

**Community News**

**Kenneth D. Colen**  
Publisher

**On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association Fiscal 2017 Operating Budget**

Remember, the Friday, Feb. 10 budget meeting is right around the corner. The proposed budget was mailed out in late January. This coming fiscal year will have considerable challenges. Your board is pleased to report that despite significant work being done around the community, the increase in customer service fees is anticipated to be modest.

**Trending Real Estate Values**

It is certainly no secret that resale home values have been increasing for the last 18 months. This reflects not only the general economic recovery in the nation and region, but also diminishing supply of distressed properties regionally.

According to the National Board of Realtors website, "the median existing-home was 6.8 percent above 2015." Nationally, housing inventories have continued to decline as millennials begin to enter the market. That said, according to the Ocala Marion Board of Realtors MLS statistics, in Marion County new listings decreased -13.9 percent over the same period last year. Average sale price was up 13.1 percent over the same period. The same source reports that sellers appear to be giving up only 0.6 percent off the asking price. All indications appear to point to tightening housing supply.

From where On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion sits, leading the market in resales for 2016, days on the market to sale continue to decline when compared to 2015. Average number of resale transactions in On Top of the World increased five percent over 2015, while the average home sales prices in On Top of the World are up 18 percent over last year! Nice trend!

On a very positive note, On Top of the World Communities, Inc., anticipates another banner year in new home sales. The grand opening of the new models is scheduled for the end of February.

The Lodge at Candler Hills is coming into the home stretch for completion (the final details are always tough!). In February, we anticipate furnishings, artwork, and window treatments will be installed and finalized. Pool furnishings are on track, but the cabanas may lag behind by a week or two. I'm certain Candler Hills residents are eagerly awaiting their private grand opening.

**Circle Square Commons**

You may have already noticed some construction activity around Circle Square Commons. The doctor's office, VIP Primary Care, has been very successful in their current location in Suite #15. So successful, that they are growing into the large vacant space in the coming months. During construction, there will be a fenced area around the front of the location for limited contractor parking and access.

Events on The Town Square will continue without interruption - weather permitting. In February, there are some great bands entertaining ... Sparky Inner Track, Snake Eyez, Debbie Owen and Tony T and Gnarley Charley! For sure, their names are very creative!

On Thursdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Farmer's Market is open for your shopping pleasure. Come check out fresh seasonal produce from local vendors.

**Circle Square Cultural Center**

February is probably the busiest month out of the year. Between concerts, private events, company meetings, HOA meetings and Master the Possibilities classes, there's

Continued on Page 4 ▶



By Bob Woods  
World News Writer

This year, On Top of the World is hosting the ninth annual Home Improvement Expo at Circle Square Cultural Center where there will be approximately 60 contractors to answer any and all questions concerning additions, remodeling, improvements, or do-it-yourself projects.

The Home Improvement Expo will take place on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Need new flooring? Thinking about remodeling your kitchen or bathroom? How about replacing windows, adding solar lights/tubes, upgrading your landscaping, replacing your air conditioner or improving your driveway with pavers?

Interior decorators will also be on hand to help with blinds, curtains or interior painting and the list of remodeling vendors continues.

No matter what the project you are considering, you will be able to hire, converse, get advice and pricing. This event is free and open to the public.



Photo courtesy of On Top of the World Communities, Inc.  
**The annual Home Improvement Expo will take place on Saturday, Feb. 18 at Circle Square Cultural Center.**

**Sholom Park Adventures**

By Summer Best

If you're an adventurer who loves to hit the open road from time to time, you've probably found the Internet to be a great resource for researching your journeys. One of the Internet's most popular travel sites is TripAdvisor, which has been helping travelers navigate around the globe since 2000. A key feature of TripAdvisor is its wide-open invitation for anyone to "rate"

destinations throughout the world, based on their personal experiences at hundreds of thousands of locations listed on the site.

I say all this to report that, as of early 2017, TripAdvisor users ranked Sholom Park as "No. 2 out of 54 things to do in Ocala." Users commented on the park's "tranquil beauty," "beautiful, relaxing walk," "a place of peace and renewal," and

"a treat for the soul," just to name a few.

Many of you already know this about Sholom Park and have your own views and experiences to share. If you haven't been out to enjoy all 44 acres of its pristine offerings, this month is a great time to do so while weather is still crisp and cool. In fact, if you are a shutterbug, you might sign up for a "Photo Safari" class offered at Sholom Park on Tuesday, Feb. 21, and Tuesday, March 21. Taught by award-winning photographer Diane Cahal and organized by Master the Possibilities, participants are encouraged to bring their own smartphones or cameras (and camera manuals) and learn how to see through the lens with new tricks and tips to create memories. Some fees do apply; learn more at [masterthepossibilities.org](http://masterthepossibilities.org) or by calling (352) 854-3699.

**Fun at the Park**

On Sunday, Feb. 26, from 1 to 4 p.m., Sholom Park is hosting Fun at the Park - with a focus on literacy. Famous guests will include the Berenstain Bears, Cat in the Hat, Curious George, Mother Goose and more book characters who will be available to spread cheer, provide books and read out loud to attendees. Onstage, we are also very pleased to have nationally-renowned children's singer-songwriter Jack Hartmann with his "Hop 2 it Music" persona, performing his educational songs that engage and encourage people of all ages to learn the value and joy of reading.

All are invited to dress up as their favorite book characters.

Other entertainment will also be available onstage and throughout the park.

The event is free and open to the public. Food trucks will be onsite. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chair and umbrellas, if needed.

Fun at the Park would not be possible without the passion of many in Marion County helping orchestrate and provide sponsorships. Please join us Feb. 26, and help spread the word as we endeavor to connect our community and become a more literate society. For more information, contact Summer Best at [summer\\_best@otowfl.com](mailto:summer_best@otowfl.com).



**Jack Hartmann will perform at Sholom Park's Fun at the Park on Sunday, Feb. 26.**

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## On Top of the World NEWS

The World News is a monthly publication of On Top of the World Communities in Marion County, Florida. This publication is written and prepared by On Top of the World residents for our neighbors and those interested in becoming a part of our community. The World News strives to publish only "good, informative news."

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Read all the good news at [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala)



## 2017 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE



### On Top of the World NEWS

Issue	Ad/Payment/Column Deadline*	Insert Deadline**	Home Delivery
January	12/13/16	12/22/16	12/29/16
February	01/13/17	01/19/17	01/26/17
March	02/13/17	02/23/17	03/02/17
April	03/13/17	03/23/17	03/30/17
May	04/13/17	04/20/17	04/27/17
June	05/15/17	05/25/17	06/01/17
July	06/13/17	06/22/17	06/29/17
August	07/13/17	07/20/17	07/27/17
September	08/14/17	08/24/17	08/31/17
October	09/13/17	09/21/17	09/28/17
November	10/13/17	10/19/17	10/26/17
December	11/13/17	11/22/17	11/30/17
January '18	12/13/17	12/21/17	12/28/17

\* Deadline at noon

\*\* Printed inserts deadline by 3:30 p.m. at Heart of Florida

Note: Recreation & Wellness Connections catalog will be inserted in January and July home delivered issues

## GOLDEN OLDIES HUMOR

By Stan Goldstein



Every book is rewritten by its readers.

### Is It Legal?

**Gerald Colen & Rachel Wagoner**  
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**SCAM ALERT #1:** A good friend of mine received a text message that his debit card had been locked because of suspicious activity. The text message said that if my friend wanted to unlock the card, he had to text his card number and social security number to the address provided. Guess what my friend

did? He did nothing. That's perfect.

Then he called his bank and was told that they (his bank) would never ask for his social security number in a text message. Then, my friend did something that was also very smart. He sent the message to his bank so they could investigate it.

The truth is that there is never any reason to respond to a text message that asks you for money. Let me say it again ... do not respond to such a message. I know that sometimes when we know there's an attempt to scam us, we

just want to respond and tell the scammer that we know what's going on. Please don't do that. Just delete the message.

**SCAM ALERT #2:** My law firm employs a CPA. She asked me to remind everyone that the IRS will never call you and ask for, or demand money, or credit card information or even, believe it or not, an iTunes card (see a question posed to me below in this column).

Apparently, scammers have "dummied-up" e-mails and also letters that look exactly as if they came from the IRS. If you ever get something like that and you just are not sure, do not respond to the actual e-mail or the letter. First, you can go to the IRS website which is IRS.gov and see if they've got an alert on that particular letter or e-mail. They probably will. Second, you could check with someone at your bank or call your credit card company, using the phone number on the back of your credit card. The IRS will never call you and tell you that something is wrong with your IRS return. Do not respond to anything like that.

**SCAM ALERT #3:** Ransomware is popping up. Usually, scammers hit large institutions and hospitals. But if you ever get a message on your computer that appears to say it is holding your computer hostage until you pay a fee, the first thing you should do is shut down your computer even if you have to force shut it down. Then wait a few minutes and turn on your computer. More than likely the scam notice will be gone. And for Pete's sake, get a good anti-virus program, with a firewall and keep it updated.

**SCAM ALERT #4:** Many times, you might be "surfing" the Internet and all of a sudden a notice or message flashes on your screen to say that your computer is infected by a virus or you are on an unsafe website and then you find that you can't just "X" it out or delete it, or even shut down your computer by going to your "start" icon. What you should try then is to force shut down your computer. You can do that by pushing the "on/off" button and wait until the system turns off. Give it some time before you turn it back on. If that won't work, then you need to get a computer technician such as your 10-year-old grandchild to straighten things out. Never pay! Always shut down your

system.

**Q.** Why would scammers ask me to get them an iTunes card?

**A.** What scammers are looking for is a way to steal untraceable money. So if they get an iTunes card from you it is worth money and it would be virtually untraceable.

**Q.** I know all about the phone calls from someone claiming to be a grandchild and who's stranded in some far off country and needs money. And I know you feel it's always a scam. But what if it's not a scam and it really is a grandchild?

**A.** Tell him to call his parents. Then immediately hang up.

**Q.** I am convinced that there will be a will contest when I pass away between two of my children who I've deliberately cut out of my will and my other three children who will inherit everything. Is there a way to be sure that if there really is a will contest, my wishes will be upheld and the two children I want to delete won't get one single penny?

**A.** This is a great question and one that confronts many folks. You might ask your doctor for a letter attesting to your capacity to make a will. You might ask your attorney to videotape discussions about your will and include videotaping when you sign it. You might ask your attorney to have you sign all of his/her notes about you. You might do all of these. What is very important is to make sure your attorney has very detailed notes on what you wanted and why you wanted your will to say what it did. Also, please do not be upset with your attorney if he/she asks you to do some of these things. It's in your best interest.

*Gerald R. Colen and Rachel M. Wagoner, Law Offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A., are attorneys and members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. This column is only intended to present fact situations that may be of interest; and it does not, nor is it intended to provide legal advice. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. Mr. Colen may be reached via e-mail at [jerry@colenwagoner.com](mailto:jerry@colenwagoner.com) or Ms. Wagoner at [rachel@colenwagoner.com](mailto:rachel@colenwagoner.com). In Ocala, the law office is located in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons.*





Photo by Nobert Sachs

Rob Vlacancich tells his story at Master the Possibilities.

## Storytelling Season Opens

By Ray Cech  
World News Writer

Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016 and all through the house, creatures were stirring – even some storytellers.

The evening was the kickoff to Master the Possibilities' winter theme, "The Power of Stories."

Because of an incoming storm, the opening day of story time at Master the Possibilities was moved inside to the learning center's living room. The room was decorated in the Christmas spirit, giving the event a warm and cheerful ambience. Jerry Snyder was the master of ceremonies, who started the evening off with his own story, and

then introduced the evening's storytellers.

After opening remarks by Margaret Spontak, director of education at Master the Possibilities, Jerry introduced the first storyteller, Rob Vlacancich. Rob acted out a brilliant rendition of "The Night Before Christmas."

Ray Cech followed Rob and told the standing-room-only crowd about his adventures in Alaska and coming face-to-face with a not-so-friendly moose.

Fred Pack came up from The Vil-

lages and told a hilarious story of capturing a blind buck that they then kept in the barn. They named it John Deere.

Ocala's first lady of stories, Jessica McCune, followed Fred. She dug deep down into her repertoire and told a "trashy," humorous story.

Jack Copeland told his adventure story of rescuing a hundred people from a deflated hot-air balloon.

The evening of storytelling was wrapped up by Greg Jones, professional actor and storyteller. Greg acted out two characters within his story, and with sometimes warm and sometime hilarious humor, sent the audience home with a smile, as well as, something to think about.

Margaret Spontak reminded everyone that there is a story in every person, just waiting to be told.

Dig deep and listen to your own story, then come and tell it at Master the Possibilities.

Sign up to tell it on one of these days: Feb. 7, Feb. 24, March 7 and/or March 24.

Story time starts at 4 p.m. in the living room at Master the Possibilities.

Come and tell your story, or listen to others share theirs; either way, it promises to be a fun time.

**On Top of the World NEWS**

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**Community News**

**Kenneth D. Colen**  
Publisher

► **Continued from Page 1**

never a dull moment. Speaking of concerts, Friday, Feb. 10, we welcome back Beginnings: The Ultimate Tribute to Chicago and on Friday, Feb. 24, 7 Bridges: The Ultimate Eagles Experience. As of this writing, both of these concerts are almost sold out!

On Saturday, Feb. 18, the annual Home Improvement Expo takes place. Come out and meet with vendors including World Home Improvements who will show you the latest in home products and improvements. There will be information to tackle any project, or find the perfect contractor to handle it for you!

A surprise addition by Opera Tampa, and a free concert is on Sunday, Feb. 19. Doors open at 1 p.m. and the show starts at 2 p.m. While the concert is free, you will need a ticket. Visit the ticket office

to pick up your general admission tickets (limit two per household).

Don't miss out, purchase tickets at the ticket office Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., or on show days until show time and online at CSCulturalCenter.com.

**Winter Weather & Shrubbery**

Once the weather decides whether it wants to be winter or summer, the management company will decide whether to start mowing again or service equipment for the coming growing season! Actually, it has been a fairly typical winter, fluctuating between short cold snaps and warm periods.

I keep holding out hope for a very chilly February for only one reason: the cold knocks back pest populations that get into the landscape, limits the food supply for rodents (depressing the population), and gives a pleasant reminder of why most people moved to Florida in the first place.

So if I get what I've asked for (unlikely as that is) ... what to do with shocked and droopy plants in your landscape beds? The original plantings installed in your neighborhood

at the time of construction were selected for their cold and drought hardiness. Sudden and severe cold weather may cause some plants to brown and leaves to curl.

Do not uproot plants affected by the cold. They will surprise you with their recovery. Neither should they be pruned back until mid-April. There may be several more periods of cold and possible frost. Pruning at this point will spur plant growth that is vulnerable to the cold. Rather, wait until mid-April to consider any pruning of owner added plantings. Central Florida generally experiences one cold snap with light frost between March 15 and Easter; so be forewarned.

**Safety Tip**

If you are using a space heater, make sure it is well away from any combustible object. Avoid overloading an electrical outlet with appliances, extension cords, and especially a space heater. Overloading any electrical outlet can be a sure prescription for a fire.

Proper service on your heating and air conditioning systems (HVAC) is a must do. Improperly operating heat strips (on reverse cycle units/heat pumps) can malfunction and may become a fire hazard. These need to be checked by a licensed and insured air conditioning and heating professional, ideally prior to the cooler weather, but after a chill is a strong reminder as well.

Want to conserve electricity? February is a good time to clean out your dryer vent pipe. Lint can become clogged in the vent pipe, reducing dryer efficiency (so that's why it takes an hour to dry a 20 minute load!). Even more to the point, collected lint can become a fire hazard!

Cleaning is not complicated. Moving the dryer may be the hardest part. Disconnect the vent hose from the dryer and the wall vent. Use a vacuum cleaner to suction the vent hose, or you may choose to replace it entirely. Use the vacuum to suction the wall vent as well. If you've never done this before, the vent pipe may need a top down cleaning.

Get a functioning fire extinguisher for your kitchen! Read the instructions and be ready to use it, especially on a grease fire.

**Toastmasters - Talk of the World**  
David Wesenberg

Toastmasters met at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11, in classroom 2 as Cypress Hall was being painted.

Members heard speeches from David Wesenberg on the "Elements of Leadership," an icebreaker speech from Tonia Toon, and a speech on immigration by Leona Vlacancich.

Table topics in December 2016 were on members' plans for Christmas and at the last meeting on "Getting Started."

Our table topics contest will be at the Wednesday, Feb. 8, meeting at 8:30 a.m. in Cypress Hall. Each contestant will be asked an ad hoc question and will be required to answer it in two minutes. It helps members learn to speak on their feet.

On Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 8:30 a.m. in Cypress Hall we will hold our international speech contest. Winners go on to area, division, district, state, national and international competition(s) if they win at each level. All are invited.

Toastmasters is an organization dedicated to effective speech and leadership. It starts with 10 speech assignments beginning with an icebreaker speech to introduce yourself. Completion of the 10 speeches results in a competent toastmaster award, the first step.

After the initial speeches, there are over 20 advanced speech manuals teaching such subjects as reading in public, the after dinner speech, debate, speaking to convince, etc. to develop speaking and communication abilities in specific areas important to the member.

Leadership training is organized so the member can benefit by developing leadership skills of listening, evaluation, speaking on your feet, etc. The ultimate leadership training is functioning in the offices of the club such as president, vice president of education, vice president of membership, vice president of public relations, sergeant of arms, treasurer and secretary.

Come join us and improve your communication and leadership skills while having a lot fun.

**CURBSIDE LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PICK-UP SCHEDULE**

Monday*	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Americana Village</li> <li>Friendship Village</li> <li>Friendship Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friendship Colony</li> <li>Candler Hills**</li> <li>Indigo East**</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avalon</li> <li>Providence 1 and 2</li> <li>Williamsburg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crescent Ridge/Green</li> <li>Renaissance Park</li> <li>Windsor</li> </ul>

\* Due to volumes, pick-up may extend into Tuesday  
\*\* Begins at 7:30 a.m.

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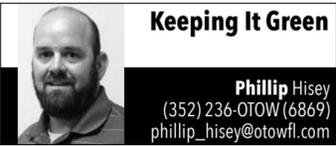
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**Keeping It Green**

**Phillip Hisey**  
(352) 236-OTOW (6869)  
phillip\_hisey@otowfl.com

If you did not know, we have a homeowner maintenance calendar at otowinfo.com, under the Resources section, Homeowner Maintenance, Landscaping Maintenance Calendar. This information is available for residents as a quick link to monthly maintenance tasks and what you should be looking for during different times of the year. As new maintenance matters arise, information will be updated.

Year after year, as the grass is coming out of dormancy, many residents may notice large yellow spots in their lawns that never seem to green up. This is most likely a nutrient deficiency caused by damaged roots from cold damage coupled with fungal problems. This year, we have not seen the colder temperatures we normally do during our winter months which leads me to believe that fungal pathogen pressure will be higher than usual. I'm sure there is cold damage out there but it will probably not show up until later in the spring.

What issues may arise? Large patch (Rhizoctonia solani), take all root rot (Gaeumannomyces graminis var. graminis) and Pythium root rot (Pythium spp.) are found year after year in the tissue samples sent off to University of Florida.

So, what do you need to do coming out of the spring? Well, I am glad you asked. As temperatures increase slowly, soil temperatures will increase too. When soil temperatures are between 65 degrees and 75 degrees and moisture is present large patch is most active. Both soil temperature and moisture must be present for the fungi to inoculate the turf. Preventative treatment is the best method of control against fungal problems. We know soil temperatures will reach the desired temperature and most residents have an irrigation system, so preventatively treat the grass.

But what if you think you already have fungus, what do you do? First, is to positively identify the fungal problem. You can send off a sample to University of Florida's Rapid Turf Diagnosis lab or, if you feel confident, you can try to identify it yourself. As the grass starts to come out of dormancy, look for yellowing patches of grass or irregularly colored spots. Look for the "halo" along the outer edge of the suspect grass. If you think there is fungus present, do not fertilize. Treat the areas immediately and try to keep from walking on it and certainly keep mowers off. Mowing and walking can track fungal spores throughout your lawn.

So what do I treat it with? Lowe's carries a product called Bayer Advanced Fungus Control for Lawns and Scotts Lawn Fungus Control. Make sure you read the label when applying the products; some products will require multiple applications. If you have a contractor treating your lawn, let them know you are aware of the potential for fungal problems and you would like your lawn treated.



**All Around Our World**

**Lynette Vermillion**  
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generalmanager@otowfl.com

Although we have had a freeze, it appears that we are going to have another mild winter. While it is wonderful to avoid the extreme cold weather, it does lead to increases in landscape pests and other challenges in the spring.

February is a very busy month. We celebrate Valentine's Day, Groundhog Day, Presidents' Day and Black History Month. And for you football and NASCAR fans, Super Bowl LI will occur on Sunday, Feb. 5, at the NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas. On Sunday, Feb. 26, 43 of the best stock car drivers in the world will compete in the 59th running of the Daytona 500, the "super bowl of stock car racing."

We are predicting a great 2017 and look forward to seeing all of you out and about in the community. We will continue the work that began in 2016 on the four new lighted tennis courts and starting renovations to add a state-of-the-art fitness center to the Arbor Club.

**Customer Service**

The Customer Service office is closed the third Wednesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m., which falls on Wednesday, Feb. 15, this month.

Customer Service may be reached by phone, (352) 236-OTOW (6869) or by e-mailing otowservice@otowfl.com Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or in person by visiting Suite 200, in Friendship Commons, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you reach our voicemail during normal business hours, please know that we are helping others and will get back to you as quickly as possible.

**Animals**

I have received numerous complaints lately regarding animal feces not being picked up. We ask that everyone pick up after your animal, whether it is in your yard,

the common area or in the roadway. Please be properly prepared to pick up after your animal at all times when outside. Refer to your Association's Rules and Regulations regarding animals.

**Walking Paths**

After observing a resident walk on a path that was part of the golf course, I thought it would be a good time to remind all walkers that the path along the golf course running along the east side of SW 90th Terrace Road is part of the golf course and is used for those playing golf only. The multi-modal path along the opposite side of SW 90th Terrace Road is for walkers, bicyclists and golf cart traffic. Flying golf balls and walkers do not mix.

Also, please be courteous to each other when you are using the paths - slow down and don't always assume that you have been seen or heard. Let's all work to ensure the safety of not only ourselves but all others as well.

**Ocala Open**

Candler Hills Golf Course will host the 11th annual Ocala Open this year. It's hard to believe that we have been hosting this wonderful event for so many years, and have raised over \$415,000 for our charities. We couldn't have done it without the support from our vendors, residents and employees, and we are looking to make this year our best yet.

The event is sure to be one of the largest charity golf events in

Marion County in 2017 and will be held on March 15, 16 and 17 with a Pro-Am on Tuesday, March 14. The event will showcase Candler Hills Golf Course and will highlight professional golfers from around the world while benefiting local charities, Hospice of Marion County, Inc., and Interfaith Emergency Services. You will not want to miss this - come out and be a spectator and enjoy watching exciting golf. And, you still have time to sign up to participate in the Pro-Am, which will help benefit both charities. Should you wish to volunteer for the three-day event, please call (352) 861-9712.

**On Top Of the World (Central) Owners Association Meeting**

Just a reminder, on Friday, Feb. 10, On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association's board of directors will hold their annual budget meeting, which will take place at Circle Square Cultural Center, at 9 a.m.

**Events**

Whether you prefer playing cards, dancing, exercising, expanding your mind or live entertainment there is so much to do in On Top of the World. Be sure to check out Theresa Fields' column for upcoming trips and events. If you haven't already, take a look at otowinfo.com. The Activity Info, Resident Events and the Events Calendar section are full of so many fun and exciting activities for you to do and experience.

**'Fitness On Demand' for Indigo East**

By Cammy Dennis

Join Cammy Dennis and Jessica Pinkowski for an introduction to Fitness On Demand on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 2 p.m. at the Indigo East Community Center. This virtual fitness program is now available and ready for use for all Indigo East residents. The introduction will in-

clude demonstrations and discussion.

Bring your neighbor, put on some exercise clothes and give it a try!



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Photos courtesy of On Top of the World Communities, Inc.  
(Top) Deputy Matt Bowers, K-9 Officer OTOW, Kenneth Colen and Sheriff Billy Woods. (Bottom) K-9 Officer OTOW.



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## K-9 Meet & Greet

Through the generous community spirit of the Entertainment Group and a private foundation the necessary funds to purchase a green (untrained) law enforcement K-9 for the Marion County Sheriff's Office were acquired.

A police dog (often referred to as K-9) is specifically trained to assist police in their work. Their duties include suspect apprehension, searching for drugs, explosives, lost people and crime scene evidence plus the all-important duty of protecting their handlers. These specially trained K-9s often cost anywhere from \$8,000 to \$10,000.

The new addition to the Sheriff's Office is an energetic 14-month old sable German shepherd recently brought over from Germany. The K-9, now paired with Deputy Matt Bowers, replaces the deputy's former K-9 partner "Cadet" who unfortunately retired recently due to medical issues. To show their thanks to the residents of On Top of the World, the Marion County Sheriff's Office has officially named the K-9 "OTOW." "OTOW" has already begun the additional training he needs to prepare him for his important job of serving and protecting the citizens of Marion County.

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, Kenneth Colen, president of On Top of the World Communities, Inc., along with several members of the Marion County Sheriff's Office held a "meet and greet" to introduce K-9 Officer "OTOW" to the community.



FREE WI-FI

- Hobby Building
- Recreation Center (fitness center, library, veranda and lobby)
- Arbor Club
- Arbor Conference Center
- Candler Hills Community Center
- Indigo East Community Center



**Science, Travel, Tastings, Tall Tales, Music and More!**

Science has always been at the top of many of Master the Possibilities students' list. February is a banner month as astrophysicist Jerry Heines shares his first lecture, The "Time Line of the Universe" (Thursday, Feb. 23). Great science favorites include The Florida Science Series, beginning Monday, Feb. 6, featuring insects, snakes, and spiders. If birds are more your thing, Norm Lantz will take you birding along the Rainbow or Withlacoochee River. See Florida Birding Series for details. Marty Hoffert continues with "Dimension X - Science-based Discussion Group" every Wednesday, 3 to 5 p.m.

Travel the world without leaving your chair at Master the Possibilities. Africa is a main focal point during February, beginning with Rod Broker and Doris Gamelin presenting their amazing "African Safari" (Thursday, Feb. 16), Connie Filip sharing her African photo safari (Tuesday, Feb. 21). Connie's photo collection will be featured in the lobby. Bryant Shaw continues with two lectures from his outstanding Africa Series. In addition to Africa, you can armchair travel and learn about Iceland (Thursday, Feb. 2), Ireland (Thursday, Feb. 2), Argentina (Monday, Feb. 6), New Zealand (Tuesday, Feb. 7), China (Friday, Feb. 10), and El Camino de Santiago (Friday, Feb. 17).

Foodies and those interested in healthy eating can take "Lose for Life" (Friday, Feb. 3), "Dining Around: Blue Gill restaurant in Gainesville" (Saturday, Feb. 4), "How to Get the Most Out of Produce" (Thursday, Feb. 9), and "Beans are Good for Your Heart" (Thursday, Feb. 9). Learn how to get your medical health records in shape with "My Health Story" (Monday, Feb. 13). Two physicians, who have led this effort in Marion County, Dr. Mel Seek and Dr. David Wills, deliver this talk.

Stories and storytelling are still front and center. United Way presents "Stories that Shape Our Com-

munity" (Wednesday, Feb. 1). The Story Masters Series features Jessica McCune with "How to Tell Your Signature Story" (Tuesday, Feb. 7), Jerry Snyder and Jack Copeland present "How to Tell Whoppers" (Tuesday, Feb. 21), and visiting musician and Florida humanities scholar Dr. Kitty Oliver presents "Songs and Stories of Race and Change" (Wednesday, Feb. 15). Join us for coffee and fireside stories in the lobby on Tuesdays, Feb. 7 and 21, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. You can even submit a story idea for telling.

Music abounds as College of Central Florida's music leader Dr. Sarah Satterfield begins her four-part series on "Baroque through Modern" (Thursday, Feb. 16). Marie Roppel shares her thoughts on "Music Joins Literature & Art" (Tuesday, Feb. 21), and Edith Gandy explores story-songs through "Telling Stories in a Song" (Feb. 15 through March 15).

If you missed Laura Rowley, she is back with "Animal Communication" (Thursday, Feb. 23), and popular instructor Frank DePiero dives deep into "Two Islams" (Monday, Feb. 13). Rabbi Mark Winer joins the series on "Religion and Philosophy Thought Leaders" with a movie and lecture on "Missing Moses" (Wednesday, Feb. 8). If you are looking for a way to strengthen your partnership, "Loving Communication©" (Thursday, Feb. 16) might just be the secret recipe.

February is overflowing with so many great selections, please go to MasterthePossibilities.org to view them all on our new online calendar with one click to the class of choice.



Dr. Kitty Oliver presents "Songs and Stories of Race and Change" (Wednesday, Feb. 15) at Master the Possibilities.

**Free Tax Services**

United Way of Marion County will offer free income tax preparation through a number of VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) locations through Tuesday, April 18. To make an appointment, call 2-1-1 or visit [uwmc.org/our-work/income/vita-free-taxes/](http://uwmc.org/our-work/income/vita-free-taxes/).

- Residents will need to bring:
- Government issued photo I.D., such as driver's license.
  - Social Security cards, ITN numbers and birth dates for taxpayer, spouse and dependents.

- tax return
  - Proof of day care expenses including provider's name, address and federal identification number.
  - To receive direct deposit of refund, bring checking/savings account and routing numbers.
  - If married and filing joint return, both spouses must come to the VITA site.
- All wage and income statements (example: W-2, W-2G, 1099-R forms).
  - Interest and dividend statements from financial institutions (Form 1099) if applicable.
  - Health care documentation
  - Copy of last year's federal

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**Citizens Emergency Response Team**

Beth McKeen

Stop by our table ... we look forward to meeting and speaking with you at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26.

We were present at the annual Health & Wellness Expo on Saturday, Jan. 21. Our table was manned by CERT personnel in their disaster gear as well as CERT coordinators from the Emergency Operation Center. We answered questions and talked to Marion County residents about their role in a disaster.

As CERT members we must constantly train so that we are prepared

in the event our team is called up to assist in a disaster. At our January meeting, team member Tim Moore led us in a "walk through" drill. We discussed chain of command, which is necessary to perform effectively and do the most good for residents. Leadership unites the team and encourages them to work together toward a common goal.

All team members participated in the "walk through" drill by setting up the command center, where all team members report once they have been activated. We set up stations in the command center for the clerk, supply area, HAM operators and incident commander. We reviewed and discussed all paperwork needed at each station.

We need new members on our team to keep up with growth in the community, so please consider participating in this service organization and giving back to your community. Become a volunteer for the Emergency Management Bureau of the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

CERT training classes have been filling very rapidly due to an increase in CERT interest throughout the county, so it is not too early to apply for the next training class. To fill out an application go to marionso.com, EM icon, EM volunteering, or call Beverly Case, CERT Coordinator, at (352) 369-8103.

CERT meets every second Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 14. Anyone interested in learning more about CERT is welcome to attend these meetings or contact Beth McKeen at (352)-237-5079.



**Democratic Club**

Dan Lack

Every year the Marion County Citizens Academy presents a free 10-week course that explains the operations and services of our county's government. Elaine McClain is the public information officer and she will publicly inform us at our club meeting on Thursday, Feb. 23 about what the Citizens Academy has to offer. She will bring along County Commissioner Carl Zalak who will explain the Marion County budget process.

We anticipate a good turnout at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26 when we will introduce our club to the residents in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Thank you to our board members who volunteered their time at our table.

We continue to support the Oc-

ala Ritz Veterans Village with donations of food, music CDs, board games and Christmas gifts to show our appreciation to these men and women who sacrificed so much for us.

The Democratic Club is here to point out and explain the facts about what is occurring in Washington, D.C. as well as in Florida and Marion County. Come to our meetings and learn the truth.

We meet on the fourth Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. in Suites E and F at the Arbor Conference Center. Our meetings are open to registered Democrats and Independent voters although only Democrats can be voting members of the Club. Videos of our speakers may be viewed on our otow demclub youtube channel.

For more information contact Dan Lack at (352) 509-4942 or otowdemclub@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (On Top of the World Democratic Club). You are not alone!

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**Republican Club**

Bill Richhart

My name is Bill Richhart. I am honored to be the newly elected president of the Republican Club for 2017. I would like to acknowledge and thank past-president Fred Pulis for his enormous contribution to this club. Under his leadership and knowledge, our membership has increased greatly. We also

thank Opal Stroud for her many years serving as treasurer and for all she has contributed to the club.

At our January meeting, we welcomed Jeff Gold, newly elected county commissioner, District 3, as our guest speaker, where he outlined his goals and answered questions. A special presentation gift was given to Fred Pulis in recognition for his service to the club. We adjourned for refreshments and conversation. Our meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Arbor Club.

**'Bunco for Babies' Fundraiser**

By Michelle Malsch

A "Bunco for Babies" luncheon and bunco game fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 8 at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E, F, G and H. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at 11 a.m. with the games to begin immediately following. Hosted by Micki Malsch all proceeds benefit the March of Dimes, March for Babies.

The cost of a ticket is \$25 and includes lunch, beverage, dessert, and a bunco game for cash prizes. There will be a 50/50 raffle and a

raffle for various door prizes.

Only 100 tickets will be sold, so please reserve your seats early. There will be 25 tables of four players at each table. Five sets of six games will be played. A brief intermission will be held following the second set.

For further information and tickets, please call Micki Malsch at (352) 861-8790. This is a lot of fun and a great way to support a worthy cause!

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**Food For Thought**  
**Sandy Curtis**  
 (352) 861-9720  
 sandy\_curtis@otowfl.com

This is a month filled with many holidays and traditions. When we think of February, automatically Valentine's Day comes to mind. Every Feb. 14 across the United States and in other places around the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine.

**The Club at Candler Hills**

Join us on this Valentine's Day from 4 to 8 p.m. for a special limited menu to include an appetizer, house or Caesar salad, rib-eye, stuffed pork loin, seafood or chicken milanese in a creamy fettuccini alfredo sauce. Dessert is also included in your four-course meal. All VIP Gold World Passport members receive a complimentary glass of wine with their meal. Also, VIP Gold World Passport members receive first reservations through Feb. 5. Seating is limited; so I encourage you to make your reservations today at (352) 861-9720.

Every Monday in February, from 4 to 8 p.m., is our two for \$20 dinner special, which includes a limited menu of six dinner entrées with your choice of soup or salad. Drinks not included.

Look for our \$5 off coupon in this edition of the World News. This coupon is valid on Wednesdays only. Present the coupon to receive \$5 off when you spend \$25 or more (plus tax and gratuity) on food and beverage. One coupon per ticket.

**The Pub**

A special limited lunch menu with a complimentary dessert will be available on Tuesday, Feb. 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

National Pancake Day is Tuesday, Feb. 28. We are serving up fresh pancakes from 8 to 11 a.m. for just \$5 (plus tax and gratuity). Try a stack of hot cakes with syrup or jam.

**Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli**

A special limited lunch menu with a complimentary dessert will be available on Tuesday, Feb. 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For the love of red velvet, come and see us.

\* Certain restrictions apply for specials. See server for details.

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**Candler Connection**  
**Janet Wiles**

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the annual meeting of the Candler Connection Social Club, members elected John Bain, Peggy Janisch, Deb Keirn, Dave Keitz, Darryl Kenyon, and Richard Steinfeldt to serve on the board of directors. They join Bob Scherff, John Podkomorski, and Mary Purfeerst on the nine-member board. It is wonderful to have such capable individuals serving as volunteers in this great community.

Several events have been scheduled for the speaker series in 2017. On Thursday, Feb. 16, Jim Couillard, the director of the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department, will discuss local points of interest. On Tuesday, March 7, Pat Gabriel, the president of the State Road 200 Coalition, will provide an update on developments along the SR 200 Corridor. Phillip Hisey will discuss preparing your yard for spring and summer on Tuesday, March 21. The above presentations will be held in the Candler Hills Community Center at 3 p.m. on the dates specified. Newly elected county commissioner Michelle Stone will speak on Thursday, April 20 at 3 p.m. in The Lodge.

The next potluck dinner will be on Tuesday, Feb. 28 in the Candler Hills Community Center. Those residents with last names beginning with A-C and T-Z should bring side dishes; D-K, appetizers or desserts; L-S, main dishes. Label your dish with its name and ingredients to assist people with dietary issues.



**International Caribbean Club**  
**Luz Leon**

The International Caribbean Club held its annual pre-Christmas party at the Indigo East Community Center and what a party it was. The turnout was fantastic and the food was a treat to behold with pork, chicken, meatballs, pasta, rice, beans, etc. The evening started

Volunteers helping with set up should arrive at 4:30 p.m.; others should arrive at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy appetizers and to get a number for the table where you will be sitting. The cost of \$1 covers eating utensils, plates, napkins, and decaffeinated coffee. To attend, contact Bev McCarthy at (352) 854-9416 or bjtr6@yahoo.com to let her know how many will be attending, what dish you will be bringing, and if you can help with set up.

Mark your calendar for the annual spring dinner and dance event which will be held on Saturday, March 18, from 6 to 9 p.m. in The Lodge. Entertainment will be provided by disc jockey Kurtis May. A cash bar will be available.

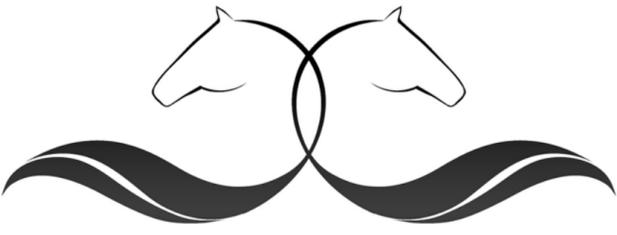
As this column goes to print, the members of the social committee are busy selecting the menu and caterer. After these decisions have been made, ticket prices will be set. Tickets will be on sale in the Candler Hills Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon on Feb. 14, Feb. 16, Feb. 21, Feb. 23, Feb. 28, and March 2. Watch for any updates through "The Happenings." If you have further questions, contact John Bain at (352) 414-5434.

If you are a new resident of Candler Hills, log on to the website, candlerconnection.org, to fill out the form to receive "The Happenings" monthly by e-mail.

The next Candler Connection board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the Candler Hills Community Center. Officers for the next year will be selected during this meeting. All residents are welcome to come and discuss any issue pertaining to the board.

off with a shrimp cocktail and all types of fruits and ended with cake for dessert. The music was soft as the crowd enjoyed their meal, then it was time to work off those calories. The DJ was great as the crowd danced away to Latin, salsa, merengue and hip-hop music. The air was filled with music that had everyone moving and grooving. It was a fun filled evening for the partygoers.

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**Computer Club**  
**David Wesenberg**

This month, the Computer Club has been helping to solve members' virus, e-mail and security problems on computers and tablets.

There is currently a scam that locks your browser with a message to call a number immediately to fix the computer. When one does call they ask for hundreds of dollars. They fix it right away because they created the problem in the first place. The Computer Club can get members out of trouble when this kind of scam occurs.

In December, we had one of our two \$2 dinners for members at Golden Corral, a time of good fellowship and fun.

Do you have a problem with your desktop, laptop or tablet? Do you want to see the latest computer technology? Do you want access to experts in every area of computer use? Come and join us in Arbor Conference Center, Suites B and C on Thursdays or Saturdays at 9 a.m. Dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple a year.

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The VIP Gold World Passport requires a \$50 annual fee and also allows advance reservations at special restaurant events, exclusive chef specials, drink specials and access to VIP Gold events (additional restrictions may apply).

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**Back at The Ranch**

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**Member Appreciation Week**

The Ranch members were treated to free F.I.T. (Functional Integrated Training) sessions in celebration of member appreciation week. F.I.T. programming is small group training that is capped between six and 10 participants, and is led by a personal trainer. X-Camp, which is one of the eight F.I.T. programs, is a rigorous HIIT (high intensity interval training) workout that pushes participants to challenge themselves.

X-Camp (pronounced cross camp) is a combination of cross training and boot camp. It combines intervals of strength and cardio to build muscle and burn fat. X-Camp consists of 10 exercise stations; the exercise at each station is performed for one minute. The participant has five seconds to move to the next station and continues until all 10 stations have been completed. At that point, there is a one-minute recovery and then the process starts again. There are a total of three rounds for each X-Camp training session. The goal of this high-energy, metabolic workout is to gain lean mass and lose fat!

Challenge yourself by signing up for the next X-Camp. X-Camp is currently offered every Thursday at 9 a.m. at The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa. For members, F.I.T. class fees are as follows: one class-\$15; six class package-\$72 (\$12/class); 12 class package-\$120 (\$10/class); and 24 class package-\$192 (\$8/class).



Photo by Cammy Dennis

In celebration of member appreciation week, The Ranch members were treated to free F.I.T. (Functional Integrated Training) sessions.

**COMMUNITY TV CHANNEL**  
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**Community Patrol**

**Patricia Woodbury**

At the December luncheon, President Gary Rodoff thanked the members of the Community Patrol for their outstanding job over the past year in keeping our community safe. He reported that as of the end of November 2016 the Community Patrol had given 2,540 hours of volunteer service to our community. This is the third highest number of hours we have had in any year and that is only for 11 months!

Gary remarked that he was pleased that we added 11 new members this year, plus one member who had rejoined. He gave recognition to those volunteers who have attained over 300 hours of volunteer service since joining. He especially recognized those members who had attained the highest number of hours namely: Elmer Greene with 1,103 hours, Lennie Rodoff with 1,194 hours and Jim Miller with 1,563 hours.

Gary thanked those members who have taken on special duties such as Bob Moltimore, car maintenance, Lenny Price, tracking the patrol hours and Jim Miller as On Top of the World liaison. He also thanked Lieutenant Welch, commander of the Southwest District for his help and guidance to the Community Patrol and for attending our meetings. Last but not least, he thanked management for their continued support.

Stop by the Community Patrol table at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26 to say hello and ask any questions. We also encourage the community, if they did not sign up for the Sheriff's Citizen's Academy last month, they might consider it the next time. This is a great way to learn about and appreciate the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

The next regular meeting of the patrol will be Monday, Feb. 27. At that time we will have a presentation by Pat Gabriel of the State Road 200 Coalition, who will update us on the plans for the southwest area.

Anyone interested in becoming part of our patrol should call Gary Rodoff at (352) 291-7508. Our meetings are usually held on the fourth Monday of the month in Suites B and C of the Arbor Conference Center, at 3 p.m. Come and join us, the meeting is open to everyone.

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**On Top of the World NEWS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be e-mailed to [otownews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownews@otowfl.com) by the 13th of the month.

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**Veterans Club**

Fred Pulis

Several members of the Veterans Club attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony in a nationwide show up to respect and honor those who gave their lives for this country. A wreath was placed at the graves of all deceased veterans.

Come visit our table at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26.

The Veterans Club represents every branch of the military and meets quarterly on the third Thurs-

day of each month at 2 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suite B. Our next quarterly meeting is on Thursday, March 16.

The Veterans Club is open to all armed services veterans and their guests. People who are concerned about veterans' affairs are encouraged to attend. Also, the meeting will provide an update on recent legislation concerning current veterans. In upcoming meetings various topics concerning veterans issues will be discussed and various opinions and ideas are encouraged.

For any additional information, please contact Fred Pulis at (352) 854-9976.

**Avalon Social Group**

Marie Roppel

Escaping the cold brought close to 40 members of the Avalon Social Group together for their traditional potluck dinner. After socializing over a variety of food, Robert Stepp from the land development department at On Top of the World spoke to the group. He brought the attendees up-to-date on the progress of the newest section of Avalon and explained about the future plans

for the area. Residents asked many questions which were answered.

The next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 6. As a change of pace, it was decided to make this an Italian night. As usual, please bring a dish to share. The entertainment will be announced at a later date as plans are finalized.

Future meetings will be held on March 6, April 3, May 1, and June 5. After the summer break, we will begin again in the fall. Questions may be directed to Ella Grief at (352) 237-2116 and Marie Roppel at (352) 861-6985.



Photo by Mike Roppel

Avalon Social Group guest speaker, Robert Stepp.

**The Genesis Project**

David Wesenberg

Genesis Project meets on Fridays from 1 to 3 p.m. in Arbor Conference Center, Suite B. Our goal is a discussion of the stories of Genesis to experience the stories themselves and people of all faiths are welcome.

Last month, we discussed the Garden of Eden, the first murder, sons of God, Noah's ark and the birth of Isaac. Coming up are the sacrifice of Isaac and the story of Joseph.

These are adult discussions about: Who are we? Why are we here? What is the nature of the universe? How do men and women work together? Why would God destroy the world? Is there a plan for the world and us? All points of view are considered and respected.

This month, we are discussing Abraham, a key seminal figure for Jews, Muslims and Christians. Starting in the ancient Babylonian City of Ur and migrating through the fertile crescent to Syria, then Israel, to Egypt and back to Israel again, we begin to see the seeds of the conflicts we see in that region even today. The class is very interactive as members express and hear different views of the meaning and significance of the stories in the book of Genesis.

Class members and the general public can follow along on the website <http://bible.lolipop.org>.

Join us every Friday at 1 p.m. in Arbor Conference Center, Suite B and start a journey of discovery. All are welcome!

**OneBlood Bloodmobile**



Sara Sommer

The holidays are over and it is time to get back into your regular routine. I hope that routine includes giving blood to save lives. The big red bus will be here on Monday, Feb. 6 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Recreation Center parking lot. Each donor will receive a mini physical that includes blood pressure, temperature, and cholesterol screening. Each donor will also receive a token of appreciation for your time and effort. Please bring a photo ID and eat a good meal before and after donating. Drink plenty of liquids, too.

Don't forget to stop by the OneBlood table at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26! We'll be happy to answer any of your questions or you can call 1-800-9DONATE. Another use for this number is checking your donation amount. Many of you have moved here from other areas. The office can combine your donations from other states and help reach the next milestone.

There is no substitute for human blood. Only you can save a life. Come be a hero on Feb. 6. See you on the bus.

**On Top of the World NEWS**  
**UPCOMING PUBLICATION**  
 March Issue  
 Thursday, March 2, 2017

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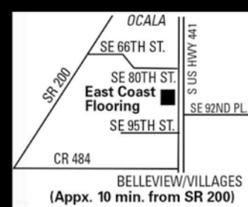
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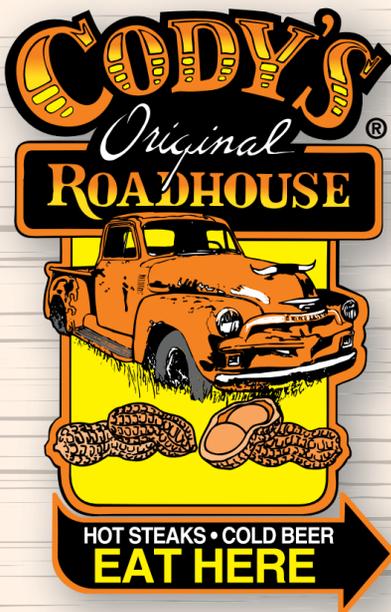
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## Dragons

By Bob Woods  
World News Writer

There is a dragon's lair in Williamsburg! Believe it or not there is a large population of these mythological creatures existing there but these monstrous creatures are hidden away from sight unless one enters their lair.

A couple of dragon hunters have been hunting and capturing these creatures of folklore for over 52 years. The hunters/collectors are Stan and Myrna Goldstein. Outside their front door is a sign stating, "Beyond this place there be dragons."

The couple has 538 dragons, at last count, varying in size from miniatures measuring around one inch high by one inch in length to larger ones. Stan and Myrna only collect winged dragons. "There are no duplicates," Stan commented.

A dragon is a legendary creature generally resembling a serpentine or reptile with a long tail, scales, and fire spewing from its mouth. There are two well-known types of dragons, the European dragon and the Chinese dragon.

The European dragon is mostly depicted as a six-limbed (four legs and a separate pair of wings) reptile-type creature with the intelligence of an animal.

The Chinese dragon and those depicted from other east and south Asian countries are serpentine creatures with high intelligence having four legs and no wings (similar to a snake). Artifacts of what is believed to have been a dragon have been found in China dating back to the 16th century B.C.

Basically, European dragons never existed simply because large animals cannot have enough strength in their wings to fly.

Stan and Myrna have been col-

lecting winged dragons from various sources over the years, mostly finding the winged demons in flea markets and gift shops. Myrna stated, "One dragon that is displayed on our coffee table was purchased at Cracker Barrel's gift shop."

There are many tales, movies and songs about dragons. Dragons in fairy tales rarely ever end well for the dragon as the hero in most tales and stories always defeats the dragon while saving the princess.

One movie, "Pete's Dragon," is a Walt Disney live-action animated musical. Another popular kid-friendly film debuting in 2010 was "How to Train Your Dragon," and then the adult oriented "Game of Thrones" book and "The Hobbit" book and movie.

Most folks remember the song that became famous back in 1963 when Peter, Paul and Mary sang and recorded "Puff, the Magic Dragon." The lyrics tell a story of the ageless dragon, Puff, and his playmate, Jackie Paper, a little boy who grows up losing interest in the imaginary dragon. "A dragon lives forever, but not so little boys."

Myrna stated, "Our first dragon was made out of wax. Over the years, it just melted away," she said. "The very first dragon was a winged European version and that is what we have collected ever since," Stan added.

The dragons housed in the Williamsburg lair are made from all kinds of materials ranging from porcelain, ceramic, glass, metal, wood and some that are stuffed. One of their last additions was from a resident who made a metal dragon out of bicycle parts knowing that Stan and Myrna are collectors.

By the way, Stan appears monthly in the World News on page two. Stan is the cartoonist who has been drawing his creations each month in the newspaper since May 1996!



Photo by Bob Woods

Dragons decorate the lair in Williamsburg.



Photo by Sandra Marraffino

Snowy egret.

## Take a Walk With the Unique Birders

By Debbie Sherer

The Unique Birders will be walking the Dunnellon Trail that connects the Cross Florida Greenway and the Withlacoochee State Trail on Tuesday, Feb. 21. If you would like to join us for this trip, please contact Melanie Vittitow at melvitt@fl@gmail.com or Debbie Sherer at roxiess@me.com or (571) 224-8422 by Feb. 17.

The Dunnellon Trail is located off County Road 39 in Citrus County. From County Road 39 we will turn onto a paved road as it parallels the trailhead entrance to a parking area and a kiosk with an overview map of the area. The Dunnellon Trail curves along the former railroad route through sandhill habitat. A broad berm of grass parallels both sides of the path.

Some distance later, the path enters the Withlacoochee River forest floodplain. Here you see pools of standing water in an old phosphate mining area. Further down the trail, at the big bridge across the Withlacoochee River, are visible views of Cyprus tree-lined banks and lily-dotted coves. Observation decks al-

low you to step out and look across this area to see wading shorebirds like herons, egrets, and limpkins.

Past the bridge, the trail continues into deeply shaded forest for the next half mile. Treetop mountains that are old phosphate mining spoil piles are visible at this point. Eventually the trail draws close to the Rainbow River and we will be able to glance at crystalline waters between palm fronds and tree trunks. Woodpeckers, songbirds, hawks and vultures may be seen on this part of the trail.

After the Dunnellon Trail walk, we will visit one of the restaurants in the area for lunch and discussion of the birds we saw on the trail. We will be sending out maps that show you how to get to the Dunnellon Trail parking area and what the choices will be for lunch after the walk. If you would like to join us on this trip, please be at the Recreation Center parking lot by the large tree by 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

## SPCA in Need of Foster Homes

By Maria Devine

The next SPCA meeting is on Thursday, Feb. 16, at 1 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at the Bank of the Ozarks. If you need to get in touch with us for any reason, please call our hotline number at (352) 362-0985.

We are once again in need of additional foster caregivers. We have received many calls on dogs and cats that need to find foster homes but we can't take them in unless we have available fosters for them. You will receive training and help from the SPCA and of course all medical expenses will be covered. Please call our hotline number above if you wish to help out in this most rewarding way.

The SPCA will bring any dogs and cats that we have available to the Farmer's Market at The Town Square on Thursday mornings so that you can meet them. So when you go to scout out your fruits and vegetables, please look to see if we have a table there that week.

We are happy to report that Ella, the Pomeranian, featured in last month's column has been adopted into her forever home. Congratulations to Ella and her new family.

The youngest kitten we have available is Jayme a brown tabby. She is only six months old, and is the most good-natured of kittens - she has yet to take her claws out for any reason while in foster care.

She doesn't mind being handled (in a gentle way, of course) and would make an ideal pet for an older child or for anyone who likes to sit and cuddle their kitty. She is used to being around other dogs and cats and is just a lovely companion to have around the house.

We still need to place a young cat named Chloe, who is now a year old. Chloe loves to play and amuses herself with her toys all day when she's not chasing bugs out on the lanai. At night after she tires herself out, she will cuddle with you on your favorite chair and will sleep with you if you let her. You won't go wrong with either Jayme or Chloe as a lifelong companion, so please call our hotline number at (352) 362-0985 to meet them both.

In this past month alone, we have adopted out at least 10 dogs and cats to wonderful homes.

Many of our animals are adopted out through word of mouth or from our waiting list before we get a chance to highlight them in the paper. In the past few weeks we had two small dogs adopted out this way. You can send a note to our e-mail address (spca.marion.county@gmail.com), or call us, letting us know what type of cat or dog you're interested in adopting. If we get one in that meets your criteria, we will contact you before we make the adoptions known to the general public.



Chloe



Jayme



**View from the Library**

B.J. Leckbee

It seems that a significant number of our book-loving residents like to read fiction, especially mysteries, as there are plenty of these books to choose from on our shelves. Some writers are so popular they have their own section of shelving. And some characters are so popular they appear over and over again in a series of adventures, and a few have had their stories adapted to television and movies. Here's a sampling for you to

consider, with the number of books written featuring the character.

Harry Bosch, former detective, now a private investigator, created by Michael Connelly. This guy, sometimes called The Lincoln Lawyer, works out of his car, which is, yes, a Lincoln. (19)

Dirk Pitt, marine engineer and adventurer, created by Clive Cussler, whose interest in anything involving the seven seas tends to involve Pitt in adventures involving lost ships, sunken treasure, and beautiful women. (24)

Aloysius Pendergast, FBI agent and really unique personality, created by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child. Extremely rich, very private, a loner, he isn't assigned

cases to work; he chooses them and rarely lets his superiors know what he's working on. (16)

The Women's Murder Club, with Lindsey Boxer, homicide inspector, created by James Patterson, who also created Alex Cross. This series of 16 books features Lindsey and three other female characters from different professions who come together when Patterson decides they need to.

Jason Bourne, former special forces operative, created by Robert Ludlum (12). The Bourne Identity, which introduced this character to the reading world, got me hooked on reading recurring characters and finding authors who specialize in this genre.

Chet, the dog, and his private eye partner, Bernie Little, created by Spencer Quinn (9). What's not to love about a dog that smells trouble before anyone, including Bernie, sees it coming. And he's good at chasing the bad guys when he's not distracted by, well, almost anything that smells edible.

Because we rely on donated books, chances are not every book in a series is in our inventory. Don't let that stop you from meeting some very interesting characters. They're shelved by the writer's last name, and some of these writers are featured on the wall to your left as you enter the library from the Recreation Center Ballroom.



**Genealogy Society**

Peter Parisi

The Genealogical Society held its annual holiday luncheon at Bella Cucina in Oak Run on Monday, Dec. 12, 2016. What a festive event. Judy White, president, greeted all the attendees as they arrived. The outgoing officers were thanked for their efforts over the past year, which resulted in an increase in membership. Lunch, coordinated by Cathy McKelvey, included a salad followed by a delicious buffet selection of chicken marsala, beef, sautéed vegetables, and potatoes with a fruit pastry for dessert.

At this meeting, Judy White installed our new officers for 2017 who had been elected at the October 2016 business meeting: Jean Monroe - president, Julia Hendrick - vice president, Suzanne Scheraga - treasurer and Dave White - secretary. Judy gave each new officer a token gift indicating the duties of their new office.

Jean Monroe, incoming president, did a fun presentation using a mock teleprompter, introducing the new officer slate and highlighting the duties of each position.

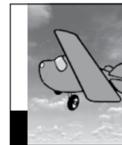
We want to recognize members who have left the Genealogical Society due to relocation: Jane Duckworth who was a past treasurer and who had done educational presentations; and Margaret Smith who headed the sunshine committee, did educational presentations and was assistant librarian. We will miss them and appreciate their valued contributions to our organization over the years.

Stop by our table at the bi-annual Club Fair at the Recreation Center Ballroom on Thursday, Jan. 26. We

hope new members will join to further explore their family roots. Our educational meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in Suites B and C in the Arbor Conference Center.

The Genealogical Society will hold a board meeting at 9:30 a.m., followed by an organizational meeting at 10:15 a.m., on Monday, Feb. 13 in the Hobby Building. At the organizational meeting, we will discuss what members would like to have for upcoming genealogy presentations. We also will hold an educational presentation at 10 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 20 in Suites B and C in the Arbor Conference Center. Donna Cunningham will give the educational presentation.

Our annual dues are only \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. One of the benefits of membership is the large library of genealogical books and CDs, which are available to members to be signed out and used at home for their genealogical research. Check us out on our website at otowgenealogicalsociety.shutterfly.com.



**R/C LadyBirds**

Caren Kowalsky

Thanks to Lyn Titcombe for our LadyBird luncheon that took place on Dec. 24, 2016, at Carmine's Café. Delicious food and great company are always a winning combination.

Every year in January, all of the LadyBirds celebrate our birthdays together at a huge party. This year's party was held at the Arbor Club Ballroom. Gloria Scicluna was in charge of this fun event. Every year, she manages to come up with some interesting and fun theme to surprise us.

This year, we had a guest speaker, Gale Perry, the president of the R/C Flyers Club. Gale wears many hats. She told us about how pet shows are conceived, developed, presented with precision, and how awards are granted. She specializes in our feline friends. She shared her expertise and the many lessons learned over the years. Thank you Gale, and thank you Gloria.

Of course no birthday party is complete without a huge birthday cake and a "happy birthday" sing-along, and we had ours. All who attended had a great time.

Valentine's Day is rapidly approaching. This year, our Valentine's Day potluck is set for Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Arbor Club Ballroom. Be on the lookout for an e-mail with pertinent information.

To all wives and significant others of the R/C Flyers, we extend an invitation. Please feel free to join us any second Friday of the month, from September to April at 9 a.m. at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites B and C. Bring your beverage of choice, and we provide the goodies. We're sure you will enjoy the meeting and want to join our happy group. Any questions, contact Caren at allensky@earthlink.net or (352) 291-1235. Hope to see you or hear from you soon.

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**Lions Club**

**Estelle Clark**

Happy Valentine's Day! Would you believe it's already February? The Lions are gearing up for a busy month.

Tickets will be going on sale on Monday, Feb. 13 for our fourth annual Recycled "Trashy" Fashion Show in the Recreation Center Ballroom and every Monday, Wednesday and Friday thereafter, from 8 to 10 a.m. Make sure to get your tickets early.

As requested by many of our attendees from last year, Brick City at Wenona will cater the event. There will be lots of silent auction baskets, a 50/50, a cash bar and lots of fun. Ticket prices will stay \$25 per person.

We do still have a couple of openings if you want to enter an outfit. The outfit has to be made of at least 75 percent recycled product. Give me a call and I will be happy to send you all the information. This event promises to be lots of fun!

For those who are new to the area and have asked what do the Lions do ... we help individuals who are in need of eye exams, eyeglasses, eye surgeries and hearing aids who have no insurance. We also collect used eyeglasses that we refract, clean and send to developing nations.

We collect used inkjet cartridges and cell phones; the funds from them help send children to diabetes camp. Collected used hearing aids are refurbished and with our providers give them to those who cannot afford to purchase them. We also collect children's socks, books and stuffed animals that we take to the emergency children's department at Munroe Regional Medical Center. We also take stuffed animals to Marion County Sheriff's Office.

Do you want to give back to your community? If you are interested in helping those less fortunate, give me a call at (352) 861-7358 or come to one of our meetings. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites B and C, at 6 p.m.

Where there is a need, there is a Lion.



**Favorite Recipes Dinner Club**

**Luke Mullen**

The month of December 2016 provided a unique beginning to our holiday season of enjoying fun entertainment while sharing great meals amongst our club members. Three dinners were held at club members' homes to accommodate 16 diners. What was different about this month was that one dinner was held on Dec. 10 while two dinners were held on Dec. 17 to accommodate the various holiday member schedules. Additionally an all hands Christmas open house was offered by a club member.

Hosting our Dec. 10, 2016 dinner were Cathy and Terry Putman. They started off the evening with a variety of pinwheel pastries. Following the appetizers, Cathy and Terry then served the main course. It was a beef roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, and

butter peas. Accompanying sides were pickled beets, pickles, etc. Following the main course, Annette and Paul Hodges served a lovely tart, which featured pecans, chocolate and other yummy ingredients. Cathy and Terry invited former neighbors, Charlotte and Wayne Wedekind, to the dinner. With enjoyable friends, we enjoyed a lovely evening!

Ginny and Jerry Nardone hosted our first Dec. 17, 2016 dinner of the evening. Kathy and Luke Mullen brought two appetizers. The first was spicy-sweet bacon-wrapped shrimp. It included center cut bacon, brown sugar, ground red pepper, smoked paprika, kosher salt and shrimp. The second was a baked spinach artichoke dip. This consisted of a combination of mayonnaise, freshly grated Parmesan cheese, chopped spinach, artichoke hearts, chopped red peppers and shredded Monterey cheese. Following the appetizers, Ginny and Jerry served beef bourguignon with noodles, green salad and French bread. After the main meal, Rhea and Jim

Russell served a Black Forest trifle, made with brownies, cherries, and whipped topping.

The hosts for our second dinner held on Dec. 17, 2016 were Liz and Julian Wachs. Nancy and Tom Meininger brought the hors d'oeuvres. The first appetizer was spinach, artichokes and feta bites. The second appetizer was toasted bread cups. Liz and Julian served beef bourguignon, French green beans with toasted pine nuts and dinner rolls. Following the main meal, Phyllis and Al Richards served a key lime pie. The pie was made with typical ingredients and garnished with whipped cream, lime slices and green cherries.

Additionally, Annette and Paul Hodges volunteered to host a Christmas Day open house. They invited all their club member friends to join them for a cup of Christmas cheer and some goodies and treats.

Our club is currently looking for new couple members. If interested, call Luke at (352) 304-8104.



**What's Cookin'**

**Gary Uhley**

The nice thing about this very simple sauce is the variations you can do. Add shrimp for seafood flavor, ground beef for a meat sauce or chopped bacon for a smoky flavor. This is as basic as one can get.

**Vegetarian Spaghetti**

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
  - 1 cup chopped green pepper
  - 1 cup diced white onion
  - 3 cloves chopped garlic
  - 1 can diced tomatoes
  - 2 tablespoons tomato paste
  - 2 tablespoons sugar
  - 1 jar (24 oz.) meatless tomato sauce
  - 1 pound angel hair pasta
- In a large skillet, heat oil. When hot, add onions, green peppers, and garlic, stirring as they sauté. Stir in tomato paste until incorporated. Add diced tomatoes, and then the jar of tomato sauce; stir well.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add pasta, and cook until almost done. Drain – do not rinse – as rinsing removes the starch neces-

sary for the sauce to adhere to the pasta.

To serve, ladle the sauce over the hot pasta. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and enjoy.

Note: I added quartered mushrooms at the end for additional flavor.



Photo by Gary Uhley  
**Vegetarian spaghetti.**

**Singles Club**  
**Lorraine Serwan**

There are some special days in February: Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday; and, of course, Valentine's Day.

At the meeting, our guest entertainment will be the Dulcimer Group. It should be interesting to hear this unusual instrument.

Our upcoming outing on Thursday, Feb. 16 will be a tour of the Appleton Museum of Art. We will meet at the Recreation Center parking lot at 11:15 a.m. to carpool. There is a \$6 fee if you are not a museum member. After the tour, lunch will be on your own. There will be a sign-up sheet at the February meeting.

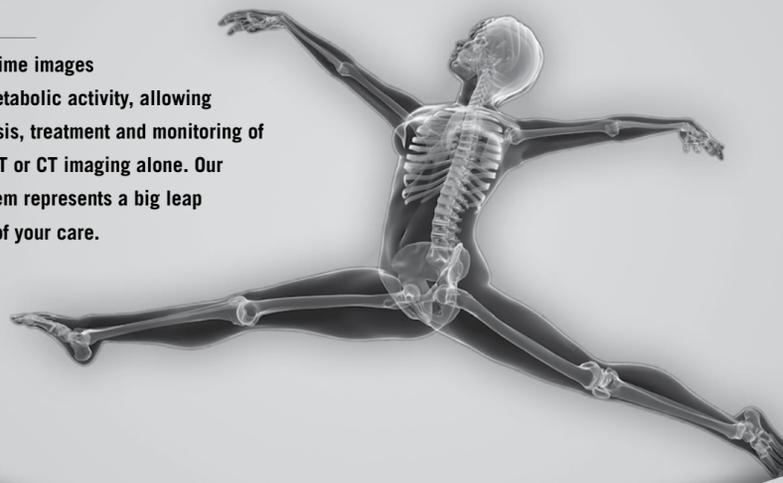
Please join us in Suites G and H in the Arbor Conference Center on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 2 p.m. We always welcome new members. Bring a friend and make some new ones.

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**Women of the World**

Nancy Grabowski

The Recreation Center Ballroom was a beehive of activity at our initial 2017 meeting: friends greeting friends, donations being dropped off, and sign-up sheets quickly being filled for the upcoming fashion show and luncheon! Meanwhile, at the back tables, tickets for the show were selling rapidly as were the tickets that help stuff the "nest egg" at the annual event.

On Friday, Feb. 3, we expect more of the same buzz at the monthly meeting. Again, it will be held at the Recreation Center Ballroom with social activities beginning about 12:15 p.m. Remaining tick-

ets for the fashion show and "nest egg" will continue to be sold. Sign-up sheets will re-appear for those volunteers who missed them in January.

Reminder: Please do not enter the Recreation Center Ballroom until maintenance has moved the tables and chairs.

February is heart month; try to wear red! Our speaker will be from the Ocali Storytelling Guild and our designated charity of the month is Kimberly's Center, which is requesting hygiene items, make-up, arts and crafts materials, and games; we continue to donate to Marion County Senior services as well as Operation Shoebox.

Our Operation Shoebox co-chairwoman, Mary Purfeerst, sends this reminder: Operation Shoebox is one of our charities that is an all-year donation opportunity, collect-

ed at our monthly meetings. We do have one drop off point located in the Arbor Club for donations anytime. The container is in a locked closet so if you stop by to make a donation, ask the attendant in the office for assistance. We are always looking for newspaper sleeves, pens/pencils, puzzles, crosswords, Sudoku, stationery, personal hygiene items (all sizes), wrapped candy, individual food and powdered drinks, used printer cartridges, and cash donations for postage. If you cannot get to the Arbor Club, please call Mary Purfeerst at (206) 250-8260 and she will come by to collect your donation.

As our plans continue forward for the fashion show, which benefits Hospice of Marion County, we urge our members to donate a basket (or two) for the raffle. The basket can be big or small with any

theme you choose; if you wish, you can include your name. It's great to have a list that tells what is included in the basket, too! Questions about the baskets can be directed to Janet Fragapane, chairwoman of the committee.

The nominating committee is seeking women to fill the officers' positions. As the saying goes, "it takes a village"; Women of the World is no exception to that adage. If you are interested in volunteering, let one of them know. Duties of each office are listed within the yearly program. Like every organization, we need people to step up and get involved. Why not consider offering your talents?

Final reminders include: our meetings are open to women from every corner of On Top of the World; bring a friend; you'll always find a smile and warm welcome here!



**The Glitzy Gals**

Janet Wahl

Our first outing of this year was attending the Ocala Civic Theatre production "Menopause the Musical." All of us enjoyed an afternoon with much laughter at this hilarious comedy. This was an excellent way to start our next year together. The

Royal Orchid was our choice for a delicious dinner after the theater.

QM Mary Curry hosted 14 of us for a celebration of 12 years together as Red Hatters. Kathy Katz, Kathy Kenyon and Germaine Mueller took their Red Hat vows and were welcomed to our group. Champagne and inspirational candle lighting were a part of this ceremony. Looking back over those years we have many fond memories of experiences we shared together. Terrie Potter and Gloria Cartagena are our Red

Hat winter guests. These friendships were kindled at Red Hat conventions and we are very pleased to welcome them.

A table of Red Hat items was available for all to bring what they didn't need or want and to pick up new things. A fun game was played and Caroline Caprano was the winner. Dessert is always a must and Sara Riehm baked her delicious

chocolate cake to share with us. Some other sweets were chocolate covered strawberries, homemade fudge, candy and stollen.

Other future events include a Mardi Gras celebration in Mount Dora, Tampa Bay Downs and a Red Hat gala cruise.

As we begin another year let us remember our motto, "It's all about each other." QM Mary Curry

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**American Jewish Club**

Sandra Wolf

The American Jewish Club started the year on a high note. Both the lunch bunch and monthly meeting were very successful. Latinos y Mas was January's restaurant selection. We had a tremendous turnout. The food and service were exceptional. The next lunch bunch will be at the Braised Onion on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 12:30 p.m. Last year, this lunch was very well attended.

After a shortened business meeting and refreshments, the members sat back and again enjoyed the en-

tertainment of Dr. Helfin. He performed for us last year, and was so popular that we invited him for a return visit. We want to thank him for coming back.

In January, members of the board attended Get Acquainted Coffee for new residents. Here we got a chance to introduce the club. The next one is scheduled for sometime in the spring. Later in the month was also the Club Fair.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 19, at 1 p.m. The speaker will be Jenny Reynard. She is the assistant director for community outreach for Alzheimer's. There will be a presentation followed by a question and answer period. We hope to have a very good turnout.

Election of officers for 2017/18 is coming up soon. If you or someone you know are interested in running for office, please contact Jackie Ludmer at (352) 304-8124. Happy Valentine's Day!

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**100 Grandparents**

Janet Fragapane

Janet is taking a well-earned little vacation; so I am filling in this month. This gives me the opportunity to say thank you to all the wonderful 100 Grandparents. It is you who keeps this program going. A tip of the hat to Bill Shampine who faithfully takes everyone's picture, then organizes all my lists complete with pictures! We have 38 regular readers, one for each classroom, and 40 substitutes!

The message I am hearing, "The last Tuesday reading at Romeo Elementary was just fun for everyone." New substitutes Patrick Frechette, Kathy Norris, Morton Meretsky, and Rob Vlacancich now know what we are talking about.

The principal, Catherine Balius, gave us an eye-opening review of the many details involved in the requirements to observe the individual teachers, fulfill the myriad of other obligations imposed by the state and the system, and continue student measurement for maintaining progress; all this and never mind running a school of 780 children!

The principal informed me that the school received a check for \$1,200 from Box Tops for Education! Thank you for supporting Romeo Elementary!

Many of our readers are very active in other clubs and activities and have used that connection to provide for our students: Women of the World, Ladies Golf Association 18-Hole, the SW 86th Loop, The Entertainment Group (donation for the school bus costs) and The New Pretenders (donation for book program).

I'm sure I missed someone, but the list goes on. The staff at Romeo Elementary is so appreciative,

and the children benefit from all of your efforts.

For those who are new, 100 Grandparents has been going strong for over 16 years. Once a month, on the second Tuesday during most of the school year, we board a school bus at True Value Hardware, at 8:30 a.m. and travel 24 miles to Romeo Elementary to read a book (selected by the teacher) to a class.

There are no meetings, no dues, no committees, no officers, and due to the nature of our lifestyles, no guilt if you can't make it. That's what substitutes are for!

The big draw is the children; they are so appreciative! For example, one of our readers brought "her" whole class a box of crayons. One little boy approached her and quietly said, "I always wanted some of these." We each carry heart-tugging messages like this!

We also help support and/or coordinate donations for the students:

- Backpack program provides weekend food for identified children. If you would like to donate, mail a check to Dunnellon Food 4 Kids, P.O. Box 262, Dunnellon, Florida 34430.
- Children's clothing: new underwear/socks in sealed packages and new or gently used clothing. Donations may be dropped off at 9791 SW 97th Place (Crescent Ridge II) or 8880-C SW 94th Street (Friendship Village).
- Box Tops for Education and pull tabs. Donations may be dropped off at 9791 SW 97th Place (Crescent Ridge II) or 8880-C SW 94th Street (Friendship Village).

If you would like to arrange for a pick-up of your donations, please call (352) 861-1575 or (352) 237-0304.

Submitted by Evelyn Sarns



Photo by Ms. Farris  
Cecily Lucas of the 100 Grandparents reading to "her" first grade class at Romeo Elementary.

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**Vegetable plants and seeds**

**Ages 12 and under: Free!**

Sorry, no pets allowed.

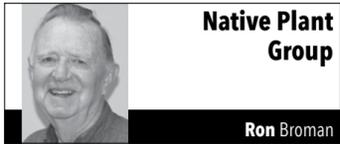
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**Info: 352-671-8400**  
[www.marioncountyfl.org/springfestival](http://www.marioncountyfl.org/springfestival)

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**Native Plant Group**

Ron Broman

Seeds! Magnificent, mysterious seeds! The stuff of life!

Henry David Thoreau penned in his unfinished 1862 manuscript, "Faith in a Seed," "Though I do not believe that a plant will spring up where no seed has been, I have real faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

Our seedy collage is composed of 15 species of seeds. All collected in the wild by this author, since year 2000 or before. Why they haven't been planted is beyond me. Must have something to do with procrastination and not procreation.

Then appears Christmas of 2016, and a gift arrives, "Seeing Seeds" by Teri Dunn Chace with photography by Robert Llewellyn. It has become an intriguing source of beauty and knowledge, and now the inspiration for this column.

So, perhaps we can agree that without seeds (or spores) we're all back in the dark ages - the really dark ages. Seeds are the beginning and the end of a plant's life. They contain the embryonic plants and enough food to get them going. "A ripe seed in a starter kit."

At the end of a plant's life, the seeds remain for self-replication but not exact replication. They are ready to initiate a new generation, hopefully prepared to encounter the ever-changing environment.

Seeds from plants native to an area that is plants adapted to that particular set of environmental conditions, would seem to better prepare their precious cargo for survival than other exotic (non-native) seeds. Would that not make sense?

Perhaps it's now time for these seeds to be given a chance to "do their thing."

When planted, some seeds will survive and produce plants be-

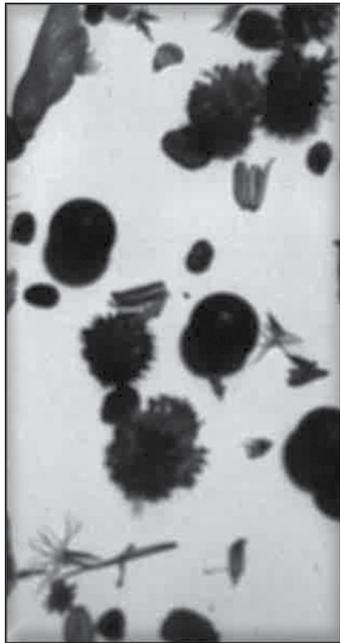


Photo by Ron Broman

**A seedy collage.**

cause they have been temperature stratified (refrigerated) for some time. Others will not, for the exact same reason, or because they have dried out for other reasons.

If I were to predict which ones were to survive, they would be the ones with the tough outer coverings: Walter viburnum, paw paw, sabal minor, scarlet hibiscus, and yucca filamentosa.

Brown-eyed Susan, Asclepias humistrata, yellow buttons, standing Cyprus, palafoxia, eastern redbud, dotted horsemint, blanket flower, and red maple might just "decide" to fool me.

If you would like to join us in our experiment in germination (sprouting not a northern European country), give me a call at (352) 861-4560.

The Native Plant Group continues to maintain the Longleaf Pine Trail, the SW 94th Street circle and the Belleview Library native garden. Join us if you have a mind to grow native!



**Southern Club**

Melanie Vittitow

The Southern Club started the new year with a great meeting. As usual, we feasted on some terrific dishes provided by our great southern cooks. The last table called always worries that there will be little to choose from when they get to the buffet, but we always seem to have enough for everyone, with some left over for seconds for those who want some.

After the meal, we were entertained with a delightful performance of "Dance of the Wooden Soldiers" by the Dancing Jewels. These ladies are our friends and neighbors and we were happy that they took the time to show us how they strut their stuff! Thanks again, ladies.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, Feb. 2. This month we are departing from the normal. If you remember, I mentioned in the last column that the Southern Club had won a prize for winning the Golf Cart Parade contest. In addition to having our club's name engraved on the trophy, we won a cash prize.



**Italian American Club**

Carole Dymond

The New Year was welcomed in with decorations and refreshments. After opening with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence, we had three winners for the 50/50 raffle. It was decided that elections would be held next month.

Our special guest speaker was County Commissioner Michele Stone. She outlined issues that would be discussed with the commission this year including Amendment 2, sales tax, capital improvements, Molly's Law and economic

This prize will be used to furnish the dinner for our members! I know we all love to cook (right?), but it is nice to get a break occasionally and have dinner delivered. We only have to remember to bring our utensils and plates ... and some money for the 50/50 drawing.

The Southern Club continues to grow. We get new members joining each month. Is one member of your household from the south or have you lived in a southern state (including Florida) for five years? Then you are an honorary southerner and we welcome you to come visit us. If you decide to join, our dues are \$10 per year, but since the club year (September through May) is half over, new members joining now get a half-price discount!

Our meetings are on the first Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. We start gathering about 5 p.m. for social time with the potluck dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is followed by a short business meeting and possibly a speaker or some sort of entertainment.

If you like to socialize and enjoy a good meal, maybe you will join us on Feb. 2. If you have any questions, you can call me at (352) 873-8690.

development. We thank her for her informative presentation.

We will be going to Sammy's Pizzeria & Restaurant in March; therefore, it is requested that reservations be made at February's meeting.

Did you know that the Romans loved cats so much that they were considered a bio-cultural asset of the city? A new law condemns any person killing a cat to a 10,000-Euro fine, and up to three years in jail. There is an estimated 300,000 cats in Rome, and they are the only inhabitants allowed on the ruins.

Mark your calendar for our next meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. We meet at 2:30 p.m. for social time and refreshments with the business meeting starting at 3 p.m.

Michele DeBari can be contacted at (352) 861-9484 for suggestions or questions.



**Illinois Social Club**

Marlene Kaiser

The Illinois Social Club is up and running! I have talked to many of you from Illinois already.

If you have lived or grew up anywhere in Illinois, we would love to have you join us. Let's talk about our Cubs and Da Bears or food like Portillo's Chicago-style hot dogs. Let's get together in January and talk about all of our hometowns.

Please call Marlene Kaiser for information at (352) 843-4133. I look forward to meeting all of you.

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We all know that Florida is known as the Sunshine State and we can all see by the weather pattern lately how this is true. We can truly say we live in paradise when you look at weather across the nation. If you think about it, how many people can say they were wearing shorts or swimming in a pool on Christmas Day?

Our Recreation & Wellness Connections (January-June 2017) catalog is available and full of exciting trips, activities and fitness events that will help you get out and enjoy what Florida has to offer. If you did not receive a copy in your home-delivered January edition of the World News, you can pick up a copy at the Recreation Center.

**Line Dancing\***

Line dance classes take place in the Recreation Center Ballroom every Monday through June 26. Four levels of dance are offered. Choose your class according to your ability. You can switch to a different level at any time. The cost is \$10 per four-week session with instructor Marilyn McNeal.

Line dance tickets may be purchased Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Recreation Center office. Please note that line dance tickets will not be sold on Mondays.

**ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS** (5 to 6 p.m.): This class is an introduction to line dance and is full; they will not be accepting any new dancers at this time. (Please note there is a new "Newcomers" class.)

**BEGINNER LEVEL ONE** (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.): This class is the next level after completing Absolute Beginners. Dancers have some experience now and know step pattern descriptions. Easy dances are taught at this level with additional step patterns added.

**BEGINNER LEVEL TWO** (2:30 to 3:30 p.m.): Class includes basic line dance steps, combinations, and easy dance patterns, with low impact movement to many different rhythms. New step patterns are taught as needed. Some prior dance experience is required.

**IMPROVER PLUS** (1:15 to 2:15 p.m.): Dance experience required. This class is slightly easier than intermediate. Current popular dances are taught at this level.

**NEWCOMER** (3 to 4 p.m.): Every Tuesday in the Recreation Fitness Center you will learn very basic line dance step patterns and easy line dances.

**Happy Hour**

Join us for Happy Hour at the Recreation Center Ballroom every Friday (except Feb. 10)! Resident I.D.s will be required for entry into Happy Hour; anyone not producing a resident I.D. will be considered a guest, and guest fees are \$5 per person.

Our "Senior Prom" Happy Hour will be on Friday, Feb. 10 at the Arbor Club Ballroom. This will be a night of glamour when residents can take their date of choice to the prom. You will have the chance to vote on a panel of six residents who have been previously selected to run for 2017 prom king and queen.

The entertainment line-up is as follows:

- Friday, Feb. 3: Starburst
- Friday, Feb. 10: "Senior Prom" with Music Mix (Arbor Club Ballroom)
- Friday, Feb. 17: Groove 41
- Friday, Feb. 24: One Flite Up

**Tropic Trivia Night\***

Do you like trivia? Come challenge your neighbors and friends for a fun afternoon of mind boggling, brain taxing questions on Thursday, Feb. 2 in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We will have groups of eight per team. Select a team name and prepare to have a fun time. Each team's scores will be calculated and the team with the most points will win. There will be first, second and third place winners.

The cost is \$3 per resident and \$5 per guest attending with the resident. A cash bar will be provided and you are welcome to bring snacks for your table. Please note that coolers, cups or beverages of any kind are not permitted.

Please do not bring any cell phones; anyone found with a cell phone at their table during trivia play will automatically disqualify the entire team (no exceptions).

**January's Winners**

1: Tequila Mockingbirds; 2: Nanas & Papas; 3: Conquistadors.

**Hand to God\***

Join us for the play "Hand to God" at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4 at the Hippodrome Theatre in Gainesville, Fla. Deep in the heart of Broadway there lurks a creature so outrageous, so scandalous, so totally surprising that you have to see him for yourself! Meet Tyrone, the scene-stealing sprite who shakes a small Texas town to its core - riotously riffing on everything from love to faith, and proving that it is both sinful and saintliness that make us all truly human ... and utterly alive. Hand puppets were never so funny! Local cafes are within walking distance for snacks and beverages. The cost is \$44 per person, which includes transportation and show.

**St. Johns River Cruise\***

Enjoy a scenic boat tour down river through Blue Creek in the Ocala National Forest on Wednesday, Feb. 8. This creek is a unique habitat and in the cooler months it is a prime feeding area for manatees. Alligator encounters are plentiful year round. You will leave the creek behind to re-enter the St. Johns River by the pristine Lake George, Florida's second largest lake, which is surrounded by the Ocala National Forest on the west and the Lake George State Forest on the east.

The cost of the trip is \$47 per person, which includes transportation and cruise. You will have the opportunity to dine at the famous Blackwater Inn for lunch. Please note that lunch will be on your own.

**Florida State Fair\***

Join us for a day at the Florida State Fair on Wednesday, Feb. 16! You'll enjoy rides, games, entertainment, crafts and food. You will also have the opportunity to attend the Country Gold Tour at an additional cost paid at the gate. The cost for this trip is \$34 per person, which includes transportation and entry into the fair.

**Home Improvement Expo**

Mark your calendar for the ninth annual Home Improvement Expo on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center!

Browse through the dozens of exhibitor booths and visit with experts from a wide variety of trades in the home improvement industry including solar, screen room enclosures, windows, flooring, home entertainment, single room or total home renovation, home security and much more. This event is free and open to the public!

**Victory Casino Cruise\***

Join us for an afternoon of gambling on Tuesday, Feb. 21 as we cruise on the Victory Casino out of Port Canaveral, Fla. You'll enjoy bingo, entertainment and relaxation, live table games, and over 300 of the latest slots. Dine in the Atlantic Café and receive free drinks while gaming. They will also match \$20 in free play on your casino card once you have played \$20 in the gaming machine. Please note that a valid government-issued photo I.D. will be required to board.

The cost is \$45 per person and includes transportation, boarding of the Victory Casino, buffet, \$20 match in play and double points.

**Capone's Dinner & Show\***

Join us for an afternoon of Capone's Dinner & Show on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. This matinee show is filled with action, adventure, laughter and more! You will experience character group greetings as you enter the theater, unlimited beverages (even alcoholic drinks) and an all-you-can-eat buffet including a meat carving station and fresh salad bar.

The cost of this trip is \$60 per person and includes transportation, show, buffet and drinks (dinner and bus gratuities are not included).

**Shopping & Lunch\***

Do you like to shop? We have a full day planned at the Butler Plaza Central on Tuesday, Feb. 28 in Gainesville, Fla. Some of the stores you will have the opportunity to visit are Trader Joe's, Pier 1 Imports, Michael's, Ross Stores, Tuesday Morning and more. After a full

day of shopping, we will get back on the bus and ride over to Mildred's Big City Food for a late lunch/early dinner. Please note a lot of walking is involved. Cost of the trip is \$27 per person and includes transportation (lunch is on your own).

**Community News**

The Arbor Club Ballroom will be closing its doors as of Monday, March 13 preparing for renovations of the new fitness center. Please note that the indoor and outdoor pools will remain open along with the fitness room off the indoor pool and the tennis shop. The facility hours will remain the same until further notice.

Attention all runners! We have a resident who is looking to form a running club. If you share a common interest in this sport, please contact Bill Tanski at (609) 876-3520.

Join in the fun with a game of water volleyball at the Arbor Club indoor pool on Thursdays, from 3 to 5 p.m.

**Upcoming March Events**

- Thursday, March 2: Tropic Trivia Night.
- Friday, March 3: "Bike Night" Happy Hour.
- Thursday, March 9: Relectrocycle and Strawberry Festival.
- Monday, March 13: Arbor Club Ballroom closes for renovations.
- Friday, March 17: Gatornationals.
- Monday, March 20: Rags to Riches sign ups.
- Tuesday, March 21: Victory Casino.
- Thursday, March 23: Social Hour.
- Saturday, March 25: Hands Across the Highway.
- Tuesday, March 28: Majestic Manatee.
- Thursday, March 30: Holy Land Experience.
- Friday, March 31: Horse Farm Tour.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
Friendship Commons  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday  
otowservice@otowfl.com or (352) 236-OTOW (236-6869)  
Office will be closed Wednesday, Feb. 15, noon to 1 p.m.

BUS SCHEDULE		
MONDAY - THURSDAY		
MORNING ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS	TIME
Williamsburg	91st Cir.E. - 91st Cir.W - Post Office	8:42 a.m.
Providence	90th St. - 92nd Pl. Rd. - 96th Ct. Rd. - 97th Cir	8:47 a.m.
Avalon Post Office	Parking Lot	8:51 a.m.
Windsor East	94th Pl. - 94th Lp.	8:55 a.m.
Windsor West	95th St. - 95th Lp.	8:58 a.m.
Crescent Ridge 1 & 2	97th Lane - Post Office - 99th Ave. - 96th St.	9:01 a.m.
Recreation Center	At Bus Stop Sign	9:04 a.m.
Americana Village	89th Ct. Rd. - Post Office - 85th Ter. Rd.	9:08 a.m.
Friendship Village	Post Office - 84th Ter. - 93rd St.	9:12 a.m.
Friendship Colony	83rd Ter. - 90th Pl. - 87th Ave. - 97th St.	9:16 a.m.
Friendship Park	97th St. - 94th Lane	9:20 a.m.
Friendship Village	89th Ct. Rd. - 92nd St.	9:22 a.m.
Friendship Colony	90th St. - Post Office	9:26 a.m.
Candler Hills Community Center	At Bus Stop Sign	9:31 a.m.
<b>Exit Community.....</b>		<b>9:36 a.m.</b>
<i>Indigo East Community Center</i>	<i>Parking Lot</i>	<i>Call one day in advance for pick-up</i>
MORNING DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Freedom Library .....	9:42 a.m. ....	12:47 p.m.
Jasmine Square.....	9:50 a.m. ....	12:42 p.m.
Dillard's//Kohl's .....	10:00 a.m. ....	12:32 p.m.
Sam's Club .....	10:10 a.m. ....	11:32 a.m.
Home Depot .....	10:15 a.m. ....	11:42 a.m.
Ollie's .....	10:18 a.m. ....	11:45 a.m.
Paddock Mall .....	10:22 a.m. ....	12:22 p.m.
Walmart/Stein Mart.....	10:27 a.m. ....	11:57 a.m.
Target.....	10:37 a.m. ....	12:05 p.m.
Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center.....	10:47 a.m. ....	12:12 p.m.
Gaitway Plaza.....	10:52 a.m. ....	12:17 p.m.
<b>Return to On Top of the World to begin drop-off/pick-up for the afternoon run.</b>		
AFTERNOON ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES	
Candler Hills Community Center .....	1:00 p.m. ....	Crescent Ridge Post Office..... 1:17 p.m.
Friendship Colony Post Office .....	1:05 p.m. ....	Recreation Center..... 1:21 p.m.
Williamsburg Post Office .....	1:08 p.m. ....	Americana Post Office..... 1:23 p.m.
Avalon Post Office .....	1:13 p.m. ....	Friendship Post Office..... 1:27 p.m.
AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Winn Dixie .....	1:30 p.m. ....	3:28 p.m.
Publix.....	1:35 p.m. ....	3:33 p.m.
Walmart Neighborhood Market.....	1:43 p.m. ....	3:39 p.m.
Aldi/Lowe's .....	1:49 p.m. ....	3:45 p.m.
Save A Lot .....	1:56 p.m. ....	3:23 p.m.
Big Lots.....	1:59 p.m. ....	3:20 p.m.
Beall's & Dollar Tree .....	2:07 p.m. ....	3:07 p.m.
Walmart .....	2:09 p.m. ....	3:02 p.m.
* All times are approximate		
<b>For information, call the Recreation Center at 352-854-8707 ext. 7530 or 7533</b>		



Photo by Gary Uhley

**Michigan Club members show off their new club polo shirts.**



The Michigan Club social committee has revealed lots of exciting new plans for 2017. Among them are themed meetings, starting with February, when we will meet again on the second Sunday instead of the first due to a conflict with the Super Bowl.

We will meet Sunday, Feb. 12 for a pre-Valentine's Day sweet-

heart night dinner at 5 p.m., Arbor Club Conference Center, Suites F & G. There will be a silly secret gift exchange. Bring a small wrapped present under \$5 for the gift swap and a dish of your favorite Michigan food to pass. As always, everyone is welcome. Be sure to remember to bring a non-alcoholic beverage for yourself to drink.

March 5, (also Suites F and G), we will be back on our first Sunday 5 p.m. dinner schedule and our meeting theme will be everything Irish. There will be a sign-up sheet for this truly lucky event, which will feature everything from corned

beef to soda bread. You are asked to wear green and bring your favorite joke written on a 3x5 card. Jokes will be swapped to read. Write legibly, please.

Sunday, April 2 brings a Coney party for the baseball season opener - we'll be grillin' at the outdoor pavilion. A horseshoe competition is on the docket for the guys, plus shuffleboard for the gals.

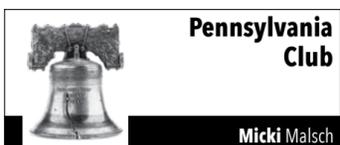
On Sunday, May 7, we will be at the pavilion again, with fancy hats all gussied up for a Kentucky Derby Day party. A hat competition is planned. June through August, we will break for summer, but private

parties are in the planning to be announced later.

In September, a tailgate party is planned. More information as the date draws closer.

Fourth quarter plans have not been revealed yet, but we will have a strong presence in the annual Golf Cart Parade in December.

Members seemed very pleased with their new Michigan Club shirts in Michigan pine green with lake blue mitten logo. For questions please call Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757.



The Pennsylvania Club met on Wednesday, Jan. 11. The theme for this meeting was "Super Bowl!" and everyone dressed in their favorite team colors. The members provided yummy tailgate snacks. Everyone enjoyed playing bingo for prizes.

If you have not yet paid club dues, you may do so at the February meeting. Dues are \$5 per year, per member. Membership cards

**GOT TRASH?**  
Please put all trash in compactor.

will be available.

A "love and marriage" game will be played at the February meeting, and three married club members and their spouses will be asked to participate to win a prize for the couple answering the most correct questions about each other. You don't want to miss this fun and entertaining game!

Members are asked to bring a snack (enough for at least eight people) for sharing. The club will provide beverages.

The next meeting of the Pennsylvania Club will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 3 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F.

You don't have to be a member to join in the fun. Guests are always welcome in search of good fun, good food and good people! Until we meet again ...



Photo by Michelle Malsch

**Pennsylvania Club members donated \$300 worth of toys for the Salvation Army Toy Drive.**



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Samuel Myrick, M.D. • Cecil Robertson, M.D. • Anju Vasudevan, M.D.**

**Ocala | (352) 732-4032  
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**FloridaCancer.com**  
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## Honoring Our First President

By Phil Panzera

This month, I'd like to pay special honor to one of the founding fathers of our room, world-class nice guy Ray Stover. Ray is our "George Washington," the very first president of our Billiards Club. In the beginning, our room had only smaller bar coin tables, with balls so chipped you had to tell the number by the color. Ray organized a donation drive and collected over \$800 for new balls and other items. He was actually the one who determined that a club was necessary (after some of this donated amount was inappropriately spent on a beer party without his knowledge).

Ray also played as part of a band that held numerous concerts to raise about \$8,000 for better tables and equipment for the room. He also organized a garage sale that raised additional money. We all owe him many thanks for not only forming the club structure we have today, but also working tirelessly to improve the room to the fine standard we currently enjoy.

Ray was born in Ameagle, W.Va., in a two-room company house for

which his father paid \$1 a month. He met Ruth, the "love of his life," in 1951. They wanted to get married, but first he went down to enlist. They turned him down, he thinks because he was only 118 pounds, so they got married. Ironically, seven days later he was drafted, and he spent two years as an armor mechanic fixing vehicles no one else could.

Ray held many jobs, from deliveries on a beer truck, to assembling car engines. He spent most of his career with Ford as a computer operator and programmer. One of his favorite pastimes is playing the banjo, and he played a few ditties at our Christmas party a year ago. By coincidence, the collector's item banjo he is pictured with was actually made in the year of his birth.

To truly know Ray, one must understand his deep religious convictions. For example, I asked him to tell me what in his life he was most proud of, and he instantly replied that God did not like pride, and he rather preferred to be "thankful." We discussed his religious accep-



Photo by Phil Panzera

### Ray Stover playing his prized 1929 Gibson banjo.

tance of the "Lord as his savior" in 1956, and he got teary-eyed and emotional just thinking about it. Ray is a true Christian, always giving, and always going out of his way to help other people. Quite simply, he is one of the finest men I have ever known, and I am both proud and humbled to count him as my friend.

**ANECDOTE OF THE MONTH:** Someone once asked world champion, Johnny Archer, why he spent so much time checking the rack, and he said, "They was touchin' but they wasn't frozen."

**TIP OF THE MONTH:** Never ever chalk your cue tip prior to a miscue.

## MGA's Annual Donation

By Tom Cummings

The Men's Golf Association is here primarily for the fun and enjoyment of its members. We do,

however, try to be good citizens and in line with that, every time we have our "chicken day" each mem-



Photo by John Bauer

### Rebecca Rogers representing Hospice of Marion County and Len Ruble treasurer of the Men's Golf Association.

## A Railroad Adventure

By Jim Lynam

Back in October 2016, two members of the Model Railroaders, Charles Vogel and his wife Shelley, and Jim Lynam and his wife Rosie, participated on a western railroad excursion. The escorted rail tour was conducted by "America by Rail" from Michigan.

The adventure began with a flight from Tampa to Chicago and they met the famous California Zephyr, operated by Amtrak at Union Station. The Zephyr features double-decker Superliner equipment, Sightseer lounge car, and a dining car. The overnight journey to Denver went well, in spite of trying to sleep in the reclining seats of the coach car.

The Zephyr pulled out of Denver and began the climb over the majestic Colorado Rockies. The train went through 37 tunnels with the longest being the Moffat Tunnel, which is six miles long traveling beneath the continental divide. The afternoon provided breathtaking mountain vistas while looking down at fast flowing streams in the valleys far below.

The second leg of the journey

was by bus from Grand Junction to Silverton, Colo. with stops at the Colorado National Monument and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. The Gunnison River Gorge is an amazing geologic display. Silverton is a wild-west mining community typical of the Old West and the saloon provided a cold beer at the bar and lunch while listening to a honky-tonk piano. The rail fans boarded the Durango & Silverton narrow gauge steam railroad for the trip through the San Juan National Forest and the deep and narrow canyons of the Animas River. The tracks seemed to just hang on the cliffs while looking straight down to the river. This area provided a look at several scenes that were filmed in the making of the movie Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

The next destination was Santa Fe, N.M. by bus and a tour of Taos, N.M. while en route. The group's next train ride was the Rail Runner commuter train from Santa Fe to Albuquerque. The highlight of the trip was the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta where enthusi-

ber who plays donates \$2 to a fund, which we give to Hospice of Marion County. So many of our members or their families have been helped by this fine organization and we feel that is where our donation should go. This year's donation was close to \$2,000.

Many new people are moving in the area and many of those play golf. Our membership numbers grow every month. We would like to welcome all new residents and make our organization available to any new men golfers. If you have questions, ask at the Golf Shop or see any committee member: John Langville, Bob Flynn, Len Ruble, Bob Egger, Ross MacDonald, Larry Manion, Ralph Solvold, Roger Sparks or myself, Tommy Cummings.

### Scramble Dec. 7, 2016

61-Gary Hassett, Jerry Ashe, Len Ruble, Jack Martin; Tie at 63-David Miller (CH), Phil Johnson, James Merrick, Bill Walker; Ken Zweiback, R.D. Zink, John Bauer, Clarence Higdon; Dennis McCourt, Dennis Brown, Tom Marta, Roland Schwab; Jeff Downs, Paul Silliman, Dave Hannasch, Tony Capillo.

### Team Quota Points Dec. 14, 2016

31-John Langville, Paul Silliman, Brad Brandes, David Stafford; Tie at 26-Raymond Wilson, Bob Janssen, Dennis McNeely, Tom Cummings; Roger Sparks, Carl Zeiler, Joe Man-

dela, Phelps White; John Spielvogel, Paul Wade, Bob Moravec, Art Frescura.

### Individual Net Dec. 21, 2016

Flight 1: 65-Terry Hubbard; Tie at 66-George Blankenship, Joe Hawkins; Tie at 67-Jon Hill, Mike Altomare, Richard Deschenes.

Flight 2: Tie at 64-Roger Sparks, Ian McCullough, Larry Manion; Tie at 66-Carl Singleton, Dennis Pope.

Flight 3: Tie at 61-Mike Wethen, Joe Mandela, Jerry Chase; 62-Mike Driver; 64-Joe Bologna.

Flight 4: 59-Jack Hegarty; 63-Tom South; 65-James Merrick; 66-Danny Newby.

Flight 5: 62-Ed Duke; 63-Tom Cummings; Tie at 64-Kas Kaske, John Moses.

### Individual Blind Holes Dec. 28, 2016

Flight 1: 31-Art Lagrange; 32-Brad Brandes; Tie at 34-Rudy Norman, Ken Zweiback, Brian Andrews, Ian McCullough.

Flight 2: 26-Jim Weaver; 30-Richard Freeman; Tie at 32-Carl Zeiler, Thomas Martinetto.

Flight 3: 28-James Merrick; 32-Tom Bogan; Tie at 33-Mike Driver, Ed Button

Flight 4: 29-Rollin Schwab; 32-Norm Lallier; Tie at 33-Joe Dent, Francis Caprez, J.Phelps White, Tony Magri.

Flight 5: Tie at 31-Bill Walker, Tary Bole, John Moses; 32-John Ricciardone; 33-Joe Rappa.

asts witnessed the mass launch of over one hundred hot air balloons. The variety of the balloons' sizes, shapes and vivid colors will long be remembered.

The passengers boarded Amtrak's Southwest Chief superliner to begin the return trip to Chicago. The Super Chief followed the famous Santa Fe Trail through Raton Pass and crossed the Mississippi River before arriving in Chicago. The trip included 58 hours of riding on trains and provided many

lasting memories, some good, some bad, while reliving the nostalgic past of the glory days of railroads!

The Model Railroaders is always looking for new members, and you are welcome to join us. The layout is located in a room with entry from the Recreation Fitness Center. Club members work and run trains on the layout on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Our monthly meeting will be at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at the Arbor Conference Center, Suite A.



Photo by Shelley Vogel

### Jim Lynam and Charles Vogel.

**CARDS & GAMES**

**Monday Afternoon Bridge**  
Shirley Stolly & Carol Johnson

**Dec. 5, 2016**  
1: Joe & Helen O'Brien; 2: Fran Griswold & Betty Morris; 3: Kay Boland & Marge Benton; 4: Cindy Brown & Carol Johnson; 5: Joan Lord & Doris Keathley.

**Dec. 12, 2016**  
1: Betty Morris & Fran Griswold; 2: Joyce Walchak & Marge Starrett; 3: Doris Keathley & Joan Lord; 4: Caryl Rosenberger & Ida Rosendahl; 5: Don Linda Sprague.

**Dec. 19, 2016**  
1: Marge Starrett & Joyce Walchak; 2: Judy Wagnitz & Marlene Floecker; 3: Pat Golgart & Carol Johnson; 4: Rad D. & Cleona Redman; 5: Elsa Groe & Cindy Brown.

**Tuesday Afternoon Bridge**  
Joanne Jones

**Dec. 8, 2016**  
1: Don & Linda Sprague; 2: Agnes LaSala & Rad D.; 3: Shirley Stolly & Betty Morris.

**Dec. 15, 2016**  
1: Betty Morris & Cindy Brown; 2: Don & Linda Sprague; 3: Agnes LaSala & Nebbie Day.

**Dec. 22, 2016**  
1: Don & Linda Sprague; 2: Joanne Jones & Mazie Millward; 3: Agnes LaSala & Nebbie Day.

**CIRCLE SQUARE Commons**  
JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST  
Receive information about Circle Square Commons including the Farmer's Market, special events, entertainment, The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa, Circle Square Cultural Center, Master the Possibilities, Mr. B's Ice Cream Shop, Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli and more! Sign up at [CircleSquareCommons.com](http://CircleSquareCommons.com)

**Tuesday Night Bridge**  
Doris Keathley

**Dec. 6, 2016**  
1: Doris Keathley & Dan Hall; Tie at 2/3: Caryl Rosenberger & Ida Rosendahl & Rita Smith & Coleen Tobino; 4: Paul Pinter & Paul Reidinger.

**Dec. 13, 2016**  
1: Ida Rosendahl & Marjorie Benton; 2: Paul Reidinger & Paul Pinter.

**Wednesday Afternoon Bridge**  
Pat Golgart

**Dec. 7, 2016**  
1: Shirley Stolly; 2: Fran Griswold; 3: Carmen Arroya; Cons: Maureen Meade.

**Dec. 14, 2016**  
1: Shirley Stolly; 2: Pat Golgart; 3: Delores Melberg; Cons: Kay Bryfogle.

**Dec. 21, 2016**  
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Pat Golgart; 3: Helen O'Brien; Cons: Nebbie Day.

**Dec. 28, 2016**  
1: Maureen Meade; 2: Helen O'Brien; 3: Delores Melberg; Cons: Pat Golgart.

**Thursday Afternoon Bridge**  
Marge Starrett

**Dec. 1, 2016**  
1: Con Sprague; 2: Cleona Redman; 3: Serine Rossi.

**Dec. 8, 2016**  
1: Mary Walker; 2: Serine Rossi; 3: Kay Boland; 4: Linda Sprague.

**Dec. 15, 2016**  
1: Shirley Stolly; 2: Linda Sprague; 3: Fran Griswold; 4: Dianne Robinson.

**Dec. 22, 2016**  
1: Don Sprague; 2: Cleona Redman; 3: Shirley Stolly.

**Dec. 29, 2016**  
1: Rad D.; 2: Joyce Walchak; 3: Marge Starrett.

**Thursday Night Bridge**  
Keith Briggs

**Dec. 15, 2016**  
1: Ida Rosendahl; 2: Mildred Lane; 3: Sara Anderson.

**Dec. 29, 2016**  
1: Sara Anderson; 2: Keith Briggs; 3: Ron McNeilly.

**Jan. 5**  
1: Ida Rosendahl; 2: Ron McNeilly; 3: Beverly Ketchum; 4: Marian Hotz.

**Jan. 12**  
1: Beverly Ketchum; 2: Keith Briggs; 3: Ida Rosendahl; 4: Fran Griswold.

**Friday Night Cribbage**  
Rose Marie Postin

**Dec. 2, 2016**  
1: Norma Yonke; 2: Sheila Howell; 3: John Smith; Cons: RoseMarie Postin.

**Dec. 9, 2016**  
1: Margaret Smith; 2: John Smith; 3: Herb Postin; Cons: Donna Parrish.

**Dec. 16, 2016**  
1: Donna Parrish; 2: Herb Postin; 3: RoseMarie Postin; Cons: Sheila Howell.

**Tuesday Night Pinochle**  
Whitney Frye

We play at 6 p.m. in Art Studio of the Hobby Building. Join us! Call Whitney Frye at (352) 237-0388 for information.

**Dec. 6, 2016**  
1: Darroll Maul; 2: Bernard DiGregorio; 3: Joe Eisgruber.

**Dec. 13, 2016**  
1: Edith Kolb; 2: Gayle Argano; 3: Walter Hickenlooper.

**Dec. 20, 2016**  
1: Edith Kolb; 2: Edna Frye; 3: Gayle Argano.

**Dec. 27, 2016**  
1: Walter Hickenlooper; 2: Larry Hartman; 3: Edith Kolb.



**Candler Hills Men's Golf**

Dave Miller

This is my first monthly column for the Candler Hills Men's Golf Association. I'd like to thank Joe Alfano for many years of performing this function in a professional, dignified, and yet thoroughly entertaining manner. I will try to live up to his high standards.

We welcome Julian Wachs as our newest member - welcome aboard, Julian! If you are looking for a group of guys who like to have fun and play golf - come join us! We play every Tuesday at 9 a.m. - using a variety of fun formats - both individual and team games. If you wish to join us or learn more about our organization, feel free to e-mail me ([millrace1@aol.com](mailto:millrace1@aol.com)) or contact one of the golf professionals in the Candler Hills Golf Shop.

Our match play tournament is coming up in February, so members should look for information in the pro shop if you want to participate. Keep in mind that you must have played in the league a minimum of 10 times in the prior 12 months in order to participate.

George Archer once said, "One thing about golf is you don't know why you played bad or why you played good." Those of us scoring well lately were Paul Rubly, Ken Zweiback, and Jay List (75), Chris Jett and Dave Miller (76), John Smith, Walt Pacuk, David Martin, Jeff Downs, Julian Hobby, Jon Hill, Dennis McCourt and Larry Kettlewell (77), Joe Damiata and Bryant Giffin (78), and Mike Deahl (79).

**Red-White-Blue Scramble**

**Dec. 13, 2016**  
61-Julian Hobby, Ken Zweiback, Tony Misterly & John Workman; Tie at 62-Joe Damiata, Gene Moff, Chris Lyndrup & blind draw and Paul Rubly, Jeff Downs, Richard Freeman & Paul Silliman; Tie at 63-Chris Jett, Dave Miller, Dennis McCourt & blind draw and Walt Pacuk, Paul Sepulveda, Dan Gill & Randy Ford.

**Four-Man Second & Third Best Ball**  
**Dec. 20, 2016**  
137-Julian Hobby, JC Van Bloom, Dan Gill & John Workman; 139-Paul Rubly, John Smith, John Podkomorski & Donald Huston; 142-Joe Damiata, John Redden, Tim Beaty & Dan O'Brien; Tie at 143-Walt Pacuk, Jim Tait, Dale Budd & David Green and Everett Kimball, Tony Misterly, Dennis McCourt & Leo McCormick.

**Four-Man Two Best Balls**  
**Dec. 27, 2016**  
110-Walt Pacuk, JC VanBloom, Ken Zweiback & John Workman; 112-John Smith, Bryant Giffin, Andy Bulloch & Richard Freeman; 113-Paul Rubly, Dave Miller, Tim Beaty & Donald Huston; 114-Jay List, Tony Misterly, Bill Horton & blind draw.

**Four Man-Three Best Ball**  
**Stableford**  
**Jan. 3**  
139-Jon Hill, Bruce Venslavsky, Dennis McCourt & Julian Wachs; 134-Bill Anger, Mike Deahl, Tim Beaty & John Podkomorsky; 133-Paul Rubly, Gilbert Green, Jim McGrath & blind draw; 132-David Martin, Dave Miller, Mark Monk & Dan O'Brien.

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**Candler Hills Ladies 9-Hole Golf**

Susan Layne

On Monday, Jan. 9, 16 of our ladies from Candler Hills and On Top of the World braved the chilly early morning temperature to participate in an invitational at Sugarmill in Homosassa, Fla. We were greeted with hot coffee, tea, juices and lots of goodies including homemade breads and quiche. The event was titled "Puttz in the Garden."

The tables were decorated with a centerpiece basket full of plants, trowel and garden gloves, which were awarded at the end of the event. Lora Rossi won at our table. We were each given a handy gift pack with notepaper, pen, candies, Band-Aids and wipes. On our table were sand filled mason jars adorned with bumble bees and pipe cleaner bumble bees. We had ladybugs made out of hand painted stones. Each lady received a pair of golf related tile coasters.

A delicious buffet lunch was served. There were turkey and ham trays, crusty rolls, croissants, chicken salad, Waldorf salad and coleslaw. Dessert was a yummy chocolate pudding with whipped cream.

A few of our ladies were in the winnings:  
 Flight 1 Low Gross: 48-Susanne Trembulak.  
 Flight 1 Low Putts: 15-Eileen Gustavus.  
 Flight 3 Low Net: 33-Jean Jarmel  
 Flight 4 Low Gross: 59-Rocket John-



Photo by Sue Layne

**Participants in the Sugarmill Invitational.**

son.  
 Sue Layne and Sheila Ashe each won \$20 in the "share the pot" drawing.

**Upcoming events:**

- Thursday, Feb. 16 and Tuesday, Feb. 21: Valentine's Day Challenge with On Top of the World Ladies 9-Hole.
- Monday, Feb. 20: GAR at Stone Creek.

We look forward to having a large turnout at these events. It is the CHLGA-9 ladies turn to win the Valentine Challenge.

Please note that shop credits are to be used before Feb. 28.

**Low Gross-Low Net  
 Dec. 15, 2016**

Flight 1 Low Gross: 47-Susanne Trembulak; 50-Lydia Flinchbaugh; 51-Kay Budd.

Flight 1 Low Net: 33-Linda Mandala; 37-Betty Werner; 37-Renee Aden.

Flight 2 Low Gross: 48-Marguerite Piotrowski; 54-Barbara Enos; 55-Judy Parisi.

Flight 2 Low Net: 35-Carol Deahl; 36-Marcie Hock; 36-Susan Layne.

Ribbon with a Twist  
 Dec. 22, 2016  
 35-Eileen Gustavus, Cheryl Nesbitt, Julie Crudele, Eve Harvey.

**Two Person Shamble  
 Dec. 29, 2016**

27-Susanne Trembulak, Donna McCombs; 29-Eileen Gustavus, Susan Layne; 33-Pat Gill, Mary Vliek.

**Low Gross-Low Net**

**Jan. 5**

Flight 1 Low Gross: 47-Renee Aden, 48-Eileen Gustavus.

Flight 1 Low Net: 33-Carla Kimball, 37-Linda Mandala.

Flight 2 Low Gross: 50-Kathy Triolo, 56-Betty Werner & Marianne Ingwersen.

Flight 2 Low Net: 35-Cheryl Nesbitt, 39-Virginia Redden & Marianne Ingwersen.

Flight 3 Low Gross: 55-Rocket Johnson, 57-Jean Jarmel.

Flight 3 Low Net: 34-Julie Crudele, 35-Mary Giannukos.

Flight 4 Low Gross: 54-Susan Layne, 60-Lynn Holland.

Flight 4 Low Net: 36-Donna McCombs, 39-Nancy Dreimiller.



**Softball**

Bill Leon

There have been quite a few happenings during the season. We expect most players to return shortly. With that said, it is expected that teams will be able to improve their position in the standings. So far there hasn't been much change from the previous month.

Tee Pee Tire continues to lead the league with The Last Frontier gaining some ground. The Pavarotti's team has lost its last two games and fallen a notch, but are still within reach. The Tax Panic and Dr. Dunn teams have begun to show some strength. Ceibert Wealth is struggling the most as they have had some key players who have not been available to play, but all is not lost for the teams to move up as five months still remain in the season. For now, it is just a wait and see time.

Team	Won	Lost	Tie
2-Tee Pee Tire (Ed)	15	5	1
6-Last Frontier (Mark)	12	8	1
3-Pavarotti's (Bill)	12	9	
5-Tax Panic (Paul)	8	13	
1-Dr. Dunn (Dennis)	9	12	
4-Ceibert Wealth (Jeff)	6	15	

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**Ladies 18-Hole Golf**

Susan Rhodes

More than 30 league members attended the Black & White luncheon/general meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10. All enjoyed boxed lunches catered by Bob Evans. Many thanks to our Black & White luncheon committee members: Dawn Hagberg, Maggie Hudacik, Renee Aden, and Joan Cecchini.

We are looking forward to hosting the Ladies 9-Hole League on Tuesday, Feb. 14 when the Cupid Open will be held. We will play two best ball gross from the silver tees on the Tortoise & The Hare. Following golf, a luncheon catered by Sweet Potatoes Cafe is scheduled in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The menu includes salad, chicken salad croissant, house-made kettle chips, and mini cream puffs and eclairs for dessert. Cost is \$10. Be sure to sign up by the firm Tuesday, Feb. 7 deadline.

Our match play event began Monday, Jan. 23. Matches were played on the Tortoise & The Hare. To kick off the event, a pairing reveals party was held on the veranda outside The Pub on Friday, Jan. 20. At the gathering, pairings were announced, and match play rules were discussed.

Members are very pleased with the color (coral reef) and style of the new league shirts. If you have not already done so, be sure to pick yours up in the Golf Shop.

Welcome new members: Angie Jingco and Donna Brunell! Angie has been playing golf for eight years. She moved to Candler Hills from Las Vegas 11 years ago. Donna Brunell is a very recent transplant to the Windsor from Severn, Md. She has been playing golf for more than 25 years.

Gail LaGrange started the New Year off right. She had a hole-in-one on the 14th hole of the Links on New Year's Day. Congratulations Gail! (Now we have to replenish our hole-in-one fund.)

**Both Ways (2 Best Balls) Dec. 13, 2016/Links**

Tie at 147-VaDonna Hall, Iro Lisinski, Peggy Wiechmann, Carol Johnson; Beverly Ovrebo, Christine McIntire, Sharon Bartholomew, Mary Bennett. 149-Lynne Dickson, Susan Maillet, Susan Watters, Joyce Jones. 150-Gail LaGrange, Yuhlan Cho, Mary Driver, Renee Aden.

**Low Gross, Low Net Jan. 3/Tortoise & The Hare**

Flight 1 Gross: 76-Deborah Martin. Tie at 84-Gail LaGrange, Su Freeman. Flight 1 Net: 65-Gretchen Normandin. 67-Peggy Borro. Flight 2 Gross: Tie at 88-Iro Lisinski, Pam Carpenter. Flight 2 Net: 65-Peggy Wiechmann.

69-Joan D'Addio. Flight 3 Gross: 92-Sandy Chase. 93-Susan Rhodes. Flight 3 Net: 68-Susan Watters. 69-Yuhlan Cho. Flight 4 Gross: 95-Molly Lucieir. 100-Geri Treppa. Flight 4 Net: 71-Lorie Anderson. 75-Renee Aden.

**Two Best Balls (Team Net) Jan. 10/Links**



**Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole Golf**

Bev Overbo

Remember way back when in 2016 when we celebrated Christmas together? What a wonderful holiday supper we shared at Royal Oaks on Dec. 15, 2016 thanks to our organizer, Heddy Racinkowski. The prime rib was a delicious surprise, as were all of the beautiful members bedecked in their red, green and glitter.

The first league general meeting took place after golf on Thursday, Jan. 12. The league by-laws were amended to change the term of office to four years for the treasurer and secretary. The league provided lunch.

Our MidState event, the Lady/Pro, took place on Wednesday, Jan. 18 at Summer Glen. Look for the results in next month's column.

Happy 2017 - in the words of our President Pam Monk, "fairways and greens."

**Scotch Twosomes Dec. 15, 2016**

Tie at 66.2-Su Freeman, Sandra Noe; and Pam Carpenter, Lorie An-

121-Rosemarie O'Neil, Gretchen Normandin, May Chin, Connie Preis. 124-Iro Lisinski, Angie Jingco, Lorie Anderson, Betty McNeeley. 127-Peggy Wiechmann, Su Freeman, Nancy Zielinski, Mary Bennett. Tie at 128-Sandy Chase, Donna Brunell, Peggy Borro, Dee Howie; Debby Wilson, Susan Maillet, Beverly Ovrebo, Yoshiko Young.

derson. 69.8-Iro Lisinski, Toni Stevenson.

**2 Best Balls of 3 Dec. 22, 2016**

122-Peggy Borro, Sue List, Vicky Salyers. 127-Betty Dong, Janet Juhlin, Gail Banavige. 130-Iro Lisinski, Diane O'Brien, Lorie Anderson.

**Team Stableford Dec. 29, 2016**

128-Iro Lisinski, Angie Jingco, Vicky Salyers. 122-Deb Martin, Lorie Anderson, Marge Cowie. 113-Judie Anderson, Carol Clark, Deanne Green.

**Criss-Cross Jan. 5**

Flight 1: 28-Su Freeman 30-Connie Norris.

Flight 2: 24-Pam Carpenter, 26-Betty Dong, Tie at 28-Judy McGrath, Diane O'Brien.

Flight 3: 26-Carol Clark, 28-May Chin, Tie at 29-Kate Beaty, Vicky Salyers.

Flight 4: Tie at 29-Deanne Green, Heddy Racinowski, Beth Wolinsky.

**Team Stableford Jan. 12**

155-Iro Lisinski, Angie Jingco, Carol Clark, Pam Monk. 153-Donna Smith, Betty Dong, Vicky Salyers, Kathy Smyth. 150-Connie Norris, Diane O'Brien, Toni Stevenson, Beth Wolinsky. 146-Su Freeman, Paula Lilly, Lorie Anderson, Sandra Noe.

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**Everyone Wins Club Sandi Kemp**

Our January meeting found many of our snowbirds returning; it was good to see them! We had a great time and as always, lots of laughs!

Please join us for our next get-together! All are welcome - guys, gals, singles and couples! Our February meeting will be a potluck din-

ner with everyone bringing a dish to share. Every year at our February meeting, we play "The Marriage Game" and believe me, it is always hysterical with some of the answers! We play bingo, trivia, charades, and anything else that I can think to do!

We meet on the third Sunday of the month in Suites B and C at the Arbor Conference Center, from 6 to 8 p.m. Give us a try; I think you'll like us! Cost is \$5.75 per person, brought as five \$1s and three quarters. You will win cash and prizes! Please call Sandi at (352) 237-9073 for more information.

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**Tennis**

**Jorge Privat**  
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We certainly cannot complain about January. If you were not out playing something outdoors, you missed a great opportunity because the weather was just about perfect.

I would like to commend particularly all of you who participated in the tournament because we should all enjoy taking part in as many tennis events as we can.

I hope you had the opportunity to watch some of the high level tennis during the Australian Open and learned something from the men and women who bring out the best tennis in the world.

**Tennis Tip of the Month**

While the physical, technical, tactical and strategic components play a vital role in a player's success on court, there is another component that can be even more critical, but cannot always be seen or analyzed by simply watching a player's movement, strokes or style of play. It is the mental component, and it is one that generally makes or breaks a player.

You may have heard phrases like "Tennis is played from the neck up and the waist down," or "Tennis is 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical." Although this may be a little bit of an exaggeration, they do convey the message that success in tennis is very much reliant upon a player's mind and control of the intangibles. And the subcomponents associated with the mental component are as follows: self-esteem, confidence, independence, discipline, temperament, concentration, goal setting, sportsmanship and competitive readiness. Each of these play a pivotal role in a player's potential for success.

This month, we will focus on the first three with the remaining six being highlighted in March's column.

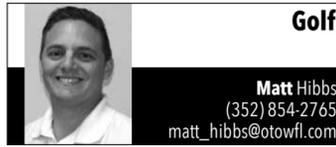
Self-esteem has two components: the feeling of being cared for and accepted by others and a sense of competence and mastery in performing tasks and solving problems independently. When the level of self-esteem is low, it will affect the player's confidence negatively, and when it is high, it will give the player the right attitude to bring out his best tennis. One of the best fac-

tors affecting self-esteem is a player's home and social life, where he will or will not find positive support. But players can also build self-esteem on their own through emotional and mental rituals they practice with themselves, such as when you make a mistake on the court, you turn and walk away from it and say, "No problem, I can do this."

Confidence is a player's strong belief in his abilities and that he can accomplish any task, whether it is beating an opponent, winning a critical point or successfully hitting a particular shot. A player can build confidence through consistent practice and training, to the point where he knows what shots he has perfected and believed he can then execute those shots in a match with little or no errors. Players can develop confidence in various areas of the game, like physical fitness, movements or tactics, to name a few. A low level of confidence will often work against a player during a match and hurt his chances of winning, but a high level of confidence allows a player to strike the ball better and more freely because in his mind, he feels he cannot miss. However, being overconfident can be a downfall to a player. If during a match a player becomes too confident after gaining a significant lead, he could lose his focus when he starts to think he has already won the match. This causes him to become careless in his shots or strategies, blowing his lead and allowing the opponent back in the game.

The game of tennis is one of the few sports where a player must learn to think independently on the court. During a match, players are not allowed to get help from coaches, friends or teammates, and therefore they have to learn to deal with every situation on their own. This includes handling pressure situations looking to yourself for answers, finding a way to win on your own. Independence is a powerful factor in a player's ability to go into any high-stress venue and stand on your own two feet.

See you on the courts!



**Golf**

**Matt Hibbs**  
(352) 854-2765  
matt\_hibbs@otowfl.com

Now that the stress of the holiday season is behind us we can move forward and get back to some normalcy. The start of 2017 should be an exciting and eventful time.

Candler Hills will be hosting the annual World Sadie Hawkins Golf Tournament on Friday, Feb. 10 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. The format will be couples alternate shot. The cost is \$15 per player for awards and prizes. The Club at Candler Hills will have food and beverage specials concluding play. Please register in your respective Golf Shop.

With March right around the corner we are proud to announce the return of the Ocala Open, from Wednesday, March 15 through Friday, March 17 at Candler Hills Golf Club with a Pro Am scheduled for Tuesday, March 14. The benefitting charities will again be Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services. For more information on the 2017 Ocala Open, visit ocalaopen.com.

The staff would like to remind everyone to return all range balls, baskets and tokens to the respective Golf Shop after use. Please do not take these items home with you, as keeping these items in circulation helps us avoid having to continue to purchase new equipment. This in turn helps keep range prices minimal. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Last reminder - all shop credit expires Tuesday, Feb. 28. Any credit won in February will not be posted to your account until Wednesday,

March 1. It's time to shop!

**Upcoming Events**

- Friday, Feb. 10: World Sadie Hawkins at Candler Hills Golf Club, 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Saturday, Feb. 11: Demo Day at Candler Hills Golf Club, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18: Monthly Event at the Links, 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Tuesday, March 14: Ocala Open Pro Am.
- Wednesday, March 15 - Friday, March 17: Ocala Open at Candler Hills Golf Club.

**World Accolades**

**CANDLER HILLS:** Tom Racinowski, hole-in-one #8. Lynne Thesman, eagle #7.

**LINKS:** Rudy Normandin, shot his age 76.

Congratulations to all!

**Golf Tip of the Month**

You're on the way to breaking 80 for the first time and you drive the ball in the fairway bunker on the 18th hole. I know how everyone hates the dreaded fairway bunker shot. Here are some tips to ensure you shoot your best round ever:

1. Make sure to hit the ball first. Unlike a greenside bunker you need to hit the ball first.
2. Take one extra club than you would from the fairway and slightly grip down on the club.
3. Play the ball back in your stance.
4. Dig your feet into the sand just enough to build a solid foundation.
5. Take a three quarters swing. You want to keep your body still to ensure a good solid strike.

Follow these five tips to improve fairway bunker play and gain the confidence you need to break 80.



**Mah Jongg**

**Mary Ehle**

There are only a few spaces left for the Saturday, March 4 tournament. Don't wait. Call me now at (352) 873-7507 to reserve a spot in this fun-filled event.

We have had Mah Jongg tournaments since 1999. That is a lot of fun times. Don't get left out. The tournament keeps getting bigger and better. We have some surprises in store for players this year. Come and see.

If you would like to learn this game you may sign up for a class at Master the Possibilities. There will be a new class starting in May.

Until next time, jokers to you.

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**Ladies 9-Hole Golf**

Judith Parisi

In February, the LGA-9 will again compete with the CHLGA-9 in the Valentine Challenge. This is a two-day event, with golf at Candler Hills on Thursday, Feb. 16, and at On Top of the World on Tuesday, Feb. 21. Details will be available as to sign up and you will need to commit to play both days. Last year, On Top of the World was the victor, so it should be an interesting competition this year to see if we can again win. Our league will host lunch following play on Feb. 21 at The Pub.

After a recent round of golf where I experienced some "interesting" shots, I revisited the rules on penalties. A great resource on penalties is our own On Top of the World Ladies 9-Hole members booklet. It contains an outline of various USGA rules, as well as local rules. As we find when we travel outside of On Top of the World to other courses, especially with the Ladies Nine-Hole Golf Around, there are local rules with which we need to become acquainted so as not to count into our score a penalty when their local rules indicate otherwise. In competition, it is very important that we are aware of the USGA and local rules to have an equitable playing field.

It is recommended you keep your booklet in your golf bag for easy reference. If there are ever questions during a competitive round, you can call the Golf Shop, or hold



Photo by Judy Parisi

**2016 Valentine Challenge award. Who will win in 2017?**

the score card until you discuss the question with one of our golf professionals.

We will be participating in the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26. Stop by and say hello! Please visit our website at [otowladies9holeleague.shutterfly.com](http://otowladies9holeleague.shutterfly.com) for more information on our league including how to join. The website also contains pictures from the many golf and social events in which we participate.

**Member/Member Team Net Dec. 13, 2016**

Flight 1: 31-Eileen Gustavus and Susy Trembulak; 32-Carla Kimball and Lydia Flinchbaugh; Virginia Bayless and Maryanne Polizzoti.

Flight 2: 34-Caroline East and Louise Lineman; 35-Carol Bell and Marlene Floeckher; Marcie Hock and Lorraine Rourke.

Flight 3: 34-Joan Loureiro and Dolores Jaynes; 35-Christine Volk and Sherry Whitmer-Hall; 36-Jane Wil-

son and Ethel Miller.

**Team Scramble Jan. 3**

36-Susane Trembulak, Kathy Hall, Lora Rossi, Blind Draw; 39-Kay Budd, Kathleen Dushary, Jean Flynn, Carolyn Abramovich; 40-Linda Mandala, Lydia Flinchbaugh, Ann Flynn, Sheila Ashe; 40-Janis Hannasch, Maryann Polizzoti, Pauline Beloin, Eve Harvey; 41-Lorraine Rourke, Marianne Ingwersen, Michaele Beyer, Sherry Whitmer-Hall; 41-Eileen Gustavus, Barbara Enos,

Louise Lineman, Susan Wilkes.

**Team Best Ball-Net Jan. 10**

27-Virginia Bayless, Marlene Floeckher, Mary Klinzing, Christine Volk & Lorraine Rourke, Kathleen Dushary, Barbara Enos, Cathleen Hathaway; 28-Susane Trembulak, Judy Parisi, Kathy Hall, Carolyn Abramovich; 30-Kay Budd, Mary Ann McCourt, Joan Loureiro, Mary Hart & Linda Mandala, Barbara Cribbs, Mary Vliek, Louise Lineman.

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Photo by Armann Rohde

**Annette Hodges, Mary Lamp, and Vickie Lentz planning for the club's March luncheon.**

**Shuffleboard**

Grace Rohde

Mary Lamp, Vickie Lentz, and Annette Hodges, social events committee chairpersons, have been busy planning and organizing for the celebration of our 30th year of the Shuffleboard Club, which will take place at our annual general meeting with luncheon. The event will be in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Thursday, March 9, at 11 a.m.

This year, we will have Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken cater the event. The club will provide a special dessert.

We, again, will have our 50/50 drawing. For entertainment, the Golden Troupers, will perform for us with their comedy skits and songs. Last, but not least, we will

have our favorite game of bingo for money prizes. Be prepared to watch your cards carefully, as you will be given different letters to form in order to win. But most of all come and enjoy the company of all the shuffleboard players.

Plan to visit our 30th anniversary special table, which will display the history of our Shuffleboard Club. Browse through the five albums of articles and photos from 1986 until present. In the latest album, check to see if you are in any of the pictures. Be sure to check out the memoirs album 1986-1987 through 1996-1997, which celebrates the 10th year of the club. This is the album where you will find articles and photos of our pioneer player, Jack Huard, affectionately named, "Mr. Shuffleboard," by his teammates.

The luncheon is free for all paid members. Be sure to reserve your spot with your captain. The deadline for sign-up, or opt out is Wednesday, Feb. 15. It is very important that if you want to attend for free, to sign up, as we need to know how many members we have to order and pay for. Likewise, it is very important that you cancel before the deadline if you find you cannot attend after all, because we are charged for every member who signed up even if they do not show up. We thank you for your cooperation. You may have a guest come; however, you will have to purchase a ticket for \$10 from your captain, for the cost of their meal.

Please help us fill the pantry by bringing canned food items for Interfaith Emergency Services. Your generous contribution will be very much appreciated.

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2016, 10 of our players went to Marion Landing for a shuffleboard match. Marion Landing won six games and On Top of the World won nine games. It was a nice get together to socialize and have fun by playing shuffleboard with a neighboring community.

The winners in December league play were:

**Men / Women**

Monday a.m.: Charlie Lentz / Annette Hodges.

Tuesday p.m.: Mario Migliaccio / Maxine Gayso Malone and Edith Kolb.

Friday a.m.: Roger Werner / Shirley Lindsay.

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**Horseshoe League**

Jim Russell

Stop by the Horseshoe League table at the Club Fair in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Thursday, Jan. 26. We hope to answer all of your questions and that you will join us each Tuesday, at 10 a.m. to have some fun and make some new friends.

The weather has been great so far this winter, making for an enjoyable couple of hours out in the fresh air and sunshine. We provide the horseshoes so you don't need to bring anything but yourself (and maybe a neighbor or two if you can talk them into it).

Our winter season play continues with an excellent turnout each Tuesday morning. Our starting time has shifted to 10 a.m. and will continue through the remainder of our winter season, which concludes on Tuesday, Feb. 28. We'll switch back to the 9 a.m. start time when the spring season starts on Tuesday, March 7.

The system we use to provide a level playing field amongst the range of skill levels seems to be



Photo by Jim Russell

**Members of the horseshoe travel team gather at the horseshoe complex for a match with The Villages "Green" team.**

working to perfection. Similar to a golf handicap, each player is assigned a "handicap" that reflects their relative skill level based on their performance each week. The more your scores improve, the lower your handicap goes.

As a result, we have very compet-

itive matches often decided by only a few points. Our system of drawing "chips" to determine which pit you will be playing on, which color shoes you will be throwing and who your opponent will be also works well and assures you will be playing with new opponents each

round.

Our travel team continues play in the Tri-County Horseshoe League after a brief holiday break. After our first five matches, which totals 45 games, our team has a 26 (wins) to 19 (losses) record, highlighted by a resounding eight games to one win over The Villages "Blue" team on their own turf.



**R/C Car Club**

Tom Seitz

For those of us who have been running a while, one of the questions is "How long is battery life?" A review of various available information results in more than one answer. Some say expected life is three years, while others indicate 300 or more charge cycles. However, all state that this depends on quality and usage. Proper charging, storage voltage and storage temperature will certainly assist in optimum life.

The heavy usage on our track and summer conditions can be hard on batteries. Some of the more reliable local sources suggest that under our usage and conditions a year or so of life is a reasonable expectation.

Information gleaned from a myriad of sources suggests the following indicates a battery is nearing end of life.

- The battery is taking much longer to balance charge, will not take a full charge, or will not balance to within 0.2 volt difference between cells.
- The run time of the battery is much reduced, or significant voltage dip is indicated by the ESC cutting out sooner than expected,
- One of the best indicators is internal resistance. A new battery usually measures two to five milliohms per cell.

Anything below 30 is acceptable, but if greater than 35 milliohms per cell, a battery is failing.

- A battery that is swollen or puffy and remains so when cool is a sign of impending doom.

A question is how to measure the internal resistance noted above. Some chargers will indicate this parameter. However if yours does not, an inexpensive "smart meter" is available that measures internal

resistance in addition to all the usual battery parameters.

For the newer member, the "helping hands" sessions have been rescheduled at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays to better fit into people's schedules. So if you need considerable assistance or just want advice on car set-up, come out Tuesday afternoon. It is also a good time for people who may be considering car racing to get information you may want.

Racing remains scheduled for 1 p.m. on Thursdays and Sunday, so

come out and join us! Spectators are always welcome and you may be surprised at how much fun it is! Join one of the most fun clubs at On Top of the World. You will find a friendly group who is happy to welcome a newcomer. Applications for the club are at the track, and we do all we can to encourage new members.

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**Fit Tips**

**Larry Robinson**  
(352) 387-3571  
larry\_robinson@otowfl.com

**No More Excuses!**

Staying healthy is always on my agenda, and I hope that you will make it part of yours. Although health and wellness is a very serious subject and plays a profound role in the quality of your life, I think it's always nice to see the humorous side of things. Here's a look at the lighter side of fitness and some of the funniest excuses I've come across over the years. I hope these keep you smiling and inspire you to keep moving!

1. Don't forget your brain needs exercise too. So spend lots of time making up excuses not to work out.
2. I wanted to work out but I wanted not to work out more.
3. I didn't go to the gym today but the cashier's name at MacDonald's was Jim, so ... same thing.
4. I do five sit-ups every morning. It might not sound like much but there are only so many times you can hit the snooze button.
5. So you have no time to work out? Tell me more about how you just reached level 251 in Candy Crush Saga.
6. "I don't have time to exercise" is the grown up's version of "the dog ate my homework."
7. The only exercise I get is jumping to conclusions.
8. Inside me there is a thin person struggling to get out, but I can usually sedate her with four or five cupcakes.
9. I've been hiding from exer-

Arbor Club Indoor Pool						
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6:00 AM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
7:00 AM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
8:00 AM	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
9:00 AM	Deep Water Aerobics*	Shallow Water Aerobics*	Deep Water Aerobics*	Shallow Water Aerobics*	Deep Water Aerobics*	Open
10:00 AM	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
10:30 AM	Water Walk	Water Walk	Closed for Cleaning	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
11:30 AM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 PM	Aqua Belles**	Open	Aqua Belles**	Open	Aqua Belles**	Open

Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Indoor pool closed for cleaning every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Outdoor pool closed for cleaning first Wednesday of every month  
\* One hour, fee-based class. \*\* One hour club activity.

Recreation Center Pool	
<small>Monday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to dusk. Closed for cleaning the last Wednesday of every month. Children permitted Monday through Friday, noon until dusk, all day Saturday, Sunday and holidays.</small>	

**Rules for Lap Swimming:** 1. Swimmers should swim on the line; 2. If lanes are full, share the lanes; 3. When sharing lanes, swimmers of matched speed should share a lane.

cise; I'm in the fitness protection program.  
10. If you want to get fit you have to give up only one thing ... your excuses!

**FIT TIP #1:** The best way to lose weight is by skipping ... skip the desserts, skip the snacks and skip the beer! If your goal is weight loss, managing your nutrition will be the most important factor.

**FIT TIP #2:** You can make excuses, or you can make changes! Start with light exercise that you are successful with and gradually build up your strength and endurance. See me if you need guidance to get started.

**FIT TIP #3:** You have time for things you prioritize. "I don't have time" translates into "It's not a priority." Priority management should include time to exercise and plan nutritious meals and snacks.



**Han Dong, instructor for KickButt KickBox (KBKB), awarding Barbara Roberts her second black band for attending over 400 KBKB classes.**



**Bocce**

**Micki Malsch**

This is how we roll! 120 members and their guests attended the annual Christmas luncheon, which was held on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016 in the Arbor Club. The Bocce Club board provided hot ham and turkey and members provided side

dishes and desserts. What an amazing array of food was provided by our members! No one left hungry, that's for sure!  
Special thanks to Lois Osis, Don and Joanne Oakes, Paul Beyer and Micki Malsch for all their help in making this annual event a huge success. A 50/50 raffle was held and the beautiful poinsettias that adorned the tables were raffled off as door prizes. Everyone left filled with good food and cheer!  
Volunteers are being sought to

work on plans for the banquet and the 2017 Christmas party. If you are interested, please contact Joe Bartosh at (608) 553-1602.  
Response to open bocce has been amazing! Open bocce is now played on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 9 a.m. and at 1:30 p.m. These are open play days and anyone who shows up can play. Teams are determined by the luck of the draw. This is your chance to watch and learn or play! Players are showing up very early to assure their spot to play. There is a sign-up sheet and the first 32 names on the sheet get to play. Please come early to sign up to assure your spot!  
We are always looking for members to substitute or join the league. We encourage you to stop by and see how the game is played and what fun we have. So please call and express your interest in playing! It's a lot of fun and you get

to make new friends! If you have an interest in playing on a team, please contact the Bocce Club President Joe Bartosh at (608) 553-1602. We may be able to start another league if enough people want it.  
The best of bocce play offs will be the week of April 25. League best of bocce will be on Tuesday, May 2. Open best of bocce will be on Thursday, May 4. The bocce league banquet will be on Friday, May 5.  
If you haven't signed a consent form or paid your dues of \$10, please make sure you see your team captain or league representative. Everyone who plays, even those who play open bocce, are required to sign a consent form and pay dues.  
For further information, please contact Joe Bartosh, president, Bocce Club at (608) 553-1602. Until we roll again ...

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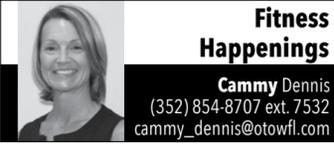
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**Fitness Happenings**

**Cammy Dennis**  
(352) 854-8707 ext. 7532  
cammy\_dennis@otowfl.com

**Qigong, New Mind-body Class**

Mind body classes continue to be a popular and important part of On top of the World's fitness programs. These classes, such as chair yoga, yoga, Tai Chi and now Qigong (pronounced CHEE-gung) bring awareness to uniting the mind and the body through movement. Regular participants in these classes share similar testimony: improved energy, strength, balance and the reduction of pain associated with arthritis. We are very excited to add Qigong to the mix of our current programming.

Similar to Tai Chi, Qigong is a series of slow, deliberate movements with an emphasis on breathing and elements of meditation. Unlike Tai Chi, Qigong is very easy to follow with no specific forms to learn. The movements are simple and repetitive. This enables everyone to find success with these exercises. The routines are not necessarily designed to burn calories or significantly elevate the heart rate. Qigong's focus is to improve circulation, balance, and alignment and provides a restorative quality to both your body and your mind. "Qi" or "chee" literally translated from Chinese medicine, represents "energy" or "life force."

Although Qigong's low-impact, moving meditations are perfect for older adults, beginners, and people with restrictive health conditions, what's surprising to many is that Qigong is also an excellent fitness activity for those who are very fit. This discipline teaches muscle control and balance and supports stress management; everyone benefits from these. The class is free; why not give the new Qigong class a try! Join instructor Art Stalbow at 9 a.m. on Thursdays at the Arbor Club. For more information, please call (352) 854-8707 ext. 7532.



**Bingo**

**Denise Johnson**

Welcome back everyone! The holidays are behind us and we all rang in 2017 with parties, good friends or just family time. It is time to get bingo into full swing and find some lucky players.

A few of the bingo volunteers got together in December, sorting through the cards. We did have some that were well worn. These have been donated elsewhere and new bingo cards are in circulation. I hope they bring good luck to anyone who plays one.

Mary won our \$150 jackpot on Wednesday, Jan. 11. Way to go! The games were worth \$40 each and there were many single winners. Lots of folks left wealthier that night.

We love seeing all the new faces coming to play with us. Tell your neighbors and see if they would want to try their luck.

Quick reminder, we sell cards from 5 to 5:45 p.m. The 70/30 door prizes are called and bingo starts at 6 p.m. Each card costs \$1. Please do not bring bills larger than a \$20. Cell phones must be on vibrate or turned off. We do have a break mid-way through and then finish between 8:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Don't forget that The Pub is open until 6 p.m. on bingo nights. Stop by for dinner or a snack before bingo. Hope to see you all next week, yelling bingo!

**On Top of the World NEWS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be e-mailed to otownews@otowfl.com by the 13th of the month.

**FITNESS SCHEDULE**

February 2017

Recreation Center Fitness Room					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:00 AM	Oxycise	Oxycise	Oxycise	Oxycise	Oxycise
8:00 AM	Zumba® Mix Madelyne	S.O.S. Jonathan	Wednesday Warrior Jessica	S.O.S. Jonathan	Dance Party Jessica
9:00 AM	Tai Chi Art	KBKB Han	Intro to Yoga Jessica	KBKB Han	Strength & Stretch Cammy
10:00 AM	Balanced Body Madelyne	Chair Yoga Kathy	Balanced Body Jessica	Chair Yoga Kathy	Balanced Body Madelyne
10:50 AM	S.O.S. Larry	S.O.S. Dara	S.O.S. Larry	S.O.S. Dara	S.O.S. Larry
11:45 AM	Get Fit While You Sit Kitti	Golden Oldies Groove Madelyne	Get Fit While You Sit Kitti	Golden Oldies Groove Madelyne	Get Fit While You Sit Madelyne
1:00 PM		Fitness Orientation**		Balance Assessment**	
5:00 PM		Intro to Yoga Kathy	S.O.S. Linda		

Recreation Center Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 8 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 5 PM

Recreation Center Ballroom					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10:45 AM	Zumba® Gold Kitti		Zumba® Gold Kitti		Zumba® Gold Madelyne

Arbor Club					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM Indoor Pool	Deep Water * Larry	Shallow Water * Barb	Deep Water * Larry	Shallow Water * Barb	HIIT Deep* Larry
9:00 AM Ballroom				Qi Gong Art	
9:15 AM Ballroom/ Fitness Studio	Yoga* Barb Anne		Hatha Yoga* Barb Anne		Yoga* Mary
10:00 AM Indoor Pool		Shallow Water * Barb		Shallow Water * Barb	
10:00 AM Ballroom				Intro to Tai Chi Art	
11:00 AM Fitness Studio				Tai Chi Joint Health* Art	

\* Denotes fee-based class.

\*\* Fitness center orientations and balance assessments are free. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534 to reserve your spot.

❖ ❖ FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS ❖ ❖  
"Zumba Love" on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 11:45 AM in the Recreation Fitness Center



Art Stalbow joined by participants for the first Qigong class at On Top of the World.

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**R/C Flyers**

Gary Bayless

Look for the airplane display at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 26. If you are interested in the hobby there will be members on hand to answer your questions and provide encouragement. Also keep Saturday, April 22 open for the next fly-in at the flying field. All residents are welcome. Food will be available and there will be some special flying demonstrations around noon.

You realize this month's featured member Dave Alchin is a model builder first and an R/C Flyer second when viewing his scratch built quarter scale 1971 "Super Ariston" runabout speedboat, which though unfinished after 10 years of work, is museum quality. That aside, Dave could reasonably be referred to as Mr. Glider. He has flown, built, and talked gliders ever since his arrival in On Top of the World. A recent visit to his well-appointed workshop revealed several mammoth gliders under construction and a collection of awards testify to his building and glider-flying prowess.

His projects of late include promoting "Glider Night" (really glider evening) every second Thursday of the month. The creation of an inter-club newsletter focused among other things on building tips, and

you guessed it, gliders, as well as mentoring a new member to the flying club in the joys of building and (you guessed it again) gliders.

Dave points out that most of the glider action here isn't the pure "unpowered" type but instead an electric motor is used to get the glider to an adequate height after which the object is to sustain flight for a specific time and then land as close as possible to a predetermined spot. Of course many flights are just for fun searching for the same thermal updrafts you see our Florida buzzards circling in on a warm day.

The other side of Dave is his interesting life story. As a boy, he often shared a backyard bomb shelter with his grandmother during the London blitz of 1940 and was later evacuated as were millions of children during World War II, and spent the rest of the war with a family in the English village of Daventry. After learning and working in the metal working trade as a young man, he immigrated to Australia in 1980 working some months in a uranium mine and again immigrated to California in 1980 where he lived for the next 30 plus years managing his business of refurbishing antique car parts for the well-heeled collectors competing in, among other events, the "Concours d' Elegance" at Pebble Beach, the super bowl of car collecting. He and his wife Diane arrived in On Top of the World in July 2015 and Dave has been a fixture at the flying field ever since wearing his ever present brightly colored Hawaiian shirt, plumed straw hat, and yes, flying a glider!



Photo by Gary Bayless

**Dave Alchin is a model builder first and an R/C Flyer second.**

**EMERGENCY AFTER-HOURS  
PHONE NUMBER**  
(352) 236-6869



**Pickleball**

Bill Daugherty

Pickleball is alive, well and growing. An "Introduction to Pickleball" class will take place on Thursday, Feb. 16 at 9 a.m. This class covers safety, rules and general how to play, with a strong application on where you are on the court when playing. Remember, only court

shoes are allowed.

If you have three or four friends who would like to learn the game, let me know and we'll arrange a class at a time to be determined. A small class is fun with fewer distractions.

For anyone interested in playing singles I will hold an introduction class on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 9 a.m. Singles is a lot of fun and guaranteed to get your heart beating faster. It is open to tennis players.

Play hard, have fun and make friends.

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**Sidekicks Western Dance**

Hannah Cole

We hope everyone had a blast ringing and dancing in the New Year! John and I had to miss the party, but we are sure you all danced the night away.

2017 is bringing a few changes to our schedule. We have a change in time for Sunday's practices. Practices will now start at 5 p.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. The 5 to 6 p.m. hour will focus on the beginners, and the last half hour from 6 to 6:30 p.m. will include the more advanced dancers.

Carla and Tony should be there by 4:45 p.m. in case there are any beginners who want some extra help with any dances or steps. Again, they are giving us their time and knowledge without compensation. Aren't we lucky to have them? Our Tuesday hours will remain

the same so the beginners can dance from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. and the advanced dancers can trip the light fantastic from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. Allan Rickards has posted all changes to the website at [patterndancers.wix.com/side-kicks](http://patterndancers.wix.com/side-kicks), where you can see all schedules, dances, and events.

As always with any place on earth, there are exceptions. On Tuesday, March 14, we will host our St. Patrick's Day party, a potluck dinner, from 5 to 8 p.m. This will be our big party with guest dancers from Stone Creek. On Tuesday, May 2, 2017, we will have our big end-of-the-dance year bash with a catered dinner from 5 to 8 p.m.

The other changes are that on certain occasions there will be no dancing because the ballroom is unavailable. These dates are as follows: Sunday, Feb. 12; Tuesday, March 21; Sunday, March 26; Sunday, April 2; and Sunday, April 30, 2017.

Everything is subject to change. Anyway, in 2017, dance like it is your last chance!



**Dancin' On the Top**

Arlo Janssen

All those attending the New Year's Eve dance held at the Recreation Center Ballroom had a great time. Automatic Duo with Ameer Reese played some great music, and we drank some champagne toasts to finish the old year.

The first dance in 2017 will be held on Saturday, Feb. 18 and will feature music from Retro Express.

Dancin' On the Top has completed the dance calendar for the rest of 2017. The Saturday, April 22 dance will feature Automatic Duo and the theme is "A Night at the Races." The Saturday, Sept. 23 dance will feature the Starburst band and will have a theme of "Come Fly With Me." The Saturday,

Nov. 18 dance will have a theme of "Fall Fantasy." Our big New Year's Eve party on Sunday, Dec. 31 will feature the band Retro Express.

Dancin' On the Top is working on future dance dates for 2018. If you want to help out in any way with our dances, please contact Gene Melnick at the number listed below.

There are other opportunities to dance here at On Top of the World. In February, the weekly Friday night Happy Hour will be held in the Recreation Center Ballroom except for Friday, Feb. 10 when it will move to the Arbor Club Ballroom for one night. Guest fees apply to anyone not having a resident I.D. There is also dancing outdoors at The Town Square every Friday and Saturday, from 6 to 9 p.m.

For membership or ticket information about our dances, please contact Gene Melnick at (352) 304-8293 or Peggy Sayat at (352) 509-7400.



**Ballet Club**

Eugenie Martin

In January, the Ballet Club participated in the Health & Wellness Expo on Saturday, Jan. 21. We demonstrated several ballet routines on the Circle Square Cultural Center stage.

On Thursday, Jan. 26, we will have a table at the Club Fair in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Stop by and say hello!

Now, we are back to our regular schedule of classes:

- Beginner: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to noon; Fridays, noon to 1 p.m.
- More advanced: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 to 2:15

p.m.  
• Fusion Floor Barre: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon.

New participants are always welcome to join our classes. No previous experience is necessary, but we do have classes for those who have done ballet in the past. To start, all you need are some exercise clothes, socks and a bottle of water. The same is also true of the Floor Barre class, except that you might also want to bring a small pillow or rolled towel to place under your neck.

If you want to join us, it is best to call me at (352) 854-8589 in advance. That way, we can discuss your experience and interests, and help you decide which class or classes might be best for you. I look forward to hearing from you. Happy dancing!



**Line Dancing**

Nancy Carmack

We are all happy to be back in full swing with our dance classes and practice sessions after having a short break during the holidays. Our practice sessions are very successful and helpful, thanks to our leaders. It is amazing how we may forget part of a dance after not having danced it for several weeks. Most of us who really love this hobby feel the need to attend the practice sessions to keep as up-to-date as possible with both old and new dances.

All dance classes are on Mondays. All practice sessions are on Wednesdays, starting at 9 a.m. for intermediate led by Nancy Car-

mack; 10 a.m. for improvers led by Rose O'Rourke, Kathy Petrosky, and Freddie Sharpe; 11 a.m. for beginner II led by Kathy Petrosky and Rose O'Rourke; noon for beginner I led by George Augur and Bob Stockli; and 1 p.m. for the absolute beginner led by Patty Hainzl and Kathy Petrosky.

Our monthly dance will be on Thursday, Feb. 9, and we will be celebrating Valentine's Day.

We also dance at Happy Hour on Friday evenings in the Recreation Center and at The Town Square on Friday and Saturday nights.

Line dancing with all our friends is so much fun. As our friend, George, always said, "Get in line and step when the drum goes thump."

For detailed information, please contact Marilyn McNeal for beginner and improver classes at (352) 804-1546 or Nancy Carmack for the intermediate class at (352) 533-8870.

**On Top of the World NEWS**  
**UPCOMING PUBLICATION**  
March Issue  
Thursday, March 2, 2017

**Good Times Travel**  
Contact Marlene Kaiser (resident) for information & reservations.  
**843-4133**  
marlenekaiser@yahoo.com

**MOTOR COACH TRIPS**  
**April 2017:** 7 days/6 nights to Tunica "Casino Capital of the South" and Memphis "Home of the Blues."  
**September 2017:** 9 days/8 nights to Chicago (my hometown!)



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**Stamp Club**

Joe Rosinski

Welcome to the monthly news of the General Francis Marion Stamp Club. We're a group who share an affinity for the hobby of stamp collecting and any other items involved in what is known as philately. Every collector in the club seems to have a different favorite aspect of the hobby to collect.

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Some of us have been collecting since childhood while others are just starting to get their feet wet. There is a wide range of knowledge in our membership and all are more than willing to share their specific favorite interests with anyone. Stop in at one of our meetings and join in on the conversation. Dues are a real bargain at \$6 annually.

I mentioned in one of my previous columns that the holiday season was a time when stamp collectors reap the benefits of the U.S. Postal Service, especially from those who use the snail mail system to send greeting cards to family and friends. If we could only get the Postal Service to handle the mail in a more professional manner. There are a number of holiday stamps that would make nice additions to our collections, however,

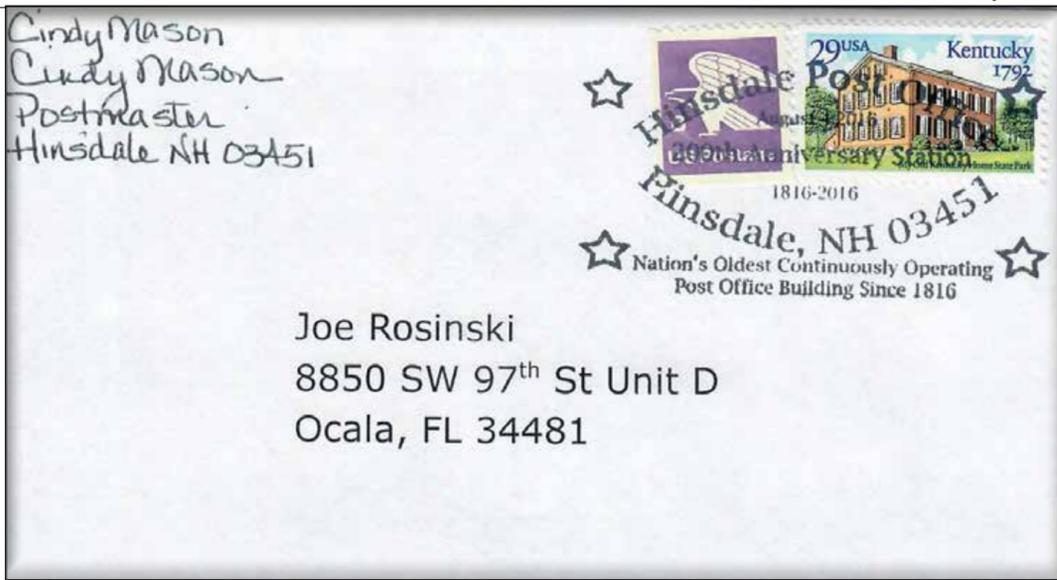


Photo by Joe Rosinski

**Commemorative cover from Hinsdale, N.H.**

The Postal Service continues to use spray-on cancels that leave a big black blob on the stamp, thereby making it unidentifiable. If the cancellation doesn't ruin the stamp, the machines that sort the mail often either tear the stamp or rip it off the envelope entirely. These actions make the stamps virtually useless to the collector.

I acquired a cover from a small town named Hinsdale in the state of New Hampshire as a result of

an article in the Star Banner that referred to the town's post office building. The article went on to state that the town was commemorating the 200th anniversary of the post office building, the nation's oldest continuously operating post office building in 2016. The postmaster, Cindy Mason, offered to provide a special cancellation for any self-addressed stamped envelope sent to her, and also signed each envelope. I took advantage of

her offer and had this neatly prepared envelope in about two weeks. An unusual item to add to my collection.

Our meetings are held at the Bank of the Ozarks at the entrance to On Top of the World on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. and the second Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Freedom Library. This Tuesday meeting may be cancelled at times due to other happenings at the library. Send me an e-mail in advance at rosinski-joe@gmail.com and I will provide you with any information that I have.

Just a reminder to anyone who would like to join us for a Wednesday meeting, please park in the parking lot on the side of the bank building or in the Winn-Dixie parking lot adjacent to the bank. The group starts gathering for the Wednesday meetings at noon and no earlier.

If you have any stamps or other items you would like to get rid of, stop by one of our meetings. We have a monthly auction on the third Wednesday of the month and get some unique items that come to the auction block. We can offer your items for sale to the highest bidder. We charge a 15-percent commission for all sales.



**Bunco Babes Social Group**

Micki Malsch

The Bunco Babes Social Group plays bunco in the Arbor Confer-

ence Center, Suite E. Registration is at 6:45 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m. Although we are bunco babes, bunco dudes are invited too! Husbands do accompany their wives and play too!

The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Feb. 28.

If you have never played before,

come see what fun we have rolling the dice in this game of luck (no skill required)! The game is easy and only requires rolling three dice and moving to the next table at the end of game play. We have had many new people show up who had never played the game before. By the end of the night, they were pros!

The cost is \$3 per person and all monies collected are returned at the end of the game to the category winners. You may bring a small snack for sharing and your own beverage.

Come join in the fun and make new friends! For more information, please call Micki Malsch at (352) 861-8790. See you there!

[ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala)

**CURBSIDE LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PICK-UP SCHEDULE**

Monday*	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Americana Village</li> <li>Friendship Village</li> <li>Friendship Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friendship Colony</li> <li>Candler Hills**</li> <li>Indigo East**</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avalon</li> <li>Providence 1 and 2</li> <li>Williamsburg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crescent Ridge/Green</li> <li>Renaissance Park</li> <li>Windsor</li> </ul>

\* Due to volumes, pick-up may extend into Tuesday  
\*\* Begins at 7:30 a.m.

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## Let Us Entertain You

By Bill Shampine

The New Pretenders will present their annual show to residents on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10 and 11, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 12,

at 3 p.m. Most of the reserved seat tickets are gone, but there still are plenty of general admission seats available. If you have never been to

one of our shows, you really don't want to miss this one.

Some people think that our shows are the same every year, but that is not correct. The show is completely different every year. If a song is especially funny and well received, we may repeat it, but not

until after five to eight years have lapsed. Our music selection also flits over the years, ranging this year from songs written from the 1960s to the 1980s, with a concentration of songs from the '50s and '60s.

Our shows also give you a chance to see some of your friends and neighbors like you have never seen them before. Our residents have an amazing array of talent. Most of our performers have never done anything like this before, but they offer a fantastic performance. If you are tired of seeing the same old folks on stage, you need to know that we have nine new, extremely talented members this year!

Tickets for our performances are available in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 to 10 a.m. We continue to offer reserved seats for \$8 and general admission seats for \$6. Going to the Ballroom also gives you a chance to meet some of The New Pretenders. We look forward to seeing you there.

The New Pretenders are actively seeking a few new people to join the troupe, particularly men. If you think you might be interested in joining us, or would like to get more information about what would be involved, please contact Nancy Grabowski at (352) 873-4315. We would love to chat with you.



Photo by Lennie Rodoff

Lewis Rooks, Pat Biggers, Joe Wood, and Edie Dieckman singing "In the Mood" in the 2016 performance by The New Pretenders.

## It's Show Time

By Bob Woods  
World News Writer

Three fantastic shows will grace the Circle Square Cultural Center stage in February.

### Beginnings: The Ultimate Tribute to Chicago

Friday, Feb. 10

This band is like no other comprising of professional musicians encompassing multi-instruments and multi-lead vocalists. The depth of this band's talents is focused on the band Chicago who have been performing songs for more than 40 years. Some songs that will surely be performed are part of Chicago's top 10 songs such as "25 or 6 to 4," "Beginnings," "Make Me Smile," "Saturday in the Park," "Free," and many more. Beginnings will bring to life music by Chicago recreating every decade of the band's hits.

### Opera Tampa

Sunday, Feb. 19

Opera Tampa singers are young, talented professionals on the cusp of major singing careers. They will inspire and entertain you with mu-

sical favorites. Doors open at 1 p.m. and show begins at 2 p.m. Limit two free tickets per household. No online tickets available. Tickets must be picked up at the Circle Square Cultural Center box office during normal business hours.

### 7 Bridges: The Ultimate Eagles Experience

Friday, Feb. 24

7 Bridges is classified as an Eagles tribute band. This group uses no backing tracks or harmonizers recreating the Eagles in concert during the band's most famous years. 7 Bridges performs a blend of songs capturing all phases of the Eagles such as "Hotel California," "Take it Easy," "Desperado," "New Kid in Town," "Tequila Sunrise," "Life in the Fast Lane," and many more hits.

To purchase tickets, stop by the Circle Square Cultural Center ticket office at 8395 SW 80th Street or go online to [csculturalcenter.com](http://csculturalcenter.com).

Let's watch the lights dim as the curtain rises. It's show time!



Beginnings: The Ultimate Tribute to Chicago



Opera Tampa



7 Bridges

## Beyond Painting ...

By Anne Merrick

The Art Group is looking forward to new and exciting art creations in 2017 starting with Vera Mangold's work. She not only paints but sculpts as well. Her sculptures are made from paper rather than traditional papier-mâché and were inspired by an artist in Jupiter, Fla. who had some works that were several feet tall. Vera also took a class in clay sculpting and liked it.

Wanting to work at home she tried plaster of Paris impregnated cloth, which served as an armature upon which layers of torn, colored paper could be applied using Elmer's glue. She made a series of pieces including an elephant, giraffe, horses, lion, cow, female nude and a standing dancer, influenced by Edgar Degas' "Little Dancer" that was 18 inches tall.

Vera and husband, Gene, are originally from south Texas. After retiring in Corpus Christi, Texas in 2000, they moved with their Morgan Out Island 41-foot sailboat to Stuart, Fla. so that they could sail up the east coast and down island without having to cross the Gulf of Mexico first. They gave up long-

distance sailing about 10 years ago and Vera began to study art.

They moved to On Top of the World four months ago for the wonderful activities, lifelong learning, R/C flying for Gene and tennis for Vera.

She has had fun working on the figures in the photo in the art group gatherings. These three pieces were given color with colored paper, no paint or plaster cloth was used, two pipe cleaners for the legs of the pony and paper only for the Santa. Both are freestanding. The tennis player has a flat wire structure from head to toe with the wire embedded in a small pad of cement to give weight to the base. Vera is inspired to do more paper sculpting and you will see her in the Art Studio at the Hobby Building.

You can also use paper, spackling compound and plaster cloth on your canvas to give dimension to your work. It is fun to get your hands involved with the creation; like being a messy kid again.

One of the great things about our group is the number of creative ideas we get from talking to and watching each other as we make our own creations. You never know when an idea will click or trigger one of your own original ideas although I suspect that whatever we think is original has already been done before.

Our annual art show at Master

the Possibilities had many different mediums with 15 members each showing one of their paintings or drawings. We had a small but fun reception on Wednesday, Jan. 11.

We hope you will come next year when we do it all again.

Meet with us on Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon.



Photo by Anne Merrick

Paper sculptures by Vera Mangold.



**Concert Chorus**

Patricia Woodbury

The Concert Chorus hopes you have marked your calendar for Saturday April 1, at 7 p.m. or Sunday, April 2, at 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom for our performance of "The Sensational Sixties." We are working hard to bring you a concert that you will enjoy.



Photo by Bill Shampine  
**Michele Bennett**

The 1960s produced some of the best music of all time. Even today it is listened to not only by the 60s generation but by our children and grandchildren. Oldies stations playing the 60s are popping up everywhere. The music is as popular today as it was when we were kids.

The music of the 60s generation had rock, instrumentals, love songs, surfing music, and songs of protest, hilarious and crazy songs. The 60s generation of music set the stage for music to come. Others have remade countless songs from the 60s. Television commercials used the recordings to sell their products. Movies such as "Dirty

Dancing" and "American Graffiti" immortalized a period of our history. We will enchant you with songs from the Beach Boys, the Beatles and songwriters like Pete Seeger.

Our featured member this month is Michele Bennett. Michele is from Rockville Centre, N.Y. She attained her Master of Arts degree in Nursing Administration. She worked for 35 years in the New York Medical Center as a clinical nurse specialist in orthopedics. Michele moved to On Top of the World in May 2014.

In the past, she has sung in high school and college choirs. She also sang in the Messiah at Avery Fisher Hall. Michele says she has always

enjoyed singing all types of music. She is a real asset to the tenor section of the Concert Chorus. She also plays a very important role as member-at-large on the board and also is our historian. Michele is always willing to help when there is work to do.

The Concert Chorus meets every Tuesday, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Arbor Club Ballroom. So come and check us out, you might like it. If you think you would be interested in joining the chorus, please contact David Wesenberg, president, at (217) 280-4454 or Emery Bjerkmann, vice president, at (352) 873-9032.



**Sunshine Quilters**

Arliss Day

The Sunshine Quilters are planning on lots of classes and sewing projects for the coming months. Here's a sample of what's coming up. Our monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 10 a.m. After the meeting, we are going to

clean out our cupboards! Oh yippee!

Tekla's demonstration on the Irish chain design for a full size quilt will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 14. On Tuesday, Feb. 21, we will continue learning how to do the Irish chain quilt. On Tuesday, Feb. 28, there will be a sit and sew.

Group sewing begins at 9:30 a.m. We are in the Art Studio in the Hobby Building every Tuesday. We were lucky enough to get some more quilt donations this month from Ramona Moore. Thank you Ramona!

Just to let new folks know, we

welcome everyone to join our fun group. If you want to learn how to make quilts, wall hangings or just how to sew a straight seam any of us will be glad to show you how. We have sewing machines that you use if you don't have one.

Our main goal is to help the needy children in Marion County and we provide charity quilts throughout the year for them. Your help and continuing support in this worthwhile project is greatly appreciated. Please call Rhonda Wilder at (916) 764-0450 if you have any questions or need additional information.

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**Artistic Crafts & Gifts**

Barbara Lingis

On Dec. 13, 2016, we had our drawing for the items donated by our crafters for the customer appreciation drawing. Many of our customers who were present for the drawing were asked to select a ticket for each of the beautiful items on the table. There were approximately 27 names drawn for the various gifts.

The following is a list of some of those winners: Kathy Smyth, Sue Kelly, Nancy Backmann, Marsha Schneer, Sandy Voight, Colleen Schroder, Therese Bell, Phyllis Pastore, Mary Wilcox, Mike Kuchakousky,

Donna Wertz, Jan Zelenka, Melinda Ammate, Jill Carel, Dee Carter, Gail Hopkins, Barbara Seton, Carolyn Meader, Carol Dewitt, Nancy Bolte, Sara Kuhl, Carolyn Hancock, Rhonda Wilder, Gladys Cotto, Kathy Nieko and Diane McLaughlin.

We would like to congratulate these winners and thank them and all those customers who participated in the drawing and all those who attended our craft fair each Tuesday. Hopefully this will be a yearly event.

We invite everyone to attend our weekly craft fair on Tuesdays, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Recreation Center Ballroom. Come see the many crafts made by your local neighbors and friends.

If you are interested in joining our craft club, please contact Rene Beck at (352) 854-4918. See you soon.

**Hoofin' It for Hospice**

By Bob Woods  
World News Writer

The 17th annual Hoofin' It for Hospice event will take place on Saturday, March 18. This is a benefit walk that raises funds for Hospice of Marion County's Legacy House.

Registration will take place at 9 a.m. at the Recreation Center. The leisurely walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. All participants are winners as there are no rewards for finish placements in this event as partici-

pants walk the prescribed marked route at their own pace.

There will be golf carts with volunteers patrolling the route aiding those who get tired or can't finish. The event coordinator is Valerie Sanders and she can be reached at (352) 873-8605 for additional information. More information will be published in the March edition of the World News.

**FEBRUARY SPECIALS & EVENTS**

Every Monday in February from 4 - 8 pm  
**2 for \$20 Dinner**  
Includes soup or salad.

February 14th from 4 - 8 pm  
**Valentine's Day**  
Special limited menu includes dessert. Reservations are recommended.

Wednesdays only from 4 - 8 pm  
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Restrictions apply - one coupon per ticket. Expires 2/28/17

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The Encore Collaborative Theatre Club is excited to announce that we have been given permission to put on an adaptation of "The Golden Girls Move to The Villages." This 2016 original play was written by Sharon "Squirt" Spivey James and June Osteen and was directed by Carol Azzorone-Onuschak. It has been sold out and has delighted

audiences in The Villages at every performance.

Our performance of "The Golden Girls Move to On Top of the World" will take place in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Saturday, April 29, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 30, at 2 p.m.

We have temporarily moved our performance of "Bon Voyage Blues" to our Oct. 7 and 8 slots due to the commitment schedule of our new director of music. "Bon Voyage Blues" is a musically infused play that will require Harry's expertise. Harry Boyajain has recently joined our club and we are very blessed to

have him and his talent added to our company.

We still have four to five minor parts to fill - mostly male, one female. So if you want to get the chance to act but don't like the idea of learning a lot of lines or being on stage longer than you are comfortable, have we got the part for you! Please contact Judy Gill at (954) 805-0876 or thecruisejenie@aol.com for casting.

Please contact Lynn Miller at (352) 438-3354 or Lynniemiller@aol.com for membership information. Membership is always open and we welcome anyone who is in-

terested in being part of our crazy creative group. Please put Encore in the subject line so you do not end up in a spam folder.

Please join us and our new president of Encore Brenda Elliott in our effort to bring laughter and joy through the theater medium. If you saw our last play "Dancing Beneath a Paper Sky" you are sure to enjoy participating in or watching "The Golden Girls Move to On Top of the World." Brenda played Edie and will be playing ... drum roll, please ... Sophia who is Dorothy's mom and the resident older old lady who is quick with the quips and hails from Sicily.



Correction! Our spring "Path to Talent" showcase is to be performed on Saturday, March 25, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 26 at 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center (not 24th and 25th as previously announced).

We continue to be entertained by our local community residents, giving us numerous acts to be considered for our show. In addition, our Monday, Feb. 13 open casting call, our final opportunity for resident participation, is quickly filling up with residents who will be trying

out, after which final performers will be selected for presenting their acts in our "Path to Talent" showcase event.

We have determined that for this spring's events, admission is free, along with an invitation to contribute toward the funding of our long-standing scholarship, after expenses, for a promising student selected each year from the theater department at College of Central Florida.

For our residents or Gateway of Services pass holders interested in participating, please contact Gary Rodoff at (352) 291-7508 or grodoff@earthlink.net or attend one of our meetings - you do not need to be a member of our group, but we certainly would love to have you join.

You will be pleasantly surprised

at the level of talent residing in your community. We continue to solicit these acts which we think would make our show even more enjoyable:

- Ballroom, round, square, line, tap/soft-shoe, aerobics, Zumba, samba, western dancers, etc.
- Instrumentals, solos, duets, ensemble, chorus singers or audience sing-along (piano, keyboard, guitar, karaoke backing tracks, etc.).
- Barbershop or sweet Adeline quartet.
- Karaoke performances (equipment provided).
- Magician/assistant, clown acts/ ventriloquist - either with a real dummy or human dummy.
- Stand-up comedian or co-

medic skits, acting skits or other (the possibilities seem endless).

Please review our monthly columns and our newest "Path to Talent" showcase flyers, which will be posted soon throughout our community at various venues announcing our spring shows.

Our final open casting call on Monday, Feb. 13 is as noted above at 7 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. If you do not wish to perform, please attend and help us make our performers feel appreciated for their efforts. You may bring a light snack if you wish to share with our attendees (coffee and tea are furnished). Please contact Dick Phillips at (352) 861-0779 or dick.phillips@reagan.com if you have any questions.



"Samson and Delilah" will be shown on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 1 p.m. in Meeting Room #3 in the Hobby Building. We look forward to your attendance!

The Opera Appreciation Class will then meet again on Thursday, March 2, at 1 p.m. in Meeting Room #3 in the Hobby Building for "Nabucco," a Verdi opera.

Giuseppe Verdi was born in Le Roncole, Italy, on Oct. 10, 1813, during the Napoleonic Wars. The young lad showed interest in music, especially after his parents bought him a used spinet. Verdi's father sent his young son to live with a merchant's family in nearby Busseto where young Giuseppe had the opportunity to have a job in the grocery business and to study with the organist of the Busseto Cathedral. Verdi made great strides, so much so, that on an occasion when the organist did not show for some reason, young Giuseppe took over and the audience was greatly impressed. He got involved in directing the orchestra of Busseto and composed some marches and tunes to be played by the band of Busseto. The citizens were so impressed by the potential of Verdi that they took up a collection to send him to

study at the Conservatory of Milan.

In 1832, at the age of 19, Verdi went off to Milan but was met with disappointment. The Conservatory would not accept him since he was too old and the board did not think he showed sufficient skill. What Verdi did do was to study with Vincenzo Lavigna.

In 1833, he went back to Busseto, because he hoped to get the position of organist at the Cathedral of Busseto. The job was already filled but Verdi did succeed in his quest, which was to marry Margherita Barezzi, the daughter of the friend of Verdi's father. In 1836, he married Margherita and gained an appointment as conductor of the Philharmonic Society.

In 1839, Verdi and his family of three moved to Milan to try to ad-

vance his career as a composer. He brought with him the manuscript of his first opera, "Oberto." He succeeded in seeing "Oberto" produced by La Scala and score a mild success. He received a contract from La Scala for three more operas and Ricordi agreed to publish the new opera by the unknown Verdi.

The first of the three operas that Verdi had contracted to compose was a comic opera, which was only the second for Verdi. Finally, the opera, "Un Giorno di Regno," was staged by La Scala and was a disaster. The director of La Scala did not give up on him and presented Verdi with a new libretto. This opera, "Nabucco," was staged at La Scala on March 9, 1842, and was a great success making it possible for Verdi to receive the highest fee for his

next opera, "I Lombardi."

On Thursday, March 2, we will study "Nabucco" from the Teatro Municipale di Piacenza of 2004. The cast is young, very talented and does a great job of showing why this was Verdi's breakout opus.

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OTOW FAVORITES

**FEB. 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
CHARLIE THE PARTY

**FEB. 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
OTOW FAVORITES

**FEB. 18<sup>TH</sup>**  
DEBBIE OWEN & TONY T

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University of Northwestern College choir will provide a free concert on Tuesday, March 7.

## Choir Concert

By Glo Hutchings

Come and enjoy the beautiful singing of the University of Northwestern College choir from St. Paul, Minn. on Tuesday, March 7 in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 7 p.m. The 57-member choir will perform a wide variety of exceptional choral music as well as beautiful hymns and spirituals. This concert is free to all residents. Please come and support these young talented performers.

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Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr

Our presenters for Thursday, Jan. 19 were sisters, Dorothy Pratt and Rita Rehpohl. The cards were perfect for Valentine's Day but could be reconfigured for other occasions. We thank Rita and Dorothy for their presentation and sharing of their ideas.

Anyone can be a presenter - and the cards do not have to be fancy or complicated. Our group is based on friendship, socializing and helping each other!

Our group is open to all crafters, beginners or those more experienced. One or two people do a presentation each month. The group usually meets the first and third Thursdays of the month, unless



Photo by Rita Rehpohl

### Cards presented by sisters, Dorothy and Rita.

the demonstrator requests other arrangements. There are basic supplies that are needed, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and card stock. Everyone in the group shares their supplies and everyone brings new ideas to the table. You are only

limited by your imagination!

If you feel this might be a class you would enjoy, please call Kathy at (352) 237-6439. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin'!



Sewing Bees

Linda Lohr

Hope your New Year is moving right along! All of us in the hive know we are working away every week, making all our different items. But it isn't until the end of the year that we stop and count up the number of items we have made. And wow! We made a total of 2,008 items in 2016! Unbelievable! This figure includes 511 quilts plus some specialty items - hand puppets and baby doll blankets.

The Bees got a real treat the Saturday after Thanksgiving 2016 - John Marvin, Steve Schneer and Jim Russell used their many talents to clean, oil and repair our machines where needed! What a great job

they did and we are very thankful for their help.

On Thursday, Jan. 12, 28 Bees gathered in The Pub for our Christmas luncheon and grab bag. All had a great time and we thank Rita Miller for making the arrangements.

Our mission is to provide comfort for the abused, abandoned, and neglected children of Marion County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop

by our hive on any Thursday in the Art Studio, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. We would be happy to show you our creations made with love for the children. You may find our club is just what you have been looking for to round out your week.

Please contact Louise Green at (352) 629-1195, or Rita Miller (352) 237-6660 for more information. As always, the children and we thank you for all your support.



Photo by Linda Lohr

### Detail of a boy's quilt.

**TICKETS ON SALE!**

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<p><b>DITCHFIELD FAMILY PATRIOTIC SHOW</b> TheDitchfieldFamilySingers.com Resident: \$10-12   Non-Resident: \$12-14</p>	

**FREE EVENTS**  
 Feb. 18 - Home Improvement Expo  
 Mar. 25 - Hands Across the Highway Art Show  
 Oct. 14 - Craft Show

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Photo by ShutterBug Dale Gray



Photo by ShutterBug Connie Filip

Eagle pose in Gainesville, Fla.

Momma lion wakes (Botswana).



"Tread lightly, and shoot from the heart."

We find animals fascinating. Whether wild or a much-loved pet, capturing a moment of connection with our camera should be a primary goal. There's magic out there - stories, emotions, a state of mind, just waiting for us to discover!

Here's the photographic story behind this month's photos:

- Dale caught this eagle-eyed shot on a ShutterBugs field trip to Gainesville. She says our trips are a great way to find shots. Gotta love those eyes!
- On a recent photo safari to Africa, I caught this lioness just waking from her siesta. She looks so mellow and satisfied in the warm afternoon light.

Here are a few more tips from Outdoor Photography magazine for shooting animals ... whether in your home, backyard or halfway around the globe:

1. Be unobtrusive and non-threatening - it's best if the animal forgets you're there. Try to catch natural behavior.
2. Look to capture certain qualities: nobility, affection, and playfulness. Maybe you'll see just the simple joy of being alive. There's a story waiting to be captured.
3. Be ready for fast movement (check your shutter speed) and always think about the angle of the light. While normally the light should be behind you, you can experiment with side lighting or backlighting to emphasize detail, texture or form.

If you'd like to see more photo safari "captures," ShutterBugs is sponsoring a display of 20 of my photos from Africa in the Master the Possibilities lobby all this month.

In addition, I'm offering an opportunity for you to vicariously experience the wilds of Africa. My Master the Possibilities seminar will feature photos and movies on Tuesday, Feb. 21 starting at 1 p.m. It's free to members.

We have a rotating photography display at Freedom Library. Check it out on your next visit.

We have a new photography DVD teaching program called "Learn & Master Photography" by Vince Wallace. It's a 24-lesson package. Stop in and learn along with us!

Our next trip will be to Tarpon Springs on Tuesday, Feb. 7. See their website at spongedocks.net/ for more information. For up-to-date information on upcoming trips visit our club's website at otowspc.com

Our normal monthly club schedule:

- First Tuesday: Morning field trip.
- Second Tuesday: Instructional DVD.
- Third Tuesday: Photo sharing activities.
- Fourth Tuesday: Guest speaker or DVD.

Want to learn more about digital? Stop in at the ShutterBugs' Tuesday meeting. We start at 3 p.m. in Suites B and C of the Arbor Conference Center. Or contact Gary Uhley at (352) 854-8536 or guhley@cfl.rr.com.

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**Travel Toppers**

Inge Gaitch

As this newspaper goes to press, a group of travelers is preparing for Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas cruise to Labadee, Haiti; Falmouth, Jamaica; and Cozumel, Mexico. We wish everyone a fantastic journey on this beautiful ship. What a wonderful way to spend Valentine's Day!

The Travel Toppers' board of directors has been busy planning for trips not only for 2017 but also for 2018. A wide variety of day excursions have been planned with other options being explored. Two overseas cruises have been planned and other venues are under consideration. All trips are open to residents only and their guests.

There are two day trips that still have seats available. The trip to the Show Palace in Hudson to see "Saturday Night Fever" on Thursday, March 16, includes fabulous Bee Gees hits including "Stayin' Alive" and "How Deep Is Your Love." The cost is \$72 per person. If interested, call Allan Rickards at (352) 216-0528.

The annual trip to Tampa Bay Downs on Saturday, April 8, features the only thoroughbred race track on the west coast of Florida. The cost of \$47 per person includes a buffet lunch. If you are interested in reserving a seat, contact Inge Gaitch at (352) 237-7428.

On Mother's Day, which is Sunday, May 14, there will be a trip to

the Show Palace for "Great American Trailer Park." This is a fabulous musical comedy, which guarantees lots of laughs. The cost of \$72 per person includes the delicious luncheon and ever-popular warm bread pudding for dessert. If interested, contact Linda Hein at (352) 861-9880 on or after Feb. 6.

The Viking Passage cruise is scheduled for Thursday, July 13 to Wednesday, Aug. 2 on Holland America's MS Rotterdam. At this time, we are looking for a lady who can serve as a cabin mate with another lady. For more information, call Inge Gaitch at (352) 237-7428.

Resident volunteers run travel Toppers. Please contact coordinators Mondays through Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. only. Reservations cannot be taken on weekends or outside of the specified hours. Checks made out to Travel Toppers Tours, Inc. should be mailed to coordinators within seven days of making reservations to guarantee your seat.

In 2018, Travel Toppers will be cruising Cape Horn and the Strait of Magellan on the Emerald Princess from Feb 28 to March 13, 2018. This 14-night cruise includes Buenos Aires, Argentina; Montevideo, Uruguay; Puerto Madryn, Argentina; Stanley, Falkland Islands; Ushuaia, Argentina for Tierra del Fuego; Punta Arenas, Chile; Puerto Moritt, Chile; and Santiago, Chile. During days at sea, the scenic cruise includes Cape Horn, Amalia Glacier, and Chilean Fjords. Call Inge Gaitch at (352) 237-7428 for additional details and to book this fabulous cruise.



Photo by Charlie Petrosky

**Shirley Haskell and Lorraine Carman.**



**Karaoke Friends**

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky

It has been said that music is the universal language.

This month we are highlighting Shirley Haskell and her daughter, Lorraine Carman. Shirley retired from New York in 2011 to On Top of the World. At that time she asked Lorraine if she wanted to move also. She did and they are both happily settled here. I asked Shirley how she got into karaoke and she said friends told her it is fun and a nice way to meet people. That is all

Shirley wants to say about herself. She would like you to get to know Lorraine.

Lorraine has been signing since the age of two. She was born deaf. She started in a school for the deaf. Shirley wanted her to have the skills needed to function in the world. Once she mastered signing and lip reading, she was able to attend regular high school. Shirley is happy to say she graduated from a regular high school. Lorraine works and her early work hours keep her from joining us often. She came in the fall and got to meet the group. In December, she returned all smiles. She is comfortable with us. You can see her emotions as she signs. What Lorraine teaches us is that you do not have to be limited because of a handicap. We hope some time you are there when Lorraine comes to sign again.

When we get together for our karaoke it is for fun. We are not auditioning for a show or practicing for a performance. There are no strangers in the group. If you are not singing, for sure you are singing along by the end of the night. Everyone encourages each singer.

If you are thinking you would like to come but do not know what to sing, no problem. We can look up a song for you. You can give us the name of a singer and we can list all the karaoke songs we have for that person. If you have a particular song you want to sing, we can look up that song and let you know the versions we have. If you have your own karaoke disk, bring it with you.

Come and join us. We meet on the first and third Mondays in Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. This month, we are meeting on Feb. 6 and 20. Most likely we will have a prop night on the 20th. Hope to see you.

**On Top of the World NEWS**

**GOOD NEWS TO SHARE?**  
Columns or articles may be e-mailed to [otownews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownews@otowfl.com) by noon on the 13th of the month.

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**ESTATE/TAG SALE ADS:** There is no charge to residents, however, residents must register their estate/tag sale with Customer Service at Friendship Commons. Visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala) and click on "Resident Info" to download the appropriate form for your community and submit it to Customer Service by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

**SERVICE ADS:** Will be accepted from residents and non-residents and may be e-mailed to otownnews@otowfl.com. For advertising rates, visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala) and click on "Advertising Rates."

**AD DEADLINE:** Noon on the 13th of the month. If the deadline falls on a weekend, then it's noon on the Friday before. For more information, call (352) 387-7466, e-mail [otownnews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownnews@otowfl.com) or visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala)

*The publisher reserves the right to reject any ad which, in his judgment, would not be in the best interest of the residents of On Top of the World Communities.*

## For Sale

**Appliance:** Kenmore 12.1 cu. ft. upright freezer with auto defrost, \$350. Must be able to transport. (352) 861-3138.

**Appliance:** Whirlpool washer, \$390/obo. (216) 287-2502.

**Collectible:** 1973 "Vince Lombardi on Football" two volume set, \$300. (352) 873-4759.

**Electronics:** Kodak #500 slide projector with slides and slide magazines, \$295. Da-Lite 4'x9' movie screen, \$195. (352) 873-4759.

**Electronics:** Stereo with radio, CD and speakers, \$95. (352) 873-3433.

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**Furniture:** Bar (steel frame/granite top) with 4 matching bar stools with back & arm rest. Sofa bed, light green. (352) 362-7487.

**Furniture:** Powerlift recliner chair, putty color, \$335. (347) 239-5873.

**Furniture:** Solid hardwood pub table, 36" x 42", seats up to six people with two 12" drop leaves, 4 drawers. Must be able to transport (75 pounds). \$100. (352) 694-9804.

**Golf Cart Equipment:** Set of four wheels and tires with wheel covers and lug nuts. (352) 509-7496.

**Golf Carts (2):** Nice, inexpensive, need to sell. (352) 256-9068.

**Home Décor:** Mirror, 42"x64", \$35/obo. (352) 237-5240.

**Medical Equipment:** Inogen portable oxygen concentrator with AC and car adapters. EZ Adjust Bed Rails (2), \$125 each. (347) 239-5873.

**Misc. Items:** 96"x36" solid fiberglass entry door, \$125. Elongated white toilet seats (2), \$12 each. (570) 640-6756.

**Sports Equipment:** Raleigh bicycle. (352) 861-8844.

**Sports Equipment:** Trek bikes (2), men's and women's includes helmets and carriers, \$225 for both or \$125 each. (352) 875-8310.

**Tools:** Karcher 1750 PSI electric power washer, variable power spray wand, dirt blaster wand, 25' pressure hose, \$60/obo. (570) 640-6756.

**Window Treatments:** Hunter Douglas aluminum mini blinds (4). 35-3/4" W x 49-1/2" L, \$25. 69" W x 50" L, \$50 each. (352) 361-8874.

## Tag Sales

**Friday, Jan. 27 & Saturday, Jan. 28:** 9020-A SW 93rd Lane (Friendship Village), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 1 & Thursday, Feb. 2:** 8533-A SW 92nd Street (Friendship Colony), 8:30 a.m. to noon.

**Thursday, Feb. 2:** 9300-B SW 85th Terrace (Friendship Colony), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Thursday, Feb. 2 & Friday, Feb. 3:** 8437-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 3 & Saturday, Feb. 4:** 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon • 9778 SW 99th Avenue (Crescent Ridge II), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 8 & Thursday, Feb. 9:** 9157-D SW 82nd Terrace (Friendship Village), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 10:** 8563-H SW 93rd Lane (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 10 & Saturday, Feb. 11:** 9250 SW 92nd Place Road (Williamsburg), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 11:** 9660-A SW 95th Terrace (Crescent Ridge), 8 to 11 a.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 18:** 9022 SW 102nd Circle (Avalon), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 25:** 9277-B SW 83rd Avenue (Friendship Colony), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Services

**Alterations by Betty:** Alterations by appointment only. 50 years experience. A Pine Run resident. Call Betty at 237-9909.

**Alterations by Ernestine:** Alterations, experienced. Call 861-0259 (resident).

**Appliance, A/C & Heat Repairs:** Electrical & plumbing. Experienced and honest. Call Tom Parker (On Top of the World resident) anytime at (352) 873-1297.

**Bathroom Remodeling:** Painting, flooring, drywall, relaminating and handyman services. Licensed & insured. Precision Painting & Remodeling (352) 322-8154.

**Bathroom Remodeling:** Specializing in complete renovations. Clean, neat and professional. Call Cove Construction Inc. for a free estimate. (352) 572-0508.

**Blinds Repaired:** In your home. Repairing shades & drapery hardware. Certified & experienced installer. Call Gary or Kathy at (352) 344-3805.

**Bob's Screening Service:** Garage door screens, window screens, porch enclosure screens. We re-vinyl windows. Complete re-screening service. Free estimates. (352) 586-8459, Bob.

**Burns Tech Services:** I come to you. Apple, iPad and iPhone specialist. (352) 470-0141 or [burnstechservices.com](http://burnstechservices.com).

**Caregiver:** Cleaning, cooking and housesitting. References available. Call Esther at (352) 502-9701.

**Caregiver:** CNA-HHA. Daily, personal and dinner visits. 20-plus years experience. Excellent references. Christine (352) 509-4994 (CNA23849).

**Cat Boarding and Sitting:** Provided by loving experienced Cat Nanny. On Top of the World resident. (352) 854-8589.

**Ceramic Tile:** All types of installation and repair. 20+ years experience. Lic. & ins. References available. Call Bob Adkins (352) 274-8678.

**Certified Nursing Assistant:** Personal care in your home. 13 years experience, reasonable rates. Penny (352) 256-4676 (CNA300158).

**Clock Doc:** Clock repairs, experienced, inexpensive, house calls. (352) 246-2438 (resident).

**Computer Help:** Arthur Burditt, (352) 875-7878. House calls, \$40/hour. Tutoring, setups, installations, Windows upgrades, PC clean-ups, security software, Internet connections, email access, printers, wireless devices.

**D&D Painting of Ocala LLC:** Interior/exterior painting. Licensed & insured. 35 years experience. 10% discount for seniors & veterans. References available. Doug (352) 512-3852 or Donna (352) 425-3869.

**Gotta Car You Wanna Sell?** The good, the bad or the ugly. Call now (727) 400-1910.

**Hair Care:** In your home. Licensed, experienced beautician comes to you. Full service. Call Cathy, PCA, resident, (352) 237-3347. Service homebound.

**Handyman:** Repairing sliding glass door rollers/tracks, sliding garage screen doors, window balances/parts, sliding shower doors/guides, doors & locksets. Installing handicap grab bars. One call does it all! Insured. Steve, S&T Quality Services LLC (352) 207-8682.

**Interior Decorating:** Choosing new paint colors, staging your home or rearranging for a new look. 15 years exp. Donna at (352) 216-1123 (resident).

**Laminate & Tile Floor Installation:** Plumbing, electrical work, general carpentry and painting. Insured and satisfaction guaranteed. Resident for 12 years. Dan (352) 425-1046 or Bill (352) 873-1826.

**Manny's Appliance Repair:** Dryer vent cleaning too. Over 35 years experience. Licensed & insured. (352) 897-7723 or (352) 470-1459.

**Massage Therapist:** Experienced, professional & licensed. Deep tissue, neuromuscular, Swedish, \$45 / 60 min in the convenience and privacy of your own home. Treatments for either pain or relaxation. Call Elia Michelle Padron at (352) 464-0629 (MA45619).

**Massage Therapy:** In your home. Swedish, deep tissue, hot stone therapy and stretching. First massage \$50/hour. Stuart Feinman (MA49878) (352) 812-3853. [www.healingspringsmassage.com](http://www.healingspringsmassage.com).

**Mattress Overstock Inventory:** 50-80% off retail! New in original plastic and under warranty. All sizes and styles available. Pillow-

top, plush, firm, memory foam and gel beds. Adjustable beds as well. Please call (352) 484-4772.

**Miles & Miles Cleaning Service** by Wendy: We will give you an old fashioned cleaning! Licensed & insured. (352) 895-0940 or [www.milesandmilescleaningservices.com](http://www.milesandmilescleaningservices.com).

**Need A Ride?** Door-to-door service for all your needs. All airports, doctor appointments and errands. References available. Call Sandy at (352) 351-9407.

**Painting:** 20 years experience. Free estimates, insured, references and photo gallery available at [Suespainting.com](http://Suespainting.com). 10% off for residents. Sue's Painting (352) 237-0892.

**Painting:** 25 years experience, 10% discount, excellent references. Pressure wash house for free with paint job. Call Danny at (352) 547-9588.

**Pressure Washing:** Houses, driveways, gutters, porches & yard work. Free estimates. 12 years experience. Call Steve (352) 237-5338 (resident).

**Rescreen & Window Repairs:** Lannais, birdcages, garage door sliders, etc. Foggy, broken glass and re-vinyl windows. 10+ years experience. Free estimates. Colden Heath, Florida Screen Room and Window Medic, (352) 502-8295.

**Transportation:** Airports (Tampa, Orlando, Sanford, Gainesville). Safe & reliable service. Call Phil (352) 497-7670 (resident).

**Transportation:** Doctor appointments, shopping, errands. Call Anna (resident) at (352) 615-0174 (cell) or (352) 873-4151 (home), leave message.

**Transportation:** Personal driver for seniors, local appointments also personal shopper. Non-smoking, safe, respectable, honest many referrals. EveRose (352) 502-5551.

## Wanted

**Antiques, Collectibles, Jewelry,** guns, fishing, military or anything that you are not using, I will. Cash paid for 1 item or entire estate. Larry (352) 697-1778.

**Golf Cart Charger:** 48-volt for E-Z-GO or Club Car. (352) 512-1787.

**Donations:** Bicycles and helmets for children; Tom at (352) 861-1575 • Musical instruments for local students; Ed at (352) 304-8206 • Personal hygiene, school/craft supplies for homeless, pet food/supplies for animal shelters, used cell phones & musical instruments for troops/veterans; Donna at (352) 237-3062 • Shoes and sneakers for the needy; drop off at Arbor Club office • Toiletries for troops overseas; Bob at (352) 854-0702 • Yarn for lap robes for VA hospitals and newborns; (352) 843-6519.

**Guns:** Buying guns (new, old, any condition), gold and silver. Estate appraisals. (352) 867-0381 (home) or (352) 266-9781 (cell).

**HAM Radio Operators** to support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Beth McKeen at (352) 237-5079.

### LOST OR FOUND A PET?

Call the S.P.C.A. hotline at (352) 362-0985

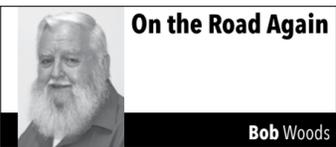
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**On the Road Again**

**Bob Woods**

The New Year brings the club's travel to new heights starting off with a cruise around Australia and the South Island of New Zealand with a stop in Bali, Indonesia. This cruise is sold out.

The next trip is a fantastic motor coach trip to Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada. This is a nine-day trip departing Saturday, June 3. John and Annette Ware are hosts.

Another motor coach excursion

departs on Friday, Sept. 1 for a four-day trip to the Callaway Gardens Balloon Festival with many other destinations planned. Bob and Bev Woods are hosts.

The next motor coach trip is heading to Pigeon Forge, Tenn. on Sunday, Nov. 12 for a seven-day trip. We will be taking in six shows and a self-guided tour of the world's largest museum attraction, the Titanic. The shows alone are worth the trip, and at the time of the year this trip is taking place many shows are dedicated to the veterans; plus all the area's Christmas decorations are displayed. John and Annette Ware are hosts.

The last scheduled club trip for

2017 is a cruise on Royal Caribbean's newest Oasis class ship - Harmony of the Seas, heading for the Eastern Caribbean departing on Saturday, Dec. 2. All shows on the ship will be pre-booked by the club.

It is suggested that if any of these trips sound good or you are interested in joining members of On Top of the World that you bring up the club's website at bobwoodsontheroadagain.com for full itineraries and pricing or call Bob Woods at (352) 854-0702 or John Ware at (352) 873-3516.

We are working on cruise and motor coach excursions for 2018, and have already scheduled a short cruise on Royal Caribbean's Bril-

liance of the Seas departing March 12, 2018 heading for Key West and Cozumel. The club also has plans for a trip to Alaska flying to Fairbanks for two nights, Denali for two nights, and one night in Talkeetna and Anchorage before boarding the Radiance of the Seas for a seven-day voyage beginning in Seward with port calls and visits at Hubbard Glacier, Skagway, Juneau, Icy Point and Ketchikan before arriving in Vancouver. We are looking at extending the excursion with a two-night stay in Seattle. Dates and pricing are not available at press time. Place your name on the list with Bob Woods with no obligation.



**World Traveler**

**Bill Shampine**

New Guinea, the world's second largest island, is divided between two countries: Indonesia to the west and Papua New Guinea to the east.

Papua New Guinea lies just north of Australia. It is a bit larger than California, and has a very diverse geography. There is an extremely rugged interior mountain range, with peaks as high as 14,793 feet, dense tropical rainforests, lowland and coastal areas, also covered by rainforests, and large wetland areas surrounding two major rivers that are navigable only with shallow-draft vessels.

The extremely high mountains

make Papua New Guinea one of the few regions close to the equator that experiences snowfall. The forbidding landscape also hinders the development of a viable transportation infrastructure; so, much of the country is accessible only by foot or helicopter.

The country also is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire, resulting in frequent volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Transportation is so difficult in the country, that it is considered one of the world's least explored countries; both culturally and geographically. Many undiscovered species of plants and animals are thought to exist in the interior, as well as tribes of people who have never seen or been touched by the modern world.

Archeological evidence indicates humans living on the island about 45,000 years ago. Portuguese and

Spanish explorers visited the island as early as the 16th century, but it was not until the 19th century that the rest of Europe learned about it. In the late 19th century, Germany and the United Kingdom ruled the island, which later was ceded to Australia. Papua New Guinea finally received independence from Australia in 1975, and joined the United Nations.

Papua New Guinea is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world. It is estimated that more than a thousand cultural groups exist in the country, speaking more than 820 indigenous languages. Each group has its own expressive forms in art, dance, costumes, music, and architecture, so you get a lot of variety! People of the highlands often engage in colorful local festivals called "sing sing." For these events, they paint themselves, dress up with feathers, pearls, and

animal skins and "dance the night away" at large communal gatherings. The most famous of these is the Festival of Mount Hagen.

As a coin collector, I find it personally interesting that for centuries, local tribes used sea shells for their currency. That practice was not abolished until 1933 when the government created a Papuan New Guinea kina as a unit of money, similar to our dollar. Nevertheless, some tribes still use shells to pay a bride price, or dowry.

A visit to Papua New Guinea might be a fun experience, but only for the hardy. As one pundit said, it not only is "off the beaten path" it is almost "off the map!"

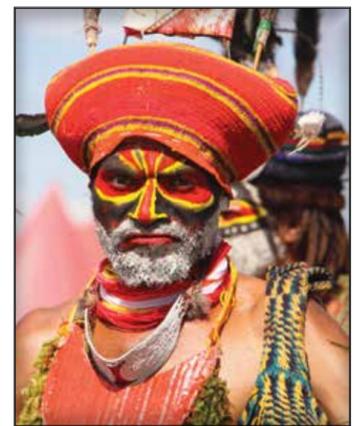


Photo by Yves Picq

A representative of one of the local tribes participating in the annual "sing sing" Festival of Mount Hagen in Papua New Guinea.

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