

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

It was a year ago this month that I made the announcement of closure of recreational facilities in the community, to stem the spread of COVID-19. Now it is my pleasure to make mention of the success of the mass vaccination effort held at Circle Square Cultural Center Friday, March 5.

As a result of General Manager Lynette Vermillion reaching out to Rep. Joe Harding and Senator Dennis Baxley, On Top of the World Communities was contacted by a State Emergency Management representative who set up logistics through their Region 3 Tactical Branch. This could not have been done without the help of Jo Layman, general manager of Circle Square Commons, who graciously provided a vaccination location, and Director of Education Michelle Shideler of Master the Possibilities, who selflessly recruited volunteers to work the phone lines and get appointments rolled out to residents and citizens of Ocala.

I also want to thank all the residents who participated in this vaccine drive for their patience and cooperation in helping this complicated effort run like clockwork.

Calling All Florida World War II Veterans & Residents

On Top of the World has been approached by both Florida Veterans Foundation (FVF) and 82 West Productions for assistance with finding persons with a connection to Florida during the war years to take part in making a documentary about World War II veterans and their service and contributions to the war effort.

Participants may be veterans who trained or were stationed in Florida, people who worked in agriculture during the war, or anyone who has direct recollections of life in Florida during those difficult years and how it impacted their life.

This film will be narrated by acclaimed broadcaster Bill Kurtis and will weave together interviews with veterans and historians with archival footage and photos to tell the story of Florida's important contributions and innovations that helped the U.S. and our allies win the war.

On Top of the World is collaborating with FVF and 82 West Productions by reaching out to residents who may fit those parameters. The producers from 82 West Productions are also attempting to canvas the entire State of Florida for candidates who wish to tell their story of life in Florida during World War II.

The film "A State at War: Florida," once completed, will air on PBS stations throughout Florida. The goal is to have it ready to air for Veterans Day 2021. (It will then air several times a year, for many years to come.)

A recently produced 82 West film, "A City At War: Chicago" premiered on PBS-WTTW Chicago in 2017 and has aired on more than 104 PBS stations across the country, including 10 stations in Florida.

How can you participate? 82 West Productions is looking for individuals who either served, trained or lived in Florida during the lead-up to and/or during the war. In addition to stories of military training in Florida; stories about scrap drives, volunteer organizations, victory gardens, industry jobs, agriculture, beach watchers, plane spotters, neighborhood blackouts, Florida POWs, would all contribute to the film.

Let 82 West Productions know if you have a story, photos or videos from that time. Or if you know of someone who does. Please provide as much detail as possible, and don't forget to give 82 West Pro-

Continued on Page 4 ▶



Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

The Horse Fever 20/20 herd on display at Circle Square Cultural Center.

Horse Fever 20/20 Herd

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

On the Circle Square Cultural Center front lawn were 15 beautifully painted horses. Some seemed to be lazily grazing while others were taking in the visitors who were pointing cameras at them.

It was a special event Monday, March 1, when all 15 of the Horse Fever 20/20 herd were on the lawn. This was their last opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors before being moved indoors to the Circle

Square Cultural Center lobby where they were on display through Wednesday, March 24. They were then galloped off to their rightful owners, to perhaps grace their front lawns.

While visitors strolled around taking photos and admiring the artwork, several artists were available to talk about what went into the design and painting of their horse — from imagining the cre-

ation to the completed artwork. Stories were all interesting. For those visiting and thinking they'd like one of the horses for their very own, volunteers were selling raffle tickets for a chance to win one of the two horses available as prizes. The proceeds of the raffle will go to Marion Cultural Alliance (MCA) in benefitting the arts of Ocala, Marion County.

Circle Square Commons General Manager Jo Layman said, "It was an honor and great fun to have the Horse Fever 20/20 herd visiting us here at On Top of the World. We were happy to be a part of this event as it contributes so much to the artistic endeavors of our community."

Agriculture in Florida

By Phillip Hisey

Happy spring everyone. Spring is the time to apply fertilizer and check the irrigation as this is the growing season. I would normally provide you all a landscape topic, but I decided to switch it up this month on a discussion about something a little more globally concerning with the agriculture industry.

I recently attended a leadership seminar with the Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources, where we spent time in Vero Beach, Florida discussing issues related to agriculture and how each segment of the agriculture industry has its own battles.

The Florida citrus industry used to be a booming cash crop here in the State of Florida; producing 250 million boxes of fruit in the peak but some climatic and agronomic concerns have decimated a once thriving industry and is now only producing 60 million boxes. The contributing factors to the severe reductions may be blamed on three events or issues facing the citrus industry: the freezes of the 80s that took out many groves to the north central end of the state; the resurgence of citrus canker, a disease that has been around for a while; and now citrus greening caused by an imported insect called the Asian citrus psyllid.

The Asian citrus psyllid transfers a bacterial disease called huanglongbing, better known as citrus greening. This disease affects all citrus cultivars causing decline in the tree and production posing a serious threat to the Florida citrus industry. The disease was originally detected in 2005, and has quickly spread to all commercial citrus producing counties across the state as well as most if not all residential citrus crops across the state.

So, you might ask what's the purpose of this article and why is

a landscape professional talking about the citrus industry? It all boils down to one thing - awareness! You as consumers need to be aware of where your food is grown, the issues facing the industry, how these issues impact Florida's economy and how you can help as a consumer. Buy locally sourced and grown foods supporting local farmers markets and state agricultural producers. "How?," you might ask.

Buy local and support local. When buying at a grocery store chain, look for fruits and vegetables that have the "Fresh from Florida" slogan. Florida ranks fourth among all states harvesting over 245,000 acres of produce. Also, look at the packaging and see where the fruits are from. Not just a citrus producer, Florida also has so much more to offer from blueberries, strawberries, corn to tomatoes and so many other crops.

How does this help Florida's economy? The citrus industry alone generates a \$9 billion per year impact on Florida's economy and creates \$1 billion in Tax revenues supporting local schools, highways and healthcare services.

If you do have a citrus crop in your yard, pay attention to it as it may be infected and needs to be removed to avoid further spread. You can contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and submit a sample for identification. Visit fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Business-Services/How-to-Submit-a-Sample-for-Identification for information on sending in a sample.



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

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The World News, On Top of the World Communities, LLC
8470 SW 79th Street Road, Suite 2, Ocala, Florida 34481
(352) 387-7466 • otownews@otowfl.com

Publisher: Kenneth D. Colen

Editor: Petra Schmidt

Production Staff:

Writers/Photographers

Ray Cech • B.J. Leckbee • Elaine Morrison • Phil Panzera • Susan Yenne

Distribution

Jim Sullivan

Proofreaders

Cecelia Adams • Gitte Agarwal • Margitta Claterbos
B.J. Leckbee • Lennie Rodoff • Judy Shuster • Jerry Thompson

Read all the good news at ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

2021 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE



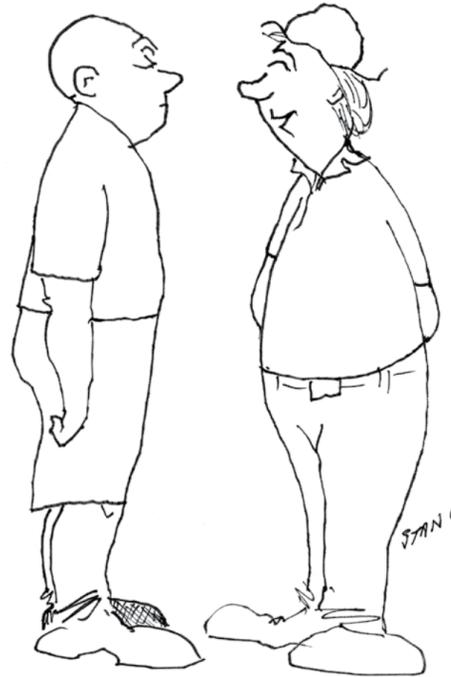
Issue	Ad/Payment/Column Deadline*	Insert Deadline**	Home Delivery
January	12/11/20	12/24/20	12/31/20
February	01/12/21	01/21/21	01/28/21
March	02/12/21	02/25/21	03/04/21
April	03/12/21	03/25/21	04/01/21
May	04/12/21	04/22/21	04/29/21
June	05/12/21	05/20/21	05/27/21
July	06/14/21	06/24/21	07/01/21
August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

* Deadline at noon

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

GOLDEN OLDIES HUMOR

By Stan Goldstein



Those who are right have no need to shout.

Is It Legal?

Gerald Colen & Rachel Wagoner
jerry@colenwagoner.com
rachel@colenwagoner.com

SCAM ALERT: Recently, a client of mine dropped off a notice that she'd received from a company that appears to be offering some kind of home warranty services. The notice I saw was a bit vague, although it did have my client's name and the address of her "property." Basically, the notice stated that the home warranty for the property "may be expiring or may have already expired." If you have a home warranty then trust me, the company knows the exact date your warranty expires. The notice went on

to say something to the effect that the company's records indicated that my client had not contacted them to get her home warranty updated. The company was not in any way affiliated with On Top of the World Condominium Association, Inc. or the real estate companies involved when the unit was purchased. However, the notice looks very official. It says it is "time sensitive," although I do not know for sure what that means since there was nothing in the notice which indicated when it would expire. My guess is that the supposed offer to "update" the home warranty won't expire as long as someone is willing pay some money. The best thing you can do if you receive one of these flyers is to throw the flyer away.

Please note while there are many reputable home warranty companies with satisfied customers who benefit from their services, there are also companies that take advantage of unknowing consumers. Some of the worst home warranty companies have a track record of scamming their customers by creating false charges on their credit cards, not addressing issues in a timely manner, having poor customer service, and charging too much in annual premiums and service fees.

Let me add something. Whenever you purchase any kind of warranty or extended warranty, be it for a new appliance or new car, or anything else, it is important to read the terms and conditions and remember them. I say this because in this age of scams, and frauds, we need to assume that any letter or notice we get, where we find language that seeks to rush us into a decision, is likely to contain some form of scam. We must be alert, and we must be cautious. If the ad has piqued your interest in obtaining a home warranty, then do your research on reputable companies instead of responding to an ad designed to intimidate you.

Q. I understand that under some federal statute called the Secure Act, I have to re-plan the distributions from my husband's IRA if he passes away before me. True?

A. John Beck is an attorney and member of our law firm. This is his response to your question. The Secure Act is very complex, and in a column like this, it's difficult to provide you with very much information on its many provisions.

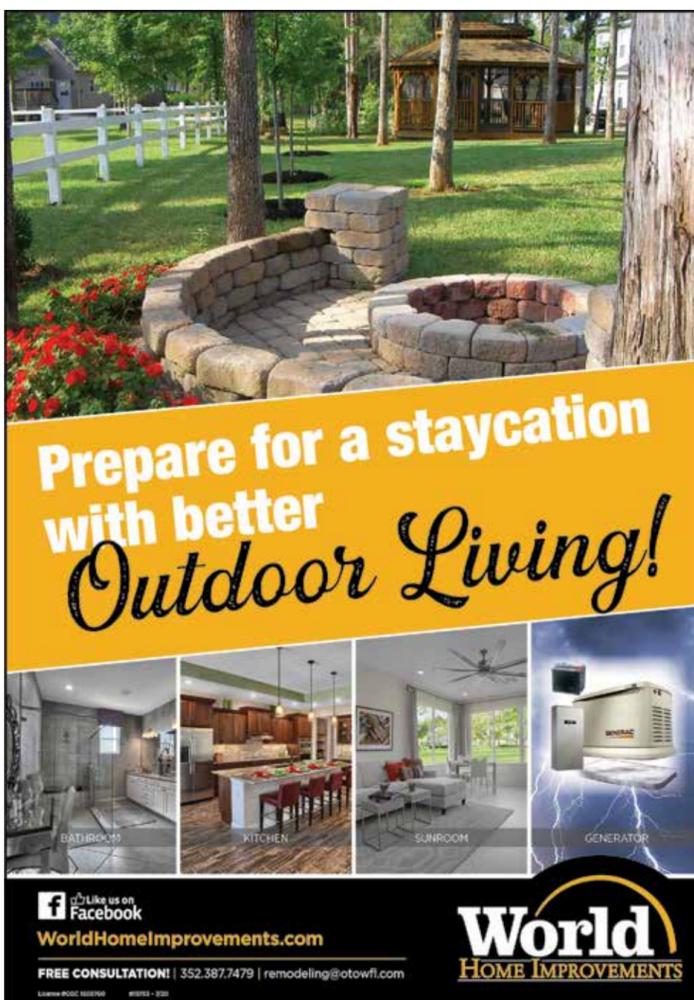
As before, if the owner leaves his/her IRA to a surviving spouse, the spouse can continue to roll over that IRA into a surviving spouse's IRA. Then the surviving spouse can withdraw his or her required minimum distributions as before. Should you name someone other than a surviving spouse as a beneficiary, then you need to discuss that with your attorney or with someone with very significant knowledge on how the Secure Act might impact a circumstance like that.

Q. It's just my husband and me. We were very young when we got married but we've now been married 50 years. We don't have wills and I believe we don't need them. We have living wills and powers

of attorney and we've only named each other in them. We do have children but have had no contact with them for many years. We are totally disaffected from them and they are going to receive nothing from either of us when we pass on. Everything we have is titled in both of our names so that if one of us passes, the other will have everything. And we have no intention of adding anyone's names to our assets as joint owners or beneficiaries. When both of us are gone, let the State of Florida take everything. What's wrong with that? So, why do we need wills or for sure, why do we need a trust?

A. Well, for one thing, if the premise you are operating on is that since you and your husband do not have any wills, when both of you pass on, the State of Florida will get everything you have, then that is flat out incorrect. The most likely scenario is that if you both pass on without any will or trust to provide where the assets of your estate goes, and without beneficiaries listed, then everything you have (after payment to any creditors) will wind up with the very children with whom you are disaffected. If that's what you prefer, then it's okay with me. Otherwise, I think you and your husband ought to sit down with an attorney.

The Law Offices of Colen & Wagoner, P.A. include Jerry Colen (Jerry@colenwagoner.com); Rachel Wagoner (Rachel@colenwagoner.com); and John Beck (John@colenwagoner.com). All are members of the Florida Bar Association. Jerry Colen and Rachel Wagoner are members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. John Beck has a degree in finance, master's degrees in accounting and taxation. The law firm practices in the areas of simple and complex estate planning, wills, trusts, probate, real estate, title insurance, elder law, taxation, Medicaid planning and business and professional advice. This column is only intended to present fact situations that may be of interest to the reader. It does not, nor is it intended to provide legal advice. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for any situation. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. The Law Offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. is located at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, Florida 33777 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons in Ocala, Florida; (727) 545-8114; www.colenwagoner.com.



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Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

On Friday, March 5, Governor Ron DeSantis held a press conference and announced the three-day vaccination site at Circle Square Cultural Center hosted by On Top of the World Communities, LLC. The site provided 2,770 Pfizer vaccines over three days. The press conference may be viewed at <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/3-5-21-press-conference-on-coronavirus-covid-19-2/>.



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Community News

Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

Continued from Page 1

ductions your name and contact information. You may either email WWI@82west.com or leave a voice-mail at (941) 212-0690. Please be sure to leave your name and best number to reach you at.

If you would like to learn more about sponsorships or donations, all donations will benefit Florida veterans and are tax deductible. You may make any funding directly to the non-profit Florida Veterans Foundation, Suite 2107 The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001. FVF is a 501(c)(3) Public Charity, Federal Tax #26-2748811. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Ocala Open

This year's Ocala Open was still in progress when this issue of the World News went to press. Full results will be published in the May issue.

We can, however, mention that the event raised \$80,000, which was distributed equally to Interfaith Emergency Services and Hospice of Marion County.

Candler Hills once again hosted a playing field of top golfers. The planning that went into this event was nothing short of phenomenal. Most of the effort came down to the 60 days preceding the event. Matt Hibbs together with the other pros and golf course staff worked very hard at getting the word out to potential players and the Florida Professional Golf Tour coordinators.

Golf superintendent, Andy Jorgenson, and his staff did a great job at getting Candler Hills in really terrific condition and able to withstand the rigors of three days of hard play. In regard to the technical aspects of course condition and tournament organization, we were in great shape.

Many thanks to Sherri Lewis for overseeing the VIP tent and guests. That said, nothing would work as well as it did without the coordination of resident volunteers. Many thanks to the entire Ocala Open

employee committee for the hard work that went into this tournament; and special thanks to Denise Mullen who was in charge of volunteer coordination. We can't say enough about the support we get from our volunteers. They make our tournament a great success!

The amount of work required by our marketing department, led by Linda Massarella, was extensive. RPI's (food service operator) staff including Jay Shiffer and Special Events Chef Ralph Cipollo did a great job on the food and beverage service for the Pro-Am, as well as all three days of tournament play.

Of course, none of this would be possible without all of the partners. A special thank you to our platinum partner: 360 Wealth Management Group of Raymond James, as well as to our gold partners: Lamar and Clear Channel; and silver partners: Earthscapes Unlimited, Marsh, Synovus and Stearns Weaver Miller P.A. We look forward to 2022 and repeating this success.

Development Update

Dirt is flying all around On Top of the World! Sales topped 500 homes in 2020, and in the current calendar year, sales should top 600. This means that On Top of the World Communities, LLC, must stay at least 700 lots ahead in any year. It still takes longer to permit land than to actually develop it!

Weybourne Landing will be home to 900 new residences patterned along the lines of Indigo East. This community will have its own independent trail system as well as recreation facilities. Construction has begun on the swimming pool and cabana complex, as well as pickleball courts to serve the community. The goal is (weather permitting) to complete the pool in time for the Fourth of July weekend.

Signalization plans for SW 80th Avenue at SW 63rd Street were approved by Marion County Engineering early February 2021. A contract for installation has been awarded and construction of the signalization project will commence once all components are assembled onsite. It has been surprisingly difficult to acquire electrical components lately. This is in part due to very high demand for all things electrical or electronic, chip shortages, and pandemic related back-logs. It is important to take note that once

construction begins, the traffic pattern approaching the work area will change. You can expect there to be traffic delays particularly in time with the start and end of the school day at West Port High School. Please use caution in this area while we endeavor to complete these tasks as quickly as is safely possible.

Permits are in hand for the substantial number of outdoor improvements at the Recreation Center. This work will include additional pickleball courts, renovations to the softball dugouts as well as the addition of a pool pavilion in place of the old golf shop. Contractor selection is underway, and the project will break ground by the end of March.

By now you have likely noticed the construction of an additional multi-modal path along SW 80th Avenue. This portion of the pathway will connect with the existing path at Circle Square Commons and travel northward to Sholom Park and continuing to SW 63rd Street Road.

Travel Season

If you are willing to venture out for a journey, the summer travel season is right around the corner! We know many residents take extended trips around the country. Experience teaches that added steps need to be taken before going on that extended trip in order to avoid possible disasters in your home when you are gone. Below is a short list of things to do:

Here's a checklist of things to do before leaving on an extended trip:

- Do leave your contact number with at least two trusted neighbors or friends.
- Do update the Association as well with emergency contact information.

- Do have the interior of the home checked at least once a week by a trusted neighbor or friend or arrange for an inspection service.

- Do check in regularly with the trusted neighbor or friend while you are gone.

- Arrange for a regular irrigation check if you are going away for an extended term.

- Turn down the heat setting on your hot water heater to conserve energy.

- Make sure the air conditioner is properly serviced by a professional before departing. This includes a drain line flush. Air filters require monthly attention and can be changed by the owner.

- Do leave the thermostat set at between 78 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit; this helps regulate humidity in the home and prevent the occurrence of mold or mildew.

- If you plan on being gone for several months, you may wish to consult an air conditioning professional about adding a humidistat to ensure optimal humidity levels in the home.

- Do make sure you homeowner's insurance policy is current and covers both damage from wind, water and mold. In most cases, this is now an added rider on the policy.

If the air conditioning system is not properly maintained by an owner, mold and mildew may result and become a serious problem for the owner. Please remember that the proper maintenance or repair of your HVAC unit, water heater and drain pan, and ice maker line (if any) is always the owner's responsibility.



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along the way, IRS-certified specialists are ready to answer your questions.

AARP

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program will offer free, individualized 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/findtaxhelp.

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SW 90th Street compactor fire.



All Around Our World
 Lynette Vermillion
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Spring is here, and April brings us beautiful blooms and nice breezes as we shake off the cold winter. April has April Fool's Day on the 1st, Easter on April 12th, tax day on April 15th, Earth Day on the 22nd, and Arbor Day on the 30th. Hopefully we will get plenty of rain to encourage all the beautiful blooms and wash away the pollen.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

On Top of the World Communities, LLC, in collaboration with State of Florida and Marion County Emergency Management Departments (EMDs) and the Florida National Guard (FNG), was able to set up a vaccination site. On Top of the World set the appointments and provided the location and the rest was provided by the EMDs and FNG. Persons over the age of 65; teachers, law enforcement officers and firefighters over the age of 50; and health care personnel with direct patient contact were able to receive the vaccine. 2,770 dosages of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine were administered over three days to residents as well as individuals from surrounding communities and Marion County. On Top of the World was pleased to be able to support this Marion County effort.

SW 90th Street Compactor Fire

Just a reminder to residents, please place only allowed items in the compactors - no combustible items. We had a fire in the SW 90th Street compactor that resulted in additional cleanup and damage costs. We removed propane tanks and other items in the past that would cause fires, however, we cannot monitor the compactors. Thank you for your compliance.

SW 90th Street Postal Center, Garbage and White Goods Area

We are renovating the SW 90th Street dump area to become a neighborhood postal and garbage site. The debris and white goods areas will be closed at this location to minimize traffic at this very busy site. A white goods disposal area will be set up in a new location for resident use only. Resident IDs will be required. Outside contractors will not have access. Debris will continue to be picked up weekly at the curb.

Ocala Open

The 15th annual Ocala Open at Candler Hills Golf Course was a huge success! Many, many thanks to the partners, volunteers, employees, residents, and vendors who helped make this year's Ocala Open the best yet. This type of event couldn't be done without this great support. Due to press deadlines, the results will be published in the May issue of the World News.

Resident Services

Resident Services is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the following restrictions:

- Closed daily, from noon to approximately 12:30 p.m. as lobby must be clear for sanitizing.
- Closed the third Wednesday of every month (March 17), from noon to 1 p.m.
- Lobby is limited to six residents at a time.
- Social distancing of six feet and face masks are required.

Residents needing to utilize Resident Services at Friendship Commons may continue to contact the office by phone, (352) 236-OTOW (6869), or email us at otowservice@otowfl.com in lieu of visiting. We are experiencing higher than normal volumes and appreciate your patience. Be assured, your call or email will be returned as soon as possible. As a reminder, Resident

Services is now located in Friendship Commons, Suite 500, and new resident orientations are by appointment only in Suite 200.

After Hours Non-Medical Emergencies

On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association members, please notify Resident Services first before contacting an outside contractor for repairs such as roots in water lines, sewer backups, sprinklers damaged by mowers, etc.

If it is after normal business hours and you experience some manner of a non-medical emergency, such as a backed-up commode, we ask that you please call (352) 236-OTOW (6869) for assistance. Even though Resident Services is closed, the number is answered 24 hours a day and you will be able to speak with an after-hours representative, who, based on the reason for the call, will provide direction or dispatch an after-hours person.

Rule of the Month

We are noticing an increase in occurrences of family members and

others moving in with residents at On Top of the World Communities without obtaining written approval as required by the Association Rules and Regulations.

Leasing and Sales of Residential Units: Pursuant to the declarations, no residential unit may be occupied, leased or sold without the prior written approval of the occupant, lessee or new owner by the association. ... As a condition precedent to consideration for approval, each prospective occupant, lessee and purchaser must inform the association in writing whether the residential unit will be occupied by at least one person who is 55 years of age or older and each proposed occupant, lessee and new owner shall appear for an interview with a designated representative of the association.

Single Family Residential Use, Resident Photo IDs and Gate Access: Additional fees apply for more than two occupants.

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Dr. Sarah Satterfield



Kevin Sheilley



Jessica McCune



Lifelong Learning

Michelle Shideler
(352) 387-7571
michelle_shideler@masterthepossibilities.org

Since Master the Possibilities Lifelong Learning Center educates participants daily, I thought I would give just a quick bit of history regarding the famous April Fools' Day. Although I am not one to celebrate this day myself, I have witnessed its popularity among many when the first day of April rolls around.

There is much speculation about the origination of the day. Some say it originated when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Others believe it started with ancient Roman celebrations, or that it was tied to the vernal equinox because of the weather

change. Whatever the exact origin, the historical event seems to have stayed throughout history and is still famous today.

I can promise there will be no trickery at Master the Possibilities on this date, as we host more than 14 courses in our Education Center. Participants may expect to enjoy events like yoga, pottery, stained glass, Tai Chi, and more.

As part of our learning theme this term, "The American Journey: Pioneering American Artists and Musicians" begins at 1:30 p.m. today. Dr. Sarah Satterfield will be facilitating this course, which will explore visionary Americans who created masterworks in art and music during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the lives of pioneering figures that helped shape our country's musical landscape, as well as look at examples

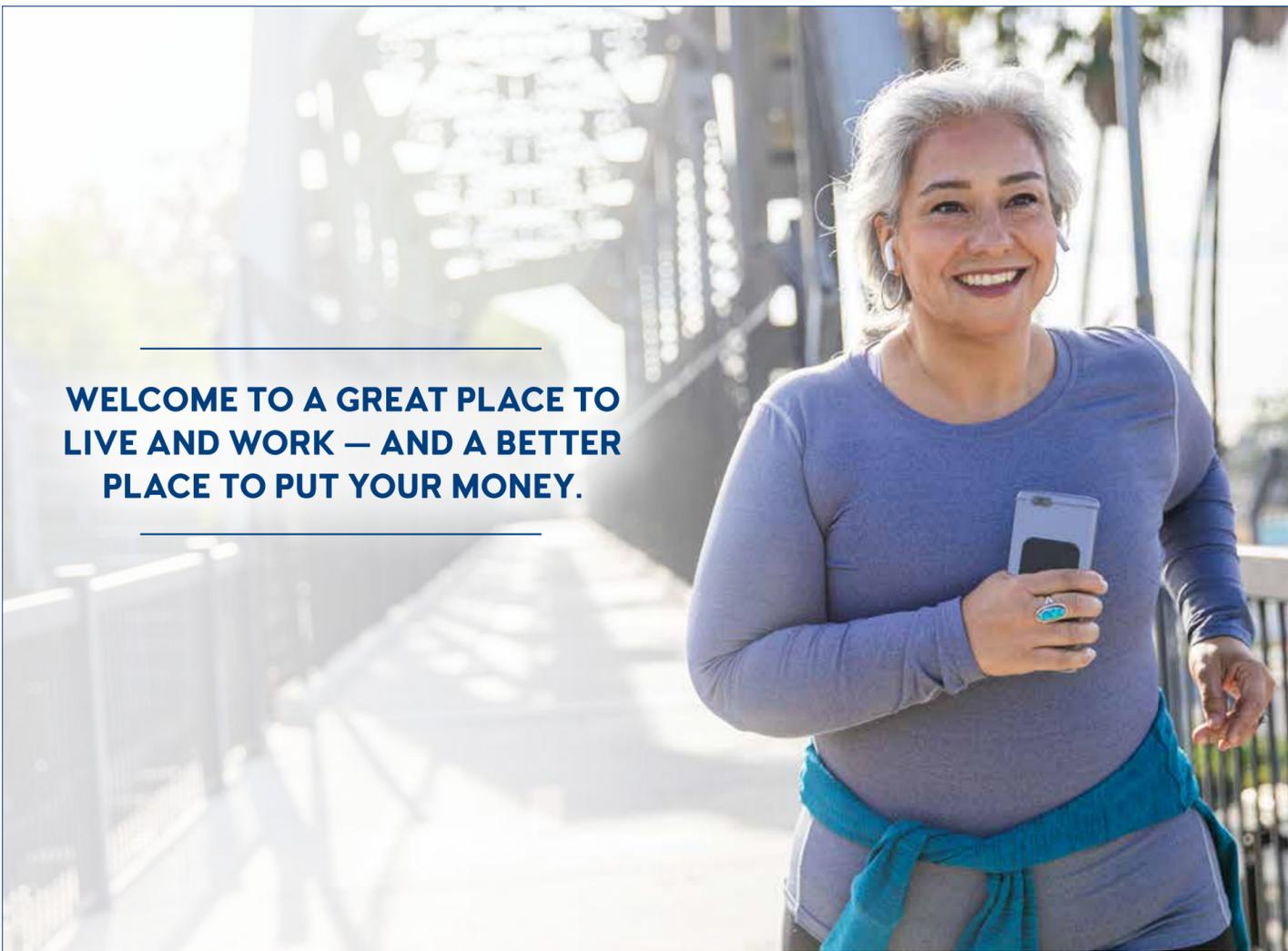
of their art and listen to recordings of their music. Cost to attend this three-week course is \$22 for members and \$27 for non-members.

Another exciting event this month is the presentation by Kevin Sheilley on an "Overview of the Ocala Metro Economy." Sheilley is the president and CEO of the Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership, which received the Chamber of the Year in 2020, and will speak about the driving force of Ocala and Marion County's recent success with growth and economics. He will explain why what is going on with the local economy impacts every Marion County resident. This event is being held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center Wednesday, April 14, and costs \$2 for members and \$7 for non-members.

Join Jessica McCune for "National Healthcare Decision Day 2021"

to discuss planning with advance directives, to help ensure that individuals feel as well as possible, as long as possible. Come and learn about National Healthcare Decision Day (NHDD) and the plans at Hospice of Marion County for this community initiative Wednesday, April 14, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Education Center. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Every year NHDD is on April 16.

There are always quality, educational events at Master the Possibilities; April has more than 200 options to choose from. For a complete list of upcoming courses, visit www.masterthepossibilities.org, where registration is available 24/7. For help with registrations, or for more course information, feel free to contact a team member from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at (352) 861-9751.



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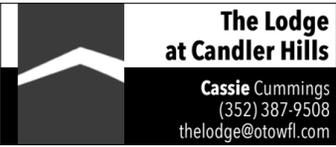


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The Lodge at Candler Hills

Cassie Cummings
(352) 387-9508
thelodge@otowfl.com

April showers bring May flowers! As the weather continues to get warmer, and flowers begin to bloom, things are feeling a bit brighter as residents continue to get their vaccinations and we slowly start get back to a bit of normal.

Pools

We have lovely outdoor swimming pools for you to enjoy year-round here at The Lodge at Candler Hills and Candler Hills Community Center, open from 9 a.m. to dusk.

Please take note of our monthly pool cleaning schedule closures:

- The Lodge at Candler Hills pool is closed on the last Wednesday of the month.
- The Candler Hills Community Center pool is closed on the second Wednesday of the month.

Hot Tubs

Residents, please note only two residents are to utilize the hot tub area at a time, in order to keep each other safe maintaining this social distancing is very important.

Happy Hour

We are excited to announce that Happy Hour is back every Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. on the veranda side of the pool at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Residents must show their Candler Hills resident ID at the entrance. Two guests per household will be permitted with the Candler

Hills resident and guest fees of \$5 per person will apply. Please bring your own drinks and snacks and enjoy live entertainment on the veranda with your friends. Please remember no glass is permitted.

Please note safety protocols will be in place with six feet social distancing and wearing face masks at all times (including on the dance floor and while socializing), unless seated. Should safety protocols not be followed, attendees involved will be asked to leave.

Friday night Happy Hour entertainment is as follows:

- April 2: Dave & Kenny
- April 9: Fred Campbell
- April 16: Debbie Owen & Tony T.
- April 23: Robert France
- April 30: Johnny Lobo

Room Requests

2022 bookings are now being accepted for rooms at The Lodge at Candler Hills and Candler Hills Community Center. Room requests are done on a year-to-year basis and resident IDs will be required for bookings. If you are planning an event, it is important to have all paperwork submitted to the Lodge office two weeks in advance. This gives adequate time to submit set-ups and guest lists to the appropriate departments.

I would like to welcome all the new residents to the Candler Hills neighborhood. Please stop in the office to introduce yourself. I am happy to give you information about our amenities and booking your private parties and events. The office is open Monday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

your friends. Please remember no glass is permitted.

Please note safety protocols will be in place with six-feet social distancing and wearing face masks at all times (including on the dance floor and while socializing), unless seated. Should safety protocols or rules not be followed, attendees involved will be asked to leave.

Friday night Happy Hour entertainment is as follows:

- April 2: Debbie Owen & Tony T.
- April 9: Shawn Ash
- April 16: David Beaty
- April 23: Tony Machicote
- April 30: Double Trouble



Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton

The Indigo East Social Committee spring craft show took place Saturday, March 27. A full report on the event will be in the next issue. Also, the social committee is still planning a couple of events and I will have more on that soon.

This song was written by Buddy DeSylva, sung by many, and goes like this:

"When April showers may come your way
They bring the flowers that bloom in May
So when it's raining rain you know it's raining violets
And when you see clouds up on a hill
You know they'll bring crowds of daffodils
So just keep looking for a bluebird
And listening for his song
Whenever April showers come along"

So many times, while growing up, I have heard the expression "April showers bring May flowers." This is actually the shortened version of the actual proverb recorded in 1886, "March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers." Of course, no one can predict the weather and when flowers will grow, but one thing is for certain is that in our beautiful Indigo East and throughout On Top of the World flowers will be growing.

Wildflower season began earlier than usual this year, and sadly, the wildflowers may be gone by the time you read this column. However, they were a sign our winter was over and new life was beginning. I especially love seeing the various colored wildflowers grow along the roadsides and in open fields.

Some of us may have come across silly Florida memes mak-

ing fun of our Florida seasons. So, just for the heck of it, I thought I'd share them with you, and of course, with my comments.

- Winter: Our A/C thanks us for the time off.
- Fool's spring: In the past, have experienced 80 degree winter days.
- Second winter: Another Canadian cold front slid on the ice and landed in Florida.
- Spring of deception: Another temporary warm up.
- Third winter: Darn Canada, again?!
- Pollening: A-choooooo! And hopefully, over by the time you are reading this.
- Actual spring: Finally! We are here now. Time to thaw out and enjoy our surroundings.
- Hurricane season: June 1 to Nov. 30. If you have not begun preparing for it, now is the time.
- Spring lovebug season: Pesky romantic bugs that know no boundaries or sense of direction.
- Summer: Warm to hot days, but not too bad.
- Hell's front porch: Mid-summer, crank up the A/C.
- False fall: Mother Nature's tease, just a cool day or two.
- Second summer: Turn the A/C back on.
- Actual fall: Open the windows. Prepare warmer clothing for our multi-winter seasons.
- Fall lovebug season: Confuse the lovebugs, enter and exit your home through your garage.
- Snowbird season: October/November, welcome back neighbors through April/May, return soon.

Enjoy spring in our beautiful Indigo East. Wishing you Chag Pesach Samech (joyous Passover) and happy Easter. Until next time, I'll see you around the neighborhood.



Indigo East

Nora Dominguez
(352) 387-7372

We are excited to announce that Happy Hour is back every Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Indigo East Fitness Center veranda poolside. Residents must show their Indigo East resident ID at the entrance. Two guests per household will be permitted with the Indigo East resident, and guest fees of \$5 per person will apply. Bring your own drinks and snacks and enjoy live entertainment on the veranda with

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Friendship Connection

Carron Janssen

Hard to believe it was one year ago, when we were about to sell tickets for our April 2020 Kentucky Derby-themed event and then the world shut down. Now, we are gradually trying to get back to some sort of normalcy. That being said, the date for our next event is Sunday, April 11. Another barbecue is planned, this time with the theme "Spring Fling." We are offering this one especially for people who were

unable to purchase tickets for our March event. Once again, following On Top of the World safety protocols, only 50 tickets are being sold.

Ticket sales for the April barbecue took place in March. Included with your \$5 ticket is a choice of hot dog, hamburger, or veggie burger along with sides, cookies, your choice of water, iced tea, or lemonade, and entry into our raffle. There will also be a trivia game with a fun first prize! The barbecue will again be held at the Veterans Park pavilion Sunday, April 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. Your resident ID must be shown at the event, just like it was when purchasing tickets.

In accordance with the safety

protocols, face masks must be worn, and six feet of social distancing will be necessary. Tables will once again be used for food and drinks so please bring your own chair and small folding table if you wish. Only two people are allowed at a table but of course you can also sit in your golf cart.

Friendship Connection is open to all residents of Friendship Colony, Friendship Park, and Friendship Village only.

If you are interested in volunteering to help plan, setup, cleanup, cook, or serve please contact Carron Janssen at (847) 529-6183 or visit our Facebook page (Friendship Connection-OTOW).



Williamsburg Neighbors

Ginny Nardone

April is here and we are now enjoying longer days and warmer weather. It is also time for the Williamsburg spring social. This year's gathering will take place, weather permitting, Saturday, April 10, from noon to 2 p.m. at our social lot on SW 91st Circle. This is a bring your own everything (BYOE) event, so bring your lunch, beverage, and a chair. We will be following health and safety guidelines therefore attendance will be limited to 50, and advance signup is required. To join the list of attendees, contact Cathy Higginbotham at cathy28higginbotham@gmail.com or leave a message at (352) 509-4266. This is a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and reconnect with those we have not seen in a while. See you on the 10th!

Thanks to all who participated in the Williamsburg multi-household tag sale last month. Whether you were a buyer, seller, or an interested spectator it was good to have such a large turnout, despite the drizzly weather. We hope to make this an annual event; look for us in 2022!

If you are new to Williamsburg and have not had your information added to the email contact list, or if your previous information needs to be updated, please call Ginny Nardone at (352) 304-8619 or Cathy Higginbotham at (352) 509-4266.



Community Patrol

Erwin Fluss

The Community Patrol acts as the eyes and ears of the Marion County Sheriff's Office in On Top of the World.

Golf carts are a wonderful and practical convenience. By law, they are considered vehicles and must follow the same rules; stop at stop signs, give pedestrians the right of way at crosswalks, and stay three feet clear when passing bicyclists. Golf cart drivers must always signal when turning or changing lanes.

On Top of the World has created special use lanes at some heavily used intersections to aid in making a safe right turn which allows carts to get off the main road. Please be aware and use them; they are for your safety.

Dogs should only be allowed on the "grass side" when walked next to a cart.

Summer is soon approaching and with that we will have grandchildren visiting. While in the golf cart, please do not allow them to sit on your lap and steer.

The Community Patrol invites you to join us. Contact Paul Altman at (860) 460-7632 or shelvsc@aol.com for further information.



Republican Club

Lizabeth Woodard

On Friday, March 12, the Republican Club's President Lizabeth called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. An opening prayer was given by Brenda White and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. After new members and guests were given the opportunity to introduce themselves, happy birthday was sung to everyone with a March

birthday, and all veterans were asked to introduce themselves and shared when they served and the branch in which they served our country.

Tom Hauck, this year's nomination chair for club officers, explained the duties of each office and introduced the officers who were re-elected unopposed for another one-year term: President Lizabeth Woodard; Vice President Maggie Koller; Secretary Margaret Nodine; and Treasurer Dominic Calligiuri.

The meeting proceeded with a discussion regarding several issues

currently in the news. Members were encouraged to share their opinions regarding these and other issues. A lively discussion ensued.

Upon adjournment of the meeting, everyone was invited to enjoy cookies, coffee and conversation.

Republican residents are invited to join our friendly, welcoming group to discuss political issues, candidates, and current events — both locally and nationally. For more information regarding the Republican Club, please leave a message at (518) 534-0201; your call will be answered as soon as possible.



Democratic Club

Dan Lack

As we await the time to meet safely indoors, we continue to accept new members. Just send us your name, address, phone number, email address and a copy of your Gateway of Services pass (for

Indigo East residents).

We continue to support the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village so that we can show our appreciation to these men and women who sacrificed so much for us. The Ritz is in need of paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, dish detergent, laundry detergent, toiletries, towels and wash cloths, shower curtains, peanut butter and jelly, canned food and dry food. Club members will receive "where and

when" information via email.

The board of directors of the Democratic Club wishes everyone a happy Passover, Easter, Ramadan and Income Tax Day on April 15. Many happy returns!

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

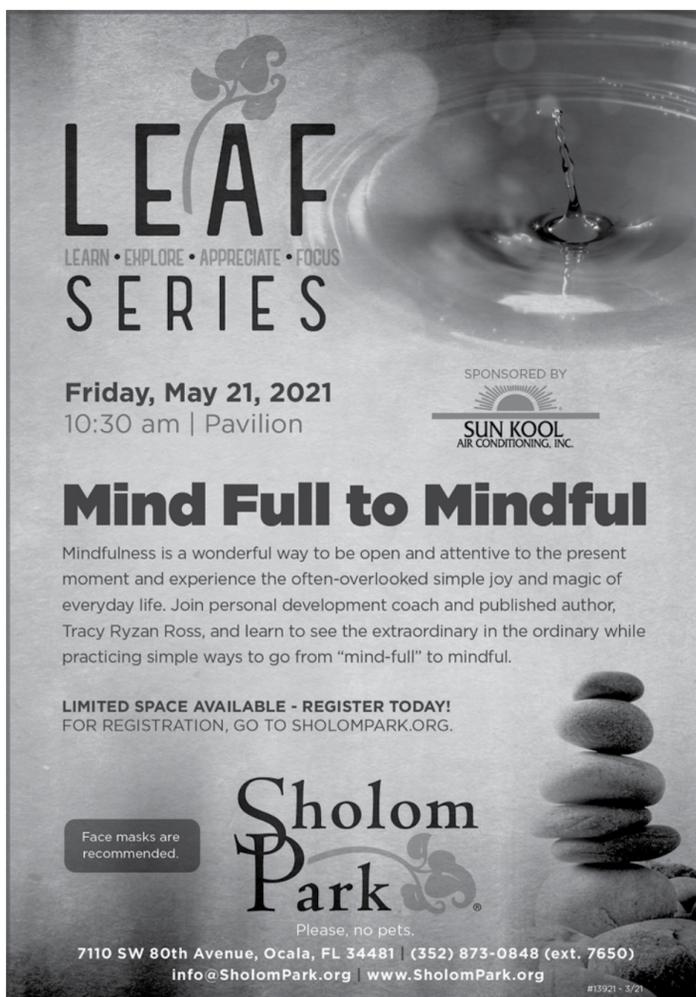
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#13521 - 5/21

Juneteenth Celebration

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#1384 - 4/20



Recreation Center
Theresa Fields
 (352) 854-8707 ext. 7530
 t_fields@otowfl.com

Spring is here! It's such a great time of the year to get out and enjoy Florida's beautiful weather. Safety protocols are still in place at all amenities.

- Indoors - six feet of social distancing, wearing face masks, and using hand sanitizer.
- Outdoors - six feet of social distancing and wearing face masks, if social distancing is not possible.

We anticipate changes to come soon so continue to monitor otowfl.com as information will be posted.

Guests are permitted at all outdoor facilities including pools and whirlpools. Tag and estate sales have resumed (must be registered with Resident Services). Indoor facilities are still closed to guests, and this includes the billiards and game room.

On Top of the World has opened to 100% capacity at all outdoor sports facilities, pavilions, pools and game room. Restaurants have returned to full capacity.

Each one of us needs to continue to take personal responsibility for our own safety and compliance with all safety protocols.

All indoor venues are still limited, as no changes have been made at this time. If you are planning on using a facility, please remember to book the facility through the Recreation Center office prior to use. Residents are responsible for their own personal safety and for compliance with the safety protocols for each location. Keeping our residents and employees safe will remain our focus.

We are now accepting 2022 room request bookings. These bookings will not be approved until late summer.

Happy Hour

Friday night Happy Hour has resumed outside at the Recreation Center veranda, The Lodge at Candler Hills poolside and Indigo East Fitness Center poolside from 5 to 8 p.m. Guests will be permitted with the resident (two per household) and guest fees of \$5 per person will apply. Resident IDs will be required for entry. We are monitoring that all the following safety protocols are being followed:

- Face masks must be worn at all times when inside the facilities.
- Six-foot distancing, and if this cannot be maintained, masks are required.
- Face masks are required when dancing.
- No more than four to a table at the outdoor pool area.

Should safety protocols not be followed, attendees involved will be asked to leave.

Friday night Happy Hour entertainment is as follows:

Recreation Center

- April 2: Johnny Lobo
- April 9: Tim Hargis
- April 16: Sal
- April 23: Charlie De
- April 30: Nathan Leslie

Please note the Recreation Center and veranda are not bring your own beverage (BYOB) facilities. Coolers, cups or insulated tumblers (i.e. Yeti) of any sort are not



permitted! All beverages must be purchased from The Pub.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

- April 2: Dave & Kenny
- April 9: Fred Campbell
- April 16: Debbie Owen & Tony T.
- April 23: Robert France
- April 30: Johnny Lobo

Indigo East Fitness Center

- April 2: Debbie Owen & Tony T.
- April 9: Shawn Ash
- April 16: David Beaty
- April 23: Tony Machicote
- April 30: Double Trouble

Community Updates

We are working on activities for the rest of the year, and we will start announcing them once we have been cleared. When we are able to reopen, we will be adding Happy Hour inside at The Lodge at Candler Hills and Indigo East Com-

munity Center every Friday night along with the Happy Hour that is held at the Recreation Center.

Line Dance Classes

As a reminder, Marilyn McNeal has retired from teaching line dance classes to spend more time with family. A monthly pass will not be required for the remainder of the season, but each dancer must show a pass from a previous month to finish this season. New dancers are not eligible for these classes that started in September 2020. Registration will open again for the new season that starts in September with our new professional line dance instructor, Darlene Miller.

The following changes will continue through Monday, May 24. The rest of this season is without charge. Patty Hainzl will take over the Absolute Beginner class. Kathy Petrosky and Rose O'Rourke will

teach Beginner Level II and the Improver classes. Kathy Cornell will take over the Beginner Level I class. All Monday line dance class times remain the same as presently scheduled. These competent instructors have graciously committed to finishing out the season for Marilyn.

Community Bus

The community bus is running by appointment only with limited seating. The bus runs Monday through Thursday with a morning and afternoon run. The times and destinations have temporarily changed to Aldi, Publix, Lowe's, Bealls, Big Lots, Save A Lot and Super Walmart. You can make reservations by calling the Recreation Center office at (352) 387-7533.

Community Pavilions

Please keep in mind that to guarantee your use, pavilions at the Veterans Park, Recreation Center, The Lodge at Candler Hills and Indigo East, require prior booking by contacting the facility offices.

The R/C flying field and car track are an amenity for all residents and Indigo East residents with a Gateway of Services pass. Please note that when utilizing this facility that all pets must be on a leash and you must pick up after them. The pavilion located at the R/C flying field and car track is for club members use; holding private parties is not permitted. Alcohol is prohibited in this area due to the insurance that is carried for the R/C Flyers and R/C Car Club.

Events

We will be holding our quarterly Enviro Shred event Friday, April 23, for those who may need to shred important documents. This event will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Recreation Center parking lot. The fee is \$5 per small box of documents.

Tuesday Crafters

The weekly Tuesday craft show, hosted by Artistic Crafts & Gifts is held every Tuesday, in the Recreation Center Ballroom, from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are looking for a special gift for someone, this would be a great opportunity to check out what the crafters have made.

Stay safe and continue to monitor otowfl.com for the latest updates.

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What's Happening at The Club at Candler Hills?

- Easter Buffet** Sunday, April 4, 2021 11 am - 5 pm \$29.99 Reservations Required
- Cinco De Mayo** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 \$3 Margaritas! Free chips and queso with any entree purchase.
- Mother's Day Buffet** Sunday, May 9, 2021 9 am - 3 pm Reservations Recommended
- Sunday Brunch** 9 am - 2 pm on Sundays Reservations Suggested
- Karaoke on the Patio** Tuesday Evenings 4:30 - 7:30 pm Happy Hour from 4:30-7:30pm
- Enjoy Live Music While You Dine on the Patio** Sundays & Wednesdays 5 - 8 pm

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Mars Rover

By Jim Shuman

The Moonstruck Astronomy Club held its monthly meeting Thursday, March 11, via Zoom. Club President Jim Di Paolo thanked Kathy McDonald and Cathy Clinton for serving as the club's event coordinators. Vice President Larry Isenberg covered club business, and Secretary John Bridges provided his monthly update on the night sky, including the positions of planets, the international space station, and constellations and bright stars to observe

during the month of March.

Jim Shuman presented part three of his PowerPoint talk on "Distances in Astronomy;" this time discussing how astronomers have used mathematical relationships to calculate distances to distant celestial objects. Shuman highlighted the work of Henrietta Swan Leavitt, who devoted her career to working for the Harvard College Observatory, where in 1912 she provided groundbreaking new contributions

to astronomers' ability to gauge huge distances in the universe. Her publication was the first by a woman in a field previously dominated only by male astronomers.

Jim Di Paolo presented information, photos, and videos about NASA's Perseverance Rover project on Mars. Not only was the rover's remarkable descent and pin-point landing in Jezero Crater in February highlighted, but the new images already transmitted to Earth were discussed in detail. Di Paolo pointed out that even though Jezero Crater was a difficult target to hit, NASA scientists selected it as the landing site because the crater

is apparently an ancient lakebed where conditions millennia ago for the existence of microbial life forms were likely optimal. They designed the rover to collect samples of the lakebed for future investigation. Di Paolo also described the rover's drone companion Ingenuity, which already "phoned home" shortly after landing. Then Thursday, March 4 the rover took its landmark first drive on the Martian surface, departing what has now been named the Octavia E. Butler Landing Site, in honor of the famous science fiction author. Club members were enthused about NASA's recent accomplishments on Mars, which opens a new chapter in our exploration of the solar system.

Excitement about astronomy continues to grow here as new members register for the club. Regular club meetings are on the second Thursday of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. For now, they will remain on Zoom. Evening observing sessions are announced to members via email in the afternoon of any day that weather conditions allow for an open sky. Sessions begin after dark near the R/C flying field and last into the evening. Until further notice, participants must wear face masks and maintain social distancing throughout the time they are in attendance. Other instructions and safety precautions will be provided in emails announcing each session.

All residents can join the Moonstruck Astronomy Club, and new members are welcome! Yearly club dues are only \$15 per year, which includes a subscription to the quarterly Reflector Magazine. Indigo East residents require a Gateway of Services pass to participate in the club. For information or club registration, please contact President Jim Di Paolo at moonastroclub@gmail.com.

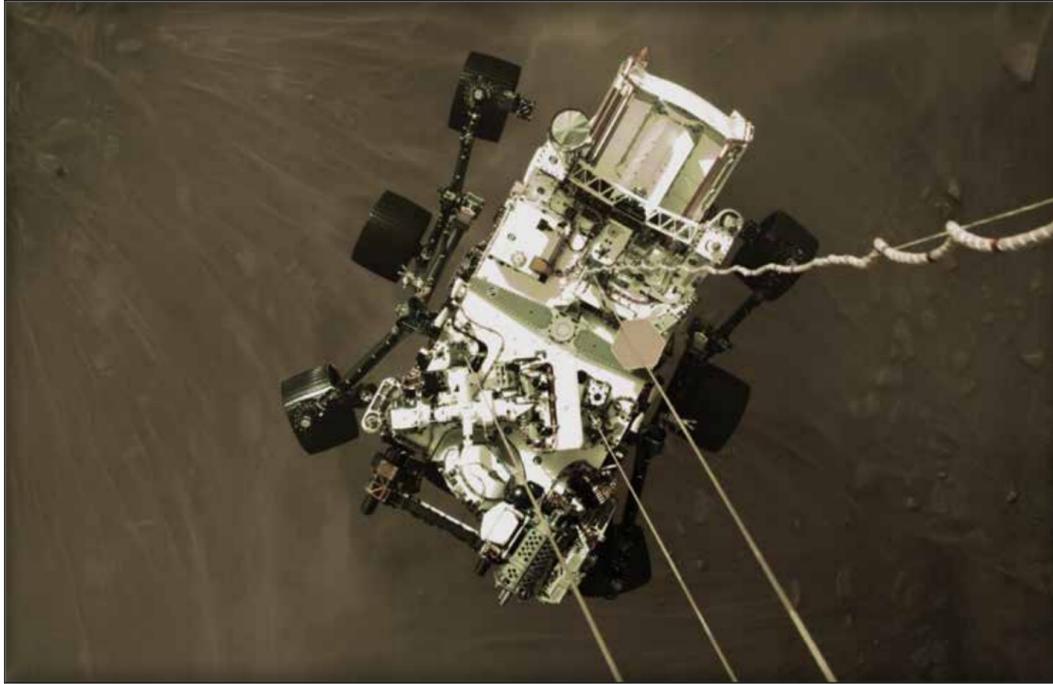


Photo by NASA/JPL-CalTech

Image captured of NASA's Perseverance Rover being lowered to the surface of Mars Thursday, Feb. 18.

Lions Club Fundraiser

By Gail Morris

April showers bring May flowers, as the saying goes, so in April the Lions Club is going to hold a raffle and shower at least four lucky individuals with some great prizes.

- First place: Golf for four at Candler Hills Golf Course (carts extra) plus gift basket from The Club at Candler Hills.
- Second place: Two concert tickets at Circle Square Cultural Center with a \$25 gift card to Latinos y Mas.
- Third and fourth place: Gift basket from Southern Pig and Cattle Company with \$25 gift card and selection of barbecue sauces.

Tickets will be one for \$5, three for \$10 and seven for \$20.

The proceeds from the raffle will help the Lions Club continue to

support our children and veteran projects. Sales begin today (Thursday, April 1) at the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market as well as from any club member. They will also be available at our meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. The drawing will be held Friday, April 30.

We continued to spread our appreciation to Marion County Fire Rescue Friendship Station #21 as part of our Valentine's Day initiative to show our love and support. We delivered six baskets of grab-and-go snack items; two baskets for each shift.

Our Lions Club is growing and at our Tuesday, Feb. 23, meeting we welcomed Susan Oliva, zone chair from the 200 Lions Club to induct our new members Pat Zarate, Jewel

Hafer, and Gary Hassett; and our reinstated members, Dottie Cook and Lora Rossi. Susan presented the Governors Achievement Award and pin to Tracey Hodge.

In our local community, if you know of someone who is struggling financially and is in need of an eye exam or eyeglasses, please contact our Lions Club. We have an application process to provide for such services. We were able to approve such a request at our March meeting.

We are here to serve and are welcoming anyone in our community who wants to participate. Our meetings are a combination of Zoom and in-person at the Arbor Conference Center Event Room with masks and social distancing, the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Anyone interested come check out our club. Further information can be obtained by contacting Estelle Michelson our membership chair at (352) 861-7358.



Photo by Gail Morris

New member induction with Pat Zarate, Gary Hassett, Susan Oliva-Zone Chair, Lion Estelle Michelson and Jewel Hafer.



Photo by Gail Morris

Lion Tracey Hodge, Lion Moses Morris, three employees of Marion County Fire Rescue Friendship Station #21 and Lion Charlie Hassett.



Photo by Don Ramey Logan

Dunn's River Falls, a popular attraction located near Ocho Rios, Jamaica.



World Traveler

Bill Shampine

In 1494, Christopher Columbus was the first European to see Jamaica. He named it Santiago, but the original indigenous name of Jamaica has persisted over the centuries. Located just 100 miles west of Haiti and 90 miles south of Cuba, Jamaica is the third largest island in the Caribbean Sea. It is 146 miles long and as much as 51 miles wide.

The first permanent European settlement on Jamaica was founded in 1509. The Spanish settlers immediately enslaved most of the Taino Indians, the indigenous people living there. As the Indian population died out, the Spaniards, not interested in doing manual labor themselves, started the tragedy of bringing slaves from Africa.

In 1655, the British captured Jamaica from the Spaniards. During the turmoil of the battles, many of the African slaves escaped and formed small settlements in protected parts of the mountains. To resupply the settlements with slaves, the British finally formed the Royal African Company in 1672. Serving as a slave trading enterprise, this company made Jamaica the world's busiest slave market. Slaves from Africa soon outnumbered Europeans five to one.

This forced labor provided enough sugar, indigo, cacao, and bananas to make Jamaica one of Britain's most valuable colonies. The British Parliament finally abolished the slave trade in 1807, and, in 1838, freed all slaves in British colonies.

In another "brilliant" political move, the British governors tried to solve the potential problem of raids by the Spanish by giving safe haven to buccaneers and pirates. These wild and unruly men could safely harbor in Jamaican ports so long as they left British ships alone and assaulted only Spanish and French ships sailing in the Caribbean.

The British Parliament declared Jamaica a crown colony in 1866. After another 78 years of political unrest and struggle, some level of self-government was initiated in 1944. Jamaica finally became independent in 1962.

Columbus considered Jamaica to be "the finest isle that eyes have beheld," and many travelers still consider it to be one of the most beautiful islands in the Caribbean. It has beautiful sand beaches awash with clear, blue waters, and a lush, verdant, rugged interior with mountains rising as high as 7,402 feet. The island was completely forested in the 15th century, but European settlers cut down the great timber trees for building purposes, and cleared the plains, savannas, and many of the mountain slopes for cultivation.

These days, Jamaica's economy is heavily reliant on the service industries associated with tourism. Cruise ships regularly disembark thousands of tourists at Ocho Rios, Montego Bay, and Falmouth. One of the most popular attractions on the island is Dunn's River Falls located near Ocho Rios. It is about 180 feet high and has a series of terraced falls and pools as the water flows down, emptying directly into the Caribbean Sea. You can walk to the top of the falls either using a stairway or by walking in the water and climbing on the rocks.

Except for the occasional hurricane, Jamaica generally has decent weather. Rainfall averages about 82 inches per year, peaking in October and May. The mountains offer some respite from the heat.

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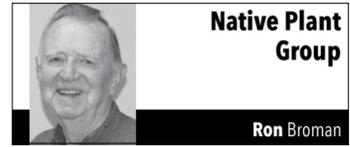
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We have a winner!
After several months of diligently re-researching Florida plants, of which we already have photos, we received a remark from a friend.

"Oh, is it a fringe tree?"
"Yes," I quickly confirmed; ecstatic that someone was actually "connected." By the way, she is one of our several "angels" who has volunteered to help us obtain groceries or drive us to and from our many doctors' appointments. In fact, it was on one of those "missions" that she casually mentioned the fringe tree.

She told me that it is growing in the Native Plant Garden at the head of the Longleaf Pine Trail. Our friend then chose a spiderwort as her prize. Success is often measured in small increments.

Now it's April and another spring beauty could be blooming soon. Although this Florida native is occasionally large, she usually grows as a clump of crooked shrub-like stems. Her leaves almost resemble hands with dark, shiny, green pointed fingers.

Growing in full sun her spreading clusters of flowers, half to two inches long, are born at the tip of the stems. The hard fruit capsules usually contain one to three hard, brown, poisonous seeds. They are sometimes polished and called "lucky nuts."

Preferring either wet or dry rich soil, our area here is about as far south as she will grow. In On Top of the World, as far as we know, there is at least one of these beautiful trees growing.

One hint for you who desires to play "where in the world grows this tree?" She is in a garden with a strange name. That garden is very close to the red cedar and fringe tree featured here before.

So, when you find her, call (352) 861-4560 with her location and name(s), if you wish. Happy hunting!

Call also if you wish to join our group as we continue to maintain our projects. Growing native is natural!

Photo by Ron Broman

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I really can't believe how fast time is flying. We are already four months into 2021! Keeping busy, but safe, certainly helps!

The luncheons in February, at Oliver's in Spruce Creek, were enjoyed by all. The sandwiches and sides were excellent, and the service was very good. Lois Nix and Sally Herrick hosted these luncheons. Once again, several new members attended, and getting to know them made for some interesting conversation! Welcome ladies!

On Saturday, February 27 we visited Happy Tails Ranch in Williston, Florida. The elephants were amazing. It was fun watching one of them paint a picture! Patricia, the owner, gave us lots of information about her elephants and elephants in general. She stated that they will be on the verge of extinction in the next five years. I also did not realize that, as a country, we have laws prohibiting the importation

of elephants into the United States. Thus, our breeding population is almost nil at this time. Some of us paid extra to feed the elephants and one brave soul rode an elephant. A short but sweet ride! Besides the elephants, there was a camel, a zebra, an old tortoise, an emu, an ostrich, and a family of lemurs. All very interesting in their own right!

After Happy Tails Ranch, we went to one of our favorite restaurants, The Ivy House. As usual, the food and service were very good! We introduced Carol to fried green tomatoes and she loved them. Anyone who has had them at The Ivy House knows that they really do know how to cook them! All of our other favorites lived up to the hype also! We really are never disappointed when we go there.

Lois' books by Jean Grainger are still making the rounds. She has also just gotten Grainger's Robinswood trilogy. Once we know more about the trilogy, I will let you know the content. If they sound interesting to you just call Lois and arrange to borrow them - one at a time.

We are working on getting our four-person appetizer groups set up. Our Saturday, March 20 meeting was a great success and we had many women sign up! Our members continue to network and support each other while being careful to wear our masks and sanitize our hands! Keep it up! Safety precautions, masks, and sanitizing hands will be with us for a while longer, but SWANS continue to keep busy and safe.

You may join the SWANS at any time, and we have had many women join us recently. Our motto is "SWANS are never alone!" Stay healthy and be smart about your activities! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Lois Nix for more information.



"Texas Twosomes" was an appropriate theme for our Texas Connection meeting held on Valentine's Day. In a trivia style presentation, our goal was to identify twosomes in which one or both parties could claim a Texas connection. They were famous, infamous, and even fictional. How well we guessed definitely showed our interests, ages and memory.

We knew that Lyndon Baines Johnson was our 36th president and that Lady Bird Johnson was known for her role in the Highway Beautification Act. Have you noticed they are both "LBJs?"

Everyone correctly guessed the fictional TV oil-baron and his wife who lived with members of their clan as J.R. Ewing and his wife Sue Ellen. We even knew the TV show was Dallas, their home was South Fork and some even knew the answer to the most famous question of all "Who shot J.R.?"

Famous actors were easier to identify, especially fan favorites like Matthew McConaughey and wife Camila Alves, Sandra Bullock and former husband Jesse James, Patrick Swayze and wife Lisa Neimi, Farah Fawcett and Lee Majors.

Do you know who the Oscar nominee was for "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" and her husband who was a 1950's hit singer? Hint: their marriage ended over his love affair with Elizabeth Taylor. Yes, that would be Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher.

Reality TV stars Chip and JoAnna Gaines were an easy guess. However, we were stumped by Jessica Simpson and former husband Nick Lachey, though in addition to being in reality TV both are famous pop stars.

The infamous category proved to be easiest for most. Everyone knew the depression era couple who robbed banks as Bonnie and Clyde. Many knew the former Playmate of the year married to the Houston billionaire who was 67 years her elder as Anna Nicole Smith and J. Howard Marshall. You might recall that there was a contentious battle over his estate that outlived even Anna Nicole. Everyone also knew the eccentric billionaire who had relationships with many Hollywood actresses but died as a recluse. Of course, that was Howard Hughes. The list of his honeys literally covered almost the entire alphabet from Ava Gardner to Zsa Zsa Gabor.

Can you guess the singer-musician known for his long hair and dope smokin'? Without a doubt, that's Willie Nelson. Though married for 30 years do you know the name of his partner in a long-time "love affair?" That would be his beloved guitar "Trigger." Yes, it's a trick question but it leads to some interesting stories. The guitar is named for Roy Roger's horse. Willie once rescued it from a burning house. And when the IRS seized much of his property, he smuggled it to Hawaii and hid it until the debt was resolved.

If you have a Texas Connection and like fun activities with a Texas flavor, please contact Kathy Cornell at kcornell54@cfl.rr.com, (352) 300-3729 or (352) 562-2801.



The word April originates from the Latin word aperit or to open. Here in Central Florida, flowers are in full bloom, trees are leafed out and the weather is firmly established in the low to mid-80s. Although we do get rain, it usually isn't the daily downpours we've grown to expect in mid-summer. It is a season where the world around us is "opening" its arms to new growth, new beginnings and best of all for us, new friends.

The beautiful weather encourages us to take more day trips to witness the magnificent blooms and foliage (many that are unique to the area), we go to the pool more often and we generally participate in more outside activities. That's where the Active Singles Club comes in.

Active Singles may still be limited in the type of events we can sponsor, but we have resumed our walks/hikes like the one we held recently at Shalom Park. Look for emails/Facebook for more to be scheduled. Of course, we still look forward to the days when we can once again more easily meet new single friends while sharing fun adventures with them.

In the interim, let's get to know several more members of our club:

Meet Nanette (Nan) Kellogg, a Chicago native who moved from Bradenton, Florida to On Top of World in February 2020. Together with her sister and brother-in-law, she purchased a home in the New Castle neighborhood.

The proximity of Ocala to her son made the move particularly more appealing to Nan. She also liked the size of our community and was impressed with the many activities offered here.

Nan is looking forward to meeting other Active Singles Club members by attending dances, socials and other events including game night and happy hour Tuesdays as they become available. She is also interested in signing up for some of the Master the Possibilities classes.

Meet Robert Broock. Hailing from Indianapolis, Indiana, Robert moved to On Top of the World in 2019. Prior to his retirement in 1995, Robert was in the cemetery business managing 20 properties and supervising 200 employees.

It was the housing opportunities and location that convinced the Indigo East resident to make the area his home. Robert enjoys playing golf and participating in card games, poker in particular. Like Nan, he is looking forward to meeting other members of the Active Singles Club.

Nan and Robert, on behalf of the Actives Single Club membership, we look forward to meeting both of you in person as activities become more available.

Remember, whether you are a new or not so new member, "we may be single, but we are not alone."

The Active Singles Club board of directors would like to remind the membership to please join us on Facebook (OTOW Active Singles Club). For more information about our club, including joining the club, contact us at activesinglesotow@outlook.com or visit us at otowactivesinglesclub.com.

On Top of the World NEWS

UPCOMING PUBLICATION
May Issue
Thursday, April 29, 2021

See page 2 for publication schedule.

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Tech Tips



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What to Do Before Calling Your ISP

There are a few things everyone can do to avoid the hassle and time it takes for their internet service provider (ISP) to respond. In the event none of the steps below correct the issue, you'll be in a great place for the technician to further investigate your service issues.

A great place to start is first verifying if the issue is isolated to a single device. The internet won't prioritize a single device over others. First, check how your device is connected to your ISP. Is it over Wi-Fi? Are you connected with an ethernet cable to your PC or smart TV?

Second, once that's determined, check your service on another device connected similarly. If your service is operable on other devices, then most likely it's isolated to the device you're using. If it's a single device, power cycle the device per the manufacturer's recommendation. If power cycling does not solve the connectivity issue and other devices still show proper connectivity, then reaching out to the appropriate service department for that device repair or replacement is recommended.

With Wi-Fi connections, your equipment will be in one of three states. First, showing a connection and signal from the router, and traffic passing from your ISP's equipment to the router and then to your equipment allowing you to access the internet. Second is a connection to the router but no traffic passing between modem and router. You can still print or send files between devices on your local intranet but no access to any outside websites or services. Finally, not seeing any signal from the Wi-Fi router at all. You may have the internet to any device hard wired to your ISP's equipment but no service on smartphones or tablets.

If you experience the second set of circumstances or the third, doing a proper reboot of your system tends to clear up most issues. Shutting down your device and unplugging your router and ISP-provided device can occur in any order. What's very important is the order those devices are turned back on/plugged in. You want to start your ISP's device first and allow it to fully come online, then your Wi-Fi router, if you don't have a modem-router combination unit. Once that's online then turn on your devices; most issues like connectivity and poor speeds can be resolved this way.

If issues persist after the steps mentioned previously are performed, then that would warrant a call to your ISP. With the basic troubleshooting also already completed your technician will appreciate it and it'll expedite his/her ability to get you back up and running sooner. Most ISPs charge for visits to the home even if the issue is with their equipment, and these steps will help avoid any preventable charges. Some companies like Bridgenet Communications' "Service Shield" offer monthly plans that'll cover issues even if the issues turn out to be on the customer's personal equipment.

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Computer Club



Chris Kilbride

Every Saturday, at 9 a.m. the Computer Club meets for an hour via Zoom to answer both PC and Apple related questions regarding software and hardware. Our otowpcclub.org website will give lots of great information about our group.

This month we feature Dianne Nagy who moved here in 2018 from Massachusetts with her husband, having lived there all her life. She joined the club immediately to learn the new components of their smart house. The club meetings have been informative and helpful, including a wonderful way to meet new people.

As a kindergarten teacher for over 25 years, Dianne was familiar with both Apple and Windows computers. She used both for fam-

ily newsletters, charting and evaluation forms for both students and programs, including documenting learning standards for the state and National Association of the Young Child certification. The parents enjoyed the news of their child's classroom, and the children loved their individual weekly journals that she printed for them. Colorful pictures were printed and placed around the classroom for directions for play based activities.

Dianne enjoys sewing and has used a sewing computer for about 15 years. The new sewing machines use Windows technology for both quilting and embroidery. After retirement from teaching, she started a sewing business that gives her hours of enjoyment and sometimes frustration with the new learning curves. She also loves playing with family pictures to create photo stories of her children, grandchildren and travels.

The current computer challenge is trying to keep all the Windows

updates installed so that her sewing embroidery programs run smoothly, quickly and safely. Learning how to design a new Etsy website page and taking product photographs with her new iPad, have also been some of her latest technological and creative journeys.

All residents are welcome to join our club, with \$10 individual yearly dues or \$15 per couple. The Contact page on otowpcclub.org or email otowpcclub@gmail.com will get you in touch with us.

Each Thursday from 9 to 10 a.m., we offer free online one-on-one instruction or in-person help sessions in the Hobby Building. Members may discuss their PC or Apple computer, smartphone or device issues. Members may list on our website any computer related hardware for sale or to give away.

We keep the meeting fun and offer good advice and solutions to help our members. Hope to see you on Saturday!

Genealogy Society



Peter Parisi

On Monday, Feb. 15, Melissa Barker, a certified archives manager, gave a presentation, "The Home Archivist: Preserving Family Records Like a Pro" via Zoom.

According to Melissa, an archivist is like a genealogist. An archivist is a steward of records and has a responsibility to preserve those records for future generations.

When archives receive a donation of boxes of records, the first rule to follow is the fundamental principle of archives, "original order," which is maintaining the records in the order of the creator of these records.

Genealogists should have a dedicated space at home to work on records organization and preservation. Work on one collection of records at a time. If the records are not organized in the manner you like, choose a method that works best for you, either three-ring binders, folders or boxes.

If you use binders, put your records in archival sleeves and label

the binders by surname. Lay the binders on their sides if stored on shelves. Using folders, have a folder for each ancestor that contains only their documents and filed by surname. If you have many folders, file them in filing cabinets or in archival boxes.

If you have original photographs, use an IDenti-pen to identify it and only write on the back of the photograph. Do not use a ball point pen or Sharpie. Use white cotton or nitrile, powder-free, latex free gloves when handling old photographs. If documents have been folded, carefully unfold and flatten them once and store flattened. If records are dusty or dirty, use a soft bristle brush to remove the dirt. Use a cleaning sponge if document has soot on it, but not on documents written in pencil because it will remove the pencil writing. If there is a tear in the document, use document repair tape on the reverse side of the writing. Never use scotch or cellophane tape. Remove all metal staples, paper clips, straight pins or other metal fasteners from the documents using a micro spatula.

Store documents on Family Tree Maker and online in the cloud.

To see more in-depth information on our speaker presentations,

contact Wilma Kelly at otowgens@gmail.com to join our club. Dues are \$20 per year for an individual and \$35 for a couple.

All of the following meetings take place at 10 a.m. Members will be notified by email from our club president, Paul Belter, on how to access the Zoom meetings.

On Monday, April 12, we will hold an open genealogy discussion by the membership on genealogy issues or discoveries they have learned.

On Monday, April 19, Donna Cunningham, our acting education coordinator, will give a presentation, "Spreadsheets for Genealogy." Google Sheets and Microsoft Excel will be demonstrated: Setup, downloads, parsing, sorting, merging and pivot table magic. Using spreadsheets for research logs, timelines and DNA.

Visit us at <http://otowgens.shutterfly.com>.

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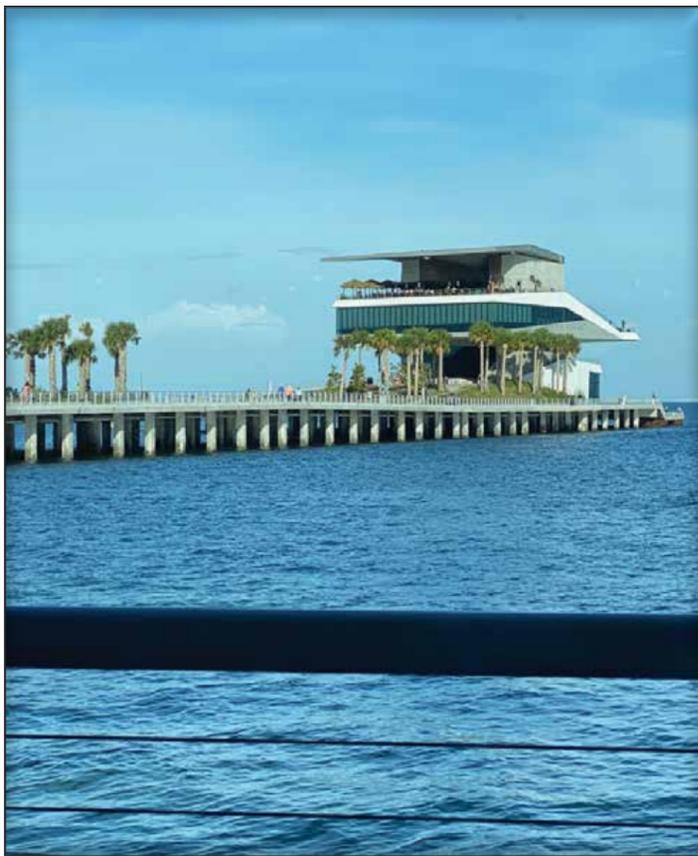


Photo by Donna Seay

St. Pete's Pier in St. Petersburg, Florida.



Tall Tale Travelers

Donna Seay

Our rally to Lazydays in Seffner was a huge success. Saturday night we all met in their rally center for dinner hosted by Exit 10. The food was delicious, and we got to meet some of our newly added members. The wagon masters had found a lot of places for us to visit. Tuesday was a planned trip to St. Pete's Pier and then dinner at Doc Ford's. The town of St. Pete recently finished refurbishing the pier and it is beautiful. There are gardens, playgrounds, and benches all along the pier. Of course, looking out over Tampa Bay is quite the treat.



Travel Toppers

Anne Parker

Travel Toppers' trips begin again in June. Please contact coordinators listed below Mondays through Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Father's Day trip to Sanford, Florida for a three-hour cruise down the St. Johns River on the Barbara Lee will occur Sunday, June 20. A

At the end of the pier is a place for fishing and the Pier Teaki. We saw pelicans, a dolphin, and a couple of us saw the tail of a manatee. Other places to visit were the Florida Aquarium, Zoo Tampa, several different museums, and of course, the Strawberry Festival. A great time was had by all.

Our next rally will be in April at the brand-new Oak Alley RV Resort in Webster, Florida. We will be going to the Webster Flea Market, a trip to Mt. Dora and a "non" potluck dinner (everyone must bring their own food and dishes).

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 talltaletravelers@gmail.com or (516) 578-8655.

delicious meal, prepared fresh on-board and served at your table, include your choice of prime rib, chicken cordon bleu, salmon filet, roasted vegetable lasagna, chef's salad, or pasta primavera served with potatoes, veggies, salad, rolls and dessert. Hot and iced tea are included; there will be a cash bar. This trip opens for booking on Monday, April 5 with Linda Hein at (352) 861-9880. For this trip, only residents and overnight guests are eligible to book. Please note that masks will be required onboard the bus and the ship, and all passengers will be required to show proof of having received both COVID-19 vaccination shots when booking the trip.

Travel Toppers is planning a great cruise Oct. 31 through Nov. 7, on the Royal Caribbean Allure of the Seas leaving from Port Canaveral, Florida. Ports of call will be Philipsburg, St. Maarten and Coco-Cay. Interior cabins are from \$1,295 per person. Ocean view cabins are from \$1,425 per person; ocean view balcony cabins and boardwalk balcony cabins are from \$1,545 per person. Central park balcony cabins are from \$1,465 per person. All rates include the cruise, taxes, fees, shipboard gratuities, roundtrip motor coach transportation and travel protection insurance. A \$500 per cabin deposit will be required to hold your cabin. Final payment will be due on Aug. 2. Contact Linda Hein soon at (352) 861-9880 to reserve your space at these prices.

We have planned a 13-day Denali explorer cruise and tour that departs on May 22, 2022. The six-day land tour includes Fairbanks, Denali Lodge, and McKinley Lodge. The seven-day cruise begins in Whittier with visits to Hubbard Glacier, Glacier Bay National Park, Skagway, Juneau, Ketchikan, and ending with a two-day tour of Vancouver. The cabin prices per person with double occupancy that include all fees and taxes, shipboard gratuities, transfers, motor coach to/from Tampa Airport, insurance, airfare, Vancouver hotel, Vancouver tour and Victoria's Butchart Gardens tour are MB mini suite with balcony, \$5,963; DB deluxe balcony cabin, \$5,708; BB balcony \$5,606; and interior, \$4,661. Contact Allan Rickards at (352) 390-3075 to book.

We are working with American Cruise Lines on an eight-day/seven-night cruise of the Columbia and Snake Rivers in October 2022. Retrace Lewis and Clark's expedition along the Columbia and Snake Rivers aboard a riverboat. Enjoy unique shore excursions, scenic landscapes, onboard experts, daily happy hour, lunch and dinner including beer and wine, and two pre-cruise hotel stays in Portland, Oregon. Call Linda Hein (352) 861-9880 for estimated prices for balcony and non-balcony cabins. A few cabins for singles are also available.

Visit www.traveltopperstours.com for updates on our trips.

These trips are open only to residents and their guests.



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Photo by Nancy Meininger

Phyllis Ricard led Michigan Club members in Irish songs.

Michigan Club
Nancy Meininger

Michigan Club welcomes back noted speaker Pat Gabriel of SR 200 Coalition to tell us what is happening all around us. The meeting Sunday, April 11, will be at the softball pavilion at 4 p.m.

Close connections with the Marion County planners have allowed Pat to give us insight into what is on the drawing boards, but often not yet announced. She will present information about the new veterans hospital and the new hotel outside of our community. She'll have a progress report on Calesa Township, Florida Aquatics Swimming and Training (FAST), Tree of Life Sanctuary, and Ina A. Colen Academy (IACA).

Most residents seem happy that Cody's Original Roadhouse is being built outside of our community. Pat should be able to add other interesting eateries on the drawing board we haven't heard about yet.

She will bring us up to date on the expansion of SW 80th Avenue and any other major highway changes in the area. Bring your questions for Pat. She has the answers!

Also, bring your face masks and lawn chairs and plan to socially distance. Bring your own snacks and refreshments to this meeting. It will be a good one.

Our St. Patrick's Day celebration was a true wearing of the green. Phyllis Ricard and Clare Pardee led us in both jokes and crazy Irish songs. Carolyn Abramovich arranged the dulcimer and banjo band, which played an hour of Irish melodies during the program. Tom Meininger and Joan Brand ran a 50/50 while attendees enjoyed snacks of Reuban sliders, chips and cookies.

April will be the last meeting of the season for Michigan Club. We plan to start back up with our regular indoor potluck meet and greet at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III Sunday, Oct. 3, at 5 p.m. (pending reopening measures).

For more information about the Michigan Club, contact Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757.

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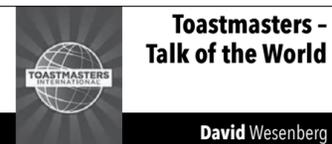
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Toastmasters - Talk of the World

David Wesenberg

This month, we will meet via Zoom at 8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, April 7, 14 and 28. Our theme for April is "Maybe/Maybe Not." We have some pretty exciting and interesting speeches that are worth seeing and listening to.

The results of the Area Speech Contest are in and our member David Wesenberg will be going on to the Division International Speech Contest with his speech "The Common Man." David placed second in the humorous speech and evaluation contest.

In March, Nancy Wilkins spoke on the subject of business leadership with her speech, "Not All of What I Expected." Dave Wesenberg delivered a spellbinding storytelling with "Touched by an Angel." Pam Winter spoke on motivational intelligence with her speech, "Not Kim Kardashian." Finally, Leona Vlacancich spoke out about being a mentor in her speech, "The Art of Mentoring." Intriguing topics? Just a taste of what you are missing if you are not a Toastmaster.

If you would like to join us via Zoom to see and hear some wonderful speeches, contact David Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftwa-reinc.com or (217) 280-4454 for instructions to join the meeting.

In addition to regular meetings, Toastmasters International has introduced a new speechcraft program. This program comprises eight sessions where a person can develop and expand their speaking and leadership capabilities. What a great chance to try it to see if you like it. Contact us if you would like to be included in our next speechcraft program.

Men and women join Toastmasters for a variety of reasons. Some are beginning new leadership roles in clubs or groups and want to master leadership skills. Maybe you want to understand Robert's Rules of Order better? Some have something to say and want to improve their ability to say it. Maybe you just want to talk to your garden club? We at Toastmasters are here to help you meet your personal goals.

Many of our members have already had successful careers and accomplishments and love the fellowship and chance to talk about their lives and what they have learned in life.

Do you want to share your experiences and learning with others? Do you want to learn from the experiences of others? Join us on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8:30 a.m. and share.

Scandinavian American Club

Ginny Nardone

In last month's column, I mentioned planning was underway for an informal club gathering in April. Good news! Our plans have been finalized and we are set to have our first club social in many months.

Plan to join us on Thursday, April 8, at 11:30 a.m. for a brown bagged lunch social at Sholom Park. Meet in the parking lot and we will direct you to our close-by meeting area. Pack a lunch and beverage and bring a chair; helpers will be on hand to assist in carrying items if needed.

This is not a regular club meeting, just a time to get together and socialize in a lovely outdoor setting. We hope to see you at Sholom Park on April 8!

For more information about the Scandinavian Club or if your contact information needs to be updated, please contact Ginny Nardone at (352) 304-8619.



What's Cookin'

Nancy Grabowski

Pork Roast

7-pound pork roast with rib bones
1/2 cup white wine

Marinade

1-1/2 tablespoons vinegar
1/4 cup olive oil
1 onion, chopped
6 cloves chopped garlic
1/4 cup chopped, fresh oregano
1 seeded, chopped jalapeno (adjust for spice level, if needed)
1-1/2 tablespoons cumin
1-1/2 teaspoons chili powder
1-1/2 teaspoons salt
1-1/2 teaspoons pepper

In a small bowl, combine all marinade ingredients.

Score the pork and then rub with marinade. Cover and refrigerate several hours or overnight.

Place in baking dish, fat side up. Add white wine. Cover with foil and bake. Halfway through roasting process, remove foil and continue baking until reaching near doneness. Let stand 15 minutes before slicing.

Note: Marinade can be reduced for a smaller roast. Roasting times were not included since most people have a desired degree of doneness; therefore, adjust the timing to suit your needs.

Versatile Chinese Sauce

3/4 cup stock (beef, chicken, or vegetable)

2 teaspoons corn starch
2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar
3 tablespoons hoisin
2 tablespoons soy sauce
Siracha, to taste

2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil
1 tablespoon minced garlic
1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger
Crushed red pepper flakes, to taste

Mix stock with corn starch; add rice wine vinegar, hoisin, soy sauce and Siracha.

Place toasted sesame oil in a frying pan; sauté garlic and ginger, about one minute. Add sauce and a few flakes of crushed red pepper; heat to combine the flavors.

This sauce might be used with lightly fried or baked crusted chicken pieces, beef cubes or fish.

Additionally, vegetables of your choice (broccoli, carrots, onions, water chestnuts, bamboo shoots, bean sprouts, or peas) can be tossed in; serve over rice, ramen noodles or orzo.

Gluten-Free Peanut Butter Cookies

1 cup peanut butter (1 use chunky)
3/4 cup brown sugar
1 egg
1/2 cup chocolate chips
Sea salt

Mix to incorporate the first three ingredients. Then, stir, chocolate chips in by hand.

Roll the dough into walnut-sized balls, place on parchment-lined baking sheets. Use a fork to press down in a crosshatch pattern (occasionally, wet fork with water to prevent sticking). Top with a few flakes of sea salt.

Bake at 375 degrees for 12 to 15 minutes; cool on rack.

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Sara Sommer

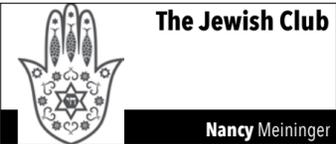
The Big Red Bus® will be here Monday, April 5. It will be in the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. You will receive a mini physical and a small token of appreciation. Rest assured that OneBlood is taking all the necessary precautions to stay safe.

The need is great, as always. One donation can save up to three lives and give comfort to the families of the recipients. There is no substitute for human blood. Remember that all the blood donated in Marion County stays in Marion County. This is a great way to serve your community.

Please bring a photo ID and a mask. Eat a good meal and drink plenty of water before and after donating. See you on the bus.

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The Jewish Club is enjoying enthusiastic support from a rapidly growing membership; now over 180 members!

On Wednesday, April 21, we will gather at the softball pavilion at 1 p.m. to hear one of Ocala's most popular speakers who will reveal what exactly is really happening around us. That is Pat Gabriel of the SR 200 Coalition. She is close with Marion County planners; she hears what project is popping up next even before it hits the press! Pat welcomes questions, so come prepared. Also, remember to bring comfortable lawn chairs, face masks and sit socially distanced. You may bring snacks and a beverage of your choice (wine and beer are allowed at the pavilion).

In celebration of Passover this year, member Herb Katz, Hebrew teacher, friend and resident, shared memories of seders past, recalling childhood impressions that have lasted a lifetime. The more he shared, the more we remembered back when - breaking and hiding the Matza, tasting the bitter herbs, and sipping wine between readings. Sharing is our common thread, as it has been for centuries, strengthening the fabric of our heritage.

Spontaneous get-togethers for coffee or lunch are a start-up group within the Jewish Club that is gaining favor. It is led by Diane Turkin who posts on the club's Facebook page when and where the next meet-up will be. Check it out at www.newjewishclubofotow.com.

Members also look forward to their monthly e-newsletter called the Schmooze, which offers information on upcoming events, temple activities and historical figures who have earned a place in Jewish history. There are also recipes, word games and other bits and pieces to enjoy.

Future meeting plans for the 2021 season hint at an ice cream social with a bit of Jewish trivia mixed in, a performance by popular historical actress Dee Collier, a splash party during the summer, and much more. To join us for a bit of learning and a lot of fun, call Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757.



Jewish Club members enjoying the casual outdoor meetings at the softball pavilion.

Photo by Nancy Meininger

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Wellness Around Your World

By Cammy Dennis

February was fraught with excitement as residents participated in the “Wellness Around the World” adventure. With wellness passports in hand, many residents set about campus participating in the boun-

tiful opportunities for health and wellness. The passports had a variety of activities to participate in. Activities included fitness classes, a visit to Shalom Park, Circle Square Cultural Center events, Master the Possibilities classes and so much more!

Each time an activity was completed, the resident’s passport was stamped. The number of stamps determined the prize that was awarded to the Wellness Around the World participant.

Maryann Fada was one of those residents. Maryann is a new Sanctuary resident and heard about the Wellness Around the World program at the Arbor Fitness Center. As I was giving Maryann her prize for her well-worn passport, I asked her about her participation in this adventure.

Cammy: What was it that attracted you to participate in this program?

Maryann: I enjoy trying new things. Sometimes I need to be pushed out of my comfort zone a little, and this program did that for me.

Cammy: Was there something that surprised you about participating in this wellness adventure?

Maryann: I was very surprised how much I enjoyed doing the Fitness On Demand classes! I tend to shy away from using new technology, and I wasn’t convinced I would feel comfortable doing virtual fitness classes, but I really liked it! I also enjoyed the outdoor Power Park; I had not tried that prior to this program.

Cammy: We are thrilled that you tried new things! What is your overall feeling about being a Wellness Around the World winner?

Maryann: It was so good to be challenged to do new things. The staff at the fitness centers was so supportive and helpful. They really helped me gain confidence to use the Fitness On Demand and get out of my comfort zone. I hope we do this again!



Photo by Cammy Dennis

Maryann Fada is the “Wellness Around the World” winner with her passport and prize!

Softball: Best Free Entertainment in Town

By Tom Sheridan

Spring! Glorious Florida spring! It’s a great time for softball in the sunshine.

Sure, it’s almost always a great time to play softball in Florida. But spring is an especially great time for spectators to take advantage of On Top of the World’s best free sports entertainment.

Spectators at our games on Monday and Wednesday mornings find varying reasons for ... well ... spectating: “I’m here to support my husband,” is a common refrain. As is, “I want to cheer on my team,” part of the healthy competition among the softball league’s eight winter season teams.

There’s another good reason. One couple watching an early March game agreed that the sport is just plain fun and exciting: “It’s great to sit in the sunshine and enjoy a game.”

Taking in a game at our top-notch ballfield near the pavilion is a too often overlooked experience that’s even better on these balmy, low-humidity spring days. And if you want action, there’s lots of it. The winter league’s eight squads continue jockeying for position in the standings, especially as teams try to knock the current league leader out of out of the top spot.

In the meantime, the watching - and playing - the games will get even better as field improvements continue. The Softball Club board has announced a series of upgrades designed to make the sport even more enjoyable for the more than 100 players taking part in the men’s league. And for those who watch them.

Additional gates in the outfield fence have been installed and work is under way to repaint the yellow safety cap on the fence. An On Top of the World crew will laser-level and regrade the infield, likely dur-

ing April. Also, the foul lines have been repainted, a regular chore.

Work to remove and replace the existing dugouts has been briefly delayed but is expected to be completed this month. The club’s board hopes to use salvaged material from the old dugouts to improve and weatherproof the scorekeep-

ers’ perch behind home plate.

There’s more, too.

The strong growth spurt the sport has enjoyed over the past year, a result of both new construction in On Top of the World and a successful membership drive among current residents, has brought additional playing opportunities.

In addition to our usual intramural play with the likelihood of six teams during the summer and as many as 10 in fall and winter, the club plans to join the area’s sun and fun travel league in sum-

mer. Two local teams will play in the league, traveling to age 55-plus communities in Marion, Sumter and Lake counties.

It also means that as many as four games a week against teams from outside On Top of the World will be played here, bringing in more talent and excitement, adding additional opportunities for players and spectators alike.

Finally, registration begins in late April for summer league. For more information about softball, contact Tom Sheridan at tomsheridan.fl@gmail.com.



Photo by Tom Sheridan

Gerry Meier takes a cut at the ball as spectators look on.



Candler Hills Men's Golf

Terry Hoppes

We welcomed new members - Ken Franks and Peter Vincelli

Low Net Feb. 16

Flight 1: Tie at +1-Bill Wignall and Tom Presnick and Paul Sepulveda. +3-Bill Lock. Tie at +5-Joe Schuberth and Marty Brown
 Flight 2: -1-David Fosdick. E-Larry Smallwood. Tie at +1-Charlie Taylor and David Butler. +4-Ken Franks. Tie at +5-Mike Altomare and Lyle Gave.
 Flight 3: E-Hal Levine. +1-Joe Pruss. Tie at +2-Gene Francisco and Rusty Zarrell. +3-Richard Ross. Tie at +4-

Dave Miller and Ken Zweiback.
 Flight 4: Tie at +2-Brad Best and Jim Kurlapski and David Nelson. +4-Tom Nutt. +5-Dutch Schulze.

Team Best Ball Feb. 23

Flight A/B: -10-Rusty Zarrell and Ken Franks. -9-Joe Schuberth and Dennis McCourt. Tie at -8-Mori Fierce and David Butler, Mike Altomare and David Fosdick, Ric Strynar and David Butler.
 Flight C/D: -10-Robert Springmann and Bill Searight. -6-Brad Best and Tim Beaty. Tie at -5-Jim Kurlapski and Hal Levine, Don Edmond and Tom Joy, Gene Francisco and Dutch Schulze, Ken Zweiback and Frank Esposito.

Stableford March 2

Flight 1: 39-Tom Presnick. 37-Joe

Schuberth. 36-Bill Wignall. Tie at 35-Marty Brown and Ken Franks.
 Flight 2: 37-Paul Sepulveda. Tie at 36-David Fosdick and Robert Hutson. Tie at 35-Rick Schriewer and David Butler.
 Flight 3: 41-Lyle Gave. 40-David Vermilya. 38-Ric Strynar. Tie at 37-Charlie Taylor and Rusty Zarrell.
 Flight 4: 37-Hal Levine. Tie at 35-Don Edmond and Gilbert Green and Dennis McCourt and Robert Springmann
 Flight 5: 46-David Nelson. 39-James Dewey. 36-Joe Pruss. Tie at 33-Jim Kurlapski and Brad Best
 Flight 6: 38-Bill Searight. 36-Dutch Schulze. 35-George Brombacher. Tie at 34-Frank Esposito and Edwin Viloria

Low Net March 9

Flight 1: -8-Joe Schuberth. -1-Marty Brown. E-Brian Gauthier. +1-Tommy Lowe. +2-David Fritz
 Flight 2: -4-Rusty Zarrell. +1-Paul Sepulveda. +2-Larry Smallwood. Tie at +5-William Cline and David Fosdick and Rick Schriewer.
 Flight 3: -1-Charlie Taylor. +2-Richard Ross. Tie at +3-David Miller and Lyle Gave
 Flight 4: -3 Gilbert Green. +3-Joe Pruss. Tie at +5-David Nelson and Joe Wong and Don Edmond.
 Flight 5: -4-Danny Ball. Tie at +3-Sam Fox and Jim Kurlapski. +7-Bill Searight.

Hats off to Joe Schuberth for his great round. His handicap will be coming down for sure!

For those of you who are looking for more information regarding our league, please visit CHMGA.org.



Men's Golf Association

John Yenne

As we move deep into spring, it's a good time to consider some new weather apps for your smartphone. Look for these in your app store: The Weather Channel; WeatherMate; My Lightning Tracker Pro; NOAA Radar Pro; Wind Compass; Hygro; Rain Aware; and/or Dark Sky.

The MGA has 300 members. Please welcome - Brian Gauthier.

Mark these upcoming Wednesday events in your calendar:

- April 7: Scramble (The Links)
- April 14: Quota Points (The Links)
- April 21: Team 2 Best Balls (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- April 28: Individual Low Net (The Links)

Shamble 2 Best Ball

Feb. 24/The Tortoise & The Hare
 Tie at 111-Mike Wathen, Ricki Plesea, Clay Norgan and Mike Lane; Terry Hubbartt, Dale Clarke, David Woitek and Alan Theusch. 112-Charlie Taylor, Ruben Alvarez, Jim Kurlapski and Tim Williams. Tie at 114-Roger Sparks, Sam Feola, Ronald Grob and Daniel Hermsen; Bob Gee, David Wohlleber, David Butler and Charles Miele; Brad Weirick, Paul Stoecklin, Marty Brown and Bill Searight. 116-Larry Gibson, Bruce Venslavsky, James Tolson and

Loren Magsam. Tie at 117-Russell Zile, Raymond Hendrix, Bob Barbee and Nick James; Rick Schriewer, Mike Madura, Carl Zeiler and Bob Marks; Mike Ball, Ken Zweiback, Ralph Solvold and John Sutherland; John English, Joe Baumgartner, David Johnson and Jim Lefaver.

Team Scramble March 3/The Links

61-Larry Gibson, Joseph Mandala, Paul Silliman and Nick James. Tie at 62-John English, Brian Gauthier and Thomas Norris; Joe Wilks, Mike Madura, Ronald Grob and Bill Searight. Tie at 64-David Hannasch, Dwight Weirick and Greg McDowell; Brian Wilder, Richard Deschenes, James Tolson and Thomas Kujawa. Tie at 65-Rusty Rhodes, Rick Strynar, James McCormack and Loren

Magsam; Roger Sparks, Jeff Rothwell, Bob Janssen and Bob Marks; Charlie Taylor, John Parnau and David Woitek; Joe Polizzotti, Don Edmond, Tom McHaffie and Lyle Gave. Tie at 66-Charles Crenshaw, Dennis McCourt, Terry Hubbartt and John Hartney; Gary Hassett, Sam Feola, John Snyder and Tim Williams; Anthony Morris, David Miller, Norm Hayworth and Alan Theusch; Mike Wathen, Roy Coombes, Paul Snyder and Charles Miele; Russell Zile, Ricki Plesea, James Thompson and Tom Cummings; Steven Sarkozy, Paul Stoecklin, Leonard Ruble and Mike Lane.

Team Blind Holes March 10/The Tortoise & The Hare

145-John English, Greg McDowell, Tim Williams and Charles Miele.

146-Roger Sparks, Brian Gauthier, Tom McHaffie and Barry Barringer. 147-Bruce Venslavsky, Ralph Solvold and Thomas Norris. Tie at 149-Charles Crenshaw, Dale Budd and Bob Marks; Brad Weirick, Dale Clarke and Sam Feola. Tie at 152-Bob Gee, Dave Cuvelier, Steven Rudolph and Bill Searight; Joe Wilks, Ruben Alvarez, James Tolson and Tom Cummings. 157-Joe Polizzotti, Don Edmond, Joe Baumgartner and Marty Brown. Tie at 158-Rusty Rhodes, Thomas Laclair and Dennis Barber; Rusty Zarrell, Rino D'amico, Carl Zeiler and John Bauer; Charlie Taylor, Henry Sohl, John Snyder and Mike Driver; Jim Lefaver, Mike Madura, Norm Hayworth and Mike Lane; John Parnau, Ken Zweiback, David Hannasch and Tom Neville.



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Photo by VaDonna Hall

Mary Ann Livingston shot her first hole-in-one.

Ladies 18-Hole Golf
Susan Yenne

Mary Ann Livingston shot her first hole-in-one in 20 years of golfing using her eight iron on hole #15 of The Tortoise & The Hare Sunday, Feb. 28. "(I) could see that it was tracking towards the hole and saw it ring around the hole," she said. "I was jumping up and down and saying I think it might be in the hole as I hurried to the green."

The shot was witnessed by Christine Giza and VaDonna Hall.

Three Best Ball Team Net
Feb. 16/The Links

204-Lynn Barber, Peggy Ellenberger, Marlena Laclair, Gretchen Normandin. Tie at 205-Shelly Karsnitz, Eileen Gustavus, Sharon Johnson; Gail LaGrange, Joann Dellapenna, Virginia Madura, Vickie Foster. 209-Lynne Dickson, Connie Norris, Mary Ruffner, Dee Howie. 212-Diane Boston, Linda Blewitt, Iro Lisinski, May Chin. Tie at 214-Linda Taylor, MJ Strelec, Connie Feola, Antonia Varney; Mary Ann Livingston, Vickie Noltensmeyer, Liz Pruss, Mary Driver.

Ace's Wild Individual Net
Feb. 23/The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: 60-Beverly Ovrebo. 62-Diane Boston. Tie at 64-VaDonna Hall, Christine Giza. 71-Lynne Dickson. Tie at 72-Shelly Karsnitz, Gail LaGrange, Linda Taylor. Flight 2: 68-MJ Strelec. 69-Peggy Ellenberger. 70-Joann Dellapenna. Tie at 72-Connie Sohl, Peggy Borro. Flight 3: 65-Ellen Brin. 67-Peggy Wiechmann. 68-Pam Jones. 69-Debby Wilson. Tie at 72-Virginia Madura, Lilly Gee. Flight 4: 59-Liz Pruss. 69-Jean Hsu. 71-Sharon Johnson. 72-Connie Feola. 74-Mary Ruffner. Flight 5: 64-Sandra Dechambeau.

68-Vickie Foster. 69-Antonia Varney. 70-Mary Driver. Tie at 71-Lynn Barber, Linda Ryan.

Low Gross/Low Net Individual
March 2/The Links
Gross

Flight 1: Tie at 78-Gail LaGrange, Christine Giza, Sandy Snyder. Flight 2: 82-Vickie Noltensmeyer. 83-Peggy Ellenberger. 85-MJ Strelec. Flight 3: 83-Connie Sohl. 85-Judy Graham. 89-Peggy Wiechmann. Flight 4: 88-Connie Feola. 92-Christine McIntire. 94-Liz Pruss. Flight 5: Tie at 94-Susan Yenne, Sandra Dechambeau. 96-Vickie Foster.

Net

Flight 1: 68-Bobbie Wiener. Tie at 70-Mary Ann Livingston, Lynn Colomb. Flight 2: 68-Connie Norris. 70-Joyce Jones. 73-Nancy Zielinski. Flight 3: 68-Linda Blewitt. Tie at 73-Debby Wilson, Pam Jones. Flight 4: 70-Sharon Johnson. 74-Mary Ruffner. 77-Geri Treppa. Flight 5: 66-Debbie Zile. 71-Antonia Varney. 76-Carla Kimball.

Member/Member - 1 Best Ball
March 9/The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: 63-Linda Taylor, Connie Feola. 64-Yuhan Cho, Bobbie Wiener. Tie at 65-Shelly Karsnitz, Maria Fournier; Diane Boston, Lynn Colomb. Flight 2: 62-Judy Graham, Marlena Laclair. 63-Nancy Zielinski, Debby Wilson. 64-Pat Lindstrom, Vickie Noltensmeyer. Tie at 67-Peggy Borro, Linda Blewitt; Betty McNeeley, Connie Sohl. Flight 3: Tie at 63-Joann Dellapenna, Joy Benson; Christine McIntire, Sharon Johnson. 64-Lilly Gee, Liz Pruss. 66-Geri Treppa, Jean Hsu. Flight 4: 58-Kathleen Goodwin, Debbie Zile. 62-Molly Lucieer, Terry Wilks. 64-Donna Brunell, Margaret Hudacik. 66-May Chin, Sandra Dechambeau.

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Ladies 9-Hole Golf


Russ Smith

As we move into the month of April, the LGA-9 schedule will be on the following Tuesdays:

- April 6: Two Best Ball is a team game where at the end of each hole the two lowest net score of the team will be recorded as the team score.
- April 13: Odd Holes is where everyone plays their normal round of golf and we use the scores on the odd numbered hole towards the game.
- April 20: Team Scramble is where everyone tees off, you pick the best drive, and everyone plays from there. You repeat this process until the ball is holed.

As we move into warmer weather, it's imperative that we keep pace of play on our minds. A great way to beat the heat is to implement ready golf into your routine every time you tee it up. This is the best way to keep up the pace and will make the day more enjoyable for not only your group but the other groups around you.

One of the rule changes from last year that will definitely help pick up the pace is rule 7.1 on how to fairly search for your ball. Under this rule you only have three minutes to stop and look for your ball and then you must continue on with play. Another great time saver

is to play a provisional ball whenever you hit a shot that might be in trouble. For example, if you hit a tee shot close to the out of bounds, it will save you a lot of time to hit a provisional ball while on the tee area and then go look for your first ball. If it turns out that it is out of bounds, then you can go to your second ball and continue play rather than having to go back to the tee area in a rush to try and hit your next shot.

Finally, I want to also say thank you to all the ladies who played in the On Top of the World Club Championship; everyone did an impressive job fighting through the weather on round two and not a single lady quit. I hope you all join me in congratulating Linda Mandala as the new ladies nine-hole club champion, and Suzanne Weirick was the overall low net winner!

Candler Hills Ladies 9-Hole Golf


Denise Mullen

A shout out to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who assisted us to make our Ocala Open another successful event. Your support of our event is much appreciated.

Recently a friend of mine shared this with me and now I share it with you to ponder over - "Popcorn is prepared in the same pot, in the same oil, and yet ... the kernels do not all pop at the same time. Do not compare yourself to others. Your turn to "pop" will come!"

How appropriate to follow up on previous columns to further encourage you to stay within your talent level and not get discouraged!

Do you want some peace and calm in your game? Are you willing to give up on challenges that are out of your control?

How would you answer this statement? "I would be so much better if I could control ... bounces on the course, my swing and mental self-talk, the weather, other players I am paired with, other players pace of play, how much other players talk, where other players stand, what they say, what they don't say, how they think of my game, are they bossy?"

We would all play better if everyone behaved on the same even keel, we would not be annoyed and could possibly have a better day and be happier. Stop right there! In reality it is not possible to control humans and their behavior, nor do they want to be controlled. When you put feeling happy and calm into the hands of other people, you have given them the steering wheel to your day, golf round and life. When you say that these people annoyed you, offended you, made you mad or nervous, it's on you for giving them the power over you. You became a marionette to them; getting your strings pulled in different directions. Try as you like, you can't control other humans!

The only thing you can control is how you react to their behavior. Let it go, do not give in to the intimidation that other players use to

derail your confidence and get into your head. You will ultimately enjoy your game more.

Nick and I have put some new games into the lineup for April. We will have a Crier's event - which is after the round you will take your worst hole and reduce the score to par. TOES will be played on the back nine. This means the holes that start with the letters of TOES, example 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18. Team Stableford - all four players will play each hole. After you deduct the strokes you receive there are points awarded. You will receive one point for net bogie, two points for net par, three points for net birdie and four points for net eagle. All the points are added up and the team with the most points wins.

We invite any new ladies who prefer to only play nine holes to participate in our 9 Hole Play Day on Thursdays at Candler Hills Golf Club. Tee times start at 9 a.m. You will need an established handicap to participate. We play many different formats; some are individual events in flights and others will be team events.

Please feel free to email or call Nick (nick_schwander@otowfl.com) or myself (denise_mullen@otowfl.com) with any and all concerns or questions you may have. The Candler Hills Golf Shop phone number is (352) 861-9712.

On Top of the World

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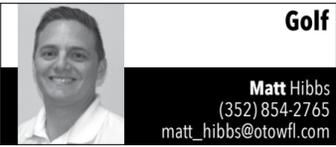
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Golf

Matt Hibbs
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April has finally arrived, which means it's time for The Masters. Who will win the year's first major championship? I would like to provide everyone with the On Top of the World golf professional's picks: Matt Hibbs - Patrick Cantlay; Denise Mullen - Xander Schauffele; Russ Smith - Dustin Johnson; and Nick Schwander - Rory McIlroy. Stop by the Golf Shop and let us know who you think will win this year's Masters.

The 2021 Ocala Open was our best event to date benefitting over \$80,000 split between Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services. Special thanks go out to all of our wonderful spon-

sors, volunteers and staff for making this a spectacular event. Due to press deadlines, the results will be published in the May issue of the World News.

Thank you to all who participated in our annual On Top of the World Club Championship. Our players battled through rain, wind and cold temperatures during round two. Congratulations to all gross and net winners and a special congratulations to our club champions in each division.

Men's club champion: 144-Tommy Lowe.
Ladies club champion: 151-Sandy Snyder.

Ladies nine-hole club champion: 95-Linda Mandala.

Please help us maintain our beautiful golf courses by filling all divots, repairing all ball marks, parking no closer than 30 yards from greens, keeping all four tires on cart paths around green and

tees and using the 90-degree rule when entering all fairways. Our golf courses are all busier than ever so these small details will go a long way in helping provide the best playing conditions to our residents.

Make sure you subscribe to our YouTube.com channel (OTOW Golf). You will get the latest updates on events, golf tips, special merchandise and much more.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, April 17: Monthly event - Animal Golf at The Links.
- Saturday, April 24: Par Three Challenge at Candler Hills.

World Accolades

CANDLER HILLS: Larry Greenfield, eagle #7. Randy Nelson, eagle #7. Ellen Brin, eagle #7. Gil Green shot his age 82. Joe Schuberth shot low round 69.

THE LINKS: Bill Blewitt, eagle #13.

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Mary Ann Livingston, hole-in-one #15.

Golf Tip of the Month

Do you ever step up to a shot thinking about all the negative outcomes that could unfold? Then you hit the shot only to dump it in the greenside bunker. This is a big mental problem for a lot of golfers, even the tour players.

The most important thing you can do mentally is give yourself the best chance at success. Instead of thinking about all the negative outcomes focus your attention on what you want to happen. Think about the positive outcomes of the shot and be confident in your approach.

As quoted by the great Bobby Jones, "Golf is a game that is played on a five-inch course, the distance between your ears."



Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole Golf

Renee Aden

We are fortunate to live in this community where we can enjoy our favorite pastime on three different golf courses. Many golfers take up the game in their retirement when they have more leisure time, but did you know that playing golf has a great many health benefits?

One of the most important benefits is spending time with friends and family. Golf is also an opportunity to meet new players with different skill levels. It has been shown to enhance social connections and self-identity while boosting interpersonal skills to a whole new level. Of course, being outside in the fresh air and sunshine helps us soak up plenty of vitamin D!

The Candler Hills LGA held a "meet and greet" on the patio at Candler Hills after golf Thursday, Feb. 18. It was an opportunity to meet new members who have joined the league in the past few months and to renew acquaintances with existing members. We had a reciprocal event with On Top of the World LGA Tuesday, March 23 on The Tortoise & The Hare.

The League Championship is

coming up Thursdays, April 15 and 22. Lunch will be held after play April 22. Please look for the sign-up for this event.

Stableford Feb. 4

Flight 1: -34-Lynn Colomb, Tie at -33-Christine Giza, Shelly Karsnitz.
Flight 2: -42-Virginia Combs, -36-Eileen Gustavus.

Flight 3: -41-Joann Delmar, -36-Laurel Rohrer.

Cupids Arrow/Blind Partners Feb. 11

Flight 1: Tie at -65-Carpenter and Washburn, Combs and Curtis, Karsnitz and Ross, Tie at -67-Carroll and Stevenson, Dechambeau and Tayler.
Flight 2: -58-Lock and Zunica, Tie at -62-Aden and Jahnke, Rohrer and Stecker, -63-Green and Madura.

Shall We Walz 1-2-3 Feb. 18

Foursome 1: -130-Shelly Karsnitz, Iro Lisinski, Sandra Dechambeau, Kathy Zunica.

Foursome 2: -133-Virginia Combs, Roe Gromacki, Rosann Ross, Joann Delmar.

Foursome 3: -135-Sara Nunn, Joy Benson, Kate Beaty, Vickie Foster.

Foursome 4: -136-Beverly Ovrebo, Maria Fournier, Beth Wolinsky, Mary

Ann McCourt.

Foursome 5: -138-Lynn Colomb, Virginia Madura, Gloria Cullins, DeAnne Green.

Blind Nine Feb. 25

Flight 1: -34-Linda Taylor, -36-Christine Giza, Tie at -37-Dawn Carroll, Shelly Karsnitz.

Flight 2: -33-Sara Nunn, -34-Joy Benson, -39-Donna Smith, Tie at 40-Virginia Madura, Anita Nutt.

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Pickleball

Bill Bender & Andy Woods

We know, when you look at the whiffle ball with its light weight and holes, who would ever think that it could become dangerous? After all, isn't that the same ball that five-year-olds use to learn how to hit a ball with a bat?

Well, think of an object coming at you at a speed in excess of 60 miles per hour. Now that sounds dangerous! Safety is of primary concern to the Pickleball Club, as it should be to anyone stepping onto the courts.

From the USA Pickleball website under Player Health and Safety: "Eye Protection - While hollow and light-weight, the ball used in pickleball is a hard polymer and can travel at a very high rate of speed. The use of proper eye protection is highly recommended for all players."

And this from the International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association website: "The IPTPA strongly recommends that all instructors and players use eye wear

for safety protection. As our sport continues to transition to more of a power game as a result of paddle technology and younger players with tennis and racquetball experience, the hard plastic from the ball along with the increased speed of play can cause serious eye injury. Therefore, although the USAPA has not required eye protection to date, our association is strongly recommending that eye protection be used by all participants."

There are other safety considerations that are explained by Tom Roach and Herb Katz in our orientation to the sport held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. on the courts. They include stretching, proper shoes, water for hydration, etc. If you follow their advice, you can significantly reduce the risks of injury.

USA Pickleball has some excellent information on their "Player Health and Safety" page on their website. Click on our home page at <https://tpc.pickleball.plus> to go directly to that page and learn how you can prepare yourself to play safely and stay healthy.

In addition to exercise, we are out there to have fun (and boy, do we!), and any injury to one of us is felt by all of us. Please play safe!



R/C Flyers

Dan Gaffin

This warmer spring weather is bringing out more and more pilots to the flying field. Some of these pilots are absolutely new to flying, some are quite experienced and then there are the professional pilots who have never flown a radio-controlled plane.

Several of the professional pilots have admitted to me that flying a radio-controlled plane is so completely different than flying in a cockpit. One of these professional pilots who is currently under training is Doug Stansbury. Doug is retired from American Airlines and has 40 years of experience as a commercial pilot. He describes just how different it is to fly a remote-controlled plane; as the plane flies away from you it simulates sitting in the cockpit though when the plane is coming toward you, the controls are reversed and therefore the reaction is completely different.

The R/C Flyers offer a very active training program for all pilots, whether you are a new pilot or an experienced pilot needing train-

ing on a new type of aircraft. This instructional training program is available to all members of the R/C Flyers Club at no additional cost. The training program is currently under the management of the club's vice president, Mike Betz. Along with Mike there are six other active trainers: Bob Anderson, Bob Wroblewski, Doug Nastally, Doc Consuegra, Paul Daigle, and Ed Holsinsky.

Training will require that each trainee learn first how to control the plane. A trainee must be able to make left and right turns and fly in figure eight patterns and rectangular patterns at level flight. Trainees must be proficient with all safety protocol required on the airfield and this protocol will be provided by the safety officers of the R/C Flyers Club. Training will be completed when the trainee is able to solo their plane without assistance from their assigned trainer.

To fly any aircraft at the flying field of On Top of the World you must be an active member of the R/C Flyers Club and also join the Academy of Model Aeronautics which provides the required insurance for each pilot. If you are an experienced flyer of radio-controlled planes and do not require training, you must demonstrate your knowledge and competency of flying with one of the R/C Flyers instructors.

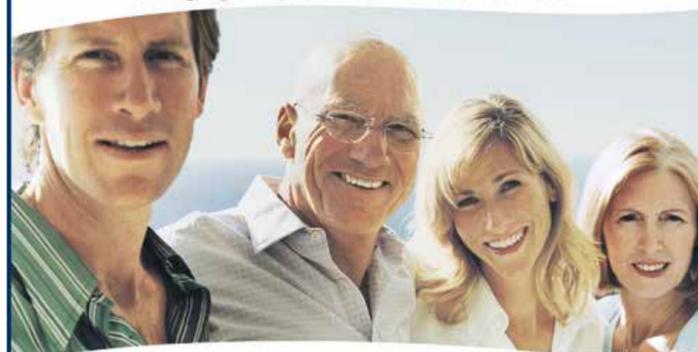
If you are a resident and are interested in learning to fly, you may contact the R/C Flyers Club president, Carl Schneider, by calling him at (864) 344-7220.

The R/C Flyers Club would like to thank Eugene Chicoine for his recent donation to the training program; a brand new Apprentice STS model.

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If only the makers of the earliest toy cars that first appeared in the late 1800s could see the current versions of their dreams, zooming around our premier R/C car track. There are many versions of static model/toy cars that have been produced over the years under several categories (promotional, kits, die-cast, plastic, metal, etc.) but here we're dealing with the history of powered model cars. That is, cars that actually run under their own power. Rubber bands, springs, inertia mechanisms, air engines, steam engines, internal combustion engines and, of course, electric motors have all found their way at one time or another into model cars since the beginning of the 20th century.

The most direct ancestors of our modern wonders were the "uncontrolled" powered toy cars developed in the late 1920s and early 1930s, which were common even until the 1960s. Sometimes guided by a rail between the wheels, or by a tether staked to the center of a circular course, most of these cars used small, internal combustion glow-plug engines.

It's generally acknowledged that the first of the "modern era," fully steerable, radio-controlled model cars were made in 1966 in Italy by a company named Elettronica Giocattoli. A year later a company in Britain called Mardave also began making similar cars. Both companies offered road/GT vehicles in 1/8 scale, powered by two-stroke model airplane engines, using nitro fuel. Take a moment and browse the internet for more on the history of R/C cars in detail.

Meanwhile if you think you'd like to get into the hobby, On Top of the World has one of the best R/C car racing facilities to be found anywhere in Florida. The club races clean, quiet, and fast electric 1/10 scale vehicles under several different categories (and skill levels) and we welcome interested residents to join us on Tuesdays and Saturdays, at 9 a.m., weather permitting. The track is on the north side of the newly opened RV park and storage units at Long Leaf. Contact President Fred Penichet at fred-penichet@msn.com, or (914) 588-7293 with questions or for information. Be warned, however, that once you get bit by the R/C car bug



Photo by Fred Penichet

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Tennis

Jorge Privat
(352) 387-7539

If April showers bring May flowers, what do Mayflowers bring? Pilgrims, of course! Well, as you may have noticed, things are beginning to change everywhere. Gradually, restrictions will be relaxed, and activities will come back to some normalcy.

We now have a fine group of players in the tennis committee who are working to enhance the tennis program and to reach out to all of you who are able to play the sport of tennis. And I am here willing and able to help you in any way I can to improve your game so you can enjoy it even more.

We decided to restart the "tennis ladder" for a period of six weeks in order to have everyone enjoy the game at a competitive level. Of course, we will need a commitment to bring this to a successful completion. If we cannot start it in April, for sure we wish to have it in place by May. We have updated the roster and you will be getting emails on what is happening.

Keys to Winning Doubles

TENNIS TALK: What to say and when to say it. Before the match:

- Decide with your partner ahead of time if you want to serve or receive first. Choose from what end to play, so when you spin, you will already have a plan.
- Decide who on your team will serve first. Who will serve from the sunny side, or the strongest serving combination to start the match?
- Decide on a game plan for the first three games of the

match to take control (serve and volley), use of the "T" formation, two back, lob and take the net, etc.

During the match:

- Complement each other on what you are doing well as a team, so you will know why you are winning and what to continue to do as the match progresses.
- High five after each lost point to reconnect with your partner and to get your minds off losing a point.
- Make sure your partner tells you his or her plan for the next point to stay in the present, and to get ready at the net or after the return of serve.

After the match, ask yourselves:

- What did we do best in the match?
- What did our opponents do best?
- What was our weakness in the match?
- What was their weakness?
- If we could replay the match right now, how would we play differently?

TENNIS DANCE: Where to move and when to move there. Dance of the server's partner:

- Find the middle of the service box; halfway between the net and the service line.
- When your partner serves, move forward toward the direction of the served ball to be in the best position to poach the return of serve.
- Be ready to poach by moving forward at a diagonal toward the net and the center service line or to defend your alley on a wide serve.
- If the ball is returned past you, slide back diagonally toward the service line and the

center service line while facing the opponent at the net diagonally across from you.

- If the return of your partner passes the opponent at the net, move toward the net in the direction of the returned ball and be prepared to distract or poach again.
- Repeat this part of the dance until you can poach to win the point or your opponents lose the point.

Dance of the receiver's partner:

- The receiver's partner stands near the service and center lines to intercept any poached volleys up the middle by the opposing net player and to call the service line for your partner.
- If the serve is in and the returned cross court passed the opposing net player, move up and forward toward the middle of the service box to put pressure on the server's return of your partner's shot.

- If the server returns cross court to your partner, slide back on defense toward the service and center lines, depending upon the speed and direction of the return by the server.
- Repeat the dance until you can poach or until one team wins the point.

Dance of the circle:

- Once the ball is in play, keep your feet in motion as if you were moving around a cone on the ground. This small circular motion enables you to have a feel for being in motion and to change directions quickly.

Where to hit and when to go there:

- When serving, tell your partner where you plan to direct both serves, not just the first serve.
- The server's partner can plan to fake or poach if he knows where the ball is being directed.
- When you are receiving, there are four targets. One or two of the quadrants will be open, like, lob or cross court.
- When you volley at the net, aim between the two mountains (your opponents). Volley at their feet, but preferably off to the side - in the valleys.

See you on the courts!



Shuffleboard

Walter Lamp

April is the end of the season for the Shuffleboard Club. I mentioned last month some of the problems we encountered through no real fault of our own. Now, I would like to spotlight those individuals who made our season a success. First, we have our three captains: Joe Bartosh (Monday a.m.), Jane Boyer (Tuesday p.m. and president) and Robert Stubbs (Thursday a.m.).

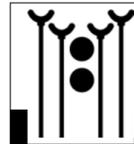
Also, I would like to mention an individual who we owe our pleasures of playing this season to - Jane Boyer, our president! She was on top of all happenings this year. She spent much time, made many phone calls, sent many emails and had countless meetings with management over the construction of the new courts and a second remake of those same courts. Thank you, Jane.

And the end of the season also means only one more instructional class, hosted by Paul Hodges. Introduction to shuffleboard is offered on the second Saturday of the month at the new courts at 11 a.m. If you are interested in learning how to play the game, we invite you to come down to the courts at the Veterans Park. We will go over the rules, scoring, safety and the basics of shooting the disc. Open-toed footwear is not permitted. Thanks, Paul, for your time and expertise in teaching the game this season.

We will have a summer session; schedules to be announced.

February Men/Women

- Monday a.m.: Charlie Lentz/Vicki Lentz.
- Tuesday p.m.: Mario Migliaccio/Nancy Chatham. 30-Bill Weis.
- Thursday a.m.: Rick French & Phil Weiner/Annette Hodges.



Ladies Shuffleboard

Lois Nix

Spring is here so we can put away our winter wardrobe until next season. Many of us shuffled with our winter clothes on rather than stay home where it was warm. We really love to shuffle! We are so fortunate that we can play our outside sports all year long.

With that note, this is a reminder to all women residents, our club plays shuffleboard Mondays, at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays, at 9 and 11 a.m. We play all year long.

At this time, we have to abide by the safety guidelines outlined by the community. We have 10 courts, but for safety we play on every other court to give us the 6 feet of distance; masks are optional. Until further notice, we will continue to play with 20 women on Mondays and Wednesdays. So far it is working, and the ladies are comfortable. Our membership is now at 63.

In February, we were able to play every week.

February Most Games

9-Nancy Altman. Tie at 8-Cindy Engler, Kathy Kloos. Tie at 7-Marge Adragna, Marsha Lau, Sandy Welch.

Check the bulletin board at the courts for 30-plus. See you on the courts. Happy shuffling.

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On Top of the World Communities LLC, Ocala, Florida a 55+ community.

FITNESS SCHEDULE					
April 2021					
Recreation Center Ballroom					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM	Chair Yoga* Maureen		Chair Yoga* Haley		Chair Yoga* Sandra
10:00 AM	Balanced Body* Tucker		S.O.S* Larry		Balanced Body* Ingrid
11:00 AM	Strength & Stretch* Tucker		Zumba® Gold* Kitti		Strength & Stretch* Tucker
*Face masks are mandatory					
Recreation Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 7 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 7 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 5 PM Recreation Fitness Center orientations and balance assessments are free by appointment only. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7531 to schedule.					
Arbor Conference Center (Dance Studios I, II, III)					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM	Yoga* Mary			Yoga* Kathy	
*Face masks are mandatory					
Arbor Fitness Center Pool					
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6:00 AM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
7:00 AM	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
8:00 - 9:00 AM	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Deep Water Fitness Class**	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Deep Water Fitness Class**	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Deep Water Fitness Class**
10:00 - 11:00 AM	Open	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Open
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Closed for Cleaning	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 - 1:30 PM	Aqua Aerobics Club	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Aqua Aerobics Club	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Aqua Aerobics Club
1:30 PM	Open Swim 1:30 - 2:30 PM	Water Volleyball 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Open	Water Volleyball 1:30 - 3:30 PM	Open Swim 1:30 - 2:30 PM
2:30 PM	Deep Water** 2:30 - 3:30 PM				Deep Water** 2:30 - 3:30 PM
3:30 PM	Open	Open		Open	Open
Open Swim: Saturdays 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sundays 9 AM - 7 PM For pool inquiries, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7639. ** Fee-based class					
Arbor Fitness Center orientations and posture assessments are free by appointment only. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7538 to schedule.					



Archery Club

Leslie McCormick

If you have been reading our monthly column you may have noticed that we keep talking about our members who have shot a robin hood. Well, they keep piling up! Not only have we added Floyd Scott to our list, but two members have gotten two robin hoods each! Spot on shooting honors go to Floyd and to Tom Caliendo and Barbara Scales for their second! Bill Millican let us know that if a robin hood is shot for a score, the second arrow

is scored the same as the first one that hit the target.

The five-week Recurve league ended with the presentation of medals for the top three places and a chance at the "wheel of fortune" donated by Sam Scarbrough and STM Golf Carts. All 15 participants had a great time. The top honors went to:

Barebow Division

- 1: Mike Bantz; 2: Sam Scarbrough; 3: Tom Roach.

Bow with Sights Division

- 1: Tom West; 2: Pat Perry; 3: Beverly Bergmann.

The FAA/NFAA State Indoor and SE Sectional Championship - North division was held at Easton-New-

berry Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7. Seven of our members participated and Pat Perry and Mike Bantz entered for their first time in an off-site competition.

Mike said, "The tournament was a lot of fun. Had a great time and a good learning experience. Rained a lot on Saturday and windy on Sunday. Hope to do it again. Glad to be there with other Archery Club members along with their support."

Pat said, "I learned so much at Newberry - tournament protocol, sharing the line, target placement, scoring, and recurve shooting form as demonstrated by outstanding archers."

Back at our range, there were three club shoots in March with three divisions in each event: compound, barebow and recurve with sights. Each event had a different format starting with NFAA blue targets at 20 yards for the March 13 shoot. Complete results for all

three events have been posted at the range.

Coming up next week is the club's quarterly membership meeting Tuesday, April 6, at 1 p.m. at the range. We are excited to have a guest speaker, Edna Lloyd, the Florida Archery Association 2020 Archer of the Year. Members and guests who are interested in the sport of target archery are welcome to attend. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy what Edna has to share with us as "seniors" participating in a great sport.

If you would like membership information, please contact Leslie at llmccorm74@aol.com. The range is located at the Veterans Park. Take a golf cart or stroll down the path by the Victory Garden. As always, a huge shout out goes to our volunteers who give many hours to make our range and club a wonderful success.



Billiards Club

Phil Panzera

We wish to thank John Mansfield for his initiative in undertaking the task of refitting many of our house cues with new tips. This can be a cumbersome and time-consuming task, and we appreciate John's efforts and contribution to the Billiards Club.

Fritz Langville and Rich De-schenes also undertook a somewhat Sisyphean task, valiantly attempting to clean the insides of our Diamond tables with a cloth and lanyard system. It was interesting - almost fun - to watch, and I'm sure all the dust bunnies inside were also appreciative.

In a few weeks the day league will finish its playoffs, and the next Tuesday afternoon thereafter we will hold a club tournament. Play-off and tournament details are still being firmed up, so stay tuned and check the bulletin board for further information.

Basically, because there's nothing else going on, or nothing to write about, I'm starting a little contest here. I'm offering an antique

pool ball from my collection of memorabilia to the person who can figure out what is the oldest item in our pool room. Entries must be received by Saturday, April 10. If two or more people get it right, the winner will be the one who can tell me what the second oldest item is. Yes, cheating is allowed, Google away.

Anecdote of the Month: A local traffic cop sees a guy sitting in his car in a handicapped parking spot, with no disabled placard showing.

"Sir, this spot is for the handicapped only!"
"Well, I did miss with ball in hand last night."

"I see. Sorry for bothering you, sir, have a nice day."

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Model Railroaders

David Cranmer

The Model Railroaders continue to build their HO scale and G scale layouts filling the club's space in the Hobby Building. While all of the main lines are operating, work is now focused on the scenery and side lines. The amount of detail going into these projects is amazing.

In addition, members are now completing plans to build an O

scale (think Lionel trains) to be created under the G scale layout in the center of the room.

The Model Railroaders Club is always welcoming new members, and you are invited to stop by. The layout is located in the Hobby Building Train Room. Club members work on the layout during the week and run trains on Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m., which is open to residents. Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

For more information, please visit us on Facebook (OTOW Model Railroad Club).



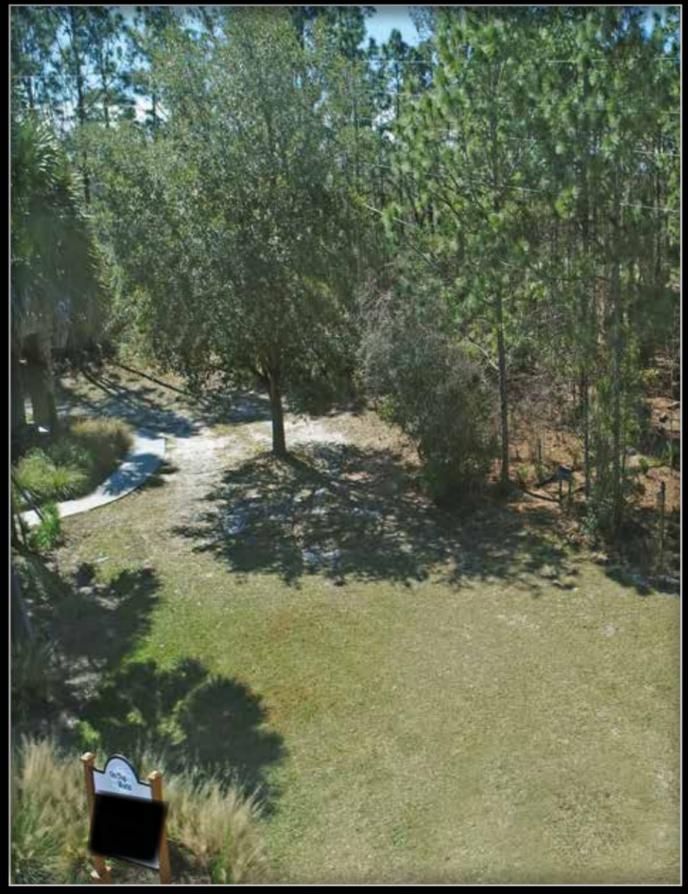
Photo by Allison Cranmer

Model Railroaders open house display in 2020.



The lucky winner of "Where in the World?" receives a free LOVE OTOW t-shirt! To be entered to win, please email your name (must be an On Top of the World Communities resident), address, answer (name of photo location) and selfie at the location to otownews@otowfl.com by 5 p.m. Thursday, April 8, 2021. We will randomly draw a winner from the correct responses. The winner will be contacted via email and announced (with their selfie) in the May issue of the World News.

This photo is a repeat from last month since we had no correct answers.



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Photos by Cammy Dennis

Squat.

Chest press.

Lat row.



Fit Tips
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Dumbbell Tips

Training with free weights is a great way to strengthen muscles and engage the core! Due to the increased amount of variable resistance, there is more core muscle recruitment involved. Dumbbells provide a more functional approach to improving strength. The tips below highlight three of the “five fundamental human movements.” These are essential to train. For all of these exercises, keep the core tight and engaged, back flat and move slowly and with control. See me for more assistance if you need; I am here to help!

FIT TIP #1: A squat engages the hips, knees and ankles and uses all the muscles in the lower body. This is a great training tool for keeping legs strong and mimics “real life” movements like sitting and standing, getting in and out of a car and bending down to retrieve something off the floor.

FIT TIP #2: A chest press is a pushing action that trains the chest and shoulder muscles. It is important for activities of daily living like closing doors, moving furniture, and getting up off the floor.

FIT TIP #3: A lat row is a pulling action, which trains the back muscles. The muscles in our back play a big role in helping to keep our skeleton upright, and the body in good posture. Good posture will ensure that you walk more efficiently and reduce your risk of falling.

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Horseshoe League
 Joe Lawson

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Well, the tri-county league didn't go the way we planned but we again enjoyed meeting new people on all the teams. It was also nice to reconnect with people we've come to know from other leagues. We got to meet a new team from Leesburg and next year they will visit us here in On Top of the World.

We are about to start a new spring league starting at 9 a.m. every Tuesday. We are considering changing the league to evenings and playing under the lights. Hopefully this makes it available to more people.

All games are played at Veterans Park at the horseshoes and cornhole pavilion. We welcome anyone who would like to try. Horseshoes are left behind the pits if you would like to practice on your own.



Photo by Joe Lawson
Too old to play horseshoes? Never! Meet Ed Klodzen.

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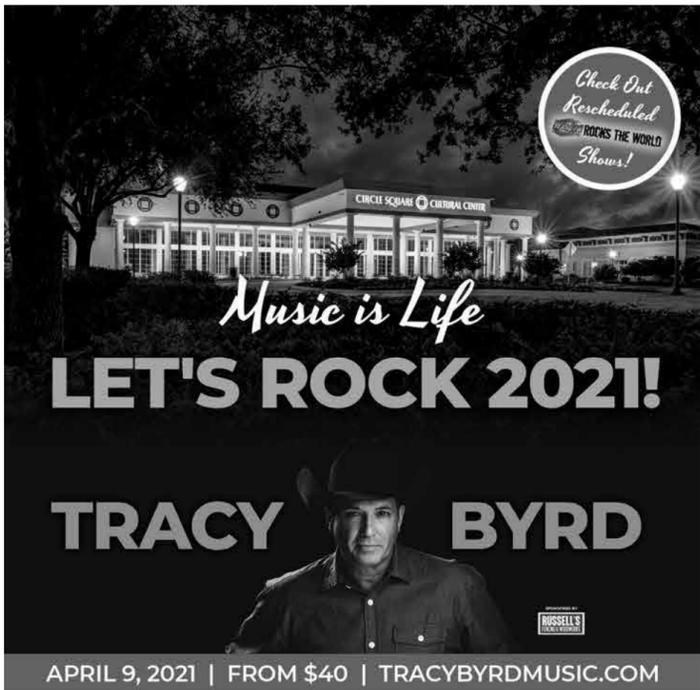
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Back at The Ranch



Rus Adams
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Healthy Habits Equals a Healthy You!

The dictionary defines a habit as an acquired behavior pattern regularly followed until it has become almost involuntary. Once the behavior pattern becomes involuntary, you have essentially formed a habit. The benefit of a habit is that the desired behavior becomes more automatic. This means you are unburdened from thinking, decision making and most of all struggling with "will power."

The goal is to make physical activity and eating healthy more automatic, make them habits. This can transform "dieting" to simply eating a healthy "diet." Let's look at three strategies to build healthy habits.

1. **Think Positive:** Emotions create a mindset. The surprising power of mindset is that your thoughts, feelings, and expectations can influence meaningful changes in your body. If you feel a positive emotion immediately after a new behavior, it will likely become more automatic. Experts agree that long lasting changes are more likely when they are rooted in positive thinking (Harvard Health Publications 2012). Studies have revealed that adopting new behaviors out of guilt, fear, or because your doctor told you to, do not really work. Focus on what is compelling you to get healthy, focus on your "why." This enables a deeper, intrinsic motivation to help you stick with your new, positive mindset and keep you inspired to move forward toward a healthier you.
2. **Make it Easy:** Simplicity matters! If a behavior is easy you do not need much motivation to do it. However, if the behavior is hard you need a lot of motivation and that can wear you down. Both your brain and body provide you with very protective measures. Over time, your thoughts and actions will drift away

from challenges (i.e., eating right and exercising!). Therefore, by removing the challenge you make it easier to stay compliant. Studies show that one way to help combat unhealthy habits is by committing to small changes. Caitlyn Dye is a Ranch Fitness Center & Spa member and notes, "Last year, I was at my heaviest weight and I knew that I needed to change my habits. I started by making small changes that I was confident I could commit to. From March to August, I lost 45 pounds by making a few small changes. I exercised 25 minutes every morning, used a calorie tracker to monitor my nutrition and drank more water. Those three things made a huge difference not only in my weight loss, but in my energy and how I felt about myself."

3. **Stack Your Habits:** Work off a routine; this helps establish a designated reminder to do the new behavior. We all have habits rooted into our daily lives. Instead of trying to establish your new habit with a certain day, time or location try pairing it with an existing habit. Your current habits are well established; they have been structured and strengthened over many years. By linking a new habit with an existing one, you are tapping into a cycle that is already there. This helps to stick with your new behavior and boost success. Examples of "habit stacking" are (1) during my morning cup of coffee I will write out my meal plan for the day; (2) after I make my bed I will do five minutes of stretching; and (3) after I clean up the dinner dishes, I will immediately pack my gym bag for the next day.

If you have a strong desire to improve your health and wellbeing, creating healthy habits will help! Forget about your New Year's resolution, a resolution implies you are correcting something about yourself that is wrong. This negative perspective can drag you down. Try reflecting on what it is you want in your life and then implementing one of these strategies to get it.

World News Delivery

Each household in On Top of the World should receive a complimentary copy of the World News along with the Ocala StarBanner every month.

If you are not receiving home delivery, please email otownews@otowfl.com. Please include your house number and street address along with your neighborhood name.

A copy of the World News may be picked up at all postal centers, Resident Services, New Home Sales

Center, Recreation Center, Arbor Fitness Center, The Club at Candler Hills, The Lodge at Candler Hills, Candler Hills Community Center, Master the Possibilities, The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa, Indigo East Community Center and Indigo East Fitness Center.

Visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala, to view or download a PDF of the World News. Please see page 2 of the World News to view the publication/delivery schedule for 2021.

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Sidekicks Western Dance

Paula Shira

April is here and the Sidekicks coordinators are in planning mode for a year end party. Thank you to Jean and Jack Hester for taking the lead on this. We know it will be great. This dance season has been a real challenge. We have danced on Zoom, planned, danced on Zoom, planned some more and finally were able to have 50 masked people in the Recreation Center Ballroom together. We have even incorporated Zoom in the ballroom for spe-

cial occasions. We have managed to start a beginner class which is thriving, and we are now planning for summer.

Normally, we take a break in the summer and we will do that once our season officially ends but we will be back on the dance floor again in early or mid-June. We are planning workshops that will run two weeks in a row and then we will have a regular night of dancing with a full agenda. The beginner class will continue to meet weekly until the end of July so they can learn more of the dances that the main group does. They are also encouraged to join the main group during our summer sessions as we will dance the dances they have learned

plus review and teach dances we know they want to learn.

Looking forward to the fall, we are thinking of adding a beginner plus class for the current first year dancers as a transition to dancing with the main group.

We are looking forward to the day when the entire club can dance together again without any limits. It is always exciting to see new faces in the circle and it is even more exciting when we see our first-year dancers start to mentor the next new group of beginners which will be forming later in the year. Stand by for more information on that.

In the meantime, keep dancing. I always say dance as if no one is watching but Lois Hull, one of our

club members posted to our Facebook page that we should dance like toddlers. They don't even need music.

Visit pattern dancers.wixsite.com/sidekicks or check us out on Facebook (Sidekicks Partner Dance Club).

The Sidekicks circle is never complete without each and every one of you and there is always room for more.

Please stay safe, follow all the protocols in place, and dance every day.

Dancing is not only fun ... it is good for you. Dance every chance you get and dance as if no one is watching.



Ballet Club

Eugenie Martin

Happy spring to all! Aren't we lucky to have such beautiful weather here in Ocala? I think it is the best weather in our country. In addition, it is a wonderful time of year for more outdoor activity and lighter, more revealing, clothing. And ballet is a wonderful way to improve your body's fitness for that light clothing. Ballet also improves strength, balance and flexibility for many kinds of activities, such as walking, biking, sports, aerobics, and other dance classes.

We now have a weekly beginner class, stressing the basics in ballet barre exercises and dance steps. It is also a good technique class for more advanced dancers. The beginner class is held on Fridays, at noon. This class is open to anyone who is interested in joining our group, and a good way to experience ballet without needing a lot of previous training.

All of our classes are held at the Arbor Conference Center Ballet Room, which is just to the left of the public restrooms. Our complete class schedule is shown below:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1 to 2:15 p.m.
- Fridays (beginner class): noon to 1:15 p.m.
- Saturdays: 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

At the Ballet Club, we have two teachers - Suzanne Scheraga and myself. Suzanne usually teaches on Saturday, and I teach the other three classes. If one of us is unable to teach, the other can do it.

We welcome all newcomers to class, and ballet clothes are not necessary to start. Exercise clothes and socks are just fine. Also, please bring a bottle of water, and wear a mask. For information about our classes or our group, please call me at (352) 854-8589. Happy dancing!



New Dancin' On the Top

Arlo Janssen

The spring season is under way here in Florida and Easter Sunday soon upon us. All of our officers with the New Dancin' On the Top Club wish you and your family a happy Earth Day. We want you and our family of dancers to be safe and healthy this summer. We want you to enjoy dancing when it returns full time to our great community.

A great big "thank you" to all those club members who have volunteered to help with our past and future dances. Our club provides dancing for everyone at all levels - ballroom, waltz, meringue, line, freestyle, slow, pattern dancing, etc.

The New Dancin' On the Top Club membership cards are here and are available for members and will be available at our first dance. Preparations are under way for dances to be held later this year. Please watch for any future changes to our New Dancin' On the Top calendar. Our club members are anxious to do

more dancing this year!

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

For club membership, ticket information, what the club is about,

or if you want to help with our dances, please contact Jack or Jean Hester at (919) 291-8542, (919) 669-6919 or hestermulch@aol.com; or Donna Cottrell at (410) 591-7899. We are looking for volunteers to backup Jack and Jean as president and Donna as secretary/communication. Please call Jean or Donna if interested. The New Dancin' On the Top club is open to all residents. Keep on dancing into the great year 2021.

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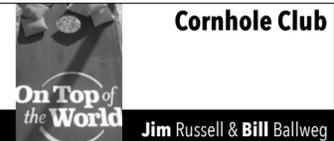
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Would you like to learn how to play cornhole? There will be an instruction class for how to play cornhole Wednesday, May 12, at 1 p.m. If you are interested, contact Bill Ballweg at otowcornhole@yahoo.com.

OPEN PLAY: With the arrival of daylight-saving time, open play is available each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, at 7 p.m. (not Friday as noted in last month's column).

As always, come early, sign in and we will begin play when we have 24 players or when the clock strikes 7 p.m., whichever comes first. The addition of fans and lights at the Veterans Park facility will make summertime play even more enjoyable this year.

Check out who has entered our cornhole hall of fame - Donna Hansen accomplished seven three pointers in a row, up from her previous six in a row and Marie Anderson joins the group with five in a row, a great accomplishment for this relatively new player. Well done to both of you!

WOMEN'S LEAGUE: The inaugural season for the women's league was eventful and exciting. The Seekers (Donna Hansen and Angela Ward) however left no doubt who would win the championship by taking an early lead and finishing in the top spot. Finishing in second place was The Working Girls (Robin Ballweg and Karen Jensen). Congratulations to all of the ladies for a great season, special thanks to Vickie Foster for her devotion and efforts to start this new league.

MEN'S LEAGUE: The winter season men's league has come to an end with the Undertakers (Bob Helf and Bill Ballweg) claiming their seventh championship. Finishing in second place, The Professors (Joe Lawson and Dave Rearick) followed in third by The Corn Slingers (Charles Lemme and Glen Richard). We look forward to the spring season to see if some of these new, and existing teams, continue to beat the once invincible Undertakers. Thank you to all eight teams that participated in the winter season;



Photo by Bill Ballweg

Winners of the inaugural women's cornhole league, The Seekers (Donna Hansen and Angela Ward).

the quality of play was unmatched by prior seasons and thus led to an exciting and eventful season.

MIXED LEAGUE: With one week left in the season The Teachers (Donna Hansen and Joe Lawson) have clinched their second consecutive championship. Managing to fend off the competition The Teachers have managed to play a

very tough schedule and witnessed only one loss. It appears the Cornhuskers (Robin and Bill Ballweg) will settle for second place followed by a surprising new team Old Polks (Brenda and Bill Andrews). The Old Polks started the season with a six-game losing streak before turning it around for a very successful third place finish.

With the end of the winter season all of the teams are setting their sights on the spring season. With the influx of new teams coupled with strong existing teams it will be another exciting and eventful season.

If you are interested in playing in the cornhole leagues contact Bill Ballweg at wabaweg@yahoo.com.

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Photo by Capt. Ray Moses

Winner, winner, fish for dinner. Club members VaDonna Hall, Roger Bonifield and Tom Moyer enjoyed a great day out fishing the flats with a local charter captain.



Call of the Wild

Roger Bonifield

We may not have had an official club meeting in over a year, but that hasn't stopped members from get-

ting out on the water for some great fishing. One of the great things about Call of the Wild Sports Club is that if you want to go fishing, you rarely have any trouble finding someone to go with you. Our club website can put any member in touch with just about any other member. Now that we will soon be restarting regular meetings, that

will be even easier.

Our first members only meeting is in just a few days Wednesday, April 7, at 1 p.m. in our old meeting room in the Hobby Building. Members must pre-register for that meeting on our website. Hopefully, future meetings will be open to anyone, member or guest, dependent upon any remaining capac-

ity restrictions. We have a slightly adjusted meeting time, on the first Wednesday of every month, in the Hobby Building Event Room, from 1 to 3 p.m. We have a lot of events and special surprises to announce as soon as things get rolling.

If you would like more information about Call of the Wild Sports Club, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at (352) 300-3601.

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And the Music Goes On ...

By BJ Leckbee
World News Writer



Dulcimer Group practicing in the Arbor Activity Center.

Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

Approximately 10 years ago, a resident named Caroline, who loved to play the mountain dulcimer, moved into a new home in Candler Hills. She immediately began a search for others who also played this instrument. Finding none, she

invited neighbors and new-found friends to her home to listen to her play this lap instrument, with the hope that some would want to learn and join her.

Many listened, but few took up the dare of learning something so unusual in their retirement years. But a few did dare, and soon others joined them. Caroline eventually stepped aside, and seven novice players agreed to form a weekly group to continue improving. Improve they did, and the group grew. Someone said, "Let's invite other string instrument players to join us" and a flyer was created to that effect. The results were truly surprising.

In short order, a violinist (aka a fiddler) appeared; also auto harp and guitar players.

Now there were 10 members in the group, and they signed up for a room in the Arbor Activity Center where they continued practicing every week.

Then one of the clubs asked the Dulcimer Group to play at their annual Christmas party.

After much discussion that included statements like, "I don't think we're ready for that," and "We'd have to keep it really simple," the decision was made to perform for the first time. This became the first of many performances which included visits to assisted living facilities, participation in several kick-off events for Master the Possibilities, a one-time special performance on stage at the Reilly Arts Center in Ocala, and many club-related activities here in On Top of the World.

An announcer at one of the performances declared this unique group a "mini-orchestra," and so it is.

The Dulcimer Group continues to practice every Tuesday in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room, as masks don't interfere with playing a lap instrument, and the chairs are appropriately placed.

As it happens with all groups, people come and go and some of the original members are no longer playing their dulcimers; but they started something special, and the music goes on.

All You Knit is Love

By Jan Spielvogel

At the risk of sounding like broken record Happy Hookers continues to meet separately and work privately on their projects. We continue to anxiously wait for the time we will be able to bring our group together. Here's just a few of the projects from our group that are being worked on or are completed.

- I have gotten "hooked" on knitting the most beautiful scarves. The new yarns are fabulous and make the scarf feel like a fur coat.
- Just finished a Sesame Street afghan and Elmo doll for my youngest granddaughter.
- I just finished knitting a dress for our great grand-

daughter. I'm also working on a knitted blanket which has cars and trucks on it for our great grandson as a Christmas present.

- Completed two sweaters for my granddaughters which were based on a designer sweater worn by British singer/songwriter, Harry Styles (www.insider.com/tiktok-tutorials-harry-styles-cardigan-designer-sewing-pattern-2020-7).

Our Happy Hookers group is open to all residents. When we are able to meet as a group, we will meet year-round on Mondays, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Build-

ing Art Room. There are no dues or agenda and no penalties for missing a meeting, arriving late or leaving early. 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 with crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering and handcrafting of all kinds. This is a very talented group that's never too busy to help someone with a difficult pattern or stitch. We wel-

come newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they happen to be working on.

If you have any questions about our club, you may call Naomi Berman at (352) 873-4328. If you have yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, 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 contact Ellyn Weir at (352) 509-4355 to arrange for pickup.



Harry Styles sweater.

Photo by Barbara Mutrynowski



Sesame Street blanket.

Photo by Laura Seifert



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ShutterBugs Photography

Connie Filip

What a beautiful time of year to be here in Florida, and to find some picturesque Florida scenes or animal life to photograph.

If you're new to the area, here are two of my favorite nearby locations:

You can see the real Florida at Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park located about 30 miles southwest of our community. Once you reach the visitor's center, you take either a 15-minute boat ride or quick tram ride into the park. Entrance fee is \$13 per adult, payable at the park, or online on the day of your visit. The park opens at 9 a.m.

It showcases native Florida wildlife, including manatees, black bears, bobcats, white-tailed deer, American alligators, American crocodiles, and river otters.

Modern thinking about captive wildlife has influenced how the park is managed. Now, the only animals kept either have injuries that prevent their survival in the wild or became too dependent on humans over the years to exist safely on their own. Volunteers roam the park to explain the animal behaviors and answer questions.

For more information and directions, visit floridastateparks.org/park/Homosassa-Springs.

My other favorite is Sweetwater Wetlands Park. It was created to protect the sensitive wetlands of Paynes Prairie from Gainesville's storm runoff and is located just south of Gainesville at 325 SW Wiliston Road.

This season is perfect for taking photographs of numerous birds attracted to the water as well as wildlife, including alligators.

It's open from 7 a.m. until sunset, with boardwalks and easily accessible gravel trails. Daily admission is \$5 per car, payable in cash or online.

For details and directions, visit sweetwaterwetlands.org/.

ShutterBugs' month-long April exhibit in Master the Possibilities' lobby is by Gordon Daniels. His display is a project he worked on every single day in 2020, called the "365 Photo Challenge."

Our club president sends out weekly newsletters with a "tip" at the end. In December 2019, there was a "365 Photo Challenge" tip to use your camera to take a photo a day for the entire year.

Gordon says, "That sounded easy but as time went on, it really did become a "challenge." I wanted something creative and different every day - not 10 sunrises or 10 horses. Then when everything shut down, there were no car shows, concerts, sports, or festivals." He posted every day on his Facebook page for 366 days, due to leap year. Now that's dedication!

Gordon's career was as a photo-journalist, so I'm sure his display will be eye-catching. Be sure to stop by Master the Possibilities lobby to see more of his photos!

And for more information about our club and to see more of our talented member photographs, visit our website at otowspc.com.

Want to learn more about digital photography? You can contact Gary Uhley, our club president, at (352) 854-8536 or gsuhley@gmail.com.



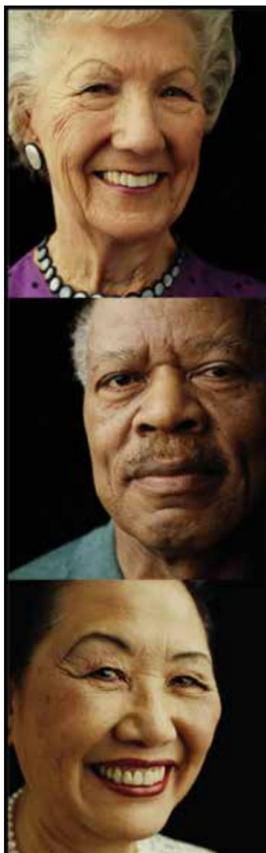
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Getting your ducks in a row.



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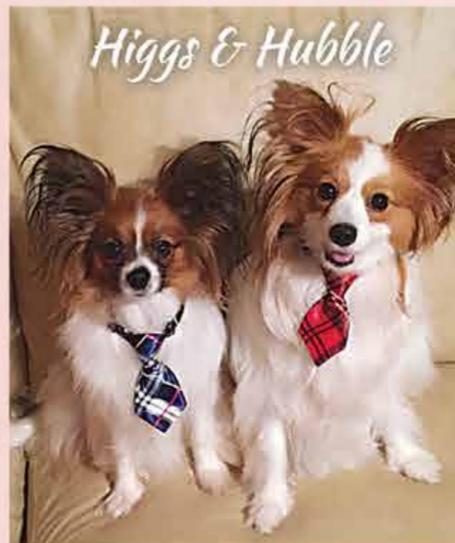
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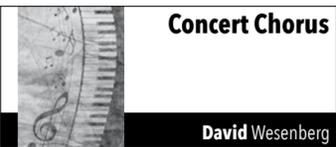
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Concert Chorus

David Wesenberg

Concert Chorus activities are still temporarily suspended. However, we hope to be back for winter 2021. This is a great time to think about singing with the Concert Chorus when we can meet and begin preparing a concert in September. We are all hopeful that will be the case.

Our fall concert focuses on music for the holidays. Sharing familiar songs, and introducing a few

unfamiliar songs is great fun for our wonderful audience and great fun to sing.

Our spring performances are typically based on a musical theme and include show tunes and popular music that audiences know well. Some are challenging to sing, which is half the fun in preparing for them.

Singing is always a lot of fun! Especially with others. Join us and find out for yourself how much fun it is to sing and prepare our musical programs in the spring and fall. Contact May Ann Majni at (954) 557-8176 or flmam68@aol.com for more information.



Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr

The weather has been gorgeous; it's the primary reason we moved here!

Life is starting to feel a little more normal. However, we still cannot meet. I would like to invite card makers to send me a photo of a card they are especially proud of. This is the time to show off your creativity. I will submit a photo monthly until we are meeting in person again.

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.

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

For information on any class or for general information, contact Kathy at the number/email below. 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 Hoefler at (352) 237-6439 or kathyh508@yahoo.com. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin'!



View from the Library

Linda Barilli

Tony Hillerman was the author of the many books that brought us into the sacred land of the Navajos. We followed the lives of Navajo Police Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn, Sergeant Jim Chee, and his wife Officer Bernis Manuelito.

Tony's daughter Anne Hillerman took up where Tony left off. In her book, "The Tale Teller," many loose ends weave together to form an intriguing story. Anne drew inspiration from the Navajo history of the Long Walk and the Trail of Tears. Many items from that era such as jewelry and clothing are surrounded by mystery.

Anne incorporates many landmarks, such as Hubble Trading Post in Arizona, the Navajo Nation's library and police office in Window Rock, towns of Shiprock, Winslow and Flagstaff, which still exist today.

Anne has closely followed in her father's storytelling footsteps. You will enjoy visiting the world of the Navajo until the very last page. This book can be found in hardcover mystery.

"Endangered" by C.J. Box is one of many stories involving Game Warden Joe Pickett, as he roams the mountains of Wyoming.

Pickett's adopted daughter, April, was found wounded on the side of the road. Her boyfriend, a rodeo champion, is suspected of foul play, but evidence points to

someone else in town. At the same time, Pickett is investigating a flock of sage grouse that have been assaulted, and the disappearance of a person of interest.

This is a fast-moving book full of unexpected twists and turns. Pickett is faced with many challenges, but throughout everything his wife and family stand behind him and do whatever they can to help him get through it all. "Endangered" can be found in the softcover mystery section.

"The King Tides" by James Swain is fast paced where the characters come alive and impossible to put down.

Get inside the head of ex-Navy Seal Jon Lancaster as he closes cases with seemingly insurmountable obstacles. He uses unconventional approaches to solve complex situations. In "The King Tides," Lancaster is protecting a teenage girl whose privacy has been compromised. And all loose ends get tied up in the end. There is a Florida section in the library, and that is where this book can be found.

Here in On Top of the World, we have many authors who deal with a variety of interests. For instance, we have Charlotte Rother, and her husband, Hubert, who took it upon themselves to explore and write about the interesting "Lost Caves of St. Louis." Charlotte stated that "caves are the buried treasure of history." Unfortunately, we do not have this book on the shelves. But here's a shout out to our many honored authors.



Photo by Linda Lohr

Engagement card by Linda Lohr.

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Sewing Bees

Linda Lohr

We are still collecting dues for 2021 - \$15 per year or \$7.50 for snowbirds.

Several residents have been coming in person to sew quilts, tie the quilts or pin quilts to be sewn.

Animal pillows have to be sewn and stuffed, tote bags for the children have to be sewn and we also make ditty bags to hold small toiletries.

Others come in to pick up projects, as they prefer to sew at home at this time. Either way, the creations are made and delivered to various agencies each month.

We've had many wonderful donations of material and we thank

each and every one of our donors. Currently we are in need of cash donations to purchase the batting needed for our quilts. Donations can be mailed to me at 8387 SW 84th Loop or they can be dropped off to the hive any Thursday, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Thank you in advance.

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 Hobby Building Art Room, 12:30 to 3pm. We would be happy to show you our creations made with love for the children. You may find our club is just what you have been looking for to round out your week.

Please contact Kathy Nardone at (352) 300-3063 or Marsha Schmeer at (813) 920-3487 with any questions or concerns.



Photo by Linda Lohr

Detail of a donated quilt.



Photo by Sherina Wheeker

Time to unwind with calming island scents.



Artistic Crafts & Gifts

Chris Kilbride

The Artistic Crafts & Gifts group's Tuesday crafts show at the Recreation Center Ballroom is from 9 a.m. to noon each week. Our website ArtisticCrafts.org will give you

a glimpse of what you'll find each Tuesday and includes the listings of our virtual vendors. Feel free to connect with any crafter throughout the week if you find something you would like to purchase. All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday show.

This month we feature the background of Sherina Wheeker who spent her early years growing up on an island before moving to London, England to attend nursing school. After graduation, she ventured out with some Irish and English nurse friends to work in Palm Beach County, where they all still remain friends to this day. It was there that she met her husband and raised her children.

Nursing had been a very rewarding vocation with many challenges for Sherry. What helped her through any previous difficult times was lots of tea and relaxing with a lighted pleasant, scented candle. It signified peace, hope and joy by putting the unpleasant times to rest. Her friends and co-workers called her the scent guru back then.

It wasn't until she was faced with her own challenges that she found the same peace, hope and healing in creating these candles and aromatherapy oils for gifting to her friends and family. With their love and encouragement, she created eco-friendly soy, clean burning and phthalate free candles. She also created a calming aromatherapy body oil made with quality organic oils and essential oils.

Thereafter "Kandle Cay" was born, a name she just couldn't resist, because of her love of the ocean and being an island girl.

Sherry is enjoying her creative adventure. She hopes her products bring her customers as much joy, peace, hope and happiness as she has found when using them. Her Kandle Cay line is available to ship as a gift box to anyone, and she offers residents free home delivery. The gift boxes include candles and the body oil set, or just candles. Please check out her listing and photos on our website.

For those who have never visited on Tuesday, please take an hour and go by and see the wide variety of quality items for sale. All vendors are now part of our virtual website also, so you can see everyone's crafts even if you can't get to the weekly show. Any vendor can make arrangements for you to purchase items throughout the week.

If you have your own artistic endeavor you wish to sell, please contact us through our website ArtisticCrafts.org where our coordinator Rene can answer all your questions.



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Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development
Sholom Park will host the fourth annual Fun at the Park Music and Art festival Sunday, May 2, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Finding Zen



Christina Shearer
 info@sholompark.org

Sholom Park is excited to announce the upcoming fourth annual Fun at the Park Music and Art festival Sunday, May 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of live music and more than two dozen local artists and craftspeople as they display their talent for all to see.

It may not be Cinco de Mayo, but

it is dos de Mayo on the Sholom Park stage with the Nino Castañeda band. Enjoy a blend of jazz and Latin American rhythms from this six-piece Latin jazz band, complete with horns, percussion, guitars, and vocals. All are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets to enjoy music on the stage. The musical entertainment doesn't end there as you will find the classical sounds of Heartstrings, a string trio of talented musicians playing violins and cello by the koi pond.

"Sholom Park is turning into a cultural hub," says Sholom Park



Photo courtesy of Janis Holte-Pavlatos
Residents decorate a tree on a monthly basis at the Recreation Center. Did you see the bunny tree?

Managing Director Robert Colen. "The park offers diverse and unique experiences for all ages. Due to current circumstances, we wanted to provide a family-friendly activity while following safety and health guidelines set by local health officials."

Introduce your children to the world of the arts through interactive art and music stations. Become an instant artist at Picasso's Palette, or design a garden rock with Ocala Rocks and visit the Early Learning Coalition for engaging activities, and much more. Make your way to

the jasmine covered pergebo where you'll find the On Top of the World Ukulele Club entertaining all with the fun and tropical sounds of the ukulele.

Join us Sunday, May 2, for a celebration of music and art. Park guests are asked not to bring their furry friends or alcohol on park grounds. Lawn chairs and blankets are allowed, and various food trucks will be onsite for food purchases. For more information about Fun at the Park, call (352) 873-0848 ext. 7371 or visit sholompark.org.



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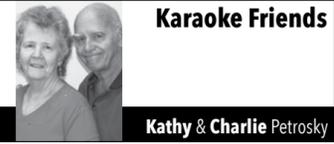
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Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky

Today is April Fools' Day. The day is not a public holiday in any country except Odessa in Ukraine. The first of April is an official city holiday. The custom of setting aside a day for playing harmless pranks is common. There are many songs you could sing for the day with "fool" in the lyrics. We sing "Everybody's Somebody's Fool," "Why Do Fools Fall in Love," and "Fools Rush In." That is just to name a few. Many more can be found on YouTube.com.

We hear the proverb; "April showers bring May flowers." But the question is do they really? The short answer is yes! As winter draws to a close, the days begin to warm up and become longer. The precipitation that falls comes as rain instead of snow or ice. We

could also think that a period of discomfort can bring days of happiness and joy.

The reference to April showers likely originated in the United Kingdom or Ireland, where the month of April tends to be especially rainy because of the position of the jet stream. The cooler climate in these areas also tends to push back the appearance of many flower species to late April and early May.

"April Showers" is a popular song. The song was introduced in the 1921 Broadway musical "Bombo." It was performed by Al Jolson. Over the years it has also been recorded by many other artists, such as, Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland.

You can do a search on YouTube.com for the April rain song. Langston Hughes recites the poem. Another April song you may enjoy is Marty Robbins' "April Fools' Day." Dionne Warwick sang "The April Fools" in 1969.

For fun, I looked up songs that talk about a shower. The Broadman hymn, "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings" says that is what we need now. We need showers of blessing upon us.

James Taylor recorded, "Shower the People." He tells us to "shower the people we love with love. Show them the way that you feel." He predicts all things will work out well if we shower people with love. What a happy thought.

Music can add to any day. There are many happy songs. Until we meet keep a song in your heart.

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April showers.

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Poetry

John Kinser Hall

My World of Poems

I write my poems to the world
so it can see inside
The soul that this shell covers
where heart and love abide
I believe a man will live just
while his name is spoken
But in my case the name shall
die because the chain is broken
No son will carry on my name,
once I have gone to sleep
So I write my poems, with hope
my name they keep.



Poetry

Linda Toner

To My Daughter-In-Law

At some time, the job of a
mother
Is to set him free, to find another
Who will walk with him, hand-in-hand
With love and trust, across the land
Who will make him laugh, who
will make him cry
But always be by his side
To stand with him through joy
and strife
To honor him as his wife
I am so glad you love my son
May you always be that special
one.

On Top of the World NEWS

UPCOMING PUBLICATION
May Issue
Thursday, April 29, 2021



SPCA of Marion County cannot take in cats or kittens at this time. We do not have fosters for them. We support our foster pet parents with food, supplies, and veterinary care. All we ask of the foster is love and nurturing for the cat. Visit spcaofmarioncounty.weebly.com to download a foster application or call (352) 362-0985, and an application can be mailed to you.

This month's featured pets are Andrew and Meghan. They have been in foster care most of their young lives. They really would like a home of their own. They both are closing in on three years of age. They are healthy and up to date on vaccines. Meghan wants to cuddle and join you in a chair during TV time. She has blossomed into a beautiful affectionate kitty. Andrew is shy and would probably do better in a home with a companion animal.

We advertise available pets for adoption and accept donations at the weekly Thursday Circle Square Commons Farmers Market and at the Tuesday craft show in the Recreation Center Ballroom. When the weather is warmer, pets will join us at the Farmers Market. Stop by and say, "Hi!" All your donations are very appreciated.



Andrew (top) and Meghan (bottom).

Photos by Paula Gajewski

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A Special Sisterhood

By Elaine Morrison
World News Writer

Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret; Serena and Venus; Maria and Sasha; and Jackie and Lee ... if you're thinking, these are the names of sisters, past and present, you are correct. And the experts tell us, those who grow up with at least one sister tend to be happy women who are more likely to cope well with difficult situations. In the song about sisters, some of the lines include "I'm here to keep my eye on her," and "caring and sharing." There is even a National Sister's Day each year on Aug. 5.

Being blessed, personally, with sisterhood, elder sister to boot, made me curious as to how other sisters dwelling in our community might exhibit some of the above mentioned qualities.

Who wouldn't be happy having

a sister cook the daily dinner for her and her husband? That is the arrangement between Iro Lisinski and Honey Hilzen. Their incredible story is documented in a self-published book written by Honey, "Four Lives Despite the Odds," which reads more like a work of fiction than a true story. Their family of seven, five girls and two boys, fathered by five different men, gives you a glimpse about the challenges that had to be met. Honey, who is eight years older than Iro, treated her like a real live doll and eventually came to regard her as her first daughter. This family's dynamic clearly exhibits Honey's coping mechanism and Iro's happiness. She does not enjoy cooking, Honey loves cooking, and voila, joy.

When Honey and her husband

Bob, who Iro worked for 25 years in New York City, decided to relocate to On Top of the World, where Iro had already been living for several years, the task of finding the perfect house fell to Iro. She heard about a friend wishing to sell and knew immediately that was the place for her sister and brother-in-law. For Honey, a home represents such an important component to life, it is almost more meaningful than people.

Since moving here three years ago, Honey, who was a patron of the cultural scene in New York for many years, has taken advantage of the local museums and art groups. She has also written a sequel to her first book, "Honey," which further documents her extraordinary life to date.

The situation for Beth Wolinsky and her sister Didi Johnson is somewhat similar in that Beth is also the older sister and takes credit for teaching Didi to read at a very young age, quite prophetic as Beth did become a renowned New York City public school teacher.

Geographic distance made in person visits difficult for the sisters for many years. But recent events changed that, and Didi, who has been living with Beth in her On Top of The World home for several months, has just bought a villa here and is looking forward to moving into it in the next few months.

Both sisters enjoy being in the kitchen, and Didi is a skilled baker, so you can imagine the frequent happy moments for both in that household.

Didi, who began equestrian therapy while living in Tennessee, is looking forward to restarting these treatments when she gets settled. "I love horses," she says, and is delighted to be living in an area where she can see them by just taking a pleasant drive anywhere.

Close proximity, how about across the road, is a brand new concept for sisters Aggie Mahoney and Debbie Wallace. They had never lived anywhere near each other in their adult lives until recently, when Debbie relocated from Wisconsin. Coming from a family of seven girls and one boy, the sisters like to tell about their mother being pregnant with Debbie when their oldest sister got engaged, a span of 20 years between the oldest and youngest child.

Aggie, a military wife, saw a lot of bases in the early years of her marriage, "while my husband saw a lot of the world." While they were stationed in Saudi Arabia Aggie used her coping skill to teach the locals how to make their own liquor. You can determine how that worked out on your own.

Debbie and her husband moved here in September and are in the process of furnishing and decorating their home. Both are gifted with abilities of crafting and woodworking, and Debbie creates unique pieces of garden art using unusual items including bowling balls.

This sister story does not end with only Aggie and Debbie. Their beloved eldest sister, Margie Cotter, also lived here until recently. And another sister, Christine Witt, who presently lives in Miami, will be making her home here when she retires in the near future. In case you might want to know, the lone brother does live in Florida, in St. Augustine.

My own personal sister story has its roots in a beautiful offer from a much younger sister living here who said, "let me be here for you when you may need me." Although at the time there was no need, my husband and I did respond affirmatively and have resided in On Top of the World for nine years. With changing circumstances, I will, come this summer, be moving in with my sister, Pam Monk, and brother-in-law Mark, when the home they are building in the Kestrel neighborhood is completed.

Pam does say she has now come to know me on a whole other level and likes to point out some raw characteristics she was unaware of. We are delighted that at this stage of our lives we have added friendship to our already existing loving sibling relationship, truly a blessing. So, while my sister may be a Monk (her surname) to me she is a Saint.

To a lady, the sisters all agree that having easy proximity to each other adds a wondrous dimension to their relationships which they would never have otherwise been able to experience. They are enjoying every new adventure they share and are filled with gratitude and joy. And that, sister, that surely is saying something special.



Photo by Mark Monk

Seated, left to right, Debbie Wallace, Honey Hilzen, Elaine Morrison and Didi Johnson. Standing, left to right, Aggie Mahoney, Iro Lisinski, Pam Monk and Beth Wolinsky.

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Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

Master the Possibilities' instructor Dee Collier being interviewed by WUFT for "The Greater Good" series.

PBS Films Master the Possibilities

By Jordan Litherland

It wasn't an ordinary day in the office for Master the Possibilities (MTP) Tuesday, March 2. It was all lights, camera, action as a team from WUFT came to film and interview Master the Possibilities and highlight them in the "Greater Good" series along with a few other not-for-profit lifelong learning centers in North Central Florida.

The "Greater Good" series is a WUFT produced show highlighting non-profit organizations in North Central Florida. Airing weekly with a different theme, the organizations involved take viewers through the various organizations, history, mission, and community impact. This series highlights what makes our community great and what contributes to the greater good.

"The MTP team was extremely excited about the Greater Good opportunity with WUFT," says Master the Possibilities' Director of Education Michelle Shideler. "This gave us the opportunity to showcase how

our lifelong learning center ties in with the community and county, and how the vision of MTP can be shared with anyone who chooses to always be a student."

Master the Possibilities is one of the largest not-for-profit lifelong learning centers in Central Florida. Offering 15 to 20 classes daily, MTP tries to make each day better educationally by pushing students to explore their interests, uncover their passions, and leverage their talents. Students can find courses from various languages to photography, arts, and everything else in between.

PBS's "Greater Good" series with Master the Possibilities and other lifelong learning centers aired Friday, March 26. If you missed the episode, please visit wuft.org/greater-good to re-watch the episode.

To view Master the Possibilities' full course schedule, please visit masterthepossibilities.org/class-calendar or call (352) 861-9751.

Reading is Good for You

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

Turn on the television these days and you are bombarded with news that will drive your blood pressure into orbital numbers! Stay tuned and lawyers will tell you how they'll make you rich, car dealers will blow out your ear drums with "the best deal in town," and, of course, you'll be convinced that you need a new mattress. Exhausted from all this brain drain? Pick up a book.

A recent Wall Street Journal article authored by Elizabeth Bernstein entitled, "The Therapeutic Value of Reading," tells us that neurologists, psychologists, and, of course, your high school English teacher, all agree that reading is good for the brain — and the soul. This past year, book sales have been up more than 8%, and online, digital book sales topped 2019 by 17%. That tells us that there are plenty of smart people out there feeling the soothing effects of a good read.

With all the noise surrounding our everyday lives it's no wonder more are retreating into another world, which works miracles for our psychological well-being. A good book allows us an escape and enter a world full of imagination, visualization, and, very often, tranquility. It is so restful to turn off the TV, cell phone, computer, and our other "gadgets," and just listen to the quiet.

Bernstein equates reading to meditation, as do, so many avid readers. "Anxiety," she says, "releases hormones that increase our stress levels." Diving into a book, whether fiction or non-fiction, a biography, history, or maybe even poetry, can abate stress and make us happier and more productive individuals.

It is interesting that some people will read topics that relate directly to the turmoil going on around them. Reading the facts can often relieve anxiety.

Still, others prefer to immerse themselves in a book that is on the farthest plane from current events, e.g., something by Hemingway, Jane Austen, Dickens, Faulkner, or more current authors like, Delia Owens,

"Where the Crawdads Sing," and "The Girl on the Train," by Paula Hawkins.

Each of these authors will take you to places that allow the imagination to freely associate with a different time and place, leaving behind today's noise.

If you haven't read in a while but think it's now a good idea to get back to it, maybe starting out with a short story is a smart approach. "The Best American Short Stories" is published every year. It aggregates what the author believes to be the best short stories written that year. These books are an excellent beginning. If you start reading a story and it doesn't "grab" you, you can just flip to the next one — neat!

Books are everywhere — online, our library, Marion County Public Library System, bookstores, thrift stores and Master the Possibilities. So, pick up a book, turn off the gadgets, find a comfortable corner of your world, and let your imagination run free. Your brain will thank you — maybe even your friends.



Photo by Ray Cech

Joan Cech escaping into another world.

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Visiting Maine

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

We all have our favorite summer vacation spot — maybe it's the Smoky Mountains, the Upper Peninsula in Michigan, the Jersey shore or maybe the Minnesota lake region. For the more adventurous, it could be a boat cruise down the Danube.

For us, it's the coast of Maine. What comes to mind when anyone mentions Maine? Lobster, of course — but there's so much more. This year we will be spending our eighth summer on the coast of Maine just outside the small town of Bath. On their visitor's brochure, Bath bills itself as, "Maine's Coolest Little City." We, in turn, would refer to it as the prettiest little town in Maine. But all along the coast, starting with the southern town of Kittery and driving north along route one, you will discover one pretty town after the other.

Driving north from Boston we usually look forward to the clam chowder and fried clams at Billy's

Chowder House in Wells. Overlooking the harbor, it's our first taste of Maine and we immediately know, "we've arrived."

After lunch at Billy's, we'll save room for dessert at The Gross Confection Bar in Portland — a short drive up from Wells Fresh brewed coffee and a whoopie pie for me and apple pie topped with whipped cream for Joan. To walk off our indulgences, we stroll around the old district window shopping and popping in and out of curio shops. Portland, Maine, is a foodie's delight. It has won awards from Bon Appetit, Food and Wine magazine, The New York Times and James Beard. It's probably the weight-gain capital of Maine.

If you're not a coastal person, you can drive northwest out of Portland and head to beautiful Lake Sebago. Go fishing, kayaking, swimming, hiking or just throw a blanket down and watch the clouds roll by. At night you can try to count a billion or so stars. You can rent a cabin, check into a hotel or pitch a tent — Lake Sebago is a beautiful destination spot or a layover on your drive north.

From Sebago it's only about 60 miles to Augusta, the state capital, one of the oldest and prettiest in the U.S. It is worth the visit (driv-

ing over on Route 24 is prettier than I-95). If you only have a day or two, spend it at the arboretum, or if a history buff, the Maine State Museum.

From Augusta it's a good idea to head back to the coast (Route 17) and visit Rockport and Camden. Before heading to either of these towns be sure to go online and check out their festivals. They love festivals - art, lobster, blues and even a pie festival.

When in Camden, you may want to hike up one of the mountain trails for a fabulous view of the surrounding countryside, the town, and, of course, the bay. If you enjoy the water, take a sailing trip on the Schooner Mary Day. It's great fun, as well as educational. And if you're ready for some lobster, or

maybe a lobster roll, score a table at The Waterfront Cafe. Hint: If the waitperson is a Maine native, listen carefully.

Some folks prefer going farther north up to Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park. While it is a beautiful part of Maine, we prefer visiting and staying in the more southern regions. There are The Maritime museum in Bath, art galleries in Damariscotta, the arboretum in Boothbay Harbor, shopping in Freeport and strolling the farmers markets on Saturday mornings. When the mood strikes, we'll walk down to the dock from our cottage and help lobstermen unload their catch. We watch the sun rise slowly over the bay in warm colors. It'll be another beautiful day in Maine.



Photos by Ray Cech

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The New Pretenders
Nancy Grabowski

At a recent outdoor meeting, The New Pretenders were bemoaning the fact that we still don't have a date for our next production. We are so anxious to be back out on the stage! Maybe, just maybe, our wishes will come true sooner rather than later.

Naturally, our discussion turned to past performances. Not surprisingly, everyone had more than a few favorites. We were stunned to note we had covered so many aspects of the wide world of entertainment.

We have done opera thanks to appearances by our three tenors. They actually have graced the stage multiple times and been received enthusiastically. In fact, the last time they came out, they were joined by a country-western singer. This was made possible by a fortuitous glitch in scheduling. Fortunately, George Bausewein, Joe Wood, Ron Fulton and Bob Schmitt saved the day! Janet Becker and Dave Guildford amazed the audience with a serenade from "Phantom of the Opera" during a different program.

The Silent Monks performed "The Hallelujah Chorus" using sign cards. It took the entire New Pretenders ensemble to pull off this amazing feat. Another number that took all of us to enact was "The Preacher and the Bear" and it was a rousing good time. Who knew you could use beer bottles to rock out "Billie Jean?" We did it, though, and fascinated our audiences.

While dancing is not our forte, we have endeavored to create some impressive work. One featured the optical illusion dance named "Black and White." It took many hours of practice to develop but it was well worth the effort. It featured Shirley Schopf, Darlene Clark, Rich Cooperman, Bill Shampine, Joe Wood, Lewis Rooks, Joie Kurtz, and Carol Shisler. Kenneth Colen has delighted us with his tap dancing in memorable numbers like "Singing in the Rain" and "Minnie the Moocher;" Bob Wroblewski, impersonating George Burns, amazed us with a soft-shoe; not to be outdone, the band has danced to "The Mexi-

can Hat Rock." Each time we've used the music of ABBA, we have stunned the audience because it involved singing and tricky choreography.

The ladies have been just as willing to share their dance moves, too! Joie Kurtz, backed up by Darlene Clark, Edie Dieckman, and AJ Smallwood, made a sublime Tina Turner in "Rolling on the River" while several groups revived the Andrews Sisters' "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy." We've played and danced polkas including "The Strip Polka" ... what a hoot, just ask Mary Ann Berardi and Nancy Jennings-Fair!

All this thinking helped us realize that so many new neighbors have become a part of our community. We welcome them and hope that we arouse their curiosity enough to take in our show when next we appear. We hope, too, that our faithful followers enjoy some of our memories and will be there to help create new ones!

It's been so much fun strolling down memory lane. Of course, we have more we would like to recall. We plan to do more sharing in an upcoming column.



Photo by Lennie Rodoff
Tom Miller as "The Bricklayer."



Photo by Lennie Rodoff
Bob Wroblewski, George Brush, Edie Dieckman, Carol Shisler, Joie Kurtz, Rich Cooperman in "Grease."

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Photo by Anne Merrick

Carole Drost Lopez at life drawing.



Art Group

Anne Merrick

We have resumed our Wednesday quick live model drawing sessions in the Hobby Building Art Room from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. wearing masks and social distancing. We use a variety of tools, pencils, charcoal, pastels and all sorts of paper from scrap to newsprint. We aim to be free and easy with our strokes, to loosen up, be observant and translate with speed what we see, which is the whole point of the exercise. If you want to improve your skill you need to know that this is an ongoing process and though what you do at first may seem laughable don't give up. Each drawing will show you what you need to work on and will get easier each time.

Typical timing for this sort of quick gesture drawing starts at 30 seconds, then 60, two, five and 10 minutes. My preference is to do it

in reverse until familiar with the subject.

Before you pick up your pencil identify what interests you in the pose that you want to communicate in your drawing. You can start with the easiest, most evident variable, for example the tilt of the head, the angle of the shoulders or a dynamic gesture or movement.

No matter how you begin your drawing the essential information to try to find as quickly as possible is the general shape and tilt of the head, the line of the shoulders, the main action line and gesture of the pose, the placement of the feet and the approximate height and width of the pose. You are training your eyes to really see what is going on.

To place the figure correctly on the paper you can use several tricks to help. Draw the oval of the head; draw a line indicating the slope of the shoulders and a curve to identify the shape of the spine or the way the body is leaning. You can also draw straight angled lines to fit the outside of the whole figure. You may also draw the shape that the figure fits into for example a



Photo by Gail Schultz

Lyn Timm and her quilt.

triangle or an irregular shape.

Try different materials. The width of the line you draw may make it easier. Remember to relax and have fun and don't be put off if it doesn't look any good to you. Practice makes perfect. I should add that we take it in turns to be models.

We also do our thing on Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon. Bring your supplies and have a ball.



Sunshine Quilters

Karen Luther

Come join Sunshine Quilters! We welcome anyone interested in quilting. One-on-one mentoring is available to all. The club meets on Tuesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as well as our weekly sit & sew on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. Yearly membership dues are \$10. A club meeting is held once a month. Our focus is on supporting Alpha Center for Women and Marion Senior Services, as well as learning new sewing techniques, working on our own projects, and socializing among members. For more information about Sunshine Quilters, contact Lisa at (610)304-1273.

Our Thursday club calendar is as follows:

- April 6: Monthly meeting and brown bag spring luncheon (11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) at the Veterans Park pavilion.
- April 13: Sewing machine caddy taught by Yolanda.
- April 20: Block-of-the-month taught by Whitney.
- April 27: Sit & sew.
- May 4: Monthly meeting and sit & sew.

Welcome our newest member Dawn C. to our growing group of quilters.

This month, Sunshine Quilters features club member, Lyn Timm. Lyn and her husband, Bruce, moved to the On Top the World community in 2015 from Saratoga, New York. Lyn describes her 49-year marriage to Bruce as "we were high school sweethearts and now we are senior sweethearts." Lyn's early career path led her towards the cosmetology field, however her path changed and she created her own cleaning service. For 25 years, this allowed Lyn a flexible schedule to be involved in her children's activities. Lyn's interest in quilting was simply a fluke. She enrolled in quilting 101 "just to take up her evening hours" and was obviously hooked. Lyn's projects are completed on her preferred sewing machine, a Brother. Her go-to website for quilting information is Missouri Star Quilt Company, as well as surfing YouTube.com, which is filled with information on quilting projects. Lyn is currently serving as vice president of our club as well as special events coordinator. Lyn feels that our members are her favorite thing about Sunshine Quilters. "The members are wonderful, and they are all unique with different experiences in life as well as in quilting. They reach out to help one another in any way they can."

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Donations: Dog or cat food [SPCA of Marion County (352) 362-0985] • Non-perishable food for food bank, empty ink/laser cartridges and cards for veterans [Anne (843) 504-0032] • Personal hygiene, school/craft supplies & small appliances for homeless; pet food/supplies for animal shelters; used cell phones, computers & musical instruments for troops/veterans; theatrical costumes & props; socks, underwear & men's clothing [Donna (352) 237-3062] • Towels, blankets, toiletries, laundry detergent & non-perishable food for veterans [Jim (740) 392-4494] • Yarn for VA hospitals, children and newborns [(352) 843-6519].

HAM Radio Operators: Support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Please email sue.grib@yahoo.com.

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call S.P.C.A. of Marion County at (352) 362-0985.

Volunteers: Senior Resource Foundation of Ocala will provide a friendly visitor program in On Top of the World. To volunteer, call (678) 709-2605.

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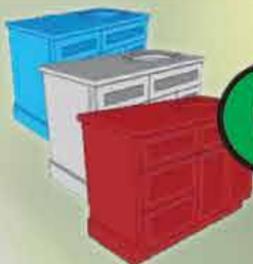
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