

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

Looking Back & Forward

Welcome to 2018! Let's make it a good year for everyone in the community.

Last month, I wrote a few short paragraphs about the uncommon generosity of On Top of the World, Candler Hills, and Indigo East communities. The very genuine kindness and decency of our residents has once again manifested themselves in the overwhelming support and success of the community-wide food drive.

We are pleased to report that there was an outpouring of contributions and support for Interfaith Emergency Services (IES) in December 2017. IES expressed both their surprise and gratitude at the generosity of all the residents. The Toys for Tots toy donation drive was also very successful.

I've said it before and it bears repeating ... kindness to each other is the glue that binds us together regardless of our different backgrounds. It is the core of a successful community.

It is good to be grateful and to remind others that they are appreciated as well as important in some way. Thank you for all you do.

Annual Meetings

I'd like to thank all those members who attended the annual association meetings for the On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association, as well as Candler Hills and Indigo East Neighborhood Associations in December 2017. Meetings can become quite lengthy, so I appreciate the interested residents who stayed to the very end.

Regardless of the specific items that apply to any given association, we also included a great deal of material generally dealing with the state-of-the-community overall and the factors that affect the various operations.

Enforcement matters were discussed at each of the meetings. What one person does (or doesn't do) may adversely affect their neighbors; so again, kindness and respect come into play. Also discussed was how the board deals with delinquencies in community service fees.

2017 saw a great many changes around the Candler Hills and Indigo East properties. Home construction is going great guns in both communities. Besides adding or enhancing new landscape and hardscape features, the south phase of Indigo East was added and a fitness center is in permitting, expected start in the first quarter of 2018.

The Arbor Club is being transformed into a fitness and wellness center with state-of-the-art equipment, as well as the addition of an 1,800 square foot fitness studio for classes. On Top of the World Communities will be the first in Marion County to offer additional classes known as "Fitness on Demand" programs. More will be coming on this as we expand. Keep up-to-date on all of this information in Cammy Dennis' World News columns.

In On Top of the World Central, additional pickleball courts were added, the softball field was expanded and updated, and new umbrellas were added around the Recreation Center pool. Four new, lighted tennis courts were added at the Arbor Club, to name a few of the enhancements.

To recap the On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association meeting, building insurance was reviewed. Homes and villas are insured under a master policy in the name of the association. The per event deductible remains \$10,000 for any event per occurrence including wind/hail related damage. Named storm events carry

Discover How It All Works

By Margaret Spontak

The new Master the Possibilities winter catalog went online on Dec. 15, 2017 and is available in print now at Master the Possibilities and locations throughout On Top of the World. Mark your calendar for the winter term kick-off on Friday, Jan. 5, 1:30 to 4 p.m. No pre-registration needed.

The kick-off includes seven hands-on learning labs where you can experiment with art, science, cooking, music, theatre, fitness, and much, much more! The artistically inclined can do an art make and take. This is sure to be the best

kick-off ever. See more on the insert provided with all home delivered issues of the World News.

Lifelong learning classes at Master the Possibilities can help you uncover things you always wondered about. The winter term theme highlights more than a dozen areas for deep discovery.

Register for meet-up trips to see first-hand how arts organizations and three large employers operate. Find out how publishing works from magazines to newspapers to books. Experiment with different types of paints, even the newest

chalk paint. Have an opportunity to share your story through writing, telling and audio recording. Enroll in a class to complete a written memoir or a recording of your personal story for others to enjoy.

Love science and technology? Gain information on drones, 3-D printing, and solar energy. Find out more about our intriguing universe, space exploration, great science discoveries and technology trends. Register for our new Thursday night technology open lab. Focus on specific computer areas that you need help with now. Or, get help using a new technology gift, like a tablet or mobile phone.

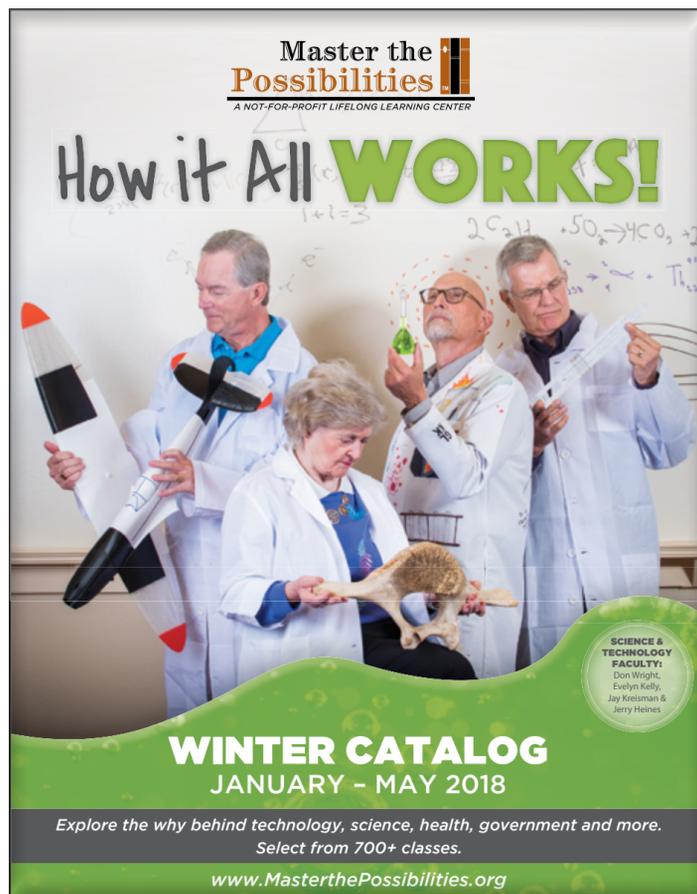
Has the world of espionage always intrigued you? Find out more about spymasters, codes and ciphers and the workings of the CIA. Or, maybe your passion is tracking current events. Get enlightened about North Korea, Putin, terrorism in West Africa, and other breaking news.

With the New Year, often come resolutions. Pick from dozens of courses on weight management, health and wellness. Discover more about Eastern or complementary medicine. Courses on areas such as acupuncture, massage, meditation and qui gong are included. If you want to learn how to cook and eat healthier, take hands-on workshops on creating curries, cooking with herbs, using rice cookers, or eating gluten-free.

Look back into history to see how the world has evolved due to immigration, civil rights, wars and treaties, great explorers, American's founding fathers and so more much. A retired colonel leads off our Black History celebration with an important community dialogue. Meet a few of Marion County's leaders to hear how government and the election system work.

Travel the world through the Armchair Travel Series. Hear the latest on the World Equestrian Center. Get enlightened about women in the military, transgender people, other cultures and religion.

Ready to learn more about how these things all work? Pick up a catalog now and thumb through 700-plus courses delivered by talented faculty, then select your favorites. Resolve to learn more in the New Year!



Grandest Parade of All

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

There were more than 100 golf carts, all decorated with the Christmas spirit, which paraded around our community, Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017.

The weather was Florida balmy as all the golf carts lined up at the Recreation Center for a 2 p.m. start time. There were individual carts along with many sponsored by clubs that came together and added glamour and sparkle to the parade. The decorations were the best ever: flowers, wreaths, garland and lots of stuffed animals - and what would a Christmas parade be without celebrants bringing along their real-life pets, dressed, of course, in every conceivable holi-

day costume.

At two sharp, the whistle blew, and four of Marion County's finest on their sparkling motorcycles led the way.

They were followed by a host of volunteers including Marion County Fire Rescue, antique cars, Marion County Sheriff's Office, and a special treat from the Francis Marion Military Academy drill team. Throughout the parade, the team performed a number of precision moves that drew cheers and applause from the crowds lining the parade route.

Cammy Dennis, fitness director, and Theresa Fields, activities supervisor, had the most difficult

job of all. They were charged with the awards: most creative, funniest, most festive, and most original. A best in show trophy was presented to a golf cart representing a club and the winning cart was again, the one decorated by the Southern Club. Again? Yep, that's two years now that the Southern Club has earned the honors ... congratulations!

After the parade wound through the streets of On Top of the World, the paraders, and what appeared to be every resident, gathered for the post parade festivities at Circle Square Commons. The Town Square was crowded with celebrants for the Holiday Celebration. They enjoyed, music, singing, dancing, entertainment, and a terrific variety of food and drink.

All in all, this year's parade and celebration was the grandest of all. Happy New Year!



Photo by Ray Cech

Continued on Page 4 ▶

Annual Golf Cart Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 (additional photos on page 3).

INDEX

Our World 1A-12A
Lifestyle 13B-20B

Community Bus Schedule 19B
Recreation 21C-32C

Arbor Club Pool Schedule 28C
Fitness Schedule 29C

Arts & Entertainment 33D-40D
Classifieds 39D

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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2018 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

On Top of the World NEWS

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

* Deadline at noon

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

GOLDEN OLDIES HUMOR

By Stan Goldstein



Live happily, eat wisely and lie about your age.

Is It Legal?

Gerald Colen & Rachel Wagoner
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There's a new scam that targets Social Security recipients. It's very bad and we want to alert you to it. Con-artists are targeting Social Security beneficiaries by trying to get them to verify private information, such as social security numbers, birth dates, parents' names and probably other personal information. Should you provide that kind of information, then the scammer will go ahead and contact the official Social Security Administration in an effort to change the direct deposit information and to steal benefit checks. This, of course, is only the latest in a series of schemes that crooks use to impersonate Social Security officials.

Since seniors are getting smart enough to know that they should not answer the telephone but instead wait for a message, the scammers are leaving messages that basically say there's a problem with their benefits and to call such and such phone number. Sometimes, seniors get told that a warrant is going to be issued for their arrest and that the only way to solve the problem is to give out a prepaid debit card, or maybe an iTunes card.

I urge all of you to be suspicious of anyone who calls and tells you he or she is from some government agency. It's almost always going to be a fraud. Never return a phone call using the phone number someone gives you in a phone message. Instead, find a number from the phone book or Google a number or use a number you've used before and that you know is a good number. Never provide private informa-

tion, particularly your social security number. And for Pete's sake, don't talk with these folks. Just hang up the phone and if they call back, don't answer.

If you do receive a suspicious call from someone pretending to be from the Social Security Administration office or Office of Inspector General, report it to the real office at (800) 269-0271 or oig.ssa.gov/report. Please be careful!

DO: Pay attention and read this column carefully. Try to clip and save as many as you can.

DON'T: Don't be afraid to hang up your phone if anyone you are speaking to asks for or demands personal private information such as your social security number or credit card numbers.

DON'T: Don't be frightened by someone threatening you with arrest or some other dire threat if you don't provide personal information or if you don't pay money to them. It's a scam and you must just hang up. Don't talk to them. Just hang up. Or did I already say that?

A new client asked me how often I send out a letter telling the client that he or she needs to make an appointment to come back in and discuss some new issues such as a

change in the law or for some other reason.

First, you should know that if there is a change in the law that affects work we've previously done, we will send out a letter on that. However, I do not see my clients as an annuity for me or for our law firm. So we don't try to get a client in just to get an additional fee.

And while I'm on the subject of coming back to see your attorney, when should you make an appointment to go back to meet your attorney? Obviously, if there are substantial changes in your personal situation, such as the passing of a spouse or of a child to whom you've left something. But there are other reasons as well. Perhaps a child became disabled after you signed your previous will or trust. That could be an excellent reason why you need to make some changes to what you did in the past. Another reason might be that you have a new grandchild but that grandchild has a disability and will be on some form of welfare assistance, such as Medicaid. In that case, you might need to make sure either that the disabled person does not receive anything or in the alternative that a specialized trust, known as a Special Needs Trust is created.

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 or Ms. Wagoner at rachel@colenwagoner.com. In Ocala, the law office is located in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons.

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Superintendent of Schools

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

“Boots on the ground” is the guiding philosophy of our newest Superintendent of Schools Heidi Maier. In her presentation to a packed Master the Possibilities audience, Ms. Maier made it clear that only through hands on - boots on the ground - leadership will the 43,000-plus students in Marion County begin achieving at state and national levels. Principals and administrators must know what is going on in the classroom if proposed, changes are to make a difference.

Superintendent Maier is a strong proponent of reading as the very basis for learning. If a child can't decipher instructions, for example, how are they going to solve problems? Toward that end, Maier has eliminated everyday homework at the elementary school level and has asked every child to read at least 20 minutes at home, preferably with a parent. “So far,” she told her audience, “the change has been well received; both parents and students have given very positive feedback.”

Vocational/career education is also a key element in preparing Marion County students for

the outside world. Not everyone wants to, or should be going onto college. Vocational training, while still in high school, or attending a two-year college goes a long way in helping graduating students obtain the kind of good paying job that are currently in high demand. Marion Technical Institute (MTI) and Marion Technical College play a key role in making vocational training a success in our county.

During the superintendent's presentation, the question of charter schools came up which she addressed with a positive nod. There are currently four locally managed charter schools, which she emphasized, are not private, but public institutions paid for with tax dollars. She has also expanded the magnet program, available to all students.

The 2017-2018 Marion County school budget is \$537,699,597 covering 52 schools and more than 6,000 employees.

Before taking questions, Ms. Maier rounded up her presentation with a very important message, delivered very succinctly, “Marion County Schools: A Future Focused on Students.”



Photo by Ray Cech
Marion County Superintendent of Schools Heidi Maier (left) introduced by Margaret Spontak.



Photos by Ray Cech
Holiday Golf Cart Parade (continued from page 1).



Stay Happy, Healthy and Safer at Home

Home Care

At Safer at Home, we strive to make the home a safe and nurturing place for our clients. This allows them the freedom to remain safely in their homes for as long as possible.

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Keeping It Green

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(352) 236-OTOW (6869)
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Did you remember to cut back on your irrigation timer? Even though current restrictions allow once per week watering, depending upon the community you live in, your grass, plants and temperature, you may not need to water as frequently.

Many factors should be taken into account before reducing the run times. How long have you lived at the location, is it a new home or has it been there for longer than one year? If your landscape is older than one year, reducing run times gradually in small increments is the best way to reduce run times. Small increments will keep you from creating a severe problem if you don't add enough water. If you do too much at once, waiting on the next run day could cost you your landscape.

Research conducted by the University of Florida indicates that during the shorter, cooler days of winter, grass and plants are grow-

ing slowly or not at all. During this time, their need for water is greatly reduced from that of the long, hot days of summer. Many people never change their automatic sprinkler system to compensate for this change in water needs and water is needlessly wasted.

Many people will soon be wondering what they can do with their crape myrtles; for starters crape myrtles flower only on new growth. With that said there are many studies to suggest the proper pruning method for crape myrtles but the studies do not show conclusive evidence that one way is better or worse than the other. The method I prefer for residents to follow is the "pencil pruning" method. Basically, you remove all branches pencil size and smaller. This method is the least invasive to the tree and still provides an aesthetic quality to the tree even when the leaves have fallen and all you have is sticks. The best time to prune the crape myrtle is late winter or early spring when the plant is dormant. This provides the new growth for summer blooms.

Another plant that is pretty dreary looking out there in the land-

scape is the lantana. This plant, as well as others, are perennials and will come back every year. This plant too will need to be cut back in the late winter or early spring to remove dormant growth. Again, waiting is important to make sure the plant is at its fullest stage of dormancy. If these plants are trimmed too soon, the pruning could cause the plants to flush new growth resulting in potential frost burn. The best thing to do is to scratch the wood about six to 10 inches above the ground, as long as this wood is still green you should probably wait.

We have seen a flare up of brown patch with mild winter conditions we have seen so far. In early December we put out a quick blurb on otowinfo.com to try and forewarn you about the problem but I wanted to go a little further in depth about the problem and what you can be doing to prevent and control the situation before it becomes a serious problem.

Brown patch fungus is attributed to the abnormal weather conditions. Humid days compiled with regular irrigation and warm day time temperatures with cool eve-

ning temperatures has created the perfect storm for growing conditions for this fungi. The fungus typically flares up when soil temperatures are between 60 to 70 degrees and soil moisture is high. Turning off your irrigation after rainfall events or simply turning it back using the seasonal adjust feature will help too.

You can normally spot fungus issues in your yard by a large symmetrical ring or circular patch that has a yellowish edge. The spots typically start as one-foot diameter areas and grow from there. Keep from walking and mowing affected areas. Fungus travels from spores and disturbance of the fungus could potentially cause more areas to pop up.

Routine lawn maintenance and pest control is key to keep pest problems such as brown patch fungus from popping up in your lawns. Identification and treatment of this pest is crucial in control and will help keep the pest from spreading. Keep from fertilizing these areas until the fungus has been treated and eradicated.

Stay warm and good luck with your landscape!

LifeSouth Bloodmobile
Sue & Dick Copeland

Welcome in the New Year by helping save lives! How, you may ask? Simply start a new resolution for 2018!

Resolve to help save lives the easy way ... giving blood! Drop by the area in front of the Recreation Center parking lot on Monday, Jan. 1. You will see LifeSouth's red, white, and blue bloodmobile parked ... just waiting for you and

On Top of the World NEWS
UPCOMING PUBLICATION
February Issue
Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018

your donation of blood.

The process is easy and your blood can help save the lives of three people! Begin a new resolution! Give a pint ... save three lives!

The LifeSouth Bloodmobile will be parked in the same spot from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. every eight weeks. Over a year, you can help save 18 lives! Please bring some form of identification, answer a few quick questions, and you're ready to donate. Our highly qualified technicians will help you find a seat, offer you a bottle of water, and begin the simple procedure.

When you are finished, you will receive a small gift of gratitude, and you will leave that bus with an overwhelming feeling of knowing three individuals you don't know will live because you took the time to share the gift of life! Happy New Year!

Community News
Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

Continued from Page 1

a separate deductible of five percent subject to a \$250,000 minimum deductible for any one occurrence such as a named storm. With respect to all other events all loss, damage, and/or expense arising out of any one occurrence shall be adjusted as one loss, and from an amount of each such adjusted loss there is a \$100,000 deductible.

Again in On Top of the World, roof replacement work is contracted because of the extensive scope of work involved in replacement. Roofing contractors from last fiscal year have agreed to hold their prices through 2018.

OneBlood Bloodmobile
Sara Sommer

I can't believe it is 2018 already. Where did the century go no matter what year it is? The Big Red Bus® was here on Monday, Dec. 4, 2017. There were 18 angels who came to give the gift of life. Each donor received a \$10 gift card.

Now it is time to mark your calendar for two important dates in 2018. The next Club Fair is Thursday, Jan. 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Recreation Center Ballroom. OneBlood will have a table there. This is the perfect time to get any questions answered about donating. If we don't know the answer, we will direct you to how to get your questions answered.

The next date is Monday, Feb. 5. The Big Red Bus® will be in the Recreation Center parking lot from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All blood types are needed especially after the latest holiday season.

See you on the bus and at our Club Fair table.

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All Around Our World

Lynette Vermillion
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It was great to see so many new faces at the association meetings in December 2017. We welcomed many new residents in 2017 through new home sales and re-sales alike. We hope all of our residents, those who have been here a while and those just moving in, are enjoying being a part of On Top of the World. This is a wonderful community with many opportunities for active adults whether it be through continued education, fitness, clubs, etc. There's a little something for everyone and management strives to continually work to offer our residents exceptional service, experiences and a wonderful place to call home.

Customer Service

The Customer Service office is closed the third Wednesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m., which falls on Wednesday, Jan. 17, this month. Customer Service may be reached at (352) 236-OTOW (6869) or 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. Please note that Customer Service will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1.

Holiday Lighting and Decorations

Please ensure that all holiday decorations are removed by Tuesday, Jan. 16. Live Christmas trees may be placed on the curb in front of your home for pick up on your community's regularly scheduled yard debris pick up day.

Traffic, Speeding and Stop Signs

Some of the recurring topics brought up by residents in each of the association meetings included: traffic, speeding, stop signs and trash disposal.

One particular slide presented at all of the association meetings had to do with traveling safely. It pointed out that all modes of travel (golf cart, vehicle, bicycle or pedestrian) need to be courteous to others, yield to others, be patient, don't assume and be responsible for your own safety. Drivers should always drive defensively, and don't forget, stop means stop! If you are in a golf cart, please slow down and share the path and remember that the Florida driver rules of the road apply to you as well. Bicycles

should always ride with traffic and as a courtesy, notify walkers your direction when passing, for example, "passing on the right." Pedestrians should always be aware of their surroundings, wear reflective clothing and walk against traffic.

Please obey the speed limit signs posted throughout the community and keep in mind that we do have an agreement with Marion County Sheriff's Office, so that they can patrol throughout the community. After receiving many requests at the meeting, I have contacted the Sheriff's Office to pay our community a visit soon. So, be sure to slow down and obey the speed limit and stop, not roll through, at stop signs. As one resident pointed out at On Top of the World's Central meeting, stop signs are not suggestions.

And, from the web, I will leave you with one more thought, "SHARE: See, Hear, Act politely and Respectfully to Enjoy!"

We also received a note asking us to educate residents about how roundabouts should be executed. The basic operating principle of the roundabout is that traffic travels counterclockwise around a central island in the middle of the intersection and entering traffic must yield to the circulating traffic already within the roundabout.

Trash Disposal and Single Stream Recycling

As I shared last month, I have received quite a few complaints, and more at the association meetings, regarding improper disposal of trash and household items.

For those who do not have curbside collection, household trash should be disposed of at one of the many disposal areas located throughout the community. "White goods" should be disposed of only in the "white goods" area at the SW 90th Street disposal location. Contractors working for residents may

not dispose of items in the community; they must dispose of items elsewhere.

As most of you know we offer single stream recycling, which is a convenient and easy form of recycling and many materials can be recycled. Everything goes into one bin with no sorting required! When recycling, just look for the container that states, "single stream recycling."

Please do not include:

- Glass such as light bulbs, ceramics or mirrors;
- Aluminum products such as aerosol cans;
- Plastic bags.

Plastic containers must be numbered one to seven on the bottom of the container and all cardboard must be broken down and disposed of in the cardboard recycling area. Please rinse all containers and remove lids. Please follow the guidelines on the sign, refer to otowinfo.com or pick up information at Customer Service.

We do ask that if a container is full, be it a single stream recycling container or a compactor, please do not set the recycling or trash on the ground around the container or on top of the container. We want to keep our community looking beautiful, and I am sure you do too.

Indigo East Gateway of Services

The Indigo East community is

unique in that they may choose to opt in to the Gateway of Services. For those Indigo East residents wishing to enjoy the amenities behind the gates, a Gateway of Services pass is necessary. We offer several payment options when you sign up: monthly automatic debit from your checking, savings or credit card; one time check or credit card payment; or quarterly payments with a quarterly processing fee. If you would like more information regarding the Gateway of Services or if you would like to sign up, please contact Customer Service for an appointment.

Getting Ready for the Cold

Winter is here and, even though we are experiencing warmer than normal temperatures, we did experience cooler temperatures in early to mid-December. Colder weather is right around the corner. That being said, cold temperatures can have an effect on your backflow preventer. For those residents who maintain their own backflow preventer, have you read Phillip Hisey's tips on how to winterize it? If not, please check out "Shutting Off Your Back Flow Valve" in the "Homeowner Maintenance" section under the "Resources" tab on otowinfo.com to read more details about how to winterize your backflow preventer and protect it from freezing temperatures.

Best wishes for a wonderful year!

CURBSIDE LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PICK-UP SCHEDULE

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

* Due to volumes, pick-up may extend into Tuesday
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Back at The Ranch

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rus_adams@otowfl.com

Get Fit Challenge Champ

Meet Dereck Grindstaff, The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa's "Get Fit Weight Loss Challenge" champ! Dereck participated in weight loss challenge winning the \$100 prize, but more importantly he lost 19

pounds. When Dereck celebrated his 30th birthday, he decided it was time to improve his lifestyle. As he entered this milestone decade, he was concerned that his weight would put him at a health disadvantage. After rejoining The Ranch in April 2017 (he was a previous member, moved away then returned) he decided to participate in the "Get Fit Weight Loss Challenge."

Dereck attributes his weight loss success to the accountability that the "Get Fit Weight Loss Chal-

lenge" provided. He noted, "sticking to healthy nutrition and eating real food, was as important as the exercise. I live by the 90/10 rule, I stick to proper nutrition 90 percent of the time and allow myself to splurge about 10 percent of the time." According to Certified Personal Trainer Kelly Braley, who led the weight loss challenge, "Dereck was diligent in attending the six-week program only missing one session to take his daughter to Disney World for her birthday!"

Hopefully Dereck's story inspires you to make improvements in your own health. Kelly has led the "Get Fit Weight Loss Challenge" for

many years and has these words of wisdom to help you on your own personal journey, "to lose weight and improve your health you will inevitably need to make changes in your nutrition and exercise. A specific goal, a clear commitment and a strong mindset will carry you through."

Stop by The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa during the month of January, which is open house month! New member benefits and savings are available, along with certified personal trainers with extensive experience to help you meet the New Year with a new you!



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Photo by Cammy Dennis

Dereck Grindstaff accepts his \$100 Get Fit Weight Loss Challenge prize from The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa Director Rus Adams.



Veterans Club

Bill Richhart

We were honored and pleased to partner with the Lions Club for the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade where our veterans could ride on a golf cart in the parade. I was hon-

ored to drive Frank, a World War II U.S. Army veteran. The parade was a great success.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 15, at 2 p.m. in Suite B of the Arbor Conference Center. Our guest speaker will be a representative from Honor Flight. Honor Flight flies World War II veterans to Washington D.C. to see the World War II Memorial along with a full day of activities. Some of our veterans have participated in this wonderful program.

For the coming year, we hope to have Jeff Askew from the Marion County Veterans Council speak about the Veterans Helping Veterans program. He will be happy to answer questions.

We are also working on Operation Shoebox together with the Democratic Club with donations for the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village in downtown Ocala. We are always grateful for all sorts of donations, so please bring your stuff to the meeting. We will keep working hard to make sure our veterans' lives keep getting better.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year. Any questions, please call (352) 304-8425.

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Toastmasters - Talk of the World

David Wesenberg

Due to a limit on Freedom Library meetings each month, Talk of the World will be meeting at Freedom Library only on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m., this month on Jan. 3. The second and fourth Wednesdays we meet in Cypress Hall at 8:30 a.m., this month on Jan. 10 and 24.

Toastmasters has elected some new officers: President David Wesenberg and Educational Vice President Leona Vlacancich.

Toastmasters is an organization dedicated to effective speech and leadership. It begins with 10 speech assignments, starting with an ice-breaker speech to introduce yourself. Completion of the 10 speeches results in a competent toastmaster award, the first step.

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.

But the real Toastmaster experience is listening to great speeches and meeting wonderful people.

Come join us and improve your communication, listening and leadership skills. Our membership is growing; increasing the fun. Contact Dave Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftwareinc.com or (217) 280-4454.

Finding Zen



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The joy of a new year! It's a blessing to take stock and breathe in an overview of our personal surroundings, where there are moments to celebrate, areas to set goals, and opportunities to enhance and enjoy journeys and special occasions. It's a time of year to appreciate depths of humanity, while reaching out to celebrate new beginnings.

At Sholom Park, we hope to present a space where you might appreciate special times and acknowledge old and new traditions as life continually grows and changes. Our Sholom park manager, Brian DeVane, reminds us that January is always a time for growth, defined in botanical terms and personal experiences.

"Our staff will be spending a lot of time this month preparing our plants and trees for a great display of growth this spring, which ultimately calls for pruning, fertilizing and mulching in areas that need special attention," DeVane said.

Many Sholom Park plants will be dormant this month, but an assortment of foliage is on the brink of spring explosions with splashes of red and pink. One in particular is turk's cap mallow.

"The turk's cap mallow should be blooming as you walk near the pergebo," DeVane said, noting that this particular shrub is related to the familiar hibiscus and has relatives in the okra and cotton fami-



Photo by Brian DeVane

Depending on weather conditions, Turk's Cap Mallow will possibly be in bloom this month. Turk's Cap Mallow often attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

lies. Turk's cap mallow requires minimal maintenance and is drought-tolerant, in keeping with Sholom Park's goal of incorporating plant life into its landscaping that places minimal impact on Florida's water supply.

This January, depending on the

weather and rainfall, Sholom Park might also enjoy vibrancy from some azaleas and some camellias, too.

L.E.A.F. Series

As Sholom Park staff continues with daily plant renovations, management, and sprucing up its 44

acres, we are also preparing for Sholom Park's upcoming special events. On Friday, Jan. 19, the park presents its first 2018 L.E.A.F. (Learn+Explore+Appreciate+Focus) Series presentation with On Top of the World's own fitness director, Cammy Dennis. Dennis' presentation, "New Year, New You," begins at 10:30 a.m., just in time for New Year's resolutions and opportunities for great outdoor activities. All are invited, admission-free. Reservations are not required.

Fun at the Park

We invite you to mark your calendar for Sholom Park's next Fun at the Park on Sunday, Feb. 25, from 1 to 4 p.m. Families, friends and all will enjoy our array of live music, food trucks and family-friendly fun! As in the past, thanks to generous sponsors, this event will be admission-free, so send an invite to your loved ones and join us for great moments at Sholom Park.

Volunteer Your Talents

Sholom Park and its visitors benefit every day because of the special volunteers who selflessly give their time, talent and treasure to its projects and causes. We currently seek volunteers to help us distribute flyers and park information, approximately twice a month, throughout the community. If you are interested in meeting new people and sharing news from the park, we would love to hear from you. Please e-mail info@sholompark.org for more information, or drop us a line if you would like to be added to our e-mail list to receive updates about the variety of activities at Sholom Park throughout the year.

Computer Club



David Wesenberg

The Computer Club meets in Arbor Conference Center, Suites B and C, at 9 a.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. Come and get help if you need it!

On Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017, the Computer Club held our Christmas lunch at Golden Corral. As a special feature of the Computer Club, membership entitles members to two lunches during the year for two persons for \$2 each. This is a great

opportunity to compare notes and discuss computer challenges.

In December 2017, we featured how to clean up viruses and unwanted programs from our personal computers and improve performance. Many members were surprised at the difference after this was done.

Look at our website at otow.lolipop.org/sites/OTOW%20Computer%20Club. This contains links to validated free software, a Q & A to solve problems and people to call when you are in computer trouble.

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

Avalon Social Group

Marie Roppel

Dressed in holiday garb, on a cool evening, a spirited group of more than 125 gathered for a delicious meal. The main item was ham but there were a few dozen side dishes as well. Many residents from the new section of Avalon as well as new residents in the origi-

nal section all gathered in friendship. All had a merry time. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 12 for our traditional St. Patrick's Day meal with corned beef and donated potluck items. Watch for further details in the New Year.

The Avalon Social Club wishes everyone a great New Year!

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**Citizens
Emergency
Response Team**

Beth McKeen

Happy New Year to all! The team would like to thank Kenneth Colen and Lynette Vermillion, general manager, for their support throughout the year. Marion County Sheriff's Office volunteers from CERT and Community Patrol were treated to lunch in the Candler Hills Community Center by management in December.

We also appreciate the projector

which was purchased by On Top of the World for use by clubs.

Please mark your calendar for the annual Health & Wellness Expo, which will take place in Circle Square Cultural Center on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. CERT members will be on hand to answer your questions, give you information on disaster preparedness and CERT membership.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Division of Emergency Management for their valuable time and expertise in guiding all CERT members both in this community and throughout Marion County. Personnel include Pres-

ton Bowlin, director; Erin Miller, assistant director; as well as our CERT coordinators, Beverly Case, Bill Case, Chuck Richards and Deb Richards. They work very hard answering our many questions and providing us with the tools needed to carry out our duties.

CERT relies heavily on the Marion County Emergency Radio Team (MERT) to help us communicate with the Emergency Operation Center, teams in the field and between teams. During a disaster, MERT members assist with radio integration for hospitals, shelters, CERT teams, as well as from the Marion County Sheriff's Mobile Command Center.

Help us to help you! If you would like to become a member of our CERT and/or MERT teams, please contact Beverly Case at the Emergency Operation Center at (352) 369-8103 to receive an application. Classes are held throughout the year.

Please feel free to attend one of our CERT meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 9 a.m. in Suites E and F of the Arbor Conference Center. For more information, contact Beth McKeen at (352) 237-5079.



SPCA

Maria Devine

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 1 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at the Bank of the Ozarks. We'd love to see new members of our community stop by to see what we're all about. If you need to get in touch with us, please call our hotline at (352) 362-0985.

We'd like to introduce our new board members for 2018: Jackie Ludmer, president; Sandy Wolf, vice president; Ann Fields, second vice president; Sharon Carey, secre-

tary; and Nancy LaFavre, treasurer. Congratulations to all and thank you for stepping up to help the animals.

We are desperately in need of foster caregivers. We cannot take in all the dogs and cats we get calls on until our foster network grows. For those animals, we are helping getting the word out for now.

As of the end of 2017, we are packing dog and cat food for the Pets on Wheels program for 25 big dogs, 40 small dogs, and 35 cats. That's why we welcome your donations. Please call our hotline to help us out.

A lovely pair of Jack Russell terriers just came into foster care. Ginger is eight years old and her daughter Molly is five. Both are

very sweet and very friendly. They get along with everyone as well as other dogs. Totally housetrained, they like nothing better than to lie in your lap and be petted. When not doing that, they love to play ball, which will give you a good workout. These dears look lovingly cared for but are now alone in the world. We'd love to keep mother and daughter together, but they can be adopted separately if need be. If you want to start the New Year out with a new companion, these sweeties should fit the bill.

We also have a new kitty for adoption. Her name is Noelle and is a very healthy one year old. She is also up to date on all shots and should be spayed by the time you read this. If you like your cats on

the smaller side, Noelle is only 6.5 pounds. She's a well-mannered little lady - she knows how to use her litter box and cleans her bowl after every meal. If this sounds like kitty heaven, it is, so please call to meet this little angel.

Please call our hotline at (352) 362-0985 to meet Ginger, Molly and Noelle.

The SPCA is also trying to help place three chihuahuas and two small poodles. If these types of dogs interest you, please give us a call to meet them. Weather permitting; we will bring these animals to the Farmer's Market at The Town Square most Thursday mornings and to the car show in front of Big Lots on SR 200 on the second Friday of each month, at 6 p.m.



Democratic Club

Dan Lack

Our first meeting of the New Year occurs on Thursday, Jan. 26. Our first order of business is the election of the 2017 board of directors: President Dan Lack, Vice President Jerry Segovis, Secretary Lynn Miller, Treasurer Evelyn Kofroth and Directors Jack Hegarty, Jean Krueger-Travis, Paul Pardee

and Florence Pritchard. Then we will have some fun participating in an audio/visual trivia contest that will test your knowledge of civics and government. We will divide the attendees into teams who will compete for a surprise prize.

After the 2016 election it is more important than ever for a dynamic and thriving Democratic Club. Approximately 40 percent of the On Top of the World electorate voted for the Democrats on Election Day. They make up a large group of rational citizens who believe that facts, scientific and otherwise, do

matter. The Democratic Club allows us to socialize with like-minded individuals and spread our message.

We meet on the fourth Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. in Suites E and F of 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 youtube.com (otowdemclub).

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!



**The Lodge
at Candler Hills**

Sandy Curtis
(352) 387-9508
thelodge@otowfl.com

Welcome 2018! The Lodge at Candler Hills has been open since March 2017. Some great events have taken place over the past year. I look forward to bringing you many more exciting times in the year ahead.

Some things will remain the same such as our "Coffee and Conversation" on the first and third Wednesday of every month, from 9 to 11 am. It's a great way to meet and greet your friends and neighbors. This is for Candler Hills residents and a guest.

You are missing out on a fun filled evening with your friends if you haven't yet attended "Kocktails and Karaoke." Join us on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 6 p.m. in the ballroom of The Lodge at Candler Hills. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks. Each Candler Hills resident may invite one guest and attendance is free.

The Lodge at Candler Hills is hosting an appetizer gathering on Tuesday, Jan. 16, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share of your favorite appetizer and your own beverage. Live music will be provided for your pleasure. This event is free of charge for Candler Hills residents; please sign up in the office if you will be attending.

Looking forward to a fabulous 2018 with all of you.

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Candler Connection

Debra Keirn

The holiday lights at many of the homes in Candler Hills really added to the spirit of the season. We really enjoyed riding around in the golf cart to view all of the beautifully decorated homes.

The sorting tour at FedEx is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. for a maximum of 10 persons. Any questions, contact Bob Scherff at (352) 291-1505.

Tuesday, Jan. 30 will be the next potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Those residents with the last names begin-

ning with A-C and T-Z should bring main entrees; D-K, side dish, salad or vegetable; and L-S, appetizers or dessert. Please label your dish with name and ingredients to assist people with dietary issues. Setup volunteers should arrive at 4:30 p.m.; all others by 5:30 p.m. to enjoy appetizers and to obtain a number for the table where you will be sitting. \$1 cost per person covers eating utensils, plates, napkins, and decaf coffee. To attend, contact Deb Keirn at (352) 414-5737 or arthurkipdeb@verizon.net to let her know how many will be attending and if you can help with setup and/or clean-up.

Sheriff Billy Woods has been rescheduled to speak on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 3 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills regarding issues going on in our area and along the SR

200 Corridor as well as scams.

A new neighbor session is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 8, at 3 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. This is a good way to obtain some information on the area and to meet new neighbors.

On Sunday, Feb. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m., join us at The Lodge at Candler Hills for "Tapas and Wine" - a presentation by 7 & 7 Coffee and Wine Shop. The ticket price is \$30 per person. This event is a time to enjoy hors d'oeuvres with wine pairings before your evening meal. Please watch for information in "The Happenings" as to when and where the ticket sales will take place.

On Thursday, Feb. 15, at 3 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills, Jim Couillard, director and landscape architect for Marion County Parks

and Recreation will present information on state and county parks.

Other future events are a spring dinner dance at The Lodge at Candler Hills on Saturday, April 7, with the theme "Spring Has Sprung" and ice cream sundae socials on Sunday, June 10 and Sunday, Aug. 19.

The next Candler Connection board meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 2:30 p.m. at the Candler Hills Community Center. Any Candler Hills resident is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, Jan. 9 will be the Candler Connection annual board meeting and election of board members at The Lodge at Candler Hills, at 3 p.m.

A happy and healthy New Year to all of you. See you around the neighborhood.



Community Patrol

Patricia Woodbury

The Community Patrol and CERT members enjoyed a very nice luncheon on Monday, Dec. 11, 2017 in the Candler Hills Community Center, hosted by Kenneth Colen, in appreciation of the commitment of these two service organizations.

At our November 2017 meeting, Lieutenant Welch encouraged the members to patrol the commercial areas for suspicious activity during the holiday season. Unfortunately, this is the time of year when persons are looking to steal packages. The Marion County Sheriff's Office

(MCSO) encourages all to lock their cars and stow their valuables in the trunk of the car.

The lieutenant also mentioned that the MCSO started their annual holiday S.T.R.E.S.S. detail: Stop the Robberies - Ensure Safe Shopping. S.T.R.E.S.S. is one of their crime prevention programs that require all sworn administrative personnel to patrol all convenience stores, department stores, grocery stores and fast food restaurants and make sure they are visibly seen in our community. This increase in patrol personnel also allows them to be able to respond to potential incidents immediately in the case that crime should occur. They want to make sure our citizens are safe while they are out shopping and enjoying the holiday season.

Another event that the MCSO held in December 2017 was their first ever "Shop with a Cop" event held at Target in Ocala. MCSO sponsored four families through the use of a grant, and the Boys and Girls Club of Ocala sponsored multiple children from their club for the event. Children were given a pre-loaded gift card to shop with and each child had a guardian and/or deputy accompanying them to help. It was extremely touching to see that most of these children bought gifts for their siblings and parents first before shopping for gifts for themselves. These kids and their thoughtful, selfless actions touched a lot of hearts that night.

Another reminder that Lieutenant Welch gave the members was that golf carts must follow the

same rules that cars do for driving on the road. They must make complete stops at stop signs. They cannot drive on the sidewalks on SR200 and it is illegal to cross SW 80th Street from Publix to go to Walmart Neighborhood Market. If cited, these offenses may cost the driver a fine.

The Community Patrol wishes all of you a happy and safe New Year.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 22.

Anyone interested in becoming part of our Community 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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\$29.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.

Front End Alignment

Check Front End Components . Adjust Camber/Caster/Toe If Needed. Check Tire Pressures . Reset T.P.M.S systems if Needed.

\$ 34.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.

Front Brake Job

Remove and Replace Front Brake Pads , Install Ceramic Pads, Turn Rotors If Needed , Inspect All Hardware and Components:

\$ 139.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.

Tire Rotation

Rotate Tires, Inspect for Abnormal Wear, Reset T.P.M.S systems.

\$ 9.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.



Photo by Bill Shampine

Part of an ancient Roman stadium, built in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, during the second century A.D.



World Traveler

Bill Shampine

Plovdiv, Bulgaria, is one of those wonderful places you should visit that you have neither heard of nor know anything about. Having been there this past summer, perhaps I can enlighten you a bit.

Plovdiv is the second-largest city in Bulgaria, and thought to be the oldest continuously inhabited city in Europe. Located on the banks of the Maritsa River in south-central Bulgaria, its history dates back to 6000 B.C. With 8,000 years of history, you can imagine that the list of governmental entities ruling the

region reads like a "who's-who" of Europe. The Ottoman Empire ruled the region from 1371 until 1878. After 30 more years of localized wars and political struggles, Bulgaria finally was unified into the country it is today in 1908.

The population of metro Plovdiv is estimated to be 675,000, about the same as Boston. The old town part has narrow, cobble-stone streets that wander through neighborhoods offering glimpses of the history ranging from 2,000-year-old Roman ruins to beautiful 100-year-old homes still in use today.

I was particularly impressed when walking down main street you suddenly come face-to-face with an old Roman stadium. After hundreds of years, the stadium eventually was covered with dirt. Being invisible, part of the city of Plovdiv was built on top of it. In 1923, however, the stadium was rediscovered. To its credit, the city preserved the stadium in a way that blends in beautifully with the modern city. The stadium is 790 feet long, 160 feet wide, and would seat 30,000 spectators. Most of it still lies under the main street area, but one end has been carefully cleaned up, restored to some of its historic splendor, and surrounded by a public park.

Another historic marvel is the ancient Roman theater, considered to be one of the best preserved in Europe. It was discovered in the 1970s when a landslide on one of the seven hills, revealed some of it. Digging through 75 feet of dirt finally revealed an entire theater that would seat 6,000 people. This first century theater has been restored, and is used today for multiple civic events.

There are many interesting things to see and do in Plovdiv. For example, you can wander around on Nebet Tepe, the major hill overlooking the Maritsa River. This is where traces of the earliest settlements dating back to the sixth millennium B.C. can be found. You can visit the Djumaya mosque. Originally built in 1363 after conquest of the area by the Ottoman army, it was replaced in the 15th century by the current "modern" mosque. Don't you love it when locals think of a 15th century building as "modern"?

Another reason you should go to Plovdiv is aylyak. Aylyak is an untranslatable word, but basically used to describe a state of mind. It means, roughly, to be completely relaxed, unfazed by external pressures, and receptive to the pleasures of existence. Work is considered a means to an end rather than a virtue in itself. In Plovdiv, aylyak is a way of life. Perhaps this is why visitors feel so comfortable in Plovdiv?

In summary, I think Plovdiv is a great place to visit.

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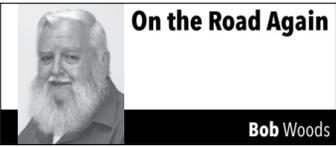
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On the Road Again

Bob Woods

The club would like to wish everyone a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year.

In 2017, the club sponsored some great trips. The biggest was a 35-night "Down Under" trip circumnavigating Australia with a stop in Bali, Indonesia and the South Island of New Zealand with a stop on the North Island before

flying back home. The longest motor coach trip was to Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada for a nine-day trip stopping at many destinations to and from. The trip consisted of a lot of destinations at the falls and the Niagara River.

The club also accomplished a motor coach trip to the Sky High Hot Air Balloon Festival at Callaway Gardens and to Pigeon Forge, Tenn. and a cruise onboard Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the Seas visiting St. Thomas, San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Labadee, Haiti.

The club is providing a short cruise on Royal Caribbean's Brilliance of the Seas on Monday, March 12, departing Tampa for a five-night voyage to Key West and Cozumel, Mexico before returning to Tampa. The cruise line has recalled my remaining cabins but there is room on the motor coach. Call for details.

The club is still looking for a few stand-by people for a fantastic motor coach trip visiting many locations in England, Wales and Scotland after flying to and from London. The trip includes visits to Stonehenge, Plymouth, Bath and Cardiff, Wales including the Roman Baths; along with Glasgow and

the Isle of Skye and Loch Ness. The motor coach will continue to Edinburgh including Edinburgh Castle and the Military Tattoo. Crossing back into England the coach will take the travelers to Alnwick Castle that was featured in Harry Potter and Downton Abbey, then continue on to Stratford-Upon-Avon viewing Anne Hathaway's cottage and a visit to Shakespeare's birthplace before returning to London for the flight back home. Interested in placing your name on the stand-by list with no obligation? Call Bob Woods at (352) 854-0702. Details can be found on the club's website at bobwoodsontheroadagain.com.



Travel Toppers

Anne Parker

The members of the board of directors of Travel Toppers wish you and your family a Happy New Year filled with good health, much happiness and safe travel. We invite you to look at the trips listed below and to call to make your reservations. We don't want you to miss out on the fun.

Final reservations are being taken for the trip to see "Pippin" at the Show Palace on Thursday, Feb. 1. Since final payments to the

Show Palace and the bus company must be made by the first week in January, you will need to contact Gail Ambrose at (352) 671-8280 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m., weekdays) as soon as possible to book this trip. The cost is \$74 per person and includes transportation, all tips and lunch.

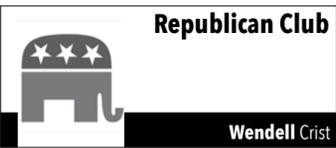
On Thursday, March 15, we will travel to the Show Palace to see "Unexpected Songs." The cost is \$74 and includes bus, tips, lunch and the show. Call Inge at (352) 237-7428 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m., weekdays) to book this. The show will feature some of the most beloved music from the greatest musical theater songbooks of all time. You will hear some of the wonderful characters from the musical minds

of Andrew Lloyd Webber as well as Rogers and Hammerstein. Listen to Christine, Raoul, Norma, Grizabella, Joseph, the Von Trapps, Anna, Curly and the Phantom as they help you relive memories of your favorite plays.

There is a cruise to Cuba planned from Monday, Nov. 5 to Friday, Nov. 9 on the Norwegian Sun. Leaving from Port Canaveral, the ship will have stops in Key West, Fla. and Havana, Cuba. The ship will be in port in Havana a full day and overnight to maximize your experiences. If you are a fan of Ernest Hemingway, both ports of call have something for you. Hemingway's Home and Museum are in Key West. His favorite place in Havana was El Flo-

ridita known as the "Cradle of the Daiquiri." Immerse yourself in the culture of Havana by listening to tropical jazz, viewing 1950s American cars, and touring pastel buildings lining cobblestone streets. All deposits and final payments for this trip will require a credit card. Contact Inge at (352) 237-7428 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m., weekdays) for more details concerning this exciting cruise.

A number of other day trips have been planned for 2018. Refer to the Fall/Winter 2017/18 Travel Toppers Tours brochure or visit traveltopperstours.com for details on trips to both new and old venues. These trips are open to all residents and their guests.



Republican Club

Wendell Crist

We held our meeting at the Arbor Conference Center in Suites E, F, G and H on Friday, Dec. 8, 2017 at 7 p.m. Vice President Wendell Crist presided as President Bill Richhart was out of town. Since Marilyn Rose Dunn was not able to attend, Secretary Fiona Bowling gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fiona mentioned to the members what an honor this was for her, having become a U.S. citizen in 2008.

Our guest speaker was County Commissioner David Moore, who was delighted to tell the story of the birth of Jesus Christ from the Bible, Luke Chapter 2. His presentation allowed us to focus quietly for a moment and forget about the hustle and bustle!

Following the meeting, we proceeded to enjoy our Christmas potluck dinner. What a wonderful buffet of goodies from deviled eggs and sausage rolls to chicken casserole, shepherd's pie, various salads,

wonderful baked beans and dessert of German chocolate cake and English trifle. To conclude our wonderful time together, David Wesenberg sang a solo Christmas song, then led us all into singing several well-known Christmas carols which left everyone feeling the Christmas spirit.

Our guest speaker for the New Year will be Villie Smith, Marion County property appraiser. The meeting will be on Friday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E, F G and H. His presentation will be full of information, and we hope we have a great turn out.

Happy New Year to all!

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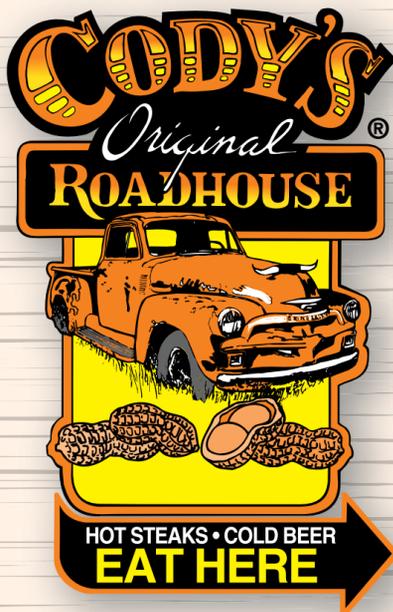
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Celebrating the Holidays with a Story

By Ray Cech
World News Writer



Photo by Ray Cech

Storytellers at Master the Possibilities on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017.

It was an evening of Christmas stories at Master the Possibilities on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017.

With the Christmas tree brightly lit and decorated serving as the perfect backdrop for story time, the audience was treated to humor,

banter and whimsical stories, all about Christmas past.

For example, Rob Vlacanrich gave us his version of the night before Christmas — did that really happen Rob?

Laurie Fondiler told of her visit to a department store Santa Clause, and Claire Chandler used her imagination to describe what it would be like to be Mrs. Clause.

Edie Gandy's fantasy story brought the house down with her interpretation of what it was like when she was the human resource director for Santa Clause and his merry tribe of elves, reindeer, and volunteers. Their unionizing attempt on Christmas Eve was not a pretty picture!

The story telling program at Master the Possibilities has taken on a wonderful life of its own under the leadership of Jerry Snyder.

From January through April, you can listen to stories on the second Wednesday of every month. The next story telling is Wednesday, Jan. 10 and 18, at 4 p.m. at Master the Possibilities. Come and enjoy a good tale.

If you have a story you would like to share, contact Jerry Snyder at jsnyder1207@yahoo.com.

Lions Club Honors Veterans

By Sherry Whitmer-Hall

Twenty-one veterans rode with the Lions Club and Veterans Club in the Holiday Golf Cart Parade, on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017. The veterans told us they were so touched by the salutes and "thank-you's" they heard along the parade route from residents. The Lions Club and is still receiving thank-you's from residents for organizing and giving veterans "the parade they never received when they came home."

The most popular addition to the Lions Club this year was the patriotic car. U.S. Air Force Veteran Jerry Ross drove his stars and stripes Thunderbird from Georgia especially for our parade. Another patriotic addition to the Lions Club was the North Marion Young Marines with Unit Commander Roxanne D. Tweedy, CDR, USN, retired nurse and Young Marine; Dom DaSilva, training officer; Sergeant Samantha J. Cagle; and PFC Logan X. Marti.

The Lions and Veterans Clubs decorated their golf carts with li-

ons, Christmas decorations, and signs with their veterans' name on the side. Santa (a veteran) and his helpers entertained the audience with Rudolf pulling their sleigh (cart).

The Lions Club and Toys for Tots would like to thank the residents for their generosity this year in donating 367 toys to the Toys for Tots children in need.

The Lions Club is doing a lot of fun and rewarding projects including, military appreciation (Golf Cart Parade), ceremonies (Veterans Day and Memorial Day), and the Resident Emergency Health Form (community service project). The Lions will be performing diabetic screenings at the Health & Wellness Expo in January.

Visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the Arbor Conference Center, Suite B. For more information, please contact Estelle Clark Michelson at (352) 861-7358.



Photo by Sherry Whitmer-Hall

North Marion Young Marines, Unit Commander Roxanne D. Tweedy, CDR, USN, retired nurse and Young Marines Dom DaSilva, training officer, SGT Samantha J. Cagle, PFC Logan X. Marti.

Michigan Club Celebrates the Season

By Nancy Meininger

Michigan Club members love to support their teams - as evidenced by the seven golf carts and little red truck, which gathered for the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017. Larry Keller represented Michigan State University (MSU) in his red pick-up loaded with a Fraser fir and hung with MSU flags and a Christmas wreath.

Driving the University of Michigan blue golf cart draped in gold crepe paper were Carolyn Abramovich and Kathy Becker. Sandi and Coach Lendrum drove the Detroit Redwings cart and Kathy Dushary drove the Detroit Pistons cart with Joan Brand. It had an on-board basketball hoop. Tom and Nancy Meininger drove the Detroit Tigers

cart with baseballs hung all around the roof. Judy and Paul Wagnitz drove the Detroit Lions cart. Carol and Arnie Maki represented the state of Michigan with a Mackinac Bridge on a cart roof, and Michigan symbols all over the vehicle. Of course, Michigan is known for its mitten shape, so not surprising was a mitten cart created by Diane and Don Ricard, which brought up the rear.

Michigan Club's holiday party was at our regular meeting date - the first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. Members were

asked to dress their tables by picking a country around the world. Carolyn Abramovich chose America, Sue Latham chose France, Carol Maki chose Germany, Kay Chandler chose Japan and Kathy Becker chose Ireland. A vote was taken and the Irish table won a cash award.

Michigan Club polo shirts are being re-ordered. If you are interested in one of the forest green collared club shirts with the state of Michigan logo and club name, contact Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757. The order will be placed by Dec. 29, 2017.

Next time you visit the Recreation Center please look for our Michigan Club wreath. It is just to the left of the main door in the Ballroom. Ann Keller and Sue Latham created the wreath and it is stunning!

Kicking off 2018, we have speaker, Pat Gabriel, from SR200 Coalition, the Ocala development authority, who will give us an up to the minute presentation of all new retail and residential development in our area. We look forward to watching our city grow.

If you are from the state of Michigan, or have ever lived there, we welcome you to our monthly meet and greet meetings at 5 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month in Suites E and F of the Arbor Conference Center. Bring a plate to pass and a non-alcoholic beverage for yourself. There is no charge to become a club member. For more information, call Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757.



Photo by Nancy Meininger

Michigan State red truck driven at the Holiday Golf Cart Parade by Larry Keller.



Women of the World

Betty Thayer

Happy New Year from Women of the World!

Our Friday, Dec. 1, 2017 meeting was full of fun, laughter, and Santa Claus. Santa paid a visit courtesy of our entertainment, The Golden Troopers. We had Christmas songs and funny skits. It was the perfect way to start the holidays.

Our members were very generous with gifts for our monthly charity, Arnette House. Cindy Moore, community outreach and development

coordinator, was overwhelmed with our donations for the children.

We also had a big announcement; Dillard's will be providing the fashions for our March 3 Luncheon and Fashion Show benefitting Hospice of Marion County. This annual event promises to be cutting edge, presenting trends in the fashion world. Tickets are \$25 per person and will go on sale to our members at the Friday, Jan. 5 meeting at 11:30 a.m. Lunch for the fashion show will again be catered by Bella Cucina. We will have baskets filled with all sorts of goodies, that our members make, to be raffled off. This fashion show is the highlight of our community projects.

While planning the fashion show

takes time, we as a club still have our monthly charities. Each month we have two standing charities, Operation Shoebox and Marion Senior Services. Operation Shoebox is dedicated to supporting our troops with care packages. The most requested items are instant coffee, Gatorade, beef jerky, trail mix, shampoo, baby wipes, and crossword puzzles. Stop at the table and pick up a brochure. The other ongoing charity, Marion Senior Services, welcomes all non-perishable foods.

Our January monthly charity is PACE. They provide young girls with counseling and education to help them succeed in life. Their preferred donations are feminine hygiene products, shampoo, de-

odorant, nail polish, journals, body wash, and costume jewelry.

As always, our members are under no obligation to support all three charities.

Entertainment for the January meeting will be historian, Dee Collier.

Women of the World is open to all resident ladies. Our goal is to help local charities with donations of needed items.

Please join us on Jan. 5 in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 12:30 p.m. for refreshments. If you are purchasing fashion show tickets, come visit us at the back table starting at 11:30 a.m.



The Glitzy Gals

Mary Curry

On Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017, we had a goodbye breakfast at Stone Creek Grille for Janet Wahl, one of our charter members. We shared a few stories of good times and gave her hugs.

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017, five Glitzy Gals went shopping at the Orlando Premium Outlet Mall. They all participated in their favorite sport, shopping, which is a Red Hatters thing to do.

Nov. 16 through Nov. 19, 2017, was the Red Hat Florida State Convention, at the Sanibel Harbor Marriott. Betty Tesmer and Germaine Mueller attended this function. On Friday, they visited Sanibel and Captiva Islands, where they had lunch, and that evening, they attended a "Woodstock Revisited 60s" party. Saturday was another busy day for these ladies, with breakfast at the hotel, followed by shopping, and at lunchtime attending a high tea, along with 18 other Red Hatters in Fort Meyers. That night, they attended a gala party at the hotel. Sunday they traveled 250 miles back to Ocala.

Sweeties' Cafe and Bakery in

Dunnellon, Fla., was our choice for our Christmas luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017. Eighteen Glitzy Gals dressed in our favorite color purple and beautiful red hats enjoyed our lunch, and especially our desserts. Fun games, \$1 gift and sock exchange, along with good friends, made the day special.

Queen Mary Curry gave each lady a gift of glitzy jewelry, and two special handmade microwave potholders made from material donated by Janet Wahl. There was also a gift of napkin holders too. The Glitzy Gals presented a gift to Queen Mary, who hosted the luncheon. They gave her a gift card, so she could go shopping, and buy anything she

desired. After the luncheon, the ladies took a group picture in the courtyard. After leaving the restaurant, some of the ladies went shopping at Cie Cie's Twice Nice in Dunnellon.

Every year, we as a group do a special thing at Christmas time for Project Hope of Ocala. This year we decided to give each family member a gift card. We have six adults and 11 children on our list. We managed to give each one of them a gift card for \$40. The ladies are very generous.

Wishing everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year. QM Mary



R/C LadyBirds

Caren Kowalsky

The LadyBirds had a few fun activities in December 2017.

Friday, Dec. 8, 2017 was our annual LadyBirds holiday meeting,

and thanks to Naomi Berman, included donations for Toys for Tots, and our famous annual cookie exchange. Unwrapped toys were collected and delivered to our local fire department to be distributed to children. Delicious cookies, made by our talented LadyBird bakers, were exchanged for all to enjoy. Thanks to Barbara Wright and her generous LadyBird elves, we col-

lected clothing, toiletries, and food, which were brought to the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village.

Our annual holiday luncheon took place at Stone Creek Grille on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017. A wonderful assortment of delicious food, and of course, great LadyBird company made for another lovely occasion.

Please be on the lookout for Gloria Scicluna's information regarding our annual birthday party, which takes place this month.

If you are looking for a wonderful fun group of ladies to join, the

LadyBirds might be just right for you. Any wife or significant other of an R/C Flyer is welcome to come and sit in at one of our meetings, which takes place the second Friday of the month from September to April. Bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage, and we will supply the baked goodies thanks to our wonderful LadyBird bakers. We are sure you will want to join our happy group.

If you have any questions, please contact Caren at allensky@earthlink.net or (352) 291-1235. We look forward to meeting you. Happy New Year!

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New Year - New You

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The Pennsylvania Club held its annual Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017 in the Arbor Conference Center. Members and guests dined on delicious hams prepared by club members along with a lavish assortment of side dishes and desserts. All shared a bountiful feast. What amazing cooks come from Pennsylvania!

"Twas the Night Before Christmas" gift exchange was held and everyone was delighted with the wide variety of gifts they received at the end of story.

The toy drive for the Salvation Army was a big success. As always, members exceeded the previous

year's donations. Ed and Micki Malsch delivered the toys to the Salvation Army following the meeting. Thanks to all the members who so generously provided toys for delivery.

The next meeting takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. Annual dues of \$5 will be collected at that time and membership cards will be distributed for the new year. The theme for this meeting is "Super Bowl." Show your support by wearing the colors of your favorite team as we share tailgate food prepared by our members. Please bring your best tailgate dish to share for potluck. The club will provide drinks.

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



Photo by Michelle Malsch

Toys donated by members of the Pennsylvania Club the Salvation Army toy drive.



"We have a Texas club?" That question was often heard as we traversed the route of the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade. I guess our carts adorned with cow horns and Texas flags were a big hint! And, yes, we have a club called the Texas Connection Social Club. The club is open to residents and their spouses/significant others who have a connection to Texas by either being raised there or living there for work, college or military service. We meet on the second Sunday of every month, from 6 to 8

p.m., in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F.

The December 2017 meeting was kicked off with some great munchies and lots of visiting time as some specially selected music played in the background. We were serenaded by Asleep at the Wheel with "Big Ole Texas Christmas" and "Merry Texas Christmas Y'all." George Strait and Clint Black sang about Christmas cookies, and other Texas and country singers crooned about two-steppin' around the Christmas tree and Santa getting lost in Texas.

Our resident historian, Jim Hacker, told us about some of the varied Christmas traditions around Texas, and some of our folks shared a Texas Christmas memory. If you know Lynn Pluto, ask her about the Christmas fireworks out in the pas-

ture and the reaction of the residents of that pasture!

After a reading of "Twas the Night before Christmas Texas Style" and an update on club activities we played a left right gift exchange game to a story called "Suing Santa." This produced a lot of laughs and even more occurred when we got around to opening our gifts. There was quite a variety from a cuckoo clock and a Mickey cookie jar to an actual white elephant - figurine that is. The Wegel's house-guest, Norma Christensen, won a drawing for the biggest box, which turned out to be a stick horse that actually whinnies! She quickly named it "TC" for Texas Connection. We're all waiting to see how she gets TC back to Chicago.

Our next meeting will be Sunday,

Jan. 14 beginning at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F when we will be celebrating National Slow Cooker Month with entrees, sides, vegetables and desserts done in a slow cooker. Yes, all these dishes can be done by the slow cooking method. However, if you don't have a slow cooker or cooking isn't your thing, you're welcome to contribute in other ways.

We will also be treated to a Texas trivia contest with prizes to the winning team. Our resident historian will provide the questions and he's promised it won't be too difficult since some of us have been gone from Texas for a while or didn't live there very long, or just don't have the memory that we used to have.

For more information about the Texas Connection Social Club, please contact Kathy Cornell at (352) 300-3729, (352) 562-2801 or kcornell54@cfl.rr.com.



The Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017 meeting of the Scandinavian American Club featured a combined Thanksgiving and Christmas celebration. A Christmas tree was decorated with handmade ornaments representing the Scandinavian countries. Members placed gifts of toys and food under the tree. These items were donated to the Salvation Army. The club also made a financial donation

to Hospice of Marion County and to the Salvation Army.

The festive buffet table included Scandinavian and American foods such as herring, lingonberry, korv (Swedish sausage), ham, cheese and sandwiches. The meal was topped off with an assortment of cookies, cakes and coffee, of course!

Club members received an early Christmas gift of new nametags, with members' name and country of origin, made by Dee Dee Springer. The afternoon concluded with a drawing for door prizes and a

50/50 raffle.

The next meeting of the Scandinavian American Club will be on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. All residents of Scandinavian descent are invited to attend. For more information about the club, please contact Grace Hansen at (352) 237-7780 or Jennie Halvorsen at (352) 873-7478. Happy New Year to all!

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Photo by Tom Murray
Limpkin mother and chick.



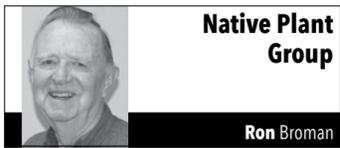
Birders' Beat

Debbie Sherer

The Unique Birders plan to visit Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park in Gainesville, Fla., on Thursday, Jan. 25. Specifically, we want to look for birds on the La Chua Trail. During the month of December 2017 this trail has been closed due to flooding. If this condition persists in late January, we will visit nearby Sweetwater Wetlands instead (also in Gainesville). Both sites are excellent birding spots and often have large groups of migrating birds passing through. Please contact

Deborah Sherer at roxiess@me.com or (571) 224-8422 by Monday, Jan. 22, if you are interested in this trip. The La Chua Trail is located at the center of Paynes Prairie marsh and wetlands. The trail is a three-mile loop with a panoramic platform located at the end of the trail. Many species of wading birds, ducks, raptors and songbirds can be viewed daily on the trail. Similarly, birders at Sweetwater Wetlands routinely see 30 to 50 species of birds including ducks, herons, egrets, storks, ibises, kites, harriers, hawks, gallinules, cranes, sandpipers and many songbirds. January temperatures can be cold at both of these birding spots so be sure to bring your gloves, hat and a warm jacket.

Remember to contact Deborah Sherer (roxiess@me.com) by Jan. 22 if you would like to join the Unique Birders on this trip. By this date, we will know whether we can hike the La Chua Trail or will be going to Sweetwater Wetlands. If you wish to join us, additional information will be sent to you concerning how to get to the birding area and what facilities are available at these spots. We will gather at the Recreation Center parking lot at 6:45 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25. Maps will be provided to each driver on the day of the trip. Options for lunch will be given to you on Jan. 25. We will pick a lunch spot before leaving so that reservations can be made that morning.



Native Plant Group

Ron Broman

My mom told the three of us boys one time, "Good things come in small packages." I suppose she was referring to things like diamonds, or vitamins, or even water drops. But I know she had in mind something positive to be said about her short stature. She was five feet one and one half inches, and often said with an eye twinkle, "I'm only short on one end."

Small plants are something else. In this world that seems to support the adage "size is everything," *Justicia cooleyi* might be considered of not much worth. That couldn't be further from the truth.

At less than a foot tall and spreading to a foot and a half or so she's accomplished quite a lot. Occurring officially in only Florida in the U.S. and in only three counties (Hernando, Sumter, and Lake), she's made the federal list of endangered species.

Why she's so rare is an interesting question - to me - and apparently to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Jacksonville. The five-

year review report of 2010 states, "*Justicia cooleyi* has not been consistently monitored since it was originally found near Mascotte in Sumter County in 1925. Additional surveys have been conducted since, but *Cooley's water-willow*, as she is affectionately called, seems to have alluded the experts."

I'm amazed. She's only a foot tall and her flower is the size of a match head; but she seems to enjoy "real" Florida. She "likes" the shade of oaks, mainly live, water, and laurel; cabbage palm, magnolia, and yaupon holly. Her soil preferences include "fine sandy loam to silty clay loam usually underlain by limestone occasionally with limestone outcroppings." This describes On Top of the World to a T!

The report continues, "She tolerates drought as well as moist soils. Leaf litter helps. She can be a ground cover under the heavy shade of large oak trees, and she is a nectar source for small butterflies and bees." Winged elm and beauty berry as well as ferns, grasses and sedges found along roadways are also among her favorites; and can be in our yards if we plant natives. If we plant natives!

Our friend, Janice, has a yard that includes many of these and other plants native to our area.

She tells me that *Cooley's water-willow* is growing there. In fact she has shared and now we have four healthy *Justicia cooleyi* plants. We'll see how they do.

With just a few native additions, *Cooley's water-willow* can flourish here!

Mom was right! Good things do come in small packages; but they also come in big packages, like sharing with others and helping to make our world a healthier place.

A grateful thanks to Janice Puta for the research for this column.

Come join our Native Plant Group as we continue to maintain the SW 94th Street circle, the Longleaf Pine Trail and native garden, and the Belleview Library native garden. We learn so much about how to make our little part of this earth healthier. Growing native is small, but oh so powerful!



Photo by Janice Puta
Cooley's water-willow magnified and magnificent.



Singles Club

Lorraine Serwan

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2018. I hope everyone had a happy holiday. The Singles Club ended the year with a tasty luncheon and gift exchange at Red Lobster.

Now we are ready to start the new year with our meeting on Thursday, Jan. 11. Our guest speaker will be a fitness instructor from the On Top of the World who will talk about "Balance and Avoiding Falls."

On Sunday, Jan. 14, a group will be traveling to the Ocala Civic Theatre to enjoy "I Love a Piano," featuring the music of Irving Berlin.

Looking ahead to some of our excursions: Alpaca Magic Farm, Fort King Historical Landmark, and Fire Rescue Museum. Come join us for these interesting outings.

Our first meeting of the new year will be on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 2 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites G and H. Come join us and bring a friend. We always welcome new members.

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Southern Club

Melanie Vittitow

You probably know by now that the Southern Club won the trophy for the second year in a row for "Best in Show" at the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017. If you missed the parade, you missed a good time. The weather couldn't have been more perfect, there were more carts this year than I can remember, and I have been here for 11 parades.

The five Southern Club carts were all decorated with the theme of a hillbilly Christmas, complete with a real still and an outhouse! I have to thank all those who took the time and effort to make such gorgeous carts: Mike and Melinda Rice, Linda and Colin Anderson, Patty and Fred Hainzl, Keith and Ann Fields, Al and Linda Rhodes, and a special thanks to Linda's daughter who bought the still because she knew how much her mom likes to win! I think this fine group may already have ideas for next year.

The December 2017 meeting was a real treat. The club provided ham and turkey from Honey Baked Ham and our great southern cooks brought the rest of the meal. What a feast! We followed that with a grab-bag gift exchange. When your number was called, you could choose a gift from those brought in or take one away from a person who had chosen before you. It really got fun when people started unwrapping holiday cookies and chocolates! I must have chosen really great gifts, because I had to give up mine several times, but I ended up with a nice holiday scented candle for my home.

For those new to the community, or interested in meeting a group of fun, friendly people, the Southern Club meets on the first Thursday of



Photo by Ray Cech

Southern Club won "Best in Show" in the Holiday Golf Cart Parade.

the month from September to May, at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. Since you are now living in the south, we consider you an honorary southerner, and you are welcome to join our club as long as you are a resident. The meeting starts at 4:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner, a short meeting and entertainment or a speaker. You are asked to bring a dish to share and your plates and utensils. The club furnishes coffee, tea and lemonade. We have some fun entertainment planned for our next meeting on Thursday, Jan. 4, so I hope you can be there.

If you can't come on Jan. 4, stop by our table at the Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 18 to learn more about us.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can call me at (352) 873-8690. If not, I'll see you on Jan. 4, at 4:30 p.m. in Suites E and F of the Arbor Conference Center.



Active Singles

Ed Galizia, Jr.

January represents the fresh start of a new year, new milestones, new friends, new relationships and new challenges. It's also a time to reflect on the past year and evaluate things, so improvements can be made.

Okay, enough of the philosophical stuff, now to the nitty gritty. We had a successful launch of the Active Singles Club in September 2017, and in the few short months that we have been "active" we've established several firsts. Our membership has grown to well above 100, we had several successful and well attended events, the last of which was the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade, where we managed to have the most golf carts, 22, of all the clubs participating. And, most importantly, we had an enthusiastic acceptance by our members.

It is that enthusiasm that we will build upon in 2018. As we start the new year, we have a few events on the calendar, which you can find at

activesinglesotow.com, including tropic trivia nights, another hike and lunch daytrip, and a Salvador Dali Museum day trip scheduled, with more events in the planning stage for February and March.

Our membership meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the Indigo East Community Center, from 6 to 8 p.m. We'll be finalizing the changes to the first of the month Sunday dinners, using the newly selected logo, and planning the poker run and bike rides tentatively scheduled for February along with how we will collect canned goods for the local food bank.

So, here's to a great start to the new year and continued growth and success for us all.

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Favorite Recipes Dinner Club

Luke Mullen

November marked the beginning of our holiday season of sharing great meals amongst our club members. Two dinners were held at club members' homes to accommodate six members.

Hosting our first dinner were Kathy and Luke Mullen. Ginny and Jerry Nardone brought two appetizers. The first was hot spinach artichoke dip with toasted French bread slices. The second was cocktail franks in barbecue sauce. Fol-

lowing the appetizers, Kathy and Luke served the meal of Italian style chicken cacciatore, utilizing a recipe from a Boston-based Joe Tecce's Italian restaurant. Accompanying this were two side dishes: green beans with bacon and a sweet potato casserole. After the meal, Annette and Paul Hodge served the dessert. It was a homemade chocolate cheesecake on Oreo cookie crumb crust garnished with strawberries.

Carol and Roger Bonifield hosted our second dinner. Ann and Conrad Massa brought two appetizers. They had prepared sour cream, spinach, onion dip and beef rollups filled with cream cheese and horseradish. Following the appetizers,

Carol and Roger served stuffed pork chops, with a corn soufflé and a cranberry Jell-O salad. Phyllis and Al Richards provided the dessert. They brought a peanut butter and jelly pie consisting of a graham cracker crust filled with peanut butter, cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, orange marmalade and cool whip blended and chilled. It was decorated with chocolate and peanut butter morsels.

The sweet potato casserole served at the Nardone's was really enjoyed by all. Here's the recipe for you to enjoy!

Sweet Potato Casserole

- 3 cups cooked mashed sweet potatoes
- 1 cup sugar

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup plain flour
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 stick margarine

Combine the first six ingredients and pour into a buttered casserole dish.

Combine the last four ingredients and sprinkle on top of the mixture.

Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes.

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



What's Cookin'

Elaine Morrison

These two recipes are certain to bring sweet moments to you and your guests in the New Year. Although one has an ominous name, it is anything but lethal and looks fabulous when presented in a glass trifle bowl. The other is a variation of everyone's favorite, Toll House cookies, only this time it is made as a pie.

Death by Chocolate

- 1 package brownie mix, prepared according to package directions
 - 1/4 cup coffee liquor
 - 2 packages instant chocolate pudding, prepared to package directions
 - 8 chocolate covered toffee candy bars, (1.4 ounce) crushed coarsely
 - 12 ounces frozen whipped topping
- Prepare and bake brownies. Cool, pierce top with fork and drizzle in

coffee liqueur. Break into small pieces, place in trifle bowl, cover with half of the pudding, then a layer of chopped candy bars and half of the whipped topping. Repeat layers and top with crushed candy. Cover and chill for two hours.

Toll House Chocolate Chip Pie

- 1 9-inch deep dish pie shell, unbaked
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup all purpose flour

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup softened butter
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

In mixer, beat eggs, then beat in the sugars, flour and butter. Stir in the chips and nuts, spoon into pie shell. Bake for an hour, until knife comes out clean when pierced. Cool and serve with whipped or ice cream.

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American Jewish Club

Sandra Wolf

Happy New Year! The club is still getting compliments for the fashion show, and the board is looking into doing another next year.

Last month there was no lunch bunch. We celebrated Chanukah with our annual lox and bagel meeting. Dr. Helfin provided the entertainment, a combination of Jewish and American tunes. It's always a pleasure to have him at our meetings.

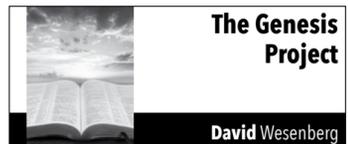
This month's lunch bunch will be held at Edo Sushi & Japanese Steakhouse, on Friday, Jan. 26, at

noon. This is a return visit. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible. The response has been overwhelming at the previous lunches.

Ralph Costa, our trip consultant, is looking into a trip to St. Petersburg, Fla. It would include a visit to the Chihuly collection and the Sal-

vador Dalí Museum. Lunch would be at Jo-El's Delicatessen & Marketplace. Date and time will be forthcoming.

The club is planning its first barbeque on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 12:30 p.m. We are asking members to sign up and bring a side dish. This should be a fun filled afternoon.



The Genesis Project

David Wesenberg

Genesis Project meets on Fridays, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suite B. Our goal is a discussion of the stories of the Bible to experience the stories

themselves, and people of all faiths are welcome.

Due to the Christmas season, we will resume our discussions on Friday, Jan. 5. The class is nearly finished with Exodus and will be moving on to Matthew and Hebrews in the spring.

Class members and the general public can follow along online at bible.lolopop.org.

Join us every Friday at 1 p.m. in Arbor Conference Center, Suite B and start a journey of discovery. For more information, contact Dave Wesenberg at dpw@master-softwareinc.com or (217) 280-4454. All are welcome!

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Active Living

Theresa Fields
(352) 854-8707 ext. 7530
theresa_fields@otowfl.com

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017. This year's parade was by far the largest and most festive parade we've seen in years, with over 100 golf carts decorated, a horse and buggy carrying the 2017 king and queen of On Top of the World, recumbent trikes, antique cars, military cadets from Frances Marion Military Academy, deputy explorer cadets from the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Young Marines, 911 special car honoring our veterans and more. The R/C Car Club greeted many of the spectators along the roadside with their cars racing in and out of driveways and along the street curbs. The Southern Club was awarded "Best in Show" for the second year in a row. They received a beautiful trophy to be displayed at Customer Service. The parade ended at The Town Square with Santa riding in style in the back of a 1984 El Dorado Cadillac.

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, Jan. 4, at the Recreation Center Ballroom. We will have tables of eight and you will select the team names. Please note you must have four or more paid contestants at a table to select a team name. 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.

A cash bar will be provided and you are welcome to bring snacks for your table. Please note that beverages of any kind will not be permitted. All beverages must be purchased through The Pub. Water is available at no charge.

The cost is \$3 per resident and \$5 per guest attending with the resident.

December Winners

1-The Dullard's; 2-Thespinage; 3-Happy Our.

Get Acquainted Coffee

Join us in welcoming some of our new residents into the community! We will have a Get Acquainted Coffee on Thursday, Jan. 11, in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 9 a.m. There will be coffee, doughnuts and representatives from various clubs, fitness and more. Each representative will speak about the services and programs they have to offer. At the conclusion of this event, we will take you on a short walk to familiarize you with some of the facilities and amenities that are available to you as residents.

Health & Wellness Expo

The 16th annual Health & Wellness Expo will take place on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center.

It's that time of year again when New Year's resolutions to be healthy are in full swing. Join On Top of the World Communities, Munroe Regional Medical Center and over 60 local healthcare agencies at the expo. Visit vendors as they showcase ways to ensure you live well. Fitness demonstrations will be provided throughout the day. This year's expo is sponsored by Munroe Regional Medical Center.

Line Dance Classes*

Join us for line dance classes in the Recreation Center Ballroom! Choose the class according to your ability. You may switch to a different level, if necessary. The cost of the class is \$10 per four-week class each month. (Your monthly pass includes practice sessions on Wednesdays.)

- **IMPROVER PLUS** (Mondays, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.): Dance experience required for this class. Improver Plus means slightly easier than Intermediate. Current popular dances are taught at this level.

- **BEGINNER LEVEL TWO** (Mondays, 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. Prior dance experience is required at this level.

- **BEGINNER LEVEL ONE** (Mondays, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.): Class participants have com-

pleted the Absolute Beginner line dance class. Dancers have some experience now, and know many step patterns. Easy dances are taught at this level with additional step patterns added.

- **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS** (Mondays, 5 to 6 p.m.): This class introduces you to line dance steps, patterns and easy dances. Step patterns are described, practiced and used in easy dances. Step sheets are provided only in this class.

- **INTRODUCTION TO LINE DANCE** (Tuesdays, 3 to 4 p.m.): Beginning Jan. 2, this class will provide an introduction to line dance for those who want to learn to line dance! Easy steps are clearly described, practiced and used in simple patterns to a variety of music. Step sheets are also provided in this class.

For fun and fellowship, join one of our dance classes! It is medically proven that the best activity combining physical and mental effort at the same time is dancing!

Majestic Manatee Tours*

Join us on the Majestic Manatee Tour on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Crystal River is well known for its West Indies Manatees as well as its crystal clear springs. We will arrive at Charlie's Fish House, a great waterfront restaurant around 11:30 a.m. You will have approximately one hour and fifteen minutes for lunch and then we will board on the dock next to the restaurant for a departure time of approximately 1 p.m. where you will tour the Three Sisters, Hunter, and King Springs in search of our beloved manatees that inhabit the area. The two and a half tour will keep you entertained with nature's wildlife and beauty. The cost is \$54 per resident and includes transportation and tour (lunch not included).

Social Hour

Come join us for a relaxing evening with friends and neighbors on Thursday, Jan. 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. You will enjoy easy listening music

as Long White Cloud performs for the evening. A cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will also be provided. This event is free!

Insiders Horse Farm Tour*

Join us for the Insiders Horse Farm Tour on Friday, Jan. 26, to learn about horses in Marion County. The tour will start with a brief tour of the Florida Breeder's Association Museum to learn a little history and why Ocala is "Horse Capital of the World." The tour includes a gorgeous drive through horse country including three different stops at Ocala's most exclusive horse farms. You will have lots of up close interaction with horses and a few newborn foals too. The cost is \$32 per resident. Please note this trip requires a lot of walking!

Once the farm tours are complete, we will stop at the Las Margaritas for lunch on your own.

Victory Casino Cruise*

Join us for an afternoon of gambling on Tuesday, Jan. 30, as we cruise on the Victory Casino out of Port Canaveral, Fla. You'll enjoy bingo, entertainment, relaxation, live table games and over 300 of the latest slots. Dine in the Atlantic Café and receive free drinks while gaming. Please note that a valid government issued photo I.D. will be required to board.

The cost is \$45 per resident and includes transportation, boarding of the Victory Casino and buffet.

Club Fair

Join us at the bi-annual Club Fair on Thursday, Jan. 18, in the Recreation Center Ballroom, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are looking for new activities or want to meet new people, our resident clubs are a great choice. Come to this event and learn about the many exciting and activity-based clubs available to join. Doughnuts and coffee will be available for sale by the S.P.C.A. of Marion County.

Happy Hour

Join us for Happy Hour every Friday in the Recreation Center Ballroom, from 4 to 8 p.m. and on the outside veranda, from 3 to 6 p.m. Our "Vegas Night" Happy Hour will take place on Friday, Jan. 19. Come out and join the fun!

The entertainment line-up for January is as follows:

- Jan. 5: TC & Sass (Ballroom); Fred Campbell (Veranda).
- Jan. 12: Kadillac Jack (Ballroom); Sounds of Time (Veranda).
- Jan. 19: "Vegas Nights" with Automatic (Ballroom); Kurtis May (Veranda).
- Jan. 26: Retro Express (Ballroom); Charlie De (Veranda).

Individual 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. Children under the age of 15 will not be permitted to Happy Hour! Please note that no beverages of any kind will be allowed into Happy Hour.

Holiday Hours & Community Bus

Due to the holiday, all facilities will be closed and the community bus will not run on Monday, Jan. 1. Please plan accordingly.

Upcoming Events in February

- Thursday, Feb. 1: Tropic Trivia Night*
- Friday, Feb. 2: No Happy Hour in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Sounds of Times will provide entertainment on the veranda.
- Wednesday, Feb. 7: Jacksonville Zoo*
- Tuesday, Feb. 13: St. Johns River Cruise*
- Thursday, Feb. 15: Florida State Fair*
- Friday, Feb. 16: Horse Farm Tour*
- Saturday, Feb. 17: Home Improvement Expo
- Tuesday, Feb. 20: Sea World*
- Wednesday, Feb. 21: Victory Casino*
- Thursday, Feb. 22: Fire Extinguisher Check & Class*
- Friday, Feb. 23: "Senior Prom" Happy Hour
- Tuesday, Feb. 27: Majestic Manatee Tour*

Have a safe and happy New Year!
*To register, call (352) 854-8707 x7530 or x7533. Payment is required at time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to any event or trip.

BUS SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday

MORNING ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS	TIME
The Lodge	SW 87th Cir.	8:35 a.m.
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.
Exit Community.....9:36 a.m.		
<i>Indigo East Community Center Parking Lot</i>		<i>Call one day in advance for pick-up</i>
MORNING DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Freedom Library.....	9:42 a.m.	12:40 p.m.
Jasmine Square.....	9:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Dillard's//Kohl's.....	10:00 a.m.	12:25 p.m.
Sam's Club.....	10:10 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Home Depot.....	10:15 a.m.	11:25 a.m.
Ollie's.....	10:18 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Paddock Mall.....	10:22 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
Walmart/Stein Mart.....	10:27 a.m.	11:45 a.m.
Target.....	10:37 a.m.	11:50 p.m.
Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center.....	10:47 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Gaitway Plaza.....	10:52 a.m.	12:05 p.m.
Return to On Top of the World to begin drop-off/pick-up for the afternoon run.		
AFTERNOON ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES	
The Lodge.....	1:15 p.m.	Candler Hills Community Center..... 1:20 p.m.
Crescent Ridge Post Office.....	1:38 p.m.	Friendship Colony Post Office..... 1:25 p.m.
Recreation Center.....	1:43 p.m.	Williamsburg Post Office..... 1:28 p.m.
Americana Post Office.....	1:49 p.m.	Avalon Post Office..... 1:33 p.m.
Friendship Post Office.....	1:54 p.m.	
AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Winn Dixie.....	2:00 p.m.	4:10 p.m.
Publix.....	2:05 p.m.	4:15 p.m.
Walmart Neighborhood Market.....	2:15 p.m.	4:25 p.m.
Aldi/Lowe's.....	2:19 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
Save A Lot.....	2:25 p.m.	4:05 p.m.
Big Lots.....	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
Beall's & Dollar Tree.....	2:40 p.m.	3:50 p.m.
Walmart.....	2:45 p.m.	3:45 p.m.

* All times are approximate

For information, call the Recreation Center at 352-854-8707 ext. 7530 or 7533

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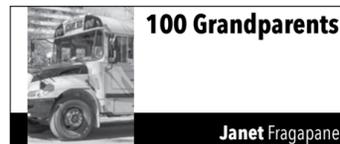
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Photo by Bill Shampine

Linda Blewitt, one of Santa's little elf helpers, is getting ready to read to her kindergarten class at Romeo Elementary.



100 Grandparents

Janet Fragapane

Happy New Year! I hope you have a good healthy, happy year. Our first trip to Romeo Elementary for this year will be on Tuesday, Jan. 9. Frank, our bus driver, will have our coach at the rear of True Value Hardware store ready to go at 8:45 a.m.

In November 2017, students worked all month interviewing veterans. They also wrote poems, sent thank you cards, played music and games with veterans. This is a community tradition for Romeo Elementary.

In December 2017, parents and teachers worked with the students for the science fair. A science showcase was also held. The parent turnout and community support was wonderful.

Remember Hurricane Irma? The school was a shelter keeping over 400 people safe, feeding them and seeing to their needs. Over Thanksgiving and Christmas, 40 families were helped. Due to Hurricane Maria, there are 10 children from Puerto Rico living in the school district now. This is the best school for them to be in until they can safely return home. The care and attention that the students and the teachers give to these children is great.

The thank you list is long. A big thank you to Verna Wilson for 10 years of reading to the children. A large donation was given to the school that enabled the purchase of much needed equipment for education (sandbox for pre-K and giant blocks for all ages). Mary Melzer's group knitted hundreds of items for the children as did Phyllis Jarskey. With the cold weather in December, the timing of these knitted items was perfect!

Thank you for the bicycle donations from Nancy Christianson, Ed Kreczmer, Martha Bernstein, Tom Bogan and Joy Lutheran Church. One bike was the perfect one for the Special Olympics. Call Tom at (352) 861-1575 if you have a bike or helmet to donate.

Thank you to Pam Koch for clothing and to Doreen Scharar for all the lovely new coats. Donated clothing does not need to be new, only school appropriate. However, donated underwear needs to be new and in sealed packages.

Box Tops for Education and pull tabs are always needed. Call Evelyn at (352) 237-0304 or Janet Fragapane at (352) 861-1575 for pick up. Food-4-Kids backpack program always is in need of monetary or non-perishable food items. Make check payable to Dunnellon Food-4-Kids. P.O. Box 262, Dunnellon, Florida 34430. Arts items are also always welcome.

New readers to 100 Grandparents are Sally Stack, Sandy Fleck, Cathy Harrison, Chris McIntire, Elaine Lamm, Patrick Frechette and Charlene Czopek.

On Top of the World

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Ten Pin Tournament

By Walt Lamp

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2017 was the date selected by the Shuffleboard Club to play the once-postponed Ten Pin Tournament. But due to the weather in the morning, the number of players was less than hoped for. In fact, I was asked to fill out a set, even though I had never played before. I didn't make it past the first round, but gained some experience and fun.

There were 12 participants covering three full courts. The rounds progressed down to the final with Paul Hodges besting Rick French. Even though a score of 35 was used to move things along, that final shot of putting the disc in the 10 box without knocking down the bowling pin seemed to keep the game going on endlessly.

The match between Annette Hodges and Lindsey Chatham was the most exciting finish. They contested each other for the right to play in the second round. Lindsey Chatham finally won out. Paul Hodges won the final match and the first prize of \$50 with Rick French coming in second with a \$25. prize.

To keep things running smoothly, we had help from the hospitality group including Mary Lamp, Annette Hodges and Vicki Lentz; also Marge Fisher, who was the scorekeeper, and John Mataya, our tournament director. A big thanks to you all.

On Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017, our neighbors from Marion Landing visited us for a friendly game of shuffleboard. Each team had 10 players and five courts in use, making it two against two on each court. Director Mataya gave the opening directions and rules of play before the game began. The Marion Landing duo would rotate after each game, but for no more than three courts. The totals would then be added after the 16 frames and high score, not just the usual 75, would be the final winner that day. This differs from the normal shuffleboard playing rules. But, the object of this match was to play and meet new players from the surrounding area and develop new friendships. After the match was over, a group picture was taken and



Photo by Annette Hodges

Tournament Director John Mataya with runner-up Rick French (left) and winner Paul Hodges (right) at the Ten Pin Tournament on Saturday Nov. 25, 2017.

arrangements for a return match in Marion Landing were agreed upon.

The Turkey Shoot took place in early December 2017 and will be reported on next month.

The winners for November were as follows:

Monday a.m.: Joe Bartosh, Lloyd Parsons, Peter VanArsdale and Mary Lamp.

30 Club: 30-Joe Bartosh.

Tuesday p.m.: Lindsey Chatham and Maxine Gayso.

A Season of Golfing, Celebrating & Giving

By Judy Parisi

Best of wishes to all for a happy, healthy New Year!

The On Top of the World LGA-9 enjoyed a fabulous holiday party on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017 at Bella Cucina. Dinner included salad, crab stuffed whitefish, chicken romano, garlic roasted potatoes, green

beans almandine, and rolls, followed by cherry cobbler and coffee.

Thank you to Kay Budd, Joan Cecchini and Marilyn Davsko for organizing this event. Thanks also go out to Virginia Bayless for contacting the alumni, Janis Hannasch our greeter, Sue Egger who donated the

wine bottles for the centerpieces and Eileen Gustavus who offered the prayer.

Our activity for the evening was to write down a positive word or phrase about each of the people attending, each on a separate slip, which we then put in an individualized inspirational bag for that person.

And of course, no festive gathering could happen without music, so several of our ladies led the group in holiday song.

A big thank you to all the ladies who contributed cash (totaling \$526) for Toys for Tots so that gift cards could be provided for older children.

We have a very busy 2018 ahead with our quarterly membership meeting on Jan. 2 following golf, the LGA-9 and Candler Hills LGA-9 Challenge on Feb. 20 and 22 (hosted by Candler Hills), plus the LGA-9 Fairways in Bloom Invitational on April 3.

We invite you to visit our website at otowladies9holeleague.shutterfly.com to see pictures of various events and happenings.

Low Gross Nov. 14, 2017

Flight 1: 49-Eileen Gustavus, 50-Carla Kimball, 53-Barbara Enos, 54-Dolores Jaynes, Dawn Hagberg.
Flight 2: 52-Kathy Zunica, Lorraine Rourke
54-Susan Jackins, 59-Jane Wilson.
Flight 3: 54-Carol Bell, 55-Ethel Miller, 62-Kathleen Dushary, 64-Maryann Polizzoti.
Flight 4: 56-Louise Lineman, Kathy

Hall, 60-Patricia Howd, 61-Donna McCombs.

Solheim Cup 3-3-3 Nov. 21, 2017

31-Janis Hannasch, Susan Jackins, Mary Ann McCourt, Louise Lineman, 31-Virginia Bayless, Robbie Limoges, Carolyn Abramovich, Donna McCombs; 33-Carla Kimball, Marilyn Davsko, Sheila Ashe, Linda Heenan; 33-Susane Trembulak, Judy Parisi, Kathy Zunica, Ann Flynn.

Tee to Green Nov. 28, 2017

Flight 1: 29-Eileen Gustavus, 31-Kay Budd
32-Susane Trembulak, 33-Janis Hannasch.
Flight 2: 33-Lydia Flinchbaugh, 34-Barbara Enos, Dawn Hagberg, Carla Kimball.
Flight 3: 33-Maryann Polizzoti, 35-Jane Wilson, 37-Judy Parisi, Joan Rappa.
Flight 4: 40-Mary Vliek, 42-Donna McCombs, 43-Jean Flynn; 45-Sheila Ashe, Cheryl Duke.

Scramble Dec. 5, 2017

38-Kay Budd, Susan Jackins, Jane Wilson, Sheila Ashe; 40-Virginia Bayless, Marianne Ingwersen, Mary Vliek, Cheryl Duke; 41-Lydia Flinchbaugh, Robbie Limoges, Pauline Beloin, Eve Harvey; 42-Judy Parisi, Dodie Phillips, Marcie Hock, Donna McCombs; 42-Linda Dumeer, Caroline East, Charmaine Hassett, Sherry Whitmer-Hall; 42-Barbara Enos, Kathy Zunica, Betty-Jo Dent, Louise Lineman.



Photo by Judy Parisi

On Top of the World LGA-9 holiday party.

Fall Classic Tournament

By Kelli Brunner

We wish everyone a wonderful New Year with many days of good weather on the courts.

November 2017 was a busy month for the Pickleball Club. We

want to thank our member, Dan Lack, and the Rotary Club for bringing us the North Central Florida Pickleball Doubles Tournament. It was a huge success providing a

contribution of over \$2,000 to the Ocala Domestic Violence Center. Nice work Dan! We look forward to next year's tournament.

November 2017 was also time for our club's Fall Classic Tournament. This year, we had 56 members compete in the two-day event. The level of play was exciting and at times very intense. In the end, everyone enjoyed the friendly competition and the chance to play

some great pickleball. We also held our annual "picklenic" at the pavilion where the winners were awarded their medals. Over 100 members and spouses feasted on barbecue, played cornhole, and socialized on a beautiful sunny day in mid-November.

If you're interested in learning pickleball or just want to improve your skills, plan to attend our next class at the courts on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 9 a.m. (rain date Jan. 16). No registration is required. Just show up at the pickleball courts on time and ready to play. Athletic shoes are required. Club members, Bill Daugherty and John Mullin give their time to provide these instructional and safety classes, and we thank them!

For information about membership to the Pickleball Club you can contact Paul Brunner at otow.pickleball@yahoo.com

Tournament winners:
Group 1: 1-Brad Fondiler; 2-Len Denerstein; 3-Buzz Busby.
Group 2: 1-Bob Cox; 2-Brad Smith; 3-Bob Zangmeister.
Group 3: 1-Howard Frierman; 2-Buddy Scott; 3-Rich Pomorski.
Group 4: 1-Bill Wright; 2-Joyce Ziegler; 3-Connie Preis.



Photo by Rick Vogel

Fall Classic Tournament winners.

CARDS & GAMES

Monday Afternoon Bridge

Shirley Stolly & Carol Johnson

Nov. 6, 2017
1: Shirley Stolly & Carol Johnson; 2: Marlene Floecker & Judy Wagnitz; 3: Linda & Don Sprague; 4: Cleona Redman & Mary Rose Janssen.

Nov. 13, 2017
1: Mary Rose Janssen & Cleona Redman; 2: Joe & Helen O'Brien; 3: Don & Linda Sprague; 4: Carol Johnson & Shirley Stolly.

Nov. 20, 2017
1: Don & Linda Sprague; 2: Pat Gorgart & Joyce Walchak; 3: Peg Ellenberger & Rad D.; 4: Lynda Hannon & Mary Walker.

Nov. 27, 2017
1: Helen & Joe O'Brien; 2: Fran Griswold & Betty Morris; 3: Joyce Walchak & Marge Starrett; 4: Lynda Hannon & Joanne Jones.

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge

Joanne Jones

Nov. 7, 2017
1: Joanne Jones & Mazie Millward; 2: Linda & Don Sprague; 3: Linda Walker & Rad

Nov. 14, 2017
1: Linda & Don Sprague; 2: Mary Walker & Rad; 3: Shirley Stolly & Betty Morris.

Nov. 21, 2017
1: Mary Walker & Rad; 2: Shirley Stolly & Betty Morris; 3: Linda & Don Sprague.

Nov. 28, 2017
1: Linda & Don Sprague; 2: Mary Walker & Rad; 3: Betty Morris & Bernie Kelly.

LOST OR FOUND A PET?
Call the S.P.C.A. hotline at (352) 362-0985

Tuesday Night Dup Bridge

Marie Fiorillo

Nov. 7, 2017
1: Dan Lack & Ed Bodner; 2: Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman; 3: Marie & John Fiorillo.

Nov. 14, 2017
1: Colleen Tobino & Caryl Rosenberger; 2: Paul Pinter & Paul Reidinger; 3: Rita Smyth & Betty Devoy.

Nov. 28, 2017
Dan Hall & Dave Cunningham; 2: Dan Lack & Ed Bodner; 3: Rita Smyth & Betty Devoy.

Wednesday Afternoon Bridge

Pat Gorgart

Nov. 1, 2017
1: Betty Morris; 2: Marian Hotz; 3: Dianne Robinson; Cons: Pat Gorgart.

Nov. 8, 2017
1: Shirley Stolly; 2: Helen O'Brien; 3: Mary Klinzing; 4: Linda Sprague; Cons: Don Sprague.

Nov. 15, 2017
1: Bernie Kelly; 2: Linda Sprague; 3: Marian Hotz; 4: Don Sprague; Cons: Dianne Robinson.

Nov. 22, 2017
1: Howard Sadowski; 2: Bernie Kelly; 3: Shirley Stolly; 4: Betty Morris; Cons: Janet Sadowski.

Nov. 29, 2017
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Donna Brombacher; 3: Pat Gorgart; 4: Bernie Kelly; Cons: Fran Griswold.

Thursday Afternoon Bridge

Marge Starrett

Nov. 2, 2017
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Pat Gorgart.

Nov. 9, 2017

1: Carmen Arroyo; 2: Mary Walker.

Nov. 16, 2017

1: Rad; 2: Joyce Walchak.

Nov. 30, 2017

1: Carmen Arroyo; 2: Shirley Stolly.

Thursday Night Bridge

Keith Briggs

Nov. 16, 2017

1: Donnella Briggs; 2: Keith Briggs; 3: Laura Schnur; 4: Marion Hotz.

Nov. 30, 2017

1: Fran Griswold; 2: Donnella Briggs; 3: Pat Paloney; 4: Sara Anderson.

Dec. 7, 2017

1: Lucy Molloy; 2: Marion Hotz; 3: Keith Briggs; 4: Sara Anderson.

Friday Ladies Luncheon Bridge

Jean Krueger-Travis

Due to the holidays, we did not meet in December 2017. We will resume play on Friday, Jan. 5, at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F. Please bring your own brown bag lunch. Soda, water and cookies will be provided.

Please call Jean Krueger-Travis at (352) 414-5907 to indicate you will attend or if you have any questions.

Wednesday Bid Euchre

Chip Parsons

Oct. 18, 2017

1: Debbie Weaver; 2: Jerry Dean; 3: Chip Parsons.

Oct. 25, 2017

1: Sharon Dean; 2: Jo Swing; 3: Jean Gillette.

Nov. 1, 2017

1: John Wall; 2: Phyllis Wall; 3: Wayne Garwold.

Nov. 8, 2017

1: Billy Swing; 2: Paul Pinter; 3: Bob Bicknell; 4: Sharon Dean.

Friday 4 Fun Euchre

Chip Parsons

Oct. 13, 2017

1: Vickie Garwold; 2: Gitte Agarwal; 3: Arlene Luehrs.

Oct. 20, 2017

1: Sharon Coldiron; 2: Mary Bartel; 3: Helen Patterson.

Oct. 27, 2017

1: Arlene Luehrs; 2: Jerry Dean; Tie at 3: Gitte Agarwal & John Wall.

Nov. 3, 2017

1: Paul Pinter; Tie at 2: Gitte Agarwal, Jerry Harris, Betty Legg & Irene Pisani; 3: Nancy Kowsky.

Nov. 10, 2017

1: Mike Kurlakowsky; 2: Edith Kolb; 3: Arlene Luehrs.

Tuesday Night Pinochle

Whitney Frye

Nov. 7, 2017

1: Marian Hotz; 2: Verna Harsh; 3: Herb Katz.

Nov. 14, 2017

1: Walter Hickenlooper; 2: Edith Kolb; 3: Verna Harsh.

Nov. 21, 2017

1: Herb Katz; 2: Verna Harsh; 3: Walter Hickenlooper; 4: Joe Eisgruber.

Nov. 28, 2017

1: Herb Katz; 2: Walter Hickenlooper; 3: Joe Eisgruber.



Tennis

Jorge Privat
(352) 387-7539

In December 2017 we held our yearly club tournament and crowned our new champions. With the holidays behind us, let us focus on the new year ahead with a lot of tennis in the forecast!

Tennis Tip of the Month

Even though tennis is not a contact sport, its physical demands have more in common with a game like football than you might think. A tennis match can last for several hours. During a long match, a player might run three to five miles, much of this distance traveling side to side and forward and backward and engage in hundreds of explosive movements. To be a strong tennis player, you need both aerobic and anaerobic fitness, strength and flexibility, all in a relatively lean package.

Here are some tips on how to stay healthy in 2018. The biggest mistake tennis players make with nutrition is poor preparation. Once you step on the court, it is too late to worry about what you have eaten. The night before, eat a balance of complex carbohydrates and protein, such as lean meats, like chicken, turkey, low fat ham or roast beef, along with side dishes of salads, whole grains and vegetables. In the morning, avoid fatty foods as much as possible. Fat limits your body's ability to access the carbohydrates you need for energy. Instead of a ham and cheese omelet for instance, choose pancakes made with egg whites, a fruit smoothie made with added soy or whey protein, or non-fat yogurt with some fruit on top. These options will give you the carbohydrates you need for quick energy and protein to keep you going.

And don't forget to hydrate! At least an hour before you play, drink 16 to 20 ounces of clear liquid or sports drink such as Propel. Limit caffeine. Caffeine is a stimulant and may adversely affect your performance on the court.

Pack the right snacks. If you are going to play for more than say 90 minutes, you will need to refuel. Consider grapes, strawberries, blackberries, oranges, blueberries and raspberries (you can freeze them and stash them in a plastic container in your bag). These are full of nutrients, are easy on the intestines and provide a quick boost. Another option is nuts and dried fruit, pistachios, almonds and walnuts; they are full of omega-3 fatty acids that maintain joint health. Pistachios have the added benefit of being rich in potassium.

After your match, eat within 30 minutes. After extended exercise you are in an accelerated metabolic state, so in order to meet your body's demands you need to take in some calories. A mix of carbohydrates and protein is the combo that will prepare your body to play again. The carbs replace muscle glycogen and the protein helps prevent muscle brake down. A glass of chocolate milk and a turkey sandwich on whole grain bread will do the trick.

See you on the courts.

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Men's Golf Association

Tom Cummings

Hard to believe another year has come and is almost gone. Your MGA made some new events, like the MGA only Ryder Cup, and held more events with food added than in the past. We hope everyone has taken part in and enjoyed most of them. If you have suggestions, please feel free to contact anyone on the board.

Speaking of the board, the new members are in place. They are Joe Polizzotti, Charles Crenshaw, Jerry Engler and Ron Delaney. Board members who are leaving are Ross MacDonald, Ralph Solvold and Tommy Cummings. Bob Egger worked on the board for most of the last few years and is no longer on it also. It takes several hours a week of these guys time to make things work, so please thank those who are going off the board, the existing board and the new ones who will lead us forward.

Ryder Cup
Oct. 11 & 12, 2017
Nicklaus team victorious over the Palmer team.
Oct. 18, 2017
Team Quota Points
33-Joe Szall, Paul East, John Bauer, Terry Hoppes; 29-Gary Hasset, Ralph Solvold, Norman Schulze, Tom Marta; 27-Paul Sepulveda, Tom Fragapane, Jim Merrick, Phil Johnson.

Individual Net



Photo by John Bauer

New MGA board members: Charles Crenshaw, Bob Flynn, Jerry Engler, Roger Sparks, Joe Polizzotti, John Langville, Len Ruble, Larry Manion, and Ron Delaney.

Oct. 25, 2017

Flight 1: Tie at 67-Ray Brunell, Jon Hill; Tie at 69-Ken Zweiback, Gary Hasset.
Flight 2: 63-Steve Houston; 65-Pail Stoecklin; 66-Dennis McCourt.
Flight 3: 57-Gary Lyman; 65-Joe Jingco; Tie at 66-Chuck Nicholas, Joe Bologna.
Flight 4: 61-Claude Howie; 67-Richard Freeman; 68-Bob Egger.
Flight 5: 65-Don Delp; 68-Howard Hudgens; Tie at 69-Steve Molnar, Tom Neville
Flight 6: 64-Tom Torrey; 69-Tony Magri; 70-Doug Coleman; 71-Joe Polizzoti.

Team Gross

Nov. 1, 2017

62-John Langville, Jerry Engler, Lance Davako; 63-Dave Miller, Joe Bologna, Wally Schiff, Jack Martin.

Beat the Pro
Nov. 8, 2017

After all the handicap adjustments about 75 percent beat the pro.

Use Only 4 Clubs
Nov. 15, 2017

Flight 1: 67-Gary Hasset; 68-John Hudacik
Flight 2: 63-Ron Delaney; 64-Ken Zweiback; 65-Paul Wade.
Flight 3: 63-Paul Sepulveda; 68-Carl Singleton; 69-Paul Silliman.
Flight 4: 61-Howard Atherton; 62-Jerry Lubich; 65-Claude Howie.

Flight 5: 62-Howard Hudgens; 63-Paul East; 67-Jerry Nagel.
Flight 6: 60-Tom Marta; 69-Doug Coleman; 70-Joe Polizzotti.

Team 3 Best Ball
Nov. 22, 2017

177-Rudy Normandin, Ed Conaway, Howard Atherton, Loren Magsam; 181-Jeff Downs, Claude Howie, Tim O'Neil; 182-Phil Johnson, Jay Bouton, Gene Sohler, George Lineman.

Odd Man In
Nov. 29, 2017

118-Jeff Downs, Ed Conaway, Paul Silliman, Tim Torrey; 119-Rudy Normandin, Larry Rourke, Chuck Nicholas, David Stafford.



Candler Hills Men's Golf

Dave Miller

The board of directors held their first meeting since the election of new board members and the following positions were filled. President Randy Ford and Vice President and Tournament Director Joe Damiata. Ken Zweiback continues as treasurer.

Individuals recently scoring in the 70s included: Everett Kimball & Julian Hobby (75), Walt Pacuk (76), Jeff Downs & Paul Rubly (77), Ken

Zweiback (78), and Joe Damiata & Dave Miller (79).

Individual Stableford
Nov. 14, 2017

Flight 1: 40-Joe Damiata, 39-Larry Kettlewell, 38-Jeff Downs, 37-Bill Anger.
Flight 2: 42-Joe Jingco, 41-Tony Bruno, 39-Tom Racinowski, Tie at 38-Dan Gill & Dave Miller.
Flight 3: 43-Richard Ross, Tie at 41-Jim McGrath & Julian Wachs, Tie at 40-Dennis McCourt & Ken Zweiback.
Flight 4: 43-Donald Huston, 37-Gilbert Green, Tie at 34-Chris Lyndrup & John Workman.

4-Man, 3 Best Balls
Nov. 21, 2017

181-Julian Hobby, Joe Jingco, Da-

vid Green & blind draw, 186-Everett Kimball, Paul Rubly, Donald Huston & blind draw, 188-Bill Anger, Jeff Downs, John Podkomorski & Paul Silliman, Tie at 191-Walt Pacuk, Gil Brooks, Julian Wachs & Randy Ford and Joe Damiata, Ken Zweiback, Bob Cowie & Dave Miller.

Team Scramble
Nov. 28, 2017

58.62-Joe Damiata, Joe Jingco & Donald Huston, 61.75-Bill Anger, Gil Brooks, Ken Zweiback & Gilbert Green, 64.125-Gene Moff, Dale Budd, Jim McGrath & Paul Silliman, 64.12-Everett Kimball, Dan Gill, Dennis McCourt & David Green.

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017, we held our annual Alfster Cup, which

is a match play competition with Candler Hills MGA members divided into two teams: The Hogs (captained by Julian Wachs) versus The Dogs (captained by Mike Deahl). This year, The Dogs captured the treasured trophy after The Hogs held it the past two years. This event is all for fun as chili, chowder and beverages were enjoyed by all after the event.

We have a new member of our association - Sam Fox - welcome aboard! If you are interested in playing with our group, check out our website (chmga.com), send me an e-mail (millrace1@aol.com), or talk to one of the golf professionals in the Candler Hills Golf Shop.

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Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole Golf

Linda Buschur

Goodbye to 2017 and a big hello to 2018! Amid all of the holiday festivities, it is a good time to stop and reflect over the past year of memories with family and friends.

The second Mid State event was held Monday, Nov. 20, 2017 at The Woods. Congratulations to Kathy Smyth for earning 20 points for low putts. Candler Hills had 40 points. The next Mid State is the Pro Lady event on Thursday, Jan. 18 at Candler Hills. We're looking for a good turnout; make sure to sign up for this fun event.

This year's holiday party was held at The Lodge at Candler Hills

on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017 and was a huge success! Both LGA-9 and -18 participated with 81 attending. We enjoyed dinner to background music by Johnny G. After dinner, the music continued and the dance floor was full of ladies "kicking up their heels" and dancing the night away. Many say, it was "the best party ever." Many thanks to Johnny G and all of the ladies from both leagues for the huge success of the 2017 holiday party.

Our fall charity event was a joint event with the LGA-9 and -18 leagues. The game was a Red/White/Blue Scramble. The event was very successful raising more than \$600 for the Voices for Children. Donna McCombs won the Cobra golf bag raffle. A big thank you to all the ladies who made this event happen.

Please visit our website at chlga.com.

shutterfly.com to stay informed on upcoming events, view pictures, read minutes and other valuable information.

Anyone interested in joining our league should contact President Betty Dong at bddong@gmail.com or stop at the Candler Hill Golf Club to pick up an application in our league book.

Looking forward to an exciting year and having fun!

Best Ball 1-2-3 (Team) Nov. 16, 2017

110-Iro Lisinski, Lynne Thesman, Ilyong Dicus, Kathy Smyth
115-Betty Dong, Paula Lilly, Sandra Noe, Heddy Racinowski
Tie at 117-Sara Nunn, Blind Draw, Carol Clark, Linda Buschur
Beverly Ovrebo, Gail Banavige, Irmgard Anger, Renee Aden

Odd Holes (Individual) Nov. 30, 2017

Flight 1: 28-Pam Carpenter, Tie at 32-Sara Nunn, Su Freeman.
Flight 2: 34-Gail Banavige, 35-Kate Beaty
Flight 3: 32-Irmgard Anger, Tie at 33-Laurel Rohrer, Vicky Salyers.
Flight 4: 30-Kathy Zunica, Tie at 34-Pam Monk, Bertha Myers.

Red/White/Blue Scramble (Team/Net) Candler Hills LGA-9/18 Dec. 7, 2017

36-Paula Lilly, Toni Stevenson, Cheryl Engeman, Donna McCombs. Tie at 43-Kate Beaty, Susane Trembulak, Irmgard Anger, Suzanne Weirick and Iro Lisinski, Barbara Enos, Betty Werner, Susan Layne. Tie at 44-Angie Jingco, Vicky Salyers, Kathy Triolo, Joan Loureiro and Pam Carpenter, Lynn Barber, Lydia Flinchbaugh, Mary Vliek.



Candler Hills Ladies 9-Hole Golf

Susan Layne

Four of our ladies, Dolores Jaynes, Rocket Johnson, Judy Parisi and Sue Layne attended the GAR (Golf Around) at Stonecrest on Monday, Nov. 13, 2017. Playing conditions were a bit challenging because the course had some hurricane damage. All had a good time. They served a wonderful early Thanksgiving feast of turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables, pumpkin pie and apple strudel.

On Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017, our league had a carnival theme for golf. Carla Kimball and Lydia Flinchbaugh and their committee provided a fun play day. Our start-

er, Jon, set the tone by greeting us in full clown costume along with his yellow walking puppet. Each hole had a challenge. Everything from buying a chance for a reading with our psychic reader, Eve, to guessing how many balls in the jar, putting through an obstacle, adding or subtracting from our scores based on a ball we drew, and having Daniel tee off for us on our last hole. All moneys raised went to charities. We donated \$300 each to Pets for Vets, Michelle O-gram and Interfaith Emergency Services Food-4-Kids. After play, we had a box lunch catered by Jersey Mikes. Prizes for the different challenges were presented amidst laughs and applause.

For the first time, we had a joint holiday party with the Candler Hills LGA-18 at The Lodge at Candler Hills on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017. Over 80 ladies attended all dressed

in their glittery holiday attire. We didn't recognize each other without our golf caps and visors on! Royal Oaks catered dinner. The buffet consisted of chicken romano, crab-stuffed whitefish, scalloped potatoes, honey glazed carrots, salad, rolls and butter and cherry cobbler. Johnny G-Singing the Songs, provided music.

Monday, Dec. 4, 2017, 11 of our ladies participated in the GAR at Royal Oaks in Oak Run. This was the first event that they hosted and they did a splendid job. There were lots of baked goods, fruit and deviled eggs for breakfast. Lunch was a choice of salad with strawberries and mandarin oranges topped with chicken breast or pork chop, scalloped potatoes and green beans. Cherry cobbler with whipped cream was served for dessert. The Candler Hills winners were:

Flight A Low Net: 35-Kay Budd.

Flight B Low Net: 36-Kathy Triolo.
Flight C Low Net: Tie at 36-Rocket Johnson, Mary Ann McCourt.
Flight E Low Putts: 15-Kathy Hall.

We always welcome new members. We meet on Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. You must have an established handicap to join. You may ask at the Candler Hills Golf Shop or contact Mary Vliek at mvliek@tds.net. Check out our website at <https://chlga9.shutterfly.com>.

Aces Wild Nov. 30, 2017

Flight 1: 46-Claire Gabert; 47-Eileen Gustavus; 53-Marianne Ingwersen.
Flight 2: 48-Judy Parisi; 49-Marcie Hock; 52-Cheryl Nesbit.
Flight 3: 56-Susan Layne; 57-tie-Kathy Hall, Julie Crudele.
Flight 4: 52-Donna McCombs; 57-Aggie Mahoney; 63-Suzanne Weirick.

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Monday Bowling League

Jerry Roney

The team Spare Me Nots has inched into first place with 59 points won. The Ten Pin Bowlers

team is second, "Rolling Stones" third and "Shoulda Beens" in fourth. It is, indeed, a very competitive race with many weeks of bowling remaining.

Individual highlights of the past three weeks include games over average:

65 pins-Billie Giles, 85 pins-Susan Mourar, 65 pins-Kathy Purcell, 65 pins-Dennis Phillips and 54 pins-

Ricky Roof. Series over average include 135-Dale Purcell, 127-Olena Stofel and 122-Sandy Fleck.

I have mentioned in previous columns that high scores are great but scores well above average are even better and those are the scores that win games. Therefore, it will come as no surprise that the first place team Spare Me Nots include three of the individuals mentioned in the previous paragraph -Olena Stofel, Kathy Purcell and Dale Purcell.

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**Ladies
18-Hole Golf**

Susan Rhodes

Our league collected more than 200 children's books over the last month. These will be donated to Sunrise Elementary as our Christmas charity. Many thanks to all our community golf leagues for their donations! These books will be used in the classroom and school libraries.

Our first time ever combined awards/christmas luncheon was held at Bella Cucina in Oak Run on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017 with more than 40 ladies attending. All enjoyed the luncheon, Christmas caroling, and awards ceremony. Many thanks to the luncheon committee: May Chin, Connie Sohl, Beverly Ovrebo, Bobbie Wiener, Marilyn Schaupt, and Debby Wilson.

Congratulations to Carolyn Cummings who received our most improved player award. Ringer awards were given to those with the lowest gross scores based on their best score for each individual hole (April 1 through Nov. 1, 2017).

2017 Ringers

Links

Flight 1: 63-Deborah Martin. 67-Gail LaGrange. 68-Bev Ovrebo. Flight 2: 71-Joan D'Addio. Tie at 73-Susan Rhodes, Rose O'Neil. Flight 3: 76-Sandy Chase. Tie at 77-May Chin, Connie Sohl. Flight 4: 80-Donna Brunell. 81-Dee Howie. 84-Geri Treppa.

Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: 65-Deborah Martin. 67-Gail LaGrange. 69-Bev Ovrebo. Flight 2: 71-Linda Blewitt. 73-Debby Wilson. 74-Rose O'Neil. Flight 3: 74-Lorie Anderson. Tie at 78-Yuhlan Cho, Sue Maillet, Connie Sohl, Molly Lucieer. Flight 4: 78-Dee Howie. 81-Geri Treppa. 84-Donna Brunell.

Congratulations to Linda Bervinkle, who received the service excellence award, a new award. The purpose of which is to recognize exceptional service to the league. She has been an active member of the board and has served on luncheon committees for more than 15 years!

Also honored at the luncheon were the match play champion, Gail LaGrange, and league champion, Deborah Martin.

The black and white luncheon will be held in the Arbor Conference Center. This luncheon will feature a chili cook-off. The sign-up sheet is posted in the players' lounge.

Coming up on Friday, Jan. 19 is our Match Play Pairings Reveal party. Sign-up for match play event will be limited to 32 league members.

**Red, White and Blue
(2 Best Balls, Team Net)
Nov. 14, 2017/Links**

Tie at 85-Gretchen Normandin, Virginia Madura, Sandy Chase, Donna Brunell; Beverly Ovrebo, Angie Jingco, Yuhlan Cho, Faye Barbee. 86-Gail LaGrange, Debby Wilson, Peggy Wiechmann, Geri Treppa. Tie at 87-Bobbie Wiener, Mary Lyon, Carol



Photo by Susan Rhodes

Bobbie Wiener, Debby Wilson, Connie Sohl, Beverly Ovrebo, May Chin, and Marilyn Schaupt display some of the books collected for Sunrise Elementary.

Johnson; Pat Lindstrom, Margaret Hudacik, Dee Howie.

Scramble (Team Net)

Nov. 21, 2017/Tortoise & The Hare 68-Deborah Martin, Angie Jingco, Margaret Hudacik, Dee Howie. 69-Iro Lisinski, Lynne Dickson, Yuhlan Cho, Carolyn Cummings. 70-Debby Wilson, Beverly Ovrebo, Sandy Chase, Geri Treppa.

**Low Gross, Low Net (Individual)
Nov. 28, 2017/Links**

Flight 1 Gross: 78-Deborah Martin. 85-Beverly Ovrebo. Flight 1 Net: Tie at 66-Linda Blewitt, Gail LaGrange. Flight 2 Gross: 84-Iro Lisinski. 89-Angie Jingco. Flight 2 Net: 67-Peggy Wiechmann. 69-Fran Eckart. Flight 3 Gross: 87-Joan D'Addio. Tie at 95-Molly Lucieer, Margaret Hudacik, Sandy Chase, Connie Sohl. Flight 3 Net: Tie at 65-Yuhlan Cho, Rosann Ross. Flight 4 Gross: 95-Lynn Barber. 98-Linda Bervinkle. Flight 4 Net: 68-Jo-Ann Roney. Tie at 71-Betty McNeeley, Geri Treppa.

Criss Cross

(2 Best Balls, Team Net)

Dec. 7, 2017/Tortoise & The Hare 49-Beverly Ovrebo, Sandy Chase, Lynn Barber, Betty Lou McNelley. Tie at 51-MJ Strelec, Yuhlan Cho, Rosann Ross, Yoshiko Young; Bobbie Wiener, Debby Wilson, Dee Howie, Piper Thomas. 55-Linda Blewitt, Connie Sohl, Molly Lucieer, Mary Lyon.



Golf

**Matt Hibbs
(352) 854-2765
matt_hibbs@otowfl.com**

Happy New Year to you and yours from the On Top of the World golf staff. We also would like to thank everyone for a tremendous 2017 and we hope 2018 will be even better.

With a new year brings New Year's resolutions. If your resolution is an improved golf game then we have the answer for you. Our professional staff has created a wonderful and exciting golf clinic schedule for 2018. The season kicks off on Saturday, Jan. 6 with a clinic on "Aim Point Putting" at the Candler Hills driving range at 9 a.m. This clinic is \$10 per student. Please register in the Candler Hills Golf Shop no later than Friday, Jan. 5, at 5 p.m. Look for the complete 2018 clinic schedule in both the Candler Hills and On Top of the World Golf Shops.

We have officially transitioned from the Golf Association of Florida to the Florida State Golf Association and GHIN handicap services. If you like to post scores from your home computer, you can do so by going to GHIN.com and clicking on the post score tab. You will need an active GHIN number in order to post scores from a computer. Non-golf members must renew their annual handicap membership at either Golf Shop for a fee of \$30 plus tax. Please contact the Golf Shops for more information on our new GHIN handicap service.

A friendly reminder from the golf staff that all shop credits will expire day, Wednesday, Feb. 28. All credit winnings will be posted to your account through the January events. Any winnings during February will be held until the beginning of March to be posted.

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, Jan. 25: Superintendent's Revenge at the Tortoise & The Hard and Links, 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Friday, Feb. 9: World Sadie Hawkins at Candler Hills Golf Club, 9 a.m. shotgun. Check Golf Shop for details.

OTOWInfo.com

World Accolades

CANDLER HILLS: Ted Chipman, hole-in-one #17. Bob Flynn, eagle #12. Mike Gottson, hole-in-one #13.

LINKS: Bill Young, shot 73 two strokes under his age. John Gayso, shot 70 eight strokes under his age.

TORTOISE & THE HARE: Dan Szall, eagle #2 and #5. Gary Singleton, eagle #14.

Congratulations to all.

Golf Tip of the Month

How many of you get frustrated and upset after each missed shot? Golf is a funny game that with one swing can manipulate your attitude and demeanor for not only your round but the remainder of your day. Keep in mind that everyone hits bad shots, including touring professionals. Don't let one swing ruin your round or even your day.

Every round, take a minute to appreciate your surroundings, the birds chirping, the beautiful flowers and trees and the friends you have made playing this wonderful game. Don't let the wonderful things in life pass you by and remind yourself that golf is just a game we all enjoy to play.

Have a safe and exciting 2018!

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Cornhole Club

Jim Russell

We are one month into our winter season of play and are currently on a brief hiatus while we celebrate the holidays, but the action will resume Monday, Jan. 8, and continue through Friday, March 9.

As a quick review for those new to On Top of the World, here is a brief review of how our game is played, when and where we play and how you can join in on the fun: **THE GAME:** Cornhole involves throwing bags filled with plastic pellets at a board with a hole in it. If you get it to go into the hole, you score three points. If you can at least get it to stay on the board, you score one point. Get to 21 points before your opponent does,

you win! There are a few other minor details in playing the game and we'll be happy to tell you more when you show up to play.

LOCATION: At the horseshoe/cornhole complex located next to the softball field and pavilion.

TIME: Actually, you can play whenever you want. We have provided two all weather outdoor game sets in the pavilion for your enjoyment. A set of instructions for use is posted so be sure to read them before starting play. We also have two additional sets located at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Just tell the staff there that you want to have some fun playing Cornhole.

The Cornhole Club members play on professionally constructed regulation wood boards using all weather bags. We have open play four days a week:

- Mondays at 10:30 a.m.;
- Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.;
- Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.;
- Fridays at 10:30 p.m.

We play three games, which usually takes about an hour. Members show up about 15 minutes before

the scheduled start time and sign in on a sign-in sheet. The first 24 names on the sheet get to use the six sets of regulation equipment. If more than 24 show up to play, we can accommodate an additional eight players.

We also have mixed doubles league play on Thursdays at 3 p.m. This league has already started and no new teams can be added at this time but don't lose hope! We play three different "seasons" each year and new teams can be added before the start of each season.

Our fall season runs September through November; the winter season is December through February; spring season is March through May. We take a summer break (June through August) although many members continue playing each week, usually in the evenings when it's cooler.

If you would like to become Cornhole Club member, contact Jim Russell at jimrussell44@outlook.com. He'll need your email address and a phone number to get you set up. Dues are \$10 per person per year.



Phil Panzera competed in the Florida Senior Games tai chi competition, held in Tampa, winning two bronze medals.

Photo by Kate Maen



Horseshoe League

Paul Pardee

The fall season had a bumpy start in getting the refurbished pits ready and a little disruption by a blowhard lady named Irma. But it turned out to be a very competitive battle between Big Ed (Ed Bodar) and Big Stick (Larry Stickles) with

Ed edging it out on win percentage by a single point (67 to 66 percent). However, it will forever remain an open question as to the results if Ed had played two more games like Larry. So, we hereby declare bragging rights to both of them.

Now the winter season of horseshoes is well underway and looks to be an exciting one. With all the snowbirds back and new people showing up with a desire to try the sport, we have been averaging 18 players on Tuesdays. Two new male players, Sam Buonauro and Jerry Jezek, are enthusiastic about the game and improving every week.

For several years Carrie Beisler was the only female player in the league and always had an average that kept her among the top tier and a valuable member of the travel team. Fortunately, women are now well represented by two new recruits, Betty DeLong and Donna Hansen.

There is little doubt that Betty will end up competing for the top this season. She is one determined lady who apparently loves to practice and gets better all the time. Betty, with a little persuasion, has agreed to be a member of the travel team and we are happy about that. Donna is also steadily improving but she is leaving on a long trip so she will miss most of this season. We'll be looking forward to her return in the spring.

Speaking of the Marion County travel team season, we are off to a rough start. We lost to The Villages Red Team five games out of nine in week one, and did no better in week two, losing five to four to The Villages White Team in spite of a huge handicap. Four of their six players threw over 50 percent ringers. That is clearly the team to beat for the championship this year.

New players are always welcome. Just show up at 10 a.m. (winter start time) on Tuesdays and we'll get you in the game.

If you have aluminum cans to recycle, just bring them to the pits and we will be glad to do that for you because that is how we support the league.

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Candler Hills Golf Club

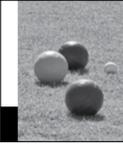
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\$10 per person per clinic, minimum of 3, maximum of 20 golfers per session. Maximum of 10 students to each golf professional. These clinics are structured to give the golfer advice on how to improve his or her technique.



Bocce

Micki Malsch

This is how we roll! The annual Bocce Club Christmas party was held on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017 in the Arbor Conference Center. Eighty-six members and their guests dined on sandwiches provided by the club and side dishes and desserts aplenty were provided by the members. What a feast! Members really outdid themselves this year! There was enough for seconds. Beautiful red and white poinsettias adorned the tables and were later raffled off to the members as door prizes. A 50/50 raffle was held as well. Congratulations to all the winners!

The leagues are rolling along and open bocce continues to be the hottest ticket in town with members

arriving quite early to assure their playing spots on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning! Afternoon sessions begin at 1:30 p.m. on those days as well. Saturdays open is played at 9 a.m. Open bocce is first come, first to play. 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!

We are always looking for members to substitute. 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!

League play will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 2. For further information, please contact Joe Bartosh, president, Bocce Club at (608) 553-1602. Until we roll again ...



Photo by Lynn Beaudry

Ladies shuffleboard decorated golf cart for the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade.



Ladies Shuffleboard

Beverly Drennan

helped create our holiday wreath. **November 2017**

High Games: 7-Valerie Bilek; 7-Lois Nix; 7-Bev Rooks; 6-Barbara Stickles 6.

30 Plus: 1-Lynn Beaudry; 1-Cathleen Calleri; 1-Helen Finizo; 2-Sally Herrick; 1-Lois Nix; 1-Pam Russell; 1-Barbara Stickles.

Please save the date for our mid-year luncheon on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at the Arbor Conference Center.

Thanks to Lynn Beaudry and her crew for the great decorations on the ladies shuffleboard golf cart entry in the annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade, and to all the ladies who



Billiards Club

Phil Panzera

This month we highlight the state championships at the Florida Senior Games in Tampa, Fla., in which teams from our club represented our community especially well, taking home the top prize in every event in which they competed. On the first day of the three-day event, Lonnie McNew won the nine-ball gold medal, and on the second day Phil Panzera won the eight-ball gold medal.

The third day was an eight-ball doubles event, and two teams tied for first place. Gold medals were awarded to all four players: Ron Cruce and Lonnie, along with Phil and Gary Engelbert.

Penny Wilson and Lynn Dickson also played in this doubles event, and their team took home the women's gold medal as well. Penny also won a silver medal in table tennis, and Phil also won two bronze medals in Tai Chi. Altogether, residents of our community took home a hefty 10 medals from the Florida

Senior Games.

A club tournament was held this month in our room, with lively and friendly competition by all. Allen Fischler and Gene Hueber had a spirited battle in the finals, with Allen taking first place. Art Keck finished in third, and Joe Furfaro came in fourth. Tom Liberton and Richard Deschenes tied for fifth-sixth place. Congratulations to each of the top finishers.

The next general meeting of our club will take place on Monday, Jan. 8 (check the flyers in the room for the time and location). We hope everyone had a great time at the recent club dinner party, and we warmly wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy holiday season, and a great year in 2018.

On Top of the World NEWS

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Sidekicks Western Dance

Carol Hanson

Happy (almost) New Year! New Year's Eve is right around the corner, bringing many parties and celebrations to our community, like the Sidekicks annual New Year's Eve party. For those celebrating, remember to have a designated golf cart driver!

Say what you will about country music (you either love it or not) there is no denying that it's absolutely made for dancing. A very popular dance performed to country music is the two step, sometimes called the Texas or country two step. Kick off those cowboy boots and sit a spell while we explore some of the history of this popular dance.

The two step came moseying onto the dance floor in the early 1800s. A hybrid of the waltz and foxtrot, two dances popular dur-

ing that time, it was called "valse a deux temps." Yep, that's French for waltz in two beats. That name didn't seem to fit the dance that well, so folks just called it the two step.

Over the years, there have been many variations. Earlier versions contained a lot of kicking back and forth, traveling down the dance floor in a straight line. In 1980, along came a movie called "Urban Cowboy" starring John Travolta. That's right, the actor who has a home right here in Ocala. The pop-

ularity of this movie and Travolta's dancing helped propel the two step into the popular circular pattern that most people enjoy dancing today. The two step is very popular in the south, especially in Texas, where the movie was set. This explains why most people today refer to it as the Texas two step.

With the New Year, comes new beginnings. If you haven't tried dancing the two step, maybe it's time to add it to your new year's resolutions or bucket list! It's never too late to learn something new.

Enough writing ... time to dance!



Line Dancing

Nancy Carmack

Happy New Year! The line dancers had a fun holiday season dancing in Marilyn's and Nancy's classes

to Christmas music. Our December monthly dance also had a holiday theme and was enjoyed by all.

If you're not a line dancer, but have been wondering about the style of dances we do, there are many. Just to name a few, there are cha cha rhythms, waltzes, tangos, country, polkas, etc. Line dancing has its own language just as most

sports do. We use words such as vine, jazz box, sailor step, step touch, coaster step and many others. When you join the Absolute Beginner class, you will learn step sequences and their names, which makes learning a new dance easier.

Line dancing is a great way to make new friends. We dance at The Town Square on Friday and Satur-

day evenings and also at the Recreation Center Ballroom at Happy Hour on Friday evenings.

Come join us and just remember to stay 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.



Dancin' On the Top

Arlo Janssen

The start of the New Year is the big item on our calendar. The New Year's Eve dance will feature the great music of the Retro Express. Decorations will include balloons

and our traditional clock on the stage.

Sales for the first two dances in 2018 will take place in January for club members. The date and time will be announced by e-mail to club members.

Sales for the dances in 2018 will take place in January for club members. The date and time will be announced by e-mail to club members. The 2018 dances are all un-

der contract. The first dance is set for Saturday, Feb. 17 with the band 3 For the Road Plus 1. Our second dance is set for Saturday, April 21 with the band Retro Express.

Additional dances are set for Sept. 22, Nov. 17, and Dec. 31. Dancin' On the Top is working on future dance dates for the year 2019. For club membership, ticket information, or if you want to help with our dances, please contact

Gene Melnick at (352) 304-8293 or Peggy Sayat at (352) 509-7400.

There are other opportunities to dance here at On Top of the World: weekly Friday night Happy Hour in the Recreation Center Ballroom (guest fees apply to anyone not having a resident I.D.) and The Town Square every Friday and Saturday night. See the events calendar insert provided in the World News for more details.



Ballet Club

Eugenie Martin

Now that the holidays are over, it is time to return to regular fitness programs, and perhaps fulfill some New Year's resolutions.

For us, ballet is a great way to exercise. We strengthen our bodies, increase our flexibility and improve our balance in traditional ballet classes done to the accompaniment of lovely music, in the company of wonderful women. Our classes, which are held in the Recreation Center group fitness room, are all free to participants. They are held four times each week, and the schedule is shown below:

- Tuesdays: 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- Thursdays: 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Fridays: 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- Saturdays (Fusion Floor Barre): 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

New dancers are welcome to any of our classes. To start, all you need are exercise clothes and socks, plus a bottle of water. A neck roll is also recommended for the Fusion Floor Barre. Before coming to class, please give me a call at (352) 854-8589, so we can discuss your background and how things work in class. Also, I can be on the lookout for you.

Right now, we are very excited about participating in the Health & Wellness Expo at Circle Square Cultural Center on Saturday, Jan. 13. Our demonstration of ballet dances will be at 11 a.m. We hope to see you there. Happy dancing and happy 2018!

Group Mexican Train Chicken Foot

Barbara & David Lee

Happy New Year everyone! We have met so many wonderful members from all the neighborhoods and feel so blessed by the friendships we've made each week. Since May, we have had so much fun playing with our new extended domino friends and would like you all to mark your calendar for Friday, Feb. 16 to celebrate our first annual after Valentine's Day appreciation game night, which will be exciting fun for all of us. More details will follow but we wanted to ask you to hold that date.

For those of you who have come but haven't returned we hope you will join us again for another game in the near future, remember you

are welcome any Monday in the Hobby Building, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. We have six to a table and play with dots or number, your preference. We pick chips to help you meet and play with new people.

If you have played with us and have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to bring them to our attention as our goal is for all to come out and have a good time for 25-cents conducting your own train and meeting your extended friends and family who are new or seasoned players.

Remember, we have a learning table and all are welcome. If you have a special need, we will try to accommodate whatever the situation may be. If you have been there and forgotten how to play, a quick refresh is on the way.

See you all in 2018. No game on New Year's Day.

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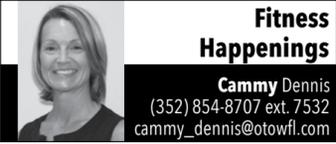
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Fitness Happenings

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Aqua Aerobics Boosts Your Health!

Peter Wood, a 10-year resident, recently revealed that his HDL cholesterol (the good cholesterol!) has dramatically improved since he started taking aqua aerobics classes. He shared his good news with aqua instructor Barbara Day, explaining that his HDL number went up 20 points (from 40 to 60) and the only lifestyle change he made was the addition of water aerobics!

Peter has been a regular participant in the Tuesday and Thursday shallow water aerobics classes for the last seven months. He attributes this recent health boost to his water workouts with instructor Barbara Day.

Peter was not a newcomer to water fitness; he has been a long time water walker and lap swimmer. When I asked Peter what his motivation for joining the shallow water classes were he stated, "my motivation to take the water aerobics class came from a friend's tip, but more importantly from my desire to step up aerobic exercise to better balance with my present strength exercise regimen. And, water aerobic exercise includes an element of strength training too. It's a very efficient workout and I feel so good for the rest of the day!"

As Peter and I were discussing the many benefits of aqua aerobics, he mentioned that he is puzzled by the gender imbalance in the classes. He noted that there are approximately four to five men in a typical class of 30 to 40 students, and he doesn't understand why. Peter says, "Men need this exercise too! It's easy to let weight gain get the best of you as you get older, these classes really help with that."

After interviewing Peter, I called Barbara Day (shallow water aerobics instructor) and asked her to share her thoughts on this inspiring testimonial; here's what she had to say: "As a water aerobics instructor, I am approached almost weekly by a participant who tells me how the classes have helped her or him personally. Peter's story is one of many. It is a refreshing reminder of why I get up early and prepare diligently for each class. Leading water classes is my profession, but it is so fulfilling to have this unsolicited feedback. Each personal story prompts me to say to myself, "Yes! This is why I am in this profession."

This is the perfect time of the year to reenergize your commitment to exercise. I hope Peter's story has inspired you to get moving or perhaps try something new. Make this New Year a happy and healthy one!



Photo by Cammy Dennis
Peter Wood celebrates good news from the doctor after several months of Shallow Water Aerobics!

FITNESS SCHEDULE						
January 2018						
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 Julie	KBKB Han	Strength & Stretch Kelly	
10:00 AM	Balanced Body Darla	Chair Yoga Kathy	Balanced Body Jessica	Chair Yoga Kathy	Balanced Body Madelyne	
11:00AM	S.O.S. Larry	S.O.S. Kelly	S.O.S. Larry	S.O.S. Linda	S.O.S. Larry	
12:00PM	Get Fit While You Sit Kitti		Get Fit While You Sit Kitti		Get Fit While You Sit Madelyne	
1:00 PM		Fitness Orientation**		Balance Assessment**		
5:00 PM		Intro to Yoga Kathy				
Recreation Center Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 8 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 5 PM						
** Fitness center orientations and balance assessments are free. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534 to reserve your spot.						
Recreation Center Ballroom						
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
10:45 AM Ballroom	Zumba® Gold Kitti		Zumba® Gold Kitti		Zumba® Gold Madelyne	
Recreation Center Outdoor Pool						
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
9:00 AM Outdoor Pool	Deep Water Kelly	Shallow Water Barb	Deep Water Larry	Shallow Water Barb	HIIT Deep Larry	
Arbor Conference Center						
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
9:00 AM Arbor Conference Center	Yoga (G,H) Julie		Yoga (D) Linda	Qi Gong (E,F,G) Art	Yoga (G,H) Renu	
10:00 AM Arbor Conference Center				Intro to Tai Chi (E,F,G) Art		
Health & Wellness Expo						
Saturday, Jan. 13 at Circle Square Cultural Center Fitness Demos – 10 AM - 1 PM; Line Dancers on The Town Square – 1:30 - 2:30 PM						

Fit Tips

Larry Robinson
(352) 387-3571
larry_robinson@otowfl.com

Active Aging
Regular physical activity is one of the most important things you can do for your health. Staying active can prevent many health problems and delay age related muscle loss. On the other hand, not participating in regular physical activity can be very detrimental. Perhaps you've heard the new catch phrase "sitting is the new smoking" coined by Dr. James Levine, director of the Mayo Clinic-Arizona State University Obesity Solutions Initiative? Research has proven that prolonged

sitting increases the risk of serious illnesses such as heart disease and type two diabetes. Bear in mind that some physical activity is better than none and it gets you up from sitting too long. Ring in the New Year with a resolution to age actively!

FIT TIP #1: Aim for two hours and 30 minutes (150 minutes) of moderate-intensity aerobic activity (brisk walking) every week.

FIT TIP #2: Perform muscle-strengthening activities at least two days a week and ensure that you work all major muscle groups (legs, hips, back, abdomen, chest, shoulders, and arms).

FIT TIP #3: Make healthy food choices. Proper nutrition along with regular exercise will put you on the road to a healthy and happy New Year!

Bingo

Denise Johnson

Our successful 2017 bingo season ended Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017 with many winners. Some of those winners won more than one raffle prize and/or games.

Bingo will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 3 to kick off the 2018 bingo games. Come on out and see if your cards are lucky winners.

We sell cards from 5 to 5:45 p.m. The raffle tickets are drawn and bingo begins 5:55 p.m. We do have a break halfway through the evening. We hope to see you all next year.

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Call of the Wild

Roger Bonifield

Well it has been a busy month. In addition to a formal, minor change in our name from Call of the Wild to Call of the Wild Sports Club, we have developed a full slate of club officers to serve the next year, written and approved a great set of club by-laws, and I think most exciting, gone live with our new club website. If you are not a member, you can view the site by going to app.mygrove.co (.co not .com) and then to Call of the Wild Sports Club. If you would like to have full view of the site, see all of the things we are up to, meet and contact other members, then come join us.

We are in the process of linking up with multiple charter captains on both coasts, to provide members with a list of quality captains, from half-day flats fishing to deep-sea fishing. Soon to be announced, we have chartered a 30 passenger party boat for a deep-sea trip in the Gulf. We plan to do this on a regu-

lar basis. We are also scouting out inland, freshwater lakes and rivers, trying to locate that best possible location to land that 10-pound bass.

And, we are not just about fishing. On the day of writing this column, me and two other club members were out scouting hunting possibilities over in the Ocala National Forest. We spoke with one group of deer hunters, who said that this year alone, they had taken 10 legal bucks. We found multiple deer tracks, some coyote tracks and even some large bear tracks. We also checked out the rifle/pistol range located in the forest. Don't let anyone tell you there are no great hunting and fishing possibilities in Florida.

To learn more details about the above and much more, I invite you to come join us. We meet from noon to 2 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at the Arbor Conference Center, Suites B and C. Yes, we are that big. At the next meeting, we are planning a tackle school. We will go over the basic tackle you can use in Florida, from freshwater crappie/spec and bass fishing to inland flats and some deep-sea fishing.



R/C Car Club

Tom Seitz

December started off well for racing, although at times it had been a bit chilly.

Currently we are running four regular classes of cars on Thursdays and Sundays at 1 p.m. We have just recently begun racing a fifth class on Tuesdays, the new Rage two-wheel drive buggy.

The new format of two heats that our race committee implemented has proven very successful and has helped to level the competition, making it more fun for all.

Each race day we also run novice races to help those who are just getting started or want to improve their driving skill.

With the return of our northern contingent and new members, we often run as many as 16 or more races on Thursdays and Sundays. The number of people running the Rage is also increasing each week with as many as eight races on Tuesdays.

Our membership now is in the mid-90s, but we always encourage new members.

The first item that anyone must choose is a car. The Rage R10ST was recently selected to run as the "stock" car on Tuesdays. What has been a pleasant surprise is that this car is also competitive on Thursdays and Sundays in the two-wheel drive buggy class. We have a local vendor who offers very good prices and in-house parts support. For someone just getting started, this car is a very viable and relatively inexpensive option. Another recommended option is the two-wheel drive truck, which is much fun, easy to repair, and better withstands the punishment often inflicted by some new drivers!

The only mandatory requirement on our track is that the vehicle must be 1/10 scale and electric. The number of choices for car and equipment can be daunting, but one of our experienced members will be glad to help you sort it out.

Come on out and join one of the one of the fastest growing clubs at On Top of the World. You will find a friendly group who is happy to welcome a newcomer.

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Softball

Bill Leon

Things are beginning to heat up. The Pavarotti's team continues to dominate the league, but it is a long season and the other teams are beginning to meld together as players are beginning to be shifted around so that they feel comfortable in the positions they are fielding.

Close behind is the Pearson Nissan team, which has pulled some last minute wins together and although they have had some bad games, they are still a strong contender. Hilton Auto has shown some improvement in the last few games and are hitting much better, but they have been struggling on defense although their last two games have shown improvement in that area.

As for the Swinson Chiropractic team, some changes have been made to the team and that has proven to be a benefit as they have won some close games in their last

two starts. Their lead player is still out, but hopefully will be returning by January, which should help considerably. The Ceibert Wealth team is hoping to have some players return from their holiday vacation soon as it is becoming difficult placing substitutes in needed positions and are slipping further and further away from the other teams. The Dr. Dunn team is another matter; they have some good hitters, but just can't seem to put it all together and continue to sit in the basement of the league. They have had some good games and shown, during the first four or five innings, that they can hold their own, but then fall apart in the later innings as the hitters go cold. It won't be long though, before they begin playing and doing the hitting that they are capable of, but for now, it's a matter of waiting to see when they will begin their move.

Team	W	L	T
3-Pavarotti's (Paul)	11	4	1
5-Pearson Nissan (Steve)	10	6	
2-Hilton Auto (Jimmy)	8	8	
6-Swinson (Jeff)	8	8	
4-Ceibert Wealth (Bill)	6	9	1
1-Dr. Dunn (Mark)	4	12	



Diamond Divas

Carol Singer

The Diamond Divas Ladies Softball wishes all residents a very happy and healthy 2018.

We are a group of women who just want to have fun! New members are welcome at any time and at any playing level. Many of us (ac-

tually all of us) had not played softball since high school and/or never played at all! So come on out to the ballpark to play ball, umpire, coach or cheer us on. We all do what we can and we all have fun!

Our schedule is Tuesdays and Fridays, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Finally, the Divas want to give a special shout out of thanks to Sandy Hoskins for all of her help on and off the field. We wish her only good stuff! For additional information on how you too can become a Diamond Divas member, please contact Carol Singer at (352) 509-4066.

OTOWInfo.com

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Stamp Club

Joe Rosinski

It's the time of the year when many of you will be pondering making New Year's resolutions that will probably end up being promises that are not kept. Willpower usually takes over, and we wind up not paying much attention to our list. In an introduction to our Stamp Collecting Class at Master the Possibilities, we pose a simple question to get the ball rolling: Why collect stamps? Some possible reasons include:

- An escape from boredom (tired of staring at the walls?)
- A stress reliever
- A sense of accomplishment
- Enjoyment of having a hobby (it's fun!)
- It's educational (most stamps commemorate some person, event, or geographic location)
- A way to connect with history (many historical events are depicted on stamps)
- -The lure of miniature art (many famous pieces of art are included on stamps from

various countries)
 • Challenge of the hunt (hunting for and eventually finding an elusive issue that you need to fill a blank spot in your collection)
 • A social network, friendships, shared interests (there are stamp collectors and clubs all over the world and most are willing to buy, sell or trade their duplicates)

Think about the above and check out our club; dues are \$6.00 a year and we would welcome you at any of our meetings. See the Club Schedule included with this newspaper for meeting information or e-mail me at rosinskijoe@gmail.com.

As mentioned in earlier columns, we will be conducting two more classes as part of the winter semester at Master the Possibilities which you might want to try. Classes are scheduled for Monday, Feb. 12 and Monday, March 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. And best of all, they're free for residents. Each class will include different topics and students' input is welcome. If there is a particular topic you would like us to cover, just let us know in advance so we can bring any required materials.

Thanks again for reading the column and hope to see you at one of our meetings.



Model Railroaders

Jim Lynam

The members of the Model Railroaders sincerely hope that everyone who viewed the three-rail layout at Master the Possibilities over the holidays enjoyed the experience. We hope that viewing the steam engine and the various operating cars and accessories brought back many fond memories from Christmases past. For those who may be interested in continuing with the "Lionel" scale trains, be sure to check with the Model Railroaders for the scheduled spring three-rail setup at the Arbor Conference Center.

The club also hopes that you will be able to visit the main HO layout today, Dec. 28 and tomorrow, Dec. 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The variety of steam engines as well as diesel locomotives hauling passengers and freight will be absolutely amazing! The scale miniaturization of the layout is spectacular. As we tell the visitors, "the more you look, the more detail you will see!"

The members of the Model Railroaders would like to acknowledge and thank Jim Lynam, Bob Wilkes, Paul Lewandowski, Charlie Vartanian and Al Lohr for their service as club officers for 2017. Through their leadership, and with the help from many of the club members, improvements were made to the "Lionel" layout, which was displayed the week of Christmas.

In addition, the HO layout received realistic sensor-controlled operating crossing lights and gates, traffic lights, signal bridge lights, landscaping, buildings, and numerous scale details to enhance the realism of the display. A WiFi interface was installed into the power

system, which enables the operator to use any smartphone to communicate with the locomotive's computer chip and control the movement and sound of the engine.

To continue the progress into the New Year, the club wishes to congratulate the elected officers for 2018: President Jim Lynam; Vice President Bob Wilkes; Secretary Paul Lewandowski; Treasurer Charlie Vartanian; and Director Al Lohr. 2018 promises to be one of the most exciting and challenging years for model railroading since the club's inception.

In the spirit of the New Year when many "resolutions" are created for the coming year, why not fulfill a promise that you made to yourself to return to model railroading? Throughout the year, so many visitors to the layout room express their desire to "get back into the hobby" as soon as they get the time. So, turn your resolutions into convictions and join us in the layout room this New Year.

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 Center's 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 held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3 at the Arbor Conference Center, Suite A.

Happy New Year to everyone!



Bunco Babes Social Group

Micki Malsch

The Bunco Babes Social Group plays bunco in the Arbor Conference Center, Suite E. Registration is at 6:45 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. The next scheduled game is Tuesday Jan. 23.

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.

The cost is \$3 per person and all monies collected are returned at the end of the game to the category winners.

Please bring your own beverage, and a small snack for sharing if you wish.

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



Mah Jongg

Mary Ehle

When you read this it will be approaching 2018. I am amazed at how fast the time is going. If you have always wanted to learn this great game of mah jongg now is the perfect time. There is a new class starting on Thursday Jan. 18 at Master the Possibilities. It will run every Thursday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. for four weeks. To register, call (352) 854-3699. Come and join us. We will have a great afternoon and you will too.

If you have any questions you can call me at (352) 873-7507. This will be the last class until April when we will do it again. Until then, jokers to you.

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Social HOUR

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Bring your neighbors and enjoy a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres (while they last)!

FREE EVENT FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR GUESTS!
Recreation Center Ballroom • 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

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10799 - 1/18

Up, Up and Away

By Bob Woods
World News Writer

The 19th annual Sky High Hot Air Balloon Festival took place at Callaway Gardens located in Pine Mountain, Ga. in September. It is the largest hot air balloon festival east of the Mississippi.

The weekend began with the extraordinary Friday night balloon glow. Due to weather, the balloon glow turned into a candle glow. All balloons were tethered to the ground and rose to a little over 100 feet. Normally, the balloon glow occurs after dark when the flame from the burner and the light from that flame shines through the balloon's fabric. A candle glow is just the burner shooting its flame into the air. Generally, the candle glow takes place if it is too windy.

Saturday and Sunday were filled with family-friendly events, including live music, beach activities, and much more. There was a classic car show, disc dog demonstrations and entertaining performers.

A manned hot air balloon flight has a single layered fabric gas bag, a basket or gondola and a burner which injects a flame into the balloon's bag, called an envelope, heating the air inside the bag giving the balloon lift. Since hot air balloons are considered a lighter-than-air aircraft, all pilots must have a certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration to fly them. If the pilot is carrying paying passengers, he must have a commercial pilot's certificate.

The heat generated from the gas burner controls the balloon's ascent. The descent is accomplished by regulating the amount of hot air entering the balloon. There is also a flap at the top of the balloon allowing hot air to escape making the balloon descend.

Callaway Gardens is a 6,500-acre resort founded in 1952 to promote and protect native azalea species. Today, the gardens have a wide variety of attractions including a large enclosed butterfly habitat, golf courses, horticultural center, a chapel, countless azalea bushes plus



Photo by Bob Woods

Sky High Hot Air Balloon Festival at Callaway Gardens located in Pine Mountain, Ga.

countless other trees and shrubs along with many varieties of flowers. The gardens also boast as having the largest man-made lake with sand beaches (sand was shipped in by train from Florida) plus having the largest collection of azaleas in the world.

There are many other great lo-

cations within the gardens. The vegetable garden, which is closed, was once the location for TV shows about growing vegetables, most notably the southern edition of "The Victory Garden."

Besides the annual Sky High Hot Air Balloon Festival, Callaway Gardens also hosts Celebrate Spring

(watch as the world's largest displays of native and cultivated azaleas bloom) and Fantasy in Lights showcasing eight million lights and 15 dazzling Christmas scenes. Regardless of the time of year, there is always some type of event taking place at the gardens.

Plant a Seed and Watch it Grow

By Bob Woods
World News Writer

To weed or not to weed that is the garden ...

A community garden is being constructed in Indigo East. Thirty-two garden plots will be available for residents with "green thumbs" to grow their own vegetables or other plants. If you are interested in a garden plot, please contact Theresa Fields, activities supervisor, at (352) 854-8707 to receive

the rules and regulations and general information.

This will be the fourth garden within our community. There are two gardens located in the central section of the community and another one in Avalon.

What a healthy hobby to get into ... since nothing beats fresh-picked fruits and vegetables!



Photo by Bob Woods
Indigo East garden plots.

TICKETS ON SALE!



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For the first time ever, Dave and Ted bring their high-voltage dueling piano show to the Circle Square Cultural Center! This is a piano show like no other! It's a show chock-full of comedy, song and improv that will make for an unforgettable evening. Be prepared to clap and sing along at this musical comedy show where the audience is always part of the action!

Visit WildPianos.com for a sample of what you can expect when they take the stage!

Resident: \$18-20 | Non-Resident: \$20-22

JAN 5



HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS:
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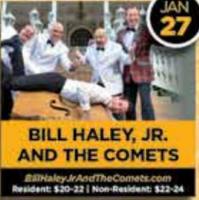
JAN 12



THE VAN-DELLS

Van-Dells.com
Resident: \$14-16 | Non-Resident: \$16-18

JAN 20



BILL HALEY, JR. AND THE COMETS

BillHaleyJrAndTheComets.com
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JAN 27



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MAR 9



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KingstonTrio.com
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MAR 17



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MAR 24



THE LETTERMEN

TheLettermen.com
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MAR 24



BENNIE & THE JETS

BennieAndTheJets.com
Resident: \$20-22 | Non-Resident: \$22-24

APR 14



THE MYSTICS

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Resident: \$14-16 | Non-Resident: \$16-18



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Spreading Acts of Kindness

By Ray Cech
World News Writer



Photo by Ray Cech

"Kindness" ladies speaking acts of kindness.

"I found your art today. Thank you for your random act of kindness. Don't see that much in today's world."

"Hello, my name is Sydney. I found your box of cards and they are amazing. I love them! I think it's

wonderful that you are doing this and I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart."

"I just found your bag with the tam scarf inside. Thank you. We're visiting from Wisconsin and the scarf is perfect for my daughter. She'll be wearing it this winter."

"Thank you so much. After all day shopping and making memories with my family, I sat down outside and enjoyed your wonderful art."

"It is truly a blessing and an amazing gift!"

Patty Beeman, Candler Hills resident, is the founding member of a group of "kindness" ladies who spread their acts of kindness around our fair city. Last year, Patty got four ladies together and they made greeting cards and small craft items. They left over a dozen of them around the Market Street at Heath Brook. This year, the volunteers increased to 10 and so did the number and kinds of gifts, increase.

On Black Friday, the ladies traveled to Market Street at Heath Brook and beyond. They placed their craft pieces - acts of kindness - in plain site where they were sure to be found. A short note and website was included. The note asked the "finder" to enjoy the gift, along with a suggestion: "Let us be kind to one another."

Many of the folks who came upon one of the gifts responded to the website. A few of those responses are printed above. Clearly, what Patty and her "acts of kindness" friends are doing, speaks volumes of their kind hearts and holiday spirit.

'An All-American Christmas'

By Patricia A. Woodbury

The Concert Chorus would like to thank all those who came and supported our winter concert, "An All-American Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 2 and Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017. We hope you enjoyed the show as much as we did bringing it to you.

There is nothing like a full house

to support our efforts. Thank you also for your generous donations. A great deal of credit goes to Director Audrey Strong, who worked so hard putting this show together and Jeremy Trout, our piano accompanist for his wonderful talent.

Although we just completed our winter concert, the chorus will start

working on its spring concert. So mark your calendar for Saturday, April 7 or Sunday, April 8 when we will bring you more American composers in song.

The beginning of a new year is a great time to start some new resolutions like new habits and focus on the things that are really important in life. Take the time to learn new skills or hobbies and it will not only make you more interesting, but it could end up helping your personal life. We are always looking for residents who like to sing and join us. We meet every Tuesday from 9:30

to 11:30 a.m. in Arbor Conference Center, Suite C. So come and check us out; you might like it. If you think you would be interested in joining the chorus, please contact Membership Chair Susan Layne at (352) 414-5420.

Our featured chorus member this month is Fred Holton. Fred came from Brattleboro, Vermont. He received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Northeastern University, Boston, Mass. He also attended the Vermont Police Academy before joining the Brattleboro Police Department. He had to leave the police force for a short time, but returned and stayed for 20 years. Fred was instrumental in getting the police salaries raised by using the influence of the media. When he retired he took on a variety of positions such as owning a restaurant where I understand he was a pretty good cook, as well as selling cars at a Honda dealership in Keene, N.H.

Fred has sung in church choirs and with a barbershop quartet. Currently, he is a member of the New England Club. You will remember him as our blushing "Santa baby" in our winter concert. The tenor section of the chorus is pleased to have Fred as a member.

The Concert Chorus wishes you a very happy and healthy New Year!



Photo by Bill Monroe

"An All-American Christmas" concert in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

The New Pretenders Tickets

By Nancy Grabowski

Happy New Year! We welcome in 2018 with great excitement and anticipation. It won't be long before we begin selling tickets for our shows which debut Friday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 4, at 2 p.m.

The ticket sales kick-off is Wednesday, Jan. 3, at 8 a.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A representative of the troupe will be present, beginning at 7 a.m., to hand out numbers for the early birds. Please do not come before 7 a.m. when we know it is dark and possibly too cold to wait outside for tickets. We will sell until 10 a.m. (or longer if there are customers still in line). Reserved seats are \$10 each and general admission seats are \$8 each.

We will continue to sell tickets

every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday throughout January and the first week of February. The times are always 8 to 10 a.m. and we always sell in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We can promise to greet you with a smile and a warm welcome, no matter the weather outside!

Our rehearsals are all about the polishing touches these days. Each cast member is ready to entertain you with our brand new show. The costumes are magnificent! The stage will undergo a transformation like no other before it! We can't contain our enthusiasm! You should plan on a great adventure, incredibly imaginative, for that is where we intend to lead you. Are you ready to join us?

The New Pretenders wish to ex-

tend their thanks to some very special people. Each of them has worked behind the scenes to make certain our presentation could go on without a hitch. First and foremost, Theresa Fields and Maggie Richards, who successfully met our needs despite the hassles of new construction and limited space! Next, Cammy Dennis and Jessica Pinkowski who secured the mirrored room behind the gym for our practices; and Kitty Surrette whose class we inadvertently crashed in our haste to get to practice. Patty Soriano, the administrative assistant to Mr. Colen, who coordinated the times and details of his participation; Patty solved some production hitches, too. Also, the sound and light crew who attended our evening practices and worked with us to map out the spotlights and sound; they do make us look so good!

As always, if you have any other questions, don't hesitate to call Nancy Grabowski at (352) 873-4315.



Photo by Lennie Rodoff

The New Pretenders show in 2017.



Theatre Group

Steve McDonald

Our December gathering consisted of our annual holiday dinner with 27 members and seven of their guests at Logan's Roadhouse. We had a wonderful, enjoyable and fun-filled evening. We hope everyone in our community enjoyed a very joyous, happy and safe holiday season and the healthiest New Year 2018 is wished for all.

We have auditioned and selected several new and existing members who will be a part of our cast performing for you in our spring "Path to Talent Showcase II, Remembering through the Decades." The enormous interest has enabled us to cancel our January open casting call, which will now be used for commencing our rehearsals. Our program director, Harry Boyajian, and assistant director, Leslie Miller, among their other normal day-to-day activities, have been tirelessly preparing our script and organizing our program. We appreciate their commitment.

For our great cast and crewmembers, our Jan. 8, Feb. 12, and March 12 rehearsals, in preparation for what will prove to be a very exciting and entertaining presentation for our community, will be held in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We have been additionally approved for an extra, special session for selected cast members on Feb. 26, also to be held at Recreation Center Ballroom, at 7 p.m. Our tech week

with full dress rehearsals will include lighting and sound setups, and will be held March 18, 19, and 20. All members, cast, and production teams are requested to be present.

For our valued residents, please be on the lookout for our posters announcing our spring program, to be performed on Saturday, March 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, March 25, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. They will soon be posted at various venues throughout our community and on our local TV station channel 732. Please take a copy and invite your friends and members of your other club affiliations to attend our program this coming spring. We promise you will not be disappointed, and we look forward to once again presenting a successful and very entertaining program for your enjoyment. We are looking forward to our community residents' attendance and support, which will enable us to continue our long-time efforts to provide a generous contribution towards a scholarship annually awarded to a deserving College of Central Florida arts student.

Tickets for our programs this March are only \$5 general seating, and will go on sale at the Recreation Center Ballroom Jan. 8 through March 16, 8 to 10 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

For further information, have interest in joining our group, or would like to assist us in any of our many activities necessary for supporting and carrying out our programs, please contact our president, Harry Boyajian, at (239) 336-4804 or come to our next meeting.



Original Karaoke

Sindy & Richie O'Brien

We want to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year! This was such an amazing year and we hope you all feel the same. We are blessed to have met so many new people through karaoke in 2017! Friends who have been close to us through the years, you know how much we love you and appreciate your friendship!

Our wishes for you in this New

Year:
May life grant you:
12 months of love,
52 weeks of joy,
365 days of success,
8,760 hours of good health,
5,260 minutes of inner peace
3,153,600 seconds of happiness

If you'd like to join our karaoke group and make amazing new friends as we did, we meet on the second and fourth Monday at the Candler Hills Community Center at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Sindy at (352) 362-4810.



Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky

The new year can come with promises to make our lives better. How about singing?

"If you sing in the shower or sing along with the radio, consider taking this raw vocal skill to new heights. Music, the universal language, not only stirs our deepest emotions, but active participation can increase energy and vigor to see us through even the most stress-filled life commitments." I read this in "Life-Affirming Benefits of Singing" by Patty Mills.

When you come to karaoke you do not have to sing. We love it when

people come and say, "I want to join the clappers." We do have a television screen that faces the audience. Many enjoy watching the words on the screen and singing along. Even the clappers become chair singers!

There is an area where people can dance. We can get people to act out a song like "Simon Says." We can get background groups for a doo-wop song.

The goal is to have a happy evening and the laughter and smiles say we have accomplished that.

Because New Year's Day is on a Monday, we will only have one gathering in January. We will meet Monday, Jan. 15. Come and join us in Arbor Conference Center, Suites E and F, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mark your new calendar each month for the first and third Monday. Come join us.



Photo by Kathy Petrosky

Karaoke Friends acting out songs like "Simon Says."

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Art Group

Anne Merrick

We hope you all had a jolly Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or Solstice celebration. The Art Group had its annual holiday get-together at Helen's house this year. Her house was decorated beautifully. As usual, there was lots of yummy food and camaraderie. What a splendid group we are.

We started a new life drawing class on Wednesday afternoons. This is something different for many of us and quite a challenge, at least, for me. Each of us poses for 30 seconds to two minutes and the idea is to capture the gestures quickly, giving life to the pose. This teaches you to really look and absorb quickly as well as transferring to the paper with the proper perspective. Some of our first drawings could have drawn hysterical

laughter but we were too polite to do so. You are supposed to keep your sketches to compare with future ones but I am afraid many of us threw them away.

The month of January at Master the Possibilities is for each of our members to show one piece of art that they have created. The shelves in the living room will be full of varied pictures and drawings done in many mediums and sizes. This group has some amazing talent and I urge you to take a look when you go to Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli or a class or just make a special visit. There will be a small reception on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. where you can talk to someone about their work or even buy something if it is for sale. Who wouldn't want an original on their wall?

We start the New Year with lots of choices for expression and a good crowd from whom to learn new techniques and gain ideas. We meet on Wednesdays, at 1 p.m. and Thursdays and Saturdays, at 9 a.m. Please drop in and see what we do.



Photo by John Ford and Margaret Edmiston

Art Group holiday party at Helen's house.



Artistic Crafts & Gifts

Barbara Lingis

Our second annual customer appreciation drawing was held on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017 in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Many beautiful gifts were donated by our crafters as a way of thanking our loyal customers for their support.

Each crafter had on their table an item to be given for the drawing. The following are the lucky winners for this year's drawings: Carol Jenkins, Judy Orlewis, Wanda Thraikill, Maargo and Erik Cambier, Ellanor Brown, Judy Kudabowsky, Leigh Workman, Claudette Cummings, Martha Colyer, Sandy Voight, Gwen Zebley, Melinda Rice, Kathy Cornell, Murilla Wester, Petra Scholl, Donna LeBlanc, Susan Weiss, Corina White, Marilyn Whitson and Gary Cor.

We would like to congratulate all our winners and thank them for their continued support for our club.

Remember, our club has a craft sale every Tuesday, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We hope to see you there.



Sunshine Quilters

Arliss Day

Greetings from the Sunshine Quilters. Hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. It's a brand new year and our group is looking forward to learning new things this year. We had a wonderful Christmas luncheon at The Club at Candler Hills. The food was outstanding and the ladies all enjoyed being together.

We will be working on baby and toddler quilts during the upcoming year to help our charity organization. Please feel free to stop by and see what we are working on. We will have sit and sew sessions in January plus learning new techniques for quilting. If you are new to sewing or quilting, come see us.

We are located in the Hobby Building on Tuesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., please feel free to stop by any time.

Thanks to all of our members for sharing and caring. If you would like additional information, please call Rhonda Wilder at (916) 764-0450.



Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel

I am happy to report that our Club Fair picture - complete with beautiful boas - is featured on page 16 of Ocala's Good Life magazine (November/December issue)! Make sure to check it out!

Our December luncheon on Monday, Dec. 11, 2017 took place at Arthur's Bistro.

The Happy Hookers meet every Monday, year round, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Art Studio of the Hobby Building. We will not meet on Monday, Jan. 1, as all facilities are closed.

Our group is open to all resi-

dents. We don't pay dues and have no agenda. What we do have is a large group of ladies busy crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering and hand-crafting. This is a very talented group who is never too busy to help someone with a difficult pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms and recent months have brought quite a few new faces to the table. Attendees bring whatever they happen to be working on.

If you have any questions about our club, you may call Naomi Berman at (352) 873-4328.

If you have yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, croch hooks or other crafting tools that you no longer have a use for, donations are always appreciated. Please call Marge Curran at (630) 336-7105 for pick-up of these items.

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

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

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Photo by ShutterBug Rick Nelson

Advanced first place: Artistic impression cobblestones.



Photo by ShutterBug John Ware

Advanced second place: Back off.



Photo by ShutterBug Phyllis Hlavac

Advanced third place: Great blue heron.



ShutterBugs Photography

Connie Filip

Let our photos take you on a brief trip:
We start in Passau, Germany. Rick learned it's famous for its

many narrow cobblestone streets. This one's famous for the artists who live here and created their multicolored masterpiece.

While in Columbia, S.C. at Riverbanks Zoo, John "caught" this gorilla. Or did this male silverback catch him? John says, "We had a very nice stare down."

Last, we come to the shore of Lake Harris, to Venetian Gardens

in Leesburg, Fla. Phyllis was able to get this great shot of a great blue heron. Because they are habituated to people, she got close. It's a great place to bird watch. It had been raining for several hours and birds were out and about, looking for breakfast.

Congratulations to our winners! Don't get left out of next fall's ShutterBug photography contest!

It's for all levels of experience. Start taking your camera along when you go out and you'll capture lots of special moments. Maybe even a contest winner!

Our next field trip will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 9 to Blue Springs State Park on the St. Johns River. For more information, visit floridastateparks.org/park/Blue-Spring. If you plan to attend, contact Ginny to register at giny7700@gmail.com.

For up-to-date schedule information, visit our website at otowspc.com

Consider stopping by on Facebook! Our members post their favorite shots on ShutterBugs PSH (Photo Scavenger Hunt). Anyone can log on and see them. If you're a member with a few favorites of your own, just go to the site and ask to join. John Ware or Norbert Sachs will give any ShutterBug member permission to play with us.

Stop in and learn along with us as we watch a new photography DVD teaching series program called "Learn & Master Photography," by Vince Wallace. It's a 24-lesson package!

Our normal monthly club schedule is as follows:

- First Tuesday: No meeting Jan 2.
- Second Tuesday: Morning field trip.
- 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, our club president, at (352) 854-8536 or guhley@cfl.rr.com.



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For more information, please contact the Recreation Center Office at 352.854.8707 ext. 7533 or 7530.



Sewing Bees

Linda Lohr

Happy New Year everyone! I wonder how long it will take us all to use the correct date? I know it will take me a few months before 2018 rolls off my tongue.

The Bees have outdone themselves again for 2017! Final tallies will be in the February column; as of this writing, we are still delivering our comfort kits to various agencies.

The Bees will take a well-de-

served break on Thursday, Jan. 12, as we sit down to a great lunch at The Club at Candler Hills.

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, 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 at (352) 237-6660 for more information. As always, the children and we thank you for all your support.



Photo by Linda Lohr

Comfort quilt kit comprised of a quilt, tote bag and stuffed animal.



Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr

Happy New Year everyone! 2018 has come faster than anyone expected! It will take a while before we can get the date right.

Linda Lohr was the presenter for December. She presented two cards that used up some of those scraps we have clogging up our craft table. They can be embellished for a feminine or masculine card to suit ones needs. Another card was a Christmas card featuring small flowers and green branches. Punches and die cuts were provided, as well as label dies and stamps. The last card was a beehive created with die cuts against a honeycomb embossed background. Embossing folders and dies were provided as well as a sentiment for inside the card. The

class was small but we had a great time making all the cards!

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 or third Thursdays of the month, at the discretion of the demonstrator. 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'!



Photo by Linda Lohr

Cards presented by Linda Lohr for December 2017.



Poetry

John Kinser Hall

The Fisherman

The pastor in his office, a fish lure on his door.
Reminding all who pass this way, the job he must adore.

You see he is a fisherman, not just with hook or lure.
The hook is just one symbol, the cross is his for sure.
The fish lure on the office door, reminds us one and all.
That fishing isn't just a sport, for him, his lifetime call.
Peter too loved fishing, the passage written pure.
It isn't any wonder that, this door displays a lure.



Photo by Larry Isenberg

Supermoon on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017.

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Genealogy Society

Peter Parisi

On Monday, Nov. 20, 2017, I gave a presentation on the recent trip my wife, Judy, and I took to Ireland, titled "Searching for our Irish Ancestors." Judy's presentation will be summarized in my February column.

Our search for information on our Irish ancestors was impeded by the lack of Irish Census records. While Census taking began in 1821 and continued every 10 years until 1921, the records from 1821 to 1891 were destroyed either by government order or by a fire in 1922 in the records office in Dublin during the Irish Civil War for Independence.

Further, civil registration of

births, marriages and deaths for both Protestants and Roman Catholics didn't begin until 1864. I did, however, locate copies of the original hand-written birth records of my grandfather and his six siblings from the civil records on the free website, irishgenealogy.ie. I also found the marriage record of my maternal great-grandparents, John Sweeney and Elizabeth Kelly, who were married on July 3, 1868 in Termonmaguirk, County Tyrone. The church was built in 1846 and is still in existence and in operation.

For events prior to 1864, the primary records available are church records. Some records have been indexed on ancestry.com. In most cases, you need to research them on the National Library of Ireland (<http://registers.nli.ie/about>) using semi-indexed microfilm records, indexed only by ecclesiastical parish, month and year, but not by name. Using the dates of birth from

the civil birth records mentioned above, I was able to find the baptismal records of four of my grandfather's siblings, but not his baptismal record.

Another record available was Griffith's Valuation of all land in Ireland from 1845 to 1865. From this record, I was able to determine that my great-great grandfather, James Sweeney, lived only two miles away from the church. During our visit, we found his descendants living on the same family compound, which is comprised of the same house, renovated and modernized, and two newer homes for the family which have been more recently built. We met four third cousins and their young children and two second cousins once removed. They were as pleased as we were to find out that they had an "American connection."

The Genealogical Society will hold a board meeting at 9:30 a.m.

on Monday, Jan. 8 in the Hobby Building, followed by an organizational/genealogy research meeting at 10:15 a.m., at which we discuss upcoming genealogy presentations and answer questions from members on genealogical problems.

On Monday, Jan. 15, at 10 a.m., we will hold an educational presentation in Suites B and C in the Arbor Conference Center. Matt Reilly will give a presentation on lessons he learned from the Family History Conference in Orlando in November 2017.

Our annual dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Benefits of membership include a large library of genealogical books and CDs available to members to be signed out and used at home for their genealogical research. Check out our website at otowgenealogicalsociety.shutterfly.com.



View from the Library

Linda Barilli

If you are into adventure, then you will love "Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before" by Tony Horwitz.

In 1768, Cook began his career as a sea captain. His first assignment was to sail into the third void of the map in search of the "southern continent." He returned three years later with charts so accurate that some of them stayed in use until the 1990s.

Over the course of his career, Cook sailed over 200,000 miles.

To truly understand the perils of Cook's voyages, Tony followed Cook across the seas. His goal was to distinguish fact from folklore.

By referencing Cook's journals and those of his crew, Tony traveled to many of the locations that Cook visited, comparing their present state to when Cook first set foot there. This book is labeled 910 HOR.

"Love Can Build a Bridge" by Naomi Judd is a down to earth story about a single mom, who discovered at an early age that family and home life dominate virtually every aspect of an individual's life. Naomi

was born in Ashland, Kentucky in 1946.

This is somewhat of a rags to riches story. For years Naomi pinched pennies to survive and would wind up feeling "stuck."

Seeing Naomi all glamorous, you would never guess that deep down inside, she's a true Appalachian woman. Her introduction to the entertainment industry started behind the scenes, doing office work.

This book has funny and sad moments. But Naomi was one independent, goal minded person who was determined to be in the right place at the right time. If you're starting a new venture, you might get inspiration from her story. This book can be found in the hardcover biography section labeled 782 JUD.

"The Cross Country Quilters" by Jennifer Chiaverini is the story of five women who meet for the first time at Elm Creek Manor, to attend a quilting class. Since each of them

has traveled from a different location, they decide to call themselves The Cross Country Quilters. As they get to know each other, they find that they are each facing a personal challenge at home.

Julia has unexpectedly finished a lengthy run on "Family Tree." Should she retire from her acting career with dignity before lingering on past her prime? Megan is recently divorced and finding her niche in her new life. Vinnie wants to find a nice girl for her grandson. Grace thinks her creativity has run dry, or has it? Donna's daughter has a boyfriend that wants her to choose him over her family.

They promise to meet at Elm Creek Manor next year. They decide to make a challenge quilt. They share a piece of fabric and will each use it in the block they make. The outcome is inspiring. This book can be found in hardcover fiction.

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New and existing residents are invited to attend and meet your neighbors while learning about the various clubs and groups that are available for residents. There will be light refreshments and representatives from various clubs, the fitness center and more. Each representative will speak on the services and programs they offer.

At the end a short tour will be given to familiarize residents with the facilities and amenities available at the Recreation Center.

For more information call the Recreation Center Office at 352-854-8707 ext. 7533 or 7530.



Christmas Lights

By Bob Woods
World News Writer

You have approximately one week to see the beautifully decorated home on SW 95th Court in Stone Bridge in Candler Hills. The home is the residence of Janice Picciurro and her son, Tom.

If you think the decorations on the outside of the house are extravagant then knock on the front door of the Picciurro home and take a gander at the inside decorations. You will definitely leave this location with a smile and warm, fuzzy feeling.

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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 or visit 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: Upright vacuum cleaner, \$35. (423) 613-9682.

Clothing/Shoes: Women's Alfred Dunner/Alia pants, 14P, 14R, many colors, \$5 each. Flats/heels, size 7, brand names, \$3-\$10 each. (352) 566-7502 or (352) 512-5549.

Electronics: Kodak 500 slide projector with slides and magazines, \$295. Daylight movie screen, 4'x5', \$195. (352) 873-4759.

Furniture: 8-piece mahogany bedroom set, \$500. (352) 873-4759.

Furniture: Bed cots (2), all metal, \$20 each or two for \$35. (352) 873-3433.

Furniture: China closet and bookcase. (352) 861-0235.

Furniture: Day bed with trundle and two mattresses, \$250. Card table and four chairs, \$50. (352) 459-2327.

Furniture: Living room/den light blue chair, \$30. Rattan shelf, \$30. Wine cooler tabletop, \$35. (423) 613-9682.

Golf Equipment: Bag, balls, clubs and set of irons. (352) 873-2607.

Golf Equipment: Bushnell Pro 1600 tournament edition laser rangefinder and case, \$75. (352) 497-8322.

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Misc. Items: Dietgen drafting table, 48" w x 38" d x 40" h, 2-way, adjustable. 1973 "Vince Lombardi on Football," volume 2, \$300. (352) 873-4759.

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Misc. Items: Metal folding sleeping cots, \$20 or 2 for \$35. (352) 873-3433.

Misc. Items: Salt and pepper shakers. (352) 861-0235.

Misc. Item: Weber portable gas grill, 14 pounds, \$35. Propane refills (3), each weighs 14 ounces, \$2 each. (352) 229-4513.

Musical Instrument: Yamaha electric piano with bench and headphones, \$250/obo. (352) 237-7879.

R/C Equipment: RV4 electric and RV8 DLE 30 includes batteries and chargers. (352) 328-9696 or roberthpure@gmail.com.

Tag Sales

Friday, Jan. 5 & Saturday, Jan. 6: 9235 SW 90th Street (Williamsburg), 8 a.m. to noon • 8750-A SW 90th Lane (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon.

Wednesday, Jan. 10 & Thursday, Jan. 11: 9801-E SW 88th Terrace (Americana Village), 8 a.m. to noon.

Thursday, Jan. 11 & Friday, Jan. 12: 8501-D SW 93rd Lane (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon • 9290-B SW 89th Terrace (Friendship Colony), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. • 9885-D SW 90th Avenue (Americana Village), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 12 & Saturday, Jan. 13: 9365-C SW 89th Terrace (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon • 8879-C SW 97th Lane (Friendship Village), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. • 8787-D SW 90th Street (Friendship), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 13: 9072-C SW 96th Lane (Friendship Park), 8 a.m. to noon • 7962 SW 83rd Place (Indigo East), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 17 & Thursday, Jan. 18: 9660-D SW 95th Terrace (Crescent Ridge II), 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Thursday, Jan. 18 & Friday, Jan. 19: 8166 SW 80th Terrace (Indigo East), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 19 & Saturday, Jan. 20: 9667 SW 97th Street (Crescent Ridge II), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20: 8601 SW 88th Loop (Candler Hills), 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 21: 8601 SW 88th Loop (Candler Hills), noon to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24 & Thursday, Jan. 25: 9256-C SW 82nd Terrace (Friendship Colony), 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Thursday, Jan. 25 & Friday, Jan. 26: 9511 SW 95th Avenue (WindSOR), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • 8787-D SW 90th Street (Friendship), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Alterations by Ernestine: Alterations, experienced. (352) 274-1438 (resident).

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Cleaning by Evelyn Lee: House cleaning, deep cleaning, move outs. Lic. #A27450 & insured. (352) 629-0855 or (352) 286-6055. sunshinecleaningocala.com.

Cleaning by Patty: 30 years experience, residential homes, move in/outs. References available. I'm here to help you! (720) 366-5510 or (352) 857-8953 (resident).

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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.

Caregiver/Cleaning: 20 years experience. Will care for your loved one. Excellent references. Christine (352) 509-4994.

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) 816-5450.

Manny's Appliance Repair: Dryer vent cleaning too. Over 35 years experience. Licensed & insured. (352) 897-7723 or (352) 470-1459.

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.

Medina Pressure Cleaning & Sealing: Specializing in paving stone maintenance. Interlock pavers, concrete staining, installation & repair. Landscape curbing restoration and retaining wall. Variety of sealers. 25 years experience. References available. (352) 246-3674.

Miles & Miles Cleaning Service by Wendy: We will give you an old fashioned cleaning! Hourly rate. Licensed & insured. (352) 895-0940 or www.milesandmiles-cleaningservices.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. 10% off for residents. Sue's Painting (352) 237-0892.

Painting & Drywall: Over 35 years experience with all phases of drywall & painting. Insured. Visit josephdonofriodrywalland-painting.com or call (352) 857-8367.

PAWZ Professional Pet Grooming: We come to your home. Call to book you dog or cat today. 25 years experience and excellent references. (352) 512-4662.

Pressure Washing: Commercial grade equipment. Houses, driveways, gutters, porches & yard work. Free estimates. 12 years experience. Steve (352) 237-5338 (resident).

Transportation: Doctor appointments, shopping, errands. Call Anna (resident) at (352) 615-0174 (cell) or (352) 873-4151 (home), leave message.

Transportation: Local errands and appointments. Airports and cruise ports. Call Mary (resident) at (954) 561-0871.

Transportation: Need to get there? Door-to-door service to Orlando airport, doctor appointments, shopping. Call Jackie (resident) at (352) 873-7898 or (352) 216-8305, leave message.

Window Cleaning & Pressure Washing: Special \$99 to clean up to 15 windows inside/out or \$99 driveway power wash. (352) 454-0867.

Wanted

Donations: Bicycles and helmets for children – Tom at (352) 861-1575 • Bicycles for male veterans – Ronnie at (352) 438-3354 • Dog or cat food – SPCA of Marion County (352) 362-0985 • 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, computers & musical instruments for troops/veterans – Donna at (352) 237-3062 • Shoes and sneakers for the needy – drop off at Arbor Club office • Small household items, linens, dishes, cookware, etc. for women's shelter – Sharon at (352) 509-4273 • Toiletries for troops overseas – Bob at (352) 854-0702 • Yarn for lap robes for VA hospitals and newborns – (352) 843-6519.

Kiln: For glass fusion. Call Muriel at (954) 647-2110.

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call S.P.C.A. of Marion County at (352) 362-0985.



JOY Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.joylutheranocala.com

Sunday Worship
8:15 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Wednesday Worship
6:45 p.m.

Pastor Art Wuertz
7045 SW 83rd Place, Ocala
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