



# Thankful for the efforts of the talented Buczek and Co.

If you missed the Seminole County Elementary school performances of Frozen, JR. this past weekend, you missed another great example of why this community is such a great place to live, and why its tomorrows are going to be even brighter because of all the good things happening in it today.



**Impressions**  
**David Maxwell**  
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To everyone involved in that spectacular visual trip to the Norwegian-inspired kingdom of Arendale, I tip every single hat I have. It was magical, amazing, and an unforgettable performance! The sky is the limit for Seminole County's youth because of programs like this.

Research has found that learning music facilitates learning other subjects and enhances skills that children inevitably use in other areas. "A music-rich experience for children of singing, listening, and moving is really bringing a very serious benefit to children as they progress into more formal learning," says Mary Luehrsen, executive director of the National Association of Music Merchants. A study by Virginia Penhune at Concordia University shows that the earlier a child starts musical training, the stronger the connection between the right and left hemispheres of the brain. These changes last into adulthood and are proven to affect the ability to listen and communicate as an adult.

Seminole County's youth are blessed and this community is blessed because of Tony and Joy Buczek and Company. The Buczek seem to attract talented people, and each of them has a very special way to reach in and find the inner Anna and Elsa in all of us. Thank you to each and every person who played a part in making the performances of Frozen, JR. absolutely priceless and definitely unforgettable.

## More recipes for success

Early last year two out-of-town visitors came to our town and they were looking for unique shops to browse and local places of interest to visit. Do you know what questions they were asking? Well, here they are: How far is it to the art gallery in Bainbridge? Do you have any literature on the murals in Colquitt? How far is Thomasville from here? This last one really hit home with me - Can you tell me how to get to Havana, Florida?

I grew up in Calvary, and every Friday night of my entire youth, until I got my driver's license, I tagged along with my parents as they joined friends for dinner in Tallahassee. Each week, we would meet two of their friends at their store in downtown Havana. We always arrived early, and while we waited for their shop to close, I would walk the streets of downtown Havana. This was in the late 70s and Havana was booming. However, shortly after that, Havana began to die. Downtown businesses closed, crime increased and Havana became just a blur of buildings you quickly passed by on the way to Tallahassee.

The community was at a crossroads and had decisions to make if they were going to survive and prosper again. The community came together, made a plan, and worked the plan. Today, people are asking me how to get to Havana because it is a desired destination full of shops and cafes, and all of it is marketed very well.

Donalsonville and Seminole County have not traveled down the same road as Havana; however, for us to grow, we are all in need of a major shift in our thinking. We have to come together, plan together, work together and make our dreams come true - together.

When the BetterWay Initiative began, this question was asked of the planners. With an unlimited budget, what would you do to make the quality of life in our community better, enhance our current assets, add additional ones and make this a desired destination for visitors? We have dreams for growth and prosperity; we just needed to come together as a community and develop a plan, work the plan and then start expecting the results.

Would you like to see our downtown more alive and entertaining?  
Would you like to see the history of our community on display all the time?

Would you like to see the historical elements of our community saved, revitalized, and positioned as assets?

Would you like to see more visitors coming into our community to visit our shops and to take advantage of our opportunities?

Each project currently being undertaken in this community - on multiple levels and by multiple parties - is designed to do all of the above; we just need to remember that all of it works best when we are working together to make the progress happen.

When the next person asks me for directions to some other little community in our area, I want to shift their attention to Seminole County and invite them in to a community that showcases where we have been, where we are, and where we are going.

We need to create an atmosphere of excitement and family fun, and if we work together to accentuate our positives and add additional ones to the list, the people and the benefits will come.

But most importantly, if we make our dreams a reality, we will have made life here in our community better for the people that live and work here each and every day - each of us.

Someone said to me once, "David, this isn't Bainbridge" inferring that we are a smaller town with a smaller budget. We may be smaller, but our dreams are just as big, if not bigger. No, this isn't Bainbridge, but it IS Donalsonville and Seminole County. We have the visionary people and the assets right now to make greater things happen in our community. We just need to stop talking about it and get busy doing it.

Watch out South Georgia. Watch out world. The citizens of this community are visualizing the reality of living in a brighter and shinier city on a hill. We are all that is great about Seminole County

Let's work together and show the world why.  
*Comments and impressions are welcomed and requested at david@donalsonvillenews.com*

## If it were all just that simple

Many things in life come in twos or threes. You never have one child get a cold. You almost never sneeze just once. I even got traffic tickets in pairs; two in the first month after I turned sixteen and two in the same day after I got a BMW roadster that was too fast for my own good.

The same is true for writing columns for a newspaper. I recently wrote of the death of a childhood friend only to write the next week of an older mentor. Last week, I mentioned music as part of my column about life getting back to normal. Little did I know that a message of music would come back to me yet again.

The second post pandemic concert at the Gogue Performing Arts Center last Wednesday exceeded all expectations. I had heard of Wynton Marsalis, but honestly did not know much about him. It turns out he is an extraordinary trumpeter, composer, teacher, and artistic director of jazz and classical music at the Lincoln Center in New York.

Usually, we listen to music to hear the message. It can be in the lyrics which are easier to understand. It can be in the music itself, when we are often left to interpret what the composer was trying to tell us.

The interesting thing about the jazz concert this past week was Marsalis actually told the audience the thoughts he was trying to convey prior to playing the various pieces in the band's hour-long performance.

Ironically, a few days later

### Ponderings

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I found myself trying to hear his message while already knowing what he was trying to say.

The last set was the most powerful to me. It was entitled "That is when we all will see". As Marsalis articulated prior to the audience before playing the song, it was a reflection on how the people of our nation come together during a time of crisis, like World War II or the devastating attacks on 9-11. The music was written to convey how wonderful it would be if we could join together and unite when there was no crisis. Only then would we all be able to see.

Those are powerful thoughts. Given all the differences we have in our nation today, imagine coming together when there was not a negative event driving the unity. What if we just embraced each other when everything was going well?

oOo  
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I was in a completely unrelated meeting when an engineer for whom I have tremendous respect brought up the lyrics of a song by the band, Rush. The words from the song "Freedom" were "If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice".

Music sends us a message in several ways. The two most obvious are the sound or score of the song and the lyrics or words. In less than a week, I received the same message through music and lyrics from two wildly different sources.

To summarize, we cannot allow ourselves to only come together when we have a common enemy. We must seek the ways that unite us. In a nation that is so divided politically, we find ourselves having to be careful with our words with family and friends, much less strangers.

This week in separate messages in word and song, I heard music that told me that when we come together without cause then "That is when we all will see". At the same time, I heard the words "If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice". Can we collectively choose to seek things that join us when we are so focused on that which separates us? Or will we decide not to even try?

We all seek to see. We all have a choice. If it were all just that simple.

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## Nonce upon a time

Have you ever heard or uttered a sentence and then thought, "I'll bet no one's ever said that before"? For instance, yesterday I was playing with my daughter, Maeve, who is three-and-a-half. She has some stretchy, colorful toys called Monkey Noodles. Maeve has a vivid imagination, but I'll spare the details of the game she invented only to say the game ended with me exclaiming, "We don't put Monkey Noodles in our mouths after we bake them in our tummy ovens!" I doubt the same words had ever been put together in the same order in the same sentence before, and I doubt they'll ever need to be uttered again.

I think about these kinds of sentences all the time. Do you know that there's a version of this "once-in-a-lifetime" occasion for standalone words? They're called "nonce" words, or "occasionalisms." Nonce words are born when one word gets invented and subsequently utilized one time for one occurrence in one work of writing. These a la carte words are served up once and then they're done forever.

The word "nonce" means "for the once," or "for one purpose." Yes, back in the day, regular people knew what "nonce" meant.

### The Grammar Guy

**Curtis Honeycutt**

James Murray, editor of the 1884 "New English Dictionary on Historical Principles" (which, in later editions, changed its title to the Oxford English Dictionary), coined the term "nonce-word."

Lewis Carroll's 1871 poem "Jabberwocky" includes several nonsensical words that — up until that point — hadn't been invented, let alone used. The poem introduces us to one-time terms including "brillig," "frabjous," "frumious" and "manxome." While I wasn't there when Carroll penned this work, which would later be included in "Through the Looking-Glass," I doubt he intended these nonce words to exist outside the universe of Alice's Wonderland.

Irish author James Joyce came up with words constantly in his writing. In "Ulysses" alone, Joyce coined the words "mrkgnao," "poppysmic," "ringroundabout" and "yogibogeybox." While this makes me want to start (and not finish) reading "Ulysses" again, I find it even more interesting that one of Joyce's nonce words became a "real" word: quark.

As everyone already knows, quarks are subatomic particles that science people consider one of the building blocks for all matter. Physicist Murry Gell-Mann, who discovered quarks in the early 1960s, referred to these tiny particles as "quorks" until he came across the word "quark" in Joyce's book "Finnegan's Wake." From then on, "quark" stuck.

So, a word to writers: unless you're ready for them to take on lives of their own, be careful not to throw nonce words around all zoodle-zazzle.

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*Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist and treasurer of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. He is the author of Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life. Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.*

## HELP US DISCOVER 100 WAYS TO CELEBRATE OUR Centennial!

The Centennial celebration has been rescheduled for the Fall of 2021. The dates of planning and organizational meetings for the scheduled events will be announced in the near future. Watch this space for details!

**Join the planning committee for Seminole County's rescheduled Centennial celebration. Call the Donalsonville-Seminole County Chamber of Commerce at 229-524-2588 and volunteer.**