



What is a cruciverbalist?

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SANFORD - Who was first offered the role of John McClane in the movie "Die Hard" before it ultimately went to Bruce Willis?

What is a cruciverbalist?

On what day exactly, more than 250 years ago now, did Sanford officially become incorporated as a city?

These are just three of the more than 30 questions teams were asked when Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford held its annual Trivia Night at the Sanford Town Club on Friday, Jan. 18. The event is a fundraiser for LVGS, which meets the literacy needs of adults in the Greater Sanford Area through assorted programs and tutoring sessions.

Several teams, comprised of friends, coworkers and members of local service organizations, put their brains to the test for the evening, answering questions about movies, sports, food, history, geography, math and more. In the end, the team from Kennebunk Savings won the night, accumulating the highest combined score from contests involving the trivia questions, a game of Sporkle, and a challenge to identify dozens of famous corporate logos.

This was the 10th year in a row in which LVGS has held the event. This time around, the organization raised around \$5,000, according to LVGS Executive Director Ingrid Baily.

"We're very grateful to everyone who played a role in this success, including our sponsors, those who played the trivia game, and those who donated to or took part in the raffle and live auction," Baily said. "Thanks to our generous community, we've raised over \$36,000 with Trivia Night over the years."

Kennebunk Savings, SIS Bank and York County Federal Credit Union were gold sponsors for the event. Silver sponsors were Sanford-Springvale Altrusa and YRL Group, and Bronze level sponsors were Moody's Collision Centers and the Sanford Lions Club. Gina Sawtelle and her staff at Above and Beyond Catering catered the event, serving warm meals, desserts and drinks throughout the evening.

In addition to Baily, LVGS board members Jeanne Mahoney, Jeanne Brennan, and Cassandra Mosher helped organize the event. Fellow board member Shawn Sullivan emceed. LVGS volunteer and local graphic artist Michelle McCarthy helped create the look of the evening, creating table cards for each team and all the flyers that made the raffle and auction items appear so enticing. Local singers Cori Arsenault and Marilyn Stanley once again brought their talented voices to the occasion, singing a couple of songs related to two trivia questions.

As mentioned, the evening included raffles and a live auction, during which participants bid on such items as an air fryer, an automobile detailing from Moody's Collision, a gallon of maple syrup, a stack of gift cards to local eateries, and two framed photographs - taken by Jeanne Mahoney - of landscapes in Ireland. Proceeds from the bidding battles that ensued all will go toward LVGS programs.

Here are the answers to those questions up at the top:

Frank Sinatra was first offered the lead role in "Die Hard" before it eventually went to Willis. Sinatra had played the John McClane character, then named Joe Leland, in a 1960s film called "The Detective." As a result, by contractual obligation, Sinatra got first dibs on the "Die Hard" role. He passed.

A cruciverbalist is someone who excels at either creating or solving crossword puzzles.

Sanford was officially incorporated as a town on Feb. 27, 1768.

If you went three for three with these questions, you might want to consider attending Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford's Trivia Night next January.

Founded in 1986, Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford is located in Suite 4 at The Townhouse at 883 Main Street in Sanford. For more information, either visit the office there or call 324-2486.