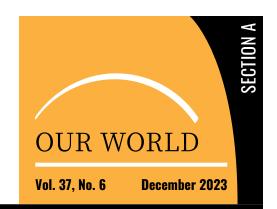


On Top of the World. NEWS

Where the news is always good!



Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Let's Make Spirits Bright

Association Meeting Reminders

- Monday, Dec. 4: Master Asso-ciation Annual Meeting, Budget Adoption and Rules Amendments in Live Oak Hall at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 5: Weybourne Landing Annual Meeting, Budget Adoption and Rules Amendments in Circle Square Cultural Center at 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 12: Indigo East Annual Meeting, Budget Adoption and Rules Amendments in Circle
- Square Cultural Center at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12: Candler Hills Annual Meeting, Budget Adoption and Rules Amendments in Circle Square Cultural Center at 2 p.m.

Please note, the annual meeting for On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 10 a.m.

Trademarks

On Top of the World owns various U.S. trademark registrations and applications in connection with providing numerous services. The On Top of the World Family of Marks signifies the multitude of services originating with On Top of the World and have built up good will of significant value due to their long-standing use and the high quality of On Top of the World's services. Moreover, On Top of the World's trademarks are widely known and famous within the state of Florida. These trademarks are in full force and effect.

Before you create a social media page or other business endeavor, utilizing "OTOW" or any of On Top of the World's trademarks, please request permission. Not doing so may result in receiving a letter from the trademark attorney as On Top of the World consistently enforces its trademark rights against infringers through all appropriate legal means. It is wise to get permission before you use any trademarks!

To request permission, a written request of your intended use may be submitted to Resident Services.

About That Drone

On Top of the World has a robust R/C Flyers Club. Over the years, it has expanded from radio-controlled airplanes to radio-controlled cars (on track), and

Attendees of the Holiday Golf Cart Parades and Celebrations of 2021 and 2022 not only had a blast by watching, listening, and dancing, but some by tapping into their creative talents in designing their golf carts with original, funny, and festive adornments. And I'm sure that many participated in the fake quiz and have been longing to test their knowl-edge with this year's fake quiz (cough). For first timers, just take the quiz and claim your award at this year's Holiday Golf Cart Parade and Celebration! Good luck on this year's fake quiz. When is the event?

By Dave DeAngelis

World News Writer

- Yesterday 1. July 4, 2024 2.
- 3.
- I don't know. I either missed it or I'm too early

4. Saturday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 8 p.m. The musical entertainment will be provided by?

- 1. The I-4 Band
- Mel and the Musically Challenged 2.
- 3. The Insomnia Curers
- A guy playing a comb 4.
- Photo ops will be available with?
- Your favorite martian 1.
- 2. Your alter ego
- Santa in his sleigh 3.
- The reindeer picker uppers (some-4. body's gotta do it)

DJ and photo booth will be presented by?

- Some guy returning from a week-1. long Amway convention
- 2. 360 SmileTime
- Your next-door neighbor who's 3. been waiting for this debut moment

4. None of the above except for #2 This event will:

- Be free 1.
- 2. Be open to the public
- 3. Have food trucks, live music, a DJ, selfie station, and beer and wine
- Have a 50/50 raffle 4.
- Have judging and awards for the 5. golf cart parade entries
- All the above and more 6.

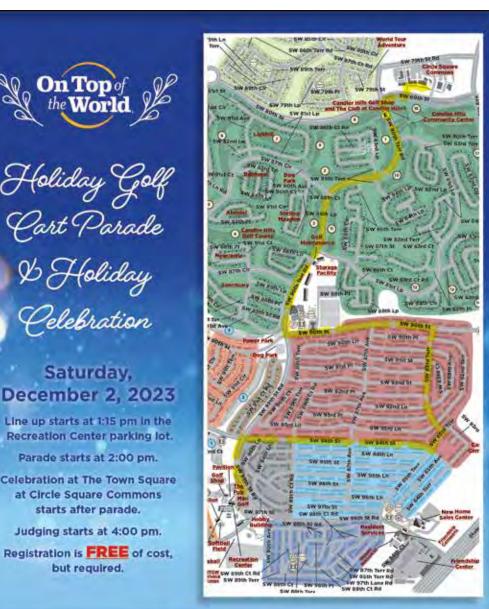
Is the Holiday Celebration really gonna be all that? If you don't attend, you won't know! Be sure to be there for the judging and awards presentation for the golf cart parade entries starting around 4 p.m. Award categories will be for most creative, funniest, most festive, most original, and best in show.

Then, get ready for the music! And at around 7 p.m., look forward to the 50/50 raffle drawing with the proceeds going to Kimberly's Center for Child Protection. Buy a bunch of tickets. And, holy cow, the I-4 Band throughout the event? Check my pulse! They are great! Dance your pants ... er, uh ... shoes off, and between breaks, dance to more DJ music and take some selfies with 360 SmileTime. A great opportunity to send some holiday photos of you and Santa on his sleigh to your grandchildren.

Watch for the golf car parade that might pass through your neighborhood. See the route map next to this column. Remember to bring your own cam-

era to capture photos at the festively decorated Town Square at Circle Square Commons on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 4 to 8 p.m. This event is open to the public and will surely make your spirits bright!

Sheesh ... I gave away the fake quiz answers. That's okay. Just get there, enjoy it all, and congratulate someone for also receiving the real award - holiday spirit!



Register your Club or Golf Cart at the Recreation Center Office! For more information, call 352-854-8707 ext. 7533 or 7498.

even into drones.

I mention this to remind residents that drones may not be flown over private property, neither may they photograph neighboring properties. In Florida, we have the "Freedom from Unwarranted Surveillance Act." Flights over private property first requires permission of the property owner. Typically, On Top of the World Communities does not grant permission, either privately or commercially, of any drone usage over On Top of the World owned properties or properties of the affiliated business entities.

To fly a drone as a hobbyist in the State of Florida (i.e. for fun/pleasure) you are required by the FAA to take the Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) available at uavcoach.com/faa-recreational-drone-training. You are also required to follow the FAA's recreational model aircraft rules available at faa.gov/ uas/recreational_fliers/.

One of those rules is that if your drone weighs more than 0.55 lbs. (250g), you'll need to pay \$5 to get it registered at faadronezone.faa.gov/#/. There are additional rules when it comes to airspace and altitude, keeping your drone within line-of-sight while you're flying, and more.

To avoid overflying private property, the only appropriate place to operate a drone is at the flying field. This is a great group of people who are very welcoming of new residents and members.

Newly Moved In? Holiday Packaging?

During the new resident orientation process, the matter of scheduling movers is discussed. Remember that movers will not be allowed into the community on a Sunday unless prior arrangements have been made through Resident Services.

Continued on Page 4A →

Veterans Day



Veterans Day is the holiday set aside to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military. In fact, Veterans Day is primarily intended to thank living veterans for their service.

This Veterans Day we had a simply phenomenal flag ceremony at the Veterans Park, hosted by Master Chief Dexter Vance, USN Ret.

The ceremony honored the 17 sailors from the USS Cole, a U.S. Navy guided missile destroyer. The attack on the ship took place in October 2000, while the Cole was being refueled in Yemen's Aden harbor.

The attack left a 40-by-60-foot waterline gash in the ship's side, and the crew fought valiantly for three days to miraculously keep the ship from sinking.

The actual flag from the Cole was used in the ceremony. Each of the 17 names was read, followed by a tolling of the ship's bell, and a minute of silence for each sailor.

The flag ceremony was staffed by the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard, commanded by Captain Stephen Petty, and USA Ret. Chief Vance, who served on the recovery team for the Cole, spoke eloquently about the courage and sacrifice of the Cole's sailors.

A second ceremony at the Recreation Center was emceed by Veterans Club President Charlie Calhoun. The ceremony opened with a choir performance from the Ina A. Colen Academy, led by Elisabeth Vinze.

The West Port JROTC Honor Guard presented the colors.

There was a special presentation of

Blankets of Honor by Mary Beth Bell to several local police officers, a registered nurse, a firefighter, and an emergency medical technician. Charlie Calhoun was also surprised with a Blanket of Honor for his extensive and tireless efforts with our Veterans Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion.

Marion County Commissioner Michelle Stone presented breast cancer survivor plaques to Cathy Molsch, Marilyn Knorr, and Sharon Gruka.

Joan Lane, another tireless champion of our veterans, presented several Quilts of Honor. These gorgeous quilts are made by the loving hands of countless volunteers who wish to honor exemplary service and sacrifice. Joan's husband, Jim Lane, was also presented with a U.S. flag plaque, with bullets in place of each star as a creative form of flag braille.

No Veterans Day ceremony would be complete without a rousing performance from our Dancing Jewels, saluting each of our nation's military services.

A final thought from John F. Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.'



Flag ceremony with Captain Stephen Petty on the ship's bell, emcee Master Chief Dexter Vance, Master Sergeant Carlos Erausquin, Senior Chief Petty Officer Don Kennedy, and Sergeant Bob Levinson

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Is It Legal?



A.

SCAM ALERT #1: You are not going to believe this. I really blundered a few moments ago. See, I got this email from the Delphius something or other and I won \$2^{*} million. It was a charity thing. Okay, okay, so yeah, I never applied to Delphius whatever, for any raffle ticket or made any donation to it and I never heard of it, and I know nothing about it, but what could go wrong? Just fill out this form and send it back. I was gonna be in the chips! Two million. Just like that. Well, I got so excited, that with-out thinking, I accidentally hit the delete button. Can you believe a thing like that? What a blunder, eh! And you? You who are reading this? Will you remember that when you receive an email, text, letter, or phone call, saying you won a ton of dough from something for which you never applied and know nothing about, it's time to hit the delete button, or delete the text or hang up? Will you remember to do that and to warn your friends also? Please.

SCAM ALERT #2: Sigh. Scams never seem to go away. I recently heard from three clients of mine who only recently closed on the purchase of a home. Seems they got a letter saying they needed some kind of verification document that would prove that they really owned their new home. Send in \$112, please. This is just a new iteration of the old "certified copy of deed scam." That's where you got this official looking letter that described your property, including a legal description and where it was recorded in the public records and yet, you need a certified copy of your deed, or, nowadays, I guess it is some kind of proof that you own your property. Baloney. Scam. You never need a certified copy of your deed, and you never need any other kind of verification that the property is yours. Know why? Because your deed is already recorded and that is all the proof you need. And if you have the added protection of title insurance, that protects you against fraud on your title.

Q. My grandfather is 96 years old. The (life insurance company) has been deducting \$200 per month for life insurance, for which he never applied in the first place. When he tried to cancel the policy, he was told by the life insurance company that they would not cancel the policy until he provided proof of other

life insurance. My grandfather never took out this policy and has little funds. Why would a life insurance company issue a 96-year-old man a life insurance policy?

A. Sounds like fraud to me. This needs to be reported to the police or some other law enforcement agency, right away. Also, a letter must be sent to the life insurance company, demanding an explanation. I believe an attorney should send a letter like that. My guess is that the scammer who persuaded the life insurance company to issue the policy have named themselves as the beneficiary. This leads me to remind everyone that they should always check all their banking accounts on a regular basis. If there is a charge, be it for life insurance, or any other reason, and you don't recognize it, immediately question it. Call your bank, using a phone number you know or better yet, walk in and speak to someone there. Call your credit card company, using the phone number on the back of your card. We just must be vigilant, but you already know that.

Q. If you retire, what will happen to all the legal files that you have? If you have wills, trusts or other documents, what happens with them?

A. First, I am not planning on retiring – ever. I love being a lawyer. However, if something did happen to me, well, I have a law firm. I have two other law partners plus an associate attorney, with a staff of 16 folks altogether. Further, the Florida Bar Association has a detailed process that in the event an attorney leaves the practice with no other attorneys to take over, the Bar sends in what is called an "inventory attorney." His/her function is to collect all files and notify all clients about what has happened and where their files are stored. And anyway, I ain't retiring. Nope.

Jerry Colen, Rachel Wagoner, and John Beck are law partners at the Law Office of Colen & Wagoner, P.A. 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 and master's degrees in accounting and taxation. The law firm practices in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, real estate, elder law, business litigation, Medicaid planning and business/ professional advice. This column does not, nor is it intended to provide legal advice. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. The Law Office of Colen & Wagoner, P.A. is located at 1756 North Belcher Road, Clearwater, Florida 33765 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons in Ocala, Florida. Contact us at 727-545-8114, info@colenwagoner.com or visit colenwagoner.com.



Toilets: A failing flapper (valve seal) can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day.

- Leaky Faucets/Showerheads: Dripping can range from several gallons to hundreds of gallons of water per day.
- Water Hose: When left on with leaks at the snight or nozzle



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

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The World News, On Top of the World Communities, LLC

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2024 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE



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

- Water Huse. When left on with leaks at the spigot of hozzi
- **Irrigation System:** Automatic irrigation solenoid valves not closing properly or excessive run times including multiple program cycles.
- Water Softeners: Excessively backwashing or the backwash valve failing.
 * Water loss is estimated and varies depending on severity of leak.

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Breaking the Bank

* Deadline at noon

** Printed inserts delivered to The Villages Media Group by 3:30 p.m.



Why We Live in Ocala

By Ray Cech World News Writer

Wall Street Journal (WSJ) article, of Friday Oct. 6, 2023. The headline read, "Ocala: An Inland Safe Haven."

In the story, writer Nancy Keates makes a strong argument why people move to Ocala from just about everywhere, whether Miami, Boca Raton, Minnesota, or Pennsylvania.

She goes on to point out that weatherwise, particularly when it comes to hurricanes, Ocala is very much a "safe haven." According to NOAA, Florida gets 40% of direct hurricane hits. But, Keates said, Climate Alpha, a company using AI to track and forecast weather, tells us that the three safest "weather" cities in Florida, are Ocala, Lake City and Tallahassee.

Other than the peace of mind that Ocala won't be floating away anytime soon, The Wall Street Journal also looked at the lifestyle that Ocala offers. Several recent residents with whom they spoke, said they enjoyed the quiet of our city, but it offers many of the amenities that one would find in a larger metropolis. The restaurant scene is growing, both in take away and fine dining. One only needs to look at downtown Ocala where several new restaurants within walking distance of the Downtown Square are set to open this year.

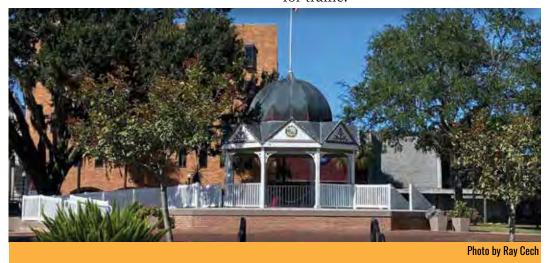
For those looking for an active and healthy lifestyle, they don't need to look any farther than Ocala/Marion County.

The following story is prompted by a There's kayaking, hiking, biking, swimming, golf, and more – all within a short drive from downtown. The WSJ noted that Silver Springs State Park and the Ocala National Forest are not to be missed when visiting or living in the Ocala area.

The World Equestrian Center (WEC), according to the paper, is making a big impression on Ocala. It brings in events that are open to the public - horse shows, dog shows, and art exhibits, to name just a few. A second hotel, medical center and shops are currently under construction, affirming the success of WEC.

The arts in Ocala hold no second place to any U.S. city of like size. Brick City Center for the Arts, Appleton Museum of Art, Tuscawilla Park, Dassance Fine Arts Center, as well as the Reilly Arts Center, Ocala Civic Theatre and Circle Square Cultural Center, bring arts and quality entertainment to Ocala residents.

Lastly, WSJ spoke of the affordability of Ocala real estate. There are many stories after story of Floridians who have gone through hurricanes, flooding and too many power outages who have final-ly said, "Enough!" Ocala was described by WSJ as a "safe haven" from all of that. While that's good news, Ocala is also a place where the cost of a home and property taxes don't require a second job, and where you can still drive to your favorite restaurant without making time for traffic.



Downtown Ocala



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GOLF CART ACCESSIBLE!

Located right outside of On Top of the World

Community News

Continued from Page 1A

Moving entails lots of packing and unpacking, generally in cardboard boxes. So, what do you do with those boxes? One thing to not do is to use the recycle bins and dumpsters at Circle Square Commons. These are reserved for the exclusive use of the commercial tenants.

There is ample cardboard recycling capacity at the 8847 SW 90th Street recycling center, as well as 9154 SW 101 Court in Avalon, and at 8480 SW 96th Lane in Friendship. Break down the boxes so they are flat before you place them into the cardboard recycling dumpsters.

If you have any unwanted household items in usable condition, we suggest donating to Hospice of Marion County or Habitat for Humanity. No household items may be dumped or abandoned in or at the waste transfer and recycling areas. License plates are video monitored. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Walking Your Dog(s)

This is a great time of year to be out in the evening. The cooler fall weather has arrived, and the sunsets are becoming more spectacular as we approach winter months. If you time it right, you may even see a space launch from Kennedy Space Center to the southeast skies.

Candler Hills, Indigo East, Weybourne Landing, and On Top of the World (Central) are undoubtedly some of the most pet friendly places around. I've often wondered if dogs and cats outnumber golf carts! Truth be told, we have some fantastic places to walk dogs. Please avoid the Longleaf Pine Trail with your four-footed friends as they may accidentally damage the habitat and wildlife.

Do not let the dog harass wildlife. There is a very good possibility that your pooch will encounter a gopher tortoise or a Sherman's fox squirrel. The tortoise is a protected species in Florida, the animal and their burrows must be respected. Did I mention that their burrows are also home to some big diamond-back rattle snakes? No joke! Allowing your dog to "explore" a burrow can often end badly for both the dog and owner.

As to fox squirrels, they may appear to be "friendly" and love peanuts, but if the dog goes after them and is unfortunate enough to catch one, the fox squirrel will protect itself aggressively. The squirrel's teeth can do incredible damage. It took three months for all the deep wounds and abscesses to heal on one of my dogs that tangled with a fox squirrel. And yes, the squirrel won that encounter without so much as a scratch!

New Construction Update

Construction is really busy in the On Top of the World and Calesa Township properties. If it feels like there is work being done everywhere you turn, it's because there is! From small commercial driveways near SR 200 to large earth moving projects and new phases within Calesa Township east of SW 80th Avenue at SW 63rd Street.

The Weybourne Landing Dog Park is now open and some late changes were made to make this amenity even better.

Work began in early November at the four-way stop at SW 94th/99th. Improvements will include adding pedestrian crosswalks, two additional stop signs on SW 99th Street Road and resurfacing and restriping of the intersection. Concrete work has been completed. Paving

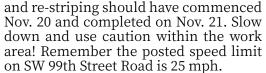
n dyks

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE?

Email otownews@otowfl.com with your idea(s).

If approved, a World News writer will be assigned.

Only good news about the community, a club(s) or a resident(s) will be considered.



Bay Laurel Center Community Development District is currently conducting a pipe bore from the intersection of SW 90th Terrace Road and SW 81st Loop to SW 87th Circle in Candler Hills. Due to this work, the multi-modal path is closed at both the north and south intersections of SW 90th Terrace Road and SW 87th Circle. Detours are currently in place. Once this project is completed, the disturbed areas will be repaired.

We received a question about trees being removed to accommodate this new clubhouse in Longleaf Ridge. The plan is to preserve a buffer between the new clubhouse and the adjacent golf course with additional plantings being installed. The clubhouse is in permitting with Marion County. Estimated start date is around February 2024, depending on the permitting agencies, of course.

The future amenity located in the Balfour neighborhood of Candler Hills is currently in design development.

Heads up! The Landing and The Lodge at Candler Hills pools will be shut down for a two-week period in March 2024, to drain them for maintenance. As a reminder, the Recreation Center pool will also be out of service from January to March. In the interim, it is suggested that residents utilize the Arbor Fitness Center pools.

In addition, Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, LLC are working on an arrangement to temporarily accommodate On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association members at Florida Aquatics Swimming & Training (FAST) through the Recreation Center pool construction period.

At the request of residents, a grass volleyball court has been installed at the Veterans Park. Usage will determine next steps in evaluating the need for a permanent facility.

Design is underway for the permanent condition of SW 92nd Court Road to pave it. The first portion of the roadway is anticipated to be completed shortly after the first of the year and then the last portion, which will connect at SW 94th roundabout, will be completed by early summer.

As mentioned last month, a renovation is planned to remove and replace the concrete in the center of The Town Square starting early January 2024. This section of the square will be fenced off while under construction. You have all danced the life out of the concrete! This will be a four-to-six-week project. The Farmers Market will move to the back parking lot until this project is completed.

Opportunities to meet new neighbors and to experience new amenities are on the horizon. I am also aware that this level of activity brings with it the bustle of workers, the occasional traffic detour and at times, what must seem like a parade of contractors eager to start their day. We endeavor to go about our work with efficiency, cleanliness, and safety in mind. As we progress through these projects and move on towards future tasks, I hope you enjoy these new additions as much as you do those that are already in operation.

The new water reclamation facility is approaching the halfway point to completion. The Bay Laurel Center Community Development District anticipates that the plant will be commissioned in mid-2025. This facility will be capable of recycling approximately 2,500,000 gallons of water per day for beneficial reuse on golf courses and common areas, which in turn, will reduce aquifer groundwater withdrawals conserving our natural resources.

In addition to the benefits of water conservation, the facility is designed to remove nitrogen and phosphorous loadings to the Rainbow Springs Basin improving the water quality to one of 33 first magnitude springs located in Florida. In fact, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is assisting in funding this project due to its environmental benefits.

Water Conservation Reminder

Southwest Florida Water Management District and Marion County mandate a watering frequency reduction to one day per week at the change of daylight-saving time. Over the cooler months, this should be no cause for concern with lawns dormant (brown!).

After March, when lawns again warm from dormancy, some hand watering may be advised. If you need assistance resetting your irrigation controller, please visit OTOWInfo.com > Homeowner Information > Resources, or contact Resident Services to arrange assistance.



Around the World

Mary Anne Lynum 352-236-0TOW (6869)



This is the 12th and last month of the year. Originally, December was the 10th month on the Roman calendar with only 30 days. Julius Caesar changed the calendar in 45 B.C. to the Julian calendar (hmmm, wonder how he thought of that name) and added two more months, January and February at the beginning of the calendar year. The Anglo Saxons called December, "winter monath" which means, "winter month." One interesting fact is that on Dec. 5, 1901, Walt Disney was born. Need I say more? One more very important fact is that Dec. 15 is National Cupcake Day, mmmmmgood! Happy holidays, everyone!

Holiday Lighting

This is a wonderful time of year. As you plan your decorating for the holidays, we ask that you please keep your neighbors in mind as you are decorating this season. Please remember that decorations are not allowed in the common areas without prior Architectural Review Board (ARB) approval, and may not be unsightly, offensive, or out of character for the community.

Please also keep in mind that holiday decorations may prevent normal lawn maintenance activities from occurring if the decorations inhibit access to the property. As we mentioned last month, holiday lighting and decorations shall be permitted as long as the lights and decorations do not constitute a nuisance. Colored bulbs in low voltage light fixtures and building mounted fixtures are not allowed. Rope and tube lighting are only allowed during the holiday season. Any added lights and decorations must be removed by Jan. 15, 2024.

Association Meetings

The Weybourne Landing annual meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 10 a.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center; Indigo East and Candler Hills Neighborhood Associations will hold their annual meetings Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., respectively at Circle Square Cultural Center.

Complaints have increased concerning dogs soiling neighboring yards. Allowing your dog to eliminate wastes on your neighbor's yard shows a lack of respect for the privacy of your neighbor and their property.

Telephone Directory

It's almost time for the 2024 telephone directory to be published. All changes must be in by Friday, Dec. 29. Information submitted after this date will appear in the following year's directory. If you haven't already submitted changes to your directory entry, please stop by the Resident Services office at your earliest convenience to do so.

Resident Services

Resident Services may be reached at 352-236-OTOW (6869) or otowservice@ otowfl.com Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or in person by visiting Suite 500, in Friendship Commons, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Resident Services is closed daily between noon and 1 p.m. The time begins when the last resident assisted before closing vacates the building as soon after noon as possible.

You may wish to complete your maintenance request online versus stopping by the office. Visit OTOWInfo.com > Maintenance Request and enter your request. Be sure to scroll down to enter the service you are requesting and click submit. Please note that this method may not be the best in order to report the full details of your request due to a limit in characters allowed, however, you may also call, email or come into the Resident Services office.

When you closed on your home, you became eligible to obtain up to two resident ID card(s). These ID cards expire every five years after date of issuance for records update. Non-owner resident ID cards expire every three years. Every third or fourth resident residing in a household is required to pay an annual guest fee. The first decal is free to owners. The second decal is \$15. Any additional gate decals issued per household are \$75 each. Tenants may obtain a free monthly gate pass or purchase a \$75 vehicle decal.

Resident Services holiday hours are as follows:

- Friday, Dec. 22: 8 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day): closed.
- Friday, Dec. 29: 8 a.m. to noon.

Curbside Garbage and Recycling

Starting Jan. 2, 2024, curbside recycling will move to Thursday pickup along with household wastes, eliminating the separate Tuesday pickup for recycling. This change will reduce the heavy truck traffic within the community and improve convenience of services.

After Hours Non-Medical Emergencies

On Top of the World (Central) Owners Association members, please notify Resident Services first before contacting an outside contractor for repairs such as roots in water lines, sewer backups, sprinklers damaged by mowers, etc. If it is after normal business hours and you experience some manner of a non-medical emergency, we ask that you please call 352-236-OTOW (6869) for assistance. Even though Resident Services is closed, the number is answered 24 hours a day and you will be able to speak with an after-hours representative, who, based on the reason for the call, will provide direction or dispatch an after-hours person.

Guest Passes

If you need guest passes for the holi-

days, please visit Resident Services at your earliest convenience, to arrange for passes for any family or friends from out of town who are visiting overnight.

Homes Under Construction

This time of year, with cooler weather, taking a stroll is quite nice. When you take those strolls, we ask that you not enter any of the homes under construction, regardless of their state of completion. Not only is it a potential safety hazard but it is also considered trespassing. Even if a house is empty and no trades are working on site, please stay off the property.

Something to Take with You

"In playing ball, and in life, a person occasionally gets the opportunity to do something great. When that time comes, only two things matter: being prepared to seize the moment and having the courage to take your best swing." – Hank Aaron



Another fun, Halloween celebration conjured up by Captain Hook, Boodoo Sharman, Demon Priest, Death Eater and, with spiky fingers, Caren Krueger of Master the Possibilities.



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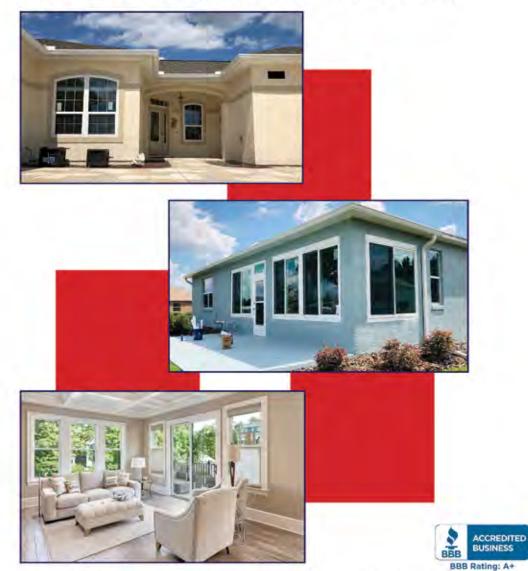
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Photo by Fran Calhoun

Marion County Memorial Honor Guard.

Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun

The Veterans Club was pleased to help the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MČSO) with their annual Safe & Spooktacular Halloween Party at Circle Square Commons.

The Marion County Memorial Honor Guard presented the colors to open the festivities and all the children said the pledge of allegiance. Hundreds of children were treated to close to 4,000 pounds of candy donated by the American Legion, Veterans Club, and Stone Creek residents. It was a safe and fun event for all. MCSO showed off all their cool stuff including boats and mounted equestrian unit.

We are also working to have veterans visit Marion County Public Schools classrooms. It would be a program to demonstrate a life of service to our country and community and what rewarding path it can be.

Join us for our monthly meetings at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV at 3 p.m.

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Finding Zen



Happy holidays! 'Tis the season to be jolly, kind, and giving. The holidays are a time for friends and family gatherings and gift-giving. It's also the most wonderful time of the year for giving to those in need or donating to your favorite charity.

December is National Giving Month. With that in mind, did you know Sholom Park is owned and operated by Horticultural Arts & Park Institute, Inc., a notfor-profit charitable foundation? There are multiple ways you can give to show your support for Sholom Park.

Our December giving campaign supports the enriching, educational, and cultural events hosted by Sholom Park year-round. Registering and attending an event shows your support, but the registration fees only cover a portion of the cost. Your December giving allows us to continue bringing low-cost activities, educational programs, and cultural events to the community. Event sponsorships are also available and play an important role in the continuation of our educational and cultural programs. Individuals or companies can sponsor a Sholom Park event.

Would you like to honor the memory



We members of the Community Emergency Response Team invite you to consider joining our volunteer group. We train to help in case of a community wide event such as a large storm, when first responders have a lot of territory to cover.

Learn more about the Community Emergency Response Team at sites. google.com/view/otowcert/home. You are welcome to come to one of our

of a loved one or commemorate a special occasion in stone with a commemorative brick? Your customized brick will be placed in the walkway around the Sholom Park pavilion for all to see. Leave your mark at Sholom Park for years to come with a \$100 donation. Other monetary contributions of any amount assist in funding the ongoing preservation and upkeep of the park and its structures. It also helps to keep Sholom Park admission-free so anyone can visit this special place of peace and serenity.

Volunteers are essential to Sholom Park. There is a variety of weekend and weekday volunteer opportunities available. From event support roles to help with our day-to-day operations. Beginning in 2024, Sholom Park will begin a new volunteer program called Friends of Sholom. Volunteer responsibilities include light maintenance, sharing Sholom Park's history and vision, and enforcing tranquility guidelines with park guests. The program will include orientation and training.

If Sholom Park holds a special place in your heart, please consider donating or volunteering. You may visit www. sholompark.org > Šupport for December giving donations, sponsorship forms, and volunteer registration. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. The HAPI, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization.

May this wonderful season of giving and spending time with friends and family bring you joy all year long!

meetings to look us over. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. Call Debra at 412-443-2930 to confirm the next date.

Community ham radio operators can assist us from home by tuning in to Simplex frequency 146.565. When deployed during a disaster event, we need neighborhood reports on building damage, blocked roads, medical emergencies, and other vital information. Our designated Command Center is the Hobby Building Art Room, where ham radio operators establish contact with Marion County Emergency Management.

For more information, contact Bruce Twiss at brucetwiss@yahoo.com.

OTOWInfo.com

6A



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Mortgage Office

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10 AM — 5 PM - Sunday





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Community Patrol

Rocky Pizzarello

If you visited The Town Square at Circle Square Commons on Halloween evening, you may have been inundated by princesses, dragons, witches, cowboys, and Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) volunteers! Why? You stumbled into the annual Safe & Spooktacular Halloween Party sponsored by MCSO with the generosity and assistance of Circle Square Commons.

There were an estimated 3,500 (young and "more mature") kids attending. Our "guests" consumed eight pallets of candy donated by the community and local businesses (about a ton and a half of sweets), 1,500 hot dogs and cases of water! In addition to the MCSO and Emergency Management personnel, the Community Patrol and volunteers from CERT and nearby community patrols put in 325 volunteer hours to ensure that everyone was safe and had a great time.

Activities included fire rescue, SWAT teams and other displays, games, face painting, horse patrol, K-9 and drug dogs and much more. The Community Patrol was again thrilled to showcase the generosity of our community and the amenities we share.

The Community Patrol's main mission is being visible to our community, acting as additional eyes and ears of MCSO. In October, there were 192 patrol hours (driving around the community) in 52 shifts by 32 different drivers. Due to additional staffing at the MCSO, there may be additional deputy patrols through On Top of the World, however, our visibility plays an important part in deterring crime. If you'd like to learn more about the

If you'd like to learn more about the Community Patrol, we meet the fourth Monday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Or email Allison Cranmer at otowcommunitypatrol@gmail.com.



7A

Wendy Page, Allison Cranmer, and James Moore planning for the crowds.



Carrie Kanosky and Brian Lomasky (left). Cindy and Bob Bedgood (right).



Lori Lund



org.

The end of 2023 is fast approaching. The Active Newcomers Club had a very active year from large group activities for new and current members, small group activities for current members, and a year-end service project.

and a year-end service project. Our most recent large group member activity was our Halloween Hootenanny in October in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The members did not disappoint in the costume category. We had Frankenstein's monster and his bride, the witches of Weybourne, Al and Peggy Bundy, a voluptuous Dolly Parton, and plenty of other ghouls and goblins. The Halloweenie hotdog bar with a variety of toppings along with salads was catered by Fresh Plates Creative Catering. Our DJ kept the music flowing so everyone could express themselves in monster mashup moves. Our board leadership is going through some changes with three new board members taking the places of our president, secretary, and treasurer this past month. Ellen Tessel Attenson is our new president, replacing Becky Green. Dianna Gagliardi is our new treasurer, replacing Cindy Johnson Bedgood. Anne Shippe McDowell is our new secretary, replacing Kathy Schoenherr. Current and new members can meet them during our annual membership meeting on Jan. 23, 2024, at The Lodge at Candler Hills at 4:30 p.m. Another change will be our dues are needing to increase to cover the costs of our increased activities. Beginning in 2024 the dues will be \$20 per person. If you have not already contributed to our Angel Tree service project, please stop by Terri Albright's house, 9030 SW 106th Avenue (Avalon) and select an angel ornament from the Christmas tree on her front porch. Select students from Saddlewood Elementary School will benefit from our generosity this year as some of them did last year. All unwrapped gifts can be brought to our members only annual holiday party. The members only Jingle Mingle holiday party will be at The Lodge at Candler Hills from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8. (Note time change from what was originally published.) Don't forget to register, as the last day to register is Friday, Dec. 1. We will not be able to accept any RSVPs after that date as we need to provide a final count to the Let's Eat Fresh caterer. Cost is \$40 per person, which includes two entrees of chicken/ beef or vegetarian choice of eggplant, sides, salad, rolls/butter, and desserts. Beverage choices will be iced tea, mango lemonade, or bring your own beverage. Of course, we will have dancing with music provided by DJ Scott Bolton who always keeps the music lively and loves to engage the crowd with various activities throughout the night. There are

Photos by Dennis Green d (right). two ways to pay: online or drop a note with your check/cash with the number of guests, meal preference (standard, or vegetarian), and the name of each club member attending to our treasurer emeritus, c/o CJ Bedgood, 8912 SW 101st Circle (Avalon). If paying online there is a small fee automatically charged for payment processing. Online payments can be completed at activenewcomers.

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There are still seats available for Master the Possibilities' annual Holiday Extravaganza at Circle Square Cultural Center on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 1 p.m. This event will showcase students, volunteers, and instructors holiday-style. Hear Jerry Colen give a brief history about the holiday season, try your luck at music trivia with Rich Cupertino, sing along to holiday songs with instructor Jim Di Paolo and students, be delighted by the amazing talent of Penny Berton and her tap and Broadway students, and more. Enjoy some festive holiday treats as part of the event. Cost to attend is \$3 for members and \$8 for the general public.

Also, if you have not already stopped by our Education Center at Circle Square Commons for a copy of the January through June 2024 print catalog, now is the time. There are more than 1,000 class opportunities next semester, and our focus or theme is on learning beyond a typical classroom environment, which includes educational destinations

> GOING OUT OF TOWN? View or download a PDF of the World News at ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala.

to some neat places. Stop by today and grab a printed version of the catalog or check out our cool flipbook at MasterthePossibilities.org and register at your convenience day or night.

With the holiday season upon us, most people are in gift purchasing mode. Did you know that you can buy the "gift of education" in the form of a gift certificate at Master the Possibilities for that special someone? Certificates may be purchased in any denomination, or for a very specific course, simply by stopping by or calling 352-857-0636 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are truly endless possibilities with this thoughtful gift.

Gift certificates may even be used for the recently added ed2Go course content. For those who may be looking for a certificate class in a specialty area, or needing to brush up on computer skills, resume writing or management skills, check out the plethora of options in our new Distance Learning catalog. Simply visit our website, click on the Distance Learning category, and then select ed-2Go. These classes are taught virtually either self-paced or with a live instructor.

Don't forget Master the Possibilities has scheduled classes through Dec. 16 this month. There are still more than 80 class opportunities to take right here, right now. For a complete list of classes still available, visit our website to browse the various topics. While there, check out the New option to view a listing of courses that have been added since the catalog was printed.

Happy holidays from all of us at Master the Possibilities!





Members enjoy our ice cream social at Mr. B's Big Scoop Ice Cream.

Democratic Club



The Democratic Club normally meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV at 6 p.m.

Our ice cream social was held on Monday, Nov. 6, at Mr. B's Big Scoop Ice Cream. The ice cream was superb, the weather was perfect, Mr. B. was a great business partner for this event and the conversations were enjoyable! What's not to like? Many of the 35-plus attendees stated their desire to have more gatherings like that one, and we will make that happen in 2024. Stay tuned and attend our meetings next year for more information.

Our last meeting was on Thursday, Nov. 16 (as the following Thursday, which would be the standard day for our meeting, was Thanksgiving Day). We had a short presentation by Nancy Carp to update us as to recent developments in Tallahassee, as well as open discussion time regarding subjects important to the club and to the individual members.

There will be no meeting in December as the holiday season will be upon us. We hope you all have a safe and wonderful season.

As always, we will be supporting the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village with much needed donations. Following are the most-needed items: pillowcases, twin size sheets, twin comforters, 1.7 cubic ft. refrigerators, small microwaves, men's razors, men's deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, men's shaving cream, and toilet paper. Food items needed include canned meats, canned chili, ramen noodles, mac & cheese, microwaveable rice, boxed milk, cereal, canned fruit, crackers, individual snacks, and coffee. They do not need clothing except for shoes. Please bring your donated items to our meeting.

If you can't come to the meeting, let us know and we'll do our best to get your donations to Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, or you can drop them off before the meeting starts!

If you need a ride to the meeting, please call/email the club to arrange that at least three days before the meeting.

For more information, contact Mark Miller at 443-848-8549 or demclubotow@ gmail.com.

Hope to see you at our next meeting -Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024!

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Republican Club

Lizabeth Woodard

The Republican Club held its monthly meeting on Friday, Oct. 13. Louanne Leonard offered the opening prayer. Everyone was invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem led by Laura DeAngelo. The club's military veterans were recognized, and new members were acknowledged and presented with a pocket Constitution of the United States.

President Liz Woodard reminded the members that both the November and December meetings were canceled. The January 2024 meeting will be the always popular "First Amendment Day" when members are encouraged to freely share their opinions on everything political, as well as the call for club officer nominations.

The February 2024 meeting will be a membership celebration with food and

entertainment provided. The election process will also be conducted that day for club officers.

In addition, she announced that each Tuesday during the month of November, Professor Alan Altany will return to conduct weekly sessions to follow up on his recent presentation regarding Political Islam.

The first speaker of the evening was Mary Harper, founder, and president of Operation Shoebox. The club is an avid supporter of the organization that does much more than packing and sending ditty bags to active-duty military mem-bers. She gave an overview of the services offered by her organization. She shared that she understands the sacrifices of our military firsthand because all five of her children have served in the military. She thanked the club for their ongoing support of the organization's goals to support our military members. The services provided are completely volunteer without assistance from our government.

The second speaker introduced was Matt McClain, the recent Governor De-

Santis-appointed county commissioner to fill the position left vacant due to Commissioner Jeff Gold's resignation until November 2024. In the past, Mr. McClain served as chief legislative aid to Florida Senator Dennis Baxley beginning in 2016, and worked for former Representative Charlie Stone staring in 2011. He laid out his priorities for the Marion County Commission, specifically growth, infrastructure, and public safety.

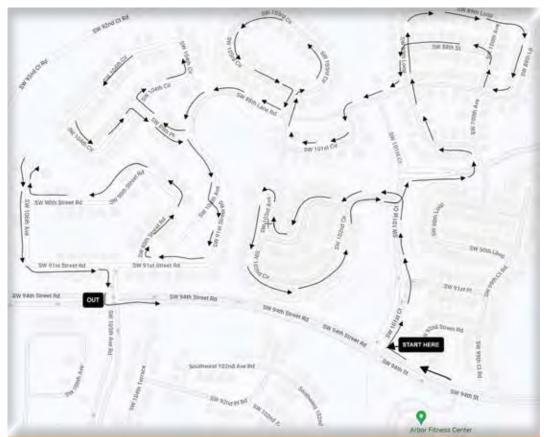
The featured speaker of the afternoon was County Commissioner Michelle Stone. She gave a detailed overview of the past year's activities and accomplishments of the Marion County Commission, as well as future endeavors.

In addition, she indicated that she had announced her intentions to run as a commissioner at the Republican Club in 2016 and was proud to announce to the club that she had filed to run for re-election in 2024 in order to continue to serve the citizens of Marion County.

The Republican Club meets the second Friday of each month at 4:30 p.m. (doors open at 4 p.m.) in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. (December meeting canceled.) For more information regarding the Republican Club, please leave a message at 518-534-0201; your call will be answered as soon as possible. Come join the stimulating, positive political conversation with likeminded, friendly, and patriotic people.

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Luminary map for Avalon.

Light Up Avalon

By Sharon Hall

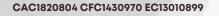
Avalon invites you to stroll or ride through our neighborhood on Sunday, Dec. 3, after 6 p.m. for our third annual luminary event. We grow each year, adding new homes to the display. If you cannot make it that day, a great many of the luminaries will continue to be on display throughout December. Come and enjoy! We are joining with our friends in Windsor who are lighting up their luminaries that night as well. Make a night of it and enjoy their display too! Photo courtesy of Sharon Hall



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Photo by Yvonne Beckman

Windsor luminaries.

Luminaries of Windsor

By Bryan Cerutti

Windsor invites you to stroll or ride through our neighborhood on Sunday, Dec. 3, after 6 p.m., and bask in the glow of the candles at our 15th annual luminary event. If you cannot make it that day, a great many of the luminaries will continue to be on display until Christmas. Come and enjoy!

Our friends in Avalon are lighting up their luminaries that night as well. Make a night of it and enjoy their display too!

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Additional event/trip details are available at OTOWInfo.com > Activity Info > Virtual Bulletin Board (or scan the QR code) 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).

Holiday Hours

All recreation buildings will be open 8 a.m. to noon on Friday, Dec. 22 and Dec. 29; closed on Monday, Dec. 25. Wishing everyone a happy holiday!

Recreation Center

Mecum Auction*

Tickets for a trip to Mecum Auction on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024, are on sale! Mecum Auction is the world leader in collector and classic cars, vintage and antique motorcycles, and road art sales. Mecum is host to the world's largest collector car auction held in Kissimmee, Florida. If you like auctions and collector/classic cars, this is an event you won't want to miss. There will be a lot of territory to cover as you walk around and browse the different auction vehicles. When you are ready to relax, you'll be able to sit down and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of high-intensity bidding and see what some of those dream vehicles will sell for on the auction block. The cost is \$47 per person, which includes transportation and admission only.

Tarpon Springs*

Tickets to Tarpon Springs go on sale Tuesday, Dec 5. Tarpon Springs is known as the "sponge capital of the world" and for its Greek heritage and 51 miles of waterfront allure. On Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024, visit the world famous Spongeorama museum and movie for free to learn about the rich history of Tarpon Springs, the sponge docks, and the sponge industry. After the movie, you may enjoy shopping, art galleries, specialty shops, dining, bakeries, and touring the town on your own. Pick up all those unique, must-have Florida, and Greek gifts and souvenirs. Try a piece of Baklava while you' re at it! Please note, there is a lot of walking on this trip. The cost is \$35 per person, which includes transportation. Lunch will be on your own.

Happy Hour

Join us for Happy Hour every Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A cash bar is always standing by for your beverage needs. Enjoy the music, dancing, and The Pub.

Resident IDs will be required for entry into Happy Hour and anyone not producing a resident ID will be considered a guest. Guest fees are \$5 per person. Children under the age of 15 will not be permitted into Happy Hour. Please note that no outside beverages of any kind will be allowed. Dec. 15: Casey Young
 Dec. 22: Nathan Leslie

Tropic Trivia*

Tropic Trivia is a blast every first Thursday of the month in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 4 to 6 p.m. Tickets for January trivia are now on sale.

Karaoke

Karaoke is always fun! Join us every second Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. This event is free to residents and \$5 for guests accompanied by a resident.

Tap and Line Dance*

Tap and line dance class tickets will now be sold from the first Tuesday of the month for two weeks, until the third Tuesday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For January/February 2024 dance classes, tickets will be sold from Tuesday, Dec. 5, through Tuesday, Dec. 19. The Ballroom will be open on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to sell the remaining tickets.

New Year's Eve*

Tickets are still on sale until they are gone! The cost is \$50 per resident and \$55 per guest accompanied by a resident. Join us Sunday, Dec. 31, from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. to ring in the new year to music by Crossfire and a pasta dinner. Get your tickets soon! They' re going fast!

*To register, visit the Recreation Center office Tuesday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Payment is required at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to registered event. Resident ID must be presented at all times and when purchasing tickets. Guests must be accompanied by a resident.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

Girls Night Out

Bring your own beverage and appetizer and have fun dancing at Girls Night Out. Music is by Tim Hargis on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 8p.m. This event is free for residents and a \$5 per guest fee applies when accompanied by a resident.

Sing Along Party

Celebrate the holidays at the Sing Along Party. Your unwrapped child's gift is your admission to this holiday event. Come enjoy some holiday treats, eggnog, hot chocolate, and goodies (while supplies last). Sing along to your favorite holiday songs with Dan Flock on Sunday, Dec.17, from 5 to 7 p.m. No guests are permitted at this event.

Kocktails & Karaoke*

Come and sing your heart out on Thursday, Dec. 28, from 5 to 8 p.m. with the Petroskys. This event is free for residents and a \$5 guest fee applies when accompanied by a resident.

New Year's Eve Party*

Tickets are on sale now! Enjoy an evening with your friends and neighbors as you ring in 2024. Tickets are \$25 per resident and \$30 per guest. Dance the night away with the sounds of Rear View Mirror. Bring your own favorite beverage and table snacks to this evening affair starting at 8 p.m. and ending at 12:30 a.m. Tickets are limited, so get yours while they last. and Saturday, Jan. 20, with One Flite Up. Bring your beverages, snacks and have some fun. This event is free for residents and a \$5 guest fee applies when accompanied by a resident.

An additional Happy Hour will take place on Friday, Jan. 12, with Sal and the Gal from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your beverage and appetizer. This event is free for residents. A \$5 guest fee applies when accompanied by a resident.

Social Night

Social Night is a great opportunity to meet your fellow residents. Join us for this bring your own beverage event on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m. Enjoy some light appetizers (while supplies last). Listen to some tunes by Paul DeRitter. This event is free for residents and a \$5 per guest fee applies when accompanied by a resident.

*To register, visit The Lodge at the Candler Hills office Sunday through Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Payment is required at the time of registration. Resident IDs must be presented at all events and when purchasing tickets. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to registered event.

Indigo East Community Center Trivia

Come play trivia and jog your memory on Monday, Dec. 4, at Indigo East Community Center Ballroom from 5 to 7 p.m. This is a free event for residents and \$5 per non-resident. Don't forget to bring your snacks and drinks.

Christmas Sing Along

The Christmas Sing-Along will surely be a holiday event to remember. Sing along with Paul DeRitter on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Indigo East Community Center Ballroom from 5 to 7 p.m.

Karaoke

Join us and sing your favorite tunes at karaoke on Thursday, Dec. 21, at Indigo East Fitness Center pool from 5 to 7 p.m. This is a free event for residents and \$5 for non-residents. Bring your favorite cocktail and snacks.

Happy Hour

Come meet with your friends, family, and neighbors at Happy Hour. Bring your own beverages, snacks and enjoy live music.

- Dec. 1: Hwy 94
- Dec. 8: The BadKitty Band
- Dec. 15: Crossfire
- Dec. 22: Automatic
- Dec. 29: No Happy Hour

New Year's Eve Party*

Celebrate the new year with friends, family and neighbors at our New Year's Eve Party on Sunday, Dec. 31, at the Indigo East Community Center from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Our entertainment will be Tim Hargis. Tickets are \$25 per resident and \$30 per non-resident accompanied by a resident.

*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 times when purchasing tickets. Guests must be accompanied by a resident.



Happy Hour on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. The music group, Automatic, will be your entertainment. Bring your own drinks and snacks to enjoy. This event is free for residents and \$5 per guest.

Ladies Night Out

Bring your beverages and appetizers to Ladies Night Out and have fun dancing with Tony Machicote on Wednesday, Dec. 13, from 5 to 8 p.m.

New Year's Eve Party*

Tickets are \$25 per resident and \$30 per guest and are on sale now! 2024 is right around the corner. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024 with friends and neighbors on Sunday, Dec. 31. Dance all night to the sounds of Rock Solid. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks to this all-night affair from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Trivia*

Trivia with Donna will begin Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024. Seating is limited. We look forward to making the fun happen again next year. This free event is for Weybourne Landing residents only.

Music Bingo*

Music bingo with Wendy starts Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Ballroom. The cost is \$3 per resident and \$5 per guest accompanied by a resident. Bring your snacks, drinks and prepare for a great time!

*To register, visit The Landing office Tuesday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Payment is required at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer prior to registered event. Resident ID must be presented at all times and when purchasing tickets. Guests must be accompanied by a Weybourne Landing resident.



The World News



The entertainment lineup is as follows:

- Dec. 1: Pure Magic
- Dec. 8: Shift N Gears
- Dec. 15: Solid Gold
- · Dec. 22: Groove 41

Pavilion Happy Hour

Pavilion Happy Hour takes place every Friday, and again on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. with live entertainment. The lineup is as follows:

- Dec. 1: Fred Campbell
- Dec. 8: Tim Hargis
- Dec. 10: Sal and the Gal

CPR Training*

Start the new year right by signing up for a "hands only" CPR class. You just might save your neighbor. A class will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Ballroom. The class is for Candler Hills residents only as seating is limited to 60. Sign up begins Friday, Dec. 1.

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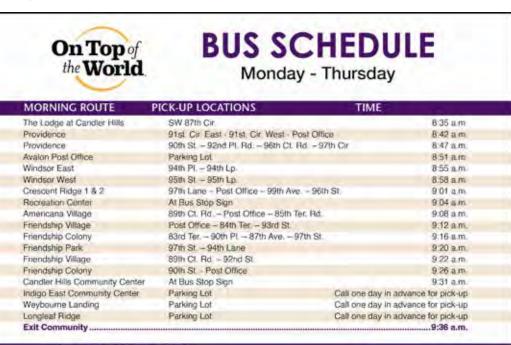
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Olife's Paddock Mall Walmart Target Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center Gaitway Plaza Arrival and pick-up times for morning destanations will vary according to the number of passengers. The bus driver will announce the pick-up line et each destanation for that day

#98811-1/97

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

AFTERNOON ROUTE	PICK-UP LOCA	TIONS AND TIMES	
The Lodge at Candler Hills	1:15 p.m.		
Friendship Colony Post Office.		Providence Post Office	1:28 p.m.
Avalon Post Office	1.33 p.m.	Crescent Ridge Post Office	1:38 p.m.
Recreation Center	1:43 p.m.	Americana Post Office	1:49 p.m.
Friendship Post Office	1:54 p.m.	and and and a second	

AFTERNOON DESTI		
Friendiship Center Publix Walmart Neighborhood Market ALDI/Lowe's	Braveo Big Lots Beall's & Dollar Tree Walmart	Annual and pick-up times for attention destinations will vary according to the number of pissengers. The bus driver will announce the pick-up time at each destination for that day.

*All times are approximate

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

The Community Rus will be naming according to achievaly as long as the Dovemor's requirements are allowing. We continue to drived you to the www.otowinto.com. www.cdc.gov. and www.floridabeath.gov.websites for the most current and accurate updates on socializing and transportation.

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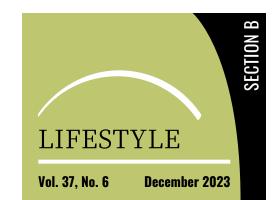
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Annual Christmas Bird Count

By Linda Monaco

On Christmas Day in 1900 Frank Chapman and 26 other conservationists conducted the first Christmas Bird Count (CBC) to promote the conservation of birds by counting instead of hunting them. For 124 years the National Audubon Society has sponsored this early-winter bird census. This year the census must be completed between Dec. 14, and Jan. 5, 2024.

Marion County Audubon Society has selected Saturday, Dec. 16, as our counting day. We will have two teams of observers traveling in golf carts around the golf courses in On Top of the World and Stone Creek. They will begin their route at 7 a.m. and the golf carts will carry signs identifying them as CBC census takers. So, don't be alarmed if you see people peering into your backyard and checking out your bird feeders. They aren't really snooping, but they are on a mission.

How can you help? If you have lots of birds at your feeder in the days leading up to the count, please send an email to lindamonaco@sbcglobal.net so one of the teams can include your home in their travels. Include your address and phone number in the email. If you see lots of birds at your feeder or anywhere else in On Top of the World on Dec. 16, the day of the count, please text or call Linda Monaco at 214-587-0905.

Linda Monaco at 214-587-0905. Why bother with an annual bird count? CBC data are used by researchers to track patterns and answer a variety of questions including habitat locations and the effect of climate change on bird populations. In the United States bird populations have decreased by over onethird during the past 50 years. The main reasons are loss of habitat, outdoor cats, pesticides/herbicides, and collision with glass windows.

The bird census data will be aggregated across sites using the eBird app. This app allows users to easily record the birds seen in the field and link an individual's observations with those of other users in a global, online database. The app is free in your app store, and there are plenty of YouTube videos to help you become proficient in its use. So, if you see lots of birds around your neighborhood or at your bird feeders in early to mid-December, please send a text or an email so the team can visit and take a count!





Cindy Moody, Nancy Grabowski, and Betty Thayer.

Women of the World Recognized

By Betty Thayer

Hospice of Marion County recently celebrated their 40th anniversary with a gala celebration. Attendees were presented with an overview of their past successes, present endeavors, and future goals.

The impact that local organizations have on Hospice of Marion County is vital. Organizations and clubs help achieve these goals through fundraising. There were three awards presented for longtime support and I am very proud to say that Women of the World was recognized for their 20 years of support through the annual Fashion Show for Hospice of Marion County.

Women of the World was started 34 years ago by five ladies. Their idea then was to create a club that helped the community. That original group established the mission and goals for Women of the World and the mission remains the same to this day.

Executive Director Cindy Moody, CFRE, of Hospice of Marion County presented to myself, current president and Nancy Grabowski, a past president, the award honoring Women of the World's longtime commitment to Hospice of Marion County.

While Women of the World started out small, today we sell out the Fashion Show, which takes place at Circle Square Cultural Center every March.

Nancy and I were so proud to represent not only our club but also all the ladies of On Top of the World who helped make the Fashion Show for Hospice of Marion County a huge success. Everyone involved with Women of the World,

Photo by John Radosevich

Northern cardinal.

Hall of Fame Teacher Joe Schwartz

By Dave DeAngelis World News Writer

My buddy made it out of the classroom window and was sprinting away, laughing. My one leg, cleanly clearing the classroom window was firmly planted on the grass. My trailing leg stopped halfway after hearing Dr. Mandelbaum, my college summer school remedial math professor shout - "Son, the classroom is back through the window." Al-though I cared more about football, this college professor impacted my life when he said to the class - "I will not proceed with the next lesson until each one of you completely understands the current one." With his brilliant understanding of how to communicate, I finally understood the logic of math, thanks to his persistence.

My future career demanded math of one technical kind or another, and to this day, I'm thankful for his tenacity. So many of us can name a teacher who made some kind of impact on our lives, in whatever way it might have affected us, and you must be special to be inducted into a teaching Hall of Fame. Although not my math professor, Joe Schwartz is one such teacher and it was a special experience interviewing him.

Meeting his future wife, Betty, at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio in 1961, Joseph L. Schwartz, a Pittsburgh native, began his teaching career at Utica High School in Ohio in 1963. Both Joe and Betty earned Bachelor of Science degrees in education and retired in 1996 from devoted teaching careers, Bill in government and social studies, and Betty in business.

In 1967, Joe and Betty moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan where he began the trek to his destiny at Saline Area Schools, teaching social studies, government history and physical education. Being past and present, should be extremely proud of the impact they have made to our community.

fleet of foot and an all-around athlete, Joe coached boys and girls track and coached football as an assistant principal, and then principal for 19 years at Saline Middle School.

After meeting, Joe and Betty quickly learned that their attraction to each other wasn't the only spark that was igniting. They both shared their love of golf and over the years played almost every day, sometimes twice a day. Dubbed the "queen of putting" by Joe, Betty once scored a hole-in-one. They played at numerous courses throughout the country including 3,429 rounds at Shanty Creek Resort in Michigan and played 10 courses at St. Andrews in Scotland. They don't play much golf today but do travel

<image><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>

Photo by Dave DeAngelis

through the United States and have visited 32 countries.

Living in the first home built in Avalon, Joe and Betty have been full time residents of On Top of the World since 2009.

When I asked Joe if he could cite one of his most rewarding teaching experiences, he said, without hesitation, that it was helping his students earn scholarships. To him, guiding them through the process of attaining their goals meant the most to him. A consummate reflection of his devotion was that two of his students came back to the Saline school system, one as the principal of the middle school, and the other becoming the high school principal, both remaining there for many years.

Joe, commenting on my college math teacher experience, offered one anecdotal story of his own. One day, a wisenheimer student thought he wasn't being seen while stomping on milk cartons in the school hallway. Well, inspector Joe was hiding behind a wall and caught the kid mid-stomp. Joe had an ingenious idea. He made a deal with the kid. Out of sight of the students, Joe pretended to use a paddle (instead, hitting the wall) on the student as a lesson. The kid had to swear that he would not let on about the ruse in exchange for Joe not telling his parents. The plan worked. The students forever treaded lightly, and the irritating noise of exploding milk cartons ceased.

On Sept. 23, 2023, 27 years after retiring with decades of imparting his knowledge, personality, guidance and genuine caring upon his students, Joe was inducted into the Saline (Michigan) Area Schools Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to you, Hall of Fame Teacher Joe Schwartz!

The plaque honoring Joe Schwartz.



The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner

Toothpaste is good for dental health but not for bathroom sinks. Have a wire hanger ready. An allen wrench may get a stuck disposal whirling again. There is no need to pre-rinse dishes before they go in the dishwasher.

About 80 Jewish Club members and guests heard from our own fix-it-guru Shelley Kline who helped members identify low or no cost solutions for common home repairs and maintenance at our meeting in October.

Kline shared practical hints from toilets (remember the rule of 10 sheets) and sinks (the wire hanger) to snakes, air filters and warning detectors. The goal was to leave the meeting with at least one usable suggestion and most left with a plethora of ideas.

The monthly moment in time dealt with the dichotomy of how Jews participate in the American traditions of Halloween despite its decidedly non-Jewish background. Members again brought non-perishable food to the meeting and the club added to its donation to Interfaith Emergency Services of Marion County.

The hospitality committee went with a fall theme and served pumpkin and apple pie with whipped topping, assorted pastries, as well as hot and cold apple cider. At the start of the meeting, each table had a platter of candy and leftovers were donated to the Marion County Sheriff's Office for their Safe & Spooktacular Halloween Party.

Members do not have to be Jewish to belong to the Jewish Club. The club promotes understanding and respect for Jewish people and their history, customs, and culture through social and educational activities. Annual dues are \$18 per person. The Jewish Club is a reciprocal club meaning it holds meetings in both The Lodge at Candler Hills and the Arbor Conference Center

For more information about the Jewish Club or for membership inquiries, please contact Gail Levine at 954-881-4010 or gl4010@gmail.com.



Photo by Mark Franke

Shelley Kline demonstrates some of the tools members can use to perform simple and inexpensive repairs and maintenance around their homes during the Jewish Club meeting in October.

What's Cookin'?



December is one of the premiere months for entertaining. These two recipes can be prepared ahead of time and travel nicely, too.

Drip Beef Sandwiches 3-pounds beef chuck roast 1 onion, sliced

Beef broth 1 jar pepperoncini with juice Hoagie rolls or Italian bread

Provolone, Swiss or cheddar cheese slices

Brown the chuck roast in a crock pot, adding salt and pepper to taste. Top with onion and the entire jar of pepperoncini, including the juice. Add enough beef broth to just cover the ingredients. Cook until tender and then shred beef.

Slice rolls and toast, add cheese, top with beef, pepperoncini, and juice. Serve with extra juice for dipping and plenty of napkins.

Faux Tiramisu

One frozen pound cake, thawed 3/4 package cream cheese, softened 3 tablespoons powdered sugar l teaspoon vanilla

1 cup whipping cream or canned whipped cream or Cool Whip

1 cup strong, black brewed coffee

1/2 cup brown sugar

Semi-sweet chocolate

Remove pound cake from tin. Line the tin with plastic wrap, leaving enough hangover to cover entire cake. Slice cake horizontally into three sections.

Combine the hot coffee and brown sugar to create a syrup.

Whip the cream cheese, powdered sugar, and vanilla until smooth. Whip in heavy cream or stir in prepared whipped cream or Cool Whip.

Place one third of pound cake into lined tin. Soak with 1/3 of the coffee syrup. Spread 1/3 of the cream cheese mixture on top. Grate chocolate on top of the cream cheese to lightly cover the entire slice. Repeat with the second and third layers.

Wrap the completed cake with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least four hours. When ready to serve, simply slice and enjoy!

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

SPCA of **Marion County Melanie Vittitow**

As you may know, this column must be turned in by the middle of the month. We took in some great dogs last month but too late to get into the paper. So, we post on Facebook (Marion County FL SPCA and chat rooms). We had a cute little Shih Tzu/poodle mix that was posted this way and he found his new home.

We also accepted two mid-sized dogs (a cocker mix and poodle mix) that were so nice that the families who agreed to foster them fell in love and decided to adopt them. I asked for fosters last month but I didn't mention this real perk that if you are fostering a dog that fits into your home, you get first choice to adopt the dog!

If you are looking for a new pet, you can call and ask to be placed on our waiting list but fostering will give you the inside track. When you sign up to be a foster, you can specify what kind of animal you prefer, or conversely, what kind you can't accept. We give you the option. If you want an older lap dog,

we won't call you if we get in a young lively one. Please give this some serious thought and call us at 352-362-0985 if you want to know more.

You can also stop by our table at the Thursday Circle Square Commons Farmers Market. While you are there, you may want to check on the various items that would make great stocking stuffers this time of year. People give us these donations so we can earn some money to carry out our mission.

Another way we get donations this time of year is with a "Giving Tree for Pets." We set up one last year at the Arbor Fitness Center and it was such a success that we are doing a second one this year by the Recreation Center Fitness Center doors on the bottom level. We ask for donations of dog and cat food for our Meals on Wheels program or give you the address for sending in monetary donations. Thanks in advance to all the generous residents!

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and hope some of you will make a new year's resolution to join us in our quest to help as many pets in Marion County as possible.

Until next month,"Pets are not our whole lives, but they make our lives whole.'





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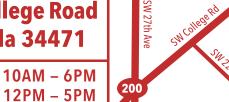


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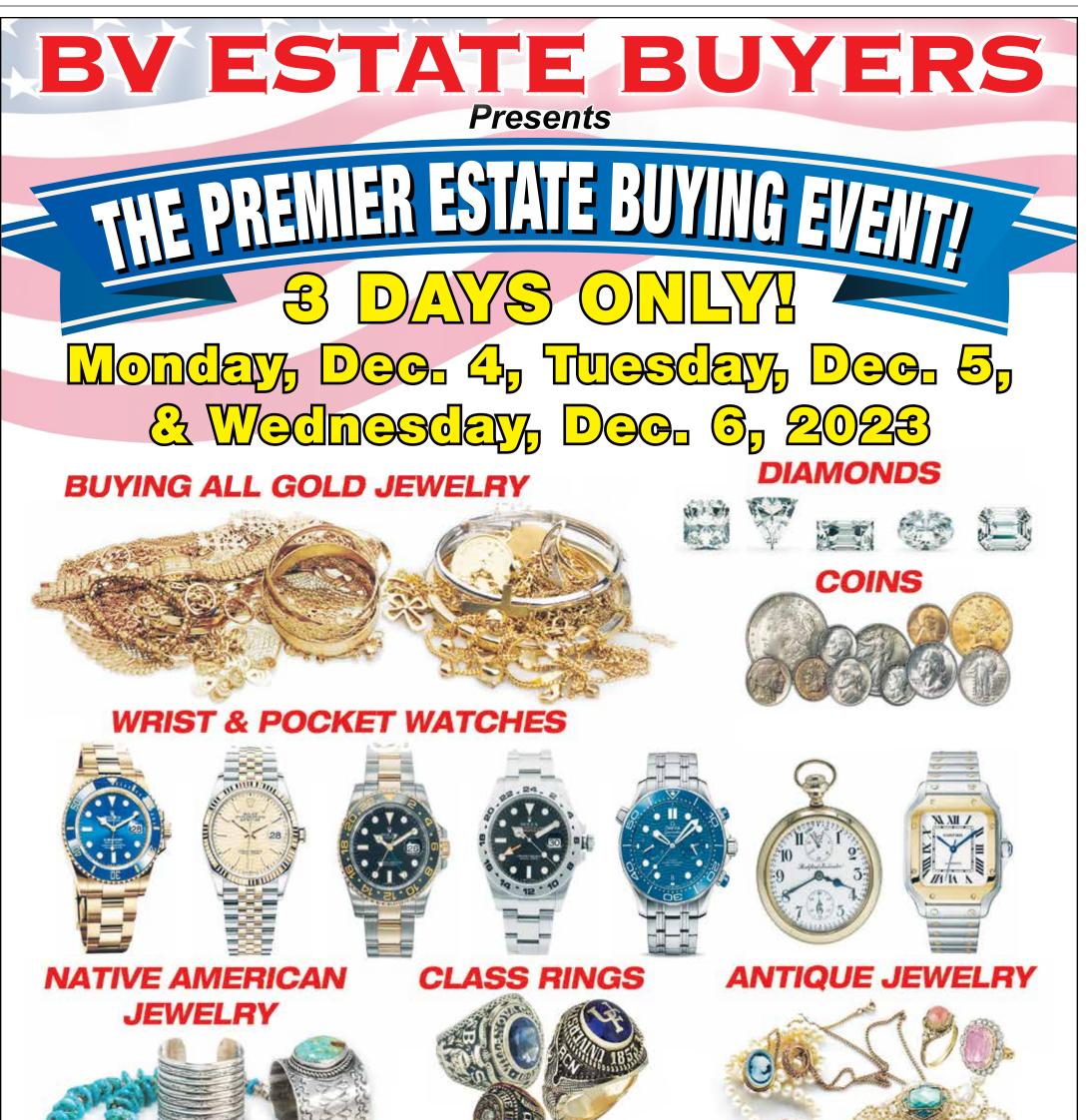
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The World News



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Deb Thompson

Ladies, are you merely surviving the complex challenges of widowhood? Do you wonder if it is possible to grow through grief and even thrive? Are hope and healing attainable?

Only you can answer the first question. A resounding "yes" answers the last two questions.

The purpose of this group is to help provide ways to combat grief rather than letting grief control you. Encouragement and compassion are available to any courageous woman desiring to overcome loss.

Join us as we journey this road together every Tuesday, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information, contact Deb at 352-445-4860.

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg

After a successful Scandinavian American Club smorgasbord on Nov. 28, in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room, we are looking forward to our first meeting of 2024 on Jan. 23, at 1 p.m. The entertainment for that meeting will be the Toppers Banjo Band.

At every meeting we share food, fellowship and conversation and enjoy a presentation about the Scandinavian lands we and our ancestors came from. The personal stories and history are interesting and heartfelt. The pictures of visits to Scandinavia are colorful and informative. Everyone is warmly welcomed. What a great opportunity to meet new people and have a great time.

Whether you have a Scandinavian background or not, if you feel Scandinavian, join us for the fun. For more information contact Arlene Chilcott at chilcottarlene21@gmail.com.

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Women of the World is a social and charitable organization. Our mission is to entertain, inform, educate, and inspire our members through our monthly meetings and contribute to the local community by providing much needed goods to those in need in Marion County.

At our November meeting, our featured entertainment was Gwen Templeton, a standup comedian and emcee from Ocala. Gwen began her comedy career at The Comedy Zone in Jacksonville, Florida. She provided much needed comic relief to our members!

Our featured charity was H.U.G.S. (Heartfelt. Unconditional. Giving.). This non-profit organization provides temporary assistance to cancer patients who are experiencing financial hardship. Our members provided gift cards for gas and groceries.

Tickets for the charity bunco event on Jan. 6, 2024, are on sale. Please join us and roll the dice for a worthy cause! This event aims to bring people together in a fun environment as we raise money for local charities. Tickets are \$30 per resident and are non-refundable. If you are unable to attend, you are responsible for reselling your ticket. To purchase tickets, please contact Colleen Rocafort at 352-615-9776.

I have found many old, recommend-

ed garden soil amendments and topi-

cal sprays for gardening that have been

used over the years. Some including

wood ashes and vinegar, are very effec-

tive and organic. I will feature more in

Today I'd like to highlight Epsom salt.

Epsom salt, also known as magnesium

sulfate, is a natural mineral familiar to

most people as a great substance to soak

in when we have aches and pains. How-

ever, according to many articles and

Eco Gardeners

Phil Karcheski

future columns.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, Dec. 21. We are back to our normally scheduled meeting date and time; the third Thursday of the month in the Recreation Center Ballroom starting at noon. We have a great program scheduled and a special holiday celebration. Our featured speaker is Linda Letcher, a volunteer from the Historic Ocala Preservation Society who will provide an overview of their activities around town. Holiday entertainment will be provided by Kathy and Charlie Petrosky.

Our featured charity is the Pace Center for Girls in Marion County. They provide a safe and supportive environment for middle and high school aged girls (ages 11 through 17) to build healthy relationships, plan for their future, and help overcome histories of trauma. Their current wish list includes classroom and art paint supplies. They also need personal hygiene items such as shampoo and conditioner, facial hygiene products, hairbands, etc.

As we wish you a happy holiday and new year, the annual Fashion Show and Luncheon for Hospice of Marion County will be March 13, 2024, at Circle Square Cultural Center. So, please hold the date. Tickets will go on sale at our Jan. 18, 2024, membership meeting.

The club is open to all women residents. Our annual membership dues are \$15. Guests of a member will be charged \$5 to attend a monthly meeting. If you are interested in joining us, please attend our next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 21, or give Betty Thayer, president, a call at 352-361-1313.

posts I have read online, Epsom salt also has a place in our gardens. The minerals enable your plants to receive more nutrition and thrive.

Tomatoes, peppers, and potatoes are nightshade vegetables. Nightshades need a lot of magnesium and can really benefit from the application of a tablespoon of Epsom salt to the ground around them or to the water you supply to your plants. Some say that your plants will be more abundant, tastier, and healthier.

If you surround your plant with a ring of Epsom salt you will ward off snails and slugs. It irritates them much like diatomaceous earth does.

Your potted plants need magnesium also. Don't forget to introduce them to Epsom salt too!

Southern Club





The Southern Club is a group of friendly people who like to get together to enjoy an evening which includes a great meal and some entertainment. We enjoy meeting new people and welcome any resident and Gateway of Services pass holder who wishes to join us. You don't have to be a born and raised Southerner. You live in Florida now, so you are a resident Southerner.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month from September through May. Our dues are \$10 per member per year. If you haven't been before, you will need to show your resident ID card. We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III. We start with dinner at 5:30 p.m., so we ask everyone to get there a few minutes early to check in and get their drinks. We furnish coffee, tea (unsweet as well as the southern staple of sweet tea) and lemonade. Our members bring a dish to share. We always end up with a great assortment!

After dinner, we usually have some entertainment but occasionally enjoy a game or challenge. We close with our short business meeting and a 50/50 drawing for those who feel lucky.

For our December meeting we like to start out the month of festivities with a holiday feast. The club furnishes turkey and ham, and the members are asked to bring their favorite holiday side dishes or desserts. We must know the count, so if you plan to attend, please call me at 352-615-8997. There is a \$2 fee for guests, but not for new joining members.

Our entertainment will be timely for the season. Mrs. Cobbler, Ebenezer Scrooge's housekeeper, portrayed by Dee Collier, will tell us all about what the old miser was truly like to be around. Dee entertained us once before as Lizzie Jane, an early settler of Marion County. She stays in character the whole time and makes you feel like you are talking to the actual person. If you missed her last performance, you should really try to see this one. She is a skilled and imaginative actress who has many historical women in her repertoire.

I hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please call me at 352-615-8997.



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Lions Club

Gail Morris

Charlie Hassett, the chair of the Thanksgiving meal committee determined what the Thanksgiving meal would include, and our community partners at Walmart assembled and packaged 60 bags with the contents of an entire Thanksgiving meal from turkey to dessert. The club received donations of the specific foods needed to create the meal from several of our community supporters, including Walmart, Pub-lix, Osteen's Produce, and the Walmart Neighborhood Market. The deliveries were made Nov. 16 to Dunnellon Elementary School, Ocala Ritz Veterans Village and Vets Helping Vets.

The Lion's Club Toys for Tots Christmas tree is in the lobby of the Recreation Center with all the tags ready for the taking. The Lions are collecting gifts for those children less likely to receive a gift this holiday season. The tree was set up Saturday, Nov. 24. Take a tag, return an unwrapped gift for the girl or boy you se-lected and leave it under the tree. Our Lion elves will gather the toys on a regular basis and deliver them to Toys for Tots. The last day the elves will be picking up the toys will be Friday, Dec. 15.

Our meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m.



Lacinda Hobbs

The Pennsylvania Club had our meeting celebrating Thanksgiving on Wednesday, Nov. 8. Members enjoyed a very informative presentation by representatives from the Ocala/Marion County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Our Christmas celebration meeting will be on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 5 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV. Members will participate in a dirty Santa gift exchange as well as door prize and 50/50 drawings. Bring a wrapped \$10 gift to participate in the gift exchange.

Your holidays can be happier with a Visiting Angel by your side. Contact us to learn how we can help make your family's holiday



Our World News column deadline fell two days before our November meeting. We were eagerly awaiting Dee Collier's representation of Annie Öakley. Phoebe Ann Mosey, also known as Annie Oakley, became an international legend for her shooting skills. Born into poverty she taught herself to shoot to feed her family. In 1885 she joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show as the only female performer. She traveled the globe as the World's Champion Markswoman, hosting clinics and performing onstage. It's estimated she taught more than 15,000 women how to shoot in her lifetime. Annie has a Texas connection too, having appeared at the State Fair of Texas in 1900. In 1984 she was honored with a place in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Fort Worth.

Sunday, Dec. 10 will be our Christmas party in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Suites I-II beginning at 6 p.m. You can arrive any time after 5:30 p.m. It's our tradition to have a white elephant gift exchange. This gift swap involves trading amusing and sometimes impractical gifts. The idea is for it to be fun, funny, and inexpensive. Presents can be a gag gift, something from home, a re-gift, something you create, Thrift shops are a great resource etc. and usually benefit a charity too. Please bring a wrapped and unmarked gift; one per participating person of a size that can be passed around.

This will be a "bring a snack to share" type gathering. Please contribute an easy appetizer, munchy, or dessert for the group and bring your preferred beverage for yourself. Alcohol is now allowed in the facility. We'll have our usual 50/50 and door prize drawings.

On Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, our chili cook-off is making a comeback. More details to follow.

If you have a connection to Texas and are looking for some Texas style fun, please contact us. We would love to tell you about our group and get you on the email list for club news and notifications. Contact Kathy Cornell at 352-300-3729, 352-562-2801 or kcornell54@cfl. rr.com.

Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp

Reservations for Travel Toppers trips/ events can be made Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the coordinators listed for each event. Reservations can be made for only two people at a time and guests will go on a wait list. As this club is a resident club, the board wants to give the opportunity to attend first to our own residents and if there is availability, a guest from the wait list will be asked if they are still in-

terested in attending the trip. To update our trips to the Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater:

The Saturday, Dec. 16, performance of "White Christmas" and the Jan. 20, 2024, performance of "Beautiful Carol King" are sold out. To be added to the wait lists, call Sharon Stetson at 207-838-3776 or Diane Knox at 352-390-2386 respectively.

Other productions, the date we have booked, the date a Travel Toppers coordinator can begin taking reservations, and their telephone number follow: "Cats," April 6, 2024 (Jan. 8, 2024, Marilyn Wilson at 828-699-7587) and "South Pacific," May 12, 2024 (Feb. 5, 2024, Lisa Adams at 407-325-9863).

Other trips that Travel Toppers has organized are:

Linda Hein (352-861-9880) continues to take reservations for the 2 p.m. Feb. 8, 2024, Broadway performance of "Moulin Rouge" at the Straz Theater in Tampa. The cost is \$114 per person. For this show/performance only, any guests you may want to invite will not need to be placed on a wait list but will be sold a ticket when you reserve with Linda.

Lisa Adams (407-325-9863) is now tak-

ing reservations for the Cirque du Soleil production "Bazaar." We will attend a 1 p.m. show on March 3, 2024, under the Big Top in St. Petersburg. The cost is \$108 per person.

Gail Ambrose will begin taking reservations Jan. 8, 2024, for our Tampa Bay Downs trip on March 2, 2024. The cost is \$64 per person and Gail's number is 954-614-0898.

A Mt. Dora Boat Cruise on Lake Dora and the Dora Canal will take place April 27, 2024. The price is \$68 per person. Diane Knox (352-390-2386) will begin taking reservations Feb. 5, 2024.

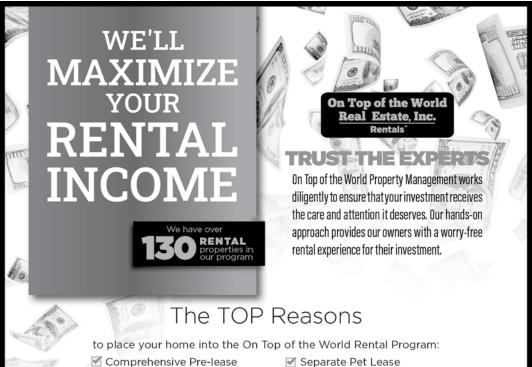
Our Father's Day St. Johns River cruise will happen June 16, 2024. The cost will be \$98 per person. Call Allan Rickards (352-216-0528) beginning March 4, 2024, for reservations.

All these trips include the event, transportation, and driver tip. Except for the first trip mentioned above, only two tickets may be reserved, and guests will be wait listed. All trips are to be paid by check only and are non-refundable unless there is a wait list.

We have only two seats available for our trains and balloons trip to Colorado and New Mexico from Oct. 7 to 19, 2024 which includes the Albuquerque International Balloon Festival. If interested, call Linda Hein at 352-861-9880 for details and to make your reservation.

The club is developing extended, multi-day trips for 2024 and 2025. Look for further information in future columns. You can also visit traveltopperstours.com for up-to-date information regarding our trips/tours. Trips sponsored by Travel Toppers Tours are open only to residents and Gateway of Services pass holders. Any non-resident who participates must be a guest of a resident club member.

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December 2023

Rhode Island Group

Judy Parisi

The Rhode Island Group met for lunch at The Club at Candler Hills in mid-October. Lunch was delicious and the service good. We welcomed some of our newer members and took time to go around the table to introduce ourselves.

Regrettably, we have lost some of our members who have decided to move back north to be close to family.

We all have fond memories of our time in Rhode Island, the beaches, the food, and fun places to visit. Little Rhody, as it is often called, is small in area but big in its accomplishments.

but big in its accomplishments. In last month's column we paid tribute to the Seabees, the United States Naval Construction Battalion that had its roots at Camp Endicott in Davisville in the Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. What we didn't mention were the Quonset Huts that were manufactured at



Rhode Island Group luncheon.

Quonset Point Naval Air Station adjacent to Davisville and erected by the Seabees. In 1941 when the Navy needed a lightweight building that could shipped and assembled anywhere, it contracted

with George A. Fuller Construction Co.

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to manufacture them at Quonset Point. The Navy had approached a Fuller engineer, Peter Dejongh and a Fuller architect, Otto Brandenberger, who were working at the time at the Davisville section of the base, to come up with a design for an easily manufactured and assembled building, Commander R.V. Miler, a Navy engineer, came up with the idea of naming the building after its origination point. The Quonset hut is a semi-cylindrical building using curved ribbed sheets of a lightweight metal. Kits were created to include interior paneling, insulation, and flooring along with doors, windows, and end panels to accommodate different weather conditions.

The huts have been used for barracks, medical facilities, chapels, offices, mess halls, and more. The benefit of the hut was its simplicity. It could be quickly and inexpensively produced, transported easily, and had versatility. When no longer needed for the military, many were used in residential and commercial applications.

Genealogical Society



Hooray, 2023 is ending and the bright, hopeful, year of 2024 will soon begin! This calls for a celebration and the only One of the more interesting uses was by Decca Record Company using a surplus Quonset as a recording studio in Nashville. The construction and shape made for excellent acoustics and stars such as Patsy Cline, Conway Twitty, Loretta Lynn, and Johnny Cash recorded in that Quonset hut studio early in their careers.

Quonset Point Naval Air Station was decommissioned in 1974, and the land is now a world class commercial and business park including General Dynamics Electric Boat facility and many more companies. Davisville port is now one of the top ten ports for auto imports.

When you are visiting in Rhode Island a trip to Quonset Point and Davisville would certainly be interesting. We hope that those who have lived,

We hope that those who have lived, worked, studied, or served in Rhode Island will join our group. Please contact judith.parisi@gmail.com to have your name added to our email list for our lunches.

meeting this month will be the holiday luncheon on Monday, Dec. 4, at Milano Italian Grille. The event will start at noon. All members are invited to attend. Members are encouraged to bring their spouse or significant other and friends to the celebration. A count of attendees is needed. Please text Membership Chair Wilma Kelley at 352-206-1641 or email her at wkelleymt@outlook.com to let her know who is attending. Participants may select from the menu and pay accordingly.

Our next meeting will be an educational event on Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, at 10 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room (and via Zoom). Our guest speakers will be from the Ocala Florida FamilySearch Center, formerly the Ocala History Center. They will review how the center's staff can help you research your ancestors. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints supports the center which is open to the public. When visit-Ing, you can access the Family History Center Portal page via the available Center computers. It provides free access to premium family history software and websites that normally charge for subscriptions. Additionally, the center's library has about five hundred genealogy related books and references. As previously advertised in this col-umn, the Seek > Find > Connect > Genealogy Conference was held in November at the Ocala Florida FamilySearch Center. The conference was a success with about 200 satisfied participants. Besides our society, supporters of this all-day event included: Ocala FamilySearch Center, Marion County Genealogical Society, Oak Run Genealogy Club, and the TreeClimbers Group. It was so successful, participants are requesting a followup conference in 2024. At the society's Nov. 20, educational meeting, member Joy McPheeters led us in discussing family history books and researching common names. She also provided details on helpful document and picture naming techniques which will allow genealogists to store and re-trieve the numerous genealogy items filed in each family tree folder. Thank you, Joy for the very helpful information. The Genealogical Society holds friendly meetings focused on assisting genealogical investigations. Meetings are both in-person and via Zoom on the third Monday every month in the Hobby Building Event Room from 10 a.m. to noon. The only December meeting will be the holiday luncheon. During these meetings, there are open discussions, special interest group sessions, and a designated time slot reserved for a guest genealogist to review a specific area of interest. All residents can join. New members are welcome - beginners as well as experienced genealogists. Individual year-ly dues are \$20 or \$35 for a couple. For membership information contact Membership Chair Wilma Kelley at wkelleymt@outlook.com.

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Freethinkers Club

Ellen Callahan

Being a non-believer in a religious area can often be isolating. But you are not alone. There is a community here who cares for and values you; no commandments are required. We are building a community of atheists, humanists, freethinkers, and religious skeptics who will have a place to socialize and discuss issues important to us, as well as a place for those who may be doubting their faith or leaving their religion.

Every month we have at least one educational event that provides an opportunity to expand our knowledge while creating a place where we can challenge our own preconceptions. On Sunday, Oct. 31, Linda Norman, cofounder and president of VOCAL (Voices of Change Animal League) presented Paws for Thought, an initiative on pet trusts.

On Sunday, Nov. 12, member Bob Kraus led our open forum discussion and on Sunday, Nov. 26, we hosted our inaugural Friendsgiving event. We watched a brief video on the history of Thanksgiving and feasted on desserts and libations. We also celebrated our October and November birthdays with traditional cakes and ice cream.

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 10, for "Festi-vus for the Rest of Us: A Laughing Matter and More" by Rod Broker. Dr. Broker is a retired academic and clergyperson with a background in communications, counseling, and non-profit management. He is a humanist and former resident of Stone Creek and currently resides in Leesburg.

On Tuesday, Nov. 2, through Master the Possibilities, we heard a presentation by Jocelyn Williamson, co-founder of the Central Florida Freethought Community who referred to "Living Our Values - The Humanist Ten Commitments:"

- 1. Critical thinking (practice good judgement by asking questions and thinking for myself).
- 2. Ethical development (focus on becoming a better person).
- Peace and social justice (I will 3. help people solve problems and handle disagreements in ways that are fair for everyone).
- 4. Service and participation (I will help my community in ways that let me get to know the people I'm helping).
- Altruism (I will help others in 5. need without hoping for rewards).
- Humility (I will be aware of my 6. strengths and weaknesses and appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of others).
- 7. Environmentalism (I will take care of the earth and life on it.).
- Global awareness (I will be a good 8. neighbor to the people who share the Earth with me and help make the world a better place for everyone). 9. Responsibility (I will be a good person -even when no one is looking – and own the consequences of my actions). 10. Empathy (I will consider other people's thoughts, feelings, and experiences).



On Friday, Oct. 13, members discussed some of our plans at our monthly meeting. Gloria Scicluna is arranging a trip to the Ocala Civic Theatre in May 2024, to see "Escape to Margaritaville" at 2 p.m. It is yet to be decided to have lunch before, or a late lunch/early supper after the show. More details will follow.

Our speaker for Friday, Nov. 10, was Dawn Corey, a resident who heads Angels Above.



Charlie Hassett, the chair of the Thanksgiving meal_committee determined what the Thanksgiving meal would include, and our community partners at Walmart assembled and packaged 60 bags with the contents of an entire Thanksgiving meal from turkey to dessert. The club received donations of the specific foods needed to create the meal from several of our community supporters, including Walmart, Publix, Osteen's Produce, and the Walmart Neighborhood Market. The deliveries were made Nov. 16 to Dunnellon Elementary School, Ocala Ritz Veterans Village and Vets Helping Vets.

The Lion's Club Toys for Tots Christ-mas tree is in the lobby of the Recreation Center with all the tags ready for the taking. The Lions are collecting gifts for those children less likely to receive a gift this holiday season. The tree was set up Saturday, Nov. 24. Take a tag, return an unwrapped gift for the girl or boy you selected and leave it under the tree. Our Lion elves will gather the toys on a regular basis and deliver them to Toys for Tots. The last day the elves will be picking up the toys will be Friday, Dec. 15.

We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m.

After our meeting, several members visited the Hobby Building Train Room to see their Halloween display. President Jim Lynam provided an excellent commentary for all of us who were present. They did an amazing job with their display! All their layout mechanical offerings are a lot of fun to see.

Our next meeting will be Friday, Jan. 2024, at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. We look forward to greeting new members!

Keep an eye out for emails regarding outings and luncheons that will be set up in the future.

Our club is open to all wives and significant others of the R/C Flyers. We will meet, the second Friday of each month, September through May, at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center 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!

Have a blessed holiday and a happy and healthy new year!



Jim Lynam, president of the Model Railroaders, and Barbara Wright, dressed so appropriately for the LadyBirds' visit to the Halloween display in October.

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The Freethinkers Club meets biweekly on Sundays, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room for social time and programs. Join us on Dec. 10. If you have any questions, please email freethinkersotow@gmail.com.

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December 2023

Tech Tips

Shane Bobson info@mybridgenet.com

The Power of Power Cycling

Power cycling your network and smart home equipment is a simple and effective way to troubleshoot and resolve various issues that may affect their performance. Power cycling means turning off the device, unplugging it from the

Computer Club





Every Saturday at 9 a.m. the Computer Club meets for an hour through our weekly online Zoom meetings. We discuss Windows and Apple issues regarding software and hardware. Our otowcomputerclub.org website will give lots of great information about our group.

Artificial intelligence (AI) seems like it's getting all the latest news, but it has been around for quite some time. How about what we have seen in the movies, any reality to those artistic creations? Moviegoers watching the 1968 film '2001: A Space Odyssey," might have thought that the computer program Hal was acting as a living creature, trying to

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power source, waiting for 30 seconds, and then plugging it back in and turning it on. This process can help clear the device's memory, reset its configuration, and restore its connection to the network.

Some of the benefits of power cycling your network and smart home equipment are:

- It can improve the speed and stability of your internet connection by refreshing the router's settings and resolving any interference or congestion issues.
- It can fix common problems with your smart home devices, such

kill off the crew.

What the movies have conjured are sentient beings in futuristic tales, where they either work with or compete with humans. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary lists the word sentient as capable of sensing or feeling; conscious of or responsive to the sensations of seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting, or smelling. Gee, that's just like us! Should we be worried?

Some stories have a single genius programming their robot, when there are millions of people designing, programming, and testing a wide variety of robotic physical features, missions and goals to accomplish through their teamwork.

It will still be years until robots become independent thinkers, but now they are mostly considered artificial narrow intelligence (ANI) being programmed to perform specific tasks or solve problems given the criteria, like

as unresponsive commands, offline status, incorrect readings, or syncing issues.

- It can enhance the security of your network and smart home devices by applying any pending updates or patches that may have been downloaded but not installed.
- It can extend the lifespan of your network and smart home equipment by preventing overheating, reducing wear and tear, and optimizing their performance.

Power cycling your network and smart home equipment is recommended as a first step whenever you encounter any

beat you in a chess game. Great strides have been shown in many fields with AI machine learning devices helping in a wide range of research, administrative and clinical purposes. In the medical field for example, diagnostic imaging, digital surgery and pathology, even patient monitoring are some of the ways AI applications are being used now and will be explored for further improvements.

Just in the field of prosthetics, the advances in robotics and AI can help mechanical limbs be more functional. So, AI is making our life better with new devices and ways to use them. The creativity of our engineers and computer tech colleagues is filled with exciting possibilities.

Even the 1931-1977 comic strip Dick Tracy and his famous two-way radio communications watch inspired advances in smartwatch technology, turning it into a mini computer. My "personal assistant" on my wrist is great, it does so much more than just display the time!

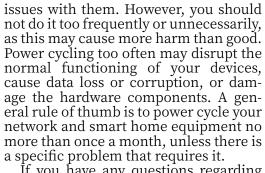
Residents are welcome to join our club, with \$10 individual yearly dues or \$15 per couple. The Contact page on otowcomputerclub.org will get you in touch with us.

Each Thursday from 9 to 10 a.m., members enjoy in-person help sessions in the Hobby Building or online oneon-one instruction, discussing their Windows or Apple computer, smartphone, or tablet issues. On our website, members may list any computer-related hardware for sale or to give away.

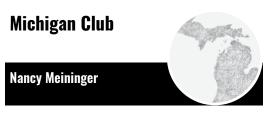
We keep the meeting fun and offer suggestions and possible solutions to help our members.

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Instead of our regular meeting on Dec. 3, Michigan Club will gather on Friday, Dec. 22, at 5 p.m. for our first-ever Holiday Fiesta at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. The colorful catered event will include a fully loaded taco bar catered by the Breakfast Station and music by the North Loop 4 Tet.

Tickets are only \$11 for this fun event, and are available through Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757. Tickets must be purchased in advance for this catered event. No tickets at the door. No need to bring place setups. They will be provided by the caterer. Do bring your sombreros and wear bright colors. Bring your favorite beverage, alcohol is okay, and a plate of your favorite holiday cookies to share with your table.

At our November meeting, Dee Collier, historical actress, told us the truelife story of Rosy the Riviter in a costumed presentation that brought Rosy to life in our midst. This potluck was called pie day, and members outdid themselves making many different versions of the comfort food for the group.

On Jan. 7, 2024, we look forward to hearing from resident NASA engineer Carl Schneider, getting the inside scoop on how the space program really got started, complete with slides and boots on the ground knowledge. The theme for this meeting is appropriately "Up Up and Away!" If your name begins with A-I, bring a dessert; J-R, bring a main dish; and S-Z, bring a vegetable or salad. Bring your place settings and beverage of your choice.

For more information on the Michigan Club contact Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757.







Photo by Nancy Meining

Dee Collier told the life story of Rosie the Riviter to a rapt audience of Michigan Club members.

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December 2023

The World News

World Traveler

Bill Shampine



For those of you who have lived in Florida for a number of years, you know that we get a lot of powerful thunder boomer storms around here. In fact, according to NASA's top 500 list, with an average of 205 lightning flashes per square mile, Florida is considered the lightning hot spot of the United States. That sounds like a lot of lightning to me, however, Florida only ranks as number 122 on a global basis, and I'm here to tell you that you ain't heard nuthin' yet!

Hands down, Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela, is the lightning capital of the world. That patch of ground endures thunderstorms 297 nights of the year! During one of these storms, which may last for eight to 10 hours, lightning strikes the lake about 28 times a minute. In case you glossed over that statement, let me say it again. Lightning strikes the lake about 28 times a minute for eight to 10 hours for 297 nights per year! A word to the wise, fishing on the lake at night may be hazardous to your health.

I mentioned earlier that Florida gets an average of 205 lightning flashes per square mile. In comparison, Lake Maracaibo gets an average of 602 bolts of lightning per square mile. This much lightning produces so much light that you can read a book by it, and the light can be seen from as far away as 250 miles.

So, what causes this phenomenal display of raw nature? To create a lightning storm, you need cold air and warm moist air. The cold air contains ice crystals, and the moist warm air contains water droplets. As the warm air rises, the ice crystals and water droplets bump into each other. This contact results in friction between the two, and that friction causes static electricity. The top of a cloud becomes positively charged and the bottom becomes negatively charged. When the negative charge builds up enough, the cloud releases the energy as lightning.

Lake Maracaibo is perfectly located geographically to make it a lightning factory. Prevailing winds blow from the Caribbean Sea, zip across the Gulf of Venezuela, and through a narrow land opening that serves as the outlet for Lake Maracaibo. These warm winds suck up moisture to the point of saturation. Now all you need for lightning is cold air. At this location, the lake is surrounded by high mountains on three sides, some as high as 12,000 feet. We all know that air gets colder as the elevation increases. Specifically, the temperature decreases about 3.5 degrees Fahrenheit for every 1,000 feet of elevation, which means the temperature at 12,000 feet will be about 42 degrees colder than the air on the land surface. Badda-bing badda-boom; an instant lightning factory!

Lightning typically occurs in the afternoon such as in Florida. Lake Maracaibo, however, is special, in that its lightning occurs almost exclusively at night and over water. Visitors say it is "awe-inspiring," "mystical," and "the adventure of a lifetime.'



A lightning flash over Lake Maracaibo, the lightning capital of the world.



Solar eclipse observing event.

Moonstruck Astronomy Club Jim Di Paolo

Carol Himes opened the meeting by reviewing the club's financial report.

Jim Di Paolo, club president, read off the meeting agenda for the day. He informed the members that the club now has grown to a total of 93 members, a new record high since the club began in August 2018. Jim reminded everyone about the upcoming election of officers that will be held during the next meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14. He pointed out that the 2024 club dues of \$20 should be paid by the end of January 2024.

Plans were discussed for the club's Christmas party that will be held on the same day as next month's club meeting. Jim reviewed photos of the recent annular solar eclipse observing event and mentioned that 25 members were in attendance. He also reviewed the subject of the next NASA Senior Outreach webinar and gave a brief presentation on the night sky highlights for November.

Club member Glenn Cohen did his first presentation titled, "Venus, Roman Goddess and Cultural Icon." He pointed out that in American culture, there are literally thousands of poems, stories, and novels with astronomical references.

Ed Hayes shared photos of his recent trip to his astronomy club in the high desert of Southern California. His presentation included photos of the property and some of the observatories that different members had set up. Some excellent deep sky photos were also shared that were taken through a 25" RC telescope that he viewed through during his visit.

Larry Isenberg, club vice president, shared a photo he had taken of the recent annular eclipse. He also pointed out different methods of safely viewing the sun during a solar eclipse. One of the methods was to construct a viewer using a small cardboard box, white sheet of paper and a piece of aluminum foil. He reminded everyone not to view the sun without proper protection.

Club members are reminded to watch for emails announcing more evening observation sessions in the coming weeks and months. Sessions will be announced on any day 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 adjacent to the R/C flying field.

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 and Gateway of Services pass holders can join the club, and new members are welcome! Yearly club dues are only \$20 per year, and they include a subscription to the quarterly Reflector Magazine. For information or club registration, please contact club President Jim Di Paolo at moonastroclub@gmail. com. More information is always available at moonstruckastronomyclub.org.



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SWANS



Single Women's Active Networking System (SWANS) was established about 18 years ago for active single women to socialize, establish friendships, and be supportive to other single women in their time of need. We support many non-profit agencies. We are a diverse group of women of different ages, backgrounds, likes, dislikes, and parts of the world, but we do have the same future journey of being single.

Our recently formed lunch-, appetizer-, and dinner-in groups are up and running. Our monthly outings for breakfast, lunch, and dinner still need hostesses. Call Lois Nix to sign up to host. Please remember that we cannot have these events without hostesses.

Our bi-annual barbeque on Saturday, Oct. 14, was a big success! Kathy Kloos and Sandy Welch always outdo themselves every time.

Many of our members are currently in Daytona Beach.

Ten of us went to the International Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico the first two weeks in October. What a fabulous trip! As we were crossing the southern states on the way to New Mexico we stopped at several interesting places. The Ålamo was awesome! Just to think of all the history associated with that place is mind-boggling. The Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial was very moving. The museum is very well

mjoule

done and has so much information that you could spend several full days there going through all the exhibits. The Oklahoma Land Rush Memorial is breathtaking. Such detail in the statues! We saw several chapels on our trip and did lots of shopping. The Native American Museum was very informative. There we got to witness several of the Native American ceremonial dances. There were also many vendors selling Native American wares. What a wonderful once in a lifetime trip!

Our Christmas party and Chinese auction is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios. This event will be a potluck so polish off those wonderful holiday recipes and bring them! Call Lois Nix or Sally Herrick if you plan to attend.

We will be having a potluck in Janu-ary hosted by C.J. Daane. This will be held at The Lodge at Candler Hills and should be great fun! More information will be forthcoming.

During the month of November, we traveled to Latino y Mas for lunch. Many "thanks" to Bonnie Herrick and Beverly Lukowski for hosting this outing! Good food, even better company! Dinner was enjoyed at The Braised Onion and hosted by Joan Maggio. Thank you, Joan, for hosting!

Please remember that we cannot do these outings without our volunteer hostesses! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lois Nix.

Please remember that you may join the SWANS at any time! We always welcome new members and new ideas. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Lois Nix for more information.





October and November were busy months for the Active Singles Club. We had our anniversary picnic with lots of games and laughs. Members also joined us for four walks - Blue Run, Shangri La West, Rainbow Springs Park one of our largest springs in Florida and the other at the Ross Prairie Trailhead West. Members took advantage of the beautiful, cultured gardens, waterfalls, pine, and oak forest trails. These walks and hikes are always a mix of abilities from two to four miles in paved and unpaved trails and always followed by lunch!

A new activity in November was a visit to Mill Creek Farms a retirement home that provides lifelong care for elderly horses. It was very informative, and they also had five nature hiking trails you could take advantage of!

A group headed into Orlando to the farmers market and food truck extravaganza at Lake Eola Park where members took the two-mile trek around the lake, rode the swan boats, shopped, and lunched before heading back to Ocala.

Another group enjoyed the glass bottom boat tour and saw majestic manatees and a variety of wildlife.

Our Lakeridge Winery afternoon was so relaxing! We were blessed with incredible weather, a great band and good food and wine choices.

At the end of October, we served

breakfast to Interfaith Emergency Service guests and handed out 50 goodie bags filled with personal care items. November had us rocking the night away at a '50s/60s hop to the tunes of DJ Ben Simmons and celebrated the return of the nine-hole golf scramble!

And as always, throughout the month we dined at Cody's and a variety of local watering holes with good company and good eats!

Our December calendar kick-off is our club participation in the Holiday Golf Cart Parade! Come meet us at the softball field pavilion to decorate your cart and get into the line-up. This is the feel-good parade of the year!

Our holiday party on Wednesday, Dec. 13, is shaping up to be a great night of good food, drink, and music galore. And to wrap up a great year, we have a New Year's Eve party to ring in 2024 and a list of fun activities, we hope you will join us! And as always, we have our regular monthly activities of bowling, bocce, Mexican train, darts, happy hour, the golf scramble, and trivia.

Our next general membership meeting and happy hour is Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 5:30 p.m. for joining members. Meeting begins at 6 p.m. followed by happy hour. Bring your favorite alco-holic drink! You don't have to go to a meeting to join though. Visit otowactivesinglesclub.com and click on "Join." Browse through our calendar and learn more about the activities we offer. See us on Facebook (OTOW Active Singles)! We are single, but not alone. Make 2024 the year to get involved and join the fun!

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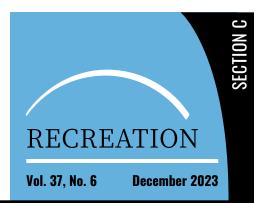
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*Winner will be contacted January 1, 2024.







R/C car track.

Need for Speed

By John Schoenherr

The R/C car track is provided by On Top of the World for all residents to enjoy. It is requested that all vehicles be electric powered, but the size and type of vehicle run on the track is unlimited.

The racetrack is the pride of the R/C community. The track is asphalt surrounded by cement curb and a safety fence. Drivers have a perfect view of the track on the raised and covered driver's stand. A viewing area with picnic tables is on both sides of the driver's stand. This area is on a cement pad and is covered for protection from the elements. The R/C Car Club is very thankful to On Top of the World for providing this excellent facility.

The R/C Car Club has added curbing to outline the racecourse and offer protection to the cars. The club owns a computerized sensor system that monitors the cars as they go around the track. The club also owns a storage facility and a control building to call the races and report the results. Electricity is provided to the track during races with a generator the club owns.

During the winter season races are on Wednesdays and Saturdays, starting at 1 p.m. During the summer months racing starts at 9 a.m. Membership is required for residents to race with the club; dues are \$25 per year with new members charged a one-time \$50 fee. You must be a resident to join the club. To race with the club all vehicles must

be electric powered and 1/10th scale. There are 11 different classes of vehicles that race, each class with its own requirements. The class specifications are posted on a bulletin board in front of the driver's stand. A general grouping of the vehicles raced are trucks, buggies, touring cars and pan cars.

Visitors are welcome to watch the rac-Two races are organized each week. es outside the safety of the fences. If you

have a question, just ask a member and we will be happy to help you understand what racing is all about. If you would like to consider membership, our membership director will be happy to explain all the details. Once you join, we have a mentorship program that will help you choose your vehicle and learn how to race it.

For more information call/text John Schoenherr at 608-477-3420. Happy racing.

October

MudBoss-Tony Severino. Two-wheel buggy-Tom Murphy. Pan car-Dave Johnson. Traxxas 2.0-Hank Henne. Touring on road-Ron Kaulfersch. Touring 17.5–Dominic Papa. Limited touring 17.5–Hank Henne. Two-wheel truck-Ron Kaulfersch. Fourwheel truck-Bob Melzer. Two-wheel buggy-Dave Johnson. Four-wheel buggy–Jim Siltman.

Table Tennis Senior Games

of whom were professional table tennis players. It was great that Karen Lowe, Gaye Folsom and Patricia Jocelyn were able to be in the audience cheering our players on and snapping photos.

Our Table Tennis Club has a rich hisry of playing and winning in the Seout and playing often at the various play times for singles and doubles. For those who might find it challenging to play doubles, perhaps focus on singles play until you feel more comfortable with doubles. This will help to enhance your skills. Also take time to watch the many

By Athena Drewes

Congratulations to Michael Lowe and Mary Jeannotte, silver medal winners at the Table Tennis Senior Games in Gainesville at the Alachua County Sports and Events Center on Saturday, Oct. 14.

The Senior Olympic Games started in 1985 in St. Louis, Missouri with the formation of the U.S. National Senior Sports Organization. Its vision was to promote healthy lifestyles for seniors through education, fitness, and sport. The first games started in 1987 with 2,500 competitors. A change of name occurred in 1990 making it the National Senior Games Association (NSGA) due to

objections from the U.S. Olympic Committee to the use of the word Olympic. NSGA remains today a non-profit organization still dedicated to motivating active adults to lead healthy lifestyles through senior games.

We are excited that Mary and Michael were able to bring home the silver this year for their mixed doubles play! Special thanks also to Shizuka Campagna and Joe Campagna, Lynne Dickson, (Carl) Wayne Wilkerson and Jim Swift for representing our club in their categories at the Senior Games. They were up against a tough crowd of players, several

nior Games. Club members have been attending and competing since 2003 when On Top of the World Communities hosted it that year and in 2004. Of the membership, 10 to 12 competed at local and state Senior Games every year and had won gold, silver and bronze medals in all events and age brackets from 2003 through 2006. In 2008, we had five gold medalists from our table tennis club: Gene Bauman, Ralph, Penny Wilson, Lucy Davis and Sue Maclam.

Hopefully more club members will attend and play at the 2024 games. It is a rich experience. In the meantime, we can keep improving our game by getting videos available online too!

Come join us and have some fun! With over 100 members now, we have added a few extra play times.

Here is the schedule: Beginners doubles, Tuesday, 1 to 3 p.m.; singles, Friday 3 to 5 p.m.; Ladies doubles/singles, Monday, 1 to 3 p.m.; doubles, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon; singles, Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. All level doubles, Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. All level singles, Wednesday, 1 to 3 p.m. Intermediate singles/doubles, Wednesday, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Advanced, Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Photo by Karen Lowe



2023 Senior Games members: Jim Swift, Lynne Dickson, Michael Lowe, Mary Jeannotte, Shizuka Campagna, and Joe Campagna.

2023 silver medal winners: Mary Jeannotte and Michael Lowe.

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SCAN ME!

Golf



With holiday season is upon us, the golf staff would like to wish everyone

safe and happy holidays. We will kick off the season with our second annual World Naughty or Nice on Friday, Dec. 8, at Candler Hills and The Links. The format will be two person teams Six-Six-Six. First six holes best ball, second six-holes alternate shot and last six holes scramble. Register as a twosome and we will pair based on team handicap.

A big thank you goes out to all those who donated to the Michelle-O-Gram Foundation in honor of breast cancer awareness. Even though the weather did not cooperate for our golf event, your generosity shined through, and we were able to raise \$2,345 for this great cause.

The golf staff would like to remind everyone to register or renew your golf membership for 2024. If you're renewing your membership or considering joining for 2024, please contact Margarita Rosario at 352-854-2765 to book your appointment. We encourage everyone to register early in December because the membership office will become very busy the closer we get to Jan. 1. Operating hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Need some gift ideas for the holidays? Take advantage of our annual holiday sale from Monday, Dec. 11 through Sunday, Dec. 31. There will be special discounts on apparel, golf bags, golf shoes and be sure to check out Santa's lucky left-over table. If you spend \$100 in one transaction, you get automatically entered into raffle to win a new golf bag.

World Accolades

CANDLER HILLS: Joe Wilks, shot 69. Bob Springmann, hole-in-one #5. Jeff Richardson, eagle #7. Jeff Richardson, two eagles in one round, #7 and #16. Mark Durso, eagle #10. Steve Lennon, hole-inone #7.

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Ron Nichols, hole-in-one #12. Ken Rynn, hole-in-one #11. Gary Gerlach shot his age 74.

THE LINKS: John Mayfield shot his age 76. Phil Snyder, eagle #7. Jeff Richardson, eagle #15.



Upcoming Events

- Friday, Dec. 8: World Naughty or Nice at Candler Hills and The Links with 9 a.m. shotgun.
- Friday, Dec. 15: Beat the Pros at The Tortoise & The Hare.
- Sunday, Dec. 24: Golf clubs close at 2 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 25: Golf clubs closed.
- Sunday, Dec. 31: Golf clubs close at 3 p.m.

Golf Tip of the Month

You hit your second shot in a greenside bunker, you need to get up and down to save par and win the match. You step up to the shot, dig your feet in and take a swing. Next you look up to see the ball sailing clear across the green. Does this sound familiar?

This is a common mistake that all golfers make. Most are defeated before they even set foot in the bunker. Bunker shots should be easier than any other shot in golf. The reason being is you're not actually trying to hit the ball.

When hitting a greenside bunker shot you should open your stance and club. Swing a little harder than a typical shot from the same distance and try and hit an inch behind the ball. Never decelerate your swing. This will allow your club to dig into the sand forcing the ball to pop out nice and soft. Next time step in that bunker with confidence, trust the shot and win the match.



Country & Western Line Dancing at their Halloween dance.







Photo by Matt Hibbs

Line dance classes are available on Thursdays, in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios with Intermediate/Improver, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.; Beginner Level I and II, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Absolute Beginner, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Please contact Sheryl Bradley, guest instructor, at sbradley057@yahoo. com or 207-632-0252 for more information.



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Men's Golf Association

John Yenne

Player statistics in Golf Genius show a vibrant level of competition in the Men's Golf Association this year. Data analysis shows the average gross score hovers around 84, and the average net is about 73. The lowest gross score for the year so far is 63, and the lowest net is 57.

On average, an individual in the league earns about \$5 per event when he finishes in the money. Golfers are averaging about 18 games played in 2023, with a good mix of highly active players and those who participate more casually.

Members are reminded of our annual board elections coming up on Chicken Day. Please consider running as three

Member Sandy Snyder showed great

strength of mind and character as she

battled her way to the top of the leader-

board to capture the 2023 League Cham-

pionship. She is not new to the winner's

circle, and she consistently demon-

Ladies 18-Hole

Marte Dobosh

Golf Association

terms are expiring.

Put these upcoming Wednesdays, in your calendar:

The World News

- Dec. 6: Chicken Day (The Links) Dec. 13: Team Blind Holes (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Dec. 20: Shamble (The Links)
- Dec. 27: Santa Shuffle (The Tor-toise & The Hare)

2023's Top 10 (as of mid-November)

Total purse: Joseph Dunnack, Norm Hayworth, Larry Manion, Leonard Ruble, Garfield Gray, Thomas Kujawa, DavidGarland, JimNicholson, JamesGourlay, TaryBole. Low gross: Joe Wilks, Brian Henderson, James Gourlay, Joe Moenter, Ron Lombardo, Brian Bennett, Garfield Gray, Jay Bouton, Kevin McGuinness, Michael Almon.

Low net: Joe Polizzotti, Tom Neville, Doyce Mathis. Bill Aman. Frank Giordano. Thomas Norris, Bigelow Robinson, Garfield Gray, Joseph Dunnack, Mario Grosso.

Times played: Norm Hayworth, Bigelow Robinson,

and to the entire field for a well fought

tournament. Thank you to Debby Wil-

son, Connie Norris and Sandy Chase for

ans Day Tournament was Tuesday, Nov.

7. Our members took to the links sporting red, white and blue to honor veter-

ans, past and present. The outing was

followed by lunch and the annual meet-

for 2024 was approved. We welcome Jill

Strey, president; Donna Herberger, vice

At the meeting, the slate of officers

Another memorable event, the Veter-

organizing this special event.

David Garland, Joseph Dunnack, Larry Manion, Roger Sparks, Tary Bole, Brian Wilder, Jim Kurlapski, Loren Magsam.

Chicken Day Scramble Nov. 1/The Links

53-Gerry Messenger, Ed Vasoli, Philip Petrozella. 56-Roger Sparks, Mike Erickson, Gary Bugielski, Paul Randles. Tie at 57-James McCormack, Fred Visnaw, Charlie Taylor, Mike Clancy; Rusty Rhodes, Dennis McCourt, Ron Pratt, Loren Magsam; Roger Lukas, Art Olerud, David Hannasch, Jim Tolson; Gary Kohls, Joe Aldridge, Richard Deschenes, David Bauer; John Herman, Dale Budd, Robert Kuhl1, Michael Dwyer. Tie at 58–Kevin McGuinness, Doug Buckler, Tary Bole; Ruben Alvarez, John Yenne, Joseph Dunnack; John Atwood, David Wohlleber, Norm Hayworth, Paul Rutkowski; Tim Carlisle, Ken Zweiback, David Garland, Richard Foltynewcz; Dan Goggin, Howard Gluckman, Danny Newby, Mike Kurlakowsky; Anthony Morris, Bob Hilton, Ed Hoppa, Doyce Mathis; Garry Gerlach, Dennis Kissen, Jim Bobowski, Ronald Grob; Joe Polizzotti, Garfield Gray,

Steven Rowell, William (Bill) Truby; Robert Walker, Jim Kurlapski, Leonard Ruble.

Team 3 Best Ball Black Tees Nov. 8/The Links

196-Kevin McGuinness. Paul Stoecklin. Jim Kurlapski, Jay Bouton. 197-Ron Pratt, Ken Zweiback, Thomas Kujawa, Jerry Nagel. 202–Rusty Rhodes, Mike Ball, William (Bill) Truby, Philip Petrozella. 203-Dan Goggin, Doug Buckler, Mike Clancy, Ronald Grob. 204–Don Edmond, Marvin DeBerry, David Hannasch, Doyce Mathis. 205–Ron Lombardo, Ruben Alvarez, Éd Vasoli, Tary Bole. 206-Greg Mc-Dowell, Michael Almon, Joseph Dunnack, William York. Tie at 207–Bl[Joe Wilks], Garfield Gray, Dennis Kissen, Earl Guthrie; James McCormack, Garry Gerlach, Rick Plesea, Michael Dwyer. 208-Joe Polizzotti, Patrick Moran, John Evans, James Gourlay, Tie at 209-Lynn Maugherman, Art Olerud, James Thompson, Loren Magsam; Joe Wilks, Sam Feola, Joe Wong, Barry Barringer.

and Karen Schroeckenthaler, treasurer.

We will bid a fond farewell to outgoing president, Linda Taylor and outgoing treasurer, Lynn Barber at our annual holiday awards luncheon. Many thanks to these LGA members who step up and volunteer countless hours of their time to guide our league and keep our schedules full with great games and activities.

Also in December, members are encouraged to contribute to the annual food and Toys for Tots drive. Instead of having a separate collection point, members are asked to simply bring do-nations to one of the Golf Shops.

3 Best Ball (Team) Oct. 10/The Links

203–Chris Giza, Joann Dellapenna, Liz Pruss, 204– Bobbie Weiner, Linda Blewitt, Jean Czachor. 205-Bev Ovrebo, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Jill Strev, Alexandra Rivera. 208–Diane Boston, Darlene DeBerry, Marte Dobosh, Roxiann Dwyer. 211-Linda Taylor, Marcela Nunez, Janelle Gluckman, Molly Lucieer. 215–Yuhlan Cho, Connie Sohl, Virginia Madura.

Florida Scramble (Step Aside) Oct. 24/The Tortoise & The Hare 57-Betsy Maugherman, Bobbie Wiener, Molly Luc-

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ieer, Susan Yenne. 60–Diane Boston, Linda Blewitt, Marte Dobosh. Tie at 61-Lisa Free, Joyce Jones, MJ Strelec, Donna Brunell and Sandy Snyder, Vickie Noltensmeyer, Jean Czachor. Tie at 62-Virginia Combs, Peggy Ellenberger, Ellen Brin, Eileen Gustavus and Gail Lagrange, Jill Strey, Linda Bervinkle, Liz Lang. 63-Mary Ann Livingston, Darlene DeBerry, Debra DeMatteo, Jacquelin Randour.

T.O.E.S. Net (Individual) Oct. 31/The Links

Flight 1: 52–Maria Fournier. 56–Shelly Karsnitz. Tie at 57-Chris Giza, Sandy Snyder. Tie at 59-Betsy Maugherman, Vadonna Hall and Linda Taylor. Flight 2: 54–Mary Ann Livingston. 55–Diane Boston. 56–Yuhlan Cho. 57–Virginia Combs. Tie at 58–Lori Pizzini, Peggy Ellenberger.

Flight 3: 52–Joyce Jones. Tie at 59–Katie Schriewer, Linda Blewitt, Joann Dellapenna.

Flight 4: Tie at 54-Nancy Zielinski, Molly Lucieer. 55–Alexandra Rivera. Tie at 56–MJ Strelec, Robyn Atwood.

Flight 5: Tie at 60–Betty McNeeley, Jacquelin Randour. Tie at 61-Jane Hall, Eileen Gustavus.

Red, White, Blue - 2 Best Ball (Team) Nov. 7/The Tortoise & The Hare

92-Virginia Combs, Peggy Ellenberger, Virginia Madura, Jacquelin Randour. 93–Betsy Maugherman, Connie Sohl, Debra DeMatteo, Donna Brunell. Tie at 97-Lisa Free, Connie Norris, Molly Lucieer, Sandy Chase and Vadonna Hall, Page Falconer, Mary Dawson, Pam Brown. 98–Gayla Aldridge, Linda Blewitt, Janelle Gluckman. Susan Yenne. 100-Lori Pizzini, Joann Dellapenna, Nancy Zielinski, Jan Christ.

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Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky

Golf has been described as a game of manners. Proper etiquette is something we should aspire to in golf as well as life. On the course, fixing ball marks and divots is part of the polite etiquette we should follow. The safety of other golfers is also a paramount part of those good manners. We should all try to remember this.

The President's Cup was held on Thursday, Oct. 26, and Friday, Oct. 27. Congratulations goes out to our cochampions, Alexandra Rivera and Nancy Zielinski. Great job, ladies!

After a hot summer, the weather we're experiencing is magnificent. Cool mornings, warm afternoons, who could ask for anything more? I guess that's why we live in Florida.

The holiday dinner party and awards celebration will take place Tuesday, Dec. 12. This is a final reminder so please sign up if you have not already done so.

Another quick reminder: Hydration is just as important in the cooler weather as it is during the summer. Please be aware of your water intake.

The Candler Hills LGA-18 is open to anyone in On Top of the World. Please contact our president, Shelly Karsnitz, at karsnitz1@gmail.com, if you wish to join the league.

Finally, be careful out there, believe, achieve, and enjoy golf.

Team Stableford 2 Best Balls of 4 (Team) Oct. 19

84-Lisa Free, Janette Sheil, Donna Isaac, Pam Brown. Tie at 80–Patti Kelly, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Jean Czachor, Roxiann Dwyer. Donna Herberger, Peggy Ellenberger, MJ Strelec, Anne Dahlen. 78-Lynn Colomb, Judie Anderson, Nancy Zielinski, Alexandra Rivera. 77-Christine Giza, Angelita Jingco, Marte Dobosh, Rosann Ross.

President's Cup Rounds 1 & 2 (Individual) Oct. 26 and Oct. 27

Co-Champions: Alexandra Rivera, Nancy Zielinski. Flight 1: 147–Michele Otto. 148–Christine Giza. Flight 2: Tie at 152–Patti Kelly, Lisa Free. Flight 3: 143–Virginia Combs. 146–Beverly Ovrebo. Flight 4: 146-Liz Pruss. 154-Janette Sheil. 156-

Flight 5: 151–MJ Strelec. 159–Susan Martin. Flight 6: 149–Carol Clark. Tie at 160–Roxiann Dw-

Nov. 2

66-Gayla Aldridge, Peggy Ellenberger, Vickie Foster, Carol Carney. 68-Shelly Karsnitz, Judie Anderson, Janelle Gluckman, Cynthia Gersten. Tie at 69-Lori Pizzini, Joyce Jones, MJ Strelec, Blind. Betsy Maugherman, Page Falconer, Brenda Hofmann, Eileen Gustavus. Michele Otto, Judi McGuinness, Virginia Madura, Kathy Zunica.



With the holidays approaching, asked our Co-Ed Recreational Softball members to share some of their holiday traditions. The response was impressive and many of the traditions reinforce our connection to the past.

A southern tradition for New Year's Day is eating black-eyed peas for luck and prosperity. All the ingredients represent something. Cook the black-eyed peas (coins) with collard greens (paper money), stewed tomatoes (health), hog jowls for flavor (wealth) and eat with cornbread (gold). It is believed they have a mystical and mythical power to bring

ing and discusses ingredients and votes on the best. Three Kings Day on Jan. 6 celebrates

collect off the floor.

hat wins a prize.

Bocce Club Paula Hammonds

Bocce is a game everyone can enjoy! No experience necessary and newcomers are always welcome. We pretend to be competitive, but we are just socializing and having fun.

Out with the old; in with the new! Now is the time of year when the club reaches out to our members for volunteers to fill board positions. The previous board members will be stepping down so the following positions will need to be filled: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. A brief description of each position is posted on the bocce bulletin board.

It is critical for these positions to be filled so that we can continue to function as a club. Please call Terry Connolly at 352-362-7284 if you would be willing to volunteer for one of these positions.

A meeting of bocce members was called to order at the bocce courts and by a majority vote of those present, it was decided to throw the pallino anywhere past the half court line and play it from there.

A Polish Christmas tradition is to

share a meatless dinner with foods that

are all white or near white in color (to

honor the Virgin Mary). Following din-

ner, everyone wishes every person at the

party a merry Christmas and happy new year. To end the party all the guests are given a small bag. The host of the party

throws hard shelled nuts for the guest to

hot potato but instead when the Christ-

mas music stops the person holding the

Cornish game hens to each family and

friend seated at the table. Everyone gets

a hen and stuffs it with their own stuff-

ing recipe. Everyone shares their stuff-

Pass the Santa hat. This is a game like

Another holiday tradition is to serve

Open bocce is played Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Bocce courts are located at The Arbors. Anyone who shows up can play, however as a new player on three occasions you will be expected to join the league or open play, pay dues, and sign a "Release and Hold Harmless' consent form. Annual dues are \$12 and entitle you to play as many times as you want through league, or open play. 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.

The bocce banquet will be March 3, 2024, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The best of bocce will be played at 9 a.m. on April 23, 2024, and open best of bocce will be played on April 24, 2024, at 9 a.m.

For further information, call Terry Connolly at 352-362-7284. Come by and check out the game.

the three kings who brought gifts to baby Jesus. The night before, children would leave hay by their beds to feed the camels ridden by the three kings. In the morning, the kids would find presents left under their bed by the three kings.

Tradition contributes to a sense of belonging and reminds us we are part of a history that defines our past. It's a way for creating lasting memories.

Happy holidays from Co-Ed Recreational Softball!

If you are interested in participating in the Co-Ed Recreational Softball or finding out more about it, please come to the softball field on Saturdays; the game begins at 9 a.m. If you have any questions, please send an email to otowcoedsoftball@gmail.com.

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." – Mother Theresa



December is the month of giving. What better gift to give than the gift of life? The Big Red Bus[®] will be here so you can do just that. On Monday, Dec. 4, two buses will be parked in the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to eat a good meal and drink plenty of water both before and after donating. You will receive a \$20 ecard to use at many local businesses.

There is still time to make an appointment. Simply login to OneBlood.org/donate. Search for the On Top of the World drive on the date of Dec. 4. Select your time and press enter. A confirmation email will be sent a few minutes later. If you do not want to make an appointment, walk-ins are always welcome.

Come give the gift of life. See you on the bus.

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December 2023



Linda Jones, Carla Kohls, Elaine Richards, Carol Singer, and Annette Bunck.



Women's Softball



Remember softball? That game you used to play and enjoy? Now you think you can no longer play because you can't run or aren't good enough, etc. Think again. The Diamond Divas are just what you need! We are out to have fun, a little exercise, fresh air, and a lot of camaraderie. You don't have to run, and we have the equipment you need including extra gloves.

We play Saturdays, at 11 a.m. You don't even have to get up early. Now what was that excuse again?

"Girls just want to have fun." Call Annette for more information at 352-615-2882.



Carlos Erausquin laid a wreath at the Veterans Park to commemorate Veterans Day.

RECYCLE OFTEN. RECYCLE RIGHT.

Visit OTOWInfo.com for a list of acceptable items to recycle.





Softball Club members go beyond the limits of the centerfield fences as they collectively joined hands with clergy, social services, businesses, and other community leaders to voluntarily sup-port Interfaith Emergency Services (IES) mission "to provide emergency services to individuals and families in crisis" for our Ocala community. With the sponsorship of Mr. Karter of Ocala Golf Carts, Dave Clune led his team members James Russo, Ray Tobey, Bill McElroy, Mark Reynolds, and Mark McCardle, to plan and organize a food collection project. This effort included working with Jessica Marshall of Circle Square Commons for use of the venue to conduct a charity barbecue picnic, enlist a charity live music concert put on by the Hwy 94 Band, and therefore enabling the set-up of a volunteer manned food collection drop off point serving our On Top of the World Communities. The Softball Club's results were amazing after they successfully marshalled a community-wide food drive initiative exceeding 2022 donations of 900 pounds, delivering 1,821 pounds of food and \$235 cash to Ms. Maxie man-aging the IES food pantries. Big thanks to all the volunteers, Ocala Golf Carts, Andy Cheyne and Hwy 94 Band, Circle Square Commons management team, and all the folks who freely donated badly needed food items. In addition to playing on the Corked Bats National Division softball team, club member Carlos Erausquin volunteers his free time as an active member of the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard. As a decorated and honorably discharged veteran, Carlos dons his U.S. Air Force (USAF) blues uniform and participates weekly in rendering military honors. In November, Carlos, USAF retired Master Sergeant, laid a wreath at the Veterans Park to commemorate Veterans Day. Our club extends best wishes for success to Tom Laccone, Brad Youngberg, Ralph Mazzio, Bryan Tully, and Rex Heitz as these unified partners play softball alongside special athletes compet-ing in the Special Olympics state finals being held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex on the Disney property in Orlando, Florida. Fellow club member Rick Munsell, retired U.S. Navy Captain, wishes to thank all the veteran members who participated in the Veterans Day second annual Classic Softball Tournament. If you are interested in joining our club, the process starts with signing up to our new player orientation (NPO) pro-gram. NPOs take place at the softball field on Wednesdays, 1 to 2:30 p.m. For more information, visit otowsoftball. org.



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Athletes, 40 volunteer coaches from Top Pickleball Club, and parents looking forward to their pickleball competition at Special Olympics.

Top Pickleball Club

Steve Carr

On July 26, 15 excited Special Olympics athletes and 40 volunteers from the Top Pickleball Club, started their journey to compete in the 2023 Florida Special Olympics. The Top Pickleball Club was the first club to train pickleball athletes to represent Marion County.

Over the past three months, the volunteers have been planning, organizing, and completing required online and instructional training through Special Olympics of Florida. Many of the athletes have been involved in the Special Olympics program for years and trained every Wednesday, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the back courts.

The Special Olympics team attended the regional competition on Saturday, Sept. 30. Trystan Paquette and his mom Diana, Thomas Welch and Joe Aldridge, Sean Wiley and Laurie Martyniak and Kyle Sarko won their matches and received ribbons. And finally, Jan Biggens, Diana Hall Anne Kessler participated in the individual skill competition.

The following athletes received an invitation to compete in the Special Olympics games in Orlando, Florida on Friday, Nov. 10 and Saturday, Nov. 11: Zachery Oetjen – singles; Rebecca Richter – individual skills competition; Kenneth Lundy - individual skills competition; and Lauren Hennicke and Partner Connie Young – unified doubles.

The instructors are heroes to the athletes and athletes become heroes to the instructors. They form magical and meaningful connections that extend beyond the courts and last a lifetime. It is wonderful to know that a very unique team of residents are making a difference in the lives of incredibly determined individuals with a remarkable human spirit.

R/C Flyers Club Ray Ihlenburg

Most of our foggy mornings have been replaced by chilly mornings and wonderful afternoons. This is the season for the most rewarding times at the field. But what might be under your tree that will make staying in the workshop fun? I peeked; it is a Sterling Models (1950s kit) Piper Tri Pacer.

My father built one using a rubber powered escapement for rudder only control with an Enya 35-glow engine. As I recall it flew just like any other Cub; nice. Adding modern day controls and electric power plus lights will make it a 2020s creation. Depending what's under your tree, no matter a kit or scratch from plans, or ARF/foamie enjoy the cooler months and get your newest plane ready for the Spring Fly-In on April 6, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This is the time of year that we hope to welcome grandparents with drones (GDs) or other flying machines to the field. If you are lucky enough to find a new and cool drone or airplane under your Christmas tree, remember that On Top of The World prohibits the flying of drones, as well as helicopters and small fixed wing models, in our neighborhoods. Not sure about kites. This includes the stormwater retention basins.

There are good reasons, so come out to our drone course or flying field and enjoy these amenities provided by On Top of the World. You may even meet one of the R/C Flyers who can offer suggestions and assistance getting airborne. There is additional information and contact information provided at otowrcflyers. com. Club members are always willing to help a new pilot.

The R/C Flyers Fall Fly-In was a great success with 45 pilots registered of which about 35 flew. Perhaps we had the largest spectator gallery ever. They were treated to the wonderful commentary by Robo, jet demonstration by Jack, and aerobatic helicopter by Mike Betz. Thanks go out to so many of our members who volunteered with set up, flight line operations, cooking, and cleanup.

December is club officer election month. This will take place at the Monday, Dec. 4 business meeting. There was a robust turnout for the nominations meeting in November, during which several nominees gave a "stump speech" to introduce themselves and offer their hopes for the club next year. The new officers will be announced in the January column. Rest assured that the R/C Flyers Club will remain strong (208 members at last count) and continue to provide interested people with an introduction to the hobby.



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Tennis



Keep playing tennis or POP tennis! The health benefits are amazing - physical, mental, emotional, and social. Also, you make friends, have fun, develop your mind, improve your balance, etc.

Hopefully, by now, some of the "traditional" tennis players had the opportunity to visit and play at the National Tennis Campus, just another interesting experience. I hope that all of you had enjoyable times on the courts this year and wish that you keep the best health into the next year so you can continue to

come to the courts. **Tennis Tip of the Month**

Last month, we discussed ways of improving your serve and your overall game considering some factors.

STRESS FACTOR: As we all know, every stroke in a match is accompanied by stress. When we play a match, we care about progress and results, so we are stressed. Serving hundreds of balls out of a basket does not replicate the stress of match conditions. How can we change it? Start by making the service box smaller and count how many balls you can hit to that area. This can get even harder if you get a partner who returns the serves. It makes the drill more realistic and teaches the players how to serve under pressure and more accurately when using the entire box.

FATIGUE FACTOR: Typically, coaches have players serve at the beginning or at the end of a lesson where the fatigue is different. It would be a good idea to create intervals during the serving exercise, like hitting balls for a few minutes, or doing cone work, etc. When you're done running and hitting, you are more tired. At this time, try serving another batch of balls and you will experience a different level of fatigue. Your heart rate is also different than serving a basket of balls all in one-time where your heart rate stays relatively low, it will resemble a more realistic condition.

REPETITION FACTOR: Everyone knows repetition is the key to success. Only by performing a skill again and again can we achieve a decent level. Consider starting every rally or drill with a series of serves. This will give you a different perspective on how your body reacts to a different kind of repetition just as on a real match play.

POINT FACTOR: As you know in a match, the serve is connected to the next shot. Rarely do we serve, ace, and the point is finished. More likely we must hit a few shots to finish the rally. What does it mean? To have a decent serve, a player should practice staying connected with the next shot. You can mark a small area in the service box and have a player serve to it every time. If he misses the area, the serve is called out. It puts pressure on your player and allows him to train the serve followed by the next shots.

Don't ignore your strengths, but practice, practice, practice your weaknesses. See you on the courts!

Sidekicks **Western Dance Judy Sullivan**

It is wonderful to see our dancers back in full swing of things. Most of the snowbirds have returned and are back on the dance floor with us. A majority of the past-years' dancers are still dancing with us, and many new dancers have joined the floor. We are very excited that our group has grown to over 100 members.

One of the wonderful things about our group is the support that we give to one another. If some dancers are not able to dance due to an injury or surgerv, they still come to the group dance night even if the only thing they can do is watch. They all encourage each other, and someone always has something positive to say about the dances or the group. We are very thankful for Peggy and Al teaching the beginners class this year and for Bill and Lois to continue with their review class. Jim and I are so thrilled to see many dancers attend our review class as well as our absolute beginners class.

What a fantastic night of dancing on Halloween. Everybody had such a good time. Candies were strewn on the table for everyone to replenish their energy as the night went on. Most of our dancers were dressed up in costumes and we danced to Halloween music.

Jim and I taught a new dance called "1, 2 and Then Waltz" this past month and we practiced it over and over until most of us were able to dance it on Halloween to "Rock and Roll Waltz. It's a very fun and upbeat dance and everyone loved it. So proud of the beginners for learning this dance as it would not be considered a beginners dance.

We didn't have access to the Ballroom on Nov. 7, so we went out to The Town Square at Circle Square Commons and danced up a storm for one straight hour! Great turnout! It was great to see so many people there. It's a beautiful

sight to see everyone dancing around in a circle doing the same patterns in sync.

The holiday party is Tuesday, Dec. 5, with hot turkey and ham meals with all the yummy side fixings. If you haven't become a member yet, make sure to sign up so that you can come to this party. Guests of members are welcome to attend. The cost is \$10 per guest. We will also have 50/50 raffle. One lucky person will have an early Christmas present!

See you on the dance floor

- Tuesdays (4 p.m.): Beginners class with Peggy and Al.
- Tuesdays (5 p.m.): Weekly group

dance in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

- Fridays (11 a.m.): Teach/review class with Judy and Jim in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom.
- Fridays (noon): Absolute Beginners class with Judy and Jim in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom.
- Sundays (5 p.m.): Practice/review with Bill and Lois at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios.



Sidekicks Partner dancers on Halloween.

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Fitness Happenings

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Looking Ahead ...

Happy holidays from the fitness team! We have been working hard to ring in the new year with exciting new programs and more of the classes you love. Here's a glimpse of what you will see reflected on the January 2024, group fitness schedule:

More Balanced Body classes! We will be adding more of our fall risk reduction classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center. Currently these classes are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 10 a.m. Join Balanced Body to function better and reduce your risk of falling!

More Chair Yoga classes! We are adding Chair Yoga classes on Mondays and Fridays, at 10 a.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Currently these classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 10 a.m. in the Recreation Center Fitness Center. You asked for more and you got it!

New class! SPARC (Stamina, Power and Resistance, Circuits) on Mondays and Fridays, at 8 a.m. in the Recreation Center Fitness Center. SPARC is an athletic conditioning class, consisting of three, 10-minute circuits that focus on cardio training to improve stamina, power training to boost function, and resistance training for more muscle! You will have 10 minutes to complete each of the circuits and two minutes of rest in between each as you transition to the next station. Fire up your fitness and ignite your SPARC!

Be sure to look for the new Recreation & Wellness Connections guide that will be out in January. This publication will highlight all the specialty fitness programs (January through June 2024); we have some amazing classes in store for the community! In addition to fitness offerings, the Recreation & Wellness Connections guide will highlight many other wellness opportunities here at On Top of the World. We look forward to kicking off a happy and healthy new year here at On Top of the World!

Archery Club

Leslie McCormick



Here is news from the range! The club closed out the October events with a fun shoot. Over 40 people attended with members taking aim at various Halloween themed targets and using all shooting styles. Cake and drawings for take home treats ended the fun event.

In November, we had another popu-



DECEMBER 2023 FITNESS

world

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Zumba' Gold-Toning	STRONG	Remix Bootcamp	STRONG	Dance Aerobics
9:00 am	S.O.S.	BEAT	5.0.5.	Dance Aerobics	5.O.S.
0:00 am	Balanced Body	Chair Yoga	Balanced Body	Chair Yoga	Balanced Body
11:00 am	Get Fit While You Sit	Brain Power	Get Fit While You Sit	Move to Improve Parkinson's	Get Fit While You Sit
11:00 am	Zumba' Gold		Zumba Gold		Dance Acrobics
1:00 pm		Fitness Orientation*	Punch Out PD	Balance Assessment*	
3:00 pm	VYP Chair Yoga	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Chair Yoga		
5:00 pm		Hatha Yoga		Yoga	

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

ness Grientations and Balance Assessments are free. Space is Britted, To schedule on appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext 7534

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

1.1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Beginner/Intermediate Tai Chi	Warrior	Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi	Kardio Kickboxing	Warrior
9:00 am	Yoga	Pilates Fusion	Yoga	Pilates Fusion	Yin Yoga
10:00 am	STRONG	Yoga	STRONG	Yoga	STRONG
11:00 am	Roll & Recover		Yoga		Stretch, Flex & Balance
1:00 pm				Fitness Orientation*	

Arbor Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:00 AM - 8:30 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 7 PM

*Filmver Orientation, are free. Space is limited. To individual an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Eat. 7558

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 Swim	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Open Swim	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Open Swim
00 am - 12:30 pm	Lap Swimming	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	Water Volleyball Club	Water Volleyball Club	Water Volleyball Club	Scar
2:30 pm	Deep Water Fitness Class**	1:50 - 3:30 pm	1:30 - 5:30 pm	1:30 - 3:30 pm	Open Swim
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
 **Pet-based class For peoplingumes, please call (652) 854-9707 Ext. 7639

timber 1

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.

lar fun shoot (three arrows, ten ends) at long and short yardages and shooting at various animal paper targets. And then we ended November with a 600-round shoot (five arrows, four ends) at both long and short yardages.

The only way to improve, or even just maintain one's skills, is to get out to the range and shoot! Range hours are dawn to dusk every day except Monday mornings. Members continue to enjoy our scheduled theme fun shoots or more competitive distance shoots, or just stepping to the shooting line any day with fellow archers.

New members or prospective members wonder how they will continue with training or make decisions on purchasing and maintaining equipment. Some of our most experienced club members offer various clinics during the year for members who are brand new or relatively new to the sport.

In October, we held Archery Basics 101 focusing on what training is available within the club and externally, shooting on the range, equipment options depending on the different avenue's archery has to offer and what your next steps could be to improve your archery skills.

Then a class focusing on the barebow, recurve and Olympic recurve bow was held in November. This class covered what makes these bows different not only in shooting style but the differences in materials, bow sizes, initial setup, tuning and accessories. Our next class will focus on all aspects of the com-



ANNOUNCEMENTS Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be emailed to otownews@otowfl.com by the 12th of the month. December will be a busy month. A new board of directors will be installed at our quarterly club meeting, various shoots will be scheduled, and we have a holiday party planned. A club calendar is posted at the beginning of each month for all members.

pound bow from initial set up with accessories through fine tuning the bow.

has assembled a variety of suggested

videos on all aspects of archery. We have

also developed a mentor program for

one-on-one help whereby a pool of ex-

perienced members has offered to work

with inexperienced members in their

own specific areas of expertise.

In addition to formal clinics the club

Archery offers a lot of fun for anyone and allows you to be as competitive as you want to be. If you are interested in becoming a member, visit otowarchery. com > New Members and download the application form and required waivers. For additional information or to schedule your initial safety/training session, contact Mark at markdad06@gmail.com or 352-360-3436 or Bob at rpapirner@aol. com or 352-877-3144.

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On Top of the World	2023	HOLID	AY HOU	RS
	Christmas Eve (Suncasy, Dec. 24)	Christmas Day (Monitaly, Doc. 25)	New Year's Eve (Sunday, Dec. 31)	New Year's Day (Monday, Jan. 1)
Accounting	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Arbur Filmess Center	0 AH - 2 PH	CLOSED	9 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED
Bridgenst Continentications	CLOSED Office will close @ 3 PM on Friday, Dec. 22	CLOSED	CLOSED Office will close @ 3 PM on Friday, Dec. 29	CLOSED
Candler Hills Colf	7 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	7 AM - 3 PM	8 AM - 2 PM
Circle Square Coltoral Center	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Circle Square Commons	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
The Club at Candler Hills	11 AM - 5 PM	CLOSED	11 AM - 8 PM	CLOSED
Davidant Services	CLOSED Office Will Close = Noon on Friday, Dec. 22	CLOSED	CLOSED Office Will Close © Noon on Friday, Doc. 29	CLOSED
Indigo East Fitness Conter	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	Office Closed Fitness B AM - 9 PM	CLOSED
The Lodge at Candler Nills	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Master the Possibilities	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
On Top of the World Golf	7 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	7 AM - 3 PM	AM - 2 PM
On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion (Resains)	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
The Pub	11 AM - 6 PM	CLOSED	11 AM - 7 PM Normal Hours	TI AM - 7 PM Normal Hours
The Banch Fitness Center & Spa	8 AM - 12 PM Spa/Salon 6 AM - 12 PM	CLOSED	6 AM - 12 PM Spa/Salon 8 AM - 12 PM	CLOSED
Recreation Center	Fitness 9 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	Fitness 9 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED
Sales Center	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sid's Coffee Shop & Dell	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	7:30 AM - 3 PM Normal Hours



Open play early arrivals.





Cornhole Club

Vincent Stevens

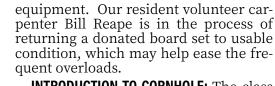
The Cornhole Club had another very busy month. Open play sessions were nearly all packed to capacity or overflowing, and league activities continued throughout the week. Mixed league matches continued Thursday afternoons with make-up or pre-play matches throughout the week.

OPEN PLAY: Open play takes place Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 4 p.m.; although play usually starts earlier. While we make every effort to accommodate all members in a timely manner, there are occasions where a short wait may be required. To accommodate the popularity of these open play sessions, we are working to acquire additional

Elite Men's Softball



As this story goes to press, Team Elite's inaugural season in the Sun & Fun Tri County Senior Softball League will be in full swing. After making it to the playoff round in the Plantation One Pitch tournament, our opening day opponent was the winner of that tournament, Stonecrest – a powerhouse team with a long and illustrious history. Down nine to one early, Team Elite came roaring back late in a slugfest that saw the tying and winning runs left on base in the bottom of the last inning in a 19 to 18 loss. Al-



INTRODUCTION TO CORNHOLE: The class is on hiatus over the holidays. We will resume early next year.

LEAGUE PLAY: Competition is beginning to take on some heat as we move further into the season. In the mixed league, The Hokies (Bruce Combs and Bill Ballweg) and the Old Pokes (Bill and Brenda Andrews) are battling for first place with an eight-win one-loss record, followed by the North Stars (Kevin and Karen Jensen) and the Jokers (Vickie Foster & Vince Stevens) with a six-win and three-loss record so far. With six weeks of competition remaining, the winners slot remains wide open.

In the ladies' league, Chris Lopez and Robin Ballweg are holding the honors.

though we came up one run short, the game was a confirmation that while we are a new team, we are already able to compete against the best the league has to offer. In addition, the game was wildly entertaining for the fans present.

Our second game, against Holiday Travel, showcased our defense and power as we parlayed three home runs into a six to four win.

With all teams having a bye during Thanksgiving week, we will have played six games when this story is printed, four being at home. The team is looking forward to an ever-increasing fan turnout as the word gets out about the quality of play and the fun atmosphere that goes with it. Come on out and bring a friend or two; we'll see you at the ballpark.



oom Elito

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R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



Like full-sized sailboats. R/C sailboats accelerate by the wind's force on their sails. It's essential to understand the interaction between the sails and the wind. The interaction is complex, involving lift, drag, and sail trim. The goal is to balance these factors to achieve efficient forward motion and control the boat's direction according to the wind's direction. A radio receiver and a single servo motor move both the main sail and the jib simultaneously, and another smaller servo moves the boat's direction using the rudder. The skipper controls the sails and rudder using a radio transmitter similar to your TV clicker.

WIND FORCE: When the wind blows over the sails of an R/C sailboat, it creates a pressure difference between the windward (front) and leeward (back) sides of the sail. This pressure difference generates lift, similar to how an airplane wing generates lift due to the Bernoulli principle..

THE ANGLE OF ATTACK: Controlling the angle of attack of the sails is crucial. The angle of attack is the angle between the sail and the direction of the oncoming wind. By adjusting the angle of attack, you can control the lift and drag generat-

Shuffleboard

Walt Lamp

We recently had our annual ice cream social in the Arbor Activity Center. Plenty of ice cream along with toppings, cake, and cookies were provided. Our annual bingo game with door prizes was called by Charlie and Vicki Lentz. A fun time was had as all the different shifts were represented for the get together.

October Men/Women

Monday (a.m.): Charlie Lentz/Jane Frost. Tuesday (p.m.): Lou Fisher/Dottie Migliaccio. 30– Anne Cosma, Laurel Bischoff, Jane Boyer, and Ray Nault. ed by the sails. For beating upwind and reaching where you're sailing closer to the wind, you generally trim the sails with a smaller angle of attack to maximize forward propulsion. Trimming or, pulling in, or letting the sails out must be done precisely with the mainsail and jib to catch the wind effectively.

RUNNING DOWNWIND: When sailing downwind, you're not sailing into the wind but with it. In this situation, the wind pushes the boat, and you aim to maximize the wind's force on the sails. The sail are moved at a right angle to the

wind to capture as much wind energy as

KEELS: Most R/C sailboats have a weighted keel to prevent excessive drifting sideways and keep the boat upright. The wind pushes against the sail, causing the boat to heel and eventually turn over, but more than half the boat's weight is in a piece of lead at the end of a long lever (keel). The lever pries the boat upright, countering the wind force on the sails and long mast.

RUDDER: To control the boat's direction, you use a rudder. Adjusting the rudder's position allows you to steer the boat into the wind or away from it. A tiny servo motor moves the rudder and is controlled by the skipper holding his radio transmitter.

Races are held every Wednesday and Sunday, at noon, at Tuscawilla Park's west pond in downtown Ocala. Contact Gene at 772-678-5101 or Bernie at 816-678-3817 with any questions.

Thursday (a.m.): Rick French/Annette Hodges.

The next Introduction to Shuffleboard class is Saturday, Dec. 9, at 11 a.m. at the shuffleboard courts at the Veterans Park. Paul Hodges will teach the class highlighting the rules, scoring, safety, and the basics for shooting the disc. Open-toed shoes are not permitted.

For more information on shuffleboard, call either Jane Boyer at 352-509-7142 or Walt Lamp at 352-304-8711.



Email your ad to otownews@otowfl.com by noon on the 12th of the month. See Classifieds page for more information.





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Golf Club

December 2023

Fit Tips

36C

James "Buddy" Head 352-387-7559 james_head@otowfl.com

Curbing Holiday Calories

Holiday time is very special. We gather with family and friends, celebrate, and ... eat! Big buffets, cookies galore and party, party, party! So how do we participate in all the festive fun but curb the calories? Here are a few tips to help keep you happy and healthy this holiday season!

FIT TIP #1: Keep moving. Exercise will not only help provide you some extra "wiggle room" for cookie calories, it will help to manage stress that can sometimes creep in at this time of year. (Take a group exercise class for every holiday party you attend)

FIT TIP #2: Outsmart the potluck. Bring a healthy dish when you are going to a potluck affair. Bringing a dish that suits your eating plan allows you to engage in all the party pleasures and eat guilt free. (Be mindful of how much sugar is in your food. Check food labels which are required to highlight "added sugar.")

FIT TIP #3: Get plenty of zzzzs. The busy holiday season can sometimes infringe on your sleep quality. When you get less sleep, it can interfere with blood sugar regulation and will likely leave you craving high fat, high-sugar foods. (Strive to get seven to nine hours of sleep every night.)



Weight Loss Group



Happy holidays! December is the hardest time of the year to keep your weight in check. A wide variety of foods are available that we don't see all year long. You want to eat them, and that's okay. You do not always have to say no. There are ways to eat what you want and still meet your weight loss goals. That's where we come in.

Weekly, we review different scenarios that you can use to meet your goals. Healthy cooking, recipes, exercise, and tips are shared. Follow the food plan that works for you! It can be difficult to navigate but we are here to provide help.

Join one of our Weight Loss Groups. Over 35 of your friends and neighbors are already attending and making better choices with their food and exercise and reaching their goals!

There are two opportunities to meet each week. On Mondays we meet in the Hobby Building Art Room. Weigh in starts at 4:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 5 p.m. Linda Sisco is the leader. On Tuesdays we meet in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room. Weigh in begins at 9:15 a.m. and the meeting begins at 10 a.m. Gail Hopper is the leader.

Visitors are always welcome. Come and join us for a meeting and see if our group will work for you!

For questions and additional details, please email Linda at ljsisco@comcast. net or Gail at gbhopper@yahoo.com.

MEDICARE





Halloween line dance social

Line Dancing Tamara Stanford

Would you like to learn basic line dancing in 2024? There will be an Introduction to Line Dancing class starting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV. The hour-long class will meet on Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. for 12 weeks. The instructor is Patty Hainzl. There is no fee or ticket needed to attend. Patty requests that you call her at 352-861-6572 to register. She will answer questions you may have about the class.

Line dancing is a great social activity. You will meet new people who share your interest in dancing. Line dancing promotes fitness and helps maintain balance. No partner is needed to attend as dancers step to music as a group.

In October, line dancing held a social party in the Recreation Center Ballroom hosted by Kathy Cornell. The theme was 'Wacky Tacky Halloween", and many

dancers wore costumes. The costume winner was Paula Turner. Tickets were drawn for prizes. Gail Lagges, Bruce Hathaway, Hyla Peterson, Marge Bolton, and Jean Meier were the prize winners.

As always, there were many laughs, good conversation with friends, and a sense of accomplishment when dancing. The first dance social in 2024 is scheduled for Jan. 20. Details for the dance social will be provided in December.

In December, line dancing continues at The Town Square on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Recorded music plays until 9 p.m. If you are considering learning line dancing, attending on Thursdays would give you a good idea of the type of music and dances available to you. Keep in mind that The Town Square will be closed in January for four to six weeks for renovation. Thus, there will be no Thursday line dancing.

Should you have questions about line dancing, contact instructor, Darlene Miller, at 352-259-3696.

A reminder to all registered line dancers, there is a wealth of current dance information at webuse.com/otowdance/ main/. See Donna Gordon should you have questions about the website.

OTOWInfo.com

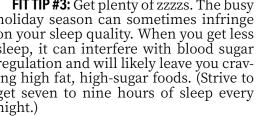
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MRI, CAT Scan, PET Scan at an Imaging Center	\$0	\$85
In-Patient Hospital	\$110 per day 1-6, Then \$0	\$175 per day 1-6, Then \$0
Comprehensive Dental Annual Dollar Maximum	\$3,500 Annual Mzx	\$2,500 Annual Max
Durable Medical Equipment costs	\$0 (Except 20% on motorized scooters & wheelchairs)	20% Coinsurance
Vision	\$300 Allowance per year for Eyewear	\$250 Allowance per year for Eyewear
Transportation	48 one-way trips annually to clinical and pharmacy and grocery locations	No
Over the Counter Items (OTC)	\$150 every 3 months	\$60 every 3 months
Dental, Vision and Hearing Flex Allowance	\$500 annual benefit	No
Prescription Drug Benefits	Standard Retail	Standard Retail
Preferred Generic Drug Copay (One month supply)	\$0	\$0
Generic Drug Copay (One month supply)	\$0	\$5
Preferred Brand Drug Copay (One month supply)	\$35	\$45
Moffit Cancer Center	Yes	No
The Villages Health	Yes	Yes
Shands Hospital / UF Health	Yes	Yes

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All benefits are not available on all plans. The Dental, Vision, and Hearing Flex allowance is a yearly benefit and any unused amounts do not roll over to the next year. The OTC allowance is a quarterly benefit and any unused amounts do not roll over to the next quarter.

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Horseshoes Club

Vern Kessler

All Horseshoe Club members sincerely hope that everyone's Thanksgiving was a happy occasion, and that the upcoming Christmas holiday will be even more memorable. Merry Christmas!

October has come and gone, and now November is passing too quickly. Will November pass and leave the Horseshoe Club without a chance to meet and show you just how much fun horseshoe pitching is? To show you how friendly the club members are? Don't let that happen, come out on Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. and join us in pitching horseshoes.

The club welcomes our newest member – Ed Stinnard – and returning snowbird – Ed Ebbighausen.

Practices take place on Thursdays, at 10 a.m.

Unfortunately, the Horseshoe Club did not have a representative attended the Tri County traveling league meeting in November. I received emails about the traveling league meeting and requested that they keep our Horseshoe Club informed as to what the future holds for having a team participate.

The horseshoe pits at Veterans Park are there for everyone's use any day of the week. If you go to the horseshoe pits to pitch some shoes, I implore all of you to first remove the large white PVC pipes that cover the metal stakes in the pit areas. On Top of the World maintenance was gracious enough to install these covers for us. This was done to keep everyone safe while in the horseshoe pit area and not throwing shoes.

Contact Vern Kessler with any questions that you might have concerning pitching horseshoes or about the club. Just text or call 321-268-3179.

Billiards Club

Phil Panzera

We have our premier social event for the year coming up soon, our annual Christmas dinner/dance on Saturday, Dec. 16, in the Recreation Center. We have a lovely meal planned, which has been heavily subsidized by the club from our United Healthcare benefit program. In fact, tickets for the \$40 per plate meal are only \$20 for members. Ticket sales generally end on Dec. 1.

At the time of this writing, we have two weeks left in the 2023 fall league. We can nevertheless pass on congratulations to two teams who have already locked up first place in their respective divisions.

With a nine to one win-loss record, Team 6 has dominated the Wolves Division. leam members include John Greene (captain), Bob Stubbs (co-captain), Dave King, Michelle Marcinek, Cindy Ortiz, Dennis Pitman, Al Sable, and Don Wright. With an eight to two win-loss record, Team 2 has captured the Lions Division. Team members include Bob Schmitt (captain), Joe Amigliore (co-captain), Phil Franklin, Bob Kuebler, John Marcinek and Mike Romano. One of these two teams will be the league champion, based on their comparative records at the end of the session. The winner will be announced next month. After a break for the holidays, the next league will start in January. There will be plenty of advance notice posted in the room, along with additional details by email. Our next quarterly tournament, the Winter Medley, will be on Tuesday, Dec. 12. It will be a fun combination of eightand nine-ball, and the members had a great time last year. Flyers for the tournament and Christmas dinner are posted in the room, or call 352-804-5498 for more information.



December is the month when families visit to celebrate the holidays. The Veterans Park is very popular for families to play shuffleboard, cornhole, and use the playground. Just a reminder that guests must have a resident with them along with their resident ID or Gateway of Service pass.

The equipment for shuffleboard and cornhole is in an outside trunk behind the storage shed. Reserved hours for the registered clubs are posted on the bulletin boards. There are many free times that non-club members and their guests can play. We ask that you abide by the few simple rules posted by On Top of the World. No open toed shoes, food or beverages are permitted. Water is acceptable. Enjoy shuffling.

Ladies Shuffleboard welcomes new players all season; you need not know how to play. Our goal is to have fun, form new friendships, enjoy retirement, and most of all to learn how to play shuffleboard as it was meant to be played, with skill, technique, and strategy. Who better to teach you, but our own seasoned players? Come join us.

In October, our sponsor, Michael Riley of Estate and Retirement Resources, Inc. presented 14 logoed shirts to new players. Michael has sponsored our club for eight years. Michael also presented our season winners with trophies: 1: Cindy Engler; 2: Sandy Welch; 3: Kathy Kloos.

October

10–Barbara Russell. 9–Jeanine Hargis, Kathy Kloos. 8–Helen Fye, Thersa Dougherty, Vicky Sanders.

See bulletin board for 30-plus scores. Happy shuffling! See you on the courts



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39C

On Top of the Wheels Car Group

Bill Bender



Jerry and Michele Ouellette Manter, of Indigo East, own a very "special" 1937 Buick Special 46C - four passenger convertible coupe. This car, a rare model, has had an award-winning restoration/ modernization. To add to that, the car has been owned by his father, Stanley, and then Jerry, since 1939. That's right! In the family for 84 years!

Stanley bought the Buick in 1939. A few years later, World War II called him to serve as a B-24 crew chief. During that time the Buick was placed in storage back home in Connecticut.

After the war, looking for a place to rest and relax, Stan hooked up his travel trailer to the Buick and drove from Con-necticut to Key West, Florida on A1A. This was a trip that he made several times in the late '40s.

In 1951, Stan and his wife, Jean, brought their newborn son home in this car. The car served as the primary family car from 1949 to the mid-50s. It then morphed to "second car" status un-til the early '60s. Jerry remembers his dad teaching him how to drive the car and how to drive it like a tractor pulling rocks and stumps from their new front yard in 1962.

The Buick was then stored in the family's basement garage from 1962 until 2004. It was then that Jerry and Michele loaded all their worldly possessions in a U-Haul truck with the Buick on a trailer in tow. They traveled across country from Connecticut to their new home in Boise, Idaho. The car sat in their Boise garage for two years, until their restorer of choice, Gino Raga, could take on the project.

The restoration was under way from 2007 to 2013 and the car's debut was at the Boise Roadster Show in Boise. It is mildly customized but looks quite original on the outside. However, underneath is a modern drivetrain including air conditioning that allows Jerry and Michele to travel in comfort. As a car restored to be driven, they drove it extensively while living in the northwest.

The Buick was again stored from 2019 to 2022 while Jerry and Michele traveled full-time in their motorhome. In 2022, while spending the winter in Silver Springs, they came to On Top of the World and discovered what a great place it could be to live. They ended up buying a home in May 2022, in Indigo East.

After getting settled later that summer they had the Buick shipped from Boise to Ocala. Since that time, they have been thoroughly enjoying attending area car shows, meeting new people, and also joined On Top of the Wheels Car Club.

So, what is next for these "cool kids" and their Buick? A trip to Key West, of course!

If you are interested in special cars, contact Bill Bender at 864-386-1197.



1937 Buick Special 46C.

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Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack

The Tesla Owners and Enthusiasts

Club enjoyed lunch on Friday, Oct. 27, at the Blackwater restaurant in Yankeetown, Florida after arriving in an eight-car caravan.

The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II.



Bill Brackner, Carol Brackner, Tina McCoppin, Myra Noel, Donna Josephson, Joe Josephson, Robert Lammon, Don Noel, Mike Ball, Linda Nesbit, Kathy Norris, and Kevin Norris.

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Service Times

Sunday School · 9 am Sunday Worship · 10 am & 6 pm Wednesday Worship · 6 pm

Upcoming Activities

- Luncheon
- Monday, Dec. 4: Ladies Prayer Luncheon
- Sunday, Dec. 10: Evening Christmas Cantata
- Saturday, Dec. 2: Ladies Christmas Sundays, Dec. 24 & 31: No Evening Service
 - Sunday, Jan. 7: Ronnie & Mary Lou Warren Gospel Concert (6 pm)
 - Tuesdays: Pastor's Porch Men's Gathering
 - Fridays: Men's Prayer Meeting

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All the events, fun and more!

Choo-Choo Over to the Holiday Train Display

By Jim Lynam

The Model Railroaders are pleased to announce that the club will be providing a holiday train display inside the Master the Possibilities building. The display will be available for viewing commencing at noon on Monday, Dec. 4, through Friday, Dec. 15. The Lionel gauge trains will be available for self-operation whenever the building is open. Just throw the switch and watch as the train begins to move, and the layout lights illuminate!

The club will also be hosting its 12th annual holiday open house from Thursday, Dec. 28, through Saturday, Dec. 30. The Hobby Building Train Room will be open for visitors from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

The members will have multiple trains running continuously on the Garden scale, Lionel scale, and the main HO layout. There will be passenger trains, freight trains, work trains, and yard trains running simultaneously throughout the city and countryside. For those of you who remember "the good old days" of railroading, you will be amazed at the variety of steam engines that will be pulling the consists. There will also be diesel locomotives representing the



Holiday train layout at Master the Possibilities.

Photo by Jim Lynam

more modern era running the main-line and performing yard switching duties.

For all who are young, or young at heart, the club has added the famous Lionel Polar Express with many of the sights and sound-bites from the famous movie.

The entire room will be filled with the sounds of railroading, from the squealing of hot brakes on the turns, the bell of the engine working the yard, to the haunting and "throaty" steam whistle warning the automobiles at the crossings. The room will change from daylight operation to twilight time and the layout lights will twinkle in your eyes adding to the enjoyment.

adding to the enjoyment. Also new this year, the scenery crew has created a festive winter diorama to celebrate the holiday season. The club encourages residents to

The club encourages residents to bring their friends, neighbors, children, and grandchildren to both the holiday display at Master the Possibilities, as well as the holiday display open house on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Christmas in the Hobby Building Train Room.

The club also encourages you to visit the Hobby Building Train Room any Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. Come on in and run some trains with us.

The Model Railroaders Club is always looking for new members, and you are welcome to join us. Our next club meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 6, in the Hobby Building Event Room. If you have any questions, please call Jim Lynam at 352-861-2822.

May your present under the tree result in a train running around the tree! Wishing you the happiest of holidays!

A New Neighborhood -A New Band



When Rod Catapano and his wife, Sandra, moved into Ashford this past September, Rod wondered where all the musicians were, and Sandra, a former cafe owner from Connecticut, took up a new "pastime," decorating. And while her creative vibes moved Sandra's interior designs along smoothly, Rod, a longtime acoustic guitarist and instructor (tennis star, John McEnroe was a student) was meeting with like musicians.

Band music is a collaboration of likeminded musicians who bring together their creative notes, and "make music." Of course, it's never that easy. Creativity, by its simplest definition challenges others to rock in the same rhythm, who in turn, may have their own interpretation of that rhythm. So as Rod Catapano met and played music with other musicians from Ashford, he was pleasantly surprised how easily they all fell into the same rhythm. "The sounds were all good," Rod told us, "almost from the very beginning."

And so the band, Area 81, was born. Interestingly, the Area 81 musicians are from different parts of the country. On keyboard is Alan Ellison from Cincinnati, Ohio; guitar is Dave Stewart, from Detroit, Michigan; Marshall Meadows on drums, from Maryland; bass guitar Tom Hauenstein, hails from Ohio; Rod Catapano on acoustic guitar is from New York City, and the band's chanteuse, Ce-





leste Crosse, joins us from Maryland.

On Top of the World Communities has bragging rights for talented residents. They may be writers, craftsmen, musicians, or decorators – the list is never ending. Area 81 is evidence of some of that talent. To hear their music, you can call Rod Catapano at 646-856-2378.



Photo by Ray Cech

Hats created by Happy Hookers.

2023 - That's a Wrap

By Jan Spielvogel

A very merry Christmas and a happy new year from Happy Hookers. May your blessings be great during this holiday season and 2024 a wonderful year for you.

As we look back on 2023, the amount of charitable work we have accomplished is amazing. 242 hats and 160 scarves! They will be distributed to Marion County Public Schools homeless division and homeless in Dunnellon.

100 scarves will be used to stuff the Sewing Bees' Christmas stockings for disadvantaged children in Marion County.

In addition, over 90 crochet/knit afghans have been distributed to Bears & Blankets and Hospice of Marion County. The Bears & Blankets program is part of the Marion County Sheriff's Office. The blankets and bears/stuffed toy are kept in the patrol cars and used in the event a child is removed from a home, fire, car accident, etc. They provide warmth and comfort for the child during a stressful situation.

We also want to make you aware of a change to our meeting start time. Effective in January 2024, Happy Hookers will begin meeting at 1 p.m. instead of 1:30

p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room.

Happy Hookers is open to all residents. Through 2023 we meet on Mondays, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agenda, or 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, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering, and handcrafting of all kinds. This is a very talented group that's never too busy to help someone with a difficult pattern or stitch. We 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.

The very talented - Area 81.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

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nd prices subject to change without notice. Reduced ticket prices for residents of On Top of the World Communities and Stone Creek apply to Circle Square Cultural Center produced shows only. (Resident ID required when purchasing at box office.) Ticket prices do not include sales tax. Refreshments available for purchase at events. To arrange for handicap seats, call or visit the ticket effice. *Free tickets not available online. Tickets must be picked up at the Circle Square Cultural Center box office during normal business hours. Limit two per household. **Online tickets subject to a convenience fee. ALL TICKET SALES FINAL





Dawn Corey sewing and embroidering to give items a personal touch.

Artistic Crafts & Gifts

Chris Kilbride

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

Our website 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 over fifty on Tuesday, with even more online for their visual presence. All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday show.

This month we feature Dawn Corey, who arrived here with her husband Matthew and precious miniature golden doodle Molly in 2020. Born and raised in Garden City, Michigan, she started sewing at the age of 10, with her first sewing customer when she was 12. Her dreams of being a fashion designer were cut short at age 19 when family issues arose. But before long she was hired at Michigan Bell, and through various promotions, had a wonderful career.

Even with an early retirement, she continued to become a self-styled fashion designer making over 500 wedding gowns, wedding party dresses, and theater costumes. Years after buying a small embroidery machine to embellish gowns and costumes, her next venture started with a 10-needle commercial embroidery machine. New directions now include making towels, shower curtains, large travel handbags, jackets, and many other items with embroidered designs.

This is Dawn's third year selling her towels, bags, blankets, and hats with custom embroidery. Her craft show customers can't wait to see what new and funny designs have been created, and ask for custom orders too! Dawn has many referrals as a seamstress doing alterations and sewing for people in our community. One of her wedding gowns was even featured in the July 2023 Ocala Style magazine!

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, so you can see everyone's crafts even if you can't get to the weekly show. Any vendor can make arrangements for you to purchase items throughout the week.

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



'Tis the season of giving. And, if you truly want to surprise your loved one(s) with something unique, consider purchasing or commissioning artwork from any of the talented resident artists!

Take Maria Adrian for example. "Art is a form of relaxation for me," says the accomplished colored-pencil artist. "I love creating realistic portraits of beloved pets. Even though it takes 30 to 50 hours to complete a picture, the smiles on the recipients' faces make it so worthwhile."

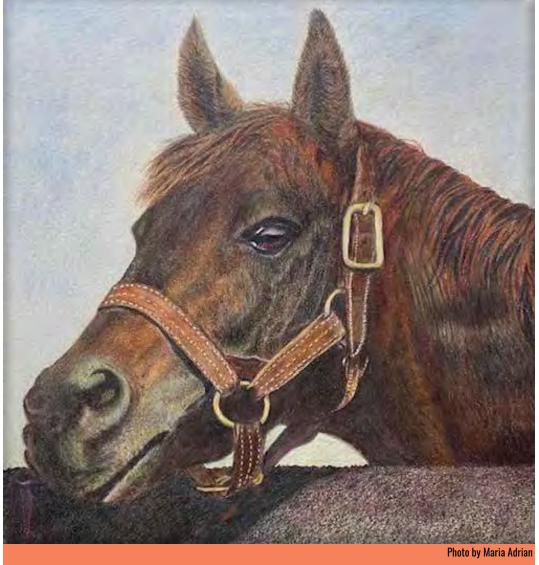
Patti Bowes takes a different ap-

proach. "As a child, I was the math nerd," she confessed. "I didn't try my hand at art until I retired. Last winter, I discovered watercolor postcards and had great fun making Christmas and birthday cards for my friends." Patti plans on selling her postcards at the annual Craft Fair.

Maria has been commissioned by many residents to draw their pets. Her works and contact information, along with that of other artists, can be found at artgroupotow.org.

You can also visit or join the artists in the Hobby Building Art Room three days a week: Wednesdays, from 1 to 4 p.m.; and Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information about the Art Group, contact Freda Klump at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com.



Ocala pride by Maria Adrian.



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Bingo



While November has come and gone, the Bingo volunteers wish to recall two of our most successful evenings. On Wednesday, Nov. 8, we honored the veterans present at our session with a round of applause and a veteran-only raffle. Volunteer Kathy Folkers made certain each veteran received a raffle ticket. Our president, Carl Folkers, then pulled the lucky tickets which awarded these eight vets with a gift card as a small token of our thanks for their service. Winners included Ed Harvey, George Mikulcik, Frank Salazar, Roy Skidmore, Lance Davsko, Andy Rocafort, Dick Stetson, and Sande Caton.

Our biggest night was super bingo, Wednesday, Nov. 15, when \$2,200 was portioned out to our winners!

With the completion of Thanksgiving traditions, the Recreation Center Ballroom is turned over to December's hustle and bustle. It becomes alive with so many special activities that bingo takes a well-earned break. You can look for our volunteers at many of these other events, particularly the Holiday Fest on Wednesday, Dec. 13.

On Wednesday, Jan. 3, however, bingo will be back to begin another year of fun and games! While we turn the page into 2024, our basic program remains true to past practices. 70/30 raffle tickets will go on sale near 4 p.m. They can be purchased three for \$1 or 10 for \$3. Sometime about 5:40 p.m., lucky \$20 tickets will be pulled from the spinning drum. Be on hand to try your luck!

Playing cards will continue to be sold, beginning at 4:30 p.m., for \$1 per card. Players must present a valid resident ID. Guests are permitted as long as a resident signs them in; there is no charge for guest players. We play 20 games including a cover-all minus one and a full cover-all every session. Guests must be 18 to attend.

There are only a few simple rules to follow: one seat, other than your own, may be saved; no alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, mixed drinks) are permitted on the gaming floor; entry into the ballroom happens after the maintenance crew sets up our tables and chairs. We remind people it's often easier to enter the building on the parking lot level and use the elevator to reach the ballroom. Be especially careful leaving after every session.

From the 45 bingo volunteers, we extend our wishes for a safe and happy holiday season!



Veteran raffle winners.

Photo by Nancy Grabowski



Bridge



Monday Afternoon

By Carol Johnson & Shirley Stolly

Oct. 9

1: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac; 2: Marlene Floeckher & Diane Robinson; 3: Caryl Rosenberger & Barb Heller; 4: Pat & Debbie Quinn.

Oct. 16

1: Steve Sekac & Jack Heller; 2: Barb Heller & Caryl Rosenberger; 3: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 4: Judy Mackowiak & Rik Saffol.

Oct. 23

1: Shirley Stolly & Carol Johnson; 2: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac; 3: Mike Meirick & Craig Ford; 4: Marlene Floeckher & Diane Robinson.

Oct. 30

1: Darlene Clark & Linda Curtiss; 2: Carol Johnson & Shirley Stolly; 3: Rik Saffol & Judy Mackowiak; 4: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett.

Tuesday Night Duplicate

By Bob Kraus

We begin play at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II. Please arrive by 5:50 p.m. to sign in and allow us to set up the game. Bring your partner and \$0.50 per person.

The boards are scored after the game and the results emailed to our group. The prizes are distributed the following week to the top teams.

You can also play occasionally as a substitute if that's what you prefer. Contact us and we'll put you on our list. For more information, contact Bob Kraus at 352-492-8525.

Oct. 17

North/South

1: Sophie Redman & Jean Krueger; Tie at 2: C.J. Daane & Carolyn Higgins: and Dennis Wallace & Judi Wallace.

East/West

1: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 2: Drew Brehm & Brian Lomasky: 3: Gary Moses & Diane Turkin.

Oct. 24

North/South

1: Caryl Rosenberger & John Baru; 2: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 3: Brian Lomasky & Drew Brehm.

East/West

1: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 2: Paul Agarwal & Dan Lack; 3: Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp.

Oct. 31

North/South

1: C.J. Daane & Carolyn Higgins; 2: Diane Turkin & Gary Moses; 3: Caryl Rosenberger & John Baru; 4:

Thursday Night

By Jeff & Pam Bell

Our group is growing! Thanks to our unofficial recruiter, Rik Saffol, we have been running four to five tables of players and are close to maxing out our room.

We are a welcoming, relaxing bunch of party bridge players. We meet weekly at 6 p.m. in the Recreation Center Event Room located at the rear of the Ballroom. If you haven't played for years, just finished the bridge classes at Master the Possibilities or are a great player who just likes a "no-stress' bridge game and getting to know some nice folks, our group is for you.

You do not need to bring a partner; we pair up by the luck of the draw and rotate partners throughout the evening. Bring 25 cents and a smile.

Take a trick with the two of trump and you may even end up with a prize.

Oct. 12

1: Billie Anderson; 2: Al Whitford; Tie at 3: Mary Bloch and Paul Agarwal; 2 prize: Steve Sekac.

Oct. 19

1: Rik Saffol; 2: Carolyn Higgins; 3: Mar Valchin; 2 prize: Mike Brody.

Oct. 26

1: Dave Dickerson; 2: Carolyn Higgins; 3: Billie Anderson; 2 prize: Al Whitford.

Nov. 2

1: Jean Krueger; 2: Rik Saffol; 3: Carolyn Higgins; 2 prize: Bev Merick.

Nov. 9

1: Rik Saffol; 2: Bill Cottrell; 3: Paul Agarwal; 2 prize: Bob Durst.

Bunco Babes Social Group



There is no bunco in December.

The group meets in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV, on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Jan. 23. 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 48 players. Please make sure you arrive on time to reserve your spot. It will be first come, first served. Always check the World News for the latest updates for our group.

Although the name of our group is "Bunco Babes," we have a few hus-bands who attend as well. If you enjoy the game, don't be afraid to be a "bunco dude.'

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 rules are simple and will be explained before the start of play. The cost is \$3 per person (please try to have exact change) 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 healthy and be safe until we meet again!

Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp.

Nov. 7

North/South

1: Diane Turkin & Gary Moses; 2: Dan Hall & Jeff Bell; 3: Sophie Redman & Jean Krueger.

East/West

1: Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp; 2: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 3: Paul Agarwal & Dan Lack.

Wednesday Afternoon

By Debbie Quinn

Oct. 4

1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Vern Sieber; 3: Rik Saffol; 4: Phyllis Silverman; Cons: Bob Durst.

Oct. 11

1: Mary Bloch; 2: Carolyn Higgins; 3: Pat Quinn; Cons: Dianne Robinson.

Oct. 18

1: Pat Quinn; 2: Mar Valchin; 3: Dianne Robinson; 4: Linda Curtiss; Cons: Marlene Floeckher.

Oct. 25

1: Shirley Stolly; 2: Pat Quinn; 3: Al Kremer; 4: Dianne Robinson; Cons: Bruce Gillett.

Thursday Afternoon By Marlene Floeckher

Oct. 5

1: Phyllis Silverman; 2: Marlene Floeckher; 3: Pat Quinn; 4: Judy Mackowiak; Cons: Mary Bloch.

Oct. 12 1: Linda Curtiss;2: Debbie Quinn; 3: Rik Saffol; Cons: Billie Andersen.

Oct. 19

1: Mike Meirick; 2: Pat Quinn; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Marlene Floeckher; Cons: Judy Mackowiak.

Oct. 26

1: Judy Mackowiak; 2: Billie Andersen; 3: Beverly Meirick; 4: Dianne Robinson; Cons: Carolyn Higgins.

GOING OUT OF TOWN? View or download a PDF of the World News at ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala.

Cribbage

Judy Parisi



An enthusiastic group of cribbage players gather to play cribbage in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II on the first and third Thursday of each month from 3 to 5 p.m. If you are a cribbage player or played in the past and would like to get back in the game, we hope you will join us. All skill levels are welcome, and we help one another out with no 'muggins.'

Cribbage is played with a standard deck of cards and a cribbage board with pegs that enable you to track your points. The first team or person to reach 121 points is the winner of a game. We typically will play three or more games and we rotate tables after each game. A game can be played by two, three or four players.

If you would like more information or like to join us, please email judith.parisi@gmail.com.

The World News



Friday Night By Mary Bloch

Sept. 1 1: Angela Brady; 2: Nancy Kowsky; 3: Danny Brady. Sept. 8 1: Phyllis Wall; 2: Diane Rickard; Tie at 3: Lawrence

Remer & Edith Kolb. Sept. 15

1: Karen Jacob; 2: Carol Čondino; 3: Pete Jacob. Sept. 22 1: Kim Pritchard; 2: Karen Jacob; 3: Robert Moravec. Sept. 29

1: Jim Kelly; 2: Phyllis Wall; 3: Mary Bloch.

Mah Jongg



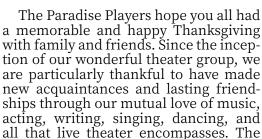
American By Angela Brady

This weekly game of American Mah Jongg is open to all eligible residents. All skill levels are welcome. While the game will not be taught during this time, players are willing to help beginners. The games begin at 1 p.m. every Thursday, in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room. Please arrive a few minutes early as we will draw chips for table assignments. After three or four games, we will switch tables so we can make new friends and change up the game play. Come join us for a couple hours of fun.

For more information, please contact Angela Brady at 407-403-0861 or agbrady@peoplepc.com. Jokers to ya!

Paradise Players

Liz Elliott Lieberman



aver

Tuesday Night By Herb Katz

_Oct. 3

1: Pat Noel; 2: James Tomaszek; 3: Kathie Dushary. Oct. 10 1: Rick Carroll; 2: Judy Wagnitz; 3: Mike Romano. Oct. 17 1: Gayle Argano; 2: Herb Katz; 3: Mike Romano. Oct. 24

1: Jackie Nuccio; 2: Evelyn Ebbinghausen; 3: Gayle Argano.

Oct. 31

1: Jackie Nuccio; 2: Judy Fries; 3: Bernard DiGregorio.

Friday Morning By Mary Hannon

Oct. 13 1: Ilene Casper; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Bruce Gillett. Oct. 20 1: Ilene Casper; 2: Judy Black; 3: Al Whitford. Oct. 27 1: Edna Frye; 2: Herb Katz; 3: Al Whitford. Nov. 3 1: Judy Black; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Ilene Casper.

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View from the Library

Walt Lamp

This book review is of a man, who many of us have heard of but perhaps not all his accomplishments. Born April 5, 1937, in Harlem, New York, he lived in a few neighborhoods with a mixed racial population throughout his youth. His family consisted of his father, Luther; mother, Maud; and older sister, Marilyn.

After high school, he enrolled at the City College of New York. He got his first taste of the U.S. Army by signing up for ROTC (Reserved Officers' Training Corp); part of it spent in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After graduation, he underwent basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he would first learn about racial intolerance in America. He was transferred to West Germany, where he learned first-hand of the defenses and dangers of the Cold War. Then, in 1962, he went to Vietnam for the first time.

Upon his return, he was assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He was then sent to Korea for a year. After that, he was assigned back to Vietnam for another tour. Returning home, he started his move from the U.S. Army to citizen-life. He worked in President Nixon's office of management and budget. After a brief Army tour, he was asked to join President Carter's National Security Council.

He became the assistant secretary of defense under Frank Carlucci in the Reagan administration. After a brief spell as senior military advisor to the new defense secretary, Casper Weinberger, he left for Germany again, where he became commander of V Corps, whose primary duty was to stop any Russian advance over the border in case of war. He was called back to Washington, as assistant to Frank Carlucci, who was national security advisor to the president. Within a year, he became the national security advisor.

He was mentioned for vice president in 1988, but nothing came of it. In 1991, he was appointed chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. In 1993, he retired from the assignment and the Army. He continued humanitarian work until he became the security of state under President Bush. Upon retirement, he continued public-speaking engagements and spending more time with his family.

In 1996, there was a "strong" public desire to see him run for president. His reply was, "America has moved from not serving a black man lunch at a public counter, to elevating one to the highest office in the land. I am proud to be her son, but I cannot run. Thank you."

Before becoming secretary of state, he said publicly, "Good for America, this must be the measure of all we do!"

So, there you have Colin Powell and his book, "My American Journey."







social aspects of our group are a large part of the old stage proverb that we are definitely "one big happy family!" We always need seamstresses, wardrobe staff, musicians, backstage crew, electricians, sound engineers, and artists who can paint stage sets. We are currently casting for an Elvis impersonator and any Las Vegas type acts.

We are proud to announce some new members who have recently joined the cast of "The Platinum Girls Go to Las Vegas!" Welcome to Pati and Jan Bean, Kathleen Foster, Sherri Reichgott, Frank Giammerella, Rino D'Amico, Florence Florival, and our vocal coach, Anabel Parra.

Our director, Lee Smith, has engaged the gracious services of the Woodshop, who have kindly offered to build a set for the show. We also give thanks to the Ballet Club as some of their lovely ladies will be appearing as dancers in the show. Such great collaboration for the good of our community!

Please mark May 5 and 6, 2024, on your calendar as our performance dates. Ticket sale dates will be posted in next month's column.

Meetings and rehearsals are on Wednesdays, at 3:45 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio II.

We extend our very best wishes to you all for a happy holiday season and a joyous, healthy, and prosperous 2024!

For more information, please contact Lee Smith at otowparadiseplayers@ gmail.com.



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October Karaoke Friends prop night.





MADEINTHEUSA

Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



The creative juices were flowing Monday, Oct. 16. The singers put on great performances for prop night. The singers think of a song they can enhance by either wearing an outfit to go with it or bringing a prop. Sometimes they bring someone as a prop based on the words of the song. Here are some songs we enjoyed.

Charlie had a huge homemade cowboy hat. He also had a white horse. He sang "Long Tall Texan." The song talked about his hat and horse. Darlene sang, "Even Now" by Barry Manilow. She wore her robe. I wore a cut out hourglass figure to sing "Big Spender." Charlie had big dollars he was pass-ing around. We had Nancy wearing a blowup outfit sporting curlers. She had everyone laughing as she sang Rod Stew-art's "Do You Think I'm Sexy?" She had all the moves.

Karen came in her flapper outfit and sang "Chicago" and "Secondhand Rose." Karen even did the Charleston. Donny wore his floppy black hat to sing, "It's Me Again, Margaret." He is a stalker who finally gets caught. That always brings laughs. Vicky, wearing a purple wig and leather outfit, did Step-penwolf's "Born to Be Wild." Vicky also played the piano during the instrumen-tal section. Bill sang, "Put a Girl in It." Darlene and Stephanie ran up to answer the request. Russ had his big hand and sang Rod Stewart's "You Don't Know Me." The hand is perfect for the song. Peyton had his floppy hat and coat and binoculars. He looked like a nerdy

and binoculars. He looked like a nerdy bird watcher. He was not watching birds. He was "A Girl Watcher." Laura had a Navy hat and an anchor top. She sang "Navy Blue." She was so sad her steady boy signed up to serve. Patty had us all laughing. We laughed the entire time she sang "Laugh Laugh." She had a stuffed puppy that rolled around, and belly laughed the entire time. Ed, also known as Elton John, sang "Sad Songs known as Elton John, sang "Sad Songs Say So Much." Lorraine brought Charlie Chaplin back to life dressing like him and singing the song he wrote "Smile." Her mustache acted up which gave us all a big smile. You could not see Tom's face until he lifted the piece on the helmet. He sang "Major Tom" by Peter Schilling. Rose did a great "Hello Dolly" medley. It set our toes tapping. Phil brought his jukebox with him. He warned us "Don't Rock the Jukebox.

Karaoke is always an enjoyable night. Come join the fun. We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays. Dec. 4 will be our Christmas song night. I am sure Christmas songs will continue Dec. 18.



Toppers Banjo meets every Thursday, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Arbor Conference Center Music Room. We are preparing for some presentations. One is for the Ukelele Club on Dec. 13, at 2:45 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Music Room. We also are starting to put together a program for the Scandinavian American Club in January 2024.

For folks who just want to come and listen to some good music, we have about 600 songs in our repertoire from all sorts of sources covering the Civil War until now. We play every week, and we welcome visitors.

In recent weeks several banjo and acoustic guitar players have joined us in playing and singing banjo music. If you like to play, come, and join us. If you just like to listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

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MR. AND MRS. BLINDMASTER \$50 value. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offers. received and popular the game of juke-box bingo has become? When it was first

Elaine Morrison

suggested to the social committee as an activity that might assist the neighborhood residents in getting to know each other, it sounded like it had some merit. Who doesn't like listening to songs and then guessing their titles and performers? And possibly get a prize for doing just that.

Who could have imagined how well

The second jukebox bingo game in November, attracted over 175 participants who were not disappointed by the frivolity and camaraderie. It was a bring your own beverage event, and a lot of

food and drink swapping was evident. One of the song categories had a patri-otic theme and our neighborhood took the opportunity to celebrate their veteran residents. Participants were asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the holiday drive for Interfaith Emergency Services. The addresses of drop boxes in the community for this purpose were provided.

A new event, a holiday cookie swap will be held on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Candler Hills Community Center. Participants are asked to provide three dozen cookies of their choice, to share, along with a recipe. Punch will be provided as well as boxes for taking home any leftovers.

The much-anticipated holiday party will be on Monday, Dec. 11, in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. The caterer this year will be Brick City, with music supplied by DJ Scott Bolton. A photographer will be available for a special photo opportunity. Tickets are \$55. Flyers were distributed through-out the neighborhood with details about ticket sales. For further information about this or any of the other activities contact Jeaton1000@comcast.com.

Kestrel Knowings

The World News



Photo by Norma Spilde

Veterans day parade.



The Veterans Day parade Saturday, Nov. 11, was well-attended, with many resident veterans participating. Des-ignated charities included Operation Shoebox, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Voices of Change Animal League (VOCAL), Bears and Blankets, and the veterans.

The Fun with Golf Carts is the reigning champion of the annual holiday parade! This year's event will take place on Saturday, Dec. 2. Members are reminded to display a homemade 5" x 8" Fun with Golf Carts sign on their golf cart wind-shield. Let's win the trophy again! Parade participants should be at the Recreation Center parking lot at 1 p.m. The parade will leave from there at 2 p.m.

The New Year's parade will take place on Saturday, Dec. 30. Join us to welcome in 2024!

The Fun with Golf Carts motto is "parade for a cause." The parade starting point serves as a location for donating to the local charities that we support. Residents congregate to make donations of cash and supplies, and then they watch our parade head out. We all have a lot of

fun cruising around in our "mini floats." The Fun with Golf Carts Facebook group is now at 550! Follow us Facebook for the latest information (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts)!

If you have a golf cart, please consider decorating it (or not) and joining us. For more information and to receive emails about this club, please email otowfun-

withgolfcarts@gmail.com. All club parades start at the Recreation Center, with lineup and charitable 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.

Concert Chorus David Wesenberg

It's time to sing. Our presentation, "It's a Most Wonderful Time of Year" will have two performances, Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The program includes 15 song arrange-ments from "Christmas on Broadway" to "The Chanukah Song" all for our wonderful and appreciative audiences.

The Concert Chorus began with a deep field of directors this fall. Randi Schmid and Peggy Bumatay directed our spring program. Cheryl Richardson and Joanne Housten are new to the chorus and come from a background working together over a long career with high school bands and choruses. We have been richly blessed with talent. And you

dear reader have also been blessed with talented directors who will present a sterling program of holiday favorites.

We have a great group of singers, many of them new people. Some of our numbers are from past choruses. And of course, some faces will be sorely missed. But the chorus has a wonderful collection of voices be they sopranos, altos, tenors, or basses.

For those who love to sing, it is not too late to join us Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Music Room to begin rehearsals for our spring program. Our dues are currently \$15 per concert season which provides us with music, props, and technical audio support at our concerts.

The Concert Chorus is open to all residents and Gateway of Services passholders. Please be sure to always bring your resident ID.

If you plan to join us, contact Mary Ann Majni at flmam68@aol.com for further information.



Concert Chorus bass section.

Holiday Fest

By Linda Meyer

Get your holidays off to a great start! The annual Holiday Fest will be held in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Wednesday, Dec. 13. We start at 6 p.m. with homemade cookies provided by our generous residents. The cookies go well with hot chocolate and coffee, which is provided. This is a free event. It's going to be a fun filled event! So, come and enjoy an evening with your friends while munching homemade cookies, drinking hot chocolate and coffee and enjoy some wonderful entertainment.

Our entertainment will include, the Dulcimer Group, a Hanukkah story, and the Dancing Jewels just to mention a few. There will also be the annual favorite sing-along of the 12 Days of Christmas – Southern style!

If you would like to contribute cookies, please deliver them to the Recreation Center Ballroom from 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 13.

For more information about the Holiday Fest, contact Linda Meyer at 973-809-3338 or linda_a_meyer@yahoo.com.

GOLF CART REGISTRATION

Bring golf cart, resident ID and insurance policy (stating amount of bodily injury). All residents in household must be present.

Resident Services 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday No inspections during inclement weather.

Resident Services is closed daily from noon to 1 p.m.

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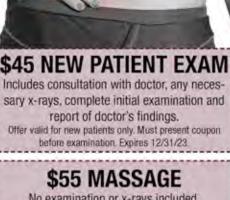
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HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 4 - 8 PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | DANCING | FOOD TRUCKS | WINE & BEER FREE | OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



THE

TOWN





GOLF CART PARADE JUDGING AND AWARDS AT 4 PM

50/50 RAFFLE - DRAWING WILL BE AT 7 PM PROCEEDS GO TO

Limberly

Center

THE TOWN SQUARE WILL BE FESTIVELY DECORATED RING YOUR CAMERA

SQUARE

DECEMBER 14, 2023

Detroit, Michigan is known as the Motor City and the birthplace of Motown music. Eddie Watkins Jr. was born and raised in Detroit. He began his professional musical career at 17 years old playing bass guitar on recordings with the Temptations and Marvin Gaye. His funky bass guitar skills and soulful vocals combined with his 5-piece band will bring the sound of Motown to Sholom Park.

Gates Open 5:15 PM | Concert Begins 6 PM | No Entry After 6:15 PM

\$25 First Class | \$15 Coach

Detroit,

Michigan

First Class includes admission and an exclusive tasting menu representing food from Michigan, reserved seating area, and you'll skip the food lines with our new concierge service.

PARTICIPATING FOOD TRUCK

Ziggy's Taste of Detroit

Detroit, Michigan Exclusive Tasting Menu:

- Mini Lamb Gyro and/or Mini Chicken Gyro
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- · Faygo Pop (made in Detroit)

Additional menu items available for purchase.



Advanced registration is required. Register at SholomPark.org/park-after-dark. 7110 SW 80TH AVE., OCALA, FL 34481 • 352-861-9751 (EXT. 1) atano 12/28

The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski

As you read this, know that The New Pretenders have just six formal rehearsals remaining before we present "Another Opening, Another Show!" For us, that is incredibly exciting! Amidst these practices, we will spend some time selling tickets in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

The ticket sales begin Jan. 3, 2024, from 8:15 to 10:15 a.m.; then, troupe members will return every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday throughout the month. Reserved tickets are \$10 and general admission are \$8. Prices have remained steady to encourage our audiences' support. As a reminder, the building is not unlocked until 7 a.m. so there's no need to come earlier. We will hand out numbers beginning about 7:30 a.m.

You must bring that ticket with you when you attend the selected performance: Friday, Feb. 2 or Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, at 7 p.m. or Sunday, Feb. 4, at 2 p.m. Unfortunately, there are no tickets sold at the door. We hope you'll arrive a bit early to be a part of our "pre-show" warm-up slated to start about 10 minutes before the curtain. Having our audience involved pumps us up for amaz-

> RESIDENT ID CARDS Resident Services 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Resident Services is closed daily from noon to 1 p.m.

ing results!

The production, "Another Opening, Another Show" represents music and comedy across many genres and encompasses quite a few eras. We know you'll remember some of our selections, so we encourage you to sing along or tap your toes. Perhaps, you'll recognize outstanding individual performances with extended applause. We just love it when you do!

We need to recognize, too, our behind the scene members. First and foremost is Randy Schmid, our sound engineer and IT wizard! His amazing talents help us present some old, familiar music in a new, refreshing, unexpected way. Listen for some of these very things in our show. Dick Emmons will focus the spotlight on us. You'll notice our videographer, Darryl Kenyon, and our photographer, Lennie Rodoff, capturing the perfect shots of the entire production.

Jeanne Wise is the head usher and the over-seer of the backstage. Our little dynamo seems to be in a hundred different places, making sure costumes are perfect and we are in the right space at the correct time.

Glory Herget, Jan Fulton, Marge Reed, and Barbara Benyaker work tirelessly, attending to the tiniest of details. Do you know how many miniscule buttons, jewelry clasps, and shoe buckles need to be secured?

Glory finds time to step into a few numbers on stage, too! Janet Juhlin lends her expertise to hair and make-up. As the saying goes, «It takes a village." We love the one we inhabit!

This is the time of year we generate our funds to continue and to support local Marion County charities. We do thank you in advance for making it all possible.

For more information, talk to any member or contact Nancy Grabowski, director, at 352-209-4699.



Newcastle residents enjoyed dinner, fellowship, and entertainment at St. Mark's Greek Orthodox Church.

Newcastle Social Committee

Nancy Monaghan

Late breaking October news on the cornhole tournament and chili cookoff ... it was a fight to the finish for last year's winners, Donna and George Isaac. However, congratulations go to 2023 cornhole tournament winners, Mike McCauley, and Brett Sinclair.

Newcastle voted on nine delicious pots of chili and Jan Christ and Roger Bentley won bragging rights as the 2023 chili cookoff co-champs. Congratulations to all!

Halloween costume winners were Pat and Jim Giaclone in the funniest category as the crybabies. Jim Southworth was voted most original as Venetian blinds. Jim Gilleland was the scariest as Herman Munster.

The best group costume was the Addams Family meets the Munsters. The Addams Family and Munsters theme songs were played to set the scene. Herman crashed through the doorway when he heard the music, followed closely by the rest of the Munsters. It was a fun, fun night. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks again to the Halloween hosts and their helpers.

Newcastle has been busy with regular activities, weekly mah jongg, samba and pickleball, and monthly book club and social committee meetings. We have had some other special events as well.

John and Evelyn Stephanos sent their thanks to the 22 Newcastle residents who came out to support and enjoy the Athenian dinner at St. Mark's Greek Orthodox Church. Great food, friends, and cause. Don't forget to mark your calendar for next year's dinner scheduled for Nov. 2, 2024.

A holiday cookie swap was held at The Lodge at Candler Hills just before Thanksgiving. Hostess and baker extraordinaire, Debbie Bianchi, shared her best baking tips.

Newcastle is also busy gearing up for the holidays. We kicked things off in November with an afternoon outdoor get together at the home of John and Evelyn Stephanos. Neighbors shared desserts and enjoyed visiting before the holiday rush.

Light up Newcastle took place at the end of November, including this year's addition of neighborhood luminarias. Thanks to the Dodges for the hot cocoa bar.

In addition to those activities, the Newcastle elves have been hard at work preparing for our third annual holiday party in December. This year's theme is "It's a Wonderful Life in Newcastle." The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom will be beautiful with unique, themed decorations created by the talented and dedicated elves. The evening will include a catered dinner and dancing. Celebrating the holidays and creating traditions with our Newcastle family is the best part of the party. As Clarence wrote in his note to George Bailey, "Remember, no man is a failure who has friends. Happy holidays to all!



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Holiday Extravaganza

DECEMBER 6, 2023 • 1 - 2:30 PM CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER

COURSE #: STR124 . MEMBERS: \$3; GENERAL PUBLIC: \$8

Celebrate the holidays with us! Join Master the Possibilities as we showcase students from some of Master the Possibilities' arts and humanities programs. Of course, a few festive holiday treats and refreshments will be served. It will be a great, festive event to experience.



REGISTRATION AVAILABLE ONLINE 24/7 AT MASTERTHEPOSSIBILITIES.ORG OR CALL (352) 861-9751. NEW IN 2024 AT Recreation Center

More Chair Yoga! MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS - 10 AM RECREATION CENTER BALLROOM

Gain the health benefits of Yoga with the assistance and support of a chair. The chair provides the ability to modify both seated and standing yoga postures.

SPARC MONDAYS & FRIDAYS

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS + 8 AM RECREATION CENTER GROUP FITNESS ROOM

SPARC up your inner warrior in our new STAMINA, POWER, AND RESISTANCE CIRCUITS class! SPARC is a metabolic conditioning workout with three. 10-minutes circuits. This workout will build musicle while boosting endurance and power. You will have 10 minutes to complete each of the 3 circuits and 2 minutes of rest as you transition to the next station ignite your SPARC and fire up your fitness]

More Balanced Body!

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS + 3 PM RECREATION CENTER GROUP FITNESS ROOM

The exercises in this class will help you improve your strength and balance. The focus of this class is fall risk reduction. All of the exercises use chains for both seated and standing exercises.

> On Top of the World

Rubber Stamp

Linda Lohr

Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton

On Thursday, Dec. 7, at 9:30 a.m. the Indigo East ladies luncheon committee will sponsor a ladies holiday breakfast buffet catered by the Breakfast Station. The breakfast will include scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage links, home fries, pancakes, French toast, biscuits with gravy, and fresh cut fruit. Also, orange juice, coffee and hot water for tea and instant decaf coffee are available. There will be an ornament exchange in lieu of a grab bag. For those who wish to participate, please bring a new ornament valued between \$5 and \$8 to hang on the ornament tree. The game, Sherry's Christmas tree bingo will be played. There will be door prizes and centerpiece giveaway. There also will be Santa's Shoppe vendors for last minute gifts. The breakfast promises to be jam packed with fun. This is a ticketed event.

In addition to the holiday breakfast, the Indigo East ladies luncheon committee has several fun events planned for 2024. They have scheduled Mardi Gras, Cinco de Mayo, and an Easter potluck. Each of these gatherings guarantees to be full of fun and surprises.

Saturday, Dec. 9, in the Indigo East Community Center, the Indigo East Social Committee holiday party will be held. This will include assorted appetizers, yummy desserts, many door prizes, and dancing to music provided by our very own DJ, Frank. This is a ticketed event.

Tuesday, Dec. 12, will be the Indigo East holiday golf cart parade. Line-up will take place at the Indigo East Community Center at 5:30 p.m. The parade will pass through Indigo East beginning at 6 p.m. There will be an outdoor social after the parade for all participants. There will also be a prize for best in show

Since the holidays are arriving this month, here are a few holiday facts. Hanukkah is known as the festival of lights and follows the Hebrew calendar instead of the secular calendar. The inspiration for this holiday dates back thousands of years in Israel during the second dedication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. The candle placed in the temple only had enough oil to burn for one night, but instead, it burned for eight nights. Thus, the Hanukkah holiday is celebrated for eight days.

The tradition of Christmas trees goes back to ancient Egyptians and Romans who decorated with evergreens during the winter solstice. Santa was always dressed in green until 1931when Coca-Cola decided to use the image of a jolly old man for a magazine ad dressed in Coca-Cola red. People have been sending Christmas cards since 1843. In 1965 'Jingle Bells" was the first song to be played in space. Tinsel was originally made of real silver.

This year, Hanukkah is celebrated from sundown on Dec. 7 and ends at sundown on Dec. 15. Christmas is always celebrated on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve and Dec. 25, Christmas Day. I wish everyone a wonderful December and joy as you celebrate the holidays. Please stay safe in your travels. As usual, I'll see you around the neighborhood.



Our presenter for Thursday, Nov. 2, was Andrea Park. She demonstrated three different types of fun fold cards. Each card can be modified for any occasion

We thank Andrea for supplying all the instructions and stamps necessary to complete the great cards!

Our group is open to all crafters – beginners or those more experienced. One or two people do a presentation each month. The group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

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

For information on any class or for general information, contact Connie Press 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 Connie Press at connie.rubberstampclub@gmail.com. You can also find the information for each class on our Facebook page. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin'!

May you have a blessed holiday season and a prosperous new year!



Our November event, a potluck supper and Family Feud was a fun evening for all who attended. Congratulations to our winners. Did you know that you had all those trivia answers in your brain? Thanks to the committee for putting together another great event.

As this was our last event for 2023, we would like to thank everyone who attended our events this year and those who worked hard to put these events on. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in January, March, May, July, September, and November 2024! We are working on fun events for our Avalon residents bringing you additional opportunities to meet your neighbors.

The committee is already working on scheduling events for 2024 and we need your help. Reach out to Sharon if you would like to join the planning committee or be a helper at our upcoming events. We need everyone to make this group continue to be successful. Mark your calendar now for the second Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November!

Our January event is presently being planned. Watch for more information in the next column, via email or our Facebook group.

Are you new to Avalon or our social events? 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 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.

We wish everyone happy holidays and a great 2024 ahead!

Crescent Ridge Happenings Patti Doty

We had a fantastic turnout at the November gathering! So nice to have so many of our seasonal neighbors back to join us! Always fun to catch up, as well as meet new neighbors!

Please mark your calendar for our next monthly event on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Veterans Park pavilion. We will be having a "white elephant" (also called Yankee swap or dirty Santa) gift exchange at our December meeting that is always fun with lots of laughs! Please bring a gift (approximately \$15 value) if you would like to participate. Please also bring a side dish to share for six to eight people, a beverage of choice, and a folding chair in case all the bench seats are full. And don't forget to bring a few dollars for the 50/50 raffle!

We will be collecting non-perishable food donations for Interfaith Emergency Services again at our December meeting. Please consider donating to

this very worthy cause. Some requested items, especially at this time of year, are instant mashed potatoes, boxed stuffing mix, turkey gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, and instant milk.

We also collect aluminum can pop top pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House project and accept them at any gathering. If you can't attend the meetings, post in our Facebook group or email Carol below and we can provide pickup/drop-off locations.

If you are new to Crescent Ridge or have a new neighbor, please encourage them to join our email database to receive neighborhood notices, information, etc., by emailing Carol Lewis at crescentridgenhn@yahoo.com. You can also join our Facebook group (OTOW Crescent Ridge Neighbors). We all enjoy communicating with our neighbors and seeing their posts!

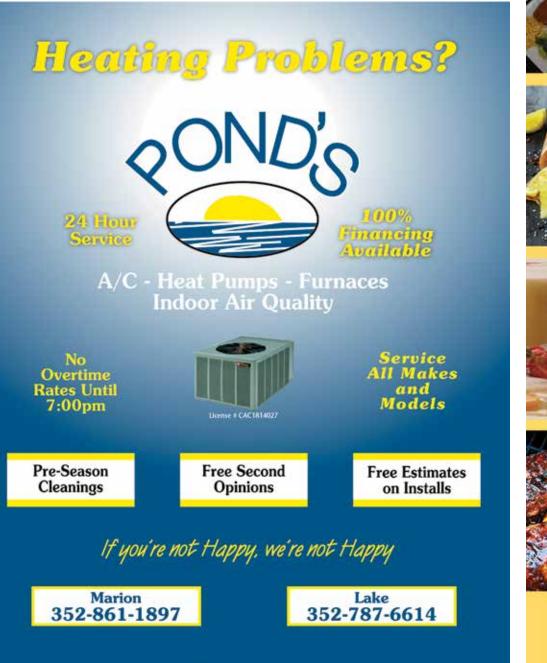
All Crescent Ridge and Crescent Green neighborhood residents are invited to join us at our regular monthly gatherings scheduled for the second Sunday of each month from 3 to 5 p.m. at the beautiful Veterans Park pavilion. Please mark your calendar. What a fantastic way to spend a Sunday afternoon!



Cards presented by Andrea Park.



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\$6.50 BREAKFAST Two eggs (any style) with home fries, hash browns or grits.

Must present coupon. May not be combined with any other offer. Limited time offer.

Original Theatre Group

Richard Rosen

Good grief! Charlie Brown! The Original Theatre Group is making their final preparations for the Sunday, Dec. 10 production of the musical comedy, "Boiled Peanuts." Remaining tickets for both the 2 and 7 p.m. performances will be on sale at our usual location at the Recreation Center upper lobby on Tuesdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Please check Facebook for updates (Original OTOW Chat Room).

In January 2024, our group will be holding auditions for the musical theater revue, "Two for One." Part one of the show will feature the theatrical music of the great Richard Rodgers' collaborations with Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein. In act two it will be "Pop Goes the Musical." This portion of the April program will feature hits from some of Broadway's great "Jukebox Musicals." Included will be "Motown," "Beauti-ful," "Mamma Mia," and "Swing."



"Boiled Peanuts" cast.



Sewing Bees

Ann Gallo

2023 has certainly been a year of growth for the Sewing Bees. We became a 501(c)(3) non-profit, have added some very talented members, and added a few more agencies to assist. Thank you to all the Sewing Bees who made this happen.

There is so much talent in our community and we welcome new members. If you have a long arm or embroidery machine, we would love to have you join our group. Dues are \$15 for the year. Everything we sew is donated to disadvantaged children in Marion County.

The Sewing Bees meet every Thursday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. We also meet the second and third Saturdays of the month from noon to 4 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room.

We provide sewing machines if necessary and all supplies to make a quilt.

Join our page on Facebook (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive. Stay up to date on what we are working on and what our current needs are.

Wishing you and your family health, happiness, peace, and prosperity this holiday season and in the coming new year. May the magic of the holidays fill your heart all year long.

Questions? Call or text Marsha Schneer at 813-920-3487 or Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178.



Go Gators! Sewn and embroidered by Dawn Corey. Quilted by Rolanda Jacobowitz.



Photo by Paul Stoecklin



Who says you can't have an Oktoberfest in November? We did and we all had a whole lot of fun! There was delicious food, Bavarian music, fun competition, great conversation and lots of laughter.

Many thanks to all who helped in preparation and clean up. It truly takes a "village!"

Our next event will be our holiday party on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. It will begin in the Hobby Building Event Room for a light dinner of soups, breads, and crackers followed by a fun activity! Then we will head over to our gazebo for a Christmas concert/caroling with a hot chocolate bar. This is a free event for Americana Village residents. Just come and have fun! Please check the postal center bulletin board for details. Looking forward to seeing you all there. We are always in the need of people

who would like to help in some way. Please look for sign-up sheets at each event. You all are the ones who make the fun happen!

Please call Julie Sloat at 814-720-5377 with any questions.



- HOA rules and regulations
- Warranty information

Community events

resources - Phone directory

Hurricane preparedness

FOR E-MAIL UPDATES, CLICK "JOIN OUR E-MAIL" IN THE SITE MENU.

nunity. On Top of the World Communitie On Top of the W orlida a 55+ co

NOVEMBER 27TH 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 11TH FOOD DRIVE



LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Our goal is to collect 7,500 pounds of non-perishable food, and we can't do it without you!

Let's all donate big! Drop off your donations at the following locations:

- · Calesa Township Welcome Cente
- Candler Hills Community Center
- Circle Square Cultural Center
- Colen Built Development Accounting

· Canned Vegetables

+ Canned Beans

· Peanut Butter

· Boxed Dry Pasta

· Jelly

Scap

Shampoo

Deodorant

- Indigo East Community Center & Fitness Center
- On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion, LLC Recreation Center

. Master the Possibilities"

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Items most needed:

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 - Hyglene Items:
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. The Club at Candler Hills

The Lodge at Candler Hills

· The Landing

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Center & Spa

- · Canned Soup
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The World News

Williamsburg **Neighbors**

Carmel Kessler

There are people in our neighborhood to whom you can say, "I am so happy our paths in life have crossed." One such couple is Steve and Kathy Becker. If you have not yet met them, perhaps your paths will cross this winter. Otherwise, you would have to travel to Michigan.

Steve and Kathy arrived in 2004. Steve recalled that they looked at eight to 10 retirement communities. Sholom Park had recently opened and Kathy said that if the owners built this beautiful park for everyone to share, it was the right place to live. Their first home was in Friendship Colony.

Michigan friends visited constantly the first year. They soon found a trail of friends moving into On Top of the World. Ron and Carolyn Abranovich, Bill and Donna Wirtz and Ed and Kathy Wilson came first. These gentlemen were all fraternity brothers of Steve's at Lawrence Tech in Michigan.

The Beckers met Jack and Erika Winkler while living in Lake St. Louis, Missouri, where Steve was a resident engineer for Ford. During Winkler's visit, the Beckers had to unexpectedly leave and the Winklers stayed put. Upon their return Steve found a note stating the Winklers had purchased the villa next door, which was not even on the market!

Moving back to Michigan the Beckers lived in a lake community where they met Art and Kathie Dushary who also moved here! Art's friend Terry and Ellie Connolly joined them here as well as Kathie's brother and sister-in-law Pat and MaryAnn Wendt. By this time, Michigan was markedly losing population to Florida.

The Beckers' influence and hospitality had Steve's cousins Chris and Adam Schuler becoming residents. Tom and Sue Caulkins followed the Schulers here.

It is a rare coincidence when you

Photo by Carmel Kessler

Neighbors Steve and Kathy Becker.

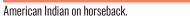
have the same neighbors, who lived on your street in two different cities. That is true for the Beckers and Tom and Nancy Meininger. The Meiningers were instrumental in Sue and Larry Latham and Joan Brand purchasing homes here. It is no surprise the Michigan Club is bursting at the seams! The Beckers' impact of people moving to Ocala was not complete until the arrival of their old-est daughter, Laurel and husband Jim Skrzypiec two years ago.

Charting the people who have come because of Kathy and Steve would look like a broad tree with many intricate and connected branches. They moved into the Williamsburg neighborhood in 2011, where they continue their snowbird lifestyle. Steve and Kathy are great planners and very organized keeping up with two homes some 1,000 miles apart.

Life has been a wonderful journey for Steve and Kathy, our neighbors.

CURBSIDE LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PICK-UP SCHEDULE Visit OTOWInfo.com > Resident Information > Garbage and Recycling Services





ShutterBugs Photography

Connie Filip

ShutterBugs are proud to present our best of show winner from this year's photo contest. Bob Wester's "American Indian on Horseback" was awarded first place, regardless of category, with our judges giving it the most overall points.

Bob came across his subject in Monument Valley, which sits within the Navajo Nation Reservation and is part of the Colorado Plateau. Bob entered it in our people category.

Bob noted that his shot was taken on a cloudy, overcast day and that he used his membership in Photoshop to make it even more dramatic. He's been working to hone his Photoshop post-editing skills, such as working with layers, by consulting with Photoshop experts to learn all the possibilities of the software. In this shot he created a more dramatic photo by enhancing the direction of the ning ribbons with their first photo contest entry. Several of them shoot with their cell phones and display both a creative eye and understand good composition. Thanks as well to the judges for their time in reviewing our entries, along with the helpful critiques they passed on each photographer.

We also thank our community residents who stopped by the Recreation Center and voted for their favorite photograph. Your people's choice results are being tabulated and will be announced later.

If you missed seeing our photo display in the Recreation Center in November, you can still see all our entries at otowspc.com.

ShutterBugs have also put together a display of photos to decorate the lobby of Master the Possibilities for the holidays. Please take a few minutes to look at them when you' re up there this month.

Want to learn more about digital? ShutterBug president, Harry Boyajian continues to facilitate our sharing of photography tips to improve our skills

in camera use and editing.

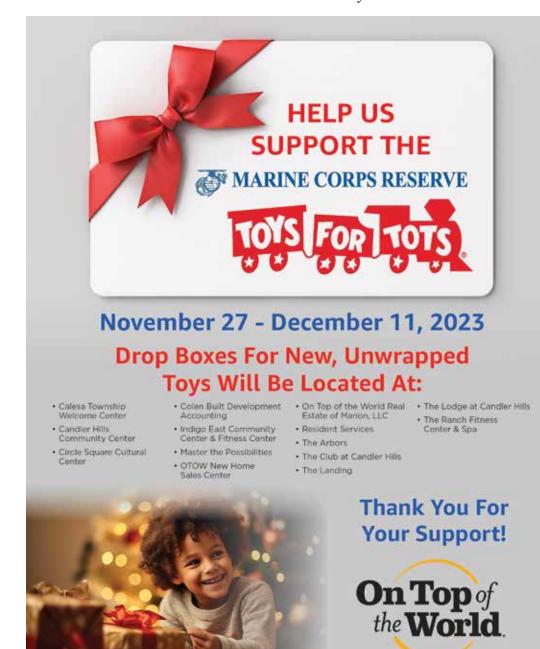




light.

Thanks to all the ShutterBugs who entered their photos this year. I was amazed at all the talent displayed this year! We had several new members win-

we generally meet for field trips the first week of each month, show-n-tell the third and an educational class the fourth Tuesday, at 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information contact Harry at 239-336-4804.



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Sept. 14: Island party.

Kane with the music.

otherwise noted).

learn about our activities.

Oct. 24: Annual fall picnic.

Dec. 13: Holiday party with Pas-

ta Faire as caterer and Kathleen

All events and ticket sales take place

Sign up at candlerconnection.org to

The next board meeting will be on

at The Lodge at Candler Hills (unless

receive The Happenings and/or join our

Candler Hills closed Facebook group to

Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 4 p.m. Any Candler

Happy holidays to everyone. May you have a wonderful Christmas and a

happy and healthy new year. Enjoy your

friends and families and have safe trav-

els. See you in 2024 at the Candler Hills

events. Blessings to all of you in 2024.

Hills resident is welcome to attend.

Candler Connection

Debra Keirn

I can't believe that Christmas is just around the corner. 2023 flew by so fast, and we are looking forward to the Candler Hills 2024 events.

The holiday party will be on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5 to 9 p.m. This bring your own beverage event will be catered by Gourmet Affair Catering with music by Tim Hargis. 240 tickets were sold in November. The menu will be mixed green salad, dinner rolls, a roast beef carving station, chicken topped with sun dried tomatoes and prosciutto in a white wine cream sauce, rosemary roasted red pota-

Longleaf Ridge Friends



The fall season brings the beautiful colorful hues of pink muhly grass blossoming all over Longleaf Ridge. The cooler season also welcomes back many residents with a lot of exciting activities.

The Longleaf Ridge ladies enjoyed high tea at Sweeties' Café and Tea House in Dunnellon, Florida. High tea originated during the Victorian era as a practice of having a small meal in the late afternoon to stave off hunger. Donna Siegfried organized this gathering, and it was hosted by Arlene Loepp.

was hosted by Arlene Loepp. The ladies were offered lovely hats and period appropriate clothing to wear for the tea. The afternoon fun focused on manners, lace, hot tea, and dainty foods providing lively conversations and lots of laughter.

Neighbors celebrated the Halloween season with our first annual dog-a-ween organized by Valerie Theobald with the help of Linda Ackroyd and Debbie Lovelock. The pups were well behaved, and delightfully costumed. The adults enjoyed snacks while watching the pooches parade.

Neighbors enjoyed two additional spooktacular Halloween events in the month of October. The first was a trunk

Clack 🌝

toes, ginger glazed carrots, green beans with bacon and onion, warm cobbler with cream, and coffee. It should be a great evening to celebrate the holidays with friends and neighbors.

There will not be a potluck dinner in December. A special thank you to all the volunteers who helped with setup and cleanup at the 2023 potlucks. You make Kip and my job a lot easier, and we thank you for all of your efforts. The next potluck dinner will be on Jan. 30, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. Watch for information in the January edition of the World News and in The Happenings.

The Candler Connection board has five open seats in January 2024. Any Candler Hills resident who wishes to fill a vacancy should contact Richard Steinfeldt at richst9@gmail.com, Karen Gemberling at klm4him@gmail.com or Brian Lomasky at lomaskyb@gmail.com

or treat event hosted by John and Mi-

chele Marcinek where partygoers deco-

rated their golf carts and shared various

treats. Participants dressed in costumes

and enjoyed music, dancing, games,

by Debbie and Kimberly Lynch. Neigh-

bors socialized, enjoyed delicious dishes

and treats, including frozen margaritas

prepared by Dave Feller, and ended the

evening with a best costume contest

ball-themed party hosted by Debra and

Bryan O' Connor and Carol and Ken No-

val. All shared fun and laughter as well

their favorite sports-viewing appetizers

Over 70 neighbors gathered for a foot-

with prizes.

Another Halloween bash was hosted

prizes, and a best costume contest.

before Dec. 15. The annual meeting will be held on Jan. 3, 2024, at 1 p.m. Come and meet the new board members and get reacquainted with the existing board members.

Here are the dates for our planned events for 2024 so that you can put them on your calendar:

- Feb. 16: Sweeties party with all attendees bringing a dessert.
- April 5: Spring sock hop with pizza and ice cream sundae buffet. Tim Hargis will DJ.
- May 5: Cinco de Mayo with a Mexican buffet and juke box bingo.
- June 16 & Aug. 11: Ice cream social with various flavors of ice cream and toppings and ice cream sodas.
 July 4: Independence Day pool party, with DJ and traditional picnic (hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, and desserts).

and desserts.

The men's group completed its first year of monthly luncheons and programs. The group was the brainchild of Gary Kuty who led the group with Stan Taylor. Stan secured wonderful speakers each month including senior level managers from On Top of the World, up to and including Kenneth D. Colen, as well as informative speakers from the wider Ocala area. Members treated each speaker with the upmost respect and their candid questions were addressed in a straightforward manner. Joe Kennedy and Joe Ferris will assume the leadership reins for the upcoming year.

As the holidays approach, neighbors are preparing for a luminary display throughout the neighborhood. To add to the festivities, Pete Kiziu (Mr. Snowman) announced that snowmen will be found in Longleaf Ridge once again this holiday season. Visitors are challenged to guess the number of snowmen on display throughout the neighborhood. Saturday, Dec. 16 marks the date for lighting the luminaries as well as the snowman counting challenge kick-off.

As our neighborhood grows, we look forward to welcoming all the many new neighbors to the Longleaf Ridge. Please remember to join our private Facebook page (OTOW Longleaf Ridge Friends) and provide your phase and lot number /address. Please send questions to otowlongleafridge@gmail.com.



Longleaf Ridge ladies enjoy high tea.

Photo by Donna Siegfried







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Sunshine Quilters

Teri Anzalone Penichet

During the past several months, the Sunshine Quilters have learned "sew" many new things! Thanks to our members generously teaching us new techniques and guiding us, we have completed many projects for ourselves and the charities we support.

In June, Vicky Sanders showed us how to color test fabric. Donna Boyajian taught us how to use thangles to create interesting quilt blocks, and Carol Pickens demonstrated a way to make many half-square triangles (used frequently in quilt designs) quickly and easily.

Poetry

Linda Toner

Helping Hand

I put all my food obsessions in a bag. Put your hand in it and take a grab. If it was up to me I'd eat them all. They talk to me, I don't want to fail. Every Saturday I'll ask you to pick. Just one of them and do it quick. So, help me keep my obsessions in check. Count me in, I still need help yet. With your support I can't go wrong. I'll eat that choice, thanks for helping me along.

Friendship Connection

Carron Janssen



I know December is here, but I want to give the names of costume contest winners from our October event. The winner of the scariest costume was Robert Fruewald as the grim reaper. He was scary looking! Carol Pickens won the funniest; Andy and Colleen Rocafort won for best couple; and Lorraine Bettica won most original. There were three winners for 50/50. The winners of the two door prizes were Laura Lasky and Uwe Janssen.

The people attending the October event were informed that we may not be able to hold more events because four people on the planning committee were retiring from their positions and there would need to be people stepping up to help. I am happy to report that Friendship Connection will continue! Retiring from their positions are Chair Carron Janssen, Secretary Cathy Clinton, Linda Hansen, the wonderful woman who put all the prizes and table settings together, and Darlene Harvey-Luedtke, who assisted Linda. Please welcome these new officers: Denise Sherman as chair, Jodi Geer as first vice chair, Angela Shuman as sec-ond vice chair, and Barbara Belter as secretary. The retiring officers will continue to help with events, our Facebook page, and this column. Others have also stepped up to help. For that, we all say a giant thank you! Without that Friend-ship Connection would have ceased to exist. That all being said, there are several changes that will be happening. For the new officers to get established, the Janu-ary event has been canceled. The next event will take place in March 2024. Details will be on the Facebook page and in a future column. The Friendship Connection planning committee would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. No matter what holiday you celebrate, please remain safe and enjoy the time with family and friends. Friendship Connection is open to all residents of Friendship Colony, Friendship Park, and Friendship Village only. Our events are scheduled quarterly, on the second Saturday of the month, from 4 to 6 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering to help plan, setup, cleanup, or serve please contact Denise Sherman at 704-650-7066 or Jodi Geer at 585-261-286, email us at otowfriendshipconnection@ gmail.com, or visit our Facebook page (Friendship Connection-OTOW).

During our summer months, we constructed jelly roll quilts with help from Ginny Fairhurst. Arliss Day guided us through completing blocks for our charity quilts, and we sewed many burp bibs to give to Alpha House. We also enjoyed a day of sewing and camaraderie at our August retreat.

Our September activities included making nine quilts to donate to Interfaith Emergency Services, sit-and-sew sessions to work on individual projects, and a bus trip to visit the Jacksonville quilt show.

In October, Gail Schultz helped us make lovely seasonal collage wreath wall hangings, and Linda Ward showed us how to complete them with unique borders. We ended the month with a fun Halloween party, admiring everyone's festive attire and snacking on yummy homemade treats!

Poetry Karen Demaree

Delusion

This world is but a mystery No one will ever solve. In its little galaxy It always will revolve. It cannot speak Nor cry for help, No one will lend an ear; For people have no worry To things that they may hear. But for myself, I alone, Cannot survive on flesh and bone. Grant me more than wisdom, Give me more than hope. Make this day of living One that I can cope. Today, I live for what I have, For tomorrow there may be A change to all these problems To break this bondage free.

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

November brought the election of new officers, our fall retreat, and more sit-and-sews (to finish those holiday/gift projects!).

In December, we plan to learn how to make folded fabric ornaments, courtesy of Sparrow Karcheski and Vicki Sanders,

November brought the election of to make diaper bags for Alpha house, w officers, our fall retreat, and more and to celebrate with a holiday potluck.

We are grateful to all our members who have helped us this year to make Sunshine Quilters such a wonderful group. We look forward to more great things in 2024!



Sunshine Quilters member Linda Ward displays one of the quilts donated to Interfaith Emergency Services.



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December 2023

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Appliances: Hamilton Beach all metal stand mixer, \$75. Hamilton Beach slow cooker, \$40. Wolfgang Puck food processor, \$80. Food hydrator, \$100. Dash waffle maker, \$20. 352-619-4947 or akn1946@ aol.com.

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Misc. Items: Various commemorative stamps (2004-2005). Stand up Rollator walker, easy to maneuver. 352-207-0733.

Sports Equipment: 2 sets of 6 Gold Tip traditional 500 feathers, \$45 each. 2 sets of 6 white Gold Tip 500 feathers, \$45 each. 2 sets of 6 Gold Tip 600 feathers, \$45 each. 2 sets of 5 Gold Tip ultra-light 600 vanes, \$55 each. 12 Gold Tip expedition 35/55 feathers, \$60 2 sets of 5 3-D Beman speed 500 feathers, \$60 each. Easton Carbon one 730 vanes, \$70. Galaxy Glass foam limbs 34# at 70" 36# at 68" \$45. Southwest recurve bow with string 62/35#, \$65. All arrows are 29" with nocks & points. 352-861-0735.

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Sports Equipment: Old Town fishing kayaks 106 (2) powered by Minn Kota. Includes Malone trailer with removable tongue, trailer jack, trailer spare tire, kayak cart, and much more. azdoubleeagle@ pm.me or 480-266-1400.

Tools: Ryobi 10" table saw on stand w/folding legs includes manual, \$60. 25' Stanley Power Lock II tape measure, \$7.50. 25' Stanley "This Old House" tape measure, \$12.352-873-8565.

Tools: Ryobi miter saw with 8-1/2' blade, \$85. 352-342-1026.

Tag Sales

Friday, Dec. 1: 8986-E SW 97th Street (Friendship Park), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 1 & Saturday, Dec. 2: 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friend-ship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon 8635-C SW 95th Street (Friendship Village), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • 9703 SW 96th Street (Crescent Green), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9206 SW 93rd Circle (Providence), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. · 8890 SW 84th Circle (Candler Hills), 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8 & Saturday, Dec. 9: 8227 SW 92nd Circle (Kestrel), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • 9771 SW 97th Place (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. · 8731 SW 76th Street Road. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. · 8738-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. · 8892 SW 84th Circle (Candler Hills), 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. · 9213 SW 91st Circle (Williamsburg), 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 15 & Saturday, Dec. 16: 8966-B SW 94th Lane (Friendship Park), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 16: 8626-D SW 97th Lane Road (Americana Village), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Services

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Furniture: Full size futon. Refinished solid wood rocker. \$200 for both/obo. 254-931-5403.

Golf Cart Equipment: Golf cart tires (2), 205/65-10", \$40. 352-342-1026.

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Misc. Items: EZ-Tracer projector with NE bulb, \$10. Lucy photo projector for advance drawing, \$45. 760 Pumpmaster Classic by Crossman Corp. air rifle, 177 caliber includes box of 250 pellets, \$35. Bathroom scales (2), \$10. Fancy walking canes (2), \$15 each. Beer steins, \$10 and up. 352-873-8565.

Misc. Items: Texas Hold' em/poker table custom made with cup holders, \$125. Blackjack table, \$25. Poker chips 700 pieces, \$60; 500 pieces, \$40; 300 pieces with carrier, \$30. Roulette wheels (2) built in custom wood holders with felt, \$60 each. Custom wood

Saturday, Dec. 2: 8978-B SW 95th Lane (Friendship Park), 8 to 11 a.m. · 7750 SW 88th Street Road (Indigo East), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Dec. 8: 9255 SW 91st Court (Renaissance Park), 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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