

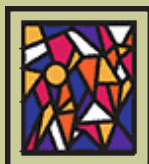
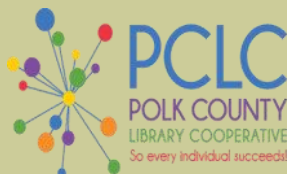


5 South Allapaha Ave., Davenport, FL 33837

Autumn 2023

News from 'The Port'

Partners



PolkArts.org



VP's Corner



Hello! We are ready to welcome the fall season.

Along with our historical displays, we will showcase **Fashion Through the Decades**. We will display clothing and accessories from the 1900's to the 2000's. This is a great time to join the ever-evolving Davenport Historical Society and become a proud member of our very important and informative Museum and Cultural Center. Join now as September starts our new year for memberships. You can become a lifelong member and embrace Davenport's history to share with other people. As the weather cools, walking tours are available upon request.

Billie Sedore
Vice President



Dues Due

Because we are dependent on the financial generosity of our members, we must ask all to renew your annual dues with DHS. Please mail your dues to Davenport Historical Society, Inc., c/o Kathy Linder, PO Box 774, Davenport, FL 33836, and thank you for serving our community with your **tax deductible** gift.

Museum Hours

10 AM to 4 PM — Wednesdays

10 AM to 3 PM — Thursdays - Fridays

10 AM to 2 PM — Saturdays

DHS Honors Veterans of Davenport

by Freida Linder-Priest

Originally, Veterans Day was called Armistice Day to honor the war dead following the armistice or truce at the end of World War I. This federal holiday is celebrated on November 11th to honor military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Many of you may know the old saying: 11th Hour, 11th Day, 11th Month of 1918, when World War I was formally ended. At the urging of major veterans organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 through President Eisenhower's signature.

Some of you may wonder about the difference between the annual military holidays. Memorial Day honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice while in service. Armed Forces Day is for those who are currently serving, and Veterans Day is for all who served.

While the DHS was preparing to open the museum, we found this plaque that is on display today. (You can see it on page 4 of this newsletter.) Of course, I investigated and was told that it once hung on the second floor of the Methodist Church in Davenport. I was curious about the two names on the plaque and why there was a star by their names.

These two brothers, named Algy K. and Arthur L. Bevins, died serving our country during World War I. Every name listed on the plaque are men

★ ALGY K. BEVINS.
★ ARTHUR L. BEVINS.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

who were from Davenport. They include: John R. Adair, Bascom Alderman, Jack D. Brotchie, Vivian E. Davids, Raymond J. Derr, Joseph J. Farmer, Irving F. Frogner, Herbert P. Gibbs, I. Melville Huffman, Floyd F. P. Krug, Harold E. Krug, Clinton V. McClurg, Jack W. McMahon, James Anson Rexford, Lawrence Henry Roehlk, Rudolph F. Roeholk, Silas B. Stewart, Lawrence F. Thompson, Frank Woods, and Henry Woods.

But I want to focus on the two brothers with the stars. As a mother, I can't conceive the amount of pain their parents experienced losing two children at the same time. The story of how this happened begins with their enlisting in the Coast Guard. They were assigned to the USS Tampa, a cutter which was on a convoy to the Irish Sea. They entered a cloud bank or fog and the cutter exploded. It was torpedoed by a German U-boat. Everyone was killed instantly on September 26, 1918. They had written a letter to his mother the week prior, saying that they were safe.. Life is so precious!

Butterfly Buddies is Here



Butterfly Buddies is a group of people who love butterflies and wish to help Mother Nature overcome the adversities of habitat loss. According to an Australian study, even small bits of greenery can help restore native insects to cities, said lead author Luis Mata, of the University of Mel-

bourne. Mata's findings was published in the journal *Ecological Solutions and Evidence*. If you are like-minded, consider meeting with the Butterfly Buddies at The Museum on September 9 from 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Teen Journaling Event Success

By all accounts, the DHS teen journaling event held on July 21st at The Museum was a success. According to Alize Tur of the *Four Corners Sun*, "participants were all given a free journal, put together by the CrossRoads Stitchers, and a small workbook on journaling. The workbook gave teens an opportunity to practice a grounding technique, as well as space to write down and pick out some words that they felt best described them. They were also given some other free goodies, such as stress toys and pins." It was a fine summertime event.

And the Silver Award Goes to ...

... Us. Yesiree! With its work on the native nature garden next to the police station, "a group of Davenport volunteers and the Butterfly Buddies received the University of Florida IFAS Extension Silver Recognition Award for their Florida-friendly Good Neighbor Wildflower Garden, according to the *Four Corners Sun* (6/20/23). Some of those volunteers are also ambassadors for DHS. Congratulations to all and to the Butterfly Buddies.

BOOK SALE

THE DAVENPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS HOSTING A BOOK SALE SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



5 South Allapaha Ave., Davenport, Florida, at *The Museum*.

WANTED

DAVENPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAY DAY MEMORABILIA

Items of Interest

- Pictures with Children
- School Year Books
- Information on Hoffman Studios, Haines City
- Information on the school celebration of May Day (not the City of Davenport's event)

Contact Freida at 863-557-3452 or stop by The Davenport Museum at the Peter Rust Civic Center, 5 South Allapaha Ave., Davenport 33837.

All items will be registered on loan to The Museum unless otherwise indicated by the item's owner.



September Book Sale!



Our Earth Day book sale was such a success, we decided to run another one on September 30th from 10 AM to 2 PM. There will be loads of books of all kinds from fiction to nonfiction to purchase, and 100% of the proceeds go to the upkeep of our Museum.

Benefits of DHS Membership

- Quarterly Newsletter
- DavenportHistory.org Site with Latest News
- VIP Invitations to Special Events at The Museum
- Camaraderie with Fellow Residents Interested in History
- Opportunities to Serve the Davenport Community
- Volunteer Recognition Program
- Networking with DHS Partners & Providers

Panera Outing Planned

DHS is sponsoring (or, should we say, leading the way to) an outing to Panera Bread in Champions Gate on October 27, somewhere about 4 PM. (See flyer below.) We're still in the planning stages but will let you know details on the front page of our website, DavenportHistory.org, after October 1st.

Panera FUNDRAISING

Help support us!

DAVENPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

October 27, 2023
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm EST
8190 Laura Ln

Use code **FUND4U** at online checkout, in the Panera App, or at the kiosk in-cafe.*

20% OF SALES WILL BE DONATED

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the cafe or enter the promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.**

Learn more at fundraising.panerabread.com

©2022 Panera Bread. All Rights Reserved.
 *Gift card and catering order placed on Panerabread.com, and delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions>. **Services vary by cafe.

Go to DavenportHistory.org for close-up of this flyer.



Davenport Historical Society, Inc.
 Preserving History and Nurturing Culture

Membership Invitation

Our Mission Statement

The Davenport Historical Society, Inc.'s purpose is to preserve the city's history and share this heritage by contributing to the records of the state of Florida and the United States of America in an effort that will embrace our past while working toward a brighter future for all of Davenport's citizens.

Please join us.

Become a DHS Member

- \$ 15.00 Individual
- 18.00 Family
- 35.00 Business
- 75.00 Corporate
- 100.00 Lifetime Individual

Share Artifacts or Personal Stories

Volunteer Time to the DHS & Museum

Name _____

Address _____

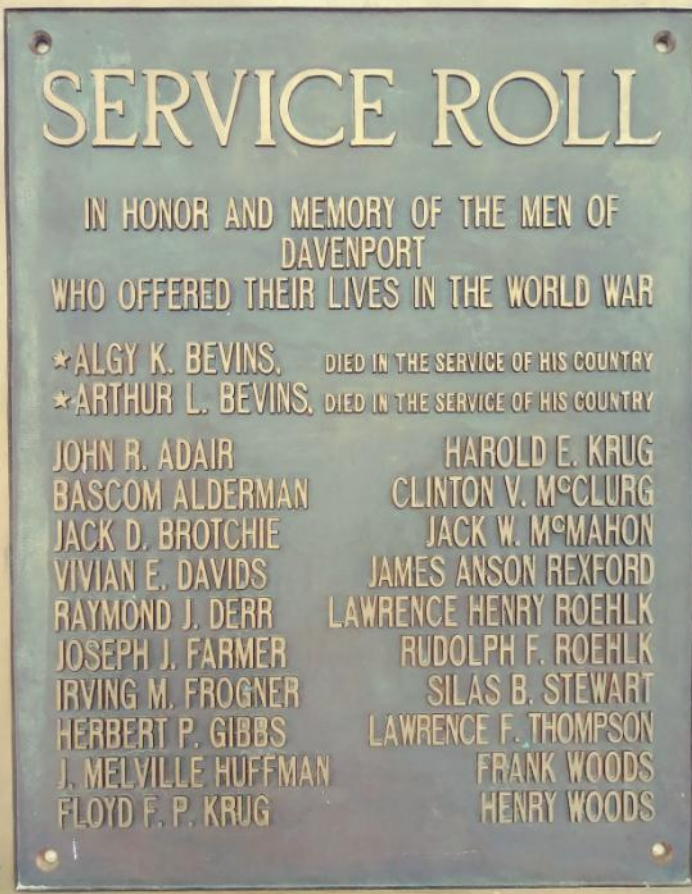
City/ST/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Please complete & mail to:
 Davenport Historical Society, Inc.
 c/o Kathy Linder
 PO Box 774
 Davenport, FL 33836

DHS is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.
 Your contribution is tax deductible.

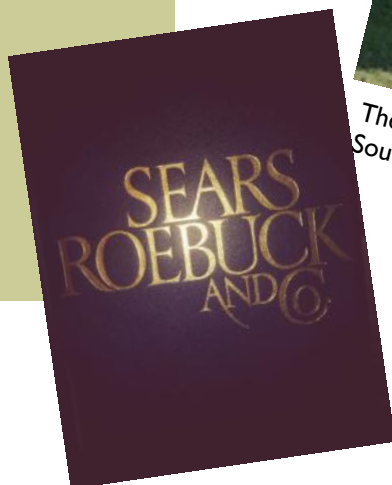


Outfits from The Museum's *Fashion Through the Decades* exhibit.

Pics from
"The
Port"



The Bozeman House, Davenport's Home-in-a-Box. 15 West Boulevard South. Credit: *The Ledger*, 1/14/18.



Davenport's Out-of-a-Box Home

If you would like to step back in time and smell the peach blossoms, stand in front of the Bozeman House this coming Spring. It's Davenport's only Sears *house-in-a-box* home. According to Paul Catala of *The Ledger*, "from 1908 to 1940, between 70,000 and 75,000 homes in the United States were built using the mail-order Sears, Roebuck and Co. Modern Homes program." (1/16/18.) Davenport's Bozeman House is one of them.

It was built in 1925 from a box of supplies. Because many Sears homes were located near train lines, it's estimated that the Bozeman House was most likely delivered by train.

While it is true that the Bozeman House is Davenport's only Sears home left in the area (there were several here at one time), the next closest Sears home is in Lake Wales at 219 East Sessoms Avenue, only a 15-minute drive from historic Davenport.



David & Joyce Hunter. Credit: *The Ledger*.

The Bozeman House is currently owned by David & Joyce Hunter. Before the Hunter's grabbed a hold of this gem, it was owned by a locally well-known resident named Myrtle "Granny" Bozeman.

Walking up to the Bozeman House, you'll be greeted by a wrap-around porch, the original door, and a spacious indoors that includes built-in cabinetry in the dining area, an ice box door, a formal room, the original fireplace, and the original oak floors. It sits on an acre and is skirted by a productive peach orchard, chickens in a big ole coup out back, and some bee hives to make it all authentic. You can see an image of the Bozeman House on page 4.

Davenport Resident on YouTube

Davenport native, Jackie Summerlin, is now on YouTube. She was interviewed as a **Pioneer** by Polk County government at @polkcountyfl. You can watch it at the link below.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Alkgbtaoyqg

pi·o·neer

/ pīə nīr/

A Davenport resident over the age of 75 who has lived in Polk County over 50 years.

The Fashionable Museum

Running from September through the end of the year is The Museum's exhibit, *Fashion Through the Decades*, featuring fashion from the Civil War era to the present.



Civil War era costume on loan from local author Judith Thompson. Pictured on the wall is DHS ambassador Joyce Hunter's great uncle, Mac Cocowitch.

Support Sunrail to Davenport

If you support a Sunrail station in downtown Davenport, go to The Museum quick, like now! There is a petition for the building of a new station, where if we get enough signers, we could see it in our future. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Polk County have began a high-level study to determine the viability of extending Sunrail into Polk County. A survey being conducted by FDOT seeks to determine public interest in extending commuter rail service to Polk County.

7 Stations

- Lakeland
- Polk Parkway
- Auburndale
- Lake Alfred
- Haines City
- Davenport
- Loughman



Websites

- DavenportHistory.org
- Facebook: DavenportFLHistoricalSociety
- MyDavenport.org
- PolkHistoryCenter.org
- DES.PolkSchoolsFL.com
- DavenportHigh.PolkSchoolsFL.com
- SchoolsFL.com
- VisitCentralFL.org



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Davenport Historical Society Inc.
Preserving History and Nurturing Culture

PO Box 774
Davenport, FL 33836



TO: _____

Volunteers! Save the Date.

Volunteers! It's time to mark your calendars for Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM for a **Lunch & Learn & Bring a Friend** at The Museum. DHS is hosting this event to bring our volunteers together for orientation, training, recognition, and lunch. Can you get a better deal than that?



Staples Supports This Newsletter



Staples of Posner Park has agreed to print this newsletter at a steep discount. Show Staples some love! Shop there.

Erratum

In the Summer 2023 issue of this newsletter, we said "Mrs. Nita Hornsby ... ran a dry goods store" in Jamestown. (Page 5.) Unfortunately the name was wrong. While we do not have a correction at this time, when we do, you can be sure we'll let you know.

Upcoming Museum Exhibits

- **Retro Techno**—Jan 2024-March
A look into the past to where we came from when it comes to technology.
- **Historic Lake Play & May Days**—April 2024-June
The history of Lake Play and its association with May Day celebrations of the past.

