

**Community News**

**Kenneth D. Colen**

**Shared Experiences of Life**

The longer I live, the more convinced I am that every year will be stranger than the last. Here we are, two years into a pandemic and everyone I speak with is “over it.” For the association’s part with respect to community amenities regardless of neighborhood or community, operations are largely back to normal. We continue to ask that you distance, mask, and not have contact with others if you have tested positive or feel ill.

**Fiscal Year 2022-23**

On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association fiscal 2022-23 operating budget begins in March. All other associations have a Jan. 1 start date for their budgets.

Remember, that Wednesday, Feb. 23, board of directors’ annual budget meeting will take place at Circle Square Cultural Center, at 10 a.m. Residents may join by registering with Webcast as well. Information on how to join by Webcast will be included in the meeting materials that will be mailed. The proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-23 was mailed out late January.

Each new fiscal year presents its own considerable challenges. The proposed budget is heavily influenced by the present economy. Key expenses, labor, and petroleum products for example, are increasing. The increase in the community service fee is anticipated to reflect those realities.

Besides budget matters, the board will be considering a rules amendment.

**Community Updates**

Work is well underway in the Ashford neighborhood of Candler Hills. Estate Series homes will be nestled among beautiful walking trails, located on the west side of the newly constructed SW 92nd Court Road. Stay tuned to the World News for future updates on the community design.

Longleaf Ridge phases 4 and 5 are under development. Longleaf Ridge phase 3 and Crescent Ridge phase 4 are newly completed.

Weybourne Landing phase 1B is finished and 1C and 1D will be completed soon. The Weybourne Landing community center remains at the Marion County Building Safety Department waiting for the plan review completion. We remain hopeful that the permit review will be completed in time for a February start.

**Accomplishments of Note**

The national econometric firm of RCLCO, Inc., specializes in consulting with developers of master-planned communities (MPC). Each year they compile a ranking of the top 50 MPCs. I am pleased to report that On Top of the World Communities, LLC, made #9 on that list of national ranking.

**Trending Real Estate Values**

The strength in the local home resale market continues to reflect not only the general economic recovery in the nation and region, but also diminishing supply of listings and distressed properties throughout the nation. A recent report I read seems to point out that mortgage rates have bottomed out at about 2.65%. However, supply of new housing stock is lagging, and fewer new listings are coming to market, so a housing shortfall is expected to continue to drive prices higher. New household formation is impacted because of the total debt load many millennials face.

According to the Ocala Marion County Association of Realtors, statistics for the first 11 months of 2021, in Marion County new sales volumes increased 9.8% over the same 11-month period in 2020. The average home sale price was up 27.6% for that same period. Interestingly, cash sales were also up 17.40% over the same period.

From where On Top of the World

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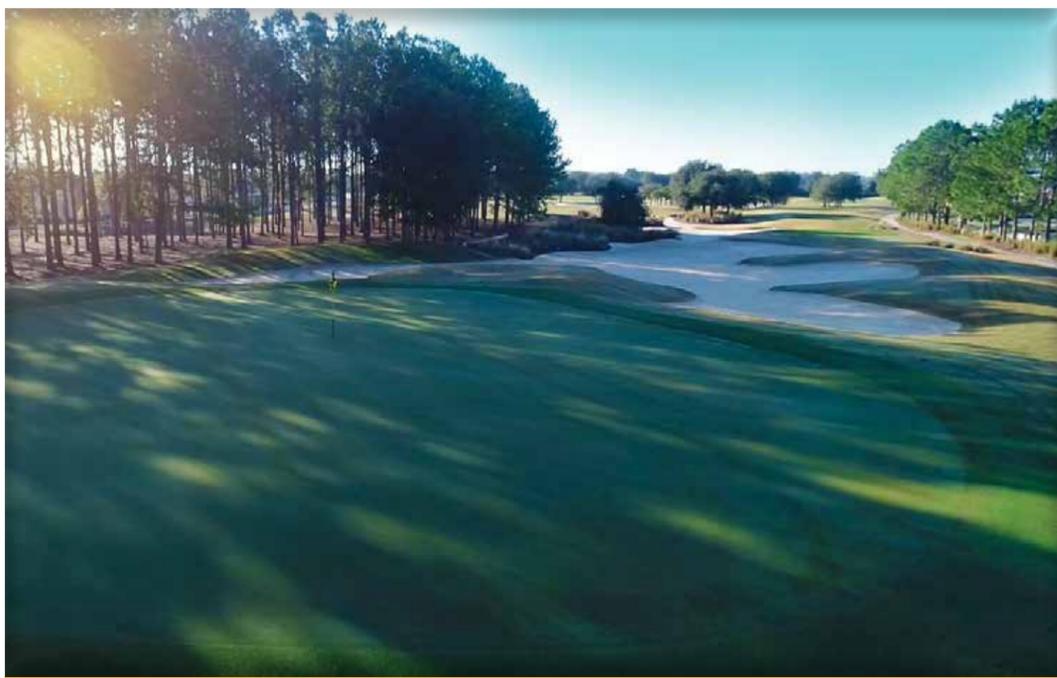


Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

Candler Hills Golf Course ranked #10 in Golf Advisors “Best Courses in Florida” poll.

**Candler Hills Golf Course Ranked #10**

**By Jordan Litherland**

Golf Advisor recently ranked Candler Hills Golf Club the #10 golf course out of all Florida courses as one of the “Best Courses in Florida” for 2022. Twenty-five courses were honored throughout the state, and Candler Hills Golf Club was the only golf course from Ocala to make the list.

The annual Golfers Choice list is generated by GolfPass and is compiled through ratings and reviews submitted by community members throughout the year. In 2021 GolfPass received 69,882 votes from

golfers all over Florida. The reviews are reflected by course conditions, value, layout, friendliness, pace of play, and amenities.

“This award is all the more special since it comes directly from our golfers,” stated Matt Hibbs, PGA professional and director of Golf at Candler Hills Golf Club. “We have a terrific staff who cares tremendously. Recently our own Andy Jorgensen was awarded the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America’s (GCSAA) 2022 Presidents Award for Environmen-

tal Stewardship (recognizing individual’s environmental efforts in the golf industry), and that goes to show the standard we have all set for ourselves.”

Home of the Ocala Open golf tournament, Candler Hills Golf Club is a championship par 72 golf course with five sets of tees ranging from 4,877 to 7,233 yards, creating a unique playing field for all levels of golfers. The course is open Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

To see the complete listing of Golfers Choice 2022 Best Florida Courses, please visit [golfpass.com/travel-advisor/best-of/golfers-choice-2022-florida](http://golfpass.com/travel-advisor/best-of/golfers-choice-2022-florida).

For more information, please visit [CandlerHillsGolfClub.com](http://CandlerHillsGolfClub.com) or call 352-861-9712.



Photo courtesy of Master the Possibilities

The classroom is a great place to be in 2022.

**Head to the Classroom in 2022**

**By Michelle Shideler**

It has been wonderful to see the hustle and bustle at the Education Center so far this year. I have been told by quite a few Master the Possibilities participants that learning was made a specific part of their 2022 resolutions.

As I pondered that thought, I realized that having lifelong learning as a goal for 2022 is a magnificent goal.

There have been multiple studies that prove lifelong learning is great for the mind, body, and soul. It is great for the brain, and recent research has found that brain cells continue to work at optimum levels when one acquires new knowledge. Many experts believe this can help limit cognitive and memory decline and help keep individuals healthier.

Taking classes and learning new things also helps keep people connected and happier, according to many recent studies. The more engaged an individual is in the classroom, the more fulfilled that person

becomes and enjoys learning new things to gain a better understanding of our society. What is even better is the fact lifelong learning is done on the individual’s terms. It is a self-directed learning path, which gives the person the choice of what to learn and when.

One of the goals at Master the Possibilities is to offer an abundance of courses on many different topics to give participants the ability to participate in and experience the benefits of lifelong learning. Our mission is to inspire students to explore their interests, uncover passions they may have never known they had, and use their talents in the classroom to share with others to make a positive change in the world we live today. We are committed to providing the environment in which one can educationally thrive in our classrooms.

The Master the Possibilities team of faculty and staff have put together a curriculum of more than

500 courses this term. In February alone, our faculty is facilitating more than 150 classroom opportunities that vary from art history to yoga. Our course listing this month also includes courses that touch on Black History Month and Presidents’ Day.

If learning, becoming healthier, getting more involved in the community, or sharing a passion was part of your 2022 resolution, stop by Master the Possibilities and let our team help you keep and maintain that goal all year. To receive information about our curriculum, becoming a faculty member, or volunteering at our Education Center, visit [masterthepossibilities.org](http://masterthepossibilities.org), or stop by or call the office 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, at (352) 861-9751.

While in our building, don’t forget to visit Sid’s Coffee Shop & Deli for a Starbucks® coffee and tasty Danish or muffin. The blueberry muffin is one of my favorites. Oh, and they have daily lunch specials too. Packing a lunch before class is not necessary. Sid’s Coffee Shop & Deli shares the lobby that leads to most of our classrooms. One could almost attend classes all day and never leave hungry.

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**Is It Legal?**

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



**SCAM ALERT:** Recently, I received a text about a package that was to be delivered to me and I need to click on a portion of the text to ... stop right there! Never, ever click on any link or text where you did not first initiate the contact. Don't guess at what might be sent to you. Just delete it.

**Q.** I have four children but have had no contact with one of them – my oldest son – for over 20 years. I really don't know why and wish that I did, but by now I must accept the fact that he does not want to have any contact with me at all for his own reasons. Do I have to leave him anything in my will? I heard that I should leave him at least \$500.

**A.** The State of Florida does not have what I would refer to as "forced heirship." That is, you are not required to leave anyone anything, with the exception that a spouse has certain rights to property if not relinquished by a valid pre or post marital agreement; and minor children also have some rights. So, in the situation as you presented it, you do not have to leave him anything. If you do decide that you will not leave him anything, I would suggest that you have your attorney include language in your will to the effect that you intentionally make no provision for any child or relative other than those persons specifically named in the will. You might even have your attorney include your son's name as someone you are specifically leaving out.

**Q.** I have two children and I am mad at both of them. I understand that I can cut them out of my will entirely, but do I have to leave them my home? My son says that I have no choice and must leave it to him and his sister.

**A.** Your son is not correct. So long as you are not survived by a spouse or minor child you can leave your home to whomever you choose. However, it is important that you discuss this with your attorney.

**Q.** What do I do if a hurricane is coming? What would you do?

**A.** Well, I don't know about you, but I'd get the heck out of the way. Quickly. But in the event you want

to know about what documents you should protect, I would suggest that you take the latest statement from each bank or stock brokerage account, your durable power of attorney and living will with health surrogate provisions and any other documents that you feel are critical and that you did not bother to put in a safety deposit vault at a bank. Oh, and I'd take a key to your home 'cause you'll need that when you come back.

**Q.** Where do you get the questions for your newspaper column?

**A.** (Note to my readers: I routinely put this in the paper every now and then to let everyone know how I obtain questions.) I obtain questions for this column in several different ways. I once got them by regular mail, but not any longer. I do get them by email. I get them asked to me by a client or acquaintance and think it's an interesting question and so I put it in the column. Very rarely something might come up that I think is important enough to be in the column even though no one's asked about it and so I create a question to fit the issue. I never provide any information regarding who sent me a question or how I got it – never. Therefore, no one ever must worry that somehow or other someone might find out that he/she wrote to me. A column usually gets printed long after I've written it so truth be told, I, myself, might never know how I got a question once it's been printed.

*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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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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**2022 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**

**On Top of the World NEWS**

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

\* Deadline at noon

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



**GOLDEN OLDIES HUMOR**

By Stan Goldstein



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Photo by Dave DeAngelis

The Health & Wellness Expo was well attended on Saturday, Jan. 15 at Circle Square Cultural Center.

## Expo Experience

By Dave DeAngelis  
World News Writer

Last month, when I wrote the story announcing the Health & Wellness Expo, I claimed that it would be something to write home about. Well, I attended, and here I am writing about it! On Saturday, Jan. 15, knowing that the doors to Circle Square Cultural Center would be open at 10 a.m., I decided to give it about 30 minutes before I sauntered over there to trickle in with the attendees. Wrong decision as evidenced by the full parking lots. The place was already packed! I thought that I was late! I mean, the joint was jumpin', and this was before the fitness team took the stage for Zumba®.

Snaking my way through the crowd to take pictures was a challenge. Someone, gyrating to the music I guess, unintentionally hit my camera through the back of my head, or so it felt. Hey, no problem. She was having a good time. All the vendor booths were alive with visitors. Everyone there was engaged

in conversation and activity, so much so that it was difficult to snap photos between the flow of people. Knowing that an onstage performance was nearing, I decided to find a spot away from the crowd to take photos. Ah yes, the stage ... behind it! Chief Inspector Clouseau woulda thunk it! Photographers must find a way, and my way was cut short by about five steps of reaching the backstage entrance ... by security. Once I identified myself and explained my mission, he was cool with it. Kudos to security! Great to know that you are there.

I didn't stay the entire time, however during the time that I was there, the number of attendees and their interaction with vendors was quite admirable. Heck, I would have stayed longer, but I felt so darned healthy and well that I was good to go! If you missed this one, be sure to look forward to next year's Health & Wellness Expo. Yes, you will write ...



Photo by Dave DeAngelis

Health & Wellness Expo attendees had the opportunity to meet and sign up for information from a variety of vendors.

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## Community News

### ► Continued from Page 1

Real Estate of Marion County sits, we continue leading the market in resales for 2021 at 30.97% of the resale market. The number of resale transactions in all the On Top of the World neighborhoods increased by 13.36% over 2020. The change in average home resales price in On Top of the World was also up 15.85% compared to 2020, an average gain in value of \$35,556.00.

### Winter Weather & Shrubbery

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

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

So, if I get what I have asked for (unlikely as that is) ... what to do with shocked and droopy plants in your landscape beds? The original plantings installed in your neighborhood at the time of construction were selected for their cold and drought hardiness. Sudden and severe cold weather may cause some plants to brown and leaves to curl.

Do not uproot plants affected

by the cold. They will surprise you with their recovery. Sometimes we are too quick to prune frost damage from plant material shortly after cold temperatures have gone but we need to be careful. Pruning plant material too soon can cause plants to want to flush back out creating more problems when the next frost or hard freeze hits. Wait one to two weeks after the cold damage has occurred then look to prune back your plants. Central Florida generally experiences one cold snap with light frost between March 15 and Easter, so be forewarned.

### Safety Tips

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

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

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

Cleaning is not complicated. Moving the dryer may be the hard-

est part. Disconnect the vent hose from the dryer and the wall vent. Use a vacuum cleaner to suction the vent hose, or you may choose to replace the vent hose entirely. Use the vacuum to suction the wall vent as well. If you've never done this be-

fore, the vent pipe may need a top-down cleaning.

Above all, have a functioning fire extinguisher in your kitchen! Read the instructions and be ready to use it, especially on a grease fire.

### Keeping It Green

**Phillip Hisey**  
(352) 236-070W (6869)  
phillip\_hisey@colenbuilt.net



Did you remember to cut back on your landscape watering frequency? Even though current restrictions allow once per week watering, depending upon the neighborhood you live in, your grass and plants may not need to be watered as frequently.

Many factors should be considered before reducing the run times. How long have you lived at the location? Is it a new home or has it been there for longer than one year?

If your landscape is older than one year reducing run times gradually in small increments is the best way to reduce run times. Small increments will keep you from creating a severe problem if you don't add enough water. If you do too much at once, waiting on the next run day could cost you your landscape.

Research conducted by the University of Florida indicates that during the shorter, cooler days of winter, grass and plants are growing slowly or not at all. During this time, their need for water is greatly reduced from the long, hot days of summer. Many people never change their automatic sprinkler system to compensate for this change in water needs and water is needlessly

wasted.

Remember Sunday, March 13, we go back to daylight saving time so don't forget to reset your clocks and set your irrigation timers back to twice per week watering. Check your system out monthly and make sure it is functioning properly.

Spring is a great time to hire an approved contractor for irrigation system checks. Checks should include seeing if your timer is functioning, watering times are sufficient to provide half to three-quarters inch at each application, rain sensor operation, leaks, and adjustments.

Florida Statutes 373.62 mandates that if you have a contractor check your system, they must ensure you have a rain shut off device or other interrupting device/switch on the irrigation system. If there is not an interrupting device or switch on the system or it is inoperable, the contractor must repair or replace it. Make sure you have functioning rain sensor on your irrigation system.

February and March typically bring some late season cold blasts. Don't forget to cover up your backflow preventers on the irrigation system when freezing temperatures are in the forecast. Using a heavy blanket should be sufficient but if you want, Resident Services sells a backflow preventer.

The crape myrtle or Lagerstroemia indica are easy to grow and produce a profusion of flowers in many different colors during the summer months. Some crape myrtles are trained into trees while others are grown as shrubs. There are even dwarf varieties and new cultivars that are resistant to powdery mildew. The flower clusters appear only on new, softwood. They open gradually from bottom to top. If first blooms are removed after they fade, a second bloom may occur.

The best time to prune the crape myrtle is late winter-early spring. This provides the new growth required for summer bloom. Currently, the plant is dormant making it easier to shape.

There are many studies to suggest the proper pruning method for crape myrtles, but the studies do not show conclusive evidence that one way is better than the other. The method I propose is the "pencil pruning" method. Basically, you remove all branches smaller than a pencil.

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### AARP

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For locations or questions, call (888) 687-2277, email [taxaide@aarp.org](mailto:taxaide@aarp.org) or visit [AARP.org/findtaxhelp](http://AARP.org/findtaxhelp).

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**All Around Our World**

**Lynette Vermillion**  
(352) 236-010W (6869)  
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Hopefully spring is around the corner even though we have had a very mild winter so far this year. Punxsutawney Phil will peek his head out Wednesday, Feb. 2, to advise us if spring is early or if we have six more weeks of winter. Of course, here in Florida the term "winter" is amusing to many, although we do have our cold weather for a few days each year. February is also Super Bowl LVI airing from the SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California Sunday, Feb. 13, with Valentine's Day following on the 14th, and Mardi Gras fans have Friday, Feb. 25, to look forward to.

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

Just a reminder that the board of directors meeting for On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association will be held Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 10 a.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. The budget, roof replacements and rule changes will be reviewed for the upcoming year.

**Resident Services**

Please note that the Resident Services office closes every day at noon to sanitize the lobby. Thirty minutes of sanitizing begins when the last resident leaves the building. The Resident Services office is closed the third Wednesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m., which falls on Wednesday, February 19th, this month. Resident Services may be reached at (352) 236-OTOW (6869) or otowservice@otowfl.com Monday through Friday, 8a.m. to 4p.m., or in person by visiting Suite 500, in Friendship Commons, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You may wish to complete your maintenance request online versus stopping by the office. Visit OTOW-Info.com, click on "Maintenance Request" on the top ribbon and enter your request. Be sure to scroll down to enter the service you are requesting and click submit.

**Ocala Open**

The Candler Hills Golf Course will host the Ocala Open once again this year. The tournament will be held from Wednesday, March 30, to Friday, April 1. The event will

showcase the Candler Hills Golf Course and will highlight some of the world's best men's professional golfers while benefiting local charities, Hospice of Marion County, Inc., and Interfaith Emergency Services. It is an event you won't want to miss — come out and be a spectator and enjoy watching exciting golf.

**Hiring Outside Vendors**

If you are planning to make any changes to exterior of your property whether it be landscape or any structural changes to your home (e.g., room addition), please remember to contact Resident Services to obtain a modification and to verify your vendor has a current Certificate of Automobile, Liability and Workers Comp Insurance on file. A modification request cannot be completed until your selected vendor has provided current proof of insurance. As always, it is in your best interest to obtain at least two quotes and have some knowledge of your vendor. Documents required include:

- A Certificate of Liability showing the vendor has at least 1,000,000 in liability coverage.
- Workers Compensation coverage, (or exemption certificate if you have no employees),
- At least \$500,000 bodily injury insurance for auto insurance (or \$300,000 if it is a personal vehicle as opposed to business).

**Crimes Against Seniors**

We would like to remind everyone that each year billions of dollars are lost due to scams and fraud against seniors. Here are a few of the most frequently used scams: imposter schemes, where criminals pose as government officials or other figures of authority and claim that money is owed. In years past we had a resident receive a call from someone claiming to be with the IRS and said they owed money. The IRS will never call you; they will mail you.

**HANDICAP EQUIPMENT**  
Handicap equipment is loaned free to residents during their convalescent term — walkers, crutches, canes or wheelchairs. For more information, call the Recreation Center at (352) 854-8707 x7534.

Another current scam is Medicare regarding vaccines and booster shots. An authorized medical representative will never ask you for your Medicare number to process payment for your vaccines and booster shots. The claim is turned in to Medicare by the medical facility to process the payment.

Scammers can also call and pretend to be a relative (or representing a relative) in trouble and will ask for money. Scammers can also call or mail and claim that a person has won money, but the catch is that the winner must pay fees or taxes up front.

Several steps you can take to protect yourself against these types of crimes are to opt out of commercial mail solicitations, have someone you trust help you pay bills, sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry at (888) 382-1222 or DoNotCall.gov, and make sure any contractor you use is licensed (if needed) and insured. You may also advise a person calling that you will be happy to call the main office to confirm the information needed rather than provide the information to the caller. You are then sure that you are talking to the actual company and not someone trying to obtain your information.

**Rule of the Month**

**SOLICITATION:** In order to promote a harmonious community and to minimize disturbing residents' quiet enjoyment of their homes, solicitation by vendors, service companies, or any owners, residents or visitors is strictly prohibited without the prior, written consent of the association. This includes solicitation on behalf of political campaigns, political candidates, voter awareness groups, petitions for gov-

ernmental action, civic organizations, service clubs, school groups, charitable organizations, religious organizations, etc. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein prohibits representatives from the Association from contacting Owners and residents in their homes. Also, no vehicle or other item may be placed or advertised for sale on the exterior of any residential unit or on any neighborhood common property, neighborhood limited common property, including but not limited to any street...without the prior written consent of the Association. No estate sales, garage sales, yard sales, tag sales or similar activities may be held or conducted ... without the approval of the association.

Some vendors take advantage of an appointment with a resident and then stay in the community soliciting door-to-door. If someone comes to your door unsolicited or you see someone going door-to-door in your neighborhood, please get as much information as possible. A business name, phone number and any vehicle description will be very helpful. Contact Resident Services as soon as possible and one of our enforcement team members will attempt to make contact with the subject(s).

Happy Valentine's Day to all.

**WM WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
**BULKY TRASH?**  
For bulky trash, schedule pickup by calling (866) 684-3142.

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ALCOHOL, SMOKING, AND PETS ARE PROHIBITED ON PARK GROUNDS.

### Community Emergency Response Team

Andrea La Fave



Golf carts are a pervasive part of our life here. It's good that we remind ourselves of our responsibilities when using our carts. The full On Top of the World golf cart rules can be found at OTOWInfo.com.

To highlight some basics:

Permission to operate a privately-owned golf cart within the community is a non-transferable and non-assignable personal privilege and is available only to occupants of the

community - so don't let the visiting grandchildren "have a go" if they want to drive your cart. There could be serious consequences.

Golf carts may be operated from sunset to sunrise if equipped with, at a minimum, headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and a windshield. Otherwise, carts may only be operated from sunrise to sunset.

All privately owned golf carts must be in good working condition; include a rearview mirror and a reflector warning device in both the front and rear of the golf cart, in addition to any other safety equipment required by the Association or the Marion County ordinance.

Within the community, all carts must stay on the designated cart

paths, roadways where existing, and other areas designated for golf carts. Golf carts shall not be driven in private yards, between villas (unless operated in ingress and egress areas) or homes, on sidewalks, and on any golf course unless playing golf. When not in use, golf carts shall be parked in designated parking areas and not on grass or sidewalks. Golf carts may not be operated on any county-maintained roadway including SR 200, SW 80th Avenue and may only cross SW 80th Street and other county-maintained roadways at county-approved crossing points.

Golf carts must be stored on the owner's property. Overnight parking in yards or on the street is pro-

hibited.

Those of us who have volunteered to join the Community Emergency Response Team are residents trained to help out in case of emergencies where first responders can't be immediately everywhere needed. Stop by our table at the Club Fair today, Jan. 27.

We always welcome your attendance at our Community Emergency Response Team meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. For more information and to confirm the date, please contact Debra Snyder at 412-443-2930.

### Avalon Social Group

Karen Volpe & Sharon Hall



Our next event is scheduled Monday, Feb. 14, at 5:30 p.m. in the Arbors Conference Center Dance Studios, and we are planning a slightly more upscale event than usual. We will have a catered dinner (\$10 per person) with music and dancing. We will also have a singles table or two for those unattached valentines. Paid reservations must be made in advance, no later than Monday, Feb. 7. Reservations and payments may be made at the following homes (please call or text to confirm they are home):

Sharon Hall: 8808 SW 104th Circle; 270-855-1354.

John & Jeanne Bradford: 9065 SW 106th Avenue; 314-219-9536.

Liz Pruss: 10000 SW 90th Loop; 404-433-4219.

We held a 2022 planning session in January, which was attended by 11 from our neighborhood. We planned the Valentine's Day event and shared some ideas for future events. Our previous poll of interest for bi-monthly versus quarterly meetings resulted in a bit more than 50/50, but close. After some discus-

sion at the meeting, we felt that bi-monthly meetings would help to maintain the continuity of the gatherings, especially as we are just getting started with new ideas and events. We also reserve the rooms in advance for the full year (i.e., 2023 is scheduled in January 2022), so if we give up dates to switch to quarterly meetings, we may not be able to get them back the following year, if needed. So, it was decided to stick with the bi-monthly meetings as previously scheduled for the foreseeable future.

There are three ways to keep informed of upcoming events: email, our Facebook group, or posting at the postal center.

If you would like to be added to our email list or to verify that you are on the list so that you can be notified of future events, please email your request to avalonsocialclub@gmail.com. For up-to-date Avalon news and upcoming events, we also encourage you to join our Facebook Group (Avalon Social Club). This is a private group, and you will be asked for your address to verify that you are an Avalon resident. If you have trouble finding the group or getting in, please email to the email address above and we'll send you the link to the group. Activities and events will also be posted at the postal center.

### Democratic Club

Dan Lack



The Bridges Project started seven years ago to build pathways and reduce racial conflict in Marion County. Bert Perkins, the immediate past president of the Bridges Project, will be the speaker at our meeting Thursday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV. She will talk about the organization and how we can help to improve racial harmony. Masks are optional.

We are recruiting candidates for the election of our board of directors at our March meeting. The board's officers include the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and four directors. Use

the contact information at the end of this column if you would like to toss your hat into the ring.

Our club supports the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, a former Ritz hotel that was converted into a facility for formerly homeless veterans. The Ocala Ritz Veterans Village provides a safe environment for these brave men and women to learn to become productive members of our community and to live on their own once again. The facility needs pillows, pillowcases, twin size sheets, towels, wash cloths, toiletries, laundry pods, paper goods and canned and dry food. Please bring your donated items to our meeting and not to my porch.

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!

### OneBlood Bloodmobile

Sara Sommer



The holidays are long behind us, and it is time to get back into your regular routine. I hope that routine

includes giving blood to save lives. The Big Red Bus® will be here Monday, Feb. 7, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center parking lot. Each donor will receive a mini physical that includes blood pressure, temperature, and cholesterol screening. Each donor will also receive a token of appreciation for your time and effort. Please bring a face mask, photo ID and eat a good meal before and after donating. Drink plenty of liquids, too.

The Club Fair is today, Jan. 27. OneBlood will have a table. Please stop by with any questions you may have about donating.

There is no substitute for human blood. Only you can save a life. See you at the Club Fair and on the bus.

### CURBSIDE LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Visit OTOWInfo.com, click "Community Info" tab and select "Garbage and Recycling Locations."

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Fiona (left) and Olivia.

Photo by Eddie Balaban

**Newcastle Social Committee**

Sherry Bright



The Newcastle Social Committee met Friday, Jan. 7, to start planning for a fun year. We discussed a great deal of activities for our neighborhood - a murder mystery dinner, a boat ride down the Rainbow River, a Fourth of July progressive pool party, an August picnic, and a firm date for this year's holiday party (Sunday, Dec. 4).

First up, we will have a Valentine's Day party Monday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Bring your favorite bottle of wine and a small snack to share.

This year, we'll devote a portion of this column on introducing our neighborhood pets.

Fiona and Olivia live with their owners, Eddie and Jimmy, on SW 87th Place. I know we have all seen these lovely ladies on their walks through the neighborhood. I was lucky enough to get a short interview with each of the girls just this morning.

Olivia is an 11-year-old Samoyed whose favorite thing is birthday

cake. If she were employed in the real world, Olivia would be a police officer. She is often found investigating and stopping any suspected trouble. Olivia's superpower is being able to make things disappear, especially her food!

Fiona is a 10-1/2-year-old Samoyed whose favorite thing is the cooler weather. If she were employed in the real world, Fiona would be an inspector. She loves to check everything out, smell all the smells and ensure that all is right with the world. Fiona's superpower, well, she's secretly a movie star! Charming and beautiful, Fiona loves for everyone to like her.

Remember to stop and say hello to the girls when you see them out in the neighborhood.

Newcastle residents, if you would like to be included in our email list or to verify that you are on the list, please email your request to Sherry Bright at 860-287-9232 or Meg Kajewski at 540-272-2247. For up-to-date Newcastle news and upcoming events, we encourage you to join our Facebook group (OTOW Newcastle Neighbors).

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR**  
Pick up after your pet.

**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](http://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 2022.

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### The Lodge at Candler Hills

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



In the past year I have met so many new residents and look forward to seeing you at The Lodge at Candler Hills for our events! We have some fun and exciting activities planned for our Candler Hills residents this month.

The monthly activities calendar for Candler Hills is posted at the Candler Hills Community Center and The Lodge at Candler Hills and may also be picked up at both locations.

#### Happy Hour

Join us every Friday night in the Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy live

entertainment while you dance the night away! Bring your own beverage and favorite snack. Entertainment is as follows:

- Feb. 4: The Chauffeur's
- Feb. 11: Dave & Kenny
- Feb. 18: Bad Kitty
- Feb. 25: Tim Hargis

#### Wine Social\*

Enjoy a relaxing wine social with your neighborhood friends. Munch on imported cheese and charcuterie, seasonal fruits, while listening to your favorite tunes being played on the beautiful baby grand piano by Prestine Allen on Thursday, Feb. 3, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 per resident and \$15 per guest accompanied by a resident.

#### Girls Night Out\*

What girl doesn't need a girl's night out? Ladies, it's time to have some fun with your friends and neighbors. Mark your calendar for

Thursday, Feb. 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Shawn Ash. Bring your drink of choice and we will take care of the rest! Light appetizers will be provided. The cost is \$12 per resident or \$15 per guest accompanied by a resident.

#### Kocktails & Karaoke

Join us on the fourth Thursday night of every month for Kocktails & Karaoke with Charlie and Kathy in the Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. On Feb. 24, bring your own beverage of choice and enjoy singing, dancing, and clapping with other Candler Hills residents. Guests pay \$5 and must be accompanied by a resident.

\*To register, visit The Lodge at Candler Hills office Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Payment is required at time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to registered event.

### Candler Connection

**Debra Keirn**



The casino night charity fundraiser will take place Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. The net proceeds will go to Helping Hands of Ocala. A professional casino company will handle this event and a DJ will keep you entertained. Each ticket holder will receive \$300 worth of gambling chips at this BYOB function and snacks are included in the ticket price. Tickets were sold in January with a 100-ticket limit at a cost of \$50 per person. We look forward to seeing you at this new event.

The potluck dinner is Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 5:30 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. There is no theme this month. Please prepare a dish for 10 to 15 people. Residents with last names beginning with A-I should bring desserts; J-Q main dishes; and R-Z salad or side dish. \$1 cost per person covers eating utensils, plates, napkins, and decaf coffee. Please RSVP to Deb Keirn by phone, text or email at (814) 571-7908 or arthurkipdeb@verizon.net. Please label your dish with ingredients to help those with allergies.

The Spring/St. Patrick's Day dinner dance will be held on Saturday, March 19, at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Tickets will be priced between \$25 and \$30 (184 available) and go on sale at the Candler Hills Community Center Tuesdays, Feb. 22, March 1, and March 8, and at The Lodge at Candler Hills Thursdays, Feb. 24, March 3, and March 10, from 10 a.m. to noon. This is a catered event, and a DJ will provide music for your dancing pleasure. Wear green and come out and enjoy the evening at this BYOB event.

The speaker series, chaired by Doug Dahlen, is at 3 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills:

- Wednesday, Feb. 16: Doug Hart from Seniors vs. Crime Project.
- Thursday, March 17: Lacey Larramore from Marion County Waste Disposal.
- Wednesday, May 18: Brian MacNeal from Florida Crime Prevention.

Questions regarding the ambassador program should be directed to Pat Diaz-Verson at pdv@bellsouth.net.

New residents of Candler Hills, log onto candlerconnection.org and fill out the form to receive "The Happenings" by email. 1,506 Candler Hills residents receive this publication to learn about events and activities.

The Candler Connection Facebook group has 1,250 members. This closed Facebook group is also a good source of information.

The Candler Connection board expanded from nine to 11 members in January.

We welcome Richard Steinfeldt, Deb Keirn, John Podkomorski, Pat Diaz-Verson, John Maggio, and Vicky Major-Bell back to the board. We also would like to welcome our new members: Linda Agerty, Glenn Cohen, Russ Gembeling, Jeff Gordon, and Meg Kajewski.

The next Candler Connection board meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 1, at The Lodge at Candler Hills at 4 p.m. Any resident of Candler Hills is welcome to attend.

See you around the neighborhood and at future events.

### Community Patrol

**Erwin Fluss**



We thank our members who give so much support to the Community Patrol. Drivers who are our eyes and ears, scribes and those who periodically set up the radar signs to remind you about speeding.

Regarding speeding, there was an old radio program which started partially "Who knows ... The Shadow knows ..." So be cautious and drive within limits; there may be a deputy nearby.

Golf carts must obey traffic rules - stop at stop signs, watch your speed and signal when you are about to make a turn.

The Community Patrol is here for your safety and security. We are all volunteers, and very much invite you to join us. For further information, please contact Paul Altman at 860-460-7632 or shelve@aol.com.



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**LOST OR FOUND A PET?**  
Call the SPCA of Marion County  
hotline at (352) 362-0985.

**Indigo East**

**Nora Dominguez**  
(352) 387-9060



Happy February! The monthly activities calendar is posted at the Indigo East Community Center and Indigo East Fitness Center bulletin boards and may also be picked up at both locations.

**Happy Hour**

Happy Hour is every Friday in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. Dance and socialize with friends and neighbors. Entertainment is as follows:

- Feb. 4: 3 for the Road Plus 1
- Feb. 11: Palomino Blonde
- Feb. 18: Ben Simmons
- Feb. 25: JoJo

**Meet and Greet Coffee**

On Wednesday, Feb. 16, we will hold a presentation on what is going on in the community. Get in the know! This event will take place in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom at 9 a.m.

**Trivia Night\***

Trivia will be held Monday, Feb. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Indigo East Community Center. This event is \$3 per resident and \$5 per guest accompanied by a resident. Bring your own refreshments and snacks.

**Karaoke**

Karaoke is Thursday, Feb. 17,

from 5 to 8 p.m., in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom. The event is free for Indigo East residents and \$5 per guest. Guests must be accompanied by a resident.

**Sassy Ladies Night Out\***

Ladies! Join in the fun Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Indigo East Community Center. The cost is \$10 per resident and \$12 per guest. Bring your favorite drink, and we will take care of the rest. Entertainment will be provided by Fred Campbell.

**Name That Tune\***

Put your music knowledge to the test in the new "Name That Tune" competition. Like trivia, prizes will be awarded for winners. This event will be held Monday, Feb. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Indigo East Com-

munity Center. The cost is \$3 per resident and \$5 per guest.

**Indigo East Fitness Center Orientation\***

Let's get fit! On the last Wednesday of each month, personal trainer, Maureen McCabe, will provide a free Indigo East Fitness Center orientation.

If you feel you need more out of your workout, personal training is also available for a fee. Personal training brochures are available in the Indigo Fitness Center office.

\*To register, visit the Indigo East Fitness Center office. Payment is required at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to registered event. Resident IDs must be presented at all events and when purchasing tickets.

**Indigo East Social Committee**

**Janice Liberton**



The new Indigo East Social Committee board for 2022 is Chairwoman Lynn West; Co-Chairwomen Pat Smith and Beth Griner; Secretary Athena Drewes; Treasurer Phil Mercurio; and Supply Coordinator Sandy Mercurio.

The Indigo East Social Committee recently met and planned so many exciting events for 2022. To kick off the new year, a meet and greet pizza party was held Wednesday, Jan. 19. This was a free event for all residents. In addition to making new friends, the purpose of the meeting was to toss around ideas for various socials and happenings residents would like to see in addition to those events planned by the committee for the coming year. Many suggestions were received and sound exciting.

On Saturday, Feb. 12, the committee will hold a Valentine's Day wine tasting and roses gathering. Indigo East resident DJs Frank and Ronnie will provide the entertainment. Ticket sales are at the Indigo East Community Center Monday, Jan. 31, from 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday, Feb. 1, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 3, from 4 to 6 p.m.; and Monday, Feb. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. As usual, resident IDs are required for ticket purchase.

Bingo has moved from the fourth Monday of the month to the first Tuesday of the month to accommo-

date a new monthly event, Name That Tune, sponsored by On Top of the World. Please note, these events are for Indigo East residents and guest fees of \$5 plus event fee are required for non-residents.

There are several holidays to celebrate this month. However, many of us associate February with Valentine's Day, celebrated Feb. 14. Valentine's Day officially became a holiday in the 1300s. The first valentine was sent in the 15th century. A French medieval duke, Charles, wrote a poem to his wife in 1415 while imprisoned in the Tower of London at the age of 21. It wasn't until the 1840s that valentine cards were mass produced. The tradition of giving flowers on Valentine's Day dates to the 17th century.

In 2020, Americans spent a lot on love - \$20 billion on Valentine's gifts, including \$2.4 billion on candy. According to the National Retail Federation \$5.8 billion was spent on jewelry, followed by the second most paid gift, an evening out, to the tune of 4.3 billion dollars, subsequently followed by clothing, candy and flowers.

In 2020, 27.6 million American households spent \$ 751.3 million on Valentine's Day pet gifts. Nearly six million couples get engaged on Valentine's Day.

Additional holidays and observances include:

- Feb. 1: National Freedom Day; Chinese New Year
- Feb. 2: Groundhog Day
- Feb. 4: Wear Red Day
- Feb. 13: Super Bowl LVI
- Feb. 21: Presidents' Day

Enjoy the month!

**Friendship Connection**

**Carron Janssen**



Welcome to February! We are having our Mardi Gras event Saturday, Feb. 12, in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 4 to 6 p.m. Hopefully you have already purchased your tickets for this catered meal. If not, you have until 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, to do so. Linda will be selling them in the Recreation Center lobby for \$20 each from 9 to 10:30 a.m. After that, please call her at 352-509-4967. Entertainment will be provided by residents Kathy and Charlie Petrosky. And do not forget about our 50/50 drawing and door prizes!

Club Fair is today (Jan. 27). Please stop by our table and say hello. Linda will have tickets for Mardi Gras at the table and you can find out what else we are planning. It will also be the perfect time to give us suggestions for what you would like

to see us do!

Save the date for our next social event: Saturday, April 9. It will be Kentucky Derby themed, again in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Ticket sales for the event will start Monday, March 21 and end Thursday, March 31. More information will be provided in my next column.

Friendship Connection is open to all residents of Friendship Colony, Friendship Park, and Friendship Village only. Our events are scheduled on the second Saturday of every other month from 4 to 6 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering to help plan, setup, cleanup, or serve; please contact Carron Janssen at (847) 529-6183, visit our website at otowfriendshipconnection.com or our Facebook page (Friendship Connection-OTOW), or email us at info@friendshipconnection.com.

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**MEN ON MATS**

**Arbor Fitness Center**

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Yoga offers an incredible range of benefits, yet only around 28% of men practice yoga regularly. This men's only class will introduce you to yoga while helping to balance strength and flexibility. The poses will focus on areas that typically present with tightness, stiffness, and pain. You will improve flexibility of the lower back, hamstrings, hips, shoulders, and chest. All fitness levels and newcomers are welcome!

**Williamsburg Neighbors**

Carmel Kessler



The Recreation Center Ballroom was transformed into a winter wonderland for our holiday party. More than 100 Williamsburg residents enjoyed a delicious meal catered by Royal Oaks Golf Club. Beautiful holiday dinner music and song was presented by the Dulcimer Group, directed by Pat Gift. Lively holiday adorned dancers provided after dinner entertainment. The Broadway/jazz dancers and the advanced tap group, both under the direction of Penny Berton, were a delight.

Everyone enjoyed the singing of "Silver Bells" by Williamsburg's own Brady Reeves. Rick Carel was a wonderful emcee, entertaining us all with his multitude of puns and jokes that were "knee slapping." Jill Carel led the group with her laugh activities. Many thanks to Linda Jones, Jake Jacobs and Dwight Bartholomew who chaired this event, as well as the many people who worked behind the scenes to create



Photo by Linda Jones

Williamsburg holiday party.

this festive holiday celebration.

Next month's column will include news from the Williamsburg annual meeting.

Welcome new neighbors! Please add your contact information to

the Williamsburg master list by contacting Jill Carel at [jilleroni@gmail.com](mailto:jilleroni@gmail.com). If you have not been receiving Williamsburg emails, please let Jill know.

Best wishes to Jerry and Ginny

Nardone who were so instrumental in the ongoing social activities of Williamsburg for so many years. May they enjoy their lives in their new home in New Hampshire.



Photo by Carol Lewis

Crescent Ridge neighbors know how to cook up a storm!

**Crescent Ridge Happenings**

Valerie Ostrom



Crescent Ridge friends and neighbors got together Sunday, Jan. 9, for fellowship and a potluck at the Veterans Park. One of the beautiful things about living in this neighborhood is being around such friendly people! Getting together and sharing a meal is a great way to enjoy each other and our facilities. Fostering friendships is why most of us moved here in the first place.

You are welcome to join us if you live in any of the Crescent Ridge neighborhoods. Please come to our next one Sunday, Feb. 13, from 3 to 5 p.m. Bring a side dish of your choice - we always appreciate food that is good to share. Make your favorite dish, the love in your heart and bring your drink of choice. Let's get to know each other!

Connect with us on Facebook (OTOW Crescent Ridge Neighbors) or email Carol Lewis at [crescentridgenhn@yahoo.com](mailto:crescentridgenhn@yahoo.com) to be put on our email list (only used for function announcements and reminders).

# Come Meet Your Neighborhood Mortgage Team

**Nicole Storer**

NMLS 457321

386.590.4271

[StorerN@FFBF.COM](mailto:StorerN@FFBF.COM)

**David Dyer**

NMLS 402854

352.304.0737

[DyerD@FFBF.COM](mailto:DyerD@FFBF.COM)

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We are moving into the new year quite vigorously, let's continue to be mindful of each other and adhere to safety protocols - sanitize/wash your hands often, wear a face mask when possible and remain at a safe distance when socializing. We want you and our staff safe and healthy!

**Tropic Trivia Night\***

Tropic Trivia has exploded with everyone ready for mind-boggling challenges and takes place the first Thursday of every month in the Recreation Center Ballroom. This monthly event is sold out for February and March.

**January**

1: Mockingbirds; 2: Rock 'n' Rollers; 3: Smartinis.

**Social Hour**

Come join us for a relaxing evening with friends and neighbors on Thursday, Feb. 17, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. You will enjoy easy listening music as Prestine Allen performs. A cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will be provided. This is a free event.

**Gypsy Gold Horse Farm Tour\***

Join us Tuesday, Feb. 15, as we meet the Gypsy Vanner horses during a walking tour on the farm. Here you will see the stallion's mares, foals and various other animals loved at Gypsy Gold. Treats may be purchased at the farm or you are welcome to bring your own carrots.

An incredible photo opportunity will be available on this tour! You are invited to create a memory of your Gypsy Gold Farm tour with a photo of yourself and one of their beautiful Gypsy Vanner horses to share with your friends.

The tour is approximately two hours long and costs \$59 per person, which includes transportation and tour. Please note there will be a lot of walking on this tour. Lunch will be on your own at Sonny's BBQ.

**Victory Casino Cruise\***

An afternoon of gambling is scheduled Wednesday, Feb. 23, on the Victory Casino out of Port Canaveral, Florida. You'll enjoy bingo, entertainment, relaxation, live table games and over 600 of the latest slots. Dine in the Atlantic Café and receive free drinks while gaming. You will receive \$30 in qualified slot play that can be downloaded once you have played and received 12 points. Please note that a valid government-issued photo ID will be required to board. Cost is \$54 per person and includes transportation, boarding of the Victory Casino, buffet, and \$30 qualified slot play. Please note face masks are required on the vessel.

**St. Johns River Luncheon Cruise\***

Join us for a relaxing four-hour river luncheon cruise on the beautiful St. Johns River Thursday, Feb. 24. The Barbara Lee is an authentic sternwheel paddleboat.

The boat has five decks, some open air and some closed with large glass windows to take in the unspoiled view of the rippling river, water hyacinths, great herons, ospreys, eagles, turtles, and alligators lazing along the banks. The cost of this trip is \$96 per person and includes transportation, cruise, meal, coffee, tea, iced tea and entertainment. Bar beverages may be purchased on your own.

**Line Dance Classes\***

For fun and fellowship, join one of our dance classes. The following classes will be taught at the Recreation Center every Monday. The cost is \$10 per four-week class per month. Your monthly pass includes practice sessions on Wednesdays.

Choose your class (Improver Plus or Beginner Level II) according to your ability. Class descriptions can be found at OTOWInfo.com. The instructor is Darlene Miller, and she can be reached at darmiller222@gmail.com.

Currently, the Absolute Begin-

ner and Beginner Level I classes are no longer accepting new students. In January, there will be a free Absolute Beginner line dance class taught by volunteers at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios on Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. For more information, call Patty Hainzl at (352) 861-6572.

**Tap Dance Classes\***

Have some fun with tap instructor Penny Berton. No experience necessary. She will start with the basics, and you'll find yourself progressing quickly. Join the class, bring tap shoes (or hard-sole shoes), and awaken your love for tap.

There are currently two classes available on Tuesdays in the Recreation Center Ballroom: Intermediate (2:15 p.m.) and Advanced (1 p.m.).

Classes are \$20 per person for a 4-week class (monthly).

**Ballroom Dance Lessons\***

Butch Phillips teaches social ballroom dancing in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Singles are also welcome as we will rotate partners among all willing students. The three-week class is held on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of each month, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$30 per resident per three-week class.

Classes include step description for leader and follower, including correct characteristic of dance with an emphasis on lead and follow skills and lots of practice to music. The classes are as follows: February-Salsa & Hustle; March-Rumba; April-Foxtrot; May-Cha-Cha, and June-Waltz.

**Happy Hour**

Join us for Happy Hour every Friday in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. and outside at the pool pavilion from 3 to 6 p.m. (through March). The Cruise-In Happy Hour will resume Friday, March 18. More information to come.

- Feb. 4: One Flight Up (Ballroom); Mike Webb (Pavilion).
- Feb. 11: Crossfire (Ballroom); Gilly & the Girl (Pavilion).
- Feb. 18: Senior Prom with Solid Gold (Ballroom); Retro Express (Pavilion).
- Feb. 25: Groove 41 (Ballroom); Tont Machiacote (Pavilion).

Individual resident IDs will be required for entry into Happy Hour; anyone not producing a resident ID will be considered a guest and guest fees are \$5 per person. Children under the age of 15 will not be permitted to Happy Hour.

Please note that no outside beverages of any kind will be allowed into Happy Hour.

**Community Updates**

We are now accepting 2023 room request bookings. These bookings will not be approved until late summer.

**Recreation & Wellness Connections**

The Recreation & Wellness Connections catalog is now available and was included in all home-delivered January issues of the World News. Be sure to check out the many exciting events and fitness activities planned through June. Please note all events require payment at time of sign-up. No refunds will be issued two weeks or less prior to the event or trip.

If you did not receive a copy of the Recreation & Wellness Connections catalog, please stop by the Recreation Center or Arbor Fitness Center to pick one up or visit OTOWInfo.com.

**Stay in the Know**

Additional event/trip details are



available at OTOWInfo.com by clicking "Activity Info" then "Virtual Bulletin Board" (or scan the QR code above), the Recreation & Wellness Connections catalog, or pick up a printed flyer at the Recreation Center. Please also refer to the monthly event calendar (home delivered with every issue of the World News).

\*To register, call (352) 854-8707 x7498 or x7533. Payment is required at time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to any event or trip. Events and activities that take place behind the gates of On Top of the World are for residents only.



*Keep calm and respect the shadow!*



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# BUS SCHEDULE

## Monday - Thursday

MORNING ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS	TIME
The Lodge at Candler Hills	SW 87th Cir.	8:35 a.m.
Providence	91st Cir. East - 91st Cir. West - Post Office	8:42 a.m.
Providence	90th St. - 92nd Pl. Rd. - 96th Ct. Rd. - 97th Cir.	8:47 a.m.
Avalon Post Office	Parking Lot	8:51 a.m.
Windsor East	94th Pl. - 94th Lp.	8:55 a.m.
Windsor West	95th St. - 95th Lp.	8:58 a.m.
Crescent Ridge 1 & 2	97th Lane - Post Office - 99th Ave. - 96th St.	9:01 a.m.
Recreation Center	At Bus Stop Sign	9:04 a.m.
Americana Village	89th Ct. Rd. - Post Office - 85th Ter. Rd.	9:08 a.m.
Friendship Village	Post Office - 84th Ter. - 93rd St.	9:12 a.m.
Friendship Colony	83rd Ter. - 90th Pl. - 87th Ave. - 97th St.	9:16 a.m.
Friendship Park	97th St. - 94th Lane	9:20 a.m.
Friendship Village	89th Ct. Rd. - 92nd St.	9:22 a.m.
Friendship Colony	90th St. - Post Office	9:26 a.m.
Candler Hills Community Center	At Bus Stop Sign	9:31 a.m.
Indigo East Community Center	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
<b>Exit Community</b>		<b>9:36 a.m.</b>

MORNING DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Freedom Library	9:42 a.m.	12:40 p.m.
Jasmine Square	9:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Dillard's/Kohl's	10:00 a.m.	12:25 p.m.
Sam's Club	10:10 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Home Depot	10:15 a.m.	11:25 a.m.
Ollie's	10:18 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Paddock Mall	10:22 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
Walmart	10:27 a.m.	11:45 a.m.
Target	10:37 a.m.	11:50 p.m.
Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center	10:47 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Gaitway Plaza	10:52 a.m.	12:05 p.m.

**Return to On Top of the World to begin drop-off/pick-up for the afternoon run.**

AFTERNOON ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES
The Lodge at Candler Hills	1:15 p.m. Candler Hills Community Center 1:20 p.m.
Crescent Ridge Post Office	1:38 p.m. Friendship Colony Post Office 1:25 p.m.
Recreation Center	1:43 p.m. Providence Post Office 1:28 p.m.
Americana Post Office	1:49 p.m. Avalon Post Office 1:33 p.m.
Friendship Post Office	1:54 p.m.

AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS	ARRIVE	PICK-UP
Friendship Center	2:00 p.m.	4:10 p.m.
Publix	2:05 p.m.	4:15 p.m.
Walmart Neighborhood Market	2:15 p.m.	4:25 p.m.
ALDI/Lowe's	2:19 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
Save A Lot	2:25 p.m.	4:05 p.m.
Big Lots	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
Beall's & Dollar Tree	2:40 p.m.	3:50 p.m.
Walmart	2:45 p.m.	3:45 p.m.

*\*All times are approximate*

**For information, call the Recreation Center at 352-854-8707 ext. 7530 or 7533** #9801 - 4/21

The Community Bus will be running according to schedule as long as the Governor's requirements are allowing. We continue to direct you to the www.otowinfo.com, www.cdc.gov, and www.floridahealth.gov websites for the most current and accurate updates on socializing and transportation.

**FREE RECREATION FITNESS CENTER ORIENTATIONS AND BALANCE ASSESSMENTS**

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Balance Assessments  
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# Come See Your Neighbor – Dr. Dottie – At Her New Office!

She's not just your neighbor! Dr. Dottie Cook is ready to assist with all your healthcare needs, big or small. Dr. Dottie has been a resident of On Top of the World for over 5 years, and dedicated to making and donating countless cross stitch pieces to local veterans.

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## Retired Colonel to Speak on Travels with Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Nancy Meininger

The Jewish Club finds joy in getting together at weekly meetups and monthly meetings. We wear our face masks and our hearts on our sleeves. Although some months have been difficult, reaching out to help each other where needed has come to mean a lot. Friends have become family and that family continues to grow.

On Sunday, Feb. 6, at The Lodge at Candler Hills, we will hear retired Army Colonel Gorham Black, III on his travels with Martin Luther King, Jr. During Black's 27-year Army career, he served as chief, Personnel Services Division in the Pentagon, giving him world-wide responsibility for morale and welfare activities affecting Army personnel.

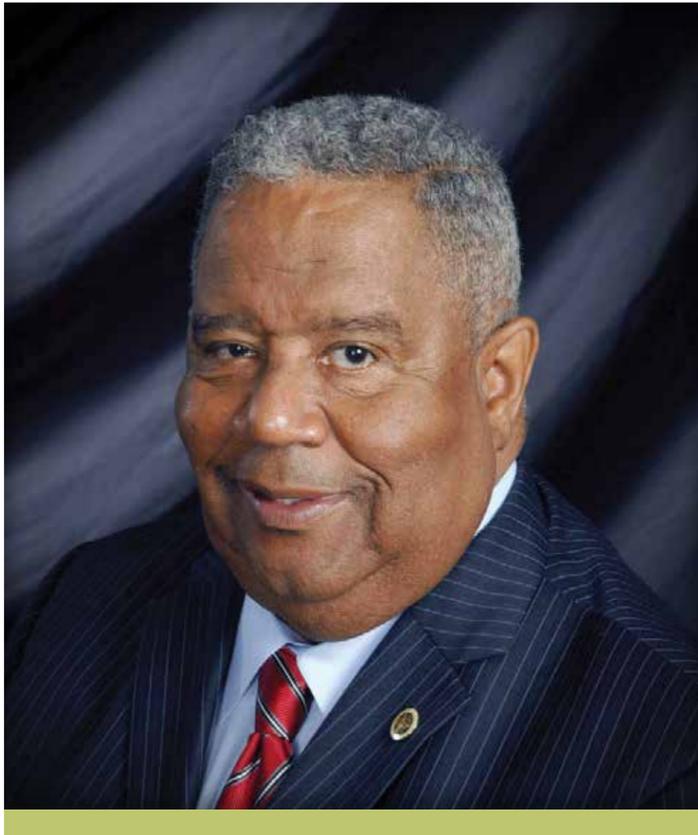
In January, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios, we had

the installation of new officers and a game day enjoyed by all.

In December, we celebrated Hanukkah at The Lodge at Candler Hills, with doughnuts and coffee and a private concert by Harry Boyajian, a longtime member of the Theatre Club.

The Jewish Club meets on a reciprocal basis both at The Lodge at Candler Hills and the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Each meeting features a moment in time snippet from Jewish history and a keynote speaker. There is plenty of time for meeting new friends and socializing.

For more information on the club, view our Facebook page (The Jewish Club of OTOW) or contact Rick Carel, president, at 352-316-9946.



Retired Colonel Gorham Black III to speak at the Jewish Club Sunday, Feb. 6.



Photo by Nancy Stephens

Merlin.

## Birding Group to Travel to La Chua Trail

By Debbie Sherer, Norm Lantz and Jim Shuman

The Birding Group plans to travel to the Gainesville area Thursday, Feb. 24, to La Chua Trail. La Chua Trail occupies the northern sector of Paynes Prairie. The entire trail from the parking lot to the observation tower is a three-mile walk but there is a second trail that leads to the Alachua Sink that offers a shorter walk and has benches along the path.

In the late 1800s, Paynes Prairie was a huge lake used by steamboats for commerce to many ports that provided goods to the early residents in this area.

A legend has it that the lake was full one night and the next day all the water was gone. A sinkhole, later named the Alachua Sink, opened during the night and drained the lake completely. Today it drains all the excess waterfall runoff, helps replenish the aquifer and keeps the interior trails open to visitors. There are alligators that live here as well as bison and wild horses.

Some of the bird species observed and recorded by experienced birders on La Chua Trail in January were blue-winged teal, barred owl, northern cardinal, wood stork, double-crested cormorant, great blue heron, white ibis, snail kite, palm warbler, anhinga, red-bellied woodpecker, white-eyed vireo, Carolina chickadee, merlin, wild turkey and king rail.

Another bit of information that

might encourage you to accompany us on this trip is that several expert birders who participated in the On Top of the World quadrant of Marion County Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) will be joining us on this trip to La Chua Trail. Marion County fielded teams of birders in 14 different areas within a 15-mile circle spreading throughout southwest Marion County. The On Top of the World team counted 975 birds representing 52 species for the Christmas Bird Count in its quadrant. This is an impressive number of birds to identify, and it shows the skill and knowledge of these birders. Novice birders can learn many aspects of birding by accompanying advanced birders on group trips.

The Birding Group will select a location for lunch to provide some time to relax, discuss the trip and enjoy the local cuisine of the area. Participants will receive directions to La Chua Trail and information on the chosen restaurant prior to the trip. If you are interested in accompanying us on this trip, please contact Margitta Claterbos (mclaterbos@gmail.com). We plan to leave at 7:15 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, from the parking lot of Friendship Center just outside the SW 99th Street gate of On Top of the World. Please park your vehicle near Bank OZK but not in front of the bank. The best place to park is by the hedges on the side of the bank.

## A Personal Success Story

By Ray Cech  
World News Writer

"Perseverance, determination and desire are the foundation for success no matter what your goal." Following these tenets have proven successful for resident, Chris Riopel. Her story is one of inspiration for anyone looking to achieve a goal but is finding the struggle prohibitive.

Chris was working as a business analyst in North Carolina. It was a sedentary job working long hours with little time for herself. At the end of each day, she would return home exhausted and hungry from a day of stress, too much coffee and little to eat. But once home, she made up for it by snacking until bedtime. Meanwhile, her retired husband, Mike, was at the gym working out.

Then one day, Chris looked at Mike and felt the envy course through her body – she joined a gym and hired a trainer. Then, just as she was beginning to feel better about herself, the couple decided to retire.

In 2012 Chris and Mike moved to On Top of the World. They fell in love with The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa and became members. Chris wanted to continue working with a fitness trainer, and when she met Linda Denno, she knew she had found the right one. Chris said, "Almost immediately I felt that Linda

was motivated to help me achieve my goals – losing weight and getting healthy."

Chris Riopel went to work. She started training with Linda twice a week while also participating in group fitness classes. Linda told us that Chris is one of the most motivated and self-directed clients she has ever worked with.

Working out at The Ranch and meeting regularly with Weight Watchers, Chris Riopel started seeing results. At The Ranch, she would occasionally look in the mirror and realize she was probably the heaviest in her class. But rather than getting down on herself, she would shake it off, get re-energized and reaffirm her goals, whether it was losing a few extra pounds, lifting a few extra weights, or doing a few more jumping jacks.

Meanwhile, Linda Denno continued to motivate and cheer her on. She designed programs and workouts to help Chris get closer and closer to achieving her goals. "Twice a week, starting at 8 a.m., Linda had me flipping tires, doing lunges or running around orange cones. Linda's creativity was unbounded, and she made hard-work fun," says Chris.

Chris Riopel was also inspired by On Top of the World's Fitness Director Cammy Dennis. Chris joined



Photo by Ray Cech

Chris Riopel – an inspiration for the new year.

Cammy's walking group and when she saw runners on the course, she thought she'd give that a try – the rest is history. She did her first 5K in Ocala and never looked back. Chris now has a plethora of awards attesting to her participation in races she has either won or placed in her age group.

Along with working out, attending Weight Watcher meetings, and competing on the racetrack, Chris Riopel, volunteers. She is a member of ReadingPals, she volunteers with Friends of Freedom Public Library, and is an usher at the Reilly Arts Center.

It's been eight years now since Chris Riopel set her first small goal.

During that time, she learned to believe in herself – "I can do it." When bouts of frustration and self-doubt crept in, Chris never gave up. She would bounce back, shout out that she could do it, set another goal, and just move forward.

Anyone wanting to achieve a goal, no matter how big or difficult it appears, Chris Riopel will tell you that you must, "Believe that you can – start small – persevere – and along the way, be sure to set achievable goals."

After spending time with the amazing Chris, this writer went for a walk around the block. As Chris reinforced, "Start by setting small goals."

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Photo By Kemp Howland

October 2021 rally of the Tall Tale Travelers Club.

**Tall Tale Travelers**

David Cranmer



The club went through major changes last year, including moving our monthly meetings to the third Wednesday, at 3 p.m., holding happy hours in July and August, instituting "buddy camping" trips, and adding a new slate of officers. We ended the year with over 100 members.

We held three rallies last year at the Lazydays RV Resort near Tampa, the brand-new Oak Alley RV Resort in Webster, and the San Carlos RV Resort & Marina in Ft. Myers Beach. October's rally had a record 24 rigs with 49 members participating. Our thanks to the Siewerts and Cranmers for being our wagon masters.

In addition, there were four buddy camping trips (informal meet-ups) at Cape Canaveral, Orlando, Flagler Beach and St. Augustine. Thank you to Pat Perry, Kemp Howland, the Schaubes, and the Hoovers for being the organizers.

We closed the year with a festive holiday potluck supper in December. Thanks to everyone who helped make it a wonderful year.

Lots of plans are in the works for 2022. Regular club meetings will be

the third Wednesday of the month starting a 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. We generally take June through August off but watch for meet-up opportunities.

We have a buddy camping event coming up Friday, Feb. 4 through Sunday, Feb. 6, at Sertoma Youth Ranch in Brooksville for the Celtic Family Jamboree.

Our first rally of the year will be Sunday, Feb. 27 through Friday, March 4, at the Lazydays RV Resort in Seffner. Daily breakfast is included and there will be a supper planned during the week. Reserve your site now and let them know you're with Tall Tale Travelers.

More rallies are in the works, including a trip to Savannah in September.

The Tall Tale Travelers Club is always welcoming new members and is open to all residents interested in the RV lifestyle. Whether you drive a motor home or a tow a camper – or you'd like to know more about RVing - please join us. Membership is free. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 16, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Contact club president David Cranmer at talltaletravelers@gmail.com.

For more information, visit us on Facebook (Tall Tale Travelers).

**RESIDENT SERVICES**

Friendship Commons  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday  
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**UPCOMING PUBLICATION**

March Issue  
Thursday, March 3, 2022

See page 2 for publication schedule.

**On Top of the World NEWS**

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**Genealogical Society**

Peter Parisi



The Genealogical Society had a holiday luncheon at Mama B's Diner in December 2021. Approximately 30 people attended. A good time was had by all.

Do you know why you have a surname (family or last name)?

In China, surnames were first used in the year 2852 BC. In England, after the Norman invasion in 1066, surnames were introduced for titled landowners only. Commoners only had a first or given (personal) name. As the population expanded, the need arose to differentiate between two people who shared the same first name. The use of surnames became universal in Europe during the 1400s and 1500s, except

in the Scandinavian countries.

In December 1901, Sweden required all citizens to adopt heritable surnames that would pass down intact. In 1923, the Norwegian government mandated all Norwegian families to choose a last name they could pass down from generation to generation.

European surnames are classified under five categories:

1. Patronymics - forming a surname from the father's given name or sometimes matronymic from the mother's given name;
2. Occupational name;
3. Location (toponymic) name;
4. Nickname; or
5. Ornamental name.

Occupational names include Smith, Miller, Farmer, or Thatcher. Location names derive from the name of a country, city, county, village, hamlet, farm, homestead, mountain, or a river from which

they came. Some surnames were based on size, complexion, or hair color, such as Short, White or Blackbeard.

Because most people were illiterate until the late 1800s, the spelling of the surname varied because civil registration clerks and religious clerics spelled the name as it sounded when people came to register births, marriages or deaths. Thus, after 500 years, there are many variants of the original surname.

Today, in most western countries, the surname follows the first name. In Asian cultures, typically the surname is placed first, followed by the given name. In Spanish speaking countries, people have two surnames, the first surname from the father and the second surname from the mother. In Portugal and Brazil, the first surname comes from the mother and the second surname from the father.

If you are interested in joining

the Genealogical Society, contact Wilma Kelly at otowgens@gmail.com. Dues are \$20 per year for an individual and \$35 for a couple.

Our meetings are at 10 a.m. the second and third Mondays of the month. Our meetings will be both in person in the Hobby Building Event Room and via Zoom. Our club president, Paul Belter, will notify members by email on how to access the Zoom video conferencing.

On Monday, Feb. 14, there will be an open genealogy discussion by the membership on genealogy issues or discoveries they have learned.

On Monday, Feb. 21, Lisa Alzo will demonstrate research tactics and key resources to locate information on your Austrian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Slovak and Ukrainian ancestors.

Visit us at otowgens.shutterfly.com.

**Tech Tips**

Shane Bobson  
info@mybridgenet.com



**Fiber-to-the-Home**

What is fiber-optic? Optical fiber is a silicon dioxide (SiO2) derived cable with a transparent core that allows light to travel through it. Fi-

ber optic internet works by splitting files such as movies and games into data packets of zeroes and ones. A laser flashes a Morse code type signal into one end of a plastic or glass filament. The wire is about as thick as one strand of human hair. A special sheath called a cladding keeps the beam of light inside the filament. The light bounces off walls for as long as sixty miles and then it bounces out the other end where a modem decodes the light into a form your computer can use.

At Bridgenet Communications, we use two types of fiber-to-the-home (FTTH). First is our coaxial system which is a Hybrid-Fiber Coaxial (HFC) infrastructure. That's where the backbone in the network infrastructure is fiber optical cable but the last leg to the home is the copper coaxial cable. In new On Top of the World neighborhoods, we use an active ethernet and G-PON system. That's where the fiber optic cable terminates in or at the home itself.

There are many benefits to fiber

such as the ability to reach much higher speeds than copper cabling. There's less need for signal boosters since light can travel much further without losing signal strength. Also, with being a glass fiber and digital in signal fiber optics, it is inherently resistant to electromagnetic interference and extreme shifts in temperature and weather. Also, fiber is very secure if someone were to try and hack the system by attaching to it, they'd break the line instead, causing the system to go down alerting of a possible breach attempt.

Reach out to a Bridgenet Communications representative and see how we can help you get the most benefit from having fiber optics in your home.

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**Computer Club**



Chris Kilbride

Every Saturday at 9 a.m. the Computer Club meets for an hour through both weekly via Zoom and first-of-the-month in-person meetings in the Hobby Building. We discuss PC and Apple issues regarding software and hardware. Our otowpcclub.org website will give lots of great information about our group.

Less is more. In the world of technology, spring cleaning on a computer, tablet, or phone will reward you with more hard drive space.

Start by reviewing your photos. Often, we have many similar photos, so choose the best of the best and delete the others. Going through thousands of photos will help. Videos take up even more space, where several minutes of many videos could be a large portion of your hard drive. Don't forget to empty the photo program's trashcan when you finish.

Apps aren't tiny anymore. Friends often suggest apps that will help you, but if they are never used, say goodbye to those by uninstalling them.

Have you checked out your downloads folder lately? There might be videos, photos, music, and PDF files lurking there that need to be addressed, organized, or deleted.

The desktop itself should not be cluttered, since it uses operating memory to display these files all the time, slowing your computer. Open the documents folder, where everything should be stored, and make lots of new folders to drop your files in by categories, events, etc. Consider the documents folder your "file cabinet with named tabs on each of the folders." You can even have folders within folders, just use your search tool to find your files by keywords.

Some of us are still cleaning out files from a previous career. Your co-workers have moved on from your retirement, and so should you. Keep memorable and pertinent files but throw out the rest.

One of our favorite ways to com-

municate uses the message program. It's no problem if all we do is text words to others. But the thrill of getting photos, videos, animated gifs, audio clips, stickers, and files - that's the exciting part! Those are also the culprits. Time to go to each person's messages, some even date back several years, and delete the unneeded items.

When you purchase new devices, consider getting a large hard drive - since apps and programs have grown larger, your interests may change over time, and you may want to keep a device longer.

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., members enjoy in-person help sessions in the Hobby Building or online one-on-one instruction, discussing their PC or Apple computer, smartphone, or tablet issues. Members may list on our website any computer-related hardware for sale or to give away.

We keep the meeting fun and offer suggestions and possible solutions to help our members.

**Scandinavian American Club**



Laura Pinney

Our dedicated club chairperson for the past four years has moved to be closer to friends and family. Ginny and Jerry will be missed and we send them our wishes for health and joy as they start the next chapter in their lives. We want to thank Ginny for all the hours she spent on the club's behalf.

We are now forming a new leadership committee and making plans for the fun year ahead. We look forward to our members sharing the culture and traditions of their individual Nordic countries. We meet the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV from 1 to 3 p.m. If you are of Scandinavian heritage you may want to join our club. Our members are from the Nordic countries which are Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Finland.

If you have any questions, please call Linda Pinney at 831-431-0525. Skol.



Photo by Linda Lohr

The front of the Hobby Building Model Train Room.

**R/C LadyBirds**



Linda Lohr

Our first meeting of the year was held Friday, Jan. 14, in the Hobby Building Event Room. We met a little earlier to get ready for the presentation by the Model Railroaders Club. They showed us a video that was made using a camera on one of their engines! This gave everyone a fantastic view of the scenery that is in place. We were then taken in small groups into the Model Train Room to watch all the mechanical gizmos work and to marvel at the workmanship throughout the room. We thank President Jim Lynam and his volunteers for showing us the video and taking us through the layouts.

Our next meeting will be in the same location at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 11.

Our club is open to all wives and significant others of the R/C Flyers. We meet the second Friday of each month, September through May, at 10 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Please come, bring your choice of beverage, and join us! Our dues are \$10 per year. We are working on setting up adventures and guests for the coming year!

**100 Grandparents**



Melinda Sutherland

The 100 Grandparents had hopes of returning to Romeo Elementary to read to the children. However, the continued safety guidelines have stopped our program. The principal, Suzette Parker, along with 100 Grandparents organizer, Evelyn Sarns-Holiday, agree the safety of the children and readers are top priority.

Should you want to keep informed of updates by being put on an email list, contact Evelyn at (352) 237-0304 or evelynsarns@gmail.com. If you would like information on volunteer programs to do on your own at Romeo Elementary, contact the school at (352) 465-6700.

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<p><b>FRIDAY, FEB. 18</b></p> <p><b>ELIO PIEDRA</b></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, FEB. 19</b></p> <p><b>REARVIEW MIRROR</b></p>
<p><b>FRIDAY, FEB. 25</b></p> <p><b>SECOND SLICE</b></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, FEB. 26</b></p> <p><b>STELLA BEAT</b></p>

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**Moonstruck Astronomy Club**

Jim Shuman



The Moonstruck Astronomy Club held its monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 13, in the Hobby Building Event Room. Club Secretary John Bridges opened the meeting stating that Club President Jim Di Paolo and Vice President Larry Isenberg were both unable to attend the meeting. Bridges covered the customary club business and announced that the next exclusive NASA webcast for club members will be Thursday, Jan. 20. It will feature NASA scientist Adriana Ocampo discussing the Lucy Project, a series of fly-bys to observe asteroids in orbit near Jupiter.

In view of the recent launch of the new James Webb Space Telescope, Bridges gave a presentation to honor the service of the Hubble Space Telescope, which has operated successfully in space for thirty-one years thus far. He discussed the telescope's history and shared some of the many remarkable images that Hubble has provided throughout its lifetime in space. He then led club members in a fun trivia game called "The Hubble Challenge."

Club member Jim Shuman presented an illustrated PowerPoint on the reasons for stars' different colors in the sky. He discussed the sun, our nearest star, and the reasons it has a yellow color, comparing it to other stars that are blue, blue-white, green, orange, and red in color. He concluded the presentation with a gallery of Hubble

Space Telescope photographs of well-known stars of different colors – Rigel in Orion (blue), Vega in Lyra (white), Antares in Scorpius (red), and others including some double (binary) stars of two different colors. The presentation prompted several thoughtful questions from club members.

John Bridges then provided members with his customary overview of the January night skies, showing positions of the moon, planets, international space station, and celestial objects of interest throughout the month. He concluded the meeting by reminding club members to watch for emails announcing more evening observation sessions in the coming weeks and months. Sessions could be held on any evening that weather conditions allow for an open sky and club members are willing to set up their

telescopes to share observations. Members are welcome to arrive and stay if they wish throughout the evenings. All sessions are held in the R/C flying field adjacent to the car track.

Regular meetings of the Moonstruck Astronomy Club are on the second Thursday of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. All residents can join the club, and new members are welcome! Yearly club dues are only \$15 per year, and they include 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 Moonstruck Astronomy Club President Jim Di Paolo at moonastroclub@gmail.com. More information is always available at moonstruckastronomy-club.org.



Photo by NASA

On Saturday, Jan. 1, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope officially passed the one-billion second mark – 31 years and still going!

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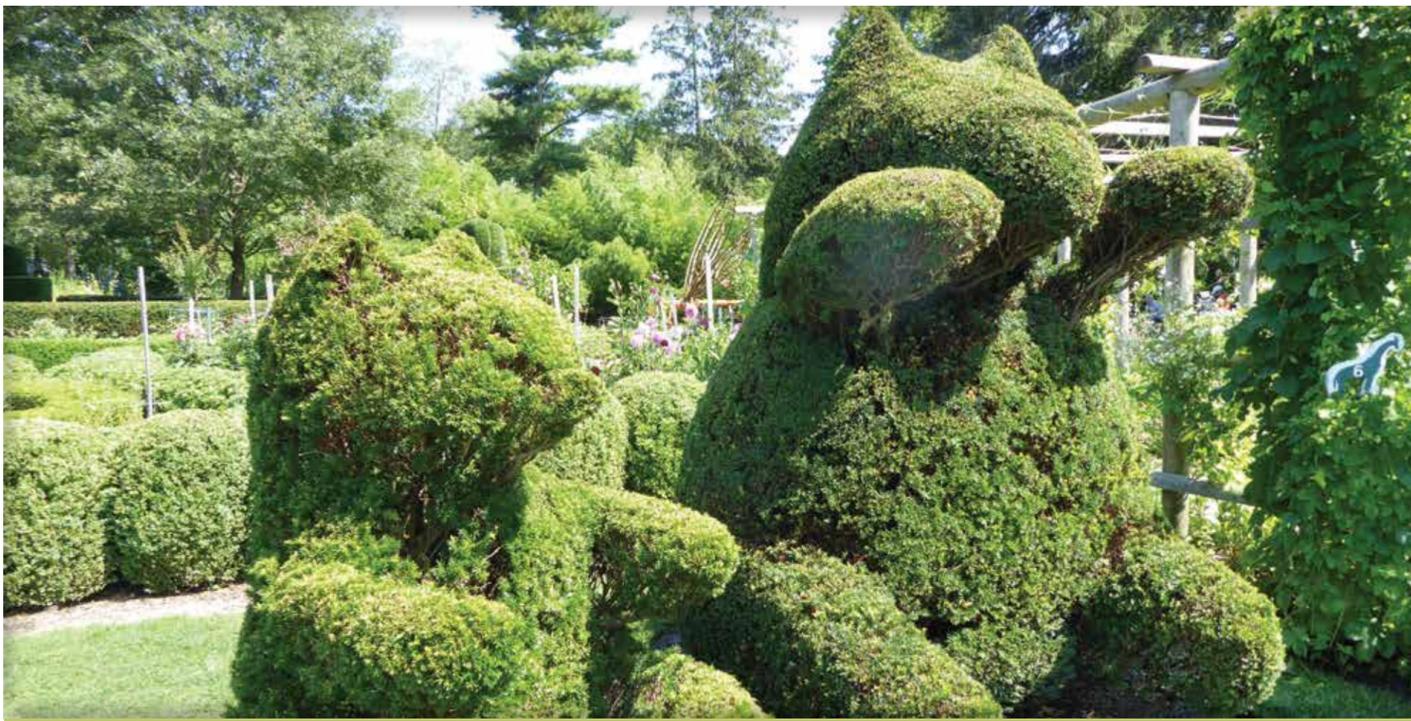


Photo by Judy Parisi

Green Animals Topiary Garden in Rhode Island.

**Rhode Island Group**

Judy Parisi



While in Rhode Island the areas we typically like to visit look out over the water. One that is a hidden gem is Green Animals Topiary Gardens in Portsmouth. The topiary garden is on what had been a small country estate overlooking Narragansett Bay. It consists of seven acres, a classic white clapboard house, farm buildings and gardens.

It was originally purchased in 1877 by Thomas Brayton who was treasurer of Union Cotton Manufacturing in Fall River. His daughter Alice inherited the estate and made it her permanent residence in 1940 until 1972. She left the estate to the Preservation Society of Newport County. It remains a rare example of a self-sufficient estate with formal topiaries, vegetable gardens, orchards, and seasonal bedding.

Topiary is the art of fashioning living plants into the shapes of animals or geometric figures. At Green Animals, topiaries are in the shape of a wide variety of animals including boar, camel, donkey, elephant, giraffe, lion, ostrich and many more. They are made of California privet and yew with the geometric forms from English boxwood and California privet.

After walking through the extensive display, one can sit in one of the rocking chairs on the porch of the historic clapboard house and enjoy the beautiful view of Narragansett Bay.

This past summer the topiary gardens were enhanced with a display of the sculptured works of David Rogers entitled "Big Bugs," highlighting some of nature's smallest and most incredible creatures that are pollinators that benefit nature. One of the materials in Rogers' sculptures is black locust wood. He had sculptures of the butterfly, praying mantis, spider, ladybugs, hummingbird, and other valuable pollinators.

Rhode Island provides a wonderful array of places to spend a day and enjoy its beautiful coastline.

Our Rhode Island Group met for lunch at Sammy's Italian Restaurant Wednesday, Jan. 19. We plan on another luncheon in May. If you lived, worked or served in Rhode Island or are the spouse of someone who did, and would like to join our group, please email [judith.parisi@gmail.com](mailto:judith.parisi@gmail.com) to be added to our email list that will provide information of upcoming meetings.

**Pennsylvania Club**

Lacinda Hobbs



Did you know that the Pittsburgh Steelers and Philadelphia Eagles combined teams in 1943 because neither could field an entire team due to World War II shortages? The team was called the Steagles.

The Pennsylvania Club met Wednesday, Jan. 12, to enjoy an Italian potluck dinner.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 9, at 3:30 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios. Come join us to share our combined Pennsylvania connections and make new connections.

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

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TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3



**Southern Club**

Melanie Vittitow



Our January meeting started out the new year with a chance to learn about something new. Marjorie Howard, vice chairperson of Senior Learners, Inc., and Donna Robinson, one of the instructors, came to tell us about their program offering low-cost college level courses to seniors over 50. Their all-volunteer instructors are retired professors and professional people who want to share their passions and knowledge with you. Their widely diversified program offers a wide variety

of classes. Classes are offered in a classroom at the College of Central Florida and via Zoom.

As Donna is always saying, "Isn't there something in your life that you've always wanted to know more about?"

Our next meeting/dinner will be Tuesday, Feb 7. We welcome all residents because you became a "southerner" when you moved to Florida. Our meeting takes place in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III. The dinner starts at 5 p.m. so we ask people to come between 4:30 and 5 p.m. to check in, find a place to sit, and get drinks. The club furnishes coffee, tea, lemonade, ice, and cups. You bring a potluck dish to share, plates, and eating utensils. Dues are \$10 per person for the year.

In February, we have a treat in store for our members and guests. New residents Linda and Bill Sisco will be entertaining us. Their duo is called Primetime Entertainment. Linda is the singer and performer, and Bill is her manager, DJ, and in charge of the equipment. This active couple was highlighted in the January issue of Neighbors Magazine if you would like to read more about them. We are really looking forward to the show. Maybe some of us will even get up and dance. It should be lots of fun and we welcome you to join us.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Southern Club, feel free to call me at 352-873-8690. And mark your calendar right now for Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 5 p.m. I hope to see you there.

**Texas Connection Social Club**

Kathy Cornell



It was great being able to bring back our annual Texas Connection chili cook-off in January. We had a new record of eight competitors. That's a lot of chili to sample but we were up for the challenge. Our winners were: Gold: Renee and Rick Anchors; Silver: Donna Abel; Bronze: Darlene Stevens.

Runners up in no particular order were Linda Kleinhesselink, Terry Webb, Jeanne and John Bradford, Brenda Nash and Linda Byrd. Thank you, competitors, for your culinary creations; and everyone who provided sides, condiments, and desserts, we appreciate you too. We overheard a suggestion that next year we add a cornbread-making competition. That could be an interesting challenge, too.

Entertainment for the evening was a narrative of an unsuspecting foreign visitor lured by free beer to become a chili competition judge. The judges are reading their written comments after sampling the entries. Linda Byrd and Brenda Nash played the Texan judges with Pat Casey, our resident BritTex, playing Foster Crumbwell from London. The Texas judges are mildly impressed with the entries, but Foster's take on them is quite different. Linda and Brenda found Susan's Screaming Sensation Chili mediocre and ho hum, but Foster said, "you could put a grenade in my mouth, pull the pin, and I wouldn't feel a thing!" The original story that floated around Texas for ages had the judge hailing from New Jersey. Pat's British rendition with the slang and accent is way better and so hilarious, some claimed their belly hurt from laughing. Thank you Pat, Linda, and Brenda, for a fun time.

Important notice about our February meeting - it is being skipped this year. The date falls on Super Bowl Sunday and it's also when some are celebrating Valentine's Day weekend. Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 13, when we will have a horse race. More details will be revealed as planning goes forward for this event.

Texas Connection is a club for residents who have a connection to Texas by being born and/or raised there; living there for work, college, or military service; spending time there for vacation, competitions, or for professional reasons; or having family living there. Spouses or partners who haven't been to Texas are considered honorary Texans by association. We have a great group of folks who are ready to welcome you and share our Texas hospitality and fun-loving spirits. For more information, contact Kathy Cornell at 352-300-3729, 352-562-2801 or kcornell54@cfl.rr.com.

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**New York/ New Jersey Club**

Gloria Nelson



The New York/New Jersey Club meets today, Jan. 27. All in attendance are welcomed to the club and to the start of an exciting new year.

A planning committee met in January to brainstorm ideas for the

club's future activities. Activities such as speakers, charity walks, and wine tastings were some of the events suggested by the committee. Having fun in a social gathering is the primary goal of the club, as well as, making charitable contributions to several organizations. The club is still in the planning stages and new members as well as new ideas are always welcomed. We ask that you make sure you give your name, email, and phone number, for any future notices.

Our meetings are the last Thursday of the month in the Hobby Building Event Room. Members are asked to bring a snack for all to share and beverages will be provided.

Come and enjoy the company of people from your state and town. Become a part of the New York/New Jersey Club. If you have any questions about this group, feel free to contact T.J. Harrington at tj@succestrack.com or 585-697-4088.

**Active Singles Club**

Pat Jocelyn



The Active Singles Club has multiple changes on the way. More information will follow.

Starting in February, our game night moves to the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Candler Hills Community Center. Our club's happy hour moves to the third Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. to the Indigo East Community Center. This is now a BYOB and snacks event.

The board has begun previous member clean up. In other words, if you did not renew your membership by January 2022, you will no longer receive club emails, nor have access to our private Face-

book page and website. You can always renew your membership at any general membership meeting, which is normally held the third Wednesday of the month. The locations for these meetings vary. The February meeting will take place at The Lodge at Candler Hills at 6 p.m.

Active Singles Club is proud to support Interfaith Emergency Services. Please bring non-perishable food and personal hygiene items to our membership meetings. You can reach out to the board members at activesinglesotow@outlook.com.

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**SPCA of Marion County**



**Kathy Tilghman Kluge**

Last week, a small dog wandered onto my front lawn, disoriented and in need of immediate assistance as I live on a very busy street. He walked onto my porch where he rubbed noses with my own dog and proceeded to stare up at me expectantly. Fortunately, the little guy was friendly and wore a collar and tag with a current phone number. I called the owner first, made several phone calls to SPCA of Marion County members and knocked on several neighbors' doors, hoping someone recognized the dog. Eventually, the owner called me back and came to claim him.

That experience prompted me to compose this column about pet safety and some aspects of it that you may not have considered before. Some may sound like no-brainers and others like fresh new ideas.

The SPCA recommends that front doors are securely locked, especially your screen door. I once had a border collie that saw a dog dashing down our street and proceeded to paw the latch open and race out the screen door after her new found friend. Colleen returned safely after crossing two harrowing streets. I had just adopted her and had not had time to get a tag made with my phone number. Luckily, she didn't run any further than the woods at the end of my very busy street. (Tag promptly purchased and door lesson learned, never to be repeated!)

Be sure tag information is updated with current contact information.

Check yards that are fenced for holes where your furry friend might be able to squeeze through. Check enclosed front porches for narrow slats where the same thing could occur.

In addition to checking on your pet in your backyard periodically, an added safety measure could include using a stationary stake and long lead tie.

Other considerations that the SPCA of Marion County can help with include the following:

Providing bagged donations of pet food and supplies to Marion Senior Services. Donations are delivered through Meals on Wheels to targeted seniors throughout the county.

Providing some assistance to cover pet expenses.

To help defray the costs of the above, the SPCA of Marion County has a table at the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market every Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., where monetary and other pet supply donations can be dropped off. The table is there every Thursday except the third one of each month when we have our meetings.

Our meetings are held at 1 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church, 9510 SW 105th Street.

Currently, we have Asti, a 15-year-old yorkie available for adoption. If you want more information about Asti, call us at 352-362-0985. Also, if you have a pet in need, please contact us. For more information, visit us at [SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com](http://SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com). If you have a question, call us at 352-362-0985.

**SWANS**



**Sandi Dickerson**

The Single Women's Active Networking System (SWANS) was established for single women at On Top of the World in 2006. Our motto has always been "SWANS are never alone." We actively support each other during times of need and enjoy life through our many social events. Some of us have chosen to be in appetizer and dinner-in groups and meet monthly in each other's homes. Long-term friendships have been formed while in these groups!

We have a wonderful mix of women who get along very well and have lots of fun together. Trips continue to be well attended.

A nice group of SWANS made the trip to Biloxi, Mississippi over the Christmas holiday. This group stayed at the Beau Rivage Casino and Hotel and had a wonderful time celebrating the holiday together. The hotel was decorated to the hilt! From the pictures, it seemed like every corner had a tree or lights. This trip was a complete success and lots of fun was had by all who attended.

We continue to meet Saturday mornings to play cards. Several of our members have been playing cards a few days during the week for quite a while. The book club started by Jan continues to meet, as well as our appetizer and dinner-in groups.

Our breakfast out for December 2021, was at Red's. Thanks to Gerri for hosting. Lunches out were at Bonefish. Thanks go to Wanda and Carol for hosting this outing.

Our January lunches out were hosted by Lois and Sally, and we went to Elevation 89. Everyone enjoyed their food. Marge and Linda hosted our January lunches out with groups at Penn Station in Dunnellon. Thanks to all these ladies who volunteered to host. Without you, these small excursions would not happen! Keep it up, ladies!

We are also planning to have a

table of SWANS at the Lions Club "Tacky Tea" luncheon. This should be great fun!

Our group's sole purpose is to make sure the single women in On Top of the World are never alone in this journey. Our semi-annual meeting will be Saturday, March 5, at the Arbor Conference Center, Dance Studios I-II at 10 am. At this time, we will be signing up to join the new appetizer- and dinner-in groups. Also, this is when our mem-

bers can sign up to host our breakfast- and lunch-out groups. Lois will also have all the information about any trips through our travel agent and/or special events members will be arranging. It is also a good time to catch up with friends we haven't seen in a while and make new ones! Any ladies interested in becoming a new member of the SWANS must attend this meeting. Call Lois Nix for more information.

**Lions Club**



**Gail Morris**

The Lions Club held the "Tacky Tea" fundraiser Sunday, Jan. 16. Check out our next news columns to read all about the event.

Our club has been busy working in our community during the holiday season and with the help of our generous neighbors and residents we were able to provide over 500 toys to Toys for Tots, the Arnette House and the Ocala Domestic Violence Shelter. Thank you.

We ended our year of monthly eyeglass collection with some great numbers - 2,468 eyeglasses, 1,572 lenses, 1,889 cases and 647 sunglasses. It is such a help to those in need of glasses around the world.

If you know of someone in our community who is in need of an eye exam, eyeglasses or any sight issues that are beyond their financial means, Lions are here to help. We have an application process and multiple ways to assist.

Our meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m. If you would like further information, you can contact Estelle Michelson, our membership chair, at 352-861-7358 for more information.

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**What's Cookin'?**



**Gary Uhley**

**Hobo Dinner**

Serves one

- 1/4-pound hamburger
- 1 potato
- 1 carrot
- Ketchup or barbecue sauce
- 1/4 onion, optional
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Supplies needed include aluminum foil, paper towels, and long fire tongs.

Create a foil wrapper for each person by sandwiching a wet paper towel between two squares of foil. This will help even the heat and prevent burning.

Wash, peel, and dice the vegetables. With clean fingers, pull the hamburger into bits and place on foil wrapper. Season hamburger with salt and pepper. Add vegetables and desired sauce. Fold foil into a flat package; seal well. Place the foil packet(s) on the grill or coals. Cook for 10 minutes, then flip and cook 10 more. Unwrap and check one packet to see if they are done.

**On Top of the World NEWS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be emailed to [otownews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownews@otowfl.com) by the 12th of the month.

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**World Traveler**

Bill Shampine



Thanks to Theodore Roosevelt, the United States is blessed with many incredible National Parks. Similarly, there also are other amazing National Parks scattered throughout the world. Today, I am going to describe one such park that is in central Bolivia - the Amboró National Park.

This huge park, created in 1973, encompasses 1,709 square miles, has an elevation that ranges from 980 feet to 10,951 feet, and has an average annual rainfall that ranges from 55.1 inches to 157.5 inches. It is home to 2,659 species of plants, 177 species of mammals, 135 species of reptiles, 173 species of am-

phibians, 109 species of fish, and 930 species of birds. All these numbers are probably low because the land in the park is so remote and rugged that much of it has not yet been fully explored. Even so, Amboró still is one of the most botanically rich and wildlife abundant parks in the world.

Wandering around the park presents you with a plethora of stunning opportunities. You can experience a dense rain forest or a "forest" where the vegetation is mostly a variety of ferns, you can swim in the plunge pools of the many gorgeous waterfalls, view all types of birds and other wildlife, and get up close and personal with hundreds of mosquitoes.

If you want to visit Amboró, you should go during the dry season, which occurs from May through September. There will be fewer mosquitoes (which is a very good

thing) and you can get around much more easily. The only roads in the park are dirt, or gravel at best, and can only be navigated with a four-wheel drive vehicle. During the wet season, many of the roads are impassable mud pits, and many of the streams are in flood stage and too deep to be forded. Considering its remoteness, ruggedness, and the lack of infrastructure, Bolivian law wisely states that visitors cannot enter Amboró without a certified guide.

If you are looking to escape the hustle and bustle of life, Amboró National Park is a jungle paradise. It is perfect for people to unwind, relax, and get back in touch with nature. For about \$120 per person, you can get a two day/one night tour that includes a guide, transportation, entrance fees, accommodations, all meals and water, and hikes, including a night safari.



Photo by Karenrek

The home of an indigenous Bolivian living in the Amboró National Park, Bolivia. (Can you find the little boy?)

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Michigan Club



Nancy Meininger

Due to unforeseen circumstances, headliner Pat Gabriel was unable to join us for our January kick-off meeting to give us the big scoop on what is headed our way. However, she has graciously rebooked for Sunday, Feb. 6, at 5 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III and promises a big reveal!

Come prepared with questions and notepads. This is a meeting you will not want to miss. Learn what is already permitted to change the landscape of Ocala forever that hasn't even broken ground yet!

For the potluck, if your last name begins with A-G, please bring a main dish; from H-N bring a vegetable or salad; and from O-Z a dessert. Also bring the beverage of your choice in a closed cup. The pink elephant exchange is cancelled.

Sunday, March 6, we look forward to talented actress, historian



Photo by Nancy Meininger

Michiganders from all over the mitten state gathered to kick off the 2022 season. Many newcomers joined the group.

Dee Collier who will entertain us while drawing us into her historical sketch. Wearing of the green is encouraged, this is our St. Patty's Day meeting, so satisfy your Irish itch!

New lightweight Michigan Club

polo shirts are being ordered. They are hunter green - same design (but embroidered logo) as last time - in ladies and men's sizes XS through 6XL, \$25. If you want one, please contact Nancy Meininger at 352-

342-9757.

April will be our Coney Island barbeque salute to the Detroit Tigers. More to come.

For information on the Michigan Club, contact Nancy Meininger at 352-342-9757.



Photo by Ron Broman

Where in the world grows this plant?

Native Plant Group

Ron Broman



Welcome to 2022! What a joy to live in Florida and in On Top of the World. Where the view is great!

Another "where in the world" is ready to entice you. According to Craig Huegel, author of Native Florida Plants for Shady Locations, the plant we have chosen for this month "is naturally quite rare in Florida."

But she is growing and blossoming in a least one site in our community at this very moment!

This native wildflower "is listed as a state endangered species but is widely propagated by commercial nurseries and often available for home landscape use. As a wildflower she is native to the Tampa Bay region of west central Florida."

She "can tolerate high levels of sunlight if given ample moisture but seems to perform best in partial sun or in places where [she] receives sunlight for a few hours in early morning or late afternoon."

Finally, her "showiness" is not only apparent to humans; but is also "of great interest to pollina-

tors." Okay, We've heard from Craig. Now it's time to discover where she is "performing" here.

If you can recall in previous columns where the red cedar is, or the fringe tree, or the red buckeye, then you'll be "right at home" with this beauty. She's about two feet high, tucked in among some counties, wild cherries, beautyberries, a Hercules club, and even a wild lemon tree. When you visit her "home" you'll be welcome to view about 70 more Florida natives.

That should be clues enough for success. When you find her give us a call at 352-861-4560. If you are "spot on" a native awaits. You might enjoy researching her name and more fascinating information about her.

Last month's entry was the Pinxter azalea, Rhododendron canensis, growing right here in the front yard of our Garden of Weedin'. Come take a look.

If you would like to join members of our Native Plant Group as we maintain our native plant projects, give us a call at that number. We would love to have you join us as we help this earth by growing native!

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## Cycling Club

By Susan Yenne  
World News Writer

Ed Vasoli joined the Wheeling Around the World Cycling Club because he enjoys riding with others in a safe and courteous structured environment.

Kristi Hilton was hoping to meet some women who might like to go on some distance rides or possibly join a fundraiser ride around Florida.

Sid Levine joined to meet new riders and make a connection with them.

Dennis Baker started the club in September 2021 with only one other cyclist, his wife, Marilyn. The Facebook page – with the same name as the club – has more than 50 members, and Baker has been contacted by about 100 interested people.

“My hope is to get people on bikes,” he said. “We welcome riders of all ability levels, but we especially encourage the less experienced so they can gain more confidence and hopefully become

avid cyclists.”

He uses the Facebook page to set up about two rides a week. Most of the rides start at the Power Park, the park on SW 90th Street with the adult exercise stations. Club rides use multi-purpose paths, neighborhood streets and connector roads, whichever seem less congested and safest for cyclists and other users. Most venues are within the community, nearby environs, state parks and trails.

The type of ride depends on who shows up. If the group has a lot of beginners, they go about 10 miles at about 10 mph through the neighborhoods. “It makes it easy for people to break off and go home if they

get tired,” Baker said.

The intermediate riders go up to 20 miles at about 10 to 13 mph. One of their routes takes them to Stone Creek neighborhoods.

The good riders will take on routes 30 miles or more and go at a pace of 14 to 17 mph. Levine, who typically cycles about 130 miles a week, rides with the club two or three times a month but has scheduled longer rides with other members. Some of those experienced riders recently gathered to go on a 45-mile ride about a half-hour north of On Top of the World.

“To me, the best thing about the club is the tolerance of the members for riders of all skill levels,” said Vasoli.

Even though she’s been riding since age five, Hilton likes to ride with the novices. As a retired combat veteran, safety is at the forefront of her mind. “I am usually scouting out turning cars or approaching golf carts. I am always ready if someone has trouble in front of me,” she said.

Riders show up on all types of cycles – tricycles, recumbent trikes, multi-speed bikes, road bikes and the electric-assisted e-bikes.

Vasoli suggests those considering buying a bike should start with something reasonably priced, then upgrade as needed. Hilton had a bike shop fit her bike choice to her to minimize stress on an injured shoulder.

The best part of the club?

Baker: Getting more people out and riding.

Hilton: Being with riders of similar interest but of different ages and abilities.

Vasoli: Seeing members embrace riders of all skill levels.

Levine: Catering to all types of riders.



Photo by Dennis Baker

Cyclists get ready for a morning ride.

## 500 Picklers

By Bill Bender

The Top Pickleball Club welcomed its 500th member!

Dale Lee was greeted by our president, Andy Woods and our treasurer, Shizuka Campagna. Dale re-joined the club. He is a Canadian snowbird who, due to travel restrictions, could not join us last year. We are happy to have Dale back on the courts with us this season.

The club has enjoyed phenomenal growth last year as we began the year with 240 members and ended it with 504. That’s a growth of 110%!

Our members have advanced their game skills through a host of training opportunities offered by the club. There is now a full plate of classes starting from the most elementary introduction to more advanced skill building and strategy lessons.

If you have been near the courts recently you have certainly noticed the 11 new courts taking shape. These new courts will increase our playing capacity by 92% when added to the 12 courts we already have. The timing for completion of the

new courts will allow us to keep up with residents’ extraordinary interest in the game.

As we say every month in this column, we always have room for more, which will be especially true with the opening of the new courts. As you read this, if your interest is sparked, you only have to make your way to the courts adjacent to the Recreation Center Monday through Saturday, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. to see how the game is played. If you like what you see, come join us at one of our free introductory classes. These sessions are specifically for residents who want to learn about the fastest growing sport in the world.

Just show up on any Monday or the first Saturday of the month, at 10:30 a.m. with plenty of liquids (to avoid dehydration), wearing your tennis or court shoes, and we will provide the rest (equipment and fun). We recommend that you not purchase paddles before taking the lesson as our instructors will guide you in choosing the proper equipment. In one hour, it will be abundantly clear if this sport is for you.



Photo by Michael Hoenie

Top Pickleball Club President Andy Woods, 500th member Dale Lee, and Treasurer Shizuka Campagna.



Photo by Gene Mangold

R/C Car Club member Mike Beyer has a passion for R/C car racing and kayaking.

## R/C Cars and Kayaks

By Gene Mangold

R/C cars and kayaks, what do they have in common? For the answer, we must go back many years to Samonville, New York. Many years ago, the time had come for a baby to be born. The family and the little town had made celebration preparations for a little boy. The father had already chosen the name of Michael. But the baby was born as a lovely little girl! Everyone, including the baby, started laughing and celebrating even more than had Michael been a boy. The father added an “e” to the end of the spelling of Michael, and Michael’s fun-filled life began. Since then, she has continued to spread fun and love to all who know her.

Several of Michael’s (Mike’s) passions are kayaking and R/C cars. If she is missing on race day, she is on one of the beautiful central Florida rivers, lakes, or springs. If you are a race driver or a visitor, you will hear Mike laughing with the sheer joy of just driving, not necessarily winning, but driving around the track. Her husband Paul is an expert championship driver, and he often says, “Mike just has too much fun! She needs to concentrate more on driving.” So, let’s take a lesson from Mike rather than Paul and focus more on the joy of having a car on the track and just having fun. Don’t get me wrong, getting that first-place certificate at the end of the month is a real achievement, but I prefer Mike’s fun certificates,

which everyone can have.

So next time you are on a bridge over a beautiful river or at the R/C car track, smile and wave to Mike as she paddles or drives down her joyful journey.

Mike and Paul Beyer moved here in 2015, and you guessed it, Mike was looking for a community that had many fun-filled amenities.

The club now offers any resident a test drive following the races around 3 p.m. Just come to the information table on the west side of the driver’s stand and ask for Caroline; she will get you signed up.

The new race committee for 2022 is Chairman Dominic Papa, Track Manager Bob Herbts, Assistant Track Manager Ron Kaulferersch, Safety Officer Terry Altman, Members at Large Bob Zangmeister and Dough Stansbury, and Track Setup Chuck Frederick.

### December 2021

Novice–Dough Stansbury; Two Wheel Truggy–Ream Morris; Two Wheel Truck– Paul Beyer; Four Wheel Truck–Phil Paquette; Two Wheel Buggy– Jim Siltman; Four Wheel Buggy–Lou Plauny; Touring–Phil Paquette; and Traxxas 2.0–Jim Siltman.

Car races start at 1 p.m. on Thursdays and Sundays at the R/C car track. Slot car racing is on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Music Rooms I-II, and legend cars on Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. at the R/C car track. Call President Fred Penichet at (914) 588-7293 for information.



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**Men's Golf Association**

John Yenne



Charles Crenshaw was re-elected president of the board for the Men's Golf Association (MGA) for 2022 at January's Chicken Day event.

Other officers elected include Brian Wilder, vice president; Rusty Rhodes, treasurer; Roger Sparks, secretary; Joe Polizzotti, membership director; Greg Dyer and Jim McCormack, tournament directors; Larry Manion, food services director; and, Brad Weirick, at-large.

Our 2022 membership drive continues. Membership is currently 214, and dues are \$10 annually. Be on the lookout for the new MGA handbook, which is expected to be published in February.

In the meantime, mark these upcoming Wednesday events in your calendar:

- Feb. 2: Chicken Day (The Links)
- Feb. 9: Team 1,2,3 Best Balls (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Feb. 16: Team Three Best Balls (The Links)
- Feb. 23: Shamble 3 Drives Per (The Tortoise & The Hare)

**2 Best Balls  
Dec. 29, 2021/The Links**

127-Marty Brown, Jack Pozsik, Mike Kurlakowsky, Thomas Kujawa. 131-Brad Weirick, Joe Wong, Thomas Laclair, Bob Gorman. 132-Robert Coughanour, Howard Atherton, Alan Varney, Thomas Martinetto. Tie at 134-Jim Weaver, Raymond Hendrix, Norm Hayworth,



Photo by John Bauer

The 2022 Men's Golf Association board. Back row: Rusty Rhodes, Roger Sparks, Brian Wilder, Charles Crenshaw, and Joe Polizzotti. Front row: Larry Manion, Jim McCormack, Brad Weirick, and Greg Dyer.

Bob Gee; Larry Gibson, Mark Beauchamp, Bob Leiter, Bill Searight; Julian Hobby, Charlie Taylor, James Thompson, Barry Barringer; Larry Manion, Dick Emmons, Carl Zeiler, Roy Harvey. Tie at 135-Roger Sparks, Greg McDowell, Ricki Plesea, Loren Magsam; Sam Feola, Richard Deschenes, Donald Wheeler, Jerry Chase; Brian Wilder, John English, Joseph Dunnack, Alan Theusch.

**Chicken Day Scramble  
Jan. 5/The Links**

52-Joe Wilks, John Parnau, Joseph Dunnack, Steve Skonecke. Tie at 53-Joe Polizzotti, Mark Beauchamp, Donald Wheeler, Thomas Laclair; Charlie Taylor, Gary Hassett, Matt Raies, John Johnson; James McCormack, Ruben Alvarez,

Tim Clarkin, Joe Baumgartner. Tie at 54-Larry Gibson, Ken Zweiback, John Owen, Nick James; Art Lagrange, Bob Flynn, Leonard Ruble, Bob Gorman; Dave Falcone, Jim Lefaver, Fred Strielec; James Gourlay, Dale Clarke, John Snyder, Loren Magsam; Rick Strynar, Don Edmond, Mike Benes, Paul Silliman; Brad Weirick, Steven Sarkozy, Terry Hubbart, Alan Theusch. Tie at 55-Steven Rudolph, David Schaefer, Norm Hayworth, Lance Davsko; David Garland, Russell Zile, Mike Madura, George Brombacher; Robert Coutu, Marvin DeBerry, David Hannasch, Larry Chase.

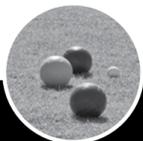
**Team 2 Best Ball Net  
Jan. 12/The Tortoise & The Hare**

Tie at 133-Rick Schriewer, Joe Wong, Richard

Deschenes, Tary Bole; Kevin Thompson, Steven Rudolph, David Hannasch, Joe Baumgartner; Dennis McCourt, Marty Brown, Joseph Dunnack, George Brombacher. Tie at 134-Joe Polizzotti, Robert Coughanour, Richard Roark, John Bradford; Sam Feola, Ken Zweiback, David Wohlleber, John Bauer. 135-Greg McDowell, Gerry Camp, Joseph Mandala, Mike Lane. 136-Jim Lefaver, Jerry Englar, Norm Hayworth, Bob Gorman. Tie at 138-Tim Beaty, Anthony Morris, Carl Zeiler; Lyle Gave, Robert Coutu, John Snyder, Paul Silliman; Brian Wilder, Ruben Alvarez, Bob Marks, Thomas Norris. Tie at 139-Paul Snyder, Art Lagrange, Gary Hassett, Tim Williams; Mike Wathen, Dale Clarke, James Thompson, Bill Scaringe; Larry Manion, Bill McElroy, Roy Coombes, David Garland.

**Bocce Club**

Michelle Malsch



This is how we roll! Open bocce continues to be one of the hottest games in town. As of late, all six courts are being utilized and are at full capacity. Open bocce is played Mondays, Wednesdays, Friday, and Saturdays, at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Please arrive a few minutes early so that a count can be taken and numbers of players per court can be decided upon. Teams are decided by the luck of the draw. Masks or face coverings are optional. Social distancing guidelines may affect the number of players per court.

Open bocce is a good opportunity to practice or learn the game. Anyone who shows up can play. This is your chance to watch and learn or play, however as a new player, once you have played with the league on three occasions you will be expected to join the league, pay dues, and sign a "Release and Hold Harmless" consent form.

The annual banquet will be held Saturday, May 7. The location will be determined pending member participation.

We are looking for players to form a team of four for league play

on Thursdays at 10 a.m. If you are interested, please contact Terry Connolly at 352-895-3866.

A directory is in the storage unit which contains an alphabetical list of all members. Please make sure

you have entered your name and contact information.

At the end of league play in April, several positions will become available: secretary, vice president, league representative for Tuesdays

at 11 a.m., and league representative for Thursdays at 10 a.m. If you are interested in one of these positions, please contact Terry Connolly, president, at 352-895-3866. Until we roll again ...

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REFERENCES: 1. Data on file. Abbott Diabetes Care. 2. FreeStyle Libre 14 day User's Manual. Indications and Important Safety Information.

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**Ladies 9-Hole Play Day**

**Denise Mullen**  
(352) 861-9712  
denise\_mullen@otowfl.com



As we forge into 2022 let's find a way to train our brain. You see, the problem isn't your golf game, it is that your brain won't let you access your game when you need it the most. All those times you have practiced making swing changes or worked on your putting stroke and your confidence grew, only to be let down when you needed it the most during league play or just playing

in front of new people. Believe it or not, this happens to all levels of players.

Our next step to get back on track and progress requires us to get out of our own way. Being in your own way means you are allowing your brain to create thoughts like the following:

- You'll embarrass yourself
- You might fail
- You might be disappointed
- You're not good enough

As these thoughts rule over you and you do not take action to rid your brain of them, then you end up convinced of all the above and there goes any glimmer of success.

Getting out of your own way

will require re-thinking and re-programming the thoughts that will elevate you back on the path to successful golf shots. This will require practice and repetitive action until you feel like you own changing the way you think.

Decide in 2022 the one thing your brain tried to talk you out of and that will be your starting point for changing. Keep in mind that there is no finish line to improvement. Keep putting yourself out there to learn and grow. The brain you have right now is producing the results you have right now.

If you desire different results, you need to level up. You need to be willing to do the work and be

uncomfortable with the process so that anything can happen and will happen. You are in control, which means everything is possible. The only thing stopping you is quitting, and that truthfully, should not even be on your radar.

Our LGA-9 Play Day on Thursdays is open to anyone with an established handicap. We start our tee times at 9 a.m. If you are interested in joining the group, please stop by the Candler Hills Golf Shop and speak to Nick or Denise.

Please like our Candler Hills Golf Club Facebook page and watch our YouTube.com videos for additional information of what events we have coming up.

**Ladies 9-Hole Golf**

**Candon Ehler**  
(352) 854-8430  
candon\_ehler@otowfl.com



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

- Feb. 1: Individual Low Net (The Tortoise & The Hare) is where every lady plays their normal round of golf with all ladies flighted, based on their current handicap index.
- Feb. 8: Team Quota Points (The Links) is the same format as the Stableford scoring system. Each lady plays their normal round of golf, but instead of the standard scoring, each lady will have a certain number of points with Stableford scoring rules to achieve their "quota." You will see a number on your card associated with your name that indicates your points you need to get without your handicap.
- Feb. 15: One, Two, Three (The Tortoise & The Hare) is where each lady plays their own ball and on par 5s you play one best ball net, on par

4s you play two best ball net, and on par 3s you play three best ball net.

- Feb. 22: Team Scramble (The Links) is where every lady tees off, then the team of four, picks the best drive and each player hits their second shot from that location. The process is then repeated until the ball is holed out.

Anyone getting tired of the same old golf game, just a different day? If you are one of those golfers, we offer two Game Improvement Clinics every month, except October and November. With these clinics, we offer a wide range of fundamental teaching that can help improve your game and/or a certain aspect of your game. Each one is \$15 and we can take up to 20 people per clinic.

This month we are offering two different clinics on the short game, i.e., areas typically within 20 yards of the putting surface (green). The first clinic - bump and run shot - will be Saturday, Feb. 5. The second clinic - pitch shot - will be Saturday, Feb. 12. If you or anyone else is interested, please contact the Candler Hills Golf Shop at 352-861-9712 to inquire or even sign up. We look forward to helping in any way we can because the game of golf is supposed to be fun!

**Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association**

**Susan Yenne**



The year 2021 finished with 104 members playing at least one league game or more. The most played was 44 by Jean Hsu, followed by 43 by Christine Giza, 42 by Beverly Ovrebo and 41 by May Chin, Sandy Chase and Vadonna Hall.

The top 10 winningest players were Debbie Zile, 286.5; Christine Giza, 270.78; Christine McIntire, 246.42; Gail Lagrange, 232.84; Lilly Gee, 232.74; Nancy Zielinski, 224.93; Linda Blewitt, 222.92; Jill Strey, 216.42; Diane Boston, 213.10; and Iro Lisinski, 212.92. To check out where you finished, go to Player League Standings in Golf Genius.

Friday, Feb. 4 is the deadline to sign up for the Member-Member tournament and luncheon. Sign up will not be online; you must write you and your partner's names in the book in the players room at the Golf Shop. Box lunch with sub is \$9.

Our league sent a check for \$827 to Tunnel to Towers, our holiday charity. The charity helps fallen first-responder families and Gold Star families.

**Low Gross/Low Net Dec. 14, 2021/The Tortoise & The Hare Gross**

- Flight 1: 77-Sandy Snyder. Tie at 80-Deborah Martin, Christine Giza.
- Flight 2: 90-Kathleen Goodwin. 92-Connie Norris. 96-Judy Graham.
- Flight 3: 89-Katie Schriewer. 92-Joann Dellapenna. 96-Connie Feola.
- Flight 4: 92-Janis Hannasch. Tie at 96-Kathleen Mansfield, Jane Hall.

Flight 5: 102-Lynn Barber. Tie at 104-Debbie Zile, Sandy Chase.

**Net**

- Flight 1: 70-Beverly Ovrebo. 74-Diane Boston. 75-Lisa Free.
- Flight 2: Tie at 76-Bobbie Wiener, Peggy Ellenberger. 79-Virginia Combs.
- Flight 3: 71-Pamela Jones. 73-Linda Blewitt. 76-Jean Hsu.
- Flight 4: 73-Nancy Zielinski. Tie at 75-Liz Pruss, Betty McNeeley.
- Flight 5: 72-Elena Sumpter. 76-Linda Ryan. 84-Donna Brunell.

**Random Nine**

**Dec. 28, 2021/The Tortoise & The Hare**

- Flight 1: 35-Mary Ann Livingston. 36-Linda Taylor. 37-Deborah Martin. 38-Vickie Noltensmeyer. Tie at 39-Maria Fournier, Gail Lagrange, Christine Giza.
- Flight 2: Tie at 36-Linda Blewitt, Peggy Ellenberger. Tie at 38-Debby Wilson, Ellen Brin. Tie at 39-Pamela Jones, Joann Dellapenna.
- Flight 3: 36-Connie Feola. 39-Vickie Foster. Tie at 40-Joan Gerbo, May Chin. 41-Pam Brown. 42-Liz Lang.
- Flight 4: 35-Elena Sumpter. 37-Cynthia Gersten. 39-Carolyn Cummings. Tie at 40-Lynn Barber, Donna Brunell, Gloria Cullins.

**Random Ribbon**

**2 Best Balls Jan. 4/The Links**

- 136-Gail Lagrange, Katie Schriewer, Betty McNeeley, Cynthia Gersten. 138-Lynne Dickson, Debby Wilson, Eileen Gustavus, Terry Wilks. Tie at 139-Vadonna Hall, MJ Strelec, Jacquelin Randour, Lynn Colomb, Judi McGuinness, Sharon Johnson, Jan Christ. 140-Mary Ann Livingston, Yuhlan Cho, Jean Hsu, Peggy Benedict. 141-Sandy Snyder, Ellen Brin, Iro Lisinski, Suzanne Weirick. Tie at 142-Marlena Laclair, Jill Strey, Marte Dobosh, Liz Pruss; Linda Taylor, Joan Dellapenna, May Chin, Liz Lang; Diane Boston, Virginia Combs, Molly Lucieir, Sandy Chase.

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**Golf**

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



The start of 2022 should be an exciting and eventful time.

Candler Hills will be hosting the annual World Sadie Hawkins Golf Tournament Monday, Feb. 14, with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. This year's format will be two person alternate shot on the front nine and scramble on the back nine. The cost is \$15 per player for awards and prizes. Please register in your respective Golf Shop.

With March right around the corner, we are proud to announce the return of the Ocala Open. The 2022 Ocala Open will be held Wednesday, March 30 through Friday, April 1, at Candler Hills Golf Club with a Pro Am scheduled for Tuesday, March 29. The benefitting charities will again be Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services. For more information on the 2022 Ocala Open, visit ocalaopen.com.

The On Top of the World golf staff would like to remind everyone

to return all range balls and baskets to the respective Golf Shop after use. Please do not take these items home with you, keeping these items in circulation avoids us from having to continue to purchase new equipment. This in turn helps keep range prices minimal. Also, to maximize the use of the grass on the driving range please keep your divots in a linear pattern. This will help keep the driving range in better condition. We appreciate your understanding.

Last reminder that all shop credit expires Monday, Feb. 28. Any credit won in February will not be posted to your account until Tuesday, March 1. It's time to shop!

**Upcoming Events**

- Monday, Feb. 14: World Sadie Hawkins at the Candler Hills Golf Club with 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Saturday, Feb. 26: String Event on The Tortoise & The Hare with a 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Tuesday, March 29: Ocala Open Pro Am at Candler Hills Golf Club.
- Wednesday, March 30 through Friday, April 1: Ocala Open at Candler Hills Golf Club.

**Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole**

**Beth Wolinsky**



The new year has begun with aspirations for good health and successful golf. All new and returning members should have paid their dues by now. If not, this may be accomplished through the website or by placing it in the league mailbox.

We welcome several new members: Peggy Ellenberger, Page Falconer, Mary Jeanotte, Mary Ann Livingston, Gail LaGrange, Molly Lucieer, Connie Sohl and Terry Wilks. We look forward to playing with them in the league.

Diane O'Brien scored a hole-in-one on #8 on Candler Hills Golf Course. Congratulations, Diane, for this wonderful accomplishment.

A Ringers event will begin for the Candler Hills LGA. The cost is \$5 for the entire year. Pam Jones and Chris Giza have volunteered to take care of this, and we appreciate their efforts. If you have not already done so and wish to participate in Ringers, please give them \$5 by Monday, Jan. 31.

Golf course layouts can be beautiful yet tricky. Tom Morris, a Scottish golf pro, pioneered course design in the 19th century. He is the person who invented the first dog-leg. Thanks, Mr. Morris, for helping to make the game even more challenging.

If you wish to join the Candler Hills Ladies Golf Association, you may contact our president, Shelly Karsnitz, at karsnitz1@gmail.com. It is a great way to meet new ladies and have a good time.

Finally, be careful out there! Believe, achieve, and enjoy golf.

**Las Vegas Scramble (Team) Dec. 2, 2021**

58-Ellen Brin, Beverly Ovrebø, Janette Sheil, Anne Dahlen; 60-Chris McIntire, Christine Giza, Vickie Foster, Mary Ann McCourt. Tie at 62-Judie Anderson, Maria Fournier, Pamela Jones, Jan Christ and Michele Otto, Virginia Madura, Kate Beaty, Beth Wolinsky. Tie at 63-Lynn Colomb, Virginia Combs, Karen Curtis, DeAnne Green and MJ Strelec, Judi McGuinness, Pam Brown, Gloria Collins.

**Candler Hills Men's Golf**

**Mike Kelly**



Hard to believe that it is 2022! The Candler Hills MGA is ready for a big year and here is what we have planned for Tuesdays:

- Feb. 1: Pizza Day Scramble
- Feb. 8: Low Net, Match Play Qualifier
- Feb. 15: Two Man Best Ball
- Feb. 22: Stableford, 3 Best Balls of 4

The Candler Hills MGA has some big plans for this year, and we hope that everyone will join the weekly events! Our membership is growing, so if you know someone who is not a member, please encourage him to join us.

For league information, please visit CHMGA.org.

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hotline at (352) 362-0985.

**World Accolades**

**CANDLER HILLS:** Judi McGuinness, hole-in-one #8. Diane O'Brien, hole-in-one #8. Yuhlan Cho, hole-in-one #17. Bill Maxwell, hole-in-one #17. Larry Kettlewell, shot 69. Steve Lennon, hole-in-one #5. Mary Jo Lock, eagle #7.

**THE LINKS:** Mike Lane, eagle #16. Rick Doyle, eagle #3. VaDonna Hall, eagle #2. Greg McDowell, eagle #10. Joe Dunnack, eagle #7.

**THE TORTOISE & THE HARE:** Leigh Fricke, eagle #16. Joe Wilks shot 68 one stroke under his age.

Congratulations to all!

**Golf Tip of the Month**

You're on the way to breaking 80 for the first time and you drive the ball in the fairway bunker on

the 18th hole. I know how everyone hates the dreaded fairway bunker shot. Here are some tips to ensure you shoot your best round ever:

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

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

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[www.humanistsncfl.org](http://www.humanistsncfl.org)

**Softball**

Tom Sheridan



True story: The first time I picked up a bat to play softball at age 64 – likely the first time since age 11 – I hit the first pitch thrown to me. My brain said “run, you fool!” My legs responded, “say, what?”

And then I fell face down in the red dirt of the baseline.

Fact of life: none of us is as young as we once were. The muscles don’t work like they used to. Memories sure don’t either.

That’s why some of the guys showing up to join the growing roster of players here at On Top of the World discover that softball at 60 or so isn’t quite the same as it was when they played sandlot, Little League or even high school ball.

In other words, we all could use a refresher.

That’s why the club’s New Player Orientation Program (NPO) was born. The NPO was the brainchild of two players, Brad Youngberg and Ray Thompson, and now has been successfully reintegrating new players into league play for a few

months.

The NPO is a three-session program that reintroduces the sport to guys who may have not played for a long time. There are reminders about rules, including local adaptations, basics of the sport and a chance for the league to assess a player’s skills for placement in a division and on a team.

Ray Thompson, one of the NPO developers, said it’s an opportunity to go over the fundamentals. It’s also a safety thing, he said, teaching guys how to not hurt themselves. Until NPO the league never had a formal way to assess players, Thompson said.

The club’s board of directors has been thrilled with how the program is working out.

NPO “graduates” are also complimentary.

“The NPO was a great opportunity for the coaches to assess my skills and for me to become familiar with the rules of the game and how the league works,” said Bill Byczek, who began playing in January. “Most important, as a newcomer to the community, I got to meet a great group of guys and make new friends.”

Jim Stecker, a former player who had taken a few years off and



Photo by Tom Sheridan

The Softball Club celebrated Jimmy Russo and Nick Lagatutta, two of the league’s longest-serving active members in January with a party at the field. Dave Rearick, board president (center), acknowledged the veteran ballplayers and called them two of the “softball club’s nobility.”

returned this year, agreed. Attending NPO, he said, was super. “It’s a great bunch of guys. Good players and good instructors.”

The league opened the winter season in January with a record 10 teams – and for the first time with two skills-based divisions. The American division’s four teams play Monday and Wednesday mornings; the National division’s

six teams compete Tuesday and Thursday. Response to the new two-division split has been favorable, including observations that competition for both has been enhanced. Additional teams are expected to be added as more new players join.

Players are welcome at any time. For information about softball, contact Tom Sheridan at tomsherdan.fl@gmail.com.

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**Co-Ed Recreational Softball**

Sherry Winn



Saturday, Jan. 8, brought 25 enthusiastic players to the softball field. What a joy to have so many current and five new participants. As I had expected, our drop in numbers in December was just as it should have been for a holiday season.

Thanks to all for their input. It was unanimously agreed that we continue with our current format – relaxed, supportive, and all-inclusive softball.

With the cooler temperatures, we played three full lineup innings while keeping track only of the score and accomplishments. Despite an extremely strong defensive infield, Queen Dee Pollack was three for three; Lisa Dragos hit to the outfield; and new player, Maria, made many good stops and can still throw after (we won’t tell) how many years. New residents Bill and Sandy Byczek are excitedly motivated to recruit more Kestrel residents; our Avalon group brought along Jay Kauth and Rich Gomez of Weybourne Landing re-introduced his body to the challenge of getting moving again. Everyone had so much fun. I was informed that we could be heard all the way to the archery field at the Veterans Park!

You would think that with all the new growth in On Top of the World that there would be an ever-in-

creasing representation from more neighborhoods. I would like to challenge residents of Sterling Meadow, Larkhill, Balmoral, Alendel, Newcastle, Crescent Ridge, Kestrel, and Longleaf Ridge to join in, make new friends and try something new.

Believe me, you don’t have to be a young, active, super athlete to spend a fun Saturday morning (not too early) participating in a free activity with no concrete obligations. We have extra team gloves and bats, so all you need is good weather, recreational appropriate attire and athletic shoes. Singles, couples, and friends quickly fit in. You can also bring along overnight visitors to introduce them to the game, as this is a community program sponsored by On Top of the World and supported by the Softball Club; to whom I am eternally grateful.

For further inquiries, contact me at 315-528-8499, or just show up on Saturdays at 10 a.m. We look forward to meeting you.

**Call of the Wild Sports Club**

Jeff Wiita



I am the new World News columnist for Call of the Wild Sports Club. Let’s start by thanking Roger Bonifield, the founder of the sports club. He has given this community something very special. Like an outdoor amusement park, Call of the Wild is yours to discover whether it’s for fishing, hunting, shooting, or something else.

Here are my top three reasons for joining the club:

1. Friendship: This club has introduced me to new friends from all over the country, including my former, home state of Minnesota. We all have a common interest in the outdoors.
2. Educational: At the monthly meetings, we have guest speakers. Some are members with expertise in a particular area and others are from outside the club, including the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
3. Social: We have an annual picnic and holiday party. Members have planned hunting and deep-sea fishing trips.

So, if you are walking around the community and saying there is nothing to do, please come and visit Call of the Wild Sports Club. Our next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 2, in the Hobby Building Event Room from 1 to 3 p.m. If you would like further information or have any questions, feel free to contact Scott Bloch, our president, at (614) 806-6738.

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**Cornhole Club**

Vincent Stevens



The Cornhole Club suffered a serious setback at year's end with the retirement of our club founder and long-time administrator, Jim Russell. Jim founded the club in 2017 and has acted as administrator since that time. Jim has been the major force in the club since its inception and continues to provide sage advice and guidance when required. We are all extremely grateful for his continued contributions. Fortunately, a dedicated group of volunteers has stepped forward and have shouldered a big part of the load. Bill Ballweg, our league play facilitator and cornhole class instructor, has also stepped down. Bill managed league play since its beginning, and is the resident expert on scheduling, interim ranking, final rankings, awards, and club photos. We are doing our best to keep league play alive, and as interesting and competitive as it has been.

Fortunately, both Bill and Jim have agreed to continue the "Introduction to Cornhole" beginner classes periodically as required. These one-hour classes cover the basics of the sport, including scoring, some techniques to improve performance, and some practice time. Our next class is scheduled for noon Friday, Feb. 18,

at the cornhole courts at the Veterans Park. To manage the number of participants, we ask that you please register in advance. You can contact [otowcornholers@yahoo.com](mailto:otowcornholers@yahoo.com) to secure your spot.

**OPEN PLAY:** Continuing in the traditions established by its founder, the primary emphasis of open play remains enjoyment, expanding groups of friends, and honing playing skills, with the bottom line continuing to be "have fun." Cornhole open play is an excellent way to sharpen players skills and learn from more experienced players. Open play is currently scheduled Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 2 p.m., with 15 to 24 players participating in each session.

**LEAGUE PLAY:** Our inaugural one-on-one singles league was a tremendous success by providing players the opportunity to show their skills in a single match setting. It was a tough battle for the championship of the league pitting Bob Helf from the American division against Donna Hansen of the Patriot division. Bob Helf captured the match and walked away with the first championship of the one-on-one league. League play was on hiatus over the short holiday period but will be off to a roaring start again in early February. Women's and mixed league matches are set to begin early in the month, with the men's and singles league activities lagging a bit behind.

Contact [otowcornholers@yahoo.com](mailto:otowcornholers@yahoo.com) for complete information.

**Archery Club**

Dee Dombach



January has been breezy and chilly on the range, but Florida winter beats northern winter every day! The archery range remains open all year, providing an enjoyable place to learn a new sport, develop skills, meet new people, and socialize safely outdoors. Archery Club members have the benefit of gleaning tips and helpful advice from more experienced archers, working alone to hone their skills, and competing with fellow archers in fun, friendly competitions and challenges.

Events such as the Dart Board Challenge and Las Vegas Style Shoots were held in January, providing lighthearted but serious competition. All the scheduled events provide the fun of learning different games and rules, and maybe a chance to win a prize.

The club also offered a first ever training program for members called Archery 101+, presented by Joe Ligori, founder of Archer's Help at The Villages. Topics such as range and shooting basics and appropriate equipment were covered. We look forward to partnering with and learning from Joe and other speakers in the future.

Archery has many different types and styles. Target archery is the type practiced here in the Archery Club. Targets are set at various distances, and archers shoot from a fixed shooting line. Other types of archery include Olympic, field, 3D, flight, and kyudo. Kyudo (the way of the bow) is an ancient Japanese ar-

chery martial arts discipline practiced by the Samurai. One of our newer members has begun learning this traditional practice.

Our member spotlight this month is on Brenda Foster. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Brenda most recently lived in central Pennsylvania's Amish country before moving to Florida. After starting out as a teacher, she became a partner in a marketing and design agency specializing in higher education for over 30 years.

Brenda finds it satisfying to learn archery and especially the ancient samurai art of kyudo. "As a beginner, everything about kyudo is challenging to me, from putting on the hakama (uniform) to drawing the yumi (bow) with the yotsugake (glove)." Because of her love of Eastern arts and culture, including interests in Japanese prints, bonsai, shodo calligraphy, tenkara fly fishing, and tai chi, kyudo is a natural step in her practices of Zen meditation and tai chi. She says kyudo "is not about hitting the target, but about intense concentration, physical strength, perfection of form, and total calm. It is about mindfulness and spirituality."

Brenda studies kyudo at the Kashimon Dojo in Eustis, Florida, but practices at the range. She has found the archers at the club to be welcoming and helpful, always willing to provide tips and assistance.

We are confident that everyone who joins the Archery Club will find a welcome and willingness to help, from members of the board to archers who may have just begun themselves. If you are interested in learning more about the club, please contact Bob Papirner at [rpa-pirner@aol.com](mailto:rpa-pirner@aol.com) or Mark D' Addario at [markdad06@gmail.com](mailto:markdad06@gmail.com).



Photo by Vincent Stevens

Full house at open play.

**Cycling Club**

Dennis Baker



The Wheeling Around the World Cycling Club invites and welcomes all residents and guests interested in cycling regardless of cycling ability. Beginner, intermediate, advanced, or pro? All are welcome and will find cyclists of similar in-

terests and capabilities!

The club meets two or more times each week usually at the Power Park on SW 90th Street across from the dog park. Special rides or excursions are often scheduled by group members. Schedules are published regularly on Facebook (OTOW Chat Room and Wheeling Around the World). Grab your bike or trike and your helmet and join the fun.

For information, contact Dennis Baker at [dbaker@laposte.net](mailto:dbaker@laposte.net) or 352-562-0088.

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**Sidekicks  
Western Dance**

Barbara Scales



Scientists discovered that prehistoric man began making sounds 35,000 years ago. The earliest vocalizations are thought to have been humans mimicking the sounds in nature. Replicating noises, whether it was the sound of raindrops hitting leaves, or the roar of the Sabretooth tiger, became part of the human experience. And those early humans recreated the sounds they heard using their hands, feet, and vocal cords. Shortly thereafter, hu-

mans fell in love with music. That is to say music lovers have been around for millennia. (Source: Humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/behavior/art-music accessed 12 17 2021)

A new question arises from recent scientific research which developed a stunning concept. We are more closely related to birds in the sound sensory input center than our close relative, the monkey. There is a cockatiel that became a smash hit on YouTube.com. The cockatiel became a world-wide sensation. When scientists observed the bird swaying to the beat of music, they asked why. Chimpanzees and apes do not. When they delved into the matter, it was discovered that the auditory center of the bird is very similar to mankind's. The

bird heard the sound and moved to the beat. From that, scientists gleaned that man developed his ability to hear a sound and attempts to mimic the beat more like birds do, than other animals.

Well, the bird swayed to the beat of the music. And it turns out that we humans do the same. Humans move their feet to recreate the beat of the music. And somewhere around 9,000 years ago, mankind took toe tapping to a whole new level. We created dance. It was the Egyptians who documented the first application of dance. There is a pictorial relief painted on the walls of a wealthy Egyptian individual's home, which had dancing girls entertaining important guests.

Why fight what has been en-

grained in us for thousands of years? Move your feet to make your inner person happy and shuffle to the beat to honor our close relatives, the birds. You can even try the chicken dance.

Remember, February is that very special month when we tell the object of our affection they are loved. Move to the beat and satisfy the long-driven urge to replicate the sounds you hear daily all around you.

Weather permitting, the Sidekicks are at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 6 to 9 p.m. The Sidekicks members-only Valentine's Day dance with Stone Creek will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

**Ballet**

Eugenie Martin



Ballet is probably the oldest form of European performance dance. During the 1500s, theaters in Europe, especially Italy, were offering operas, which slowly replaced the Christian miracle and morality plays of the middle ages. However, there were some negative aspects to the operas. They were three to four

hours long, and the singers hardly ever moved on stage. To relieve possible boredom surrounding early operas, writers and directors added dances to the operas. The dances offered beautiful diversions to the long operas and started an individual art form called "balleto."

Caterina de' Medici took balleto to France when she married King Henry II. Ballet, as the French soon called it, survived in the opera and as an independent art form. On its own, it grew especially popular under the reign of King Louis XIV and remained so important in France

that virtually all the terms used in ballet today are French.

You don't need to know the French language to study ballet, but dancers do learn a lot of French expressions in class. So, join us, and get free French and ballet classes! You need no previous experience to join our classes, since we have two beginner classes. All you need are some exercise clothes, socks, and a bottle of water. It is best to call me before coming to class so I will know which class is best for you. Our classes take place in the Arbor Conference Center Ballet Room as

follows:

- Beginner: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to noon with Instructor Suzanne Scheraga; Fridays, noon to 1:15 p.m. with Instructor Eugenie Martin.
- Advanced Beginner: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 to 2:15 p.m. with Instructor Eugenie Martin.
- Intermediate: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon with Instructor Suzanne Scheraga.

For more information about the Ballet Club, please call 352-854-8589. Happy dancing!

**Ladies  
Shuffleboard**

Lois Nix



January has already come and gone. It was nice to have our lady shufflers back from their holiday visits with family. We continue to have many members shuffle Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 9 or 11 a.m. Our numbers on Mondays have increased.

Gladys Cotto and Rena Saiter have volunteered to be the Monday captain and co-captain. Their responsibilities will be to open the equipment room, set up the courts, clean and return all equipment, turn off the waxing machine, lights, and fan, lock the door, and ensure

score sheets are placed accordingly for Dee. All our members arrive early to shuffle, help set up and close. What a team! What fun we have.

Pat Nice and Laura Lasky have volunteered to recruit new board members for our season starting in September. Hopefully, our new board will be introduced at our meeting Wednesday, April 13. No club can function without volunteers; please volunteer so that we can continue to shuffle.

**December**

10-Sandy Welch; 9-Cindy Engler, Kathy Kloos; 8-Judy Adorno, Diane Carlyon, Sally Herrick, Marsha Lau, Linda Myers, Barbara Russell. 30-plus-Helen Fye, Cindy Engler, Rosanne Vargas, and Ruth Greenfield.

Competition is getting stronger. You go girls. Congratulations. Happy shuffling and stay safe.

**Line Dancing**

Nancy Carmack



After celebrating the holiday season, it feels good to be back on a regular dance schedule. Many dancers did not take a break this year and kept dancing with special get-togethers and workshops. However, as of Jan. 3, we were all back to our regular Monday class schedule and Wednesday practice sessions.

Dancing is much like any other sport in the respect that "practice makes perfect." As the years go by, line dances have gotten more challenging, and practicing has become even more important. For Absolute Beginners, the class is an introduction to line dancing by learning

dance steps and using them in simple patterns. The Beginner Level I class learns easy dances; Beginner Level II is introduced to new step patterns as needed to many different rhythms; and Improver Plus is the more advanced class with more turns, a variety of steps and many more fast-paced dances. After repeating a dance several times, muscle memory takes place; and dancing becomes easier and easier, and much more fun!

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the Intermediate, Improver and Beginner Level II dancers will have their Valentine's Day-themed dance in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

Think about joining us! There are many opportunities to participate in this wonderful and healthy hobby.

For detailed information, please contact Darlene Miller at 352-259-3695, Nancy Carmack for the Intermediate class at 352-533-8870, or Sheryl Bradley for her Thursday class at sbradley057@yahoo.com.

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**Perceptions on Aging**

What is your perception of aging? Unfortunately, the typical societal notions about aging are usually rooted in negative feelings of decline and decay. Let us flip this thinking and look at how we can view aging as a time of growth, potential and vitality. A study out of Yale University (Longevity Increased by Positive Self-Perceptions of Aging) demonstrates that people with positive perceptions of aging will outlive negative thinkers by 7.5 years. Here are three key "attitude adjustments" that just might add years to your life!

1. Consider your untapped potential. Older adults have untapped talents and abilities that have yet to be realized. During earlier years, when working and raising families consumed so much time, there was less opportunity to develop personal potential. Encore careers and lifelong learning are great examples of discovering new possibilities later in life. Residents have a wonderful resource for unleashing potential at Master the Possibilities. If you've had a simmering passion on the back burner, now is the time to tap into that potential.
2. Embrace wellness. Being well at any age is centered on authentic health. Wellness stems from mindful, daily decisions that support optimal aging. The absence of disease does not necessarily mean you are well. Unfortunately, our health care system is very reactive; we don't act until we are sick. Striving to be well is a proactive position whereby daily lifestyle decisions are made specifically to promote health and ward off disease. Keeping active and eating right are your best courses of action for sustaining high levels of function and staying engaged in life. There is no better way to reverse the notion that age is equivalent to decline than to live an active, vibrant life!
3. Reframe your thoughts. Never let anyone tell you "You're too old for that." Don't let your age define you, or influence what you should or shouldn't be doing. Your actions should be based on what you are capable of. I often have residents ask me what type of exercises they should be doing based on their age. My reply is always the same "I'm not that concerned with your age; tell me what you are capable of doing, what you like to do, and what it is you aspire to do!" If we want to influence societal perceptions on aging, it must start within the heart and mind of every one of us!

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Handicap equipment is loaned free to residents during their convalescent term - walkers, crutches, canes or wheelchairs. For more information, call the Recreation Center at (352) 854-8707 x7534.

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**FEBRUARY 2022 FITNESS**

**RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Dance Party JESSICA	S.O.S. JOHN	Warrior MAUREEN	S.O.S. JOHN	Dance Party JESSICA
9:00 am	S.O.S. DENISE	Dance Aerobics JACKIE	S.O.S. JESSICA	Dance Aerobics DENISE	S.O.S. GIB
10:00 am	Balance Body JESSICA	Chair Yoga KATHY	Balanced Body KITTI	Chair Yoga KATHY	Balanced Body INGRID
11:00 am	Get Fit While You Sit KITTI	Brain Power CARRIE & SUE	Move To Improve Parkinson's JESSICA & SUE	Brain Power JESSICA	Get Fit While You Sit KITTI
11:00 am Recreation Ballroom	Dance Aerobics LINDA		Zumba® Gold KITTI		Dance Aerobics DENISE
1:00 pm		Fitness Orientation*		Balance Assessment*	
3:00 pm	Blended Yoga JOE		Chair Yoga TRISH	Qigong ART	
4:00 pm				Tai Chi ART	
5:00 pm		Intro Hatha Yoga KATHY		Yoga SANDRA	

Recreation Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 7 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 7 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 5 PM  
\*Fitness Orientations and Balance Assessments are free. Space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534.

**ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 am	Yoga SANDRA	Boomer Beat JESSICA	Yoga JOE	Boomer Beat CARRIE	Yin Yoga TRISH
10:00 am	STRONG MAUREEN	Yoga SANDRA	STRONG LUCIA	Yoga MAUREEN	STRONG JOHN
11:00 am	Yoga MAUREEN		Yoga TRISH		
1:00 pm		Posture Assessments*		Fitness Orientation*	
2:00 pm	Balanced Body L2 GIB				

Arbor Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:00 AM - 8:30 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 7 PM  
\*Posture Assessments and Fitness Orientations are free. Space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7638

**ARBOR FITNESS CENTER INDOOR POOL**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6:00 am	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
7:00 am	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim
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**	Closed for Cleaning 10:30 - 12:30 pm	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Open Swim
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming		Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 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 Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Water Volleyball Clu 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Open Swim 1:30 - 2:30 pm
2:30 pm	Deep Water Fitness Class**				Deep Water Fitness Class**
3:30 - 5:00 pm	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim
5:00 - 6:00 pm	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
6:00 - 8:15 pm	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim

Open Swim: Saturdays 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sundays 9 AM - 7 PM • For pool inquiries, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7639.  
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**Table Tennis**



**Athena Drewes**

Now that the holidays are over and the weather is getting nippy outside, it is time to come on in and play table tennis! Enjoy getting back into the swing of things with people who love to play table tennis and enjoy the friendships that come with it. Feel free to wear face masks while playing. We would love to meet you and help you learn the sport or get back your old serves and returns! We all play table tennis for fun and enjoyment!

If you are interested in joining, annual membership is \$10, with applications available in the Arbor Conference Center Table Tennis room. Please feel free to contact our director president, Paul Stadterman, at ptstadterman@yahoo.com with any questions.

James W. Gibb was a British enthusiast of table tennis. He discovered, while on a trip to the U.S. in 1901, novelty celluloid balls. He found them to be ideal for the game of table tennis. Thus, leading to the use of the current balls used in table tennis. This change in the game was followed by E.C. Goode who, in



Photo by Paul Stadterman

Treasurer, Jim Swift, with longest club member Janos Sikos.

1901, invented the modern version of the table tennis paddle. He fixed a sheet of pimped, or stippled, rubber to the wooden blade. Since then, rubber is used on all table tennis paddles, although many use smooth rubber rather than the stippled kind.

In the 1950s, a rubber sheet was combined with an underlying sponge layer that was applied to the paddles. This combination changed the game dramatically. This new combination introduced greater spin and speed to the game. These new paddles were introduced by sporting goods manufacturer S.W. Hancock Ltd. Beginning in the mid-1980s, the use of speed glue increased the spin and speed even further, resulting in changes to the equipment to "slow the game down."

Table tennis has grown in popularity since 1901 to the extent that tournaments were organized, books were written on the subject, and an unofficial world championship was held in 1902. In those early days, the scoring system for table tennis was the same as what was used in lawn tennis!

Scoring has come a long way since then, and we now play to 11, with a two-point edge over the opponent. A tied score of 10-10, is deuce, and serves change to one per side. Advantage is the score of one over ten. If the other side wins the next point, the score goes back to deuce. And the game continues back and forth until one side wins by two points over their opponent.

Come check us out! Play times are Monday and Tuesday doubles (6 to 8 p.m.); beginners (Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m.; Thursdays, 3 to 5 p.m.); ladies play (Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon); doubles (Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 1 to 3 p.m.) and singles (Wednesdays and Sundays, 1 to 3 p.m.) for all levels. Please consider stopping by and seeing what is going on whether you are a returning member or new to the area!

**Horseshoe League**



**Joe Lawson**

The winter season began Tuesday, Jan. 4, with a new player. Welcome Carl Snyder! We are still looking for several new players with new stories to join us because we've heard all the old player's stories.

Now about our pits. They are a dirt and sand mix which when wet down, become similar to clay but do slide some.

If you would like to come practice at the pits, they are located at the Veterans Park and shoes are left out behind the pits, but please clean up after you practice. We share this area with cornhole players. Our league plays every Tuesday, at 10 a.m. Come join us!

We also have a team in the tri-county horseshoe league. We started that league on Thursday, Jan. 6, against a team from Del Webb near The Villages. We have a nine-team league that plays every Thursday. We have a six-person team which plays partners in a three-game

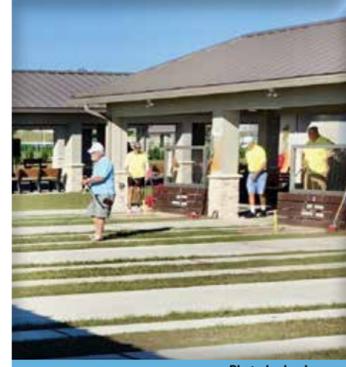


Photo by Joe Lawson

Travel league's first game against Del Webb #1 at the Veterans Park.

match against each team. The total of nine points available each date. We play both home and away games with the team with the most points at the end of the league are the winners.

Our team did great our first week by winning seven out of nine games. We will be traveling to The Villages for our game on Thursday, Jan. 27. A schedule of all our travel league games are attached to our horseshoe bulletin board at the Veterans Park.



Photo by Marsha Wahrheit

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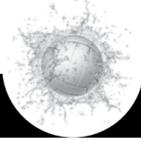
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**Water Volleyball Club**



**Karen Kenton**

Are you interested in playing a sport that is low risk for injury, but still high-octane fun? Come give water volleyball a try!

Formerly an On Top of the World coordinated activity, we are now an official club! We meet at the Arbor Fitness Center indoor pool Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with play commencing at 1:30 p.m. (You will want to arrive by 1:15 p.m. to sign in.) Everyone of any skill level is welcome to come to any or all three sessions.

Never played before? We'll teach you! Very experienced? We have something for you too! So, what are you waiting for? See you at the pool!

Direct inquiries to Dan Connors, president, at dan4birdie@gmail.com.

**Shuffleboard**



**Walt Lamp**

We finished the first half of our 35th season in December 2021. January began our second half, which will end in April. We are still hoping to get in a few more tournaments by that time.

**December 2021 Men/Women**

Monday a.m.: Charlie Lentz and Joe Bartosh/Mary Lamp.

Tuesday p.m.: Ron Daughtry and Lou Fisher/Jane Boyer.

Thursday a.m.: Gib Mattson and Phil Weiner/Annette Hodges.

30-plus: Gib Mattson, Moe Gauthier, Ron Daughtry, Lou Fisher, Charlie Lentz, Jim Vail, Lynn Dickson, Gary Keller, Lynn Nelson, Jane Boyer, Bob Stubbs and Paula Gauthier.

We still offer introduction to shuffleboard on the second Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. The next scheduled class is Saturday, Feb. 12. If you are interested in learning the game, we invite you to the courts at the Veterans Park. We will go over the rules, scoring, safety and the basis of shooting the puck. Open-toed shoes not permitted. Paul Hodges teaches the class.

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**R/C Flyers Club**

**Dan Gaffin**



Living in central Florida this time of year gives us many beautiful, sunny mornings with light winds and warm temperatures. This climate encourages many of the R/C Flyers out to the airfield. We have a large and diverse group of really nice members of the club who simply love to fly and they will try to fly just about anything and everything that is not nailed down.

It reminds me of being a young kid and making planes out of sticks, paper, glue, tape and sometimes chewing gum. It is fun to witness and watch all the flying contraptions that our members attempt and, on many occasions, succeed at. There have been pilots who have even taken project display board and cut out a form of a plane, attach a motor, battery and propeller. Many of these have flown and amazingly rather well.

Two of our pilots, Alex Fedele and Ray Ihlenburg, brought on to the airfield a very colorful paraglider. In the paraglider was a miniature pilot that was to use arm movement to control the direction of the attached parachute. The concept appeared sound and with much anticipation a group of other flyers waited and watched, however, the

paraglider just didn't get enough power to lift off. But, it truly was fun to watch the attempt. This is just another great time of being a member of the R/C Flyers Club.

Yes, we do a lot of flying, sometimes try to fly and we also do a lot of socializing. There are many mornings when there will be a large group of members who simply are not flying that day and instead are there to watch, drink coffee, laugh at some of the flying antics and reminisce of some of their own flying successes and failures.

The R/C Flyers Club is hosting another fly-in Saturday, April 2, at the flying field. Alternate rain date will be Sunday, April 3. This event will be open to all AMA or Canadian equivalent pilots and at no cost. Our members look forward to meeting other pilots and learning from them as well. This is a great event for everyone, not just flyers. Along with watching the amazing flying and flying stunts in the air, there will be food and beverages available to purchase and there is no entry fee to the event for spectators. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. For more information about this upcoming event, visit [otowrcflyers.com](http://otowrcflyers.com). The last fly-in, which was in October 2021, was a lot of fun for everyone. Bring your chair!

Club membership is currently at 170 members. Congratulations to Doug Juhl who has completed his pilot training and received his pilot certificate from his instructor, Doug Nastally.



Photo by Dan Gaffin

Paraglider.

**Billiards Club**

**Phil Panzera**



Well, it might as well be Thanksgiving for the number of people I wish to thank this month. At the top of the list is an expression of thanks from the club for our 2021 officers: President Dan Newby, Vice President Rich Deschenes, Second Vice President Penny Wilson, Secretary Phil Panzera, and Treasurer Joe Amigliore. Serving as an officer is often a thankless job, so pass on your best if you see them in the room.

Penny ends an eight-year run on the board, and she was singled out for special thanks from the members, who voted to award her a lifetime membership. Penny has organized many events for the club, and served as captain for the ladies team.

The 2022 slate of officers, in the same order, includes Phil Panzera, Ralph Szeleenyi, Jerry Gill, Rob Lull and Gene Christopher. Your new officers are very grateful for the overwhelming show of support and confidence you expressed at the election. We have several new ideas for the club which we hope you will like.

We'd also like to thank Rich Deschenes for his efforts in managing the two Tuesday league sessions we had last year. Thanks also to Tom West for managing the Sunday mixed doubles league.

I'd personally like to thank

those who have helped me keep the room's equipment clean. Joe Amigliore, Rob Lull, and I vacuumed countless tables, and I've polished more balls last year than in the rest of my life combined. Paul Atkinson remarkably still has the moxie to offer his service, and he has been cleaning all the table rails every week. Thanks also to Bob Schmitt, who has been wiping down all the chalk boards every week.

Let's also not forget the original top dog of table cleaning last year, Fritz Langville. Fritz stepped up after the team cleaning schedule faltered, and single-handedly worked very hard on the club's behalf.

One of our cleaning crew can't continue, so if you'd like to donate less than an hour of your time once a week and help, it would be much appreciated. Just let me know.

As for service to the club last year, we should probably also thank that guy who offers free pool instruction every Wednesday night, but I feel a little bashful thanking him.

And as far as my class goes, if you don't like the sad truth of the next bit, or how the rest of the world sees us, you should come.

Anecdote of the Month: A snooker player, a three-cushion player and a pool player walk into a bar. All three discuss how they can succeed in their respective games.

The snooker player says, "As long as you have sound fundamentals, you will always put a ball in the pocket."

The carom player scratches his head and asks, "What's a pocket?"

Then the pool player, with a puzzled frown, asks, "What's fundamentals?"

**Fit Tips**

**Larry Robinson**  
(352) 387-3571  
[larry\\_robinson@otowfl.com](mailto:larry_robinson@otowfl.com)



**Living Well This Year!**

Instead of putting pressure on yourself to work out and diet, think about actions, behaviors and activities that make you feel good. Things that energize you, help you sleep well and keep your stress to a minimum. Moving more and balancing your plate with healthy foods can help with all of those. Here are the best five "well tips" to help you feel and live better!

- **WELL TIP #1:** Get up and move six days a week for the rest of your life!
- **WELL TIP #2:** Activities that elevate your heart rate should account for four days a week.
- **WELL TIP #3:** Activities that require strength should account for two days a week.
- **WELL TIP #4:** Quit eating processed foods.
- **WELL TIP #5:** Care about yourself and others.

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## Fairies and Gnomes Return

By Christina Shearer

They're back! The fairies and gnomes return to Sholom Park, along with presenting sponsor Ausley Construction, is excited to announce the third annual Fun at the Park Gnome and Fairy Festival Sunday, Feb. 27, from noon to 4 p.m. If you like music, food, and family fun, don't miss this entertaining and enchanting event.



Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Feb. 27!

Bring your chairs and enjoy the mystical sounds of The Mystic Celts, a six-piece Celtic band, from 1 to 4 p.m. on the Sholom Park stage. Dance along with the Irish Echoes in a traditional Irish-Celtic step dancing performance with

high kicks and loud clicks.

Experience the magic of make-believe and imagination as you search Sholom Park's Enchanted Forest for hidden fairy doors. Each fairy door has a story and a description of the fairy that lives behind the magical door. Be on the lookout for the mischievous gnomes hiding throughout the park. Make your way down Fairytale Lane to the Sholom Park pergebo where you will find our very own Fairy Godmother sharing her favorite enchanting tales of fairies, gnomes, and other mythical creatures.

The Magical Marketplace will be filled with merchants selling mystical merchandise, whimsical services, and fantastical fares. Shop for handmade trinkets, jewelry, art, and more with local merchants. The Early Learning Coalition will be sponsoring a variety of fairy-friendly activities and magical arts and crafts. Let your creativity shine with Ocala Rocks Official and design your very own fairy-themed garden rock.

Finally, let your fairy tale fantasies come to life in the Whimsical World of Fantasy. Meet mystical creatures, like unicorns, Lily and Lancelot; or get up close to Skippy the Dragon, a 20-foot-long smoke-breathing dragon. It will be an afternoon of fantastical fun for everyone at Sholom Park.

For more event details and a list of Magical Merchants, visit [sholom-park.org](http://sholom-park.org) or follow us on the Sholom Park Facebook page.

## Something Unique for Your Valentine

By Chris Kilbride

The Artistic Crafts & Gifts' Tuesday craft show at the Recreation Center Ballroom is from 9 a.m. to noon and will continue weekly through May.

Our website [ArtisticCrafts.org](http://ArtisticCrafts.org) will give you a glimpse of our very talented crafters and artisans. The group started back in the early 1990s, and the show has grown from seven crafters to now over 45 on Tuesdays, with over 55 online and more gearing up to go virtual. All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday show.

This month, we feature Laurie Cope who just a few months ago took a watercolor class at Master the Possibilities. She was so intrigued by the beauty of it that she decided to start painting on a regular basis using this technique. After ordering books on it, she went to YouTube.com for additional lessons. Having painted a few pet pictures for her friends and family, she then signed up for the Artistic Crafts & Gifts on Tuesday mornings. Now commissioned orders started coming in to paint animals for several people who have seen her work at the show.

She has certainly been busy with paintings, four pets and her husband at home. Thanks to her grandmother, Laurie has always been interested in something between sewing and general crafts, painting

furniture, woodworking, reading, gardening, and other things. Being obsessed with ancestry, she's found over 1,000 relatives on her family tree.

Starting out in Brooklyn, New

York where they both were born and raised, she and her husband moved to New Jersey to raise their family. After becoming grandparents there was another move to Virginia, then their last move brought them here nine years ago where her husband's brother and sister live.

With a career featuring a variety of jobs in her life, from working in doctors' offices, hospitals, medical records companies to retail sales, it has been a fun journey and now into enjoying a creative retirement.

For those who have never visited on Tuesday, please take an hour, and go by to 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](http://ArtisticCrafts.org).



Photo by Chris Kilbride

New artist Laurie Cope has found her niche painting animals, florals and landscapes.



Photo by Mary Ann Majni

A previous Concert Chorus holiday performance.

## Sing with the Concert Chorus

By David P. Wesenberg

What an exciting time it is as the Concert Chorus began rehearsals for the "Hooray for Hollywood" concert scheduled for Saturday, March 26, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 27, at 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. There is still time to join us at 9 a.m. every Tuesday in the Arbor Conference Center Music Room but not for much longer as it is important to have sufficient rehearsal of the musical content. Dues for the club are very reasonable at \$15.

For you in our wonderfully loyal audience, you are in for a treat. Many of your favorite movie themes will be performed and so far, rehearsals indicate they will be

performed well. For those who are a new audience, check us out and enjoy great music.

Our rehearsals and performance will be directed jointly by Randy Schmid and Peggy Bumatay, each providing us with the benefit of their musical experience and talent.

The Concert Chorus is open to all residents and Indigo East residents with a Gateway of Services pass. Please be sure to bring your resident ID card to the first rehearsal you attend and every rehearsal thereafter.

If you plan to join us, contact Mary Ann Majni at [flmam68@aol.com](mailto:flmam68@aol.com) for further information.

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Photo by ShutterBug Tom Murray

Turtle for lunch.



Photo by ShutterBug Gordon Daniels

Nesting little blue heron.



Photo by ShutterBug Gordon Daniels

Silhouette.

**ShutterBugs Photography**

Connie Filip



The ShutterBugs are proud to present our advanced class winners from the November 2021 photo contest.

Thanks to all the ShutterBugs who entered their photos and to our residents who voted for their favorite. If you missed seeing our photo display in the Recreation Center, you can still see all our entries at otowspc.com.

Tom Murray has taken first-place honors with "Turtle for Lunch." It happened at the Ocala Wetlands Recharge Park. Tom says, "I saw a great blue heron with a turtle in its mouth. I've never seen anything like that ... and to see the turtle look at the heron as to say, 'help let me go!'" Tom missed seeing the end of the story as the heron flew away with his catch.

Gordon Daniels secured both second and third-place ribbons. He says that "Nesting Little Blue Heron" was taken at the Alligator Farm in St. Augustine, Florida. It's a fantastic destination for photographing birds during January through March each year. And that you can't miss a shot as some of the birds are literally a few feet away. Of course, there's also lots of gators too.

All through 2020, Gordon worked on his personal project, called a "365 Photo Project" in which he took a different photo each day of the year and posted it on Facebook.

Gordon says "silhouettes are my favorite subjects" when he talks about his third-place winner. And so, he was right there for this shot as Russel Martin, a member of the Moonstruck Astronomy Club, set up his equipment near the flying field to view the "Christmas Star" Dec. 21, 2020.

At Master the Possibilities this month, stop by to enjoy Gary Uhley's photos in a display called "Facial Hair."

Yes, Gary found a most unusual subject when he asked himself, "Why do men feel the need to cover their chin with hair?" Over the years men have had beards, mustaches, long sideburns - a masculine image, perhaps? He says he tried to cover some of the more interesting images. Some have resisted his request to photograph them, others display their bushy faces with pride, like a lion. Others look like they're in the witness protection program. He found unkempt, bushy, scraggly, or clean cut, trimmed and neat. Occasionally you'll run into a visual story, and these are the ones Gary was most interested in ... you gotta see it!

ShutterBugs has begun the new year with a new president - Harry Boyajian. In taking the club position, he hopes to share his knowledge. He loves seeing the excitement in others as they learn ways to improve their use of their camera.

Want to learn more about digital? Stop by the Hobby Building Event Room for the ShutterBugs' meetings. We start at 3 p.m. on the third and fourth Tuesdays of each month. For more information contact Harry at 239-336-4804.

**Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards**

Linda Lohr



Our presenters Thursday, Jan. 6, were Marcy Miller and Penny Douphinett. Marcy presented a very versatile card using up some of our scrap pieces. This card can be used for any occasion just by adding a different sentiment. Penny offered a card with a cute grandma surrounded by mounds of knitting projects. This card can also be used for different occasions just by changing the sentiment.

We thank Marcy and Penny for their willingness to share stamps, dies, inks and ideas.

Our group is open to all crafters - beginners or those more experienced. One or two people do a pre-

sentation 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 general or class information, contact Penny at the 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 Penny Douphinett at pennydough@gmail.com. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin'!



Photo by Linda Lohr

Cards presented by Marcy Miller and Penny Douphinett.



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CARDS & GAMES



Bingo

Nancy Grabowski



Bingo resumed Wednesday, Jan. 5, with 182 folks ready to test their luck in the new year. We were so happy to greet many of our regulars and a host of new residents. The evening started with 22 lucky winners in the 70/30 raffle. The games followed with pots that were won single-handedly or with multiple winners. It is safe to say, everyone enjoyed a super evening.

A new wrinkle has been added, much to our pleasure! The patio and parking areas behind the Recreation Center are complete. This adds golf cart parking for 35 or more, is a flat walk with a ramp at the back door, and, best of all, eliminates the need to walk up the hill. Parking near the ground floor is

always available which enables access to the elevator, another option to circumvent the hill climb.

The regular schedule is in place with games being called every Wednesday in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Raffle tickets are on sale from 4 to 5:30 p.m.; the raffle begins about 5:40 p.m. These tickets are sold three for \$1 or 10 for \$3 and garner each winner \$20. Playing cards are sold from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. All players must show a resident ID card which is needed to sign in guests, too. Cards are \$1 each and are used throughout the evening. They have sliders so no daubers are necessary. Games begin at 6 p.m. There is a short intermission after game 10 and we generally finish a little after 8 p.m. Masks are at each player's discretion.

We need to remind all players that state law prohibits the presence of alcohol, wine, and beer in the playing arena. These beverages can be enjoyed in The Pub or on the patio. Refreshments can be brought in or ordered at The Pub, which stays open until 7 p.m. Water, conveniently provided by The Pub, can be found adjacent to the stage.

After bingo, we appreciate cards being returned to the front table (face down, please) along with the flyers. Naturally, we expect all trash to be removed, too. When exiting the building, be mindful of the cars and carts. Walking on the sidewalks is an easy way to do that! The last reminder is that traffic on the hill is one-way.

Come and try your luck, we're looking forward to meeting you! For more information, contact Nancy Grabowski at 352-209-4699.

Bridge



Monday Afternoon

By Shirley Stolly & Carol Johnson

Dec. 13, 2021

1: Phyllis & Herb Silverman; 2: Connie & John Feola; 3: Joan Lord & Craig Ford; 4: Judy Mackowick & Rick Saffol; 5: Dennis & Judy Wallace.

Dec. 20, 2021

1: Marlene Floeckler & Dianne Robinson;

2: Dennis & Judy Wallace; 3: Joanne Jones & Kathie Dushary; 4: Linda Yuen & Carol Johnson; 5: Craig Ford & Bob Kraus.

Dec. 27, 2021

1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Mary H.; 3: John Ryan; 4: Bill Ryan; 5: Carol Johnson.

Jan. 3

1: Barb & Jack Heller; 2: Mary Block & John Ryan; 3: Judy Mackowick & Rick Saffol; 4: Dennis & Judy Wallace; 5: Mar Balchin & Bruce Gillett.

Tuesday Night

By Bob Kraus & Gayle Taylor

The Duplicate Bridge Group meets Tuesdays, in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II at 6 p.m. Please bring a partner and arrive a few minutes early to sign in. If you would like to play occasionally as a substitute, contact us and we will put you on our list.

We collect \$0.50 per person at the start which after all the boards are scored is distributed the following week to the top teams. We've had new players join us recently and look forward to more as our community grows.

If you enjoy a challenging game of bridge, give it a try. For more information, you can contact Bob Kraus at 352-492-8525 or Gayle Taylor at 352-387-9571.

Dec. 14, 2021

North/South

1: Wayne Caldwell & Barbara Heller; 2: Dan Lack & Ed Bodnar; 3: Patsy Claremont & Paul Claremont.

East/West

1: Judy Ladd & Jon Ladd; 2: Darlene Fiel & Andrew Fiel; 3: Connie Feola & Arlene Loepp.

Dec. 21, 2021

North/South

1: Dan Hall & Jeff Bell; 2: Wayne Caldwell & Barbara Heller; 3: Judy Ladd & Jon Ladd.

East/West

1: Bill Ryan & Linda Ryan; 2: Bob Kraus & Gayle Taylor; 3: Sophie Redman & Jean Krueger.

Dec. 28, 2021

1: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 2Tie: Bob Kraus & Gayle Taylor; 2Tie: Jon Ladd & Judy Ladd.

Jan. 4

1: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 2: Wayne Caldwell & Barbara Heller; 3: Gayle Taylor & Bob Kraus.

Wednesday Afternoon

By Dianne Robinson

Dec. 1, 2021

1: Craig Ford; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Linda Yuen; Cons: Betty Morris.

Dec. 8, 2021

1: Joe McKeown; 2: Phyllis Silverman; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Bernie Kelly; Cons: Lucy Malloy.

Dec. 15, 2021

1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Linda Yuen; 3: Judi Wallace; 4: Debbie Quinn; Cons: Mar Valchin.

Dec. 22, 2021

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Craig Ford; 3: Shirley Stolly; 4: Dennis Wallace.

Dec. 29, 2021

1: Rik Saffol; 2: Billie Andersen; 3: Joe McKeown; 4: Lucy Malloy; Cons: Gayle Taylor.

Thursday Afternoon

By Marlene Floeckher

Dec. 2, 2021

1: Craig Ford; 2: Bernie Kelly; 3: Linda Yuen; 4: Judy Mackowick; 5: Bob Kraus; Cons: Mary Bloch.

Dec. 9, 2021

1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Judy Mackowick; 3: Linda Yuen and Bruce Gillett; Cons: Mary Bloch

Dec. 16, 2021

1: Shirley Stolley; 2: Marlene Floeckher; 3: Mary Bloch; 4: Craig Ford; Cons: Bernie Kelly.

Dec. 23, 2021

1: Joseph McKeown; 2: Shirley Stolley; 3: John Ryan; Cons: Linda Yuen.

Dec. 30, 2021

1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Mary Bloch; 3: Marlene Floeckher; Cons: Debbie Quinn.

Thursday Night

By Jeff & Pam Bell

To celebrate the 2021 holiday season, our group, including spouses and guests, packed into the Bell's home Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, for an evening of food, fun and a few hands of bridge. Winners for that evening were Gayle Taylor, Bob Kraus, and Betsy Brody.

Come join us at 6 p.m. on Thursdays in the Recreation Center Lounge. No need to bring a partner, we will pair up by luck of the draw and rotate partners through the evening. Bring \$0.25 and a smile. All levels are welcome. We are a friendly and relaxed bridge group!

Dec. 16, 2021

1: Sara Anderson; 2: Bob Kraus; 3: Patsy Claremont.

Jan. 6

1: Gayle Taylor; 2: Bob Kraus; 3: Bill Lomerson.

Bunco Babes Social Group



Michelle Malsch

New year! New location! The group now plays bunco in the Recreation Center Lounge (previously the library), on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Feb. 22. Registration is at 6:45 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m. You do not have to call to register. You need only show up. You may bring a guest. The room is set up for 28 players. Please make sure you arrive on time to reserve your spot. We are now limited to 28 players. Always check the World News for the latest updates for our group.

If you have never played before, come see what fun we have rolling the dice in this game of luck (no skill required)! The game is easy and only requires rolling three dice and moving to the next table at the end of game play. New players are always welcome.

The cost is \$3 per person and all monies collected are returned at the end of the game to the category winners. There are also two drawings for door prizes for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your own beverage and snack if you wish. There is a short intermission after the first three sets have been played.

Come join in the fun and make new friends! For more information, please call Micki Malsch at 352-615-2790. Stay safe and be healthy until we meet again!

Pinochle



Tuesday Night

By Herb Katz

Dec. 7, 2021

1: Carol Fidler-Graham; 2: Roger Costello; 3: Walt Becker.

Dec. 14, 2021

1: Larry Black; 2: James Tomaszek; 3: Bruce Gillett.

Dec. 21, 2021

1: Phyllis Jarsky; 2: Richard Carroll; 3: Jim Magoon.

Dec. 28, 2021

1: Ed Casper; 2: Jim Recor; 3: Charlie Budd.

Friday Morning

By Mary Hannon

Dec. 17, 2021

1: Dawn Bunyak; 2: Jenny Rost; 3: Jenny Magoon.

Dec. 24, 2021

1: Judy Black; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Penny Wagener.

Dec. 31, 2021

1: Judy Black; 2: Larry Black; 3: Mary Hannon.

Jan. 7

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Judy Black.

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SHORT GAME: BUMP & RUN

Saturday, Feb. 5th • 9 am

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Saturday, Feb. 12th • 9 am

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**Art Group**



**Manuel Goyanes**

Hello! I am one of the new columnists for the Art Group. The Art Group meets in the Hobby Building Art Room Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m., and Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Please feel free to join us to work in your medium alongside some of our other resident artists. You don't need experience to join. I just walked in one day and never left!

It isn't every day that I get to sit with people and go deeply into their background and the way they developed their artistic abilities. I was very lucky to be interviewing member Ken Russell for the first time. He has been a member for two years. Ken is a U.S. Navy Vietnam veteran who, upon his return from the war, put himself through college to improve lives in a teaching capacity.

Always driven, he taught for 13 years before switching to a position in school administration where he held the gamut of positions - vice principal, principal, assistant director of curriculum and instruction and, finally, setting up the magnet program from scratch for 16 years!

He was part of an international educational conference where he brought American educational systems to Japan, Czech Republic, and Russia. During that time, he obtained a doctorate degree in educational administration and retained his position until he decided to retire.

He is currently a member of the Art Group, Polymer Claymates, Theatre Group, Democratic Club and one of the karaoke groups.

He has been engaged in art from the moment he was allowed to hold a crayon. However, I was not prepared for the extensive collection of his work that I was allowed to view while visiting him for this interview.

He has done work in sculpture, stained glass, pen and ink drawings, pencil drawings, acrylic painting and even created wooden editions of Faberge style eggs. It is not often that one gets to tread the path of an artist and manage to get a glimpse of the phases that they have passed through in life, all alive in their works. His talent for exceptional detail can be seen in every single piece of art ... and it is surely something not to be missed. Talents like his should be showcased.

Thanks for peeking at our column and I look forward to seeing some of you when you join the group. Have a fabulous month!

**Happy Hookers**



**Jan Spielvogel**

February has arrived, and Happy Hookers wishes everyone a happy Valentine's Day! Unfortunately, we were not able to participate in the recent Club Fair. However, don't let that stop you from coming to join us.

Our group is open to all residents. We meet year-round on Mondays, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agenda nor 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 group of ladies busy with crocheting, knitting, needle-pointing, 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 welcome 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 either Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 or Kathleen Frost at 925-960-5945 to arrange for pickup.

**Theatre Group**



**Richard Rosen**

Rehearsal continues for the upcoming Broadway musical revue "The Best of Times" Saturday, April 2, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 3, at 3 p.m. This program of comic, upbeat, and often inspiring showtunes features music from theater classics such as "South Pacific," "My Fair Lady," "Carousel," and many other treasured productions. Also scheduled are two numbers from Penny Barton's fabulous tap dance ensemble!

Tickets go on sale starting Wednesday, Feb. 2, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the upper floor lobby of the Recreation Center. Subsequent sales are scheduled every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the same location through the end of March. You can also pick up tickets from 6:30 to 7 p.m. on most Mondays just before we rehearse in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

General admission is \$10 and patron tickets are \$25 and include reserved priority seating and acknowledgement in the show's program. All tickets are sold in advance.

**Poetry**



**Linda Toner**

**To My Valentine**

When we were young,  
We had nary a thought.  
About life's journey,  
How to get what we sought.

Our eyes were keen,  
Our skin was taut.  
We were beautiful people,  
Or so we thought.

We met each other,  
Then wedding bells.  
We raised our children,  
We taught them well.

On life's journey,  
We learned how.  
To love each other,  
In the here and now.

I am yours,  
And you are mine.  
Our love for each other,  
Is forever entwined.

**View from the Library**



**B.J. Leckbee**

Our library has a Florida section that usually has 20 books on the shelf: a combination of non-fiction and fiction. Here's a sample of two of those books.

"Ocali Country" was written by two long-time residents of Ocala who provide detailed information of this area starting with the discovery of a three-foot shell wall several hundred feet in length by the Spaniards in 1539. Eloise Ott and Louis Chazal take the reader through the Indian era, the establishment of Fort King near what is now Ocala, travel by barges and stagecoach, the effects of the Civil War, agricultural successes, and failures, and more. Louis Chazal is credited with

coining the slogan "Kingdom of the Sun."

Another non-fiction Florida book is "Without a Paddle," a memoir written by Warren Richey, who chose to celebrate his 50th birthday by entering the Ultimate Florida Challenge Race, which involves circumnavigating Florida by kayak. Alone. 24 hours a day.

He would be travelling a total distance of 1,200 miles, with all his necessities in the kayak. The necessity list included a propane stove, a hammock, and a tarp for shelter from the rain. It also meant carrying a wheeled cart in the kayak, as the crossing of northern Florida included walking while pulling the kayak and all its contents partially across the state.

Forty miles from the finish he lost his way. He did finish the race - in 19 days; exhausted, but feeling more alive than he'd ever been. It changed his life.

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**Model Railroaders**

Paul Lewandowski



The annual Christmas display at Master the Possibilities was well-received by the staff and public. The portable layout was set up Dec. 17 through Dec. 24, 2021. We appreciate the cooperation of the staff and look forward to continuing our relationship in the years to come. For December 2022, the club is considering setting the display up earlier in the month so more people will be able to enjoy it.

The year-end open house was a smashing success. Over 180 people attended the three-day open house (134 residents, 35 guests and 12 children). Over the three days, 13 of the club members were in attendance for show-and-tell and Jim Lynam gave many guided tours around the layout to the visitors. During his tours, Jim showed the visitors all the operating aspects of the layout so they could appreciate all the efforts that went into making them work.

Some of the details on the layout have been made by club members using 3D printing techniques. When 3D printing first became

available to hobbyists, the printers were still in the several \$1,000 range for cost, and the materials were expensive and sometimes toxic. In recent years, however, the costs have come down and materials have been developed that are more "user friendly" that can be used in a home without special ventilation systems.

With the lower cost and friendlier materials available, 3D printing has come to the Model Railroaders Club. The initial training in 3D was provided by Don Wright of the R/C Flyers Club. Don presented classes at Master the Possibilities on the new types of hardware available and then on the software needed to design parts for printing.

Several detail items have been made at home on 3D printers such as picnic tables, trolley stop shelters, a dock, a gazebo, re-railers, building signs, building interior details, building parts, tunnel portals, retaining walls, picket fences and more. In some cases, the 3D printer made the entire part. In other cases, the 3D printer made some of the parts, and other techniques were used to complete the assembly.

For example, the sign on top of the railroad station in the town of Franklin was made using three techniques. First, the letters and the round bases for the railroad names

were made on the 3D printer. Then the base of the sign was made using plastic H-beams made by Evergreen Plastics, then the logos were downloaded from the internet, printed on the PC, then glued to the rounds. A little paint and glaze finished the job.

For information on joining our

club, call Jim Lynam at 352-861-2822. Our club schedules run sessions every Friday (except holidays) from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Hobby Building Model Train Room. Club business meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month (except holidays) at 9 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.



Photo by Paul Lewandowski

3D printer dock and gazebo on the HO layout.

**Sunshine Quilters**

Teri Anzalone Penichet



Maya Angelou once said, "You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." For Catherine O'Brien, our featured member this month, that is certainly true. Cathy is a prolific quilter who has made dozens of beautiful quilts to give to family, friends, and as charitable donations. But before she heard the siren call of quilting, Cathy explored other avenues of artistic expression.

Cathy was born in Maryland and lived in the Baltimore area for most of her life. She trained at the University of Maryland to become a radiology technician, and spent 40 years in that field, working at Fallston Hospital and the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, as well as for three Baltimore doctors in private practice. Cathy worked primarily evenings in the hospital

emergency rooms.

To relax after stressful work shifts, Cathy took up painting. She studied watercolor painting with Mitsue and sold two of her own paintings when they were displayed. Cathy dabbled in oil painting, pastels, and chalk, but favors working in watercolor when she has the opportunity. Her favorite subjects to paint are birds, animals, flowers, and lighthouses.

In addition to fine art, Cathy has tried her hand at beading, making necklaces, bracelets, and other beaded jewelry. She has also occasionally added beaded decoration to her quilts.

Cathy's path to quilting started when she taught herself to sew. As a young mother, she began by sewing clothes for her daughter. As her skills progressed, Cathy wanted to do more, and bought a Babylock combination sewing/embroidery machine in the 1980s. She uses the machine to embroider designs on quilt blocks, which is her preferred method of creating quilts. In the 1990s, Cathy purchased an HQ

Sixteen longarm quilting machine, which she continues to use.

Cathy has a massive fabric collection lining three walls of her home, which she uses when choosing fabric for her quilts. Her motto is, "If I see something I like, I buy it!" She likes using bold colors in her quilts and enjoys using embroidery designs by Kimberbell and Loralie. Cathy sews every day and will usually complete several small quilts each week. She frequently contributes quilts to our group, which are donated to the charities we support.

Cathy has been a member of Sunshine Quilters since 2020 and says that she enjoys seeing what others in the group have made, learning new techniques, and being with so many nice, like-minded people!

The Sunshine Quilters meet each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room, as well as Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the same place. Our monthly activities include a block-of-the-month, sit-and-sew sessions, and other various projects. We welcome new members who have an interest in



Photo by Gail Schultz

Cathy O'Brien with her embroidered quilt.

sewing quilts and other items. For more information, please call Gail Schultz at 352-304-9159.

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Photos by Susan Pulling Robinson

Arthur (Father Time) and Rose (Baby New Year) Frazier.

**Fun with Golf Carts**

Susan Pulling Robinson



Our Facebook group is now well over 300, so it is no wonder that the parades are getting bigger and better! If you have a golf cart, please consider jazzing it up (or not) and joining in as we "parade for a cause." Each parade benefits one or more local charities. To join, simply go to Facebook, and search for "OTOW Fun with Golf Carts," then click "Join Group." It's that simple!

All parades start at the Recreation Center, with lineup and donations at 9:45 a.m., and pullout at 10 a.m. The route for a given parade is posted on Facebook (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts and OTOW Chat Room). If the parade is not coming by your house, please come see the action as we leave the Recreation Center promptly at 10 a.m.

After participating in the Holiday Golf Cart Parade Saturday, Dec. 4,

2021, the members then gathered Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, for our own club parade and afternoon potluck. The parade was made extra special with a stop at the Bridgewater Park senior living facility. The tap dance club was also there to bring pleasure to the many seniors who lined up in front of the buildings to watch. The tappers treated everyone to an entertaining set of holiday dance numbers. The decorated carts and lovely dance performance provided a heartwarming holiday highlight for the residents.

New Year's Day would not be complete without a golf cart parade! A small but intrepid group turned out to ring in the new year with a raucous, joyous parade. What we lacked in numbers we made up for in noise!

The Valentine's Day parade is next up, on Saturday, Feb. 12. Be sure to wave to us as we go by - we love our spectators! And keep an eye out for future news about the club's Easter festivities, which are rumored to include an Easter egg hunt.

**Sewing Bees**

Linda Lohr



Now that the whirlwind holiday season is over, we have tallied up all the items we have donated this past year.

We donated an amazing 2,108 items! These items included pillows, pillow friends, stuffed animals, stuffed dolls, totes, baby blankets, beanie babies, children's outfits, sewing kits, Christmas stockings, and infant sleepers. Again, an amazing number of items, most of them sewn by our members. Certain agencies requested clothes, and our members provided adorable outfits in addition to the quilt kits.

I want to give a great big hug to all our members. It is a truly heartwarming thing we do. We meet every week, year-round, and we are sewing up a storm!

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 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. We would be happy to show you our creations made with love for the children. You may find our club is

just what you have been looking for to round out your week.

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

And we thank you for your contributions of fabric, thread, and batting.



Photo by Linda Lohr

One of the many Christmas quilts that have been donated by the Sewing Bees.

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**The New Pretenders**

Nancy Grabowski



Aren't we all wondering how did January disappear already? It's amazing to think we're into the second month. The calendar pages turn so swiftly these days. Why, even The New Pretenders schedule fell victim to it. Hence, the big reveal that was planned will keep us in suspense another month. It will be worth the wait, however!

The New Pretenders, easily recognizable in their sequined vests and jaunty hats, will be at the Club Fair along with a host of community members. We are recruiting and encouraged by the interest shown in our organization. A somewhat startling conversation revolved around some hesitation because the question of an instrument was raised.

We do provide the musical instruments for our incredible band. We have nearly every instrument you can imagine. Included in our inventory are a host of guitars (bass,

electric and acoustic); mandolins, and violins. Housed in our storage unit are trumpets, trombones, flutes, a French horn, and even a sousaphone! Additionally, we have a drum set, keyboard, tambourines, rhythm sticks, maracas, triangles, bells, and whistles. Basically, if you name it, we've got it.

Band members carry their assigned instruments to and from practice, providing them an opportunity to practice at home. Our more experienced players offer help when called upon for assistance. If you've never held an instrument, we will make you comfortable with your new endeavor.

Our fantastic costume mistress, Fran Allen, has organized our vast array of clothing into two storage units. The range is incredible from cavenem to tuxedo-clad opera stars. 1890s baseball teams to 2022 punk rockers, we've got you covered!

In our third unit, along with the band equipment, is the evidence of our decorating genius, Rita Miller! The creative backdrops and stage enhancements are a testament to her artistic nature. Each presentation is enhanced by her endeavors. Why, she's taken us from cruise



Photo by Lennie Rodoff

Joel Kurtz (foreground), Joe Furfaro, Fran Allen, Nick Lagattuta, Doug Ensley, Nancy Kibler, and Tom Miller.

ships to the swamps of Louisiana, from New York City to Kalamazoo with plenty of stops along the way.

If you're not feeling the pull of performance on-stage, we do have openings for behind the scenes. A props person is essential to our success; so are the dressers who assist with quick costume changes between numbers. If construction

is your area of expertise, we would welcome you to the family.

The New Pretenders assure you, with us you are family. We guarantee your comfort as we ease you over the threshold of first-night jitters. We will be waiting to hear from you soon! Contact any member or Nancy Grabowski at 352-209-4699.

**Karaoke Friends**

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



The members enjoy having new singers join the group. We want to introduce you to Peyton Jackson: "I moved to On Top of the World in September 2019. I previously lived in Moore, Oklahoma where I worked as a medical laboratory director until retiring in 2017. After I retired, I was working part-time and my wife suggested that I take up a new hobby. She thought song writing would be a good choice since I had dabbled with it back when I was in college playing in a garage band. I wasn't enthusiastic about the idea but after she got me software and a new laptop I couldn't say "no."

That's what led me to Karaoke Friends. I was writing songs back in Oklahoma and had joined the Oklahoma chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI). We had monthly gatherings and performed our new songs at a local cafe. I was singing on a regular basis and that was keeping my voice in pretty good shape back then. Ocala doesn't have a NSAI chapter so while I continued writing after moving here, I was not performing so I wasn't singing much. I was relying almost totally on my computer to play back everything I was writing. That turned out to be a big mistake. Several months ago, I had finished up some songs and was going to make an MP3 recording of myself singing them for a song contest. Boy, was I surprised when first I found that I could not even hear my voice above my acoustic guitar and second I could no longer reach the higher notes which these songs had in the choruses.

Luckily, I bumped into my neighbor, Dr. Yeong, about that time. He had recently joined the Karaoke Friends and he recommended that I give it a try. I decided I would come out to the next session, and I have been attending ever since. My voice is recovering but most importantly I am making new friends and enjoying the singing. This is a group who really has fun and it is great entertainment. We have some really talented singers here at On Top of the



Photo by Steve Warren

Peyton Jackson.

World."

We are so happy Yeong introduced Peyton to the group. We welcome anyone who enjoys music and singing. Of course, we love our clappers, too.

We meet on the first and third Mondays of the month. This month we meet Feb. 7 and 21 in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Come and join the fun.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly**

Gail Hopper



Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) advocates healthy eating and moderate exercise to achieve weight loss and maintain it. TOPS is a weight-loss support group that's affordable and works. No fad diets or foods to buy in our program. Eat what you love and lose weight. As of September 2021, we are excited to offer two TOPS chapters here at On Top of the World. Chapters meet as follows:

- Monday: Hobby Building Art Room with weigh-in from 5:15 to 6 p.m.; and meeting from 6 to 7 p.m. Leader: Linda Sisco (ljsisco@comcast.net).
- Tuesday: Arbor Activity Center Event Room with weigh-in from 9:15 to 10 a.m.; meeting from 10 to 11 a.m. Leader: Gail Hopper (gailhopper@yahoo.com).

Members must be residents, or if in Indigo East, have an active Gateway of Services pass. You can also find us on Facebook (OTOW TOPS).

From September through December, the Monday group lost a net of 116 pounds; the Tuesday group lost a net of 109 pounds. TOPS can work for you too.

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**AD DEADLINE:** Noon on the 12th of the month. If the deadline falls on a weekend, then it's noon on the Friday before. For more information, call (352) 387-7466, email [otownnews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownnews@otowfl.com) or visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala)

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**Friday, Feb. 11 & Saturday, Feb. 12:** 9771 SW 97th Place (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 18 & Saturday, Feb. 19:** 8833-A SW 98th Street Road (Americana Village), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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