Stress of repairs requires remodel recovery period

By Jackie Rooney Sat, Apr 16, 2016 @ 4:10 pm

“There is one advantage to having nothing, it never needs repair.”
— Frank Howard Clark, writer

Patch, patch, patch. The expression “after 40 it’s patch, patch, patch” doesn’t simply apply to people. When it comes to older structures in Florida, the patching begins years before the fourth decade. Our western Pennsylvania house was more than 100 years old and solid as a rock. Who knew when we bought a 15-year-old Northeast Florida home it already was getting on in years? Twenty years later, Bin residents are aging fast as we try to keep up with home repair.

We are seasoned remodelers, having rebuilt three Rooney Bin residences. Stressful as remodeling may be, it’s a creative process with a beautiful end result as a reward. Repair work is a noisy exercise in sawing, banging and drilling, and when it’s finished you’re back where you started … you hope. Annoying as the sounds can be at least they indicate work is in progress. Silence signals the carpenter has gone to lunch and will be back in a week or so, and the painter has left to buy more primer, but won’t return, because he heard it might rain someday soon, or the pollen count is too high. Arrgh!

My handyman spouse the Binmeister can solve most problems with a roll of duct tape, a can of WD 40 and that expanding stuff you use to fill holes. However, recent surgery sidelined him and a lengthy rehab has given him too much time to think of things that need to be done to the house. Buzz, bang…#@$&%*!...thump, it’s hard to write with all this going on, so I leave general contractor Binmeister in charge, while I escape to report on the Beaches social scene.

CHARITY CHALLENGE

Former PGA Tour player Bob Duval showed he still has the right stuff at the April 4 Players 17th Hole Charity Challenge at TPC Sawgrass, where 16 local sports figures teed off for their favorite charity. Each had two chances to get closest to the pin on the famous Island Green. Event emcee Doug Kidd said “we’re looking for the first ace this year.” That didn’t happen, but when Duval’s shot landed 11 feet from the 17th Hole he won $10,000 for K9s for Warriors, an organization he and his wife Shari founded to train and provide service dogs to
warriors with post traumatic stress or traumatic brain injury. Last year Duval was bested, as he said, “by a guy in a clown suit.” 2015 winner Curtis Dvorak (former Jaguar’s mascot Jaxson de Ville) didn’t prevail this year, but swung hard for the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund.

In the Round 2 shoot-off by the first round’s top five players, PGA Tour and Web.com Tour member Frank Lickliter landed a ball 23 inches from the pin, winning $5,000 for True Blue Navy Families Benefactors, an organization committed to enhancing the quality of life for Jacksonville Navy families.

Jaguars showing they know how to handle a golf ball as well as a football were: quarterback Blake Bortles, who teed off for the Blake Bortles Foundation; former quarterback Tony Boselli played for the Boselli Foundation, and head coach Gus Bradley hit the ball for McKenzie Noelle Wilson Foundation.

Other friendly rivals in the charitable competition were: former PGA Tour member Jeff Klauk for Epilepsy Foundation of Florida; Moonlight Golf Tour player John McManamon for the JT Townsend Foundation; Web.com Tour Vince Covello for Junior Achievement; Pablo Creek Club general manager Richie Bryant for North Florida Junior Golf Foundation; Action Sports Jax sports director Brent Martineau for Ronald McDonald House Charities; Timuquana Country Club golf pro Clint Avret for St. Vincent’s HealthCare Foundation; First Tee alumnus Spencer Schindler for The First Tee of North Florida; Web.com sports marketing director Tyler Brown for Wolfson Children’s Hospital; TPC assistant general manager Matt Borocz for Take Stock in Children, and former PGA Tour member Todd Demsey for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Technology-enabled health services firm Optum and global financial services company Morgan Stanley joined The PLAYERS commitment to support the local community. Proceeds of more than $75 million have benefited local charities since the tournament moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 1977. For more information, go to www.theplayerschampionship.com.

WOMAN’S CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

The Jacksonville Beaches Woman’s Club, a member of the General Federation of Woman’s Clubs, is known for raising money to support local charities, such as Beaches Boys & Girls Club, Benny Furlong Senior Center, Dial-A-Ride, Jacksonville Humane Society and Meals on Wheels (Beaches) to name a few. The industrious women also support Finegan Elementary School and Fletcher High School chorus, band and fine arts programs.

At the club’s April 5 luncheon at Atlantic Beach Country Club, education committee chairwoman Rose Marie Legant and co-chair Millicent Cobb presented scholarships to four deserving Fletcher seniors. Pilar Walker, Nadia Sears and Kendall Owen each received $2,000. Alexandra Heap was awarded $5,000. In addition, sophomore Lainey Hayden was recognized with a $100 HOBY (Hugh O’Brien youth leadership) award.

The girls stepped up to express their gratitude. Sears said she’s from an immigrant family with limited funds; her goal is to prove “anyone can receive a higher education” as she strives to earn a doctorate in computer cyber security. Heap said the award means a lot, because she has a twin sister and “my parents will be putting two through college at the same time.”

The philanthropic club, founded in 1926 as Pablo Creek Civic Club, became the Woman’s Club of Jacksonville Beach in 1935. It has 74 members and meets at Atlantic Beach Country Club. Plans are in the works to create a float for the April 24 opening of the Beaches parade. To join, contact president Carol Ann Womble at bcw1551@aol.com.

ARTS AND SOUNDS

The Sawgrass Country Club Arts and Sounds show also has evolved. The first exhibition in 1991 was named SMART (Sawgrass Members Art Show.) In 2005 the show raised about $70,000 for FOCUS Cummer and the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach art programs. It has reverted in recent years to a club member program. Artists Bruce Ann Ferguson and Bob Nickerson co-chaired the exhibit that featured their paintings along with 28 other artists and crafters. “It’s a show and tell for the talents of members,” Ferguson said.