On the Top of the World

Where the news is always good!

Edition 58
February 2020

Volume 33, No. 8

Continued on Page 4

By Kenneth J. Gates
Publisher

On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association Annual Budget Meeting

Remember that Tuesday, Feb. 12, the board of directors annual budget meeting will take place at Cサー Square Cultural Center at 9 a.m. The proposed budget was mailed out in late January. Each new fiscal year presents its own considerable challenges. Your board is pleased to report that despite significant work done around the community, the increase in community services is anticipated to only be a moderate rise.

Community Updates

The mall kiosk at SW 90th Street will be closing for a complete parking lot revamp. In an effort to alleviate some of the traffic congestion and help garbage disposal and mail pickup more convenient, the parking lot will be widened to accommodate two-way traffic as soon as creating a separate drive up area just for recycling. In order to make room for this growth at the site, the garden area and portions of the play area will be relocated to the newly completed Veterans Park.

Candler Hills

Candler Hills has evolved into a neighborhood with these new improvements.

Construction along SR200 near the Walmart Neighborhood Market.

Site development will begin for the addition of a dedicated turn signal into the community near Circle Square Commons. The signal at SW 90th Street will also have signal timing adjusted to be more in sync with these new improvements.

Our newest community, Westington, is nearing completion of roads. The model grand opening will begin Friday, Feb. 14. With the groundbreaking of the first construction phase near the future entrance, the Westington neighborhood in Caleda Township will soon be home to Raley’s Car Wash, a local car wash enterprise.

Community Bus Schedule

The signal at SW 90th Street will also have signal timing adjusted to be more in sync with these new improvements.

Community News

The strength in the local home market reflects not only the general economic recovery in the nation and region, but also diminishing supply of listings and distress properties throughout the nation. Higher interest rates are anticipated to only be a drag on both

Sholom Park Celebrates Gnomes & Fairies

By Tscy Gay

Sholom Park is excited to announce the upcoming Fun at the Park event - Gnome and Fairy Festival - Saturday, Feb. 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be live music, magical games, stories, games, and other mystical creatures at the park!

On stage, enjoy the magical sounds of The Mystic Celts, a five-piece Celtic band, from 1 to 4 p.m. Come explore the whimsical world of fairies, gnomes and other mystical creatures at the park!

Where are the fairies? Find hidden fairy doors as you take a walk on the pathways through the enchanted forest. Is anybody gnome? You will make your way down Gnome Street searching for hidden gnomes and their homes. After searching for the hidden fairy doors and gnomes, be sure to make your way to Fairyland Lane where you will find a fairy godmother. She will be sharing enchanting tales and fantastical stories of fairies, gnomes and other mystical creatures every half hour under the pergola.

The opportunities are endless at the Magical Marketplace. Shop for handmade trinkets, jewelry and more from local vendors. Let your imagination sparkle and creativity shine with one of our arts and crafts vendors. The Early Learning Coalition will be sponsoring a variety of kid-friendly fairytales activities, games, magical arts and crafts. Let your fairytales fantasy come to life with this magical experience. Don't miss your chance to get up close and personal with a real live mystical creature. Stop by the Whimsical World of Fantasy and meet a unicorn.

Remember, that Tuesday, Feb. 23 for a celebration of magic and fantasy at Sholom Park! There will be plenty of fun activities for the family and plenty of food and drinks. Come enjoy the live entertainment and explore the whimsical world of fairies and gnomes at Fairyland Lane. Keep up to date with event information and activities with our Facebook page. For more information and fun on the Fun at the Park, call (352) 873-0848 or visit Sholom-Park.org.

Improvement Expo

Saturday, February 22, 2020
9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

‘Honey-Do’ List – Done

By Bob Woods
World News Writer

Grab that “honey-do” list and head over to the annual Home Improvement Expo Saturday, Feb. 22, at Circle Square Cultural Center, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet with a variety of businesses/contractors.

There will be approximately 60 vendors representing all kinds of businesses from home improvements, additions and remodeling to do-it-yourself projects. Qualified businesses will be there to answer all questions on that particular project you are considering; such as prices, needed materials, and time to complete the project.

Vendor services include flooring, windows and doors, window treatments, solar lights and tubes, heating and air conditioning, landscaping, pools, and so much more! Also on hand will be plumbers and carpenters.

The Home Improvement Expo has been an extremely popular event to all those desiring to hire professional contractors or to receive information and advice. It is recommended to arrive early.

The expo is free and open to the public.

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SECTION A

By now you’ve noticed the construction along SR200 near the Walmart Neighborhood Market.

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The expo is free and open to the public.
**DON'T:** Don't let yourself be spooked by telemarketers and texts. Don't answer phone calls or texts from an unknown number. If you don't recognize a number, don't answer it. Scammers are able to spoofed by robocalls and texts.

**DO:** Let a caller leave a message unless you are already familiar with the number of the caller.

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**DO:** Let a caller leave a message unless you are already familiar with the number of the caller.

**DON'T:** Don't allow someone to pressure you for a decision immediately. That's a sure sign of a scam. There's a wonderful word that we all say over and over ... it's no.

Recently, I was asked to explain an “inter vivos” trust. That term frequently appears in various documents and often in durable powers of attorney. The term inter vivos means “between the living.” Therefore, an inter vivos trust is created between someone or some people, who are living at the time the trust is created. However, the simplest way to understand that term is just to know that an inter vivos trust is what most of us know as a living or revocable trust.

As I said, we most often see that term in durable powers of attorney. That’s because one of the typical provisions in a durable power of attorney states that the agent for the maker of the power has been granted authority to create an inter vivos (living) trust if it is proper to do so. Why would it be proper to do that – that is, to create a living trust? There may be several reasons, but the most likely reason is to protect the assets for someone who is no longer able to manage them by himself/herself. Under Florida’s power of attorney statute, if the agent under a durable power of attorney does not have the written authority to create such a trust, it cannot be done.

From time to time, I have had clients ask me if that authority should be given to an agent and my answer is always the same. It makes good estate planning sense to give your agent the authority to create that kind of trust, but only if you trust your agent in the first place. Of course, and I cannot say this enough: If you are not sure that you can trust your agent, then you should not name that person. And if your answer is that you don’t have anyone else to select, then I think you should discuss it with your attorney or with someone at your bank or with some of the trust companies that provide that kind of assistance.

I talked with a client of mine regarding whether she needed a living trust or a will. In the process, my client said she had heard of the term “grantor trust.” Was there a difference between a living trust and a grantor trust? Actually, a living trust is one type of a grantor trust and in fact, a living trust is the most common type of grantor trust that is designed to avoid probate for assets held in the name of the trustee. However, grantor trusts can serve many other functions as well.

All grantor trusts (properly drafted) result in probate avoidance, some of them can be used as tax avoidance mechanisms or as methods of passing on assets to other generations of family members. It’s a very complex topic.

And now for some common sense humor.

**Attorney:** “What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?”

**Witness:** He said, “Where am I, Cathy?”

**Attorney:** “And why did that upset you?”

**Witness:** “My name is Susan.”

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 email at jerry@colenwagoner.com or Ms. Wagoner at rachel@colenwagoner.com. In Ocala, the law office is located at 7001 SW College Road in Suite 3.1 and at 5042 SW 31st Street, Unit 11 at Ocala Commons.
Storytelling Season Comes to an End

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

It was a fun season of storytelling at Master the Possibilities. Host of the program, Jerry Snyder, said, “It was one of the best. During the last several months we had eight “telling” sessions and heard more than 50 stories.” There were fictional tales and real-life drama; some were funny, and some were serious and some that caused the audience to pause and give thought. But most of all, they were all entertaining.

Every year the storytelling season comes to an unofficial close with The Tall Tale Festival. This is a very special day when volunteer storytellers weave out their best and often most ludicrous tales. They are, of course, made up in the very far right of the teller’s brain where all things creative and often the absurd get their beginnings.

The festival took place in Live Oak Hall at Master the Possibilities, Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019. Close to 200 came from On Top of the World and surrounding communities to enjoy some very entertaining stories as told by five talented and creative storytellers. There was a story of a giant, flying bug doing damage to our very own storyteller, Edith Gandy. Clayton Williams, who came down from Georgia for the event, was hilarious in telling his story about an out-of-control shrimp. But it was Melinda Sutherland whom the judges voted as the best of the best, who took home the first-place prize money. Her story titled, “Sally-Sally” was a thigh-slapping, comedic presentation about grandma, an ogre, and a corpse … you should’ve been there! You don’t have to be a Will Rogers to share in the fun of storytelling. If you have a story or “tale” to share, please get in touch with our storytime host, Jerry Snyder at either (353) 509-7642, or jsnyder1207@yahoo.com. Storytime began again in January.
Winter Weather & Shrubbery

Once the weather decides whether it wants to be winter or summer, the management company decides when to start moving again or service equipment for the coming growing season! Actually, it has been a typical winter, fluctuating between short cold snaps and snow versus cold, damp days.

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

So, if I get what I have asked for unluckily as that is — what to do with shocked and droopy plants in your landscape beds? The original plantings installed in your neighborhood at the time of construction were selected for their cold and drought hardness. Sudden and severe cold weather may cause some plants to brown and leaves to curl. Do not uproot plants affected by the cold. They will surprise you with their recovery. Sometimes you are too quick to prune frost damaged from plant material that after cold temperatures have gone but we need to be careful. Pruning plant material too soon can cause plants to want to Dash back creating more problems when the next frost or hard freeze hits. Wait one to two weeks after the cold damage has occurred then look to prune back your plants. Central Florida generally experiences one cold snap with light frost between March 15 and Easter, so be forewarned.

Safety Tips

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

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

Want to conserve electricity? February is a good time to clean out your dryer vent pipe. lint can become clogged in the vent pipe, reducing dryer efficiency. This is why it's hard to dry a 20-minute load! Even more to the point, collected lint can become a fire hazard! Cleaning is not complicated. Moving the dryer may be the hard part. Disconnect the vent hose from the dryer and the wall vent. Use a vacuum cleaner to suction out the vent hose, or you may choose to replace it entirely. Use the vacuum to suction to the wall vent as well. If you've never done this before, the vent pipe may need a top down cleaning. Get a functioning fire extinguisher for your kitchen! Read the instructions and be ready to use it, especially on a grease fire.

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February is a very busy month. We celebrate Valentine’s Day, Groundhog Day, Presidents’ Day and Black History Month. We may have some residents who are sad that pro football season is coming to an end Sunday, Feb. 2, with Super Bowl LV at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida. However, we may have some very happy residents as the Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star Series kicks off Sunday, Feb. 17, as the best stock car drivers in the world compete in the 62nd running of the Daytona 500, the “super bowl of stock car racing.” Whomever you are rooting for, we have your team or driver wins. For all you Maid Gran fans, the fun starts Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Our club participated in the Club Open held on March 11, 12, and 13 with Marion County in 2020 and will be the largest charity golf events in so many years, that we have been hosting this Open this year. It’s hard to believe that we are helping others who are not alone!

The Candler Hills Golf Course and will highlight professional golfers from around the world while benefiting local charities, Hospice of Marion Coun-

try, Inc., and Interfaith Emergency Services. You will not want to miss this – come out to be a spectator and enjoy watching exciting golf. And, you still have time to sign up to participate in the Pro-Am, which will help benefit both charities.

Walking Path Versus Golf Cart Path Usage

Please be aware that the path that follows SW 99th Street Road between SW 90th Street and SW 94th Street is not intended for golf cart use but is a walking path only. The path for golf carts is designated as the golf cart path in the road-

way. Please use the proper path.

Golf Cart Decals for 2020

As a reminder, all golf carts should now be updated to the 2020-2022 decal. If your decal still shows 2017-2019 it is expired and needs to be updated at Customer Services.

On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association Meeting

Just a reminder, on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Circle Square Cultural Center, the On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association board of directors will hold their annual business meeting, at 9 a.m.

Ocala Open

The Candler Hills Golf Course will host the 14th annual Ocala Open this year. It’s hard to believe this has been hosting this wonderful event for so many years, and we have raised over $63,000 for our charities.

The event is to be one of the largest charity golf events in Marion County and will be held on March 11, 12, and 13 with a Pro-Am Tuesday, March 10. The event will showcase the Candler Hills Golf Course and will highlight professional golfers from around the world while benefiting local charities, Hospice of Marion Coun-

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Thanks to Sharon Gruca, the Indigo East ladies breakfast has been once again added to the calendar of events. Sharon held a breakfast in December 2019 at The Club at Candler Hills and it was attended by over 60 women who had a great time. The current schedule is to meet for breakfast every other month. The next breakfast is Thursday, Feb. 20 at The Club at Candler Hills, at 9 a.m. It is important to remember all scheduled breakfasts must have at least 30 members attend and can be cancelled if the RSVP response is less than that amount. Sharon is working on reserving the ladies luncheon and more information to follow in that regard as soon as possible.

It is that time of year whereby all positions on the Indigo East Social Club are available for a membership vote. Anyone interested in holding a position should notify Melinda Huser at melinda.huser@yahoo.com. Your current contact information and the position you are interested in holding should be related to Melinda. A general meeting of residents will be held sometime in the near future. The announcement of the meeting date will be on the Indigo East Facebook page and also in the Indigo “Flash” email.

Here is a brief description of each available position:

- Chairperson: The heart of the club. All event and meeting plans must be approved by the chairperson and then taken to the board for a vote. The chairperson must also make any executive decisions any time it is deemed necessary.

- Vice chairperson: Must have a good working relationship with the chairperson and has the same authority, in the absence of the chairperson.

- Secretary: All meeting notes and schedule dates are recorded by the secretary and published as deemed appropriate.

- Treasurer: All money matters including, but not limited to accounting, bookkeeping, paying bills, recordkeeping of all receipts, and more. The treasurer must attend all event ticket sale days with the proper amount of cash for change.

- Facility coordinator: Responsibilities include accurate inventory of supplies, ordering supplies for a function and shopping for items needed for an event.

- Hosts: Non-elected members of Indigo East who volunteer their time to host an event. This entails planning every aspect of the event and seeing it through to completion. It is important to note all members of the Indigo East Social Club must attend, must pay full price for their ticket and must work at every function. This includes, but is not limited to setting up, working the door to welcome residents, serving, cleaning up after the event, and more.

2B20 is a leap year and will occur on the last Saturday of February. Although there isn’t a set rule, in the United States babies born on leap year generally celebrate their birthdays March 1 and they are under the Pisces zodiac sign. Any leap year babies in Indigo East? Have a great February.

**Editor’s Note**

Most of us have limited knowledge of law enforcement techniques, and some of what we think we know may be influenced by movies and television shows. Recently I spoke with Williamsburg resident, Gary Donahoe, and he certainly opened my eyes to the world of law enforcement investigations! For some people, retirement provides an opportunity to pursue a long-time interest, and that was certainly true for Gary. His interest in law enforcement and fingerprinting specifically stemmed from a career as a law enforcement examiner for a large utility company. In this position, Gary became familiar with local law enforcement agencies to solve problems arising from a claim. When Gary and his wife Tina retired and moved to Naples, Florida, in 1999, an opportunity to advance his interest in law enforcement and fingerprinting presented itself. After many hours of initial education and training plus an extensive background investigation, Gary was approved for employment and additional specialized training.

For the next 14 years Gary worked as a civilian certified background investigator and fingerprint examiner for the Collier County Sheriff’s Office. He holds certifications from the National Crime Information Center (FBI) and several from the state of Florida. He is an expert in fingerprinting techniques and crime scene investigation.

The Donna Moorman On Top of the World in 2018 where they have become involved in various aspects of the community. They are Williamsburg Block captains, and Gary co-teaches a course in fingerprinting at the Crime Scene Investigation Center in Ft. Myers. He’s an expert in fingerprinting techniques and crime scene investigation.

As this column goes to press, Williamsburg is preparing for the second annual neighborhood meeting where residents will discuss the happenings of the past year and brainstorm new possibilities. A summary of the meeting will appear in next month’s column. If you are new to Williamsburg and have questions or would like to be added to the email contact list, please call Ginny Nardone at (352) 204-8619 or Cathy Higginbotham at (352) 509-4266.
The annual Candler Connection Social Club board meeting was held Friday, Jan. 10. The following new members have become part of the board: Vicki Major Bell, John Maggio, and Amy Walker. The following board members will remain on the board until 2021: Richard Steinfeldt, president; John Bain, vice president; Deb Kolot, treasurer; Darryl Kenyon; and Doug Dahlen. John Podkowinski expressed interest to remain on the board for another term and the board unanimously agreed. The board will elect a new member to fill the position of secretary and a member of the communications committee at their February meeting.

A special thank you to the following people who will be leaving the board: Mary Purfeerst, Pat Diaz, and Peggy Janisch. Thank you for all of your dedication and hard work over the past years. You will be missed, and we hope to see you at some of our future events.

This month’s potluck dinner will be Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 5:30 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. The theme for the night will be a “Sandwich, Soup and Slew Night.” Residents with the last names beginning with A-H should bring a main dish; I-R dessert; and S-Z side dish. Setup volunteers should arrive by 4:15 p.m. and all others by 5:15 p.m. to obtain a seating table number. $1 per person covers everyone's meal. A 50/50 draw will be held. To attend, please contact Deb Keirn at (352) 414-5737 or arthurkipdeb@verizon.net.

This is a great time to join us for fellowship and fun. Visit otow.lolopop.org/club/friendship for details or contact Gail Curione at (407) 497-3958 or David Wesenberg at (217) 280-4454 or dpw@softwareinc.com.

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Some future events to look forward to in Candler Hills are:
- Monday, March 23: Brian MacNeil about fraud, scams and how to protect yourself.
- Monday, May 18: Pat Gabriel from the SR 200 Coalition regarding what is going on around us.
- New residents of Candler Hills are welcome to attend. Any resident of Candler Hills is welcome to attend any Candler Hills board meeting.
- New residents of Candler Hills are welcome to attend the next Candler Connection board meeting, which will be Thursday, Feb. 6, at 2:30 p.m. at the Candler Hills Community Center. Any resident of Candler Hills is welcome to attend.

Put the planned activities on your 2020 calendar. Hope to see you there and around the neighborhood!
called that a medical service corps. of
...
Residents should also be ready for Brown Patch Fungus caused by the Rhizoctonia solani fungi. This fungus is controllable and is often caused by over watering. This fungus is typically noticed with the greenish-yellow “halo” that forms on the outside of the infected area. Cold damage will typically not show up until the spring when plants begin to emerge from the winter dormancy. Many plants that are listed for this climatic zone can be found on otowinfo.com. Please be advised, this is generated from UF/IFAS publications where they are shown to do well in the climatic area which we live in but extreme cold temperatures will damage plants no matter what. Trimming cold damage from plants in the late winter or early spring will be most effective and will not trigger a surge in growth on the plant before the last frost.

Crape myrtle are one of the relatively few plants that are easy to grow and produce flowers in many different colors during the months of March, April and May). Some crape myrtles are trained into trees while others are grown as shrubs. The best time to prune the crape myrtle is late winter-early spring. This provides the new growth required for summer blooms. The plant is also dormant at this time making it easier to shape. There are many factors to suggest the proper pruning method for starting myrtles, but the primary one is to not show conclusive evidence that the pruning was done in the wrong way. The plant is also dormant at this time making it easier to shape. There are many factors to suggest the proper pruning method for starting myrtles, but the primary one is to not show conclusive evidence that the pruning was done in the wrong way. The other I propose for residents to “follow the OLIL pruning” method. Basically, you remove all branches smaller than a pencil. February and March typically bring some late season cold blast from the north. Don’t forget to cover your backflow preventers on the irrigation system when freezing temperatures are in the forecast. Using a heavy blanket should be sufficient but if you want, Customer Service sells a back-flow preventer cover. This bag runs about $60 and would be a great investment for your irrigation system.

Remember Sunday, March 8, we go back to daylight saving time so don’t forget to reset your clocks and set your irrigation timers back to twice per week watering. Check your system out monthly and make sure it is functioning properly. Spring is a great time to have an approved contractor for irrigation system checks. Checks should include seeing if your timer is functioning, watering times are sufficient to provide half to three-quarters of an inch at each application, rain sensor operation and also check the system for leaks and adjustments.

Florida statute 373.62 mandates that if you have a contractor check your system they must ensure you have a rain shut-off device or other function of some kind on your irrigation system. If there is not an interrupting device or switch on the system or it is inoperable, the contractor has to either repair it or replace it and bring it to an operational condition before completing other work. Make sure you have a functioning rain sensor on your irrigation system.

GOLF CART REGISTRATION
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday
All residents (household must be present) must complete a golf cart registration and insurance policy (stating amount of bodily injury).

Are you eligible to switch your Medicare coverage?

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SPR0186866 / 002191686
I would like to thank the Francis Marion Military Academy for leading our Holiday Golf Cart Parade in December 2019. It was an honor to have these young patriots lead our parade.

We are now supporting Vets Helping Vets of Marion County. They are a one stop full-service facility for all veterans. Anything a veteran needs can be found at their facility in Ocala.

We now meet at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. All are welcome and there are no dues.

President Bill wanted to welcome our large crowd to our first meeting of the new year Friday, Jan. 10 in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III.

He invited Russ Randall, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dunnellon, to give the invocation followed by everyone joining in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

The treasurer’s report was given and approved. Minutes will be emailed to our members.

Political dignitaries and candidates running for office who were in attendance were recognized and welcomed. We were honored to welcome a number of new members as well as a number of guests.

President Bill announced that this was his last meeting as president, along with his board of officers, treasurer, and secretary. He was pleased to introduce our nominee, Lizabeth Woodard, to become the new president. She presented a short introduction about herself and her credentials. A vote was taken by the members with the result being unanimous approval. Welcome President Liz.

The nominees for vice president, treasurer, and secretary were also introduced and by vote, unanimously approved. Yearly dues were due at this meeting as well.

Joe Harding, candidate for the Florida House of Representatives, District 22, was our speaker for the evening.

We are always honored to support Operation Shoebox. Our chairman, Paul, commented on how the military recipients so appreciate all the “stuff” in their go-to bags.

Opal Stroud made the announcement that the Republican Executive Committee has secured a new headquarters in Ocala and will be looking for volunteers to help in every capacity for the coming election.

President Bill invited Lizabeth to the podium. With a warm handshake, he passed the gavel to her and asked her to close the meeting.

President Lizabeth adjourned the meeting and invited Sonny Sparks to conduct the 50/50 drawing followed by everyone helping themselves to refreshments.

If there are any questions, please contact our new president, Liz Woodard, at (518) 534-0201 (leave a message) or lizabeth.woodard@plattsburgh.edu.

“Transfer of the gavel” from past president, Bill Richhart, to our new president, Liz Woodard.
We have extended our hours for your convenience. We have extended our hours for the day, Feb. 3 so you can do just that.

You can do just that. The Miller brochure (in pdf) can be found at the Arbor Center Recreation website or at boarsnestfarm@aol.com.

A OneBlood Bloodmobile is available at the Arbor Center Reception Desk every Thursday from 11:30 to 1:30. Call 352-694-6000 for more information.

By the time you read this, the Florida State Fair has come and gone. But you can still enjoy the fun. The Florida State Fair returns in March, and there are plenty of other events happening in the area, so be sure to check out our Upcoming Events section!

The holidays are over, and it is time to get back into your regular routine. I hope that routine in time to get back into your regular routine. Participants will be evaluated to determine the class levels needed. February’s class schedule will focus on Tap Dancing.

The cost of the classes will be $50 per person for a four-week session.

Ballroom Dance Classes*

We would like you to learn how to dance the dances of romance and international dances and Latin is a nationally certified dance instructor. We encourage anyone interested in dancing to learn to dance. Participating. Participants will be evaluated to determine the class levels needed.

February’s class schedule will focus on Tap Dancing. The cost of the classes is $30 for three weeks of class.

Tropic Trivia Night

Challenge your neighbors to fun afternoon of mind-boggling, brain taxing questions. Classes added more tables which increases your winnings! Come join us every Thursday with the fun time theme Thursday, March 5, in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We will have tables of eight and three tables in the team names. Please note you must have four or six players at a table to select a team name. Each team will be calculated and the team with the most points will win.

Tap Dancing Classes*

Learn to tap dance with New York City professional, Burton Phillips. She is patient, creative, and caring! Burton Phillips has over 40 years of teaching experience and has taught at Tap Dance Center Level II (2:30 to 3:30) and Level III (3:30 to 4:30). Burton Phillips’ classes are as follows:

- Beginner Level I (1:15 to 2:15 p.m.) Dance experience is required. Burton Phillips’ class, the best class you can attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Improvers Plus (1:15 to 2:15 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Improver Plus (1:15 to 2:15 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Beginner Level II (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Intermediate (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Intermediate (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Advanced Beginner (4:45 to 5:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Beginner Level III (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Intermediate (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Advanced Beginner (4:45 to 5:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
- Intermediate (3:45 to 4:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
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- Advanced Beginner (4:45 to 5:45 p.m.) Burton Phillips’ class is the best class for you to attend. Burton Phillips will choose the best class for you to attend.
Sassy Ladies Night Out is Wednesday, Feb. 12. Enjoy live entertainment, dancing and light appetizers with your girlfriends. Cut loose and be fancy free while sipping on your favorite beverage (BYOB) and snacks. The entertainer for the evening will be Nate Lesh, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Indigo East Community Center ballroom. This event is free. Guest fees are $5 per person and must be accompanied by a resident.

Kocktails & Karaoke will be held at the Lodge at Candler Hills on Thursday, March 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. This is a BYOB event and a free event for all Indigo East residents. Guest fees of $5 apply to anyone not presenting a resident ID card and all guests must be accompanied by an Indigo East resident.

Please be advised that streaming or rebroadcasting of any copyrighted video content is not permitted at any On Top of the World facility without prior authorization from On Top of the World Management. It is unlawful for any movie, video and/or training videos that contain copyrighted content to be viewed without the appropriate licensing rights. On Top of the World does not hold valid licensing rights for streaming or rebroadcasting at our community facilities which could result in severe penalties should the unlawful viewing of copyrighted video content be covered. If you would like to view a YouTube link or have questions related to streaming or rebroadcasting at community facilities, please email t_fields@etontvl.com.

Events are open to Indigo East residents and their guests. A guest is defined as anyone not holding a current Indigo East resident ID and additional fees may apply.
Shop and Donate to SPCA

By Paula Gajewski

Mark your calendar, SPCA of Marion County will resume its Super Walmart ($50-$200) weekend Saturday, Feb. 15 and Sunday, Feb. 16. Our next general meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m. at the Marion County Sheriff’s Southwest District Office Deputy Bryan Litz Building.

We appreciate all the donations of pet food, carriers, towels, etc. that our supporters bring by craft fair on Tuesdays and the Marion County Sheriff’s Southside Market on Thursdays. Many thanks!

Winn-Dixie Marketplace (Marion Oaks) is sponsoring SPCA during the entire month of February with their Community Bag Program. While shopping for groceries, pick up this sturdy colorful bag and SPCA automatically receives one dollar.

Would you like to introduce your cat to Lenny? He is a gentle and friendly eight-month-old kitter. He will make anyone a loving companion. To meet him, contact Paula at (352) 309-1072 or spca.marion.county@winn-dixie.com.

SPCA of Marion County is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 1-800-435-7332 within the State of Florida. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. 100% of each contribution that is received by this organization is used for the benefit of the animals.

In February, SPCA will be the recipient of the donations collected through the Winn-Dixie’s Community Bag Program.

The Blue Mosque

By Bill Shampine

If you ever go to Istanbul, Turkey, you absolutely must visit the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, also known as the “blue mosque” because of the blue tiles that adorn the interior of the building. This photogenic building was built by the Ottoman Sultan Ahmed I between 1609 and 1616. It was, and still is, the largest mosque in Istanbul. The mosque has five main domes, six minarets, and eight secondary domes. The exterior included a large courtyard with a fountain, a kitchen to serve the poor, and bazaar shops to help the poor, and bazaar shops to help

The interior of the Sultan Ahmed Mosque in Istanbul, Turkey.

Texas Connection Chili Cook-Off

By Kathy Cornell

Hats off – or sombreros as the case may be – to the Texas Connection Social Club January chili cook-off contestants. Once again it was a hard decision for the voters. First place chili was the culinary creation of Joanie Boling with second place awarded to John Griest and third place to Lynn Philb. Runners up were Kathy Nastally, Sally Ethon and Linda Byrd. All received prizes of chili pepper themed items that come from vendors, Barbara Maid and Susan Weiss, both artisans with the Artistic Crafts & Gifts group that meets on Tuesday mornings in the Recreation Center ballrooms.

Thanks to everyone who provided chili, sides and desserts. Our entertainment for the evening was a narrator of an unsuspecting foreign visitor who takes a spot as a judge at a chili competition with the lure of free beer. Kathy Cornell and Linda Byrd were the native Texan judges with Pat and Sarah, our resident British Texan, doing an outstanding job as Archibald Gumbert III from Grovner on Thames. Though the Texas judges are mildly impressed with the various concoctions, Archibald’s take on the first entry “Mike’s Maniac Mobster Monster Chili” is that you could remove dried paint with it. By the time he gets to entry number seven, “Su- san’s Screaming Sensation Chili,” he’s decided to quit breathing because it’s too pungent. The original story has been passed around for ages in Texas but it in the bugless lodge is from New Jersey. Thanks, Pat, for putting a fun twist on the story and for really getting into the role with the appropriate Britsh words and accent.

Our next meeting is Sunday, Feb. 9, which is also Academy Awards night. So, our theme is going to be movies made or set in Texas and Texas actors or actresses who have won the coveted Oscar. We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II beginning at 6 p.m. This will be a “bring a snack to share” meeting such as a party type maincourse or sweet treat. Please also bring your own preferred beverage. The Club supplies water and ice. We’ll also be collecting any old DVDs you no longer want and plan to give them to a veterans or military support group.

We are a club for residents who have a connection to Texas by being born and/or raised there; living there for work, college or military service; spending time there for vacation, competitions, or for professional reasons; or having family living there. Spouses or partners who haven’t been to Texas are considered honorary Texans by association. We have a great group of folks who look forward to welcoming new members into the fold. For more information, contact Kathy Cornell at (352) 309-3729, (352) 562-2881 or kcornell14@flx.com.
This is a reminder that the club is not offering any trips in 2020. Bob and I are traveling on our own this year. However, we have a couple of cruises on Royal Caribbean booked in 2021.

The first cruise is onboard the Rhapsody of the Seas departing Tampa, Florida Feb. 2, 2021 for an 11-night, 12-day cruise to five Caribbean destinations. The ship will spend a few days in Hamilton; and a couple of days at St. George Island on the other end of the island. The Empress is only the ship at this time; docking in Hamilton; and there is another ship docking only during the summer months.

Join us! Please give Bob a call at (352) 854-0702 or visit bobwoodsontheroadagain.com. (The website is currently transitioning to a new webmaster and may not be completely up-to-date.)

Tall Tale Travelers
Donna Seay

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month from September through April (no meeting in December). Next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 21 in the Hobby Building Event Room, at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who enjoys camping and likes to have a good time is welcome to come join us. We accept new members throughout the year.

During our meetings, we like to have a different topic every time. We discuss technical aspects of campers, or relevant issues. In the past, we had discussions about tire pressure sensors, and LED products for RVs. We organized a group tour to General RV in Ocala, and another to Ocala.

One of our members meets regularly with On Top of the World management regarding the new RV lot and keeps us posted on such. In the upcoming months, we will be touching on units traveling after being in storage, sharing information about campgrounds for members of the American Legion, Moose Club as well as military bases that have camping facilities, and campgrounds that are near casinos.

On the other hand, a group visited to Weeki Wachee Springs State Park in Apopka, Florida. It's 7,000 acres of great wildlife photography such as wild turkeys, white tailed deer, gopher tortoises, herons, and egrets. They also offer canoeing, biking, bicycling and swimming.

If you own any type of camper and are interested in our club, you are cordially invited to our next meeting. If you would like further information, please contact Donna Seay at donna.seay@mustangone.com or (516) 578-8655.

Southern Club
Melanie Vitale

Hi, we are back! Did you miss us? The Southern Club took a few months off, but we are ready to return and have some meetings in February; I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and are excited to see what 2020 will bring.

We had several people inquire about joining our club. It’s easy to just come to our meeting dinner and pay your dues for the club. If the club is half over, anyone joining now has to pay a membership fee of $5 per person.

For those who are not familiar with our club, let us fill you in. We are a social club whose purpose is fellowship and good times. Most of our members are Southerners but we welcome anyone who agrees with that philosophy. We surmise that since you now live in Southernia, you can officially be called a Southerner, even if you weren’t born here.

Our meetings are held at the Arbor Conference Center, Studios 14. Our meeting day is the fourth Friday of the month. We have a potholder dinner first, where you can share what you have brought, so we ask everyone to come early, have a seat and get ready to share. You can choose to bring a caserole, dessert, salad, toast, or dessert. You also must bring your own plates and utensils. The club furnishes the drinks (tea, lemonade and coffee), ice and cups. After dinner, we have entertainment or a speaker, and then a short business meeting.

If you check the calendar, you will see that the fourth Friday in February is Feb. 28. That’s a month from now but if you want, you can come to the club on the last Sunday before the meeting. This way you get lots of time to make your plans and decide what you will bring to add to our sumptuous buffet. Our speaker will be Sheriff Billy Woods who will discuss issues of interest to us and our age.

I hope you will join us. If you like friendly people and enjoy some good home cooking, come and see us.

Our next meeting is March 28, 2020. Please let us know if you are interested.

Visit traveltoppers.com for up-to-date information.

This is the best way to keep current on any changes or additions after brochures have been published.

Travel Toppers
Anna Johns

Travel Toppers has exciting trips planned in 2020, and we invite you to come with us.

A trip to the Straz Center for the Performing Arts to see “Miss Saigon” is planned for Sunday, March 29. The cost is $118 per person and includes transportation, all tips and show; lunch will be on your own at the nearby Mall. Make reservations by calling Linda Hein at (352) 861-9880 or (352) 861-9880. Make sure to book this event. “Miss Saigon” is based on Giacomo Puccini’s opera “Madame Butterfly” and similarly tells the tragic tale of a doomed romance involving an Asian woman abandoned by her American lover. The setting of the story is relocated to 1970s Saigon during the Vietnam War with a romantic between a U.S. Marine and a 17-year-old South Vietnamese bargirl.

Call today to book the seven-day trip to the 2020 International Alfa Romeo Balloon Fiesta. Contact Linda Hein at (352) 861-9880 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday) or visit bobwoodsontheroadagain.com. (The website is currently transitioning to a new webmaster and may not be completely up-to-date.)

Visit the Seven-Days Balloon Glow, Mass Ascension, two days at St. George Island on the eastern end of Florida, two days in Hamilton and a couple of days in Key West; with another ship docking only during the summer months.

Join us! Please give Bob a call at (352) 854-0702 or visit bobwoodsontheroadagain.com. (The website is currently transitioning to a new webmaster and may not be completely up-to-date.)
Debbie Sherer

Birders’ Beat

The Unique Birders will be traveling to Emerald Marsh in Leesburg, Florida, Friday, Feb. 28, for our first bird walk of 2020. The Marsh covers a large area with many opportunities for observing a diverse population of birds, particularly those you would expect to see in a wooded/marshy/open water landscape. If you want to go on this trip, please contact Margitta Claterbos at mclaterbos@gmail.com.

Originally the marsh covered over 10,000 acres in Lake County on the eastern side of Lake Griffin, near the headwaters of the Ocklawaha River. In 1974, the area was designated as a National Natural Landmark through a National Parks program. The marsh is located in Lake County between State Roads 42 and 44.

The trip will focus on Wood Duck Drive and Yale/Griffin Canal, two areas at the marsh. The water birds most common to these areas are ducks, herons, anhingas, osprey and grebes. The marsh birds in this area are gallinules, snipe and rails. Passerines that occur here are jays, towhees, yellow-billed cuckoos, and painted buntings. There is an eagle’s nest near the entrance of the area.

Please contact Margitta Claterbos if you want to join us on this trip. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. by the large tree in the Recreation Center parking lot at the corner of SW 99th Street Road and SW 98th Street. You will be provided with directions to the marsh and information about the chosen lunch location for the day of the trip.

Ron Broman
Native Plant Group

Well I’ll be doggoned if it isn’t February already. When we become this chronologically gifted, time seems to move quicker than a flea on our pet cock-a-poo. (not that Ebony ever had fleas, you understand).

But it’s time to get serious – for a change.

Where in the world grows this tree? Last month, we began what might be the shortest botanical contest ever. Nobody, that is nobody called to let us know that she or he had located the tree we described. Two ladies told me they had read the column; and I responded that they hadn’t called. There was silence. They didn’t even catch my new year’s 2020 play-on-words. You know, 2020 – eyes.

Now remember the rules. Find the tree, pictured in the column, and the surroundings in which it is growing. Then give us a call at (352) 861-4560. We’ll do the rest.

This Florida native, the longleaf pine, Pinus palustris, stands out above most of the other “compatriots” in her community. She can reach up to 120 feet tall! (The view must be magnificent.)

Her leaves (needles) are probably the longest in the Pinaceae family – 15 inches or more; and her cones are the largest at least in this part of the U.S., up to 10 inches long. One might think that with all of that going for her, her future should be quite bright. One would hope that to be true. However, because of her attributes, the forest products industry, primarily in the past, has over-used the longleaf pine.

The Longleaf Pine Trail in On Top of the World was constructed in what remains of our longleaf pine forest, being careful not to negatively impact the pines so that we can experience the majesty of these wondrous trees.

So again, it’s your turn – to see if you can find this one. Look for clues and give us a call.

The members of the Native Plant Group continue to maintain the newly renovated Longleaf Pine Trail, the adjacent native garden, the SW 94th Street circle and the Belleview Library native garden. Call us when you’ve located the tree and/or are ready to help us grow native at (352) 861-4560.

GOT TRASH?
Please put all trash in compactor.
Hello February and a happy Valentine’s Day to everyone. Our next meeting is on Valentine’s Day, so please wear something red to celebrate. The doors will open at 12:37 p.m. and our meeting will begin at 12:45 p.m. Lunch will be provided by our membership with last names beginning with L-Z. Please bring a potluck dish to serve 12. Our topic this month is healthy and our speaker is our own Amy Woller, who will speak to us about nutrition and activities for a healthy heart.

Our charity for February is the Ocala Domestic Violence Center and whose statement is “Strength, Shelter and Support to Weather the Storm.” Their critical items wish list is as follows:

- Cleaning: Laundry detergent, large and tall garbage bags
- Supplies: Toilet paper, paper towels, tissue, zip lock bags and alarm clock
- Health: Antibiotic ointment, children’s medication, band aids
- Hygiene: Hairbrushes, tampons/pads, bar soap and deodorant
- Children: Diapers, baby wipes, pull ups and formula
- Linens: New pillows, twin sheets, blankets, hand towels
- Other: Canned food and bottled water

Members are reminded to purchase your tickets and reserve your table for our annual Spring Tea and Lunch which will be held at the Recreation Center on Saturday, March 14, at the Recreation Center. Our fashions are from Resort Fashion by Tiffany. Tickets went on sale February 1 and if you haven’t ordered one yet, you can purchase one for $27 for green beans and a spiral ham baked with pineapple and brown sugar, a green bean cas- servole and brown sugar yams. A dessert of apple pie with vanilla ice cream was brought by Georgian and Joe Hilkey. Fat and Mike Felton hosted our second dinner of the evening. Annette and Paul Hodges brought a salad and mango chicken. Fat and Mike then served grilled salmon, cooked to perfection by Chef Mike. Pat and Russ McNalty served a creamy dill cucumber salad and cauliflower casserole. Pam and Jeff Boll then served an inside-out chocolate cake.

Janet was our third dinner server. Nancy and Tom Meinhoffer brought their annual ham dinner. Following the meal, Marilyn Astor and William Astor served fresh fruit and pie for dessert.

Our club would love to have more women in our ranks so if you are a woman and haven’t joined us - either as guests or better yet - join us of- fering $15 for the year. Our meetings run through May and we take the summer off and begin again in September 2020. Help us build a successful Parks Breakfast Club this year and also, help us keep going strong for our wonderful com- munity and the charities we support. See you on Valentine’s Day.

January was a busy month for us this year. We began the new year at our first meeting on January 7, and have more opportunities to use computer technology, among other things this year. Our new address is 9800 SW 44th Court, Suite A. This is in the same parking lot as Customer Ser- vice. We will continue meeting on the second Saturday of each month, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

We were not able to hold a speech contest this time around but, con- testants have been appointed. David Wesenberg will compete in the area contest for the international speech and the humorous speech. Leona Vlacancich will compete in the evaluation contest. The area contest will be in March. Our newest member is Sylvia Gil- ispie, who joined in January. She is already taking on her first role as joke master. This person starts the meeting off on a happy note, choosing and telling a joke, prefer- ably about the theme of the month. The theme for January was “Winter Wonderland.”

Officer training was held at Win- ter Park in January. Oficer training is held twice a year and officers and members are required to attend. Our next seven officers are present. All members and guests are required to attend. We don’t have to be an officer to at- tend. Keep in this mind in June when June rolls around.

Since 1924, Toastmasters In- ternational has helped millions of men and women become more con- fident when communicating with others. The Toastmasters network of clubs and its learning-by-doing programs were created to help you be- come a better speaker and leader.

Are you an officer or the lead- er of a club? Do you need to do a spec- ial meeting? Do you need to do a project or the help of other people? Talk of the World Toast- masters can help. Contact Leona Vlacancich at lnvlcncch843@gmail. com or (352) 410-8836.

Thanks to Opal Stroud our Fri- day, Jan. 10 meeting was chaired by Representative Charlie Stone of District 22. Also, thanks to Opal, our Friday, Feb. 14 meeting will be chaired by County Commissioner Michelle Stone of District 5.

Our Wednesday, Jan. 15 Ladybirds luncheon was arranged and hosted by Judy Grigody at Sweet Potatoes. As usual, all of us had a great time. Thank you, Judy.

Thanks to Gloria Sichuna, the Saturday, Jan. 10 trip to the Civic Theatre to see “Memories of the Musical” turned out to be a huge success. Laughter echoed dur- ing the entire performance.

Friday, Feb. 14 is our Valentine’s Day party at the Hobby Building Event Room, from noon to 2 p.m. The theme is “Little Italy” and will be catered by Fresh Plates Creative Catering. Please contact Linda Lohr at (352) 873-9872 for details and to sign up.

Barbara Wright is looking into trip to Two Tails Ranch, an ele- phant rescue, followed by lunch at the Ivy House in Williston, Florida. Be on the lookout for updates in the next column.

Many R/C Flyers have located to On Top of the World. We welcome them and hope that they, or those of you or significant others will join us at one of our monthly meetings which take place from September to April at the event room located in the Hobby Building. We are sure you will want to join our group. For further information, contact Karen at (352) 291-1235 or allensky@earth- link.net. Hope to hear from you soon.

February 2020
Genealogy Society

We held a holiday luncheon at Bella Cucina in Oak Run Monday, Dec. 9, 2019, which was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank Kathy McKeeey for furnishing the banquet facility for our luncheon.

The following is written for those people who are just beginning to do research on their genealogical roots.

Do you know why you have a surname family? Learn the importance of knowing your roots.

We are told that the very first use of given names was under the early Greeks, who used a personal name. The use of surnames became universal in Europe during the 1400s and 1500s except in Scandinavian countries, which didn’t become standardized until about 1600.

European surnames are classified under five categories:

1. Derived from a personal name of a surname from the father’s given name or sometimes metronymic, less frequently from the mother’s given name;
2. Occupational name;
3. Location (toponymic) name;
4. Nickname; or
5. Ornamental name.

Occupational names include Smith, Miller, Farmer, Thatcher, or Eisenhower (iron worker). Location names derive from the name of a country, city, county, village, hamlet, farm, homestead, mountain, or a river from which they came. “Monroe” in Portuguese means “mountain” and “Girish” in Polish means “hill.” Some surnames were based on appearance such as “Schwartzkopf” (someone with dark hair or “Shirt.” Ornamental names include “Mongenstern” (mornings start) or “Salm” (sapphire)

In Ireland and Scotland, England anglicized the Gaelic surnames with Fitzgerald, Mac, or Mc prefixed to the original surname.

The common prefixes to anglicized surnames were Fitz, Mac or Mc meaning “son of.”

Because most people were illiterate in the Middle Ages, the spelling of the surname changed because of mistakes by public officials, clerks and priests who spelled the name as it sounded. Thus, after 500 years, there are many variants of the original surname.

Today, in most western countries, the surname follows the first name. In some cultures, such as in Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Austria, South India, Japan, Korea, Vietnam and China, the surname is placed first, followed by the given name. In most Spanish speaking countries, the custom is to have two surnames, the first surname denotes the father’s family and the second surname denotes the mother’s family. Only the father’s surname is passed on to the grandchild. Polish surnames are gender specific. If a wife takes a husband’s surname which ends in -ski, her new surname will end in -ska.

So, in his brief time here, he’s reversed the dusty old table apart his first Lion tail.

Mike was first introduced to the computer age at his first job when they brought in a machine that could do 30 different tasks at once, being run by one man. Fast forward to the mid 1980s and the introduction of the home computer; whereas his was still being run with Doppie and a CRT monitor. He was in heaven adding ram and swapping parts to make it run better.

Starting to build computers in the early 1990s, he had little success until he started selling to the mass market; so then he entered the troubleshooting side. As a beta tester, Mike worked on Windows 95, Windows 98, Office 95, and Office 98. This hobby was sidelined after starting a new job making paper products at Irving Tissue for over 20 years in upstate New York.

As a new retiree, Mike and his wife Jo Alan relocated in August 2019 and found out there’s a computer club. It was like a message that he could now pursue his hobby - personal use of the computer.

In his brief time here, he’s reversed the dusty old table apart his first Lion tail.

As a new retiree, Mike and his wife Jo Alan relocated in August 2019 and found out there’s a computer club. It was like a message that he could now pursue his hobby - personal use of the computer.
Solomon’s Castle

By Bob Woods  World News Writer

You know who Leonardo DaVinci is, right? A famous Italian painter whose works date back to the late 1400s to early 1500s. But there is an eccentric individual who has nicknamed himself as the "DaVinci of DeButs." Who is this character? He is Howard Solomon, who has built himself a castle for himself and family east of Bradenton, Florida.

According to Solomon, who has a talent making beautiful things and objects out of items that have been discarded by others, his art is created from unlikely items and includes hundreds of sculptures all made out of junk or as Solomon states, “found objects.” This outlandish person has many skills including welding, painting, carpentry, and the list of skills continues.

Solomon originally purchased 40 acres of swamp in 1972 after returning from the Bahamas looking for a place to settle down with his family. He wanted to build a large one-floor house, but the property he purchased would not allow him to do so. After finding a small piece of land on his property that was not swampy, he started to build a dwelling in a small area high enough as this house to be built had to be; not in length, as originally desired.

He came up with the idea of building a castle, not like those who have seen castles in Europe; envisioning in the minds of those building a castle, not like those in the 1400s to early 1500s. But there is a more interesting; mostly because of the castles. There is a motorcycle in the train's engine compartment the engineer is somewhat life-like with Solomon's actual hair. This eccentric guy was known for not throwing anything away because he has stated in the past that he never knows when he might need it. Solomon was a genius by creating fantastic artwork in the form of sculptures and montages. Believe it or not this man is known internationally for his creative artistic works and has been commissioned to create sculptures for many clients throughout the world.

The ground floor of the castle is where Solomon displays his artwork in many galleries. The area has hundreds of sculptures which were made out of junk. There are countless sculptures that will interest just about everyone who enters the castle. There is a motorcycle that Solomon made out of gears, sprockets and used car parts that would surely interest the males visiting the museum Solomon named it “Evil Kornevil.”

Another great piece of art is titled “Jeb the fleshman.” It is an elephant made from many oil drums while the elephant’s tusks are made out of manatee tusks and the elephant’s toenails are clam shells. The elephant is named after a former governor of Florida, Jeb Bush.

"The Menagerie" contains dozens of sculptures made out of over 50,000 wire coat hangers. This room is an amazing sight. The sculptures made from coat hangers consist of an elephant, giraffe, shark, penguin and many more animals. Solomon’s Castle covers 12,000 square feet, standing three stories high.

The castle has a unique restaurant named “Fish in the Moat.” It is a replica of a Spanish galleon that actually is situated in a moat. It has a variety of light food such as sandwiches, and near the moat Solomon constructed a lighthouse which is actually a place to eat that takes any overflow from the galleries in the moat.

Solomon did not have to dig very deep as his land is in a swamp. His original purchase of 40 acres of swamp land has grown to 90 acres.

The castle itself is extremely interesting mostly because of the artwork within created by Solomon. Visitors can take a guided tour conducted by a Solomon family member. The castle also offers a bed and breakfast.

Solomon also collected pieces of wood. This guy was certainly a hoarder of hoarders. His art forms are not limited to metal objects. By collecting pieces of wood Solomon would create a wooden montage of copies of modern art works. There is a montage Solomon created of Norman Rockwell's Saturday Evening Post cover out of many bits of wood. There are plenty of montages Solomon created out of pieces of wood consisting of many sizes. There is one montage he created being over five feet in length utilizing over 1,000 pieces of wood.

Solomon also created a large model of a train. It was reported that in the train's engine compartment the engineer is somewhat life-like with Solomon’s actual hair. This eccentric guy was known for not throwing anything away because he has stated in the past that he never knows when he might need it. Solomon was a genius by creating fantastic artwork in the form of sculptures and montages. Believe it or not this man is known internationally for his creative artistic works and has been commissioned to create sculptures for many clients throughout the world.

The castle is well worth a visit. It is located in a very small Florida community named Ona, Florida. The town has approximately 314 residents and even has a post office.

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Solomon’s Castle is located approximately 30 odd miles east of Bradenton, Florida. The outside of the three story, 12,000-square foot castle is sheathed with old aluminum newspaper printing plates.

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Photo by Bob Woods

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December 2019 was a very busy month for the SWANS. A team of us participated in Tropic Trivia Night. As always, we had fun and learned a few things. We had approximately 45 women attend our annual Christmas party. It was a great time to renew friendships and have some fun! Lois Nix and Sally Her- rick provided the food while everyone else brought a covered dish to share. The sheer amount of food was overwhelming! As usual, the food was also delicious and definitely something that we really do have some wonderful cooks in the SWANS. Barbara Martyn organized and set up a wonderful raffle. There were many items on the raffle table. We also held a Chinese auction which was lots of fun with many laughs! Thanks to Lois, Sally, and Barbara for helping to make this year’s Christmas party memorable.

Breakfast out was hosted by Sandi Dickerson on Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019. The group met at Sweet Potatoes Café. As usual, the service was wonderful, and the food was excellent! Lois Nix hosted the lunch out on Friday, Dec. 20, 2019. We all met at The Salted Brick. Most of us had never been here before but the food and atmosphere were excellent! The dining room is laid out beautifully with a great view of a lake behind it.

Our dinner out was held on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019. This activity was hosted by Barbara Martyn and was held at Bonefish Grill. We had a great group of people in attendance and had a wonderful time. Barbara did a great job of handling some last-minute changes in our attendance! Thanks to Lois, Sandi, and Barbara for hosting during the month of December! We appreciate the work you put into setting up these activities.

Our appetizer and dinner in groups continued to meet in December 2019. We started our new groups in October 2019 and they will last through March. They are going very well! These groups are easy to participate in and fun! Our book club and card groups continued through the month of December also. Thanks to all of you who joined in and had a wonderful time. Barbara did a great job of handling some last-minute changes in our attendance! Thanks to Lois, Sandi, and Barbara for hosting during the month of December! We appreciate the work you put into setting up these activities.

Our new group members and new ideas! Our next meeting will be held Saturday, March 21. At this meeting, we will set up new appetizer and dinner in groups and sign up for any planned outings that will occur from March through September. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Lois Nix for more information.

Christmas at Romeo Elementary School has come and gone. As always, both the children and the 100 Grandparents were so excited! Most of us were dressed in season-appropriate clothing - red and/or green - and Santa hats, however, some of us went “whole hog” as the expression goes. Some of Santa’s elves and helpers dropped in, Mrs. Claus joined us, and a few reindeer represented the sleigh transportation staff. Frankly, it is very difficult to tell who had the most fun, the grandparents, the children, or the staff.

I think every one of the grandparents had prepared goody bags for each of “their” children. The generosity of the residents never ceases to amaze me. Most months, the children will prepare thank you notes/cards for their grandparent reader, which serves a dual purpose. It gives the children an opportunity to practice their writing skills and to learn that thank you notes are both appreciated and a habit to be cultivated.

In addition to the periodic thank you notes, Romeo Elementary School also has created a merit for- mal program designed to foster good manners and behavior and to reward good manners and behavior, such as bully prevention. Among other things, the school administration has established a reward program for the students in support of this wonderful effort. The teachers and staff often will tell us briefly, sometimes heart wrenching stories associated with this effort. It truly is a good program.

Submitted by Bill Shampine

Photo by Sandi Dickerson
Michigan Club

Dee Collier will hold this audience captive as she saunters around the room in period costume, telling a tale about America's most notorious mobster and his secret lover. The talented actress has performed twice before for the group who enjoy her character personifications and the tales she tells.

The meet and greet potluck dinner will take place at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. Because this is Super Bowl Sunday, members have been assured the meeting will break up by 6:15 p.m. so they can go on to their football parties.

If you are attending, and your last name begins with A through B, please bring a dessert; C through H bring a salad; I through R bring a main dish.

Our headliner as we opened 2020, Pat Gabriel, president of SR200 Coalition, told us about many new developments happening around us, in particular the new aquatic center being built by Circle Square Foundation adjacent to the new master-planned family development near West Port High School. We also heard whispers of many new multifamily dwellings behind businesses on SR200. We found out there are several new housing developments opening near us, all with price points above $200,000. There is even an Einstein Bagels slipping into our midst. Best news though, was learning that SiS's Coffee Shop & Deli now serves Starbucks coffee!

For more information, or to join the Michigan Club, please contact Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757 or Judy Wagnitz at (352) 509-7509.
**The Jewish Club**

Starting the year with 180 paid members, the Jewish Club welcomed new members with a meet-and-greet brunch of bagels and lox. Officers of the club greeted and helped each new member with a meet-and-greet brunch of bagels and lox.

Our February meeting at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio will feature dance with an ice cream social. Members loved this day of getting to know each other while having so much fun.

The lunch bunch meets this month at Craft Cuisine. Contact Mi- last year (352) 342-9757 for details.

**What’s Cooking**

Carleen’s Potato Salad

6 large Yukon gold potatoes, diced (red skin potatoes work as well)
6 stalks celery, diced
2 large green peppers, diced

In a large bowl, mix first 7 ingredients (waist until the end). This is a very easy recipe. I seldom measure any of the ingredients, as I flavor to taste.

**The World News**

February 2020

Come join the fun. Tickets are $25 for $200 worth of chips to spend at the tables. We'll have craps, roulette, blackjack, and poker tables for Texas Hold’em. We will be limiting it to just 175 tickets for this event. If you have any questions, please contact Lion Gail Morris at (352) 317-4067.

This is hoping this will be an event to remember and one that will help raise funds for the organizations deserving community resources, such as for veterans, the Florida Center for the Blind, Interfaith Emergency Services, Episcopal Children’s Services and Domestic Violence Shelter, just to mention a few.

The Lions meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 5 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Please come join us and help us help others. Contact our membership chair, Lion Estelle Michelson at (352) 861-7358 for information about our club.

**Carleen’s Potato Salad**

**FREE SERVICE CALL WITH COMPLETED REPAIRS**

**The World News**

February 2020

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**Carleen’s Potato Salad**

**FREE SERVICE CALL WITH COMPLETED REPAIRS**
ANNOUNCING OUR NEW WINE MENU!

AND NEW MENU ITEMS!

the Club at Candler Hills

RECEIVE A FREE GLASS OF ONE OF OUR RESIDENT RECOMMENDED WINES!

COME IN AFTER 4 PM AND TRY ANY OF OUR NEW MENU ITEMS (SEAFOOD, STEAK OR CHICKEN ENTREES ONLY) AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A GLASS OF ONE OF OUR RESIDENT RECOMMENDED WINES FOR FREE!

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MUST BRING IN AND SHOW COUPON, ONE PER PERSON, MAXIMUM TWO PEOPLE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. ORIGINAL COUPON ONLY, PHOTOCOPIES NOT ACCEPTED, OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 31, 2020.
Fishing Tackle Flea Market

By Roger Bonifield

Call of the Wild Sports Club is off to a fast start. Starting with a tackle demo at our January meeting and two Gulf of Mexico charter trips, we are racing forward to a very busy spring with a number of fun and exciting events. At our February meeting, we are trying something new. Most of us have been fishing for more decades than we like to count, and in that time, we have accumulated more fishing tackle than, as they say, "Carter has pills." Therefore, we are having our first ever, and hopefully not last, fishing tackle flea market. Members will be bringing in their fishing tackle and other outdoor sporting equipment (excluding firearms or ammunition) they no longer need, and will be offering it for sale, swap or trade. Although guests are welcome at any meeting, only members may offer goods for sale or trade. In addition, the club will be raffling off a lot of equipment that has been donated to the club from a number of sources. Also, in February, we will be adding two more Gulf flats charter trips.

Welcome Race Fans

By Gene Mangold

At the new R/C car track on any Sunday or Thursday at 12:30 p.m., the serenity of the rural pasture is suddenly interrupted with a loud, booming voice of Ed Sobolewski, the race committee chairman, and announcer. The PA system shakes the serenity of the rural pasture is suddenly interrupted with a loud, booming voice of Ed Sobolewski, the race committee chairman, and announcer. The PA system shakes the computer building. "What is it?" ask our son and friend. "Welcome race fans and drivers to the R/C Car Club races to top world news!" He has a friendly voice.

Billiards Members Attend State Games

By Phil Panzera

It's been a quiet month in the room, with nothing really to report. There was a quarterly meeting of the club after this column went to press, at which there was a vote on proposed amendments to our club's by-laws. Bill Ford and Alan Mulally, CEO of Ford Motor company, have given out at our monthly meeting awards for racing in general. They will be totaled and awards given out at our monthly meeting starting Monday, March 2. Harold Hoskins has switchbacks, curves, straight setting.

Ed Sobolewski announcing races at the R/C car track.
Happy Valentine’s Day! I wonder what the hands on the new card will look like. I hope you all received your mail-in for your new card. I want you to read the questions in the National Mah Jong League newsletter carefully because the last question really got to me. We have worked so very hard to get everyone to not touch the wall or tile and then not to take it back hours full of laughter and fun — We will roll the dice and see what fun we have rolling the new card. We will let the hands on the new card will look like.

Do you want to have a few laid-back hours full of laughter and fun? The Mexican Train Group plays every Friday in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room, at 7 p.m. Beginners are very welcome. We would be happy to teach you this delightful, strategic game. If you are an experienced Mexican train player or a newbie, please join us for a good time. Meet new friends! Bring $2 in cash and a desire for a fun experience. If you have any questions, please call Joyce Fox at (770) 394-7533.

Happy Valentine’s Day! Our group has lots of love and laughter. New people are an experienced Mexican train player. Come see what fun we have rolling the new card. We will let the hands on the new card will look like.

The Bunco Babes Social Group

The Bunco Babes Social Group plays buncos in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Registration is at 6:45 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m.

If you have never played before come see what fun we have rolling the dice in this game of luck and skill requited. The game is easy and only requires rolling three dice and moving to the next table at the end of game play. New players are always welcome.

The cost is $3 per person and all prizes are awarded at the end of the game to the category winners. Cash prizes are awarded and the last player who yelled “bunco,” the greatest number of “mini bunco,” the greatest number of wins, and the greatest number of losses. All ties result in a roll-off with the highest roll declared the winner. There are two hands for door prizes for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your own beverage and a small snack for sharing if you wish.

Today at 3 p.m. the March of Dimes Bunco for Babies fundraiser Satur- day, April 4, will be held. Tickets are $25 and include lunch, cash prizes for bunco games, and door prizes. A $5/10 raffle will be held. Doors open at 6 p.m. Come join in the fun and make new friends. For more information, please call Micki Mah to (770) 631-2790. See you soon!

Please plan on staying the whole Monday, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Please come see what fun we have rolling the new card. We will let the hands on the new card will look like.

The Mexican Train Group plays every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. The Mexican Train Group has lots of love and laughter. New people are an experienced Mexican train player. Come see what fun we have rolling the new card. We will let the hands on the new card will look like.

Monday Afternoon Bridge

Dec. 2, 2019


Dec. 9, 2019


Dec. 16, 2019


Dec. 22, 2019


Tuesday Night Duplicate Bridge

Dec. 3, 2019


Dec. 10, 2019


Dec. 17, 2019


Wednesday Afternoon Bridge

Dec. 4, 2019

1: Craig Ford; 2: Shirley Stoly; 3: Dianne Robinson; 4: Mike Merrick; 5: Debbie Quinn; Cons: Donna McMurray.

Dec. 11, 2019

1: Debbie Quinn; 2: Craig Ford; 3: Marlene Hiecke; 4: Pat Quinn; Cons: Betty Morris.

Thursday Afternoon Bridge

Dec. 4, 2019

1: Nancy Lustenburger; 2: Mike Merrick; 3: Joe McKeown; 4: Pat Quinn; Cons: Joanne Wagner.

Dec. 11, 2019

1: Rad; 2: Pat Golgart; 3: Nancy Lustenburger; Cons: Joanne Wagner.

Dec. 19, 2019

1: Debbie Quinn; 2: Pat Quinn; 3: Linda Yuen; 4: Diane Robison; Cons: Joe McKeown.

Friday Night Euchre

Dec. 13, 2019


Dec. 20, 2019

1: Edith Kolb; 2: Dick Bartel; 3: Pat Quinn; 4: Mike Merrick; 5: Debbie Quinn; Cons: Betty Morris.

Saturday Night Pinochle

Dec. 3, 2019


Dec. 10, 2019

1: Glory Herget; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: James Magoun.

Dec. 17, 2019

Softball newbies – or new players – are an increasingly frequent sight at On Top of the World softball games. It might be a guy who hasn’t touched a bat and ball since he was a kid. Or it might be someone who’s played through the years.

We had a conversation with Ken Reeves, a recent arrival at On Top of the World now playing his first season here. Ken has a background in marketing, printing and direct mail.

**Q. When did you move in?**

A. My wife Judy and I closed in August 2019. We bought a resale in Candler Hills. We moved from Griffin, Georgia, a small town just south of Atlanta. Before that we were in Tampa for 34 years.

**Q. So you’re a southern boy, through and through?**

A. Pretty much (laughs!)

**Q. What do you like about senior softball?**

A. I love softball! I played ball all my life. Not necessarily organized ball. Just playing with the guys, going to the park and hitting the ball. That type of thing. And I played 13 seasons – spring and fall – in Georgia.

**Q. So when you came down to Florida you were looking for a place to play softball?**

A. Oh yes. Absolutely! I saw a column in the World News about practices on Thursday mornings and to come down if you wanted to join a team.

**Q. You did, and now you’re pitching – very well, I might add – for Team 4, sponsored by Briellewood Dentistry. (The softball league fields six intramural teams during the fall-spring season and four in the summer season.) Are you enjoying it?**

A. Yes, it’s fun.

**Q. What’s so special about softball? What are you looking for that you come out to the field twice a week for games and maybe another day for practice?**


**Q. You play golf too?**

A. Yes. I play twice a week – Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Q. So you keep busy.**

A. I do. Mondays through Thursdays pretty busy and then I get the body back in shape for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Here you can be as busy as you want to be.

A reminder: if you want to be a softball newbie – experienced player or not – you’re welcome. Come on down to the field Thursday mornings for a practice or just to get acquainted. Games are played Monday and Wednesday mornings. If you can’t play, come down and watch. It’s exciting and fun.

EMERGENCY AFTER-HOURS PHONE NUMBER

(352) 134-6869

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**Ocala Culinary Festival**

**Take Place in Marion County**

MARCH 29 - 25, 2020

**The Mac Down**

Thursday | March 19 | 6 PM
Ocala Downtown Market
310 SE 3rd St. | Ocala

**Wine Women Wednesday**

Wednesday | March 25 | 6 PM
Brick City Center for the Arts
23 SW Broadway St. | Ocala

**Flavors of Florida**

Thursday | March 26 | 6 PM
Circle Square Cultural Center
3355 SW 30th St. | Ocala

**Una Noche en Argentina**

Friday | March 27 | 6 PM
Una de la Noche will focus on food and wine from Argentina. Bring your appetite and comfortable shoes for the outdoor event. Farm-fresh ingredients may have a strong impact on the menu.

**Grand Tasting: Finale to the 4th Annual Ocala Culinary Festival**

Sunday | March 29 | 11:30 AM
Bridlewood Farm
8338 NW 90th Terr. | Ocala

Join us as we transform the Bridlewood farm into the Grand Tasting culminating of the four-day festival. A casual affair that allows participants to enjoy live music, mingle with like-minded foodies, chefs, restaurateurs, mixologists, and culinary vendors.
New officers and directors have been selected for the 2020 Men’s Golf Association. The new board includes Charles Crenshaw, president; Paul East, vice president; Rusty Rhodes, treasurer; and Rog- ers Sparks, secretary. The new direc tors are Jerry Englar and Brian Wilder, tourneaments; Larry Manion, food services; Jim Napierski, membership; and Brad Woekisch, at-large.

The 2020 MGA Handbook will be available on Chicken Day Wednesday, Feb. 5.

New MGA officers and directors.

Paul Richards and Vince Dellapiana; Charles Lundberg, Mike Matlak, Nor man Schluze and Lance Davski; Ste ven Rudolph, Rick Fleasus and Mike Bienes. Tie at 64–Bob Mondore, Ken Zwieb, Jerry Chase and Daniel Hermsen. Jim Weaver, Mike Wathen, John Owen and Mike Driver. Paul Steacklin, Tom Fragapani, Joseph Mandala and George Noltensmeyer.

New members: Joann DellaPen na, who moved here from Palm Harbor, Florida, at the end of 2019, has been golfing for a year. Joy Benson, who moved here from Kissimmee, Florida, a year ago, has been golfing “forever” and has a handicap of 23. The league has 3 playing mem bers and four social members.

Rudolph’s Revenge 2 Best Balls Net Dec. 17, 2019/The Links


Ladies 18-Hole Golf

And they’re off! Thirty-two league members started match play Monday, Jan. 20 in the LGA Play off. The 2020 MGA Handbook will be available on Chicken Day Wednesday, Feb. 5.

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Rudolph’s Revenge 2 Best Balls Net Dec. 17, 2019/The Links


Leaf Series

For the Love of Birds

Love is in the air. Join us on Valentine’s Day at Kees Beehler and Charles Lundberg’s Lane from the Ocklawaha Sanctuary discuss the wildlife commitment of Florida’s native large birds such as owls and other species that mate for life.

There will also be an opportunity to meet Hobie, an educational ambassador and longtime resident of OWLS, Inc.

NO ADMISSION FEE. NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

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For the Love of Birds

Love is in the air. Join us on Valentine’s Day at Kees Beehler and Charles Lundberg’s Lane from the Ocklawaha Sanctuary discuss the wildlife commitment of Florida’s native large birds such as owls and other species that mate for life.

There will also be an opportunity to meet Hobie, an educational ambassador and longtime resident of OWLS, Inc.

NO ADMISSION FEE. NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.
Now that the stress of the holiday season is behind us, we can move forward and get back to some normalcy. The start of 2020 should be an exciting and eventful time.

Candler Hills will be hosting the annual World Sadie Hawkins Golf Tournament. This year’s event will be held Friday, Feb. 14 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. The format will feature couples alternate shot. The cost is $50 per couple for prizes and a buffet lunch. The Club at Candler Hills will have food and beverage specials concluding play. Please register in your respective golf shop.

Candler Hills will host a demo day Saturday, Feb. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cleveland, Srixon, Tour Edge, Exotics and Cobra will all be on hand to show you the latest technology. If you are in the market for a new set of golf clubs, do not miss this opportunity.

With March around the cor-
ner we are proud to announce the return of the Ocala Open Wednesday, March 11 through Friday, March 13 at Candler Hills Golf Club. The format will feature four-man teams alternate shot. The cost is $150 per team for prizes and a buffet lunch. The Club at Candler Hills will have food and beverage specials concluding play. Please register in your respective golf shop.

We welcome the return of warm, beautiful Florida weather we all long for. We have a few new members who have joined the league within the last few weeks. Please welcome Mary Jo Lock, Jo Dellavina, Sandy McCarthy, Pam Jones and Judy Graham. We look forward to working with you for a long time to come.


Shelly Kar snitz

In addition to the new world handicap system being live, please make sure you are posting your scores the day you play except on your first tournament and your score for you. If you still have any questions or issues using the new GHIN app or Golf Genius app, please feel free to stop by the Golf Shop and we will be happy to help.

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

1. Dig your feet into the sand and if it matches the bottom of the flag you are tied to the bottom of the flag stick and you can claim your own foursome for this event and sign up in the Golf Shop.

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The Hoosiers as winter league play begins. “The Undertakers” use some intimidation tactics on their opponents “The Hoosiers” as winter league play begins. Two time cornhole men’s league champions “The Undertakers” use some intimidation tactics on their opponents “The Hoosiers” as winter league play begins.

OPEN PLAY: The club is hoping that we will soon be playing at our new facility in the Veterans Park. Some additional construction has prevented us from making the move so, for the time being, we will continue both open and league play at the current location next to the softball field. Come join us each Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. and Friday at 10:30 a.m. for some great fun. New players always welcome!

Make your plans to attend the second annual Cornhole Club picnic, which is set to take place at the new pavilion in the Veterans Park Saturday, March 14, from noon to 3 p.m. This event features a catered main course and bottled water with members contributing their favorite side dish or dessert and beverage. Door prizes and cornhole-related games with prizes to the winners make this a “don’t miss” event! No charge for club members who may also bring non-member guests for a $5 per person charge.

We will have a RSVP sign-up system via email set up later this month to determine a head count for the catered main course.

Last year we used Lee’s Chicken and plan to do so again this year unless there are alternative suggestions from the membership. For open play questions, comments and suggestions, contact Jim Russell at jimmussell44@outlook.com.

Shuffleboard

Walter Lamp

The month of December 2019 didn’t offer anything new, but only the regular scheduled sessions. But, the second half of our season will offer some tournaments ending in April. Our tournament director has been working on these for some time.

So what is shuffleboard all about? You can have one on one, or two on two, as we do in our weekly sessions. There are two sets of discs – black and yellow. The first side (both teams) shoots both color discs in order. The object is to land the discs in a numerical box – whether 10, eight or seven. The other side (both teams) can then shoot to score points. Any player can shoot with the intention of attempting to knock out his opponents’ disc and prevent them from scoring. There is always a numerical goal in these matches. We use 75, with the idea the first team to obtain it, will win.

Oh, there is one more box I should mention. It is called the kitchen and is located at the bottom of the pyramid. If a disc lands in it, it is scored as a 10. That’s right, the only box where points are subtracted from the team’s total in that round. Needless to say, we all try and avoid it.

Also, an important point is that all shots, to either quality as a score or landing in the kitchen, must fall within any of the white boxes. Those white lines border the outside and inside. They cross in the middle....

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December

Monday a.m.: David Lee/Nancy Deemiller; 30 Club – David Lee; 33-Charla Lenz.
Tuesday p.m.: Rick Vogel/Jane Boyer
Thursday a.m.: Rick French/Shirley Lindsay.

Two time cornhole men’s league champions “The Undertakers” use some intimidation tactics on their opponents “The Hoosiers” as winter league play begins.

Photo by Bill Ballweg
The Pickleball Club has a new seven-member board.

At the annual meeting in December 2019, it was decided that the club needed a set of by-laws. Herb Katz volunteered to chair the committee. The other members were Dave and Synd Phillips, Steve Schlesselman, Bob and Cherie Zangmeister, Thanks for their diligence.

The new board also had the task of looking into whether the club would be a formal or informal club, liability insurance, and open play. Those items were all tabled at the annual meeting.

The board also created a new membership and liability form which all members will have to complete when they pay their club dues of $10. If you have not paid your dues yet, you can contact Sue Olson at (262) 353-5051.

The first board meeting was held Friday, Jan. 3. The liability issue was addressed and we are waiting to hear back from State Farm. After reviewing the suggestions submitted by the club members about open play, a decision was made to implement one of the suggestions for a trial period. There will be a general meeting Thursday, Jan. 30 to discuss this option.

The members are looking forward to a great year of pickleball in 2020 for the love of the game and the year-end event.

Thanks to Louie Sierra for organizing the tournament. Twenty-two players competed in the round robin format.

Denny Mielke was the Denny Mielke; 2: Steve Gardner; and 3: Mark Daddario.

The top two ladies were Cindy Kowalski (eighth) and Ruth Lincoln (ninth).

The ladder ended with a red and blue format. Denny Mielke was the head of the Blue Team and Steve Gardner was the head of the Red Team. Twenty-two players competed in the round robin format. The teams were tied at 17 games apiece. The final match was tied at 10 to 10 and the Red Team pulled out the victory. Congratulations to all who participated in the ladder and the year-end event.

A special thanks needs to go out to Ron Harden, Steve Schlesselman, and Erik Carrib for their work in 2019. Also a thanks to Deb Bish Harden for writing the monthly World News column.

Congratulations to Bill Millican. He recently competed in the 2019 Florida Senior Games in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and won the archery gold medal for the 900 American Round.

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With that being said a special thanks needs to go out to Ron Harden for the work he put into the ladder. He ran this during the spring and the fall. The fall season ended with a red and blue format. Denny Mielke was the head of the Blue Team and Steve Gardner was the head of the Red Team. Twenty-two players competed in the round robin format. The teams were tied at 17 games apiece. The final match was tied at 10 to 10 and the Red Team pulled out the victory. Congratulations to all who participated in the ladder and the year-end event.

A special thanks needs to go out to Louie Sierra for organizing the social of subs and refreshments after the games. It was a great way to end the year for the ladder players.

If you are new to On Top of the World and are interested in playing pickleball and joining the club, check out the bulletin board outside of the upper courts. You can also contact Steve Schlesselman, president, (steveschlesselman@gmail.com).

See you on the courts.

Tom Roach and Peter Tomasselli on bow tuning.

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This is the best time of year to play tennis! So let's get out there! I am happy to help you with your desire to do your best!"
The Harmful Effects of Sitting

By now, you have probably heard the phrase “sitting is the new smoking.” The rationale behind this provocative statement is that sitting for prolonged periods is linked to serious health risks. Even if you exercise every day, studies show that long periods of time in seated, static postures increase your risk of type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. At home, we sit in front of computer screens, televisions, and smart phones. We sit while reading and eating meals. We sit in the car, at work, in classrooms, meetings and social events. On average, most people are in a sedentary state more than half of their day. Make it a goal in the New Year to sit less!

When you are sitting, you use less energy. This can slow metabolism and interfere with the body’s ability to regulate blood sugar, blood pressure and break down body fat. The human body is designed to stand upright and move. Our cardiovascular, neuromuscular and digestive systems work much more efficiently when we are in a vertical position. In addition, sitting for long periods shortens and tightens muscles and connective tissue. This will generate permanent changes in the structure of the body and make it increasingly difficult to maintain good posture. The cascading effect of this scenario is a serious one for older adults. It typically results in postural deviations, compromised mobility, increased fall risk and in evitably threatening quality of life.

Tips for sitting less and standing more:

1. Take a one to three-minute standing break every 30 minutes of sitting. Even if you just get up and do some simple stretching (see Larry’s Fit Tips on Flexibility) it can make a big difference.

2. Use a fit tracker or pedometer to keep a count of your daily steps. This is a great motivator to move more. You should aim for 5,000 to 7,500 steps a day.

3. Use inactivity alerts. My smart watch buzzes me every 30 seconds to get up and move. I have found this to be very effective at breaking up my sitting time. You can set a timer or your wearable technology for notifications.

4. Try a height-adjustable desk. These work wonders for alternating between sitting and standing. I have one in my office and it is fantastic. I end up standing more than 50% of the workday.

5. Cook your meals. When you come home with take-out, order a pizza or pop something in the microwave you are typically sitting. Get up and cook your food! Not only will this decrease sitting time, it makes cooked meals are usually much healthier.

Stretch for the Stars!

Flexibility decreases with age and physical inactivity. This can cause your muscles, tendons and ligaments to become shorter over time. The unfortunate result of this is poor posture, compromised mobility and increased fall risk. The good news is that regardless of your age, you can increase and maintain flexibility with regular stretching. We have some great fitness classes to help you stretch! Check out the group fitness schedule for Strength & Stretch, Chair Yoga, Qigong and Tai Chi. Go get out there and literally “reach for the stars”!

FIT TIP #3: Prepare your play. Stretching prior to sports and exercise is very important. This allows your muscles to loosen up and become better able to withstand the demands of the activity and prevent injury!
The New Dancin’ On the Top final dance of 2019 was our New Year’s Eve celebration Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019. The theme for our big celebration was “Dancing Under the Stars” with a special champagne toast to end 2019 and bring in 2020 with a big bang. We had appetizers, pastries/sweets, party favors, and, at midnight, a traditional toast to 2020. A wonderful time was had by everyone with plenty of dancing for the night.

The New Dancin’ On the Top will have a “Love Is in the Air” themed dance Saturday, Feb. 15 with the music by The Paul DeRitter Band. The Recreation Center Ballroom stage will be theme decorated and our tables will be colorfully decorated as well. No coolers, T-shirts, tank tops, shorts, or jeans should be worn at this dance.

February ticket sales for members were held in January. The ticket costs are $15 per person for members and residents. The ticket cost for non-resident guests is set for $25 per person.

A big “thank you” to all those club members who have volunteered to help with our dances in the past year and our future dances in 2020. Our club provides dancing for everyone - ballroom, waltz, merengue, line, free style, slow, pattern dancing, etc.

Keep checking for published dance flyers that you will see on the bulletin board with these exciting themes along with ticket sale dates for each dance. Resident IDs will be required at the time of ticket purchase and for entry into the Recreation Center Ballroom on our dance nights.

The New Dancin’ On the Top officers are working on future dates for 2020 and beyond. For club membership, ticket information, what the club is about, or if you want to help with our dances, please contact Jack or Jean Hesse at (919) 291-8542, (919) 669-6935, or hesteraula@aol.com or Donna Cottrell at (410) 591-7899. The New Dancin’ On the Top Club is open to all residents. So, keep on dancing in 2020.

We are now almost a month back into our dance season. Since our line dance community has grown so much, Marilyn McNeal had to host two ice cream socials this year. The first one for the Absolute Beginners, which totals over 100 dancers and the second for the Beginners I, II and Improvers. Everyone had a great time dancing to Christmas music, enjoying ice cream and some lucky enough to win prizes.

Our monthly dance was a fun evening with everyone dressed in festive attire and dancing with glowsticks to special songs. We are all happy to be back to our regular schedule of classes and practice sessions. Practicing is important to help remember the sequence of the dances, as repetition is the mother of all skills. Also through dancing, we can learn to work on ourselves in specific ways such as improving muscle movements and coordination. We gain a sense of achievement and receive enormous satisfaction when we learn new dances. If we dance regularly, we find we walk with more grace and stand with more poise. Dance benefits the whole body in so many ways. But the best part of dance is that it’s fun. It affords a release of energy so that we can dance just for the joy of dancing.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, Patty and Freddie began teaching a class for new dancers. If you have never line danced before and have been thinking about it, please come and join them. It’s a great way to find out what line dancing is about and if you will enjoy it. No dance tag is needed and there is no cost for this class. They meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II.

Our monthly dance will be held Thursday, Feb. 13 and will be a Valentine’s Day theme.

For detailed information on classes, please contact Marilyn McNeal at (352) 804-1546 or for the Intermediate, contact Nancy Car- mark at (352) 533-8870. See you on the dance floor! Keep on dancing!

New Dancin’ On the Top

Jack and Jean Hester at the New Dancin’ On the Top New Year’s Eve dance.

Photo by Janis HP

Marilyn McNeal dancing with the Beginners Level II at the Christmas dance.

Photo by Vivian Gecan

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Have you ever noticed how we seem to go from one holiday to the next? It was just New Years Day, and now Valentine’s Day is approaching. I hope we all manage to deal with more sweats in our diets by exercising, especially by

**Ballet Club**

Jenni Marie

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**New Circle Squares**

Dotty Huston

We started 2020 with a raid from Celebrity Squares (in Florida). Everyone was wearing their happy feet. We had a fun play, Larry Garvin made the “coveted” trophy at the “Snowflake Special” at Ocala Tewers (our sister club). That was such a great dance and dinner? Dinner was made by our caller’s wife, Carol Barngrover. Callers for the dance were Fred Bargrover and Whit Brown. They are great together. I think most people know that square dancing is one of the oldest national traditions of the American people. It is recognized all over

**Sidekicks Western Dance**

Carol Barngrover

We all know that the Sidekicks are world famous at On Top of the World, perhaps even legendary, and you can name the sidekicks of the following people in history and literature? Answers at the end of the column:

1. Meriwether Lewis
2. Butch Cassidy
3. Robinson Crusoe
4. Hamlet
5. Don Quixote
6. Tom Sawyer
7. Shrek
8. Harry Potter

Most of us square dancers are world famous at On Top of the World, perhaps even legendary, and you can name the sidekicks of the following people in history and literature? Answers at the end of the column:

1. Meriwether Lewis
2. Butch Cassidy
3. Robinson Crusoe
4. Hamlet
5. Don Quixote
6. Tom Sawyer
7. Shrek
8. Harry Potter

Flashburn as cue and the “Happy Feet” penguins in January. There is a room, led by Gal Laib, who made mama and baby penguins for our table. So many of our square dances make the Recreation Center Square Residents are welcome to stop in anytime to see what we are about. Our caller is from Texas and always says, “Hurry, hurry!”

**Candler Hills Men’s Golf**

Terry Hoppes

Congratulations to Daniema (Red Jackets) for winning the Alfister Cup match play against Ruby (Blue Team) by a score of 13 to nine Dec. 19, 2019.

For those of you who are new to the men’s league, Joe Alfano, who served about eight years on the MGA board, began the internal tournaments a few years ago. Joe introduced the Ryder Cup style matches among the MGA board, began the internal tournaments a few years ago. Joe introduced the Ryder Cup style matches among

**Co-Ed Recreational Softball**

Shep Wild

“New Year’s song is over. We’re all getting fat. Time for us to go And retrieve our bats. If you haven’t got your own bat A team bat there will be So come down to the softball field And join our team!”

The Co-Ed Recreational Softball Group embraces our love of the game, social networking and enjoyment of exercise (while accepting our mature physical changes). We have a diverse level of abilities that balances the genders well. It’s always most fun when we can make a couple full teams to challenge each other.

This month we would like to extend a special invitation to more males who have participated in the men’s league but are looking for less serious competition. Your experience is valuable and could extend your involvement while encouraging rookies. Reassure your husbands there’s no need to be jealous of the ladies in the group.

So, grab a glove, slather on the sunscreen, layer appropriately, bring water and a friend to the softball field every Tuesday at 9 a.m. for a couple of hours of uninhibited, non-judgmental, clean fun and laughter!”

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352-620-2651
Sewing Bees holiday luncheon Thursday, Jan. 9.

The Sewing Bees took a well-deserved break Thursday, Jan. 9. We all met for our holiday luncheon in the Recreation Center Derby Room.

There was a grab bag, good food, and lots of celebrating. Some of our 2010 statistics: 530 quilts; 48 pillowcases; 394 animals; 540 totes; 22 baby blankets and 92 Christmas stockings! A total of 1,716, which doesn’t include the famous wonder wallets or ditty bags! Those totals will appear at a later date. We did an amazing job considering that we didn’t meet for six weeks while renovations were being done to our sewing room. Great job Bees!

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 Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Orange County. 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Have a fantastic 2020!
At long last, our Antiques & Crafts show is back on the agenda! Every month we bring together a diverse group of artists, crafters, and collectors to showcase their unique creations. Come join us at the Community Center on February 26th, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Be sure to bring your old, new, or handmade items to share with our community. We look forward to seeing you there!
Almost anyone would bet that most folks reading this column have experienced the awe-inspiring feeling of receiving that magical, wonderful box of new crayons! Many hours of our childhood were spent with a special “barnyard animals” or “cars, planes, and trains” book with which to create great pages using our imagination. Each school year, we probably also had that little metal box of watercolor paints, but happiness for many of us was that new box of crayons. When the manufacturer came out with 64 colors and a built-in sharpener, well, we’d surely reached heaven!

Nowadays there is a new kid on the block: adult coloring books! When I first saw them, they were mostly filled with intricate and delicate flowers and designs and seemed rather small and difficult. This is no longer true. There are literally hundreds of kinds of books available at our local craft and big box stores, with as many themes as you can count. Some are mosaic designs, or wild animals, flowers, and still life. Lately the wise creators have made images of art masters’ works, and you can color the Mona Lisa, or Monet’s beautiful landscapes.

The crayon for adults is the colored pencil, which has finally evolved from that dreaded red and blue two-sided teacher’s grading pencil, into sets of gorgeous softer lead hues in sets of way more than 64, if you wish. If you have thought of taking up a new hobby, perhaps to spice up leisure time in retirement, I highly recommend trying the adult coloring books. It doesn’t require a large investment, and you might even be inspired to frame and put them on your walls, as our resident Anita Alston has done.

The Art Group meets three times a week in the Hobby Building Art Room. We welcome residents to join us during those times: Wednesday, from noon to 4 p.m.; and Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon. We promise the red and blue pencil will not be used for grading your papers! Also be sure to check out our website at ocalaarts.org. Click on “members” and see the various types of art we create. Hope to see you soon.
Happy Valentine’s Day from the Happy Hookers! Cupid rules the day only for this one day. Do you know that Hallmark has been offering Valentine’s Day cards since 1916, and today, industry-wide, approximately 95 million Valentine’s Day cards are sent annually — not including children’s classroom cards? You won’t find cards at our gatherings, but you will find ladies working on projects that are for family, friends and charities.

Our projects are done in all colors — including the ever-popular February colors of red or pink. Happy Hookers is open to all residents. We meet year-round on Mondays, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues or charges, and one needs no experience. Life can and does interfere at times, and we would hate for that to hold you back. What we do have is a large group of ladies busy crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidery, 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 attendees who open their craft hands for crafters with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they happen to be working on. If you have any questions, you may call Naomi Herman at (352) 873-4228.

If you have yarn, pattern hooks, knitting needles, crochet hooks or other crafting tools that you no longer have a use for, donations are always appreciated. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting time or call Naomi at (352) 309-4335 to arrange for pickup.

Happy Valentine’s Day from the Concert Chorus! The Concert Chorus is the performing arm of the Messiah Chorus of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra. Music has been a focus for Jim since he was a teen. He has designed marching band half-time shows, been student director for a college chorus and directed church music ministries for four decades. He is a skilled piano accompanist for choral groups and soloists. He also plays the organ, directed a church orchestra for 10 years, played piano and keyboards for church praise services and accompaniments, and accompanied radio and Pahl-Dimar Theater Productions in Pittsburgh.

He has continued accompanying and directing theater productions and our chorus. Finally, Jim is choir and handbell director for Joy Evangelical Lutheran Church. I believe you will agree, we have an excellent new director who will joyfully work with, Jim’s philosophy can be summed up in the quote, “For heights and depths no words can reach, music is the soul’s own speech.”

And to singers out there who want to joyously participate in our spring program, contact Mary Anu Majnu at (954) 557-8176 or flmimagin@gmail.com.

Our spring program is a highlight of the year for family, friends and charities. But you will find laughter, fun, and lots of love! Our first rehearsal is February 5, 2020 at 9:45 a.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. Rehearsals are from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., for sopranos and altos, 11 a.m., for tenors, and basses and baritones. Rehearsals are from 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., for sopranos and altos. Rehearsals are from 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., for tenors and basses and baritones. Rehearsals are from 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., for sopranos and altos, and from 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., for tenors and basses and baritones. Rehearsals are from 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., for sopranos and altos, and from 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., for tenors and basses and baritones. Rehearsals are from 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., for sopranos and altos, and from 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., for tenors and basses and baritones.

Do you like the sophistication, wit, and energy of Broadway music? Then join us for the delightful musical theater review “Snippets.” This year’s show features classic show tunes like the popular “Try to Remember” from The Fantasticks, the powerful and moving “Lady’s Maid” from Trianon, the title number “Cabinet” from Cabaret, the seductive “Whatever Lola Wants, Lola Gets” from Damn Yankees, the hilarious “I Hate Men” from Kiss Me Kate, and the spectacular “I’ve Got Rhythm” from Crazy For You! These and many other favorites from Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Kander and Ebb, Frank Loesser and many others will send you home humming, happy, and thoroughly entertained. A complete list of the songs and performers will be included in next month’s column.

Tickets are $10 per person and go on sale every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Recreation Center beginning Feb. 3 until the production. For further information, contact Richard at upstage111@yahoo.com or (561) 235-6791.

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San Felipe de Neri (in Spanish) is a huge historic Catholic church located on the northern side of Albuquerque, New Mexico's famous Old Town Plaza. The church was constructed in 1793. This church is one of the oldest surviving buildings in the city and is also the oldest in the Old Town section that dates back to the Spanish colonial era.

San Felipe de Neri replaced an older church that was located on the same site that dated back to the founding of Albuquerque in 1706 under the direction of a Franciscan missionary who by all records was reportedly, among the original settlers of Albuquerque. The church apparently was allowed to deteriorate in the late 1700s and collapsed in the winter of 1792.

The governor, at the time the original church collapsed, reportedly called the collapse a disgrace and ordered everyone in the surrounding area to help in the construction of a replacement.

The current layout is located in the lower level of the Recreation Center accessed through the fitness center. Club members work on and run trains on the layout on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Model Railroaders is always looking for new members. Our next meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room III.
Big Shows!

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2020

February 2020

FEB. 1
Dwight Icenhower
DwightIcenhowerFanClub.com

FEB. 15
CTA Chicago Experience
TransitAuthorityBand.com

FEB. 21
Stayin Alive: Bee Gees
http://StayAliveStayingAlive.com

FEB. 27
The Fab Four: The Ultimate Beatles Tribute
TheFabFour.com

FEB. 29
Jay White: The Ultimate Neil Diamond Tribute
JayWhiteLive.com/about

MAR. 6
The Electric Light Orchestra Experience—50th Anniversary
NEWWorldRide.com

MAR. 14
Groovin' with Gene Cornish of The Rascals
RedCventShow.com/about

APR. 3
Rob Caullil: The Ultimate Rod Stewart Experience
RedCventShow.com/about

APR. 10
Turn the Page Tribute to Bob Seger
TurnThePageOnline.com

MAY 9
The Petty Hearts: The National Tom Petty Show
PettyHearts.com

JUN. 13
The NY Rockabilly Rockets
NYRockabillyRockets.com

JUN. 26
Dance Party with I-4 Band
Facebook.com/4BandOrlando

AUG. 1
Dance Party with Rocky and the Rollers
RockyAndTheRollers.com

SEPT. 12
Illusions and Beyond
IllusionsAndBeyond.com

SEPT. 26
Fortunate Son: A Tribute to CCR
FortunateSonTribute.com

OCT. 2
Laugh Out Loud Comedy Night with Scott Moonlight & George Cuvey
GeorgeCuvey.com & ScottMoonlight.com

OCT. 10
Bowzer's Holiday Rock n' Roll Party
BowzerParty.com

Order tickets at CSCulturalCenter.com | 8395 SW 80th Street, Ocala, FL 34481 | (352) 854-3670
All shows begin at 7 PM & doors open at 6 PM (except as noted). Gift certificates available.
ShutterBugs proudly presents our intermediate class winners from this 2019’s photo contest.

Tom Murray’s first place photo comes from the Grand Oaks Resort in Weirsdale, Florida. He took it as the horses went through the water part of the course. Tom did a great job selecting a fast shutter speed to freeze the movement of the horse and water splashing!

His second place photo was taken while on vacation in New Hampshire. He was taking photos of the fall colors in the town of Hillsboro when he came to Gleason Brook. It was the flow of the stream that caught his eye. In this photo, he selected a slow shutter speed to blur the water movement.

Gail Schultz was at the Grand Canyon in Arizona when she took her photo. She said, “When I turned to the right, I noticed this couple on a ledge of the canyon a distance away from me.” She remembered two points from a DVD shown at a ShutterBugs meeting. First, look for a scene that tells a story. Second, having people in your photo will give the viewer perspective, in this case, the huge size of the canyon.

Happy February! Our presenter in January was Nancy Carroll. She is a fairly new member and we appreciated all her efforts to be a presenter. Nancy offered several versions of a small desk calendar as well as a beautiful magnolia-themed card to be used for many different occasions. We thank Nancy for her efforts and for providing all the stamps and dies necessary to complete the projects.

Our group is open to all crafters—beginners or those more experienced. One or two people do a presentation each month. The group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. 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, or if you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hoefer at (352) 237-6439 or kathyK010@yahoo.com. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin’!
Filing Taxes for Free

MyFreeTaxes.com is the only free, national, online tax filing product offered by United Way. This nonprofit has made it available to over 100 million U.S. taxpayers.

Some "free" tax preparation products only offer federal (not state) filings or charge extra for anything beyond the most basic forms. MyFreeTaxes is completely free for individuals and families who earned less than $66,000 in 2019 — whether you file in multiple states, work freelance, have a side gig, or earn investment income.

Filing Taxes for Free

MyFreeTaxes is powered by H&R Block; filing is easy, secure, and guaranteed to be 100 percent accurate. The software scans for any tax credit you're entitled to, making sure you get your maximum refund. If you have questions along the way, IRS-certified specialists are ready to answer your questions.

AARP

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program will offer free, individual tax preparation for low- to moderate-income taxpayers — especially those 50 and older — at more than 5,000 locations nationwide. For locations or questions, call (888) 687-2277, email taxaide@aarp.org or visit AARP.org/findtaxis.
For Sale:

**Wanted:**

- **Cannabis Tanks:** 2020 Cannabis team is recruiting in Marion County. $14.50/hour. 80 cents/mile with your home as your base. Apply at 2020Cannabis.gov/jobs. For more information, contact Tom Friedman at (607) 684-8340 or tom.friedman@2020cannabis.gov.
- **Donations:** Cat or dog food (SPCA of Marion County); (352) 362-0985. **Shower gowns, prom dresses, suits, etc.**
- **Pet-Sitters:** Home Pet Sitting LLC: In-home pet sitting & dog walking. Reliable, professional, bonded, insured. For 12 years. (352) 895-0940 or www.milesandmiles4pets.com.
- **Transportation:** Pet-CPR certified.
- **Yarn for VA hospitals:** Call S.P.C.A. of Marion County at 352-362-0985.
- **School/craft supplies & small appliances for homeless:** Pet-CPR certified.
- **Musical Instruments for Troops:** Call S.P.C.A. of Marion County at 352-362-0985.

**Tools:**

- **Sitting:** Pet-CPR certified.
- **Yarn for VA hospitals:** Call S.P.C.A. of Marion County at 352-362-0985.
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**For Sale:**

**Furniture:**

- Roll top desk with glass top, two large file drawers, 35" x 60", tilt top, drafting arm, (352) 845-6445.
- White wicker desk with glass top, two large file drawers, 35" x 60", tilt top, drafting arm, (352) 845-6445.
- Drafting table, wood, (352) 858-8459, Bob.
- Interior & exterior. Rent directly from the shelter. (352) 843-6519.
- Pet-CPR certified.
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MONDAY - SATURDAY 8AM-6PM • SUNDAY NOON-5PM