



## *Amelia Island Writers*



**Due to ongoing conditions surrounding COVID-19, meetings and focus groups are canceled for the month of May. April showers bring May flowers, so we shall see what June brings our way.**

While our daily activities and routine have been interrupted, we've found precious moments for introspection and self expression. We haven't felt guilty for taking time to read, journal/write, and just rest. We are enjoying walks, bike riding, gardening, cooking at home. Creating art and writing enrich our lives and the lives of others. It hasn't been all bad.

While we wait, turn over rocks, and question, here's a little poem on those very things from local artist and writer, Dee Dee Bartels:

**I'm Nearly A Hundred (God! Are You Listening)**

Questions, questions!  
when, whats and whys  
I want the answers  
before I die.  
To whom do we turn  
to get the full sum  
Of the answers to life  
before it's all done?

People have rallied to help others of all ages. And animal adoptions have increased during this necessary time-out. Pets are receiving loving homes.

Recent articles by local writers Katherine Dudley Hoehn and Pat Martocci show the multiple joys of pet ownership.

Pat's story, *Pogo the Potcake Dog*, is told in the latest issue of *South Island Living*, a magazine for the Amelia Island Plantation residents. Pogo is one of 30 rescues that came to our Nassau Humane Society from the Pawtcake Refuge in Nassau Bahamas. Thousands of animals were saved and came to our country from the Caribbean after Hurricane Dorian. Pogo was adopted by Pat and her husband Patrick after losing their beloved Suzy. Pogo experienced several adventures around the Plantation after breaking loose from his lead, which led to Pogo being seen but not caught for several days, not once but twice.

The Plantation is now invested in Pogo, his walkabouts, and what he's up to, which might include some treats from one of their favorite restaurants, Pogo's. More about the wonderful work of PawtCake Refuge: <http://www.pawtcakerefuge.org> and Nassau Humane Society: <http://www.nassauhumane.org>



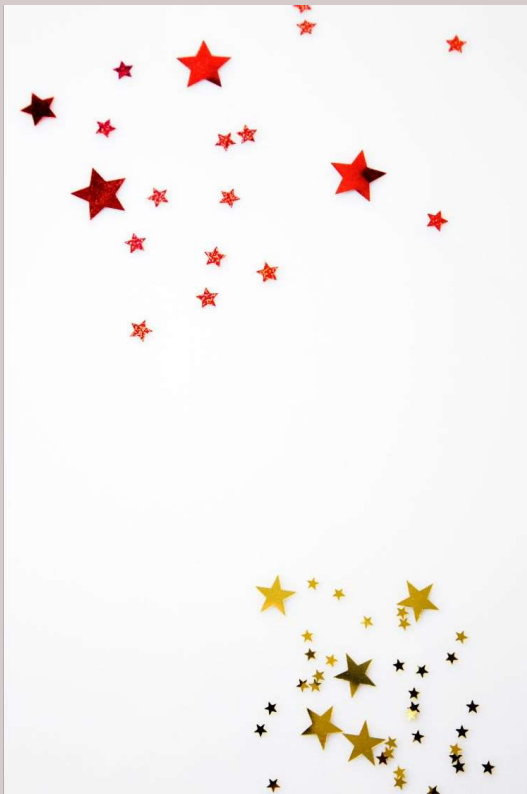
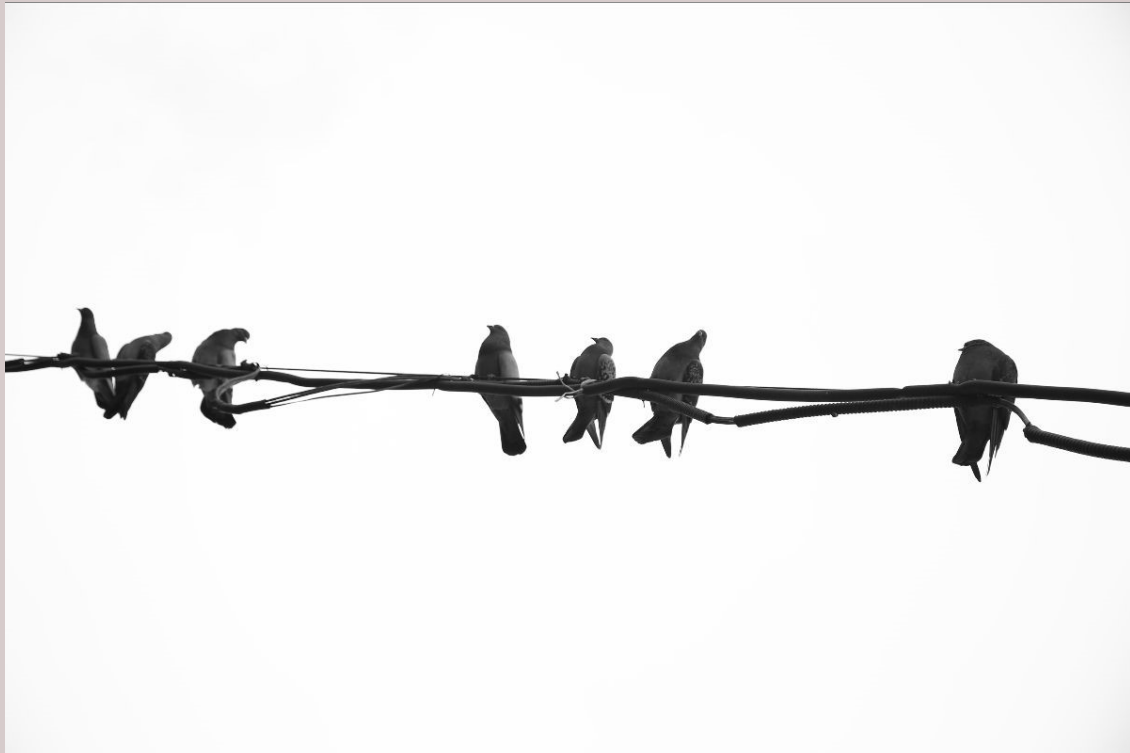
Katherine Hoehn's article, *Coronadoption (no social distancing or extra toilet paper required)* ran as a feature in the Fernandina Observer. Her Dudley had passed over the rainbow bridge, and she intended to wait awhile to adopt again. But she met Leah at the Nassau Humane Society, and it was an ideal fit at what turned out to be the right time, during COVID-19 when everything was canceled. Leah quickly became accustomed to her new surroundings and bonded with Katherine and their neighborhood. Leah barks at the vacuum, when her ball rolls under furniture, and at the doggy door until she got used to it. If you missed the article in the Observer, you can find it on Katherine's blog: <http://www.katwritesandsnaps.com>





Enjoy a Ted Talk for our times. Best selling author of *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*, and others, brings us a short, but comprehensive talk on this "confusing, beautiful, emotional world, offering her characteristic life-affirming wisdom and humor on family, writing, the meaning of God, death, and more."

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**Congratulations** to Deb Boelkes. She received an Independent Press Award, Business and Motivational category, for the *Wow Factor Workplace, How to Create a Best Place to Work Culture*.

[www.IndependentPressAward.com](http://www.IndependentPressAward.com)

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<http://www.ameliaislandwriters.org>

Florida Writers Association membership is not required to participate in our local programs.

A consideration for any future times of quarantine, is a meeting via Skype or the Zoom platform. Facebook and Instagram are somewhat interactive also. But it's just not the same as people being together, we are social creatures.

Their rules are ever changing for meetings and fees, so we will monitor that. Many are not comfortable with virtual gatherings, or haven't had a chance to learn this newfangled thing. It's not too difficult to be a participant, and instructions would be sent by email on how to join a meeting. If you are so inclined to learn the more detailed technicalities: <http://www.zoom.us>  
<http://www.skype.com>



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