

Anatomy of the the Tampa Bay Beacons

Here's a look at some common elements found on Page 1 of the the Tampa Bay Beacons.



FLAG

The newspaper's name (also called the nameplate)

FOLIO

Includes the date and the newspaper's website

LEAD IMAGE

A large photo, graphic or other design element aimed at grabbing the reader's eye

HEADLINE

The story's title or summary, in large type

ISSUE NUMBER

This issue is Vol. 49, No. 9

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Here's a look at some common elements found inside of the the Tampa Bay Beacons.

HEADER

A label used for packaging stories or features with a common theme

STAFF BOX

Lists staff names, roles and contact information

FOLIO

Includes the page number, date and the newspaper's name

HEADLINE

The story's title or summary, in large type above or beside the story

HEADSHOT

A small photograph (usually just the face) of someone in the story

BYLINE

The writer's name, often followed by other credentials

Viewpoints

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YOUR VOICE

We are proud to offer a forum to our readers. Please type letters to the editor (or print legibly) and include your name, town of residence, phone number and signature and mail to Tampa Bay Newspapers, 12945 Seminole Blvd., Largo, FL 33778.

Please do not use all capital letters. Emails should include town of residence and telephone and be sent to cgeorge@TBNweekly.com. We will not print the letter writer's phone number.

Here are some more guidelines for letters:

- Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.
- Please keep letters to editor to 400 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.
- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.
- Please do not use profanity.
- We do not publish poetry or songs.

Too. Many. Passwords!

My wife says that if I write this column I will sound like a grumpy old man. I guess that makes sense. I am a man. I am old. And, yes, I am grumpy at times. Most older people are. It comes with the territory. Older people have aches and pains we didn't have twenty years ago. Even ten years. But what really is grumping me now is the fact that virtually everything online requires a password.

Of course, I understand this when it involves my banking. But, seriously, it seems now anything I do prompts me to create a password. For example, recently I got an email from a house cleaning company I use asking me to rate their service. They did a good job, so I was happy to tell them so. But to do that I had to create a password. And, of course the password required at least seven digits of which one must be capitalized and it also needed at least one number. On this I fought back. I mean they are asking me a favor in rating them, so why are they making it so difficult? So, I simply did not rate them. But they could have had four stars.

The other day my Apple watch was not functioning right. My wife is our family tech expert so I asked if she could fix it. What do you suppose was the first thing she asked me? Right. Do you know the password for the watch? Since when have watches had passwords?

Recently I wanted to order something online. The website already knew my name, my address and my phone number. Then why in the world would it need a password? It knew me. We had done business in the past. It always seemed to like me before but now I needed to prove who I was by creating a stupid password.

I am a member of Freedom Boat Club, something I highly recommend. I've been a member for eight years. They have my credit card on file. But the other day I wanted to make a new reservation and I couldn't. You can guess why. I needed a password. For the last eight years I haven't needed one, but now it's required. What possible good comes from this?

May I tell you what worries me? At my age I don't know how many years I have left. And I certainly don't know my destination for the afterlife. But if I am lucky enough to go up rather than down, I am worried that Saint Peter will greet me at the pearly gates and say "Hi, Chris. Glad to see you. Do you know your password to get in?"

Chris Core is a former Washington, DC, radio and television personality who now lives in Pass-a-Grille. He is a winner of the Edward R. Murrow Award for outstanding achievement in broadcast journalism.

Core Values

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