't away on a field trip the campers participated in hands on learning activities. Campers made candy landfills, measured the amount of trash produced during lunch, and even shot off rockets to illustrate Newton's laws! Shooting a bow and arrow rounded out the camp activities.

The purpose of the camp is to help people see trash differently. Personally, I am more aware of my own consumption and waste. I am in hopes that each camper is too. Each time I throw something in



Talking Trash recycling camp.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

the trash I stop and think, "Can this be reused, repurposed, or recycled?"

Before camp I took my ability to throw things away for granted. I assumed that garbage disappears magically, through some kind of modern trashcan magic. Trash enters can- Poof! Trash is gone.

There is magic at work

here, but not of the fairytale variety. In fact, we are all victims of a psychological enchantment, the likes of which can be summed up by the saying, "Out of sight, out of mind." Trash cans hide our trash while we go about our everyday lives. This is no small feat considering that the average American produces more

than 7 pounds of trash per day. That's a big job for a small can.

Thankfully, there are steps we can all take to reduce our waste. First, buy less. Over 90 of what we buy will end up in the trash within the next 6 months. So, before you make a purchase, ask yourself, "Do I really need this?" If the answer

is no, then don't buy it. At the end of the day you may not have that package of individually wrapped snack, but you have saved money and helped the environment too.

Another way to reduce waste is to never throw away your recyclables. While it's tempting to throw a bottle away in a trashcan if it's closer, it's always worth the extra effort to find a trashcan. I went to Marpan recycling and saw the mounds of recyclables. It may not seem like it to you, but each individual bottle really does add up to make a huge difference.

Have a question? Contact the University of Florida IFAS - Leon County Extension office at 606-5203, weekdays 8 a.m. to noon or 1 to 5 p.m.

University of Florida IFAS - Leon County Extension is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to race, color, gender, disability or national origin.

Hospice honors veteran

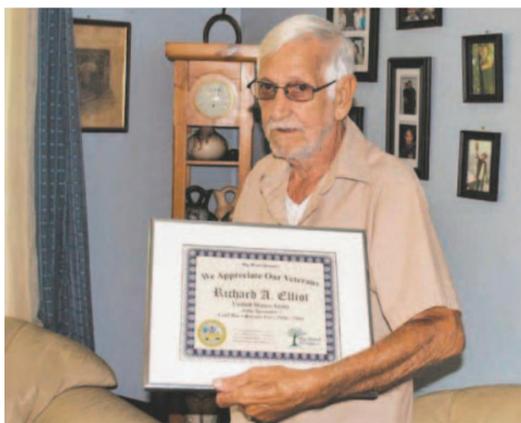
Valor ceremony thanks Richard Elliot for service

By Brad Johnson
Special to the Chronicle

On July 11 at the residence of Richard and Beverly Elliot, Richard, a veteran of the United States Army and local hospice patient, sat in his living room chair admiring the medley of Big Bend Hospice staff, volunteers, friends, family and loved ones, as they gathered to pay homage to his career of service to our country.

Elliot, a recent recipient of the Big Bend Hospice Valor Ceremony stated, "I had two uncles and a brother to serve in the military, and for me it was also a privilege."

Big Bend Hospice conducts valor ceremonies as a part of the national We Honor Veterans Campaign. These ceremonies honor the patriotism and sacrifices of our veterans who put their lives on hold defending our American freedom, whether their



Richard Elliot, a veteran of the United States Army and local hospice patient, shows off one of his awards.

SPECIAL TO CHRONICLE

service was needed in times of war or during times of peace.

The veteran's family and friends are encouraged to attend the valor ceremony.

With assignments at Fort Chaffee, AR; Fort Leonard Wood, MI; Fort Jackson, SC; Fort Ord, CA; Korea and NATO's headquarters in Paris, France, Richard Elliot speaks of his military service with pride and honor.

After four years of travel and military duty, Richard retired to Carlisle, PA, and then moved to Tallahassee where he and his wife of 34 years, Beverly, have resided for the last 14 years.

The valor ceremony is performed by the Big Bend Hospice Valor Team, consisting of volunteers that have prior military experience or a grave respect for military veterans.

Elliot's ceremony began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Valor Team presentation of a laudatory letter, a framed certificate, and a Hospice Valor pin recognizing and thanking Elliot for his service.

"Because they sacrificed to assure freedom for us all; because they deserve to be thanked; and because it may be the last chance to give them a hero's welcome home — Big Bend Hospice began the Valor Program," said Lucile Palmer, valor program coordinator with Big Bend Hospice.

The Valor Team concluded the ceremony by giving a final salute to Richard Elliot, and afterwards, sat and conversed with him about his memories serving in military uniform.

"I appreciate what Big Bend Hospice is doing," said Elliot, "Not only for me, but for all patients and for all veteran patients."

To learn more about the Big Bend Hospice Valor Program, please contact Lucile Palmer at 850-878-5310.



The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a non-auditioned chorus comprised of more than 200 members who share a common love for music.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A community joined together through music

By Gabriela Mendizabal
Special to the Chronicle

The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a non-auditioned chorus comprised of more than 200 members who share a common love for music. Each year, the chorus provides the Tallahassee community with a varying selection of choral masterworks, as well as joining forces with other local non-profit organizations.

The 2014-2015 season begins on Monday. Registration for the new season will continue on Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. and Sept. 15 at 6:45 p.m. in Alfriend Hall at St. John's Episcopal Church, which enters from Calhoun Street, with rehearsal beginning at 7:30 p.m. The chorus rehearses every Monday evening from 7:30-9:30 pm under the direction of Dr. André J. Thomas, Director of Choral Activities in the

College of Music at Florida State University. All concert performances are held in the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus. For more information on registration, go to www.tcchorus.org.

On Nov. 16, Season 27 will begin with the concert version of Leonard Bernstein's Mass and Joseph Haydn's Te Deum. Alongside the College of Music's Choral Department at FSU, the Community Chorus will perform in the annual Seasonal Celebration concert on Dec. 6 and 7.

On Jan. 24, 2015, the tenth annual Unity concert will pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and Martin Luther King Jr., and closing out the season on April 26, 2015, the chorus will perform Felix Mendelssohn's Elijah.

Season subscriptions are available at www.tcchorus.org.

Daylily

Continued » 1E

gation and growing of these "one day wonders," to socialize, and to enjoy winning amazing door prizes or taking home a plant (or plants). There is also a daylily auction which can frequently become suspense-filled with bids sometimes beginning as low as \$5 as members vie for registered cultivars, some valued at hundreds of dollars, to enjoy in their own gardens.

The TDS is so good at having fun that it received national recognition and a 2-page article in The Daylily Journal, Winter 2013, for its efforts and success in increasing membership even as other societies nationally began dwindling as the recession dragged on.



Opal Howel, Tallahassee Daylily Society treasurer, arrives at the annual show and sale with a bucket full of scapes.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Two of its members, Joe Agosta and Randy Fleming, are now being asked to help other daylily groups grow their memberships with the same foresight and indefatigable enthusiasm that they used to rescue TDS and make it a viable — and still growing — organization.

TDS also has an annual show and sale at Dorothy Oven Park, coming in 2015 on May 16. All "daylians" are encouraged to bring and show their blooms in this non-juried event, and anyone interested in populating their

gardens with registered cultivars can buy daylily plants at bargain basement prices. TDS will also host the annual Fall 2015 meeting of Region 12, Florida, of the AHS, although the specifics have not yet been announced.

If you need still more information, be sure to look at the TDS website, www.thsgardens.org or, if you want to see photos of meetings and gardens, go to Facebook.com/TallahasseeDaylilySociety.

And President Joe Agosta is always happy to return phone calls or respond to e-mail inquiries (668-1368; jagosta@mindspring.com). In addition to the Sept. 28 meeting, TDS will also meet Oct. 26 and, in 2015 on Jan. 25, Feb. 22 and March 22

CAPITAL CITY RUNNERS
Built for runners, by runners
1817 Thomasville Road • Suite 15
810.727.8011 • capitalcityrunners.com
Mon.-Fri.: 10am-8pm
Sat: 10am-7pm • Sun: 12pm-6pm
Facebook/CapCityRunners

VINE TIMES
Mulderbosch 2013 Rose of Cabernet (10.99)---South African dry rose that hits all the right notes. Juicy fruit highlights with a crisp, lively finish.
Billa-Haut 2013 Cotes Du Roussillon Blanc (13.99)---Classy white with a rich fruit texture of white peaches balanced by a laser beam of minerality throughout.
Jules Taylor 2013 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc (15.99)---New Zealand SB brimming with lush nectarine flavors in perfect harmony with vibrant acidity.
Eyzaguirre 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon (7.99)---It comes in a burlap cover. Don't let that fool you. Eight dollar cabs don't get any better.
Terra d' Oro 2012 Amador Petite Sirah (13.99)---This is a sweet deal. Terrific richness and complexity for inexpensive Petite Sirah.
North by Northwest 2011 Columbia Valley Red (15.99)---Their cab is a steal at \$25. So what does that make this delicious red blend? Worth the trip.
Taste of the Vine MARKET SQUARE
1415 Timberlane Rd. • 893-9636 3511 N. Monroe St. • 562-8297

Ever want to learn to play Bridge?
Beginner Classes Starting Now
Tallahassee Duplicate Bridge Club
Invites you to join the game
Beginning Bridge 1
Sept 17-Nov 12 12:30-3:00
at Lafayette Center
Contact Joe Labat
joe74@comcast.net
Sept 17-Nov 12 6:30-9:00
at Tallahassee Senior Center
Contact Patti Wallace
Wallace.patti@gmail.com
Advanced Beginning Bridge
Sept 9-Nov 18 6:30-9:00
at Tallahassee Senior Center
Contact Cyndi Collins windycyndi@hotmail.com
\$6 per session - First session is free
For more information go to www.tdbc.info