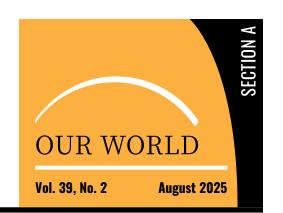


On Top of the World. TEWS

Where the news is always good!



Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Patriotic Celebration

It's been great to get so many positive notes and comments from residents about the Fourth of July Patriotic Celebration. This was our 14th year of hosting fireworks, and I'm proud to say that they went off on time, without a hitch. Granted, the weather was not co-operative after 4 p.m., but many of you persevered through the showers and lightning. This year's display was more spectacular than last (it gets better every year!). We appreciate hearing all the positive comments that all of you shared with us. We are already in the planning stages for 2026!

Community Updates

FOOD & BEVERAGE: In addition to The Pub being open, poolside cookouts will be scheduled from Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center, featuring rotating menus. Check out "Margarita Mondays" from 4 to 7 p.m. with drink and taco spe-

The Club at Candler Hills is now closed on Mondays through Monday, Nov. 3. To better serve our customers, new hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

THE SUMMIT IN LONGLEAF RIDGE: The building exterior is almost complete, and you should see most of the building colors soon. Be cautious around the entrance to the site, as we anticipate increased traffic with the removal of dirt from the excavation of the two pools, scheduled to begin later this summer. As a reminder, this will feature a 20,000-square-foot amenity, including a 6,000-square-foot ballroom, a card room, a large main pool, and a resistance walking pool. The estimated completion of this project is forecasted for the end of this year.

AZURA FITNESS CENTER IN CANDLER

HILLS: Sitework has started on this project inside the construction fence. The building construction is estimated to begin in the latter part of summer. We appreciate your interest in the project, but kindly request that you stay outside the construction site fence. This 8,000-square-foot facility will feature a large pool and is expected to be completed by winter 2026.

RECREATION CENTER: We hope you are enjoying the two new structures at the pickleball courts. The covered courts should allow more opportunities to play matches throughout the day and some evening events. We are nearing completion of the design for the renovation of the front of the main building. Once the design is approved, we'll share more details about this project.

NEW WOOD SHOP: We are collaborating with the Wood Shop membership on a new 7,200-square-foot building that will be constructed on the site where the Eco Gardeners Club garden was formerly located. This new building will also have separate suites and function as a general-purpose space for activities such as table tennis, ballet, and other

SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS: Beginning Monday, Sep. 1, the shuffleboard courts will be closed for resurfacing. The work is projected to take approximately three weeks, weather permitting. Opening is currently scheduled for late September.

CANDLER HILLS GOLF CLUB: By now, you may have noticed the return of green grass on the Candler Hills Golf Course. The summer weather has been a twoedged sword, slowing down work during the thunderstorms, but bringing great rain to help the newly planted Bermuda grass sprigs grow. The contractor is progressing as scheduled, and we plan on having all new grass installed by Aug. 15. While the goal is to reopen sometime later this year, weather will be the main driver to determine this timing. While this work is being performed, the Golf Shop will have reduced hours but will still be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Continued on Page 4A ▶



The fun never ends at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons.

The Town Square is Rockin'

By Dave DeAngelis **World News Writer**

After a tough day of playing golf or enjoying the endless activities available here in On Top of the World, why stop there? The rest of the day is just beginning at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons! Head on over there in the evenings to enjoy music, dancing, food, beverages, and some daytime shopping. Here's what's happening now through October from 7 to 10 p.m. (November through February from 6 to 9 p.m.).

- Favorites (Tuesdays): OTOW Dance to pre-recorded music.
- Boots & Beats (Wednesdays): Line dance to pre-recorded music with instructors Judy Sullivan, Chuck,
- and Donna Nelson. New event! Tunes (Thursdays): Dance to live music.

Trucks & Tunes (Fridays & Saturdays): Dance to live music and grab dinner at a food truck. The beverage kiosk is open.

Wednesday evening's Boots & Beats is a new, weekly line dancing activity with expert leaders Judy Sullivan from 7 to 8 p.m., and Chuck and Donna Nelson from 8 to 9 p.m. Judy explained that these events are not formal instructional line dancing events; instead, she shows attendees "dance steps and walkthroughs." If you aren't interested in participating in Boots & Beats, just hang out with everyone. Bring your refreshments.

Be ready for some upcoming events! Falltoberfest: Saturday, Sept. 27, 5

to 9 p.m.

Swiftie Pre-Show Party: Friday,

Nov. 7, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Food Truck Festival: Saturday, Nov. 8, noon to 4 p.m.

Holiday Celebration: Saturday,

Dec. 6, 4 to 8 p.m.

Don't forget the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Here you will find fresh, seasonal produce, baked goods, plants, and handmade products. And on Thursday, Aug. 7, come on out and celebrate National Farmers Market Week (#nationalfarmersmarketweek) with a giveaway at 9:30 a.m. The first 30 people at the gazebo will receive a free Circle Square Commons Farmers Market tote filled with \$100 bills. Just kidding! Just kidding! Trying to increase attendance here. The totes will be empty, but they are totes with a touch of artistic class.

Don't miss these fun events here at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons now through February. They are free and open to the public!

For the latest information, please follow Circle Square Commons on Facebook (@csctownsquare) or Instagram (@ cscommonsfl).

Peace Awaits

By Misty Frye

long summer afternoons, there's a place breeze through the trees - welcome to

As the Florida sun stretches across where time slows and peace flows like a



Rediscover the simple joy of doing less at Sholom Park.

summer at Sholom Park.

Just north of On Top of the World, Sholom Park is not a destination for loud crowds or flashy attractions. It's a place for something more rare: stillness. Here, the noise of modern life fades beneath the whisper of wind through live

oaks, hickories, and pines.

This summer, the park feels especially peaceful. Whether you are walking shaded trails, pausing by the labyrinth, or sitting beneath a tree with nothing but birdsong for company, every visit offers a gentle reminder: nature doesn't rush – and neither should we.

Locals and visitors alike are rediscovering the simple joy of doing less. Morning walkers greet each other with quiet nods. Children explore the park in wide-eyed wonder. The yoga group gathers in the soft Saturday morning light, their feet grounded, their faces lifted to the sky. Even the turtles seem to bask in the sun a little longer.

"Sholom" means peace, and this park wears the name like a promise. In a world that often feels too fast, too loud, too connected, Sholom Park invites us to disconnect in the best way - and reconnect with ourselves and nature.

As summer moves gently forward, there's no better time to visit. Bring a book, a journal, or just your open heart. Let the trees do the talking. Let the quiet teach you something new.

After all, peace isn't a destination it's a practice. And at Sholom Park, it

begins the moment you step inside.

For more information about Sholom Park, visit sholompark.org, follow us on Facebook, or Instagram.

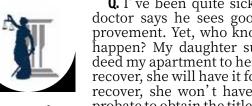
Also, you can check out a recent review we received on YouTube at youtube.com/@thealtemlife.

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Is It Legal?

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



SCAM ALERT #1: Sometimes, there might be a rather small charge that pops up on your credit card. Maybe it's from some company you don't remember, but, gee, perhaps in this case, you might've charged something for \$15, but you don't remember it. You already know what to do, don't you? You know that in today's world, you must check your account statements as soon as you get them, and if you pay bills online, you must constantly check to make sure you know, for sure, that the charge is valid. It's just the world in which we now live.

SCAM ALERT #2: According to the office of the Florida Attorney General, here are a few "red flags" that warn you of a data breach, resulting in identity theft: Suspicious withdrawals or charges on bank or credit card statements. A warning from a bank or a creditor about unusual activity on your account(s). A bill for something you don't remember ordering. A call from a debt collector about some unknown debt.

There are many more red flags, of course. The thing to do is what I've been saying over and over and over in this column: Trust no one! Check, then check, and then check.

If someone calls you and demands money, do not talk to the person. Hang up. And if you are given any notice to call for information about a credit card, don't call the number in the notice. Call the number on the back of your credit card or on the number from a previous bank statement that you had verified before. We grew up in a world where we could leave the doors unlocked. That world is gone. We must adjust to this one. Trust no one!

- **Q.** I know I'm an enabler. My son hasn't worked for quite some time. I've been supporting him. Now, he's asked me to support his live-in girlfriend. She claims that legally, I have to support her because she takes care of him. Your
- **A.** I don't have any thoughts for you, and even if I did, you would do what you wanted, whether you agreed with me or not. The most I can tell you is that, from a legal perspective, you have no obligation to support your son, and certainly no obligation to support his girlfriend, simply because she claims to take care of him.

- **Q.** I've been quite sick lately, but my doctor says he sees good signs of improvement. Yet, who knows what could happen? My daughter suggested that I deed my apartment to her so that when I recover, she will have it for me; if I don't recover, she won't have to go through probate to obtain the title. I'm confused.
- **A.** Yeah, well, I'm confused too. Perhaps you aren't stating precisely what she means. But, if you are stating what she means, my obvious question is, why do you need to deed her your apartment now, so she can have it for you, since you already have it? The second part about her not having to go through probate could make sense, but you can do that by means of a ladybird deed, which is where you keep control of the property as long as you live, and only when you pass will she get it. However, since am concerned about your daughter's true motives, I strongly suggest that you contact an attorney and have a conference with them.
- **Q.** My boyfriend and I are in our 80s. We were on a cruise in a far-from-the-U.S. foreign country, where he bought some erectile dysfunction (ED) medication. A neighbor said it's illegal. My boyfriend doesn't know what he should do. Your thoughts?
- **A.** I'm confused. Are you saying he bought some ED medicine, but he doesn't know what to do with it? When all else fails, maybe read the directions? I don't know what the medication was, but if, when you came back, the medicine was not hidden, and U.S. Customs did not stop you, it probably isn't illegal to have it. To be clear, though, I think it's always risky to purchase drugs in a foreign country, especially when you could just as well ask your doctor for a prescription for what you need, and it won't for sure be illegal.

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.

On Top of the World NEWS

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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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2025 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE



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

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



- **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.
- left on with leaks at the spigot or nozzle
- 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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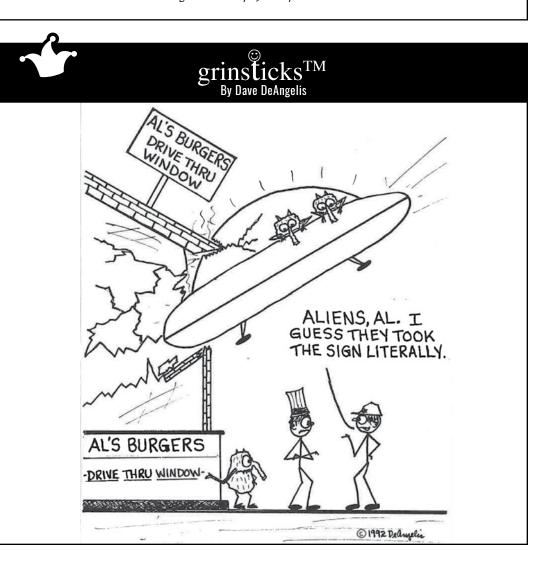
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Veterans Club



erans Club is sponsoring an auction to benefit Vets Helping Vets and Chuck's Piggy Bank on Sunday, Aug. 24, at 2 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. We will have over 70 baskets and

items available for bidding. Most baskets contain gift cards from local businesses. One basket is full of lottery tickets and scratch-off tickets. Some have travel packages and jewelry. There is a basket for everyone to enjoy. Find one for you or a friend.

Vets Helping Vets in Ocala is a local charity that assists veterans from every generation with a range of services, including a food pantry, showers, clothing,

rental assistance, career development, benefits assistance, medical support, cancer detection, spiritual therapy, help with PTSD, and simply friendship from a group of fellow veterans.

Chuck's Piggy Bank is a charity that helps 21 local animal rescues, including a pet food pantry at Vets Helping Vets.

Please join us at our auction on Sunday, Aug. 24, and enjoy complimentary food provided by Cody's Restaurant. You may win a basket of cheer that even has a gift card from Cody's or another fine restaurant in the area.

The Veterans Club meets the third Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV at 3 p.m. All are welcome. We have no dues and always have a table full of free items donated to our veterans. Don't miss Fran's homemade cookies.

Also, please put Saturday, Sept. 13, on your calendar for the birthday party dinner and dance at The Lodge at Candler Hills, starting at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are



Charlie Calhoun, Mary Beth Bell, and Todd Belknap are showing off baskets to be raffled at the upcoming charity auction.





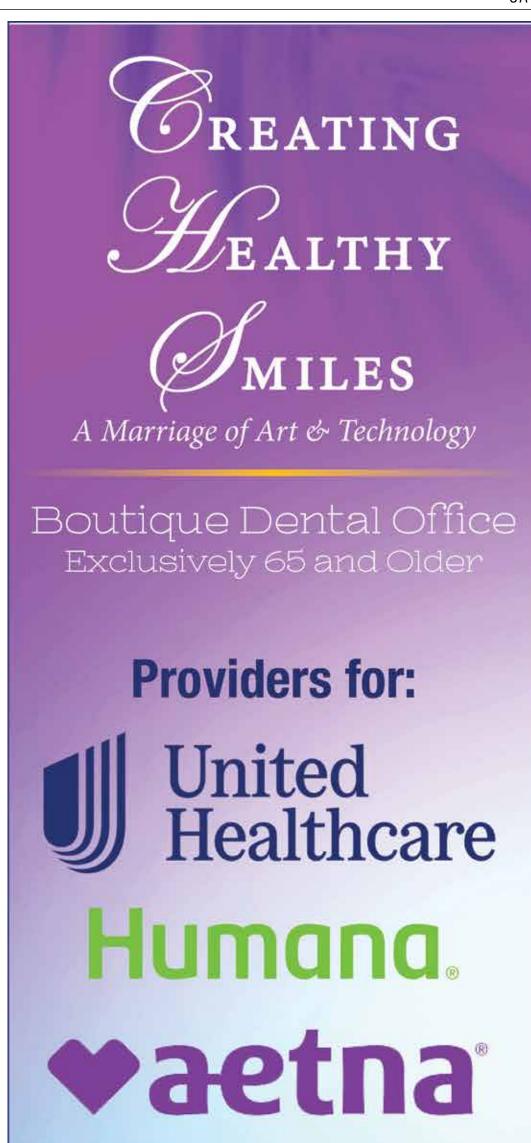
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Community News

▶ Continued from Page 1A

CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER: We have applied for a permit to install an LED sign in front of the building, which will help you stay better informed about all upcoming events. At this writing, we don't have a date for the installation of the start-up.

GATEHOUSE: A new, automated gatehouse will be erected along SW 92nd Court Road to replace the temporary gate at SW 80th Street. Approvals are expected by August, and construction is expected to begin in the fall. There may be periodic lane closures while this work is completed.

BAY LAUREL CENTER COMMUNITY DEVEL-**OPMENT DISTRICT:** The construction of Bay Laurel's new office building in Calesa Township is anticipated to be completed by late August. We encourage all residents to remain informed regarding the timing of the transition to the new

Adjacent to this site will be Water Treatment Plant #4, a highly advanced water treatment facility that services the entire Bay Laurel Center CDD water transmission system.

Roadway Improvements

SW 90TH TERRACE: The Weybourne Landing multi-modal path extension is complete from the gate to SW 80th Street.

Work has also begun on the extension of SW 90th Terrace from SW 79th Street to SW 63rd Street Road. Residents in and around Weybourne Landing can expect increased construction traffic and activity in this area during the project's duration. The contractor's goal is to complete this roadway before the major

REPLACEMENT CAR DECALS

Bring your car, resident ID, auto registration and \$10.

Resident Services 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday No decals issued during inclement weather. construction of SW 80th Avenue begins, to provide an alternate route of travel

SW 92ND COURT ROAD: All utilities and the initial phase of roadway work have been completed. Landscaping of the corridor is currently underway, and we expect the roadway to be approved and open by Marion County by Nov. 1.

SOUTHWEST 80TH AVENUE: Sources at the Marion County Engineering Department assure residents in and around SW 80th Avenue that construction is slated to begin in late 2025. The survey work and civil engineering field work seem to be moving into high gear. The completion time span is approximately two years from the start. Unfortunately, there are no current updates on this highly traveled corridor.

Landscape Update

August can be a very rainy and humid month. Due to this, keep a close eye on your irrigation controller and water only when necessary. You may find that you can shut your controller off completely. Overwatering of your landscape can lead to disease and unwanted pests that can quickly devour turfgrass and plant material. Now is also a great time to walk the exterior of your home and discard any water-holding containers that can be prime breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Practical Preventive Home Maintenance

From June through October, your air conditioning systems will be running full tilt. These systems don't operate by themselves without proper care and maintenance. For a helpful short video on practical steps you can take to service your air conditioning system and keep it functioning efficiently, visit OTOWInfo. com > Resources > Homeowner Maintenance. These include changing the filters monthly and pouring vinegar into the main condensate pan to keep the main drain flowing without obstruction. Check the outflow outside near the compressor. If you don't see the cleaning solution coming out, the drain line is blocked and needs immediate attention.

At least once a year, have your air conditioning serviced by a professional. They will clean the coils in both the air handler (located inside the home) and the compressor (located outside), as well as clean the electrical connections and ensure the motors are operating prop-



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Resident Services

Heather Ray 352-236-OTOW (6869) associationinfo@otowfl.net

Community Meet & Greet

We are excited to invite you to a Community Meet & Greet where you will have the opportunity to meet your HOA Management Company, Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, and learn more about our role in supporting your community. Whether you have questions, concerns, or simply want to put a face to the name, this is a great opportunity to get involved and stay informed! Please see the schedule by neighborhood on page 24.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Association Emails

Each association now has a new email address. If you have any association-related questions, please don't hesitate to contact us by email.

- centralassociation@otowfl.com
- indigoassociation@otowfl.com
- candlerassociation@otowfl.com weybourneassociation@otowfl.



Master the Possibilities kicked off its fall semester in a truly meaningful way with the return of Ageless Adventures. This one-week intergenerational learning experience ran the week of July 7. This special initiative brought together adult learners and students in more than 20 engaging classes designed to inspire curiosity, creativity, and connection across generations.

They dabbled in painting and worked on glass projects, learned about Florida wildlife and the importance of pollinators, and even competed with their own built robots, rockets, and Pinewood Derby cars. Our Ageless Adventures program encouraged grandparents, parents, and young learners to discover something new together. This unique program not only fostered shared learning but also served as the beginning of

Because this fall marks the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, Master the Possibilities has built a lineup of educational opportunities to reflect on this pivotal time in global history. With an emphasis on multiple perspectives, courses throughout the term will explore the war from the French, German, and American viewpoints. This provides participants with a broader and more nuanced understanding of the war's causes, events, and lasting effects

By examining the war from these diverse angles, Master the Possibilities aims to encourage reflection not only on the sacrifices made but also on the resilience, recovery, and reconciliation that

The associationinfo@otowfl.net email will remain active.

Modifications

Application forms for modification requests, along with detailed checklists for each type of request, are now available on AppFolio. These checklists outline all submission requirements to help guide you through the process. We do encourage you to schedule an appointment through the OTOW App. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact us by email at modifications@colenbuilt.net.

Envera

Friendly reminder that the barrier arms now lower after each vehicle. The proper operation speed is five miles per hour; please slow down when approach-

Friendship Colony will be the next neighborhood scheduled to receive its decals for Envera. This event will take place in the parking area behind Circle Square Cultural Center from 8 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, Aug. 26 (last names: A-H), Wednesday, Aug. 27 (last names: I-Q), and Thursday, Aug. 28 (last names:

Motorcycle decals have arrived. Please visit Resident Services if you need one.

followed. The theme underscores how remembrance can help us shape a more thoughtful and informed future.

To review the complete list of upcoming visiting speaker presentations, please refer to pages 63 and 64 in our current catalog. Our first speaker, Edith Gandy, spoke on Thursday, July 17, and shared a heartfelt story about the daring glider pilots of World War II, using the Silent Wings exhibit. One of those pilots just happened to be her father.

This fall, in addition to lectures by leading historians, Master the Possibilities has scheduled two special presentations from World War II museums that offer unique insights into the war's impact and legacy. The Eldred World War II Museum in Pennsylvania, founded in 1996, was established to honor the National Munitions Corporation and serves as a powerful tribute to the home front's role in supporting the war effort.

Closer to home, the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum in Florida tells the remarkable story of one of the largest U.S. Army training camps during World War II. Located along Florida's oftenoverlooked coastline, this museum highlights the vital contributions of amphibious training and coastal operations that helped secure Allied victory. These presentations will provide students with a deeper understanding of the war's complexity and the various places that played crucial roles in shaping its out-

The July through December semester features hundreds of courses, many of which extend beyond the World War II theme. Staff and volunteer-assisted registration is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. either in person at the Education Center or by phone at 352-861-9751. For more information on any of these courses or to register at any time, visit masterthepossibilities.org.

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Active **Newcomers Club**

Linda Baker

Avalon

Social Group

Laura Gavey & Sharon Hall

Are you a new resident? We would love to meet you at our "Doing Donuts" get-together on Saturday, Aug. 23, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Park pavilion. Current club members are also invited to attend. Bring your favorite morning beverage and choose from a variety of donuts. Mingle with other new residents and make new friends. Membership applications and information about small groups will be available. Dues for the remainder of the year are only \$10! If you can't make it to this event, we will also

Center. Join us for a tailgate party on Thursday, Sept. 18, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Veterans Park. Enjoy a boxed lunch fea-

be at the Club Fair to be held on Thursday, Sept. 11, at Circle Square Cultural biscuit, accompanied by cookies for dessert. R&R Trio will provide the music. There will be door prizes and a raffle. Two lucky winners will split the raffle proceeds. Watch our Facebook page and your email for information about signing up for this event. Tickets will be \$10, and they are expected to sell out quickly!

We will be hosting our annual Halloween party on Saturday, Oct. 25. Start planning your costumes! Our last event for 2025 will be our holiday party to be held on Friday, Dec. 19. Both of these events will be in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom.

Do you love to read? The Active Newgroups. The books to be read in future to

turing chicken tenders, two sides, and a months are proposed and agreed upon by the group members. Books can range from the latest bestseller to a classic novel. The groups meet once a month in members' homes. Questions are used to guide discussion. Šome groups prefer having questions provided in advance so members can reflect on the book and their responses, while others prefer spontaneity. The result is always lively and thoughtful discussions. We enjoy hearing the viewpoints of our friends, even when they are different from our own. Despite our varied backgrounds, we find we have more similarities than differences.

If you are interested in joining a comers Club currently has two book book group, please send an email activenewcomers34481@gmail. for more information.

com with "book group" in the subject line. The current book groups are at capacity, but we have a waiting list and a leader for a third group.

Membership applications for 2025 are available on our website. When completing your application, please ensure that you read the descriptions and requirements for small groups carefully before making your selections. Weybourne Landing and Indigo East residents must participate in the Gateway of Services program.

To learn more about the Active Newcomers Club, visit activenewcomers. org. Members can also visit our Facebook page (Active Newcomers). Email us at activenewcomers34481@gmail.com



The weather did not disappoint. It was hot for our July event, but we made it cooler with ice cream and a presentation by Cammy Dennis on personal health and wellness. Thanks to everyone who attended.

Our September event will feature a sock hop, complete with entertainment by the Poms Dance and Cheer Squad, '50s music, and food from Blazin' Bites Food Truck. Watch the Facebook page and your email for details.

Are you new to Avalon or our social 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 to provide your address to verify that you are an Avalon resident. If you have trouble finding the group or getting in, please email avalonsocialclub@gmail.com, and we'll send you the link to the group. If you would like to be notified of future events by email, please send your request to the email address above.



Another fun Active Newcomers Club wine group gathering.



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Safety First

Jonathan Miller

Smoking as a practice has a history dating back thousands of years, with evidence suggesting its use as early as 5000 to 3000 BC in the Americas. (In Mesoamerica and South America.) It was initially intertwined with religion and medical practices in indigenous cultures. It was documented that Christopher Columbus introduced tobacco to Europe in the 15th century, marking the beginning of its global spread and commercialization. Mass production and marketing efforts in the 20th century led to a surge in smoking rates, particularly with the rise of cigarettes.

When the movie industry was born, cigarettes became a fad worldwide. An actor by the name of Humphrey Bogart was rarely seen without lighting one up on the silver screen. He later paid the price as time took its toll.

Even though the medical world started discussing the dangers of smoking more actively in the 1950s, as a growing body of scientific evidence emerged linking smoking to lung cancer and other diseases, it wasn't until 1964 when the surgeon general's report concluded that "Cigarette smoking is a health hazard of sufficient importance in the United States to warrant appropriate action against its usage.

In 1954, the American Medical Association stopped accepting cigarette advertisements in its publications due to the emerging evidence. However, this

action was driven more by concerns about misleading advertising claims than a full acceptance of smoking's hazards at the time.

In 1957, the U.S Public Health Service, represented by Surgeon General Leroy Burney, officially stated that there was a causal relationship between excessive cigarette smoking and lung cancer.

In 1964, the landmark report of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Smoking and Health, based on over 7,000 scientific articles, definitively linked smoking to lung cancer, laryngeal cancer, and chronic bronchitis.

Ok, Jonathan, is this where you tell us what cigarettes are doing to our bodies? No, I am not going to tell you that! You already know that. Readers asked me to address this issue because we often share close proximities in the common

Though we have several posted signs that indicate the prohibition of smoking inside our facilities, some of our residents find it challenging to stop firing

My monthly message to all of us is this: You know what smoking can do. You have known it for years. If you want to smoke, you go right ahead, but please consider this. You may choose to harm yourself, but none of us has the right to harm others who have made the choice not to smoke.

Secondhand smoke has also been identified as a hazard. Put enough distance between you and the possibility of harming those around you. Make the choice not to harm someone else when we choose what's suitable for ourselves. We have lived long enough to know we are now the masters of ethical thought. Make the good choice. Make the right

landscaped, and residents take pride in their surroundings. Even more importantly, the Marion County Sheriff's Office is committed to protecting and partnering with our community.

The result? One of the safest and most desirable places to call home in all of Marion County - and, indeed, the coun-

This is why our community continues to grow. Just like you once did, new prospective residents are researching their options and discovering what sets us apart. They're finding that On Top of the World isn't just "Where the Cool Kids Retire" - it's where your investment, your neighbors, and your way of life are truly protected.

Keep fixing your "broken windows."

On Watch

Geoff Oldberg



Broken Windows

When people consider moving to a new home, they often weigh factors like location and what amenities are available, school quality if they still have school aged children, access to quality healthcare, road maintenance, quality construction of the home, the condition of neighboring homes and landscape, and - importantly - the local crime rate. We all want to make wise, well-informed decisions about the biggest investments we make. For many of you, this will be your "forever home."

In 1982, James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling published an article entitled, "Broken Windows," introducing a theory that would transform how we understand community safety and pride. They proposed that when small issues - like a broken window - are left unrepaired, it sends a signal that no one cares. Over time, this neglect invites more disorder, leading to greater damage and even crime. But in communities where problems are addressed promptly - where litter is cleaned, repairs are made, homes and landscaping are maintained, and public spaces are clean and attractive residents develop a sense of ownership and pride. These communities experienced much less crime and maintained

higher property values.

The theory was further developed in the 1996 book "Fixing Broken Windows: Restoring Order and Reducing Crime in Our Communities" by Kelling and Catherine Coles. Their findings showed that community upkeep and early intervention are far more effective in preventing crime than law enforcement alone. A strong law enforcement presence is helpful, but a community that cares for itself is the true foundation of safety and well-being.

That's exactly what you find at On Top of the World.

Here, you enjoy first-class amenities, a vast network of healthcare providers just minutes away, and well-maintained roads. Homes are beautifully built and



Rocky Pizzarello



We have been asked a few questions about our new designation as Citizens on Patrol (formerly known as Community Patrol) and what it means.

Both organizations are essentially the same, differing only in name and some additional benefits. The Community Patrol consisted of 47 volunteers driving a "retired" Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) car. Citizens on Patrol (COPS) merged community patrols from other southwest district communities with the MCSO's southwest COPS.

Before the merger, we patrolled solely On Top of the World and adjacent shopping centers. We can now drive in the entire southwest regional area of MCSO. Some of the combined 138 members have explored driving the SR 200 Corridor, with its business sections, while others have explored some of the other communities in the area, including Calesa Township. Most, however, return to On Top of the World to be visible to their neighbors and friends.

At the same time, volunteers from the other communities have taken the opportunity to drive through On Top of the World. Their comments highlight the abundance of open space, the bountiful amenities, and the friendliness of the people. (We wholeheartedly agree that's why we moved here!) We also have the option of four vehicles, including a few SUVs.

At our June meeting, leader Allison Cranmer provided updates from Lt. Clint Smith. There is still concern about elder fraud, and he encouraged all citizens to be aware that it is on the rise. In May, the county reported losses of \$2.5 million due to fraud. Other areas of the state and county fared much worse.

Elders can be more susceptible to fraud because of several factors: older adults are generally more trusting; we have a more limited familiarity of technology; there is the possibility of cognitive decline; there may be a feeling of loneliness and isolation (not here though); and lastly, politeness and re-luctance to say, "no." We are all encour-aged to maintain an awareness, and if something doesn't seem to be right, it probably isn't. Criminals always stress two things - urgency and secrecy. If it doesn't seem right, get a second opin-ion from a trusted family member or friend and refrain from taking any action immediately.

If you'd like to join the Citizens on Patrol and help keep On Top of the World safe, visit the Marion County Sheriff's Office website at marionso.com for an application. Scroll down to the "Become A Volunteer" link. There you'll find a page with descriptions of volunteer activities and a link to the volunteer application. Alternatively, if you d like to check us out before making a decision, please join us at our monthly meeting, held on the fourth Monday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information, please contact Allison Cranmer at OTOWCommunityPatrol@gmail.com.







Newcastle Social



dents are busy planning a joint event – a fabulous luau on Friday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Sala's South Seas Revue, a Polynesian performance group, will provide the entertainment. They have performed at Germaine's Luau on Oahu, Disney's

Candler

Debra Keirn



An ice cream social will take place on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets will be \$6.50 per Candler Hills resident and \$7.50 per guest. There will be vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, butter pecan, salted caramel, and no-sugar-added moose tracks. We also will have root beer and orange floats. You can even go back for seconds. Contact Karen Gemberling at 352-789-8259 or Deb Keirn 352-

414-5737 to purchase tickets. The monthly potluck dinner will be on Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 5:30 p.m. It's ethnic night, so prepare a dish from your ethnic background. A-H should bring a main dish; I-P a dessert; and Q-Z a side dish/salad. Please prepare your dish for 12 to 15 people and label it with the ingredients to help those with food allergies. The \$1 fee at the door covers table cloths, eating utensils, plates, decaf coffee, creamers, and centerpieces. RSVP by phone to Deb Keirn at 352-414-5737, by text at 814-571-7908, or by email at arthurkipdeb@verizon.net to be added to the attendee list.

The fall picnic will be on Sunday, Sept. 21, from 4:30 to 9 p.m. You can choose two of three items (chicken, hamburger, or hot dog). Side dishes are baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, tomatoes and lettuce for your burgers, and desserts. Palomino Blonde will provide music. Tickets will go on sale on Aug. 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 for \$12 per Candler Hills resident and \$14 per guest.

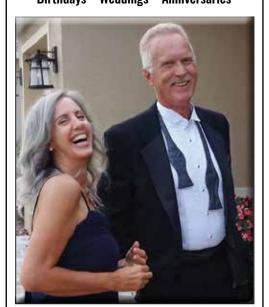
On Friday, Oct. 31, the Halloween Fright Night will be from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Our DJ will be Z Street Band. Come dressed in costume and win a prize in various categories, or simply come and enjoy an evening of good food and music. There will be snack, sandwich, salad and dessert stations. Tickets will be sold Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 23, 25, 30, Oct. 2, 7, and 9 for \$25 per Candler Hills resident and \$27 per guest.

Our annual holiday party is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 12, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Gourmet Affair will cater, and Ross Getek will provide the music. The menu is cherry tomato basil chicken in a light garlic sauce, rosemary roasted pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon and onion, Caesar salad, and a variety of cakes for dessert. Tickets will go on sale in November for \$45 per Candler Hills resident and \$47 per guest.

All events and ticket sales occur at The Lodge at Candler Hills (unless otherwise noted). Ticket sales occur from 10 a.m. to noon; you must present your resident ID. If you are purchasing tickets for other residents, please have their resident ID and telephone number available. Candler Connection events are outlined in The Happenings, Candler Hills Face-book page, and the OTOW App. See you around the neighborhood



CONGRATULATIONS Birthdays - Weddings - Anniversaries



Douglas & Michelle Hansen 50th Anniversary

Please email birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements to otownews@otowfl.com by noon on the 12th of the month.

Polynesian Resort, Disney's "Festival of the Lion King Show" show, SeaWorld Orlando's Luau, and have also entertained our troops overseas.

The ticket price of \$20 per person will include main entrees of pulled pork and pulled chicken, as well as entertainment and music following the show. Attendees are kindly requested to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert. The luau is a bring-your-own-beverage event.

Tickets will be sold during the first two full weeks of August. Invitations delivered to Newcastle and Alendel residents at the end of July include ticket sale dates and times, as well as potluck sign-up information.

Don't miss this fun event as two neighborhoods join together. Mahalo.

Got sunshine in your pocket? The Newcastle sunshine lady does. If you are celebrating a birthday, feeling blue, or have a boo-boo, not to worry ... a card, balloon, or maybe a lollipop may appear at your door to brighten your day.

The Newcastle sunshine lady began with Nancy Monaghan. She served as the sunshine lady for another organization before her move to Newcastle, and thought that the role would be a nice way to serve her new neighborhood, spreading sunshine along the way. When she decided to step down and give someone else a fun volunteer opportunity, Sandy Randles was ready to take on the role. She soon learned just how much fun it was to make someone's day, and the importance of letting the recipient know that someone cares. After two years, Sandy stepped down, and Candace Almers stepped in the role and continues today. She says that being the sunshine lady is all about the wonderful neighbors in Newcastle. Each of them celebrates a birthday every year, and she wants them to know just how special they are.

So, no matter if it is cloudy and rainy outside, there is always plenty of sunshine in Newcastle, thanks to the sunshine lady. After all, friends are the sun-

shine of life.

Please visit our Facebook page (OTOW Newcastle Neighbors) for more information on all of our neighborhood events.

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Newcastle sunshine ladies, Candace Almers, Sandy Randles, and Nancy Monaghan.

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Longleaf Ridge Friends

Michelle Migdal, Kathleen Taylor, Debra Vitale & Judi Walsh

Many of us were in our 20s in the '70s and will turn 70 in the 2020s. It's amazing to realize that it's been 50 years since "Jaws" debuted during the summer of 1975. While it may not be considered the best film of all time, it had an impact on those of us of a certain age. We never enter the water without scanning the surface for a shark fin.

We're a long way from shark habitat. We share central Florida with diverse wildlife, including creatures that make yipping and yawping sounds. It's not only four-legged creatures that howl.

When the moon is full, intrepid neighbors gather for the monthly Howling. Suspense builds as the full moon rises. Primal instincts emerge as neighbors let loose with age-old whoops, yelps, and howls. Jim Lovejoy and Tom Maves hosted June's Howling. Canine companions are welcome to join the fun. They enjoy communing with their masters and feel right at home during the celebration.

Our younger selves probably gave little thought to life in 2025. We were busy with our lives, tending to our families and careers. The years passed imperceptibly, and one day we realized we're an age we once considered old. Our older, seasoned selves have discovered that we're at an age where we can enjoy the fruits of our labor and enjoy the good life with our contemporaries. At every social gathering, we hear stories

about how neighbors found their way to On Top of the World. We enjoy sharing stories with our new friends and finding common interests. Neighbors recently enjoyed a lovely evening out and dinner at El Toreo restaurant. We gather for drinks on the driveway, potlucks, games, holidays, and you name it. We find reasons to get together and celebrate this season of our lives.

Many thanks to Ken and Nancy Key for decorating our SW 94th Street entrance for the Fourth of July.



Due to many residents being away during July and August, we did not hold our July social, nor will we have one in August. However, we will return to our regular monthly schedule in September, which will be on Sunday, Sept. 14.

The Friendship Connection commit-

tee would like to extend its gratitude to

the friends and neighbors who have sup-

ported our events and efforts over the

past several years. It is with great sad-

Due to various circumstances and

Friendship

Connection

Ellen Lee

Our monthly socials are held the second Sunday of the month at the Arbor Activity Center Event Room from 3 to 5 p.m. Bring your beverage of choice and a dish to share if you choose, or just come for the fellowship.

To stay informed, you can join our Facebook page (OTOW Crescent Ridge Neighbors) or send an email to crneighbors@yahoo.com to be added to our email list. You will only receive emails regarding Crescent Ridge happenings.

For those traveling this summer, please drive safely and be mindful of other drivers.



Please take trash to another location. Do not place trash outside of trash compactor.



Longleaf Ridge neighbors enjoy drinks on the driveway at the home of Mike and Mary Evans.



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Monthly dinners with the neighbors are a popular night out.

Williamsburg Neighbors

Nancy Meininger



The planners, Gwen Fabian, Carmel Kessler, Tina Ross, and Deanne Sanders, forecast a fun-filled indoor event no matter what the outside temperatures are like! The date is Saturday, Aug. 2, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II at 1 p.m. The menu is potluck, always yum!

On the entertainment schedule are several really competitive games which Tina Ross champions. Then there are mind games presented by Carmel Kessler and always enjoyed by all.

The Williamsburg monthly neighborhood dinners went Italian style in June to

Franco's and received rave reviews. In July, they opted for seafood at Bonefish Grille, always a popular choice. Thanks to the continued planning of Linda and Brian McDonald.

Bocce continues into cooler evening hours at the Arbor Fitness Center courts at 7 p.m. every Wednesday.

Game nights hosted by Lynne and Bob Phelps also offer cool camaraderie, the first Thursday of each month at the Arbor Conference Center Card Room I at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to the neighborhood hostess, Deanne Sanders, has been busy helping new neighbors get settled in with an informative gift pack. We appreciate how much sunshine Deanne, a new resident, has brought to our neighborhood!

For more information about events happening in Williamsburg or to reserve your place at a monthly dinner, visit williamsburgneighborsotow.com. You can also find us on Facebook (Welcome to Williamsburg-OTOW).

Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton



The Indigo East Social Committee ice cream social is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 10, at 2 p.m. and is for Indigo East residents only. Jana McElroy will host the ice cream social. Most of the tickets for the event were sold during July and are still available on Friday, Aug. 1, from 5 to 6 p.m. at Happy Hour. The final ticket sale date is Monday, Aug. 2, from 11 a.m. to noon.

The Indigo East ladies luncheon committee's Christmas in July was cancelled due to slow ticket sales.

The Indigo East Social Committee will not hold a Halloween party this year. Halloween falls on a Friday, and On Top of the World will hold a party during Happy Hour.

The Indigo East Social Committee will hold a Labor Day party. The menu will consist of all beef hot dogs, chips, and watermelon. The ticket price and sale dates will be announced soon. Also, the Indigo East Social Committee is planning a potluck dinner in November. More information will follow as soon as it is released.

The Indigo East Social Committee is still in need of volunteers for various functions planned by the committee, as well as volunteers to participate in the planning, implementation, and hosting of an event. An event host will never pay

out of pocket for the event. The committee will promptly reimburse all expenses incurred for the function.

To conclude my highlight of the amenities in and around Indigo East and On Top of the World, I would like to mention that there are avid golfers and billiard players in Indigo East. Many Indigo East residents enjoy playing golf on the professional golf courses within On Top of the World. Additionally, approximately 25 Indigo East residents participate in various billiard leagues throughout the day and evening. Of course, practice makes perfect, and some residents play just for fun and to sharpen their skills

just for fun and to sharpen their skills.

Before I sign off, here are a few fun facts about August. On the Roman calendar, the month of August was named Sextiles, translating to the sixth month of the year. When the Gregorian calendar was introduced, Sextiles was renamed from the sixth month of the year to the eighth month, and August was named after the Roman Emperor Augustus. There are two zodiac signs for August, Leo and Virgo, three birthstones, peridot, sardonyx, and spinel, and two birth flowers, gladiolus and poppy. The full moon in August is known as the sturgeon moon, as sturgeon fish are known to be in abundance during this time. August was designated National Dog Month. Also, the next time you enjoy a sandwich for lunch, you can thank the Earl of Sandwich for creating the sandwich in August 1762.

I wish everyone a fabulous August, and as usual, I'll see you around the neighborhood.

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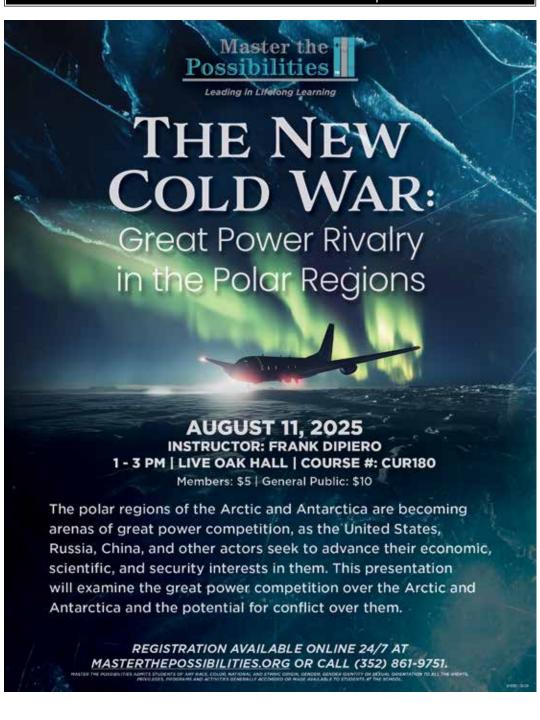


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Community Emergency Response Team

Debbie Snyder

Rocky Pizzarello, a dedicated CERT member, delivered an outstanding presentation on elder fraud at our July meeting. Having experienced identity theft multiple times, Rocky shared valuable tips to help CERT members stay safe. Our community is particularly vulnerable to such criminal activities due to the age of our residents.

Cyber criminals frequently target elderly individuals due to their perceived unfamiliarity with modern technology. The criminals exploit their trust, vulnerability, and loneliness through various scams, such as phishing emails, fraudulent phone calls, romance scams, and fake online offers, tricking them into giving away personal information or money. The presentation outlined how to define and identify the problem, explained the magnitude and our vulnerability, the tricks utilized by the "bad actors," and ways to counteract and protect ourselves. Thanks to Rocky for the eye-opening, comprehensive, and informative presentation!

Congratulations to Noel Perez and Joe Lucero on completing the most recent basic CERT training and receiving their certification! The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is supported nationally by FEMA. It is carried out locally, teaching people

how to better prepare themselves for hazards that may affect their communities. CERT trains them in basic disaster response skills, including team organization, disaster medical operations, fire safety, and light search and rescue. Local CERT programs train and organize teams of volunteers to assist their families, neighbors, coworkers, and other community members during emergencies when professional responders may not be immediately available.

Interested in becoming part of CERT? Attend one of our meetings to find out more. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Aug. 12. Applications and additional information will be available. A basic

training course is scheduled to begin in October for those interested in certification. The training will be held at the Marion County EOC and will span five consecutive Saturdays. Email us at ontopoftheworldCERT@gmail.com for more information.

Community ham radio operators can assist us from home by tuning into the 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 ham radio operators meet at our designated Command Center and establish contact with Marion County Emergency Management. For information regarding ham radio operations, contact Bruce Twiss at brucetwiss@yahoo.com.



Recent CERT graduates Joe Lucero, Jane Belz (co-leader), and Noel Perez.

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Rocky Pizzarello cautioned members about the dangers of elder fraud in his presentation.



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Republican Club

Margaret Nodine



We hope everyone had a delightful and restful Fourth of July. Summer is certainly moving quickly.

At our June meeting, State Representative Ryan Chamberlin of District 24 began his presentation by mentioning that this current session of the legislature is the longest in state history: 102 days of a normal 60-day session. Many budget issues are being discussed, with property taxes at the forefront. Representative Chamberlin sits on this committee.

There are many layers to the elimination of property taxes (if this is achieved, Florida would be the first state to do so). A pilot study commenced in the latter half of 2023 to begin unraveling this century-old system. On the revenue side, Florida expects to pass a \$115 billion budget (which subsequently was passed and signed by Governor DeSantis). Currently, the state collects \$43 billion in property taxes. In 2023, Marion County collected \$606 million.

In Florida, you do not own your property; you essentially rent it from the government. There needs to be ways for true ownership. One idea is to lower

millage rates. Currently, taxes can be increased without a vote. More transparency is needed.

Some ideas being reviewed: Defund \$10-\$20 billion in wasted funds in Florida. There is automatic spending on projects that no longer need funding. In reviewing travel and tourism, visitors contribute over \$140 million to our coffers. This is an excellent revenue stream, but we do not want to "bite the hand that feeds us." Seniors' property taxes should be capped (a stopping point is needed). Finally, adding a one-cent increase to the sales tax is also being discussed.

Progress is being made to implement the governor's property tax mandate. Please note that any changes require a constitutional amendment and will be placed on the state ballot for a public vote.

As always, we continue to support Operation Shoebox. Over several months, we have received thank-you notes from military personnel, organizational leaders, and other volunteers, all of whom are grateful for our assistance. We are also working to support the Marion County Honor Guard in their efforts.

Our meeting dates are on the following Fridays: Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, and Nov. 14. Doors open at 4 p.m. Look for our banner at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. God bless America.



Seth Harp, running for Congress, spoke at our June meeting.

Democratic Club

Mark Miller



The Democratic Club generally meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV at 6 p.m., with a few exceptions.

Our meeting on Thursday, June 26, featured candidate Seth Harp, running for U.S. House District 3. We look forward to supporting his efforts in the upcoming 2026 election.

Our last meeting was held on Thursday, July 24. The featured speaker was Tamboura Jenkins, candidate for Ocala City Council. Although we cannot vote for the Ocala City Council as we live outside the city limits, we can still support his efforts.

Our next meeting on Thursday, Aug. 28, will feature one of our own – Deborah Daniels. Her knowledge of ongoing bills and happenings in the Florida Senate and House will be good information to keep us engaged with state politics.

We continue to support the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village. The veterans residing there need our support for many items we all take for granted. Priority for donations is laundry detergent. Other items needed include pillowcases, twin-size sheets, twin comforters, a 1.7 cubic foot refrigerator, a small microwave, men's razors, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, shaving cream, and toilet paper. The following food items are needed: canned meat, canned chili, ramen noodles, macaroni and 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 are unable to attend any meetings, please let us know, and we'll do our best to deliver your donations to the Ritz. Alternatively, you can drop them off before the meeting starts. If you'd like, you can order online and have the items delivered directly to the Ritz. Please email us to get the shipping address, etc.

If you need a ride to any meeting, please call or email the club to arrange it at least three days in advance of the meeting.

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

We look forward to seeing you at our meeting on Aug. 28!



State Representative Ryan Chamberlin of District 24 and members of the Republican Club.

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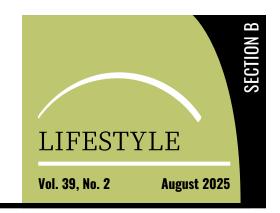
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Cooking Demonstration - Butter Chicken Curry

By Rosalina Norita

Within India's vibrant culinary landscape, two traditional dishes emerge as beacons of innovation, sparking dynamic discussions: butter chicken and chicken masala. Each is rooted in tradition, nuanced flavor, and regional pride, offering a glimpse into the country's rich cultural diversity and its potential for endless culinary evolution.

The creation of butter chicken in the

1950s at Delhi's renowned Moti Mahal restaurant is a testament to the power of culinary innovation. According to legend, visionary chefs transformed leftover tandoori chicken into a masterpiece by simmering it in a rich, spiced tomato gravy infused with cream and butter. The result was a sublime, mellow, and mildly spiced curry that delighted the palate.

This iconic dish is crafted through a meticulous process, where marinated chicken is grilled or roasted, then submerged in a velvety sauce composed of pureed tomatoes, butter, cream, fenu-greek leaves, and a deep, aromatic ga-ram masala blend.

In contrast, chicken masala stands out for its bold, vibrant flavor profile, offering a versatile foundation for creative expression and regional twists. This beloved dish, enjoyed in households across India, invites experimentation and innovation, rather than adhering to a single origin or definitive recipe. By cooking the chicken directly in the masala, a rich blend of onions, garlic, ginger, turmeric, coriander, cumin, chili, a thick, hearty gravy is formed, coating each piece of

meat with a depth of flavor that's both

grounding and uplifting.
While butter chicken offers a milder flavor profile, chicken masala bursts with vibrant spices, unlocking a richer and more complex culinary experience. As a cultural ambassador, butter chicken has won the hearts of foodies worldwide, particularly in Europe and North America. At the same time, chicken masala remains a beloved staple in India, nourishing families and communities across the nation.

What sets them apart is not just ingredients or cooking techniques, but their purpose. Butter chicken is a culinary masterpiece that elevates special occasions, while chicken masala is a testament to the creative, resourceful spirit of Indian home cooking, bringing peo-

ple together every day.

Join Global Diversity Asian Social Club for an inspiring cooking demonstration on Friday, Aug. 15, at 3:30 p.m. at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio I, led by Shashi Ray, where you'll discover the art of crafting outboatic butter chicken art of crafting authentic butter chicken

Next time you're faced with a culinary choice between two dishes, shift your perspective: what aligns with your current mood and aspirations? Do you crave a refined, sophisticated experience with premium ingredients, or a nourishing, comforting meal that uplifts your senses and supports your well-being without straining your finances? Either way, India's rich culinary heritage is at your fingertips, allowing you to explore and savor its diverse flavors.



Honor Stitches presented a Quilt of Valor to resident William B. Ashton

Photo by Kristi Hilton

Quilt of Valor Recipient

By Phil Panzera

Honor Stitches recently presented a Quilt of Valor to resident William B. Ashton. Honor Stitches, a Marion County quilting group that is a member of Quilts of Valor Foundation, honors distinguished veterans. The gorgeous quilts they provide are made by the loving hands of countless volunteers.

At Canterfield of Ocala, Terry Miller presented the Quilt of Valor to Lieutenant Commander William B. Ashton, U.S. Navy (Ret.). Bill served for 23 years, much of it in the submarine force, along with prestigious assignments in the Pen-

After his military service, Bill held executive positions at several companies. In 2004, he accepted a key position as a government contractor for the Navy. He also served on the Navy's Retiree Council for several years.

He subsequently served as the secu-

rity director for the Naval Sea Systems Command Headquarters and as a liaison for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Since moving to our community, he has been very active in helping veterans here and nationwide. Bill is an expert on the VA healthcare system and has given briefings to flag rank officers. He continues to selflessly volunteer his time to assist veterans and their spouses with benefits.

Bill's dedication to helping his brothers and sisters in arms is evident from his personal motto, "Veterans don't know what veterans don't know, and it's not their fault."

We congratulate Commander Ashton for his dedication and service, and for this distinguished award. The Quilts of Valor Foundation has provided over 400,000 quilts nationwide. To learn more, visit qovf.org

6. Stay Informed and Act Early: Monitor weather forecasts and follow warnings from local authorities. The sooner you prepare, the less rushed and stressed you'll be when a storm approaches.

By taking these simple steps, you can significantly reduce the risk of damage to your electronics and ensure you stay connected and entertained, even when the Florida weather turns wild.



Shielding Your Tech

By Shane Bobson

A little preparation can go a long way in protecting everything from your television to your treasured photos on your computer.

The biggest threats to your electronics during a storm are power surges - sudden, intense spikes in electrical voltage. These can occur from lightning strikes, even if they don't directly hit your home, or from power lines being re-energized after an outage.

Here's how to safeguard your gad-

- Unplug, Unplug! The simplest and most effective defense is to unplug electronics from the wall outlets. This cuts off the path for any damaging surges. Don't forget to unplug cable lines and phone lines too, as surges can travel through these. This applies to everything from your TV and computer to smaller appliances, such as coffee makers.
- Invest in Surge Protectors: For devices that can't be easily unplugged (or if you want an extra layer of protection), good-quality surge protectors are essential. These devices divert excess electricity away from your electron-

- ics. Look for surge protectors with a high "joule" rating, which indicates how much energy they can absorb before failing. Remember, not all power strips are surge protectors, so be sure to check the labeling carefully.
- Consider a Whole-Home Solution: If your community or home offers it, a whole-house surge protector installed at your electrical panel provides comprehensive protection for all appliances and devices connected to your home's electrical system, even hardwired ones. This offers a significant peace of
- The Role of a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply): For crucial electronics like your computer, a UPS offers both surge protection and a battery backup. This allows you to safely shut down your computer during a power outage, preventing data loss and potential damage to your hardware. While more expensive than a simple surge protector, a UPS is a smart investment for devices containing important information.
- 5. Data Backup is Key: Even with

the best physical protection, accidents can happen. Regularly back up important data from your computer, smartphone, and other devices to ensure data security. Use an external hard drive stored in a safe, dry place, or consider cloud storage services. This ensures your precious memories and documents are safe, regardless of what happens to your devices.





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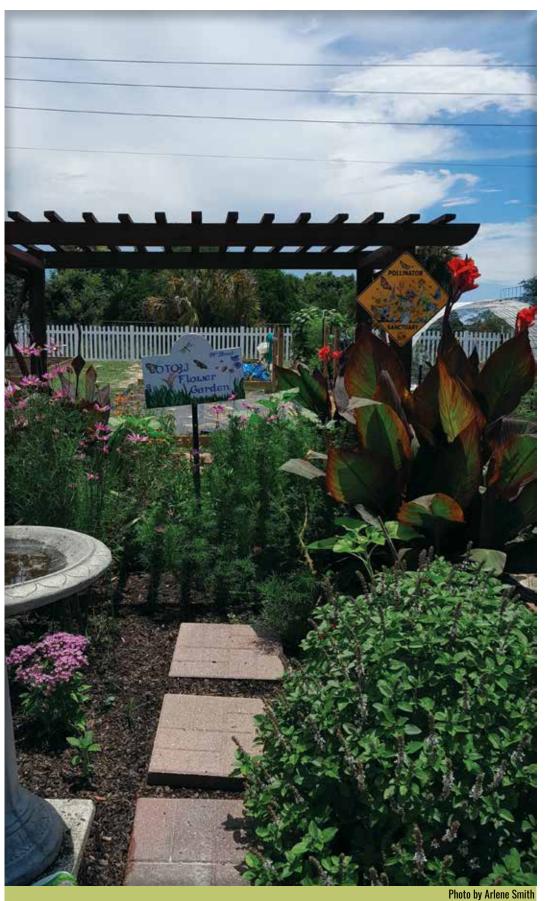
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Eco Gardeners

Phil Karcheski



If you were a diehard gardener who made it through the summer heat, it's time to prepare for a September garden. Start by cleaning out the spent summer plants, weeds, and debris to prevent the spread of diseases and pests from previous crops. Remove any fallen fruit to avoid attracting pests, and look for signs of lingering pests or diseases.

Amending organic matter is vital. Incorporate two to four inches of wellrotted compost into your garden beds. Compost improves soil structure, water retention, and provides essential nutrients. Composted manure is an excellent source of nutrients and organic matter. Other options include peat moss (though use sustainably sourced peat moss, if possible), worm castings, and even finely ground tree mulch composted for several months, which can be beneficial.

Get a soil test if you haven't done one recently. A soil test provides precise information on your soil's pH and nutrient levels. Most vegetables prefer a pH between 6.0 and 7.0. If your pH is off, September is a good time to adjust it by adding lime to raise the pH and sulfur to lower it; ours is usually seven or above.

September is a transitional month in zone 9b. You can often plant a mix of warm-season and cool-season crops.

Warm-season vegetables in early September: As temperatures are still warm, you can get one last round of bush beans, cucumbers,

Friends of Bill W Group



You are not alone on this journey. We come together weekly to share our experience, strength, and hope. If you are in recovery or think you have a problem with alcohol, please join us. We meet weekly on Mondays from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information and to be notified of changes to the schedule, please email friendsofbillwocala@gmail.com.

summer squash, eggplant, peppers, and tomatoes from transplants for better success.

Cool-season vegetables later in September: As temperatures begin to moderate, plant carrots, radishes, and beets. Start growing brassicas indoors for transplanting, such as broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower.

Started from seed in flats in July through September and transplanted to the garden in October. Recommendations include herbs such as cilantro, parsley, and basil, which can still be grown, but keep an eye on the temperature. Énglish peas, sweet corn in early September.

Direct sow: beans, cucumbers, squash, carrots, beets, radishes, most leafy greens.

Transplanting tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower. Gives them a head start and a better chance of success.

Plan for how you'll water your garden. Drip irrigation, micro-sprayers, or soaker hoses are highly recommended to conserve water and deliver it directly to the roots, thereby minimizing evaporation and reducing fungal issues.

Florida's sandy soils require consistent watering, especially for newly planted seeds and young seedlings. By taking these steps to prepare your garden beds, you'll create a thriving environment for a successful fall harvest in your Florida zone 9b garden.

Our new Eco Gardeners Club Garden is thriving. A lot of effort went into creating our new pollinator garden as well as our individual garden spaces. If you're interested in learning more about our club, please visit eco-gardeners.org or send us an email at gardenC58@gmail.



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

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Technology Club

Chris Kilbride



tion about our group. Deciding to buy a new device often occurs when the manufacturer no longer supports further upgrades. Then comes the decision of whether we still need a laptop or if we can do all that we need to

org offers a wealth of valuable informa-

do during retirement on a tablet. For those whose career revolved around a computer, you might still be in that mindset. Is it time to save or clean out unneeded apps, files, and reduce your hard drive space? Analyze your interests going forward; seriously delving into creative photography would take a laptop, production apps, and a large storage capacity. Is your lifestyle already reduced to just emails, messages, watch-ing videos, and reading the news online? Begin your decision-making process here as your first step. Whatever purchase you make, assuming you buy the latest model, it should last you for the next six years.

Tablets are smaller, lighter, and easily used while sitting on the couch or taken

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

on vacation. Their touchscreen makes it enjoyable to navigate, and the keyboard is integrated within the screen. Screen sizes vary from seven to 14 inches diagonally. They are less expensive and have their own mobile operating system, but you can still purchase an attachable keyboard or mouse, and choose from a variety of hard-drive space options if needed. The most recent apps are often built for both tablets and computers as well as smartphones. Cloud storage is available, but consider investing in a mediumsized hard drive to accommodate sizable updates. Tablets can be connected to a large monitor to enhance your viewing experience, and they connect easily to your printer when needed.

A powerful processor is essential for more demanding computer tasks, so you must decide whether a laptop is needed to handle your retirement workload and interests. Larger screen sizes are available, and you can choose from various hard-drive storage options for creating those detailed projects. Some specialized apps are only compatible with computers. While computers are generally more expensive, they can also connect to a printer and a larger monitor.

Search for quality, as the lowest cost might lead to frustration. In the world of Apple, Windows, and Android, the technology is new and exciting, awaiting your research and decisions.

Residents are welcome to join our club. Yearly dues are \$10 per resident or \$15 per resident couple. You can contact us through the Contact page at OcalaT-

echClub.org. Members enjoy Thursday in-person help sessions in the Hobby Building, where they can discuss issues with their Windows or Apple computers, smart-phones, or tablets. In-person classes are held on the first Friday and Saturday of each month, with online Zoom meetings on other Saturdays.



Photo by Bruce Kanner

Jewish Club members listen to the rules of polo while attending the Ocala Polo Club match in June.

The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



Dinner out, done it. Music at The Town Square, done it. Card games, done it. But for most, going to the polo matches was something different, as two dozen club members had a refreshingly unique evening attending the Ocala Polo

Club game at the Florida Horse Park. The weather was beautiful with blue skies, warm temperatures, and an occasional breeze. The evening started with a personal presentation on the general rules of polo. A few of the human and equine athletes stopped by the Jewish Club tents to chat (the humans did the talking). At halftime, everyone was invited to replace the divots, and at the con-clusion, all the athletes strolled by for a hearty round of congratulations. Thank you, Joan Kasfir, for organizing another wonderful event.

Just four days earlier, on June 3, more than 30 club members enjoyed eight types of cheesecake, 12 different types of wine, and fruit salad as we celebrated

Shavout. There was also coffee and water on hand. Shavout, an agricultural festival, also marks Moses coming down from Mt. Sinai and presenting the Israelites with the Torah more than 3,300 years ago. It is traditional to eat dairy on Shavuot, and the cheesecakes certainly fit that category. The wines were carefully selected to pair with the sweetness of the cheesecakes, encompassing a range of whites, reds, rosés, and sparkling va-rieties. Thank you, Jodi Kanner, for putting this together.

Člub members should save the date as we return from summer with the annual welcome back bagels and lox brunch on Sunday, Sept. 21. RSVPs will be required. Further details will be announced to

members next month.

You do not have to be Jewish to be a member of 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 holds meetings in both The Lodge at Candler Hills and the Arbor Conference Center.

For more information about the Jewish Club or to inquire about membership, please contact Audrey Wolotsky at audw27@gmail.com.

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Pick-up of donated items from Evelyn Sarnes-Holiday to Humane Society of Marion County's Dee Smith.

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Friendship Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 9510 SW 105th Street, Ocala, Florida 34481. To learn more, please visit SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com, follow us on Facebook (Marion County Fl SPCA), or email spca.marion.county@

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 21.

Donations of pet food and supplies will be accepted at the porch of Evelyn Sarns Holiday, located at 8880-C SW 94th St, Ocala, Florida 34481. To prevent ac-

cidental ingestion by pets, please refrain from using staples to close open bags. Calling all amateur detectives. Block your calendar for a murder mystery dinner theatre event on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8, and support needy pets of Marion County. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with the show starting at 5 p.m. Hone your sleuthing skills at the SPCA of Marion County's presentation of "Haunting of Weybourne High" introducing an original screenplay by the Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Club. Participate with and follow the cast at their 1958 high school reunion, where 30 years prior, murder and arson abruptly halted their high school prom. As part of the play, discover who was the murderer and arsonist who evaded the law for 30 years. Dinner, included in the \$65 ticket price, will be catered by Pasta Faire and includes salad, two entrees, sides, rolls, dessert, coffee, tea and lemonade. Attendees may bring their own beverage. Stay tuned for ticket sales in September, as this event sells out quickly!

Although not a popular subject, estate planning is more than dividing property and finances; it's a final gesture of love for those we leave behind, including our pets. Despite treating pets like family, most people overlook them in their estate plans, leaving beloved animals vulnerable or even homeless.

The first and most important step is identifying a trusted caregiver. Don't assume loved ones will take on this responsibility – confirm their willingness and ability and designate a backup if possible. Organizations like rescues or sanctuaries may be viable alternatives. Many offer lifelong care or rehoming options in line with your wishes. Consider your pet's health and age. A pet trust can provide financial support for their care, ensuring your instructions are followed. And make realistic choices – older adults should think carefully before adopting young pets whose lifespans might exceed their own. Instead, consider adopting senior animals, often overlooked in shelters, who can offer companionship without long-term uncertainty. Addressing pets in your estate plan isn't just responsible, it's one of the most compassionate legacies you can leave.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." - Aesop

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg



The Scandinavian American Club meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room from September through May. The Scandinavian American Club does not meet during the summer months (June through August). Our first fall meeting is on Tuesday,

Since the Scandinavian American Club is essentially on sabbatical over the summer, I thought we could explore some of the ways Scandinavians came to

this country.

I was driving with my wife to Minnesota when we passed a sign in Illinois that read "Bishop Hill." It turned out my wife had visited Bishop Hill and told me it was a Swedish Colony started by a thousand Swedes who sought religious freedom from the Lutheran Church in Sweden in 1846. It was led by Erik Janson, who was described as the Wheat Four Messiah.

They built an entire community in northwestern Illinois, including a church, hospital, schools, shops, and other town buildings. They built an industry manufacturing brooms, buggies, and woven rugs. They were an economic powerhouse and religious center managed by a group of trustees. The community dissolved in the 1880s, with every member being issued shares of the economic entity. Thousands of Swedes settled in the Midwest, from Galva to Galesburg, Minnesota, to North Dakota, forming communities like Bishop Hill for many reasons beyond religion.

By the 1900s, many of the buildings in the infrastructure were deteriorating, and the state of Illinois committed to saving the buildings still standing. Throughout the 1970s, Bishop Hill enjoyed the support of numerous volunteers, including members of the Swedish Royal Family. It once more became a thriving community with tens of thousands of visitors from all 50 states. See for yourself at visitbishophill.com and stop by if you are traveling along I-80 or I-74 in northwest Illinois.

We ask members to share their memories of their Scandinavian past and culture. Many of our members have visited the Scandinavian countries from which they or their ancestors migrated and returned with pictures and exhibits. Maybe you have a story to tell or a souvenir to share.

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

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.

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Rhode Island Group

Judy Parisi



choosing New England. Dwight Eisenhower first summered as president on Coasters Harbor Island at the Naval War College in Newport. He later moved to the property originally known as Commandant's Residence or Quarters Number One at Fort Adams. This latter property was built in 1873 for General Henry Jackson Hunt, a Civil War officer. The property, situated on a

10-acre estate, offers spectacular views of Narragansett Bay and Newport Har-It was not the view, however, that molocations; instead, he wanted to be clos-

tivated President Eisenhower to change er to the Newport Country Club. Eisenhower was a golf enthusiast who reportedly shot in the mid-80s and whose passion for the sport inspired many in the nation to take up golf.

Newport Country Club is a historic private club located on Harrison Avenue and Ocean Drive. It was founded in 1893 and designed by William Davis. The Country Club was co-founded by members of America's most prominent families at that time, notably, Theodore Havemeyer, John Jacob Astor IV, Oliver Belmont, and several of the Vanderbilts. Havemeyer is considered one of the game's founding fathers as he helped organize the United States Golfing Association, and the club was one of the five founding member clubs of the Association. Newport Country Club was the site of the first United States Amateur Championship and the first United States Open in 1895. Originally comprising nine holes, the course was expanded to 18 holes in 1897.

The clubhouse was designed in 1895 by Whitney Warren and extensively renovated by Kirby Perkins in 2005 in an-

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The Eisenhower House.

In February of the following year, the Association changed the Women's Open to a three-hole playoff versus 18. The weather was difficult during the 2006 Open with heavy rains and fog postpon-

ing play.
When your travels take you to Rhode Island, plan to visit the Eisenhower House, which is part of the Rhode Island Parks System, and drive toward the Newport Country Club to admire the exceptionally beautiful clubhouse. There

judith.parisi@gmail.com so we can ensure you are added to our email list. We welcome all who have lived, worked, studied, or served in Rhode Island, as well as their family members.

Silver Rainbow Club

Jeanne Bennett-Bailey



Music trivia is back! Join us on Sunday, Sept. 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We will play in teams of no more than eight. There will be first, second, and third-place cash prizes.

What else? Glad you asked! All proceeds will be divided between Interfaith Emergency Services' Food-4-Kids Backpack program and the Silver Rainbow Club.

Tickets go on sale Monday, Aug. 18, and are \$10 each. Tickets will be sold on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon in the upstairs Recreation Center lobby.

There will be a 50/50 with multiple drawings. 50/50 tickets are \$5 for five tickets.

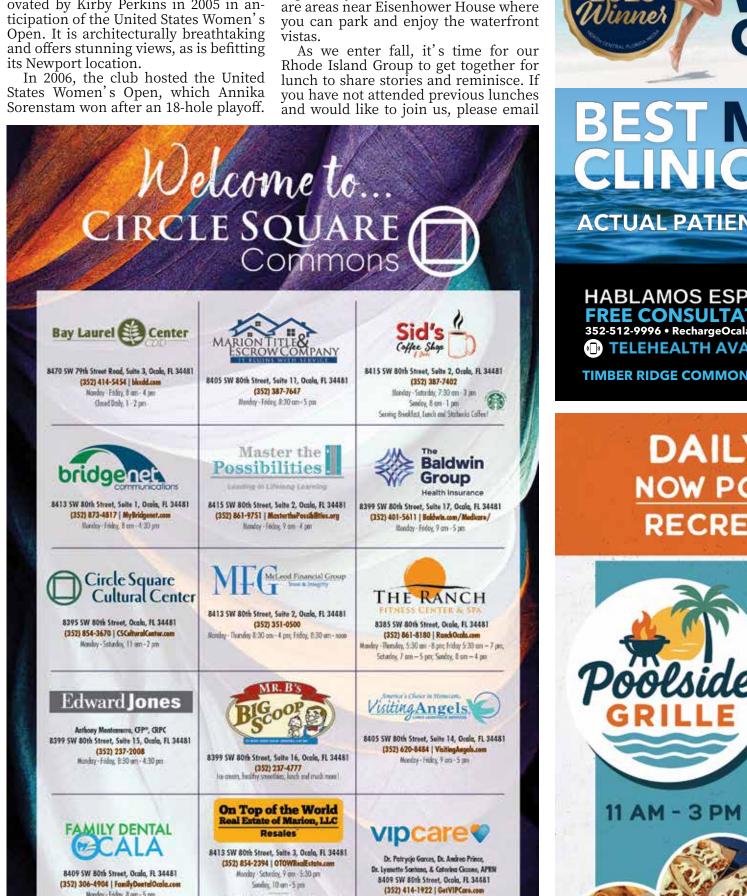
Bring your food and beverage to enjoy during the fun. No alcohol, please.

The Silver Rainbow Club is a welcoming and affirming social group open to all. We are LGBTQ+ allies providing a space to gather, socialize, and enjoy each other's company.

We host various activities throughout the year, including coffee gatherings, luncheons, cookouts, dances, and other social gatherings. To get the latest information about all our events, visit Silver-RainbowClub.com and our Facebook page (Silver Rainbow Club). Our annual club fee is \$10 per person.

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SWANS

Lois Nix



Hot, with daily afternoon thunderstorms, are the normal days of summer. Those of us who experienced many summers here in Florida claim every year that this is the hottest summer ever. Come winter, we will claim it will be the coldest ever.

The one thing that never changes, or that we never complain about, is the love and support the Single Women Active Networking System (SWANS) gives to each other. The SWANS is one of the oldest clubs in On Top of the World. It was founded in 2006 to promote social interaction, to enrich, support, and encourage single women to be active. Being single does not mean you have to be lonely.

The hot weather has not prevented our social activities; we continue to go out to eat, and play games such as cards, mahjongg, samba, and shuffleboard. Master the Possibilities offers classes to learn how to play samba and hand and foot games. Lois Nix has been teaching both games at Master the Possibilities for quite a while. Registration is required.

Our appetizer, lunch, and dinner groups continue to meet during the summer months.

Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. is our membership meeting. All women residents are invited to join SWANS. We will be meeting in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III. Membership forms will be available at the meeting. We do not collect dues, never have in 19 years. You will not find us on Facebook. We are a club for support, where we enjoy our friendships and live, love, and laugh. Keep it simple. Join us on Sept.

SWANS are never alone. SWANS are never forgotten.

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The On Top of the World app is available in the Google Play and Apple Store (resident account required).

Lions Club

Gail Morris



Happy summer, everyone. It has been a hot one, but that doesn't keep the Lions Club from roaring. We have a district meeting taking place right here in On Top of the World. Our club is pleased to be hosting Lions from throughout North Florida. Our district begins at the panhandle of Florida and ends roughly as far south as Marion County. It's a big meeting, and all our members are doing their part to make it a success.

We are meeting at our usual time on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and conducting business as necessary. This past meeting included supporting the Lions Foundation in its disaster relief efforts for victims of the Texas flash flood and those in the Carolinas affected by Tropical Storm Chantal. This is where we put those funds raised in the year to use. Our club donated \$1,000 to both disaster relief funds.

Our services committee will be checking in with the community liaison staff at the elementary schools we support to determine their needs, so we are purchasing what is most needed to begin the school year.

The services committee will also be working on the Thanksgiving meal project our club has undertaken for the last few years. Discussing turkey in August may seem a little premature, but we need the time to finalize our plan. It's fair to say that the services committee becomes the responsibility of every member of the club once the basic needs are determined, and then it's all hands on deck to carry out our mission to aid our community. We serve veterans in our county, as well as children who face food insecurity.

We are always seeking new members to help us achieve our community service goals.

The Lions Club meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m. For further information, please contact Bert Perkins, our membership chair, at 909-262-8407.

LEASH LAWDogs must be on a leash at all times.

Active Singles Club

Jan Lindell



July was hot and humid, but the heat didn't stop the singles from enjoying all the outdoor and indoor events. We danced to the music of Tim Hargis while enjoying the delicious snacks that members had brought. We continued with all our weekly and monthly games, laughing and having fun. The dining group visited some good restaurants to try a new dish or a favorite dish. The hiking group kept their hats on and drank plenty of water while enjoying hikes in the heat!

August events will keep you busy with breakfast at the Brunch House Restaurant, lunch at Front Porch Restaurant & Pie Shop, and dinner at Stumpknockers. Be sure to try our new card playing event, and our other games – Mexican train, bunko, hand, knee, and foot, darts, bocce, mini golf, and pickleball.

All these events are on our calendar with easy sign-up

Sundays are busy days. Bowling is very popular in the group. We also have a good-sized group that eats lunch at Cody's, a group of walkers who gather in the morning at Sholom Park, and play mini golf in the early evenings.

Another weekday event is hiking. There is a large group of hikers who hike some beautiful trails and end the hike with lunch at a nearby restaurant. Upcoming hikes include Friday, Aug. 1, Whispering Pines Park in Inverness, and Thursday, Aug. 14, Blue Run Park in Dunnellon.

Join us at our membership meeting to meet some new friends and learn more about the Active Singles Club and what's happening with a social time following. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at Arbor Conference Dance Studios. We hope to see you at any of these activities. Check out our calendar at otowactivesingles.com. You can also view photos of previous exciting events, and even better, you can join online.

We always have fun at any of the above events; we would love for you to join us.



Active Singles Club Sunday bowling group.

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Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



Travel Toppers Tours and its volunteers practice safety procedures for residents participating in our tours. All residents must follow the directions of the volunteers when entering and exiting the parking lot located off SW 81st Loop. Golf carts and cars follow the same rules. Anyone who fails to follow safety procedures will be denied a reservation on future trips conducted by Travel Toppers Tours.

Reservations for Travel Toppers trips 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 waitlist. As this is a resident club, the board would like to give our residents priority. If there is availability, guests from the waitlist will be asked if they are still interested in attending the trip.

The club has purchased tickets for the 2025-2026 performances at Suncoast Dinner Theater. The tickets are \$100 per person and include the performance, dinner, dessert, transportation, and tips. The shows for 2025 are as follows, with the first date indicating the performance date and the second date indicating when the coordinator will begin taking reservations. The coordinator's contact information is also provided. "Grease The Musical," Oct. 18, Aug. 4, Diane Knox, 352-390-2386; "Million Dollar Quartet," Nov. 15, Sept. 8, Lisa Adams, 407-325-9863; and "Sunkicks Home for Christmas," Dec. 13, Oct. 6, Sharon Stetson, 207-838-3776. Like all our trips, payment must be made by check only and is non-refundable unless a waitlist is available.

Reservations are now being taken for the Cirque du Soleil production of "Drawn to Life" on Sunday, Sept. 21, at 4 p.m. at Disney Springs. Disney animation art comes to life in a way that has never been possible before, thanks to legendary Disney music and Cirque du Soleil's inventive acrobatic performances. To reserve, call Allan Rickards at 352-216-0528 or 352-390-3075. The price is \$112 per person and includes the show, transportation, and driver tips. Lunch is on your own. Please note that walking and stairs are required at the theater.

We are still taking reservations for our Valentine's Day cruise from Feb. 14 to 21, 2026, aboard Celebrity's Apex. If you are interested, please call Linda Hein at 352-861-9880

Hein at 352-861-9880.

We are pleased to offer a 16-day trip, "Highlights of Route 66," from Sept. 18 to Oct. 4, 2026. This tour departs from Chicago and then travels through eight states, concluding in Los Angeles. The price is \$4,719 per person and includes escorted tours, accommodations, transportation, prepaid gratuities, travel insurance, and transportation to and from Ocala. The deposit is \$649 per person, with the final payment due on June 30, 2026. For more information, contact Linda Hein at 352-861-9880.

Traveltopperstours.com offers more details and up-to-date information about our trips. Trips sponsored by Travel Toppers Tours are open only to residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. Copies of Gateway of Services passes must be submitted with the resident's check to prove the resident is current. Any non-resident who participates must be a guest of a resident club member.

What's Cookin'?





Bacon Onion Tomato Pie

1 deep-dish pie crust (homemade or purchased)
6 to 8 slices thick-cut bacon, cooked & crumbled
1 large yellow onion, thinly sliced
2 to 3 medium tomatoes, sliced and drained
1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
½ cup mayonnaise
½ cup sour cream

Salt & pepper, to taste Preheat oven to 375°

Preheat oven to 375°F. Cook the bacon until crispy, then set it aside. Sauté onions until golden.

Layer onions, tomatoes, and bacon in pie crust. Mix the cheese, mayonnaise, and sour cream: spread them on top.

Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until golden and bubbly. Cool slightly before slicing.

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World Traveler

Bill Shampine



Another interesting point to ponder – have you ever wondered why there are seven wonders listed instead of five or eight or 15? The answer relates to numerology. In ancient Greece, the number seven was believed to represent perfection and abundance.

ited to the Mediterranean rim. That's

because the Mediterranean rim was the extent of the explored world at the time.

In ancient times, the lack of consensus on the seven "best-of-the-best" sites led to multiple lists. It was not until the Middle Ages that the list we know today was finally compiled and widely accepted. Of the currently accepted Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, only the Great Pyramid of Giza still exists today. The other six, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Statue of Zeus at Olympia, the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, the Mausoleum of Mausolus at Halicarnassus, the Colossus of Rhodes, and the Lighthouse of Alexandria, have all vanished.

The Great Pyramid of Giza is the largest of the Egyptian pyramids. It served as the tomb of Pharaoh Khufu, who ruled during the Fourth Dynasty of the Old Kingdom. It was built over a period of approximately 26 years, dating back to around 2600 BCE. Originally standing at 481 feet, it was the world's tallest human-made structure for more than 3,800 years. Over time, the smooth white limestone casing was removed, reducing the height to its current 454.4 feet. The base is a square approximately 756 feet on each side. It is estimated that it took 2.3 million large blocks to build it. There are three known chambers inside the pyramid.

None of the primary building blocks of rock is uniform in either size or

shape, and they are all roughly dressed. Since the size of the average block used for construction weighed about 2.5 tons, the question of the day is how they cut the blocks using tools from 2600 BCE? I would have needed a diamond saw. However, lacking both a diamond saw and electricity, they had to use hardened arsenic/copper chisels, wooden mallets, ropes, and stone tools. They would chisel grooves into a stone face, insert wooden wedges, then soak the wedges

with water. As the water was absorbed, the wedges expanded, thus breaking off workable chunks of rock. Frankly, I would never have thought of doing that.

In contrast to the roughly hewn primary building blocks, the white limestone casing stones were carefully crafted and polished. When completed, and the bright sun shone off the polished limestone, the Great Pyramid of Giza truly had to be a wonder to behold. After 4,600 years, you can still visit and marvel at the wonders of the ancients.



The Great Pyramid of Giza.



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Joy in the Mourning

Deb Thompson



Laughter is the best medicine, some say. The Mayo Clinic acknowledges that laughter reduces stress, improves your mood, and enhances resilience. Laughter causes the body to produce natural painkillers. Laughter relieves tension and cortisol, lessens depression and anxiety. Laughter also releases endorphins that make you feel better and happier. Incorporating more laughter into one's life certainly would be a benefit, and that's no joke! With that in mind, now is an excellent time to let folks know there is a fun side to the Joy in the Mourning. On special occasions, we let our hair down, so to speak, and be just as silly as can be!

The previous month was the perfect opportunity as we celebrated Christmas in July. Similar to our Christmas celebration, good food and conversation set the tone for the event. Then came the crazy gift bag exchange. The exchange is performed one person at a time so that all eyes may be on the recipient's reaction. Laughter and smirks intertwine. The

festive attire contest is always of interest, bringing out creativity and sometimes an unusual side of those who participate. It's all for fun and joy is multiplied. This bash included a terrible trivia contest with a twist. I'll let you know how that went in the next column.

Have you ever noticed the Joy in the Mourning logo? There is a dual message as the butterflies are an emblem of joy. One, hands outstretched reaching for joy to grasp. Two, the other aspect is a visual of joy being released to others. Progress made on this journey has caused many to share joy with others in need unselfishly. Folks in this group connect with others who share similar interests to have fun and share laughter outside the classroom. Being with others who understand grief eliminates the need to explain themselves and allows them to be free, and just to have fun! Yes, laughter plays an essential role in our well-being. As the Good Book says in Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart does good like medicine: but a broken spirit dries the bones.

Perhaps you are looking to connect with people who have lost someone. You are invited to join us on any Friday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Please call Deb at 352-445-4860 or Mimi at 954-254-9187 with any questions you may have.



Glenn, Tamara, Christine, Connie, and David are all smiles.



COMMUNITY MEET & GREET FOR AUGUST

Join us for a Community Meet & Greet where you can meet your HOA Management Company and a representative from Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion. Learn about community updates, upcoming projects, and services – plus, ask questions, share feedback, and connect with neighbors in a casual setting.

We look forward to seeing you on your assigned day!

OTOW Central	Location	Date	Time
Friendship Colony (Last name A - L)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Monday, August 11, 2025	10 am - noon
Friendship Colony (Last name M - Z)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Monday, August 11, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Americana Village (Last name A - K)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	10 am - noor
Friendship Park (Last name A - K)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	10 am - noor
Friendship Village (Last name A - K)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	10 am - noor
Americana Village (Last name L - Z)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Friendship Park (Last name L - Z)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Friendship Village (Last name L - Z)	Circle Square Cultural Center	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Longleaf Ridge (Last name A - L)	Recreation Center	Thursday, August 14, 2025	10 am - noor
Longleaf Ridge (Last name M - Z)	Recreation Center	Thursday, August 14, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Providence	Recreation Center	Tuesday, August 19, 2025	10 am - noon
Renaissance Park	Recreation Center	Tuesday, August 19, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Williamsburg	Recreation Center	Tuesday, August 19, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Windsor	Recreation Center	Tuesday, August 19, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Avalon	Recreation Center	Thursday, August 21, 2025	10 am - noon
Crescent Ridge	Recreation Center	Thursday, August 21, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Crescent Green	Recreation Center	Thursday, August 21, 2025	1 - 3 pm

Candler Hills	Location	Date	Time
Ashford & Balfour (Last name A - K)	The Lodge at Candler Hills	Friday, August 29, 2025	10 am - noon
Ashford & Balfour (Last name L - Z)	The Lodge at Candler Hills	Friday, August 29, 2025	1 - 3 pm

Additional dates for remaining neighborhoods will be announced in the September and October issues of the World News. For the full neighborhood schedule, please visit OTOWInfo.com.

Freethinkers

Kathy Bell



"Equal rights for all, special privileges for none." – Thomas Jefferson, president of the United States, 1801-1809.

Those individuals who consider themselves Freethinkers, as Thomas Jefferson did, support and advocate for equality here at home and around the world. In light of current global challenges, we've been focusing on critical issues such as ensuring equal rights, addressing the erosion of freedoms, and offering support for marginalized communities.

On Sunday, July 6, we featured a video on Iran, covering the history of ancient Persian culture, the country's geography, and, most importantly, the people of contemporary Iran, followed by a thoughtful discussion. On Sunday, July 22, Supervisor of Library Services Mary Thompson from our local Freedom Library addressed the issue of banned books and their effect on library staff and patrons. Additionally, Freedom Library is currently undergoing a significant expansion to triple its original size, and Mary outlined new programs that will be accommodated upon completion of the construction. Public libraries continue to be a bastion of freedom, where services are free to all people, regardless of their race, nationality, belief systems (whether religious or science-based), or socio-economic status.

Coming up on Sunday, Aug. 3, Dr. Rod Broker, an academic, counselor, and former Lutheran minister, will present "God Talk: The Evolution of Religion," in pursuit of the age-old question: did god create man, or did man create god? And on Sunday, Aug. 17, the open forum will be back. Members will discuss five or six topics announced in advance; join the table with the topic that interests you the most and would like to discuss.

Freethinkers is designed as a club providing a safe and supportive space for discussion about controversial and important topics for nontheists on the freethinking continuum, ranging from religious skeptics to avowed atheists. We use science and reason in decision-making as opposed to faith and belief. If our club is a good fit for you, please join us for one of our meetings in the Hobby Building Event Room from 1 to 3 p.m. on the dates listed. Our freethought community will welcome you.

For more information, visit FreethinkersFlorida.com or email us at FreethinkersFlorida@gmail.com.



Southern Connection Club

DarLene Stevens



When summer settles over the south, it doesn't just arrive – it lingers, like a familiar friend who knows exactly how long to stay. The air thickens with warmth and memory, and life slows to a pace that invites reflection, laughter, and connection. Living in the south during summer is not just about enduring the heat – it's about embracing the symphony of sensations that define the season.

There's a glass of sweet tea in most hands, sweating in the sun, clinking with ice, and kissed with lemon. Sweet tea is the unofficial welcome sign of any southern porch.

Meals stretch long into the evening, where tables showcase fried chicken, fresh corn on the cob, sliced tomatoes, and biscuits that flake like golden clouds. Watermelon juice runs down chins, and cobblers bubble with peaches and blackberries. Food in the southern summer isn't just nourishment – it's a language of love.

As the sun dips low, the world glows. Fireflies rise from the grass like sparks from a hidden ember, blinking in slow, magical rhythm. Do you remember catching and placing them in Mason jars as children?

Porches become stages for storytelling and stillness alike. Rocking chairs creak in time with cicada songs, with the chirp of crickets, and the occasional bullfrog's bass note from a nearby pond. Wind chimes tinkle in the wind. The sky turns glorious colors of lavender, then indigo, and the stars arrive like old friends – familiar, comforting, and always just where you left them.

The most comforting sound of all is the laughter of good friends – easy, unhurried, and full of shared stories. Conversations drift from one topic to the next, punctuated by inside jokes and the clink of glasses. It's the sound of belonging, of being known and welcomed just as you are.

We are not about grand events or distant destinations. It's about the small, sacred moments that stitch us together – over food, over stories, over time. Summer in the south is a season of connection, and it reminds us that sometimes, the simplest things are the most profound.

We are the Southern Connection. Please join us on our "porch" in Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II on Sunday, Sept. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring food to share, such as a salad, entrée, appetizer, or dessert. Beverages, including sweet tea, are provided; alternatively, you may bring your own.

For additional information or questions, please contact Bob Czopek at bobczopek@gmail.com or 904-540-1726. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

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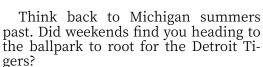




Breathtaking beauty across the crisp, cool bay of Charlevoix.

Michigan Club





Or were Saturdays and Sundays spent dangling a line off the dock or wading in the cool creek to snag a fresh catch dinner over a campfire?

Did you look forward to pitching a tent in the woods and leading the kids on a late-night flashlight hike?

Or as the temperatures rose, did you call in sick from your day job only to head to the lake with sun tan oil and a float in hand?

Summertime is picking time in Michigan for sure. It might mean strawberry or raspberry jam, or jellies, or elderberries over ice cream.

Then, there is sweet corn, fresh-

Ohio Buckeyes Social Club

Amy Ingram



On Thursday, July 3, the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club enjoyed a fun Independence Day celebration poolside at The Lodge at Candler Hills. There was lots of great food, friendship, and fun. Members had the chance to win a 50/50 raffle, as well as participate in the cornhole and mini-ax-throwing competitions. Luckily, the rain did not ruin the day's festivities.

Members are starting to gear up for the upcoming football season. As a club, we host weekly football game-day watch parties and look forward to cheering on the Buckeyes to another National Championship. The first game-day watch

party will be held at Gator's Dockside Ocala on Saturday, Aug. 30. More details will be emailed to members closer to the

Additional events planned for this year include a chili cook-off, a Halloween party, and our annual Christmas party.

The current board's term limit is set to expire in January 2026 and we are seeking members to step up and volunteer for board and social committee positions. Please reach out to a board member if you are interested in serving. Additionally, we are always seeking new members. If you would like to join the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club, email us at buckeyefans34481@gmail.com.

Membership is open to residents with any ties to the state of Ohio. Annual dues are \$20 per person. Also, look for us on Facebook (Residents of On Top of the World Buckeye Social Club).



Ron Lombardo and Larry Boyce are the winners of the ax-throwing competition at the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club Independence Day

picked from the field and steamed on

the grill. Or cherries, peaches, pears, or apples - Michigan has an abundance of

them all to share. If you're from the Motor City or anywhere close, you are a Dream Cruiser for sure. To get out there and show off your vintage wheels to thousands of worshippers lining the sidewalks along Wood-

ward Avenue is such a rush! Just close your eyes and feel the cool, crisp mornings and evenings of the Mitton State. Even just sitting on your deck watching the hummingbirds flit from flower to flower, it's hard not to spend the better part of your days outdoors in Michigan.

The Michigan Club is on hiatus until Sunday, Oct. 5, when our next meet and greet takes place at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. At 5 p.m., we will have an Oktoberfest potluck! Get your German on and polka clothes out. There is fun a-coming soon!

For more information about the Michigan Club, call or text Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757.

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Blue Indigo East Democratic Club

Lydia Kuust



The July speaker was Seth Harp, who is running for election for the House of Representatives in District 3 against our currently serving representative, Kat

The August speaker will be Rocky Pizzarello. He will speak about the rise of scams, particularly those targeting our senior population.

Even if you are not a member of our club, you are welcome to attend our meetings to listen and learn from our

For our community outreach program, we have selected two organiza-

In April, we heard from a representative for Isaiah's 117 House. She spoke about the purpose of their organization to provide a more supportive, less traumatic transition for children taken from their homes and placed into foster care. Our club has chosen to support this

Currently, they are still in need of lemonade mix and paper cups, so please consider donating some of those to our next meeting. Isaiah's 117 House offers lemonade to visitors at farmers' markets and other local events, as people stop by their booth to learn about this organization. They will be building a facil-

ity to house these children in transition as they await placement with a foster family. Continue to watch this monthly column for further information as those

We have also chosen to support students and their families in need in the Lake Weir Middle School area, serving boys and girls aged 11 to 13. This list includes socks, underwear, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, body soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair combs/ brushes, maxi-pads, small household appliances, linens, towels, washcloths, dishes, gently used clothing, and shoes. There will be a table at our meetings for collecting these donated items, and we have board members arranging for their

We have a full slate of officers and board of directors, but we continue to need more volunteers for our various committees. If you are interested, please

with grape stomping, winery tours, wine

tasting and bar, live music, food court;

Dominoes tournament on Sunday, Aug.

17, for fun and friendly competition;

Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Sat-

urday, Sept. 13; Silver Springs State Park

glass bottom boat tour and brunch on

contact me in person at our meetings or use the contact information below.

In this time of uncertainty, we need to connect and support one another. Attending and participating in our meetings offers an opportunity to be with others who share similar beliefs. Since our inception, our member roster has continued to grow with each meeting. Democrat or not, you will be welcomed the next time we meet on Monday, Aug.

If you need a ride to this meeting, please let me know at least a few days in advance. You may contact me at 802-345-0669. I don't answer my phone if I don't recognize the number, but please leave me a message, and I will return your call - or send a text at the same number. You may also send an email to iedemocrats@ vahoo.com.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Thursday, Oct. 16; and Honoring Our Troops Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Be sure to visit our Facebook page (OTOW Latinos Club Ocala). For more information, please call Silvia C. Garcia at 561-801-8188, Ivan Vazquez at 727-403-9629, or Jesus Alvarez at 954-549-7953.



Photo by Silvia C. Garcia

Proud winners of the Latinos Club and Tuesday morning's On Top of Weight Loss "Biggest Loser" competition – phase one!

Latinos Club

Silvia C. Garcia

¡Hola Amigos! Our social committee is hard at work preparing for an unforget-table evening for our Hispanic Heritage Celebration – Celebrando la Unión. The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom, and will feature music by DJ Joe Ortiz. It will be a joyful celebration of our roots, music, and vibrant cultures! Guests are encouraged to wear cultural attire and to bring along instruments such as maracas, tambourines, castanets and small drums - anything that makes you want to dance! Let's celebrate together with great music, delicious food, and the spirit of unity. You do not have to be Latino to join

Congratulations to the proud champions of the Latinos Club and Tuesday morning's On Top of Weight Loss "Biggest Loser" competition's phase one:

1: Suzanne Moore; 2: Silvia C. Garcia; 3: Dalila Borrego.

A special thank you to Wilma Ramirez for generously donating surprise gifts for the winners - your support makes a real difference! We are keeping the momentum going as we move into the next phase.

Our last dining experience took us to Mojo's in Öcala where members enjoyed delicious food and great service in a lively atmosphere. Ina Romero was the lucky winner of a gift card compliments of Mojo's. We took some group photos that reflected a few happy and silly poses, which captured the fun mood of the night. Afterwards, several club members stopped for ice cream. We extend our sincere thanks to Mojo's for their hospitality! Board of directors member Jackie Colucci was born in Uruguay and raised in Argentina, where she grew up speaking Spanish and German. A graduate of New York University, she moved to our community from Jupiter, Florida, in 2021. Jackie works full-time as a Medicare insurance specialist. She enjoys cooking, game nights with club members, reading, walking, discovering beautiful spots in Florida, and visiting family.

Social committee member Yamila Code and her husband Steven married in 1987. Both are retired from careers with Homeland Security, which often took them to different countries and states. They've lived in Missouri, Texas, Louisiana, and Florida, and moved to Ocala in 2020. While it took Yamila some time to adjust to the slower pace, they're now very happy here and can't imagine living anywhere else.

Save the dates! Upcoming events include Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards on Saturday, Aug. 9, which will delight you

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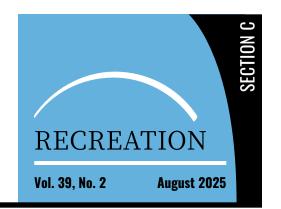
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Flying a Drone in On Top of the World

By Phil Panzera **Vorld News Writer**

Admit it; drones are pretty cool. We've all seen them more and more in recent years, not just on the battlefield, but for recreation, construction, firefighting, law enforcement, and even on 'America' s Got Talent.'

Drones are cool because they bring the freedom of "flight" to anyone. Flying has always inspired mankind, from the story of Daedalus, to my early days watching Mighty Mouse, along with George Reeves as Superman doing a cheesy two-foot jump onto a mattress

Did you know you could buy a drone for as little as \$30? Did you know you could open the box and fly it within minutes, without even reading the instructions? Well, getting started is simple, but there are some very important facts to know first.

The most commonly seen drones are a simple looking box with four rotors. These quadcopters also come in versions with six or eight rotors. There are fixed wing drones, single-rotor drones, camera drones, and many other types. The Predator, famously flown by or military, with its 49' wingspan, is also a drone – as is every remotely controlled plane, jet or helicopter flown by the R/C Flyers Club at our flying field.

There are many safety concerns to consider as some of these little quadcopters can fly faster than 150 miles per hour. Some of the one-sixth scale turbine jets flown at our field can reach 200 miles per hour, and with our field directly below an approach to the nearby Ocala International Airport, there are scores of essential safety rules every R/C (remote control) pilot, whether flying a typical plane or a drone must learn and

Outside of the dedicated flying field, drones are absolutely not allowed to be flown in any other area of our community! Do not fly a drone over private property (your neighbors), Association common properties, recreational areas (golf courses), or construction site. Obviously to do so causes safety issues, as well as serious and legitimate privacy concerns.

While the drone itself may not be expensive, there are many other costs and requirements to contend with. So, if you want to fly a drone in any national airspace this is what you'll need to do: First, learn the rules for recreational flvers and second, take the Federal Avia-



tion Administration (FAA) safety test (and download their mobile app).

If your drone is heavier than 250 grams (.55 pounds), it must also be registered with the FAA (\$5 every three years). You'll receive an ID card and serial number labels for your drone.

In addition, to fly any drone at the community flying field (even toy drones under this weight limit), you must:

1. Join the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). It costs \$85 per year, but the AMA provides \$2.5 million of liability and other coverages (that you want and need).

Join the R/C Flyers Club. This has recently become mandatory. There has been some leniency in the past, but this will be strictly enforced going forward. Dues are \$50 per year, and there is a \$100 initiation fee.

If you'd like to begin your adventure as an R/C pilot, visit the club's website, and their special drone page, at otowrcflyers.com.

Ageless Adventures

By Ray Cech **World News Writer**

Engaging, exciting, and fun experiences for children, their parents, grand-parents, and friends. It is called Ageless Adventures!

Crafted and hosted by Master the Possibilities, every year, children, ages four through 12, from all over Florida, anxiously look forward to participating and often want to sign up a year in advance. Caren Francis and her team of volunteers are responsible for putting together challenging and rewarding learning

And if the week of July 7th was any example of their creativity and genius, the "team" had exceeded its goals. Caren told us that they were happy to see that not only did the children quickly get into the learning programs, but many of the grandparents and minders also participated.

This year, the one-week program took the children to Sholom Park to study wilderness with Amanda Marek from the University of Florida. Back to Master the

Possibilities, classrooms filled up. Children were fascinated watching Jim Di Paolo demonstrate how robotics work then they had a chance to operate a robotic dump truck and also learned how robotics is becoming a useful tool for everyday human activities. Children also learned how to paint a gnome, swing a golf club, fly a remote-controlled plane, and, in a very popular class, how to launch a rocket. Trish Perry had a great time hosting a class in which students designed hors d'oeuvres. There were also tea parties, as well as dance classes at The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa.

The week of fun and learning, like all good things, had to come to a close. But Master the Possibilities closed out the Ageless Adventures week with a bang a fun carnival at Cypress Hall. Games, prizes, and snacks were the order of the day. It was a fitting extravaganza for all the children and their "minders" who had put so much of themselves into a week of learning adventures.



New Billiard Academy.

Billiard Academy

By Phil Panzera World News Writer

Did you play pool when younger, and then got away from it for decades with family and career? Do you wish you could find a low-key way to keep your body moving, keep your muscles toned, improve your flexibility, and exercise your mind with thoughts of patterns, shot selection, and strategy? Do you wish to do all of this in a safe air-conditioned environment, with no 95-degree heat, sun, sand, sweat, or bugs?

And, most importantly, do you wish to have fun with new friends smashing brightly colored balls into holes with a satisfying thwack! Do you wish to feel that sense of accomplishment, and hear the hooting and hollering when you make a shot way over your head, with big smiles and compliments? Well, then pool might be for you.

The community's Billiard Club has just formed a Billiard Academy, to formalize guidelines for understanding and mastering the fundamentals of pocket billiards. Instruction is free, at your own pace, and whenever you want. There's no registration, no curriculum, no structure - all you need is a desire to move,

learn, grow, and have a good time.

There will be a class every Thursday starting at 6 p.m. running for one hour or until questions stop in the Arbor Activity Center Billiards Room. Individual coaching is also available from a BCA/ PBIA-certified instructor.

It doesn't matter if you've never played before, or even if you don't know which end of the stick goes toward the ball. The game of pool has an especially appealing quality, and that is, you don't need the slightest bit of ability to still have a lot of fun.

The joy is in the doing, the striving, in keeping your body active and your mind young, in having something that you can do either just to bang balls, or to have a goal of personal improvement. Many of us are stagnant, just existing from day to

I, for one, want more ... to continue to learn, to try new activities, set goals, and to be all that I can be. Age is just a number – don't let it define you. Get off that couch, move, think, do, set a goal, learn something new, and stay young in your mind. If that sounds like a plan, we're here for you!



Robotics class with Jim Di Paolo.



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SUNDAY & MONDAY - LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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Golf

Matt Hibbs matt_hibbs@otowfl.com

We are in the midst of the summer heat. Afternoon thunderstorms and high humidity are the norms for central Florida, which doesn't necessarily bode well for our afternoon golfers. If you like to play in the afternoon when the course is less crowded, please make sure to follow all inclement- weather safety precautions. Here are some tips if you are caught on the golf course during a storm:

- Avoid open high ground and large
- Avoid bodies of water.
- Seek shelter inside a building immediately.

Remember that if you hear thunder, lightning is nearby.

On Top of the World will host the annual World Labor Day Golf Event on Monday, Sept. 1. The format is a fourperson team scramble. Each team will be flighted based on team handicap. The event will be held at The Links and The Tortoise & The Hare. Registration is \$25 per player, which includes a \$5 donation to Folds of Honor. Folds of Honor provides post-secondary educational scholarships for children and spouses of military service men and women.

Upcoming Events

- Monday, Aug. 11 through Thursday, Aug. 14: The Tortoise & The Hare closed for aerification.
- Monday, Sept. 1: Labor Day Event at The Links and The Tortoise & The Hare.

World Accolades

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Joe Wong,

hole-in-one #15. Tom Weiss, eagle #1. Steve Gersten, hole-in-one #8. Brian Henderson, eagle #5. Jeff Richardson, eagle #4. Ken Lay, hole-in-one #15. Bob Flynn, hole-in-one #13.

THE LINKS: David Green, hole-in-one #6. Jeff Richardson, eagle #3. Tom Weiss shot 70, three strokes below his age. Tony Morris, eagle #15. Laurel Staiger, shot 79 her lowest round ever.

Congratulations to all!

Golf Tip of the Month

How many of you find yourself (yourselves?) hitting a huge slice with a driver in your hands? A slice is when your shot curves hard from left to right for the right-handed golfer. Most times, the slice will take you to places you do not want to be. You say to yourself, "Why can't I get rid of this darn slice?" Well, here are some tips for ridding yourself of the dreaded slice:

1. Check your grip. Each hand should form a V with your index finger and thumb. Each of the Vs formed should then point to your right shoulder (right-handed golf-

Make sure your ball position is off the heel of the front foot. This will help catch the ball on the upswing.

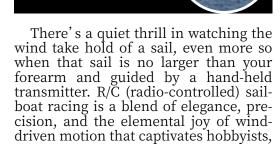
Focus on a bigger turn back and through. Make sure you get about 80 to 90% of your weight on the back foot on your backswing and follow through onto your forward foot on the downswing. You must finish your golf swing to help eliminate the slice.

Lastly, focus on releasing the club head before impact. Feel the wrist in both hands turn over as you swing through the ball.

Work on these four tips at the driving range first to help develop the muscle memory needed to improve your slice.

R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



engineers, and nature lovers alike. Unlike motor-powered R/C craft, R/C sailboats rely solely on the wind, just like their full-size counterparts. This makes every maneuver feel like a chess move against nature:

Skippers adjust sail trim and rudder angles remotely to coax the

most speed from shifting winds. Tactics matter – reading gusts, playing the angles, and cutting tight corners around buoys.

It's not just button-mashing. It's strategy, instinct, and finesse.

What makes R/C sailboat racing almost meditative for some and adrenaline-pumping for others?

A Test of Minds: Unlike motorboats, there's no throttle here. Success depends on understanding physics, the water's surface, and the breeze.

Budget-Friendly Sailing: No need for a marina or deep pockets. A sleek, competitive R/C yacht can fit in the trunk of your car and doesn't burn a drop of fuel.

Community Vibes: Regattas are a blend of friendly rivalry and knowledge sharing, often in beautiful lakeside settings. Newcomers are warmly welcomed, and seasoned veterans share their tuning tips.

Tuning an R/C sailboat is part science, part artistry:

Some models allow customization of keels, sails, and rigging to fit their rac-

Painting and finishing the hull becomes an extension of personal flair and pride, adding to the sport's creative satisfaction.

This hobby welcomes tinkerers and perfectionists alike – people who find magic in getting every line just right.

One of the most beautiful aspects of R/C sailing is its inclusivity. From techsavvy teens to retirees rediscovering the water's pull, there's a universal sense of wonder when a breeze fills your sails – even if those sails are a fraction of a meter tall.

R/C sailboat racing is the rare hobby that slows time down. It's not about horsepower or speed – it's about grace, insight, and mastering the invisible hands that move the world. If you're

might be the call of the wind you've been waiting for.

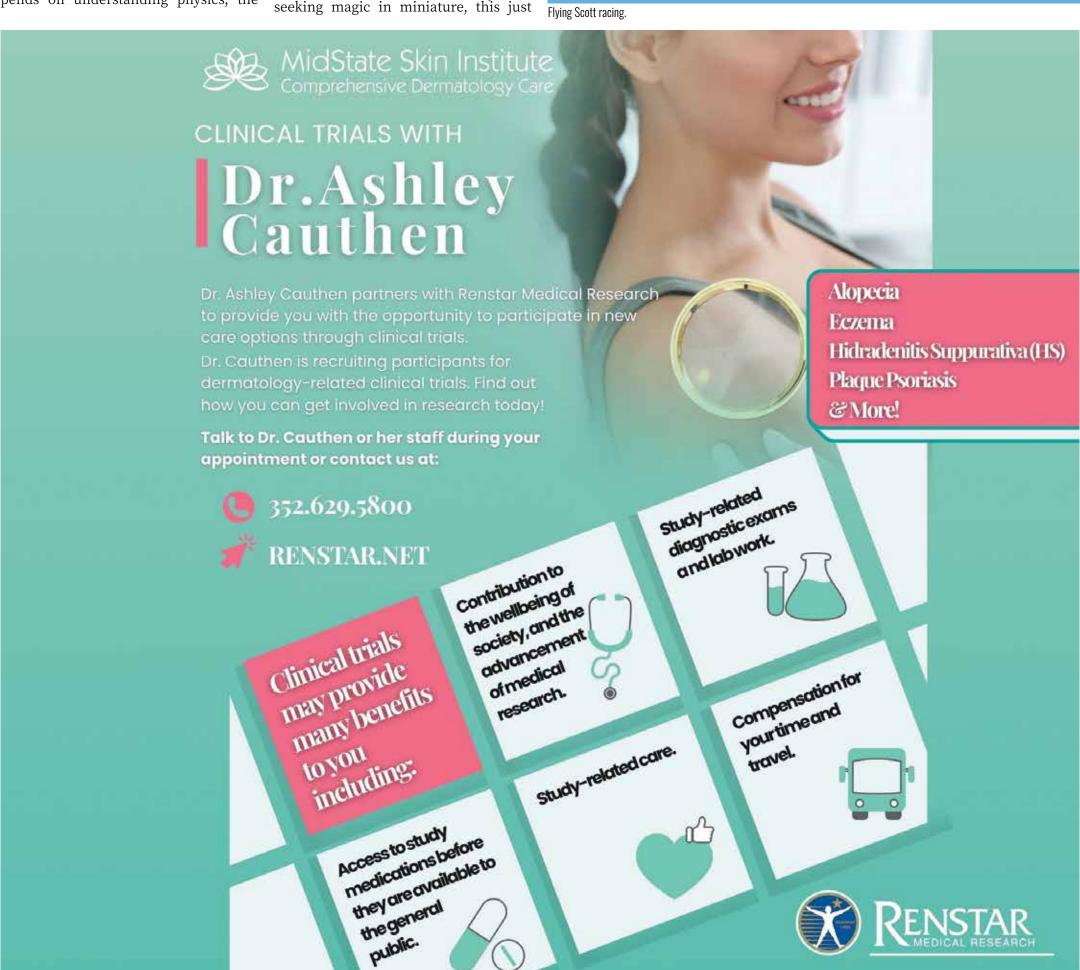
Please come by the West Pond at Tuscawilla Park in Downtown Ocala on Wednesdays or Sundays at noon. We're in the summer doldrums, with frequent tropical showers, so please call or text

before you go. We may be at the craft brewery at the south end of the park in-

Contact by voice or text Gene Mangold at 772-678-5101 or Bernie Bossert at 816-678-3817.



Photo by Gene Mangold



Men's Golf Association

John Yenne



The Men's Golf Association (MGA) competition was canceled two weeks in a row in July due to inclement weather, including our popular Chicken Day Scramble. It's disappointing to members who are playing well to have to stop in the middle of a round.

A gambler may calculate his odds of winning, but statistically, you lose if you walk around in a Florida summer thunderstorm holding a nine iron over your head. We take this advice seriously: "If you see it, flee it. And if thunder roars, go indoors."

An analysis of Chicken Day results through the first half of the year shows that if your team shoots a handicap-adjusted 56, you'll individually win about \$8. So, if you're feeling lucky for \$8 when a storm comes through, at least gamble on something that doesn't end with paramedics.

Discussions are ongoing with Food & Beverage services regarding the weekly menu for MGA members, and you're encouraged to take advantage of the special pricing we have been offered.

Membership has increased to 270. Make sure you sign up early for all of our events to guarantee yourself a spot in the weekly competition.

For upcoming events and a new tipof-the-month feature, visit otowmga. com.

Put these upcoming Wednesdays in your calendar (weather permitting):

- Aug. 6: Chicken Day Scramble (The Links)
- · Aug. 13: 2 Best Balls (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- · Aug. 20: Ind-White-Yellow-Orange (The Links)
- Aug. 27: Team Stableford (The Tortoise & The Hare)

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.

Archery Club

Suzanne Shea



Save the dates! The Club Fair will be held on Thursday, Sept. 11, at Circle Square Cultural Center, and the Archery Club will have a table and be on hand to answer all your questions. The club will hold its semi-annual open house at the range on Thursday, Oct. 2. Visitors will have the opportunity to try their hand at archery, tour the range, and meet our members.

The Archery Club manages the range at the Veterans Park. The range is open daily from dawn to dusk, and our members are of all skill levels, from novice to competitive. Plenty of equipment is available for those new to archery or returning after a long hiatus. We also have a well-equipped maintenance shop to keep club and personal archery equipment in good working condition. We also present workshops to members to train them to care for their equipment and assist with taking care of club equipment.

If you would like a quick introduction to the club, we invite you to stop by any Friday from 9 a.m. to noon dur-

ing "Freestyle Friday." Additionally, we have practitioners of the martial art of kyudo. If you would like to learn more about this archery discipline, please stop by the range on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. You may also contact Brenda Foster (brenda@gcfonline.com).

The third Tuesday of each month, Patty Hoppe hosts Archery Fundamentals and Shooting Workshops at the range. Topics will vary monthly, and a fun shoot will be held following each workshop. Workshops begin at 9 a.m. and are open to all club members.

Every Friday, we host "Freestyle Fri-

day" from 9 a.m. to noon. Club mentors are available at the range to assist our novice archers with skill improvement. If you're considering joining the club, this is a great opportunity to meet fellow members, learn more about the sport, and have fun. Club membership is open to all residents with a valid ID or a Gateway of Services pass. Interested in becoming a member? Visit otowarcheryclub.org > New Members and download the application form and required waivers. For additional information or to learn about the next steps to join the club, please contact Chuck at chuckarchery@strickland.net or 407-257-9668, or Suzanne at Suzanne.shea61@gmail. com or 908-510-5714. Keep it in the yel-

Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



It has now been three months since Candler Hills Golf Course closed. There is turf around the sand traps, and the greens are starting to be filled in. Work is progressing continuously on the course, and with good weather, the hardworking crew can continue.

Walter Hagen said that in any round of golf, he expected to make seven mistakes. So, he didn't get angry when he had one miscue. Of course, that is the thought process of an 11-time major champion.

As amateurs, it might be a little harder to develop that mindset. One thing we can do when we get upset with our shot is just let it go. It's not easy, but if we can learn from that mistake, it makes for a more positive round. There are days when nothing works, but those are usually the exception rather than the norm. Staying positive is an asset for success in this game we love.

The heat can certainly be a factor in how we play this time of year. Besides hydration and rejuvenating snacks, fans are extremely helpful as a means of cooling ourselves. Considering the experience before and after fans, the distinction is quite noticeable and makes for a more pleasant experience. It has made a difference in our overall well-being and should be considered a necessary piece of equipment for summertime play.

Finally, be careful out there, stay cool, believe, achieve, and enjoy the game of golf.

Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association

Jo Della Penna



Black Tee 2 Net Best Ball June 3/The Tortoise & The Hare

95-Laurel Staiger, Bobbie Wiener, Brenda Hoffman, Connie Lukas. 101-Sharon Fairclough, Christine Mc Intire, Virginia Madura, Lynn Barber. 102-Gail Lagrange, Susan Martin, May Chin, Barbara Vincent. Tie at 104-Virginia Combs, Diane Hartman, Joann Delmar, B (Debra De Matteo), Christine Giza, Debra De Matteo, Kate Beaty, Terry Lemesh, Lori Pizzini, Jill Strey, Jane Hall, Pamela Robison.

Scramble June 17/The Links

Tie at 53–Lisa Free, Liz Pruss, Nancy Zielinski, Renee Middleton, Sharon Fairclough, Joann Della Penna, Brenda Hofmann, and Rosann Ross. Tie at 54–Va Donna Hall, Robyn Atwood, Marla Bennett, Kathleen Goodwin, Christine Giza, Peggy Wiechmann, Robin LeMaster, Carol Clark. 55–Virginia Coombs, Jean Czachor, Ronda Richley, Marcela Nunez.

Low Gross/Net (Individual) June 24/The Tortoise & The Hare Gross

Flight 1: 61–Sharon Fairclough. 71–Karen Schroeckenthaler.

Flight 2: 71–Joanne Woolery. 72–Jill Strey.

Flight 3: 75–Jane Hall. 77–Éileen Gustavus.

Flight 4: 73–Robyn Atwood. 77-Nancy Zielinski.

Flight 5: 75-Connie Lukas. 81-Carol Clark.

Net

Flight 1: 57–Christine Giza. 60–Gail Lagrange. Flight 2: 56–Mary Dawson. 57–Liz Pruss. Flight 3: 56–Beth Wolinsky. 59–Diane Hartman. Flight 4: 55–Joann Delmar. 56–Peggy Shanfelt. Flight 5: 56–Liz Lang. 60–Terry Lemesh.

"The nature of golf is such that everyone must cope with setbacks and failures. Have compassion for yourself when you fail. Take pride in the way you bounce back from setbacks." – Dr. Bob Rotella, sports psychologist.

Horseshoes Club

Vern Kessler

Horseshoes is the most fun you can have with two and a half pounds of steel.

The Horseshoe Club is free to join We

The Horseshoe Club is free to join. We do have a "donation jar" for anyone who wants to make a voluntary contribution. These funds are used to offset the club's minimal expenses. All the equipment needed to pitch horseshoes is furnished to the club by On Top of the World.

The Horseshoe Club thanks the la-

dies who work at the Recreation Center for the purchase of all new brooms and dustpans for the club's use.

As a reminder, this is a great time of the year for anyone interested in the Horseshoe Club and pitching horseshoes. Please join us on either Tuesday or Thursday at approximately 9 a.m.

During the summer months, the club

has open pitching on all the pits. Open pitching means that club members pitch against themselves, and when interested residents come to visit the club, a club member has ample time to assist them with the finer points of pitching shoes. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals to determine if they would like to join the club.

The club pitches horseshoes on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the pits at the Veterans Park. Practices on Thursdays start at 9 a.m. Members are encouraged to attend practice because the more you practice, the luckier you become.

Always remember that the horseshoe pits are available most every day for all residents. Shoes, brooms, and dustpans are available at most of the pits. All that is required is to remove the white PVC pipe covering the steel stake before pitching any shoes. Replace when done, sweep up around the pits, and put away all the equipment used.

Contact Vern Kessler at 321-268-3179 with any questions.





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Several members of the Meditation Group gather happily for a photo.

Meditation Group



The Meditation Group welcomes you to learn about meditation or deepen your meditation practice.

We begin with a reading from a variety of authors and traditions. Readings have included the works of renowned mindfulness teacher Thich Nhat Hanh, Jesuit priest Anthony de Mello, ancient Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu, Pulitzer

Prize-winning poet Mary Oliver, among others

Following the reading, a 20-minute silent meditation period follows. This quiet time can foster relaxation and a sense of inner peace, ultimately benefiting both physical and mental health. The American Heart Association notes that regular meditation can help reduce stress, anxiety, and depression while enhancing overall well-being.

Once the silent meditation concludes, the group dives into an analysis of the day's reading. These thought-provoking exchanges challenge our perspectives and deepen our understanding of the

joys and challenges of daily life. The social dimension of these gatherings plays a role in driving personal growth and promoting a stimulating intellectual environment.

You are welcome to join us in developing your path toward meditation and mindfulness. We meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event

Room. Attendance varies from about 10 to 20 men and women. For more information about our weekly meetings or to share your interest in joining, please contact Domenica Genovese at domenica@gcfonline.com, Brenda Foster at brenda@gcfonline.com, or Athena Drewes at Drathenadrewes@gmail.com.

The Joy of Adult Golf Carting

By Paul DiSclafani

As a kid playing golf, I always wanted to see how fast a golf cart could actually go. I dreamed of having a cooler full of beer in the back instead of stuffing as many aluminum foil-covered, rapidly warming beer cans as I could into my bag.

Besides, what kid had any extra cash available for that type of luxury? In my eyes, golf cart guys were one of two types: rich or old, and I was neither.

types: rich or old, and I was neither.

When I was old enough (and had the purse strings of an adult), I made the leap to using a golf cart. Not only did my score improve as I got deeper into the double-digit holes without sweating my you-know-what's off, but it seemed more civilized, more like a gentleman's

Little did I know that the real-life benefits of owning a golf cart at On Top of the World included premium parking at Publix or Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli. Silly me, who knew golf cart parking got you closer than my handicapped parking pass?

While I was prepping our Candler Hills home for our eventual relocation, I rented a golf cart for my two-week adventure. I went for a basic model with no bells or whistles, just a "meep-meep" from the horn on the steering wheel (or whenever I went in reverse). Although it came with headlights, I didn't even know where the switch was until someone pointed it out to me after an evening of music at The Town Square. The previous night, I drove home from The Arbors in the dark.

It was pretty embarrassing to park my rented golf cart next to the tricked-out ones that many of the residents in our community own. While theirs had windscreens and canopies, mine looked and felt like a 1975 Buick clunker. It was a hideous pale green that still had a few tiny pencils embedded in the seats.

hideous pale green that still had a few tiny pencils embedded in the seats.

While hanging out with my new cigar-smoking friends, I found out one of them had an actual refrigerator installed. Others had speakers and video display panels. Some had four seats, others six. Their color schemes were breathtaking! I even noticed quite a few that mounted their home state license plates.

I understand there are several golf cart parades at On Top of the World throughout the year, and I look forward to attending them. But more importantly, I look forward to purchasing my first

golf cart and joining the fraternity.

Mine will be black, with a yellow Batman symbol on the front. Maybe I can have them install a red blinking phone inside so I can always keep in touch with Commissioner Gordon? What about a jet engine on the back that shoots flames? Man, I wish I were eight years old again.

Then again, Batman never needed a

start with 80 ...

GPS in Gotham City, but I think I'll need

one here. There are too many roads that



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Billiards Club

Phil Panzera



The club's summer league ends on Tuesday, Aug. 12, and the fall league will start in early September. In between, we will have our annual Jack and Jill mixed doubles tournament, along with one or more specialized tournaments or events (to be determined).

If you wish to join these tournaments or the next league, look out for flyers in the room, and you'll also receive an email notice with plenty of time to sign up. The club's monthly newsletter will also have all the details.

The club has organized a day trip to the Florida Open, a professional pool tournament featuring the best players from around the world. The trip is on Thursday, Aug. 7, and tickets may still be available for \$57 (covering event admission and the bus). If interested, call Ray Talkington at 610-216-2433.

We are excited to announce the formation of the new Billiard Academy, to promote learning and personal growth, improve your skills, and to help you have more fun. See the separate article in this issue of the World News.

Support Group



tables in the hallway next to Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli at Circle Square Commons. Look for the "Wellness Group" table

Please contact me directly if you need information about local or Zoom cancer support groups or general information about treatment support. My contact information is listed in the telephone directory.

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Wellness Cancer



a change in personnel, or other such pedestrian options. No, the milestone was

/location/ocala

Fred Penichet The slot car division of the R/C Car Club posted a milestone in the club's history, not by any new process or invention, nor any upgrade in equipment, nor

Vintage 55-year-old analog slot car racer.

R/C Car Club

achieved by, of all things, going back in Taking a step back in the evolutionary process of the hobby and revisiting the days of analog racing. What's that, you ask? Until recently, slot car racing utilized outdated yet still functional technology, reminiscent of the days of rheostats, transformers, and rectifiers, among other components (consider the rotary phone versus cellular phone offerings). While the fascinating history of the hobby is too expansive to review allure of racing vintage cars is also alive (and affordable) in the 1/32 scale hobby.

Why vintage, you ask? Well, for one thing, any number of favorite slot cars down through the years are, sadly, no longer available in digital form, nor do they lend themselves to easy conversion (how are your soldering skills?). The formidable legal hurdles of obtaining permission from full-scale car companies to copy their older products make it economically difficult for manufacturers to produce and sell the cars. Buying preowned cars commands hefty, and prohibited, prices. Despite these problems, many modelers with the required skills resurrect older, wonderful examples of cars from the '50s, '60s, and up through to the '90s. In addition, many modern digital cars from major manufacturers now come equipped with a simple switch that allows them to race on an analog track. Talk about the best of both worlds!

Simplicity is another draw. Just two cars, with a simple power source, and electro-mechanical controllers. Sud-

Expires 05/31/25

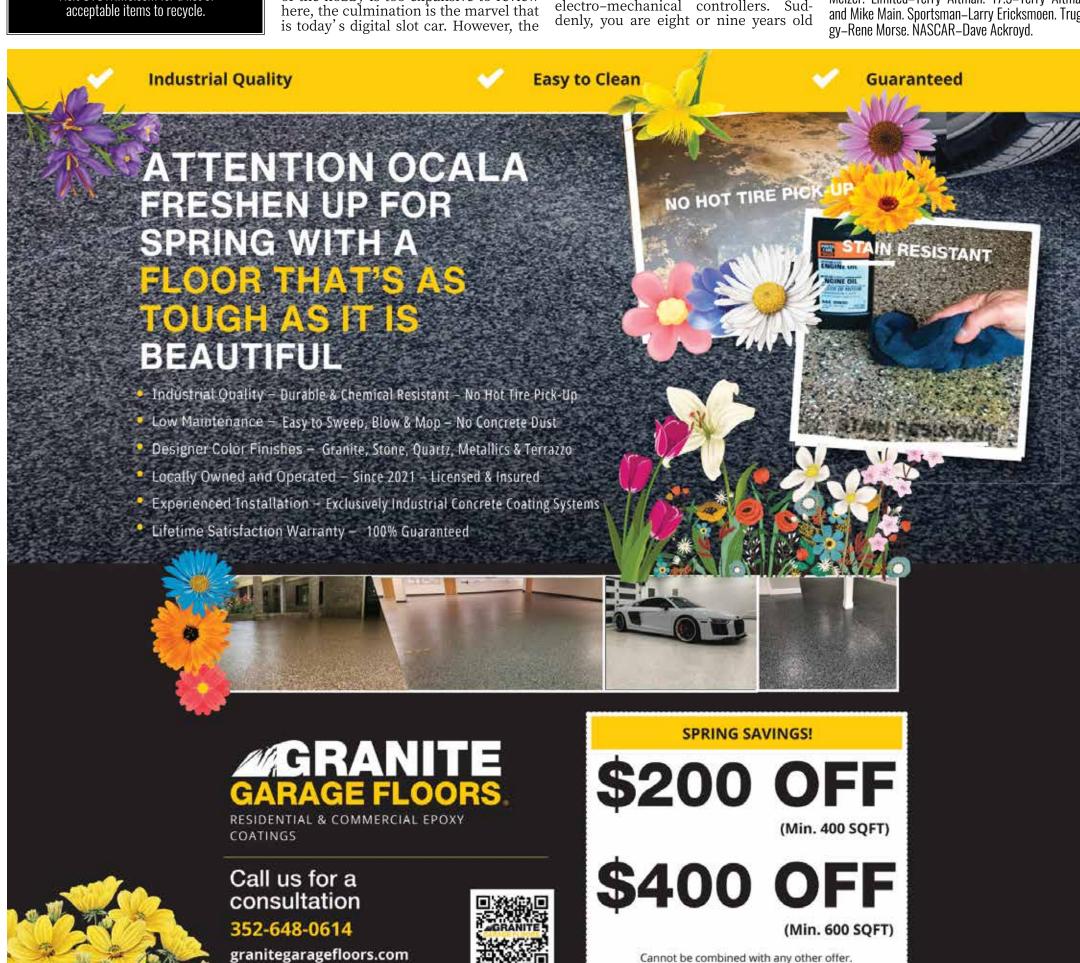
again, making believe you're racing at Sebring, Watkins Glen, Daytona, Laguna Seca, even at LeMans. Typically done with your siblings or your best friends, at the home with the biggest living room or a downstairs playroom. At its height at the end of the '70s, the hobby could even be found at dedicated retail spaces, which included pizza and pop in the bargain. A babysitter's delight!

Photo by Fred Penichet

Thanks to On Top of the World, the club has secured several dates at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio I, between now and the end of August of this year, to recreate the time capsule described above. We hope to score more dates and times in 2026. For more information, contact Fred Penichet at 914-588-7293 or John Schoenherr at 608-477-3420.

June

Traxxas–Jim Printer. Two-wheel buggy–Jim Printer. Four-wheel buggy-Paul Beyer. Pan car-Mike Main. Touring-Ron Kaulfersch and Terry Altman. Twowheel truck-George Queen. Four-wheel truck-Bob Melzer. Limited-Terry Altman. 17.5-Terry Altman and Mike Main. Sportsman–Larry Ericksmoen. Trug-



Top Pickleball Club

Teresa Armstrong



June saw a lot of construction changes at the pickleball courts as the roof over the back courts and the covered seating area below the middle courts have neared completion. The roofed courts are an impressive sight to see, and both areas will provide much-needed shade and rain protection. Thanks to all who followed the adjusted play guidelines and helped make playtime run smoother during this construction.

On Tuesday, June 10, and Wednesday, June 11, the club celebrated our 10th anniversary with healthy snacks, coffee, and donuts. The goodies were provided on both upper and middle courts during morning club play. An unplanned cloud burst on the 10th did not dampen spirits. The club appreciates Gabrielle McConnell for her organizational skills and for running this celebration.

For the third consecutive year, the Top Pickleball Club (TPC) will be working with Special Olympics during their pickleball season. The season typically runs from late July through early August, with state-level events held in Orlando during November.

TPC is excited to offer certified instructors as part of our training team, providing top-notch training sessions to our members. A very special congratulations to Joe Vargas (training and rating committee) and Melissa Kaiser (training and rating committee), who have both completed their pickleball instructor certification from the Professional Pickleball Registry (PPR).

PPR is the official education and certification partner of USA Pickleball. Due to the decreased number of participants during the summer months, the training team will limit the classes offered. Please see the club website for information on class offerings. The training team will use these hot summer months for evaluation and planning for the return of classes in September.

The ratings team conducted a Skills Assessment practice class on Tuesday, June 17. The session was a very popular training event, as it mimicked the actual test with demonstrations and explanations of each section of the test. The event was so popular that additional sessions were added to the calendar.

June wasn't all about construction, training, and club play; we closed out the month on Sunday, June 29, with the TPC social event committee hosting an afternoon of yummy ice cream and toppings at the Arbor Conference Center.

We would enjoy the opportunity to welcome you and provide more details about the club. Information on becoming a member of Top Pickleball Club can be found on the bulletin boards outside the upper and lower courts, as well as on the OTOW App (look for Top Pickleball Club). An introductory class is held every Monday at 10:30 a.m. on the upper courts. You can just show up; no registration is needed.

Lastly, during these hot summer months, please keep your health and safety a "top" priority! Stay well hydrated, wear sun protection, wear court shoes, and don't back-pedal. As always, remember that wearing eye protection can save your vision!

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Monday through Friday

POP Tennis

Domenica Genovese



Our POP tennis players are undaunted by the steamy summer heat. We meet on the courts at 7:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout the summer months. As cooler temperatures arrive, we transition back to our usual start time of 8 a.m.

On the Fourth of July, many players came to the courts wearing red, white, and blue colors, which added to the day's festive tone. Later in the month, we gathered at the Candler Hills Community Center Ballroom for a "fantastico" pizza party luncheon. We had a great time chatting and relaxing together off the courts and in the cool, indoor space.

If you're unfamiliar with POP tennis, it's a sport that closely resembles traditional tennis, but with a few key differences. The game is played on a smaller court, making it less physically demanding while still providing a great workout. The serve is always underhand, and players are allowed only one serve per point.

Our group welcomes players of all abilities, from beginners to advanced players who love a good challenge. Several of our members serve as trainers, ready to help newcomers looking to learn the ins and outs of the sport. So don't worry if your skills are rusty – we've got you covered! We even have club equipment for your use, so there's no excuse!



Photo by Joe Campagna

POP tennis players wear red, white, and blue for play on the Fourth of July.

The best part about our POP tennis group is the fantastic community we've built. We enjoy being actively fit by playing the game, but most of all, we enjoy the company of others who share our love for this game.

POP tennis takes place at the Arbor Activity Center lower courts every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 to 10 a.m. in the summer and from 8 to 10 a.m. when it starts getting cooler.

Contact Shizuka Campagna at shizukacampagna@gmail.com for more information or to schedule a training session.

Ballet





The Ballet Club has been holding classes all summer long - five classes each week in the Arbor Conference Center Studio D. Like other residents, our teachers sometimes have to miss classes, but we still have our classes covered.

We are very fortunate to have a teacher, Cheryl Sloan, who, in 2006, helped me start the Ballet Club and now teaches an Advanced/Technique class alongside

Susan Stewart. She generously substitutes for other teachers and assists in the Introductory/Beginner class. Cheryl has danced for most of her life and was also a former figure skater. We are very lucky to have her in the Ballet Club.

Currently, all our classes are held in the Arbor Conference Center; however, there may be changes in the future. We will keep you apprised of those changes. We are also planning to have a table at the Club Fair to be held at Circle Square Cultural Center in September. So, please drop by and say "hello."

Here is the schedule of our classes:
Introductory/Beginner: Thurs

· Introductory/Beginner: Thurs days, from 1 to 2:15 p.m.

- · Advanced Beginner: Tuesdays, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- · Intermediate I: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- · Intermediate II: Fridays, from noon to 1:15 p.m.
- · Technique/Advanced: Wednesdays, from 1:15 to 3:30 p.m.

Beginners do not need ballet clothes to start our classes. Just wear stretchy exercise clothes and socks for your feet. And bring a bottle of water. Most of us wear ballet skirts, and we provide extras for newcomers to wear. For more information on our classes, please contact me at 352-854-8589 or eugeniemartin@

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Table Tennis

Paul Stadterman

Grajeda from On Top of the World Com-

munities gave an insightful demonstra-

tion at our club, showcasing the impor-

tance of stretching exercises for table

tennis players. Lillian, who also conducts fitness classes for residents, dem-

onstrated how proper stretching can

enhance performance and reduce the risk of injury. Her session highlighted

stretches that improve flexibility, mobil-

ity, and body control - key elements for

Hip Flexor: Kneel on one knee,

lunge forward, and rotate your

hips and trunk toward the back

leg. Perform three sets of eight to

Hamstring: Sit with one knee

bent inward, reaching for the toes

while keeping your back straight.

Repeat three times with eight to

Standing Knee Hugs: While stand-

ing, hug one knee to your chest to

improve balance and blood flow,

which aids in squatting move-

Groin: Sit with the soles of your

feet together, gently pressing your

knees down. Do three sets of eight

excelling at table tennis.

16 repetitions.

16 repetitions.

to 16 repetitions.

ments.

Leg Stretches



Cross-Body Shoulder: Bring one arm across your chest and gently pull it with the opposite hand to reduce shoulder tension.

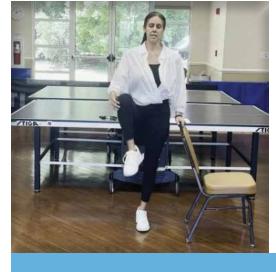
Back Stretches

- Lower Back: Kneel with your hands on the floor, lift one arm and the opposite leg horizontally, and repeat on the other side.
- Supine Low Back Twist: Lie on your back and twist your legs from side to side. This helps with spinal rotation and alleviates lower back pain.

Stretching Benefits

- Improved Flexibility: Increases joint range of motion for smoother, more powerful movements.
- Reduced Risk of Injury: Prevents muscle strains and injuries from repetitive movements in the game.
- Enhanced Performance: Greater flexibility and mobility improve stroke control and footwork.
- Increased Blood Flow: Stretching enhances circulation, which in turn reduces soreness and fatigue.
- Better Posture: Supports better posture, improving balance and

Lillian's demonstration emphasized how stretching is vital for injury pre-





Stretching demonstration for Table Tennis Club members by Fitness Supervisor Lillian Grajeda.

vention and improved performance. 1 to 3 p.m.; doubles, Wednesday, 10 a.m. Incorporating these stretches into your routine will help you play longer and at a higher level. For more information on Lillian's fitness programs, visit the Recreation Center!

Come join us at the Arbor Conference Center. Intermediate singles/doubles, Tuesday, 1 to 3 p.m.; singles, Friday, 3 to 5 p.m. Ladies doubles/singles, Monday,

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

Contact President Paul Statdterman at ptstadterman@yahoo.com.

Tennis

Jorge Privat 352-387-7539



We are in the second half of the year already, and for the most part, I think most of us have had a good time on the courts. Check out this column every month to find out what the tennis committee (including me) is planning in the

The inter-community meet with Stone Creek was a success and will continue in the fall when the weather cools down a bit. And we will also include Spruce Creek in future meets. The tennis polos and tees promoted by Brenda Foster and Nicole Eddy look good and were signed up for by many club members.

The Drop Shot

The drop shot is a soft and gentle shot, designed to barely clear the net. You can hit it with the forehand, backhand, or volley. This is the softest shot in tennis and isn't meant to penetrate deep into

the other court. You simply just feather or drop the ball into your opponent's court so softly that he has little or no chance of getting to the ball to return it. However, it is a real low percentage shot, meaning that the success rate is low, unless it is executed perfectly at the right time.

The best opportunities to execute the drop shot:

To test your opponent's mobility. Players who don't move very well often struggle to reach even mediocre or poor shots.

To change the pace and nature of a point. Throw in a drop shot, and the entire nature of an ordinary rally changes (as well as your positions on the court).

To draw your opponent to the net. Many players avoid the net. The drop shot makes them come up and play from it. Thus, you are taking them out of their comfort zone, making them very uncomfortable.

Consider the following important factors to determine when to use a drop shot:

- Your opponent's position. When your opponent is really off balance, pulled off to one side of the court, or behind his baseline.
- Your position. Keep this rule in mind: Never try the drop shot unless you are closer to your service line than your baseline. Not only is it more difficult to execute successfully, but it also travels slowly, giving your opponent more time to reach it.
- Preparation time. Never rush a drop shot. It is too tricky to attempt unless you have the opportunity and the time to do it.

Hitting the Drop Shot

Follow these steps:

- Prepare to execute a typical ground stroke or volley until just before the moment of impact, then feather the ball with a backspin.
- Turn your racquet face almost straight up and brush the strings downward as lightly as you can. Think of it this way: instead of hammering the ball, you want to catch it momentarily on a platter.

See you on the courts!

Weight Loss Group





Looking to lose weight and feel better while being supported by neighbors and friends? We have the group for you! Join one of our groups. Over 50 of your friends and neighbors are already attending one of the groups and making better choices with their food and exercise, and reaching their goals! We meet once a week to share ideas on weight loss, healthy cooking, exercise, and tips to help us achieve our personal goals. Follow the food plan that works best for

There are two opportunities to meet each week. On Mondays, we meet in the Hobby Building Art Room. Weighin starts at 4:30 p.m., and the meeting begins at 5 p.m. The new leader is Lois Trepper. On Tuesdays, we meet in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m., and the meeting begins at 10 a.m. Beth Green is the leader. Visitors are always welcome.

For questions and additional details, please email Lois at loistrepper@att.net or Beth at tandbgreen220@gmail.com.

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- · Take the confusion out of Medicare
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- Get help comparing plans
- Make enrolling in a plan easier

I look forward to helping you explore your Medicare options so you can enroll in a plan with confidence.

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ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

Fitness Happenings

Leslee Stephens 352-387-7415 leslee_stephens@otowfl.com



Move Your Body, Calm Your Mind

Here at On Top of the World, we understand the importance of staying active not only for our bodies but also for our overall well-being. Now, new research from the University of Bath (April 16, 2025) in the United Kingdom offers some fresh inspiration, showing how combining step tracking with mindfulness can lead to more movement and more motivation to keep going.

In the study, 109 adults who weren't regularly active were asked to walk 8,000 steps a day for a month. Half of the group also practiced daily mindfulness, with short sessions focused on tuning into the body, breathing, and movement. By the end of the month, both groups had increased their activity levels; however, those who incorporated mindfulness showed a significantly stronger desire to continue exercising beyond the study.

The difference wasn't just in how much people moved, but in how they felt about moving. The mindfulness group averaged about 373 minutes of moderate activity per week, more than six hours, compared to 297 minutes in the steptracking-only group. More importantly, they reported feeling more committed to staying active long-term.

The lead researcher, Dr. Masha Remskar, summed it up perfectly: "Helping people build that internal drive toward behavior is essential, especially when many people are struggling to stay active." That internal drive, it seems, can be nurtured by simply slowing down and paying attention to our bodies during movement.

So, how can we put this research into action here at On Top of the World? The good news is, you don't need any special equipment or routines. We have everything we need right in our community. You can take a class at the Recreation Center or Arbor Fitness Center, schedule time with a personal trainer, or enjoy a stroll along our scenic nature walking trails.

To add mindfulness to your routine, try something as simple as focusing on your breath as you walk or noticing how your feet feel on the ground. Pause to observe your surroundings, the breeze, the birds, and the colors of the sky. These small, intentional moments can make a walk feel more meaningful and enjoyable while also encouraging you to keep going day after day.

Incorporating both movement and mindfulness into your daily life doesn't require a big change, just small, thoughtful steps. As this study demonstrates, these steps can lead to significant improvements in both physical and mental well-being.

Let's continue to support each other on this journey toward better health. Whether you're walking for fitness, peace of mind, or to enjoy the day, remember that every step counts and every mindful moment brings you closer to a healthier, happier you.

Co-Ed Recreational Softball





We have a great turnout every Saturday morning. Since we changed the starting time to 8:30 a.m. for warm-up and team choice, and the game starts at 8:45 a.m., we can avoid the Florida heat. Well, just a little bit.

Many newcomers, both men and women, have joined this sport we all love. Remember, we played 10, 15, and maybe 20 years ago. It hasn't changed. We all have fun, and we make new

friends each week. We have some equipment available if you don't have a glove, and we provide bats for all types. I must mention Luis Puentes, who has been "grandfathered" in from the men's league. He came up to me on Saturday and said, "Thank you, Pat, for letting me play on Saturdays. I have so much fun and enjoy the people." That made me feel so good.

Please remember to come down to the softball field on Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. so we can meet you, do some stretching, and assign you to a team. Look forward to meeting you. Try not to get lost in comparing yourself to others. Discover your gifts and let them shine!

> BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR Pick up after your pet.

AUGUST 2025 FITNESS

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
8:00 am	SPARC	Step DEMINE	Remix Bootcamp	Step	SPARC	
8:00 am	Zumba* Gold-Toning		Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi		Dance Aerobics	
9:00 am	S.O.S.	Stretch, Flex & Balance	S.O.S.	Sculpt DALLAN	S.O.S.	
9:00 am ecreation Bailroom	Chair Pilates		BEAT LORD M.		Stretch, Flex & Balance	
10:00 am	Balanced Body	Chair Yoga	Balanced Body	Chair Yoga	Balanced Body	
10:00 am	Chair Yoga		Chair Yoga		Chair Yoga	
11:00 am	Chair Dance	Brain Power	Get Fit While You Sit	Move to Improve Parkinson's	Cardio Dance Mix Chair/Standing	
11:00 am	Dance Aerobics		Zumba' Gold		Ballroom	
12:00 pm				Beginner/Intermediate Tai Chi		
1:00 pm		Chair Chi	Punch Out PD POWD COACHES			
3:00 pm	VYP Chair Yoga	Balanced Body	Chair Yoga	Balanced Body		
5:00 pm		Candlelight Yoga		Power Yoga MANDRA	1	

ecreation Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 7 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 7 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 5 PM Fitness Orientations are on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm, and Balance Assessments are on Thursdays at 1:00 pm These are free but space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534.

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Inferno HIIT	STRONG BLECT	Inferno HIIT	STRONG	Core & More
9:00 am	Power Yoga	Pilates Fusion	Yoga Joe	Pilates Fusion	Yin Yoga HELAVIS
0:00 am	STRONG JOHN C.	Power Yoga SANDRA	STRONG GIR	Yoga	STRONG
11:00 am			Yoga TRISH		Yoga Tirse
4:00 pm	Muscle Fit	Strong and Steady		Interval Training	Dance Fit

Arbor Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 5:30 AM - 8:30 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 7 PM

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER INDOOR POOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5:30 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 am	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
9:00 am	"Deep Water Aerobics	**Shallow Water Aerobics	**Deep Water Aerobics	**Shallow Water Aerobics	**Deep Water Aerobics
10:00 am	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Open Swim
11:00 am	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 pm	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Aqua Aerobics Club
1:30 pm	Open Swim	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Water Volleyball Club	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Open Swim
2:30 pm	Open Swim		1:30 - 3:30 pm		
- 8:15pm	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim

Open Swim: Saturdays 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sundays 9 AM - 7 PM

Ladies Shuffleboard



3:3

interfered with our shuffle schedule, but the heat has not prevented us from shuffling on Mondays and Wednesdays. There is a nice breeze that comes off the field, and the fans are a big help.

Many of our ladies use the summer to practice their techniques and skills. The shuffleboard courts are reserved for the Ladies Shuffleboard Club all year, Mondays at 5 p.m., and Wednesdays at 9 and 11 a.m. The 2025-2026 season will be our 10th year of shuffling. The mixed league has been shuffling for 30 years. That is a long time to be an active club.

Our club season runs from September through May. The schedules for both clubs are posted on the bulletin boards at the Veterans Park. We would appreciate it if non-club members would honor our scheduled reserved times. There are

many open hours to shuffle.

A resident should always accompany guests. Equipment is available and located on the back wall of the building. Please take care of the equipment. Please, no food or drink on the courts and, for safety reasons, no bare feet or open-toed shoes. Play at your own

risk. Please refrain from walking your dog in the court areas or using the water fountain.

The courts will be repaired and resurfaced for approximately three weeks, starting on Monday, Sept. 1. Please do not attempt to play during this time. All equipment will be locked up.

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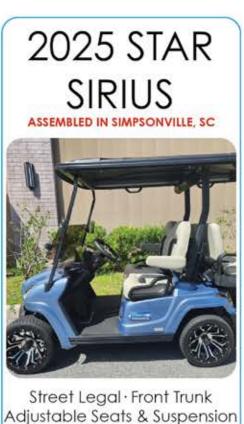
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Bocce Club

Kathy Nastally



Happy summer! Are you a new resident and looking for something fun to try? Bocce ball might be for you. Bocce ball is a popular yard sport and is fun for all ages.

The Bocce Club is organized here and has dedicated times for open play and league competition. The courts are located behind the Arbor Fitness Center and next to the tennis courts. The courts can be utilized by anyone outside of the posted open and league play times, so come up and have some fun. Rules are

on the bulletin boards. Crated balls can be found under the benches.

What is open play? Open play is played all year, pending weather, on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. In open play, you are not committed to play every day. We are limited to 48 players (eight players on six courts maximum), so arrive a little early to sign in. We have a luck of the draw format. We draw cards to choose courts, teams, and opponents. If you draw a two green card, you play on court two on the green team. In this manner, your teammates are always different from one another. We play games to 16 points, and the first team to reach 16 points wins. We play two games. All players must have a valid

resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. You can join the Bocce Club through open play or league, and you can play both if you desire. Dues are \$15, good for participation October through September the following year.

In league play, players are committed to play on a team on a specific day and time, from October through March. We do not play during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year. League times are Tuesdays, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Each league team consists of only four players, and teams may designate one permanent substitute. Teams choose a team name and a captain. Each league has its own league representative. A schedule is created for each league in advance of the season, so teams are aware of all teams in their league, who they will be playing against, and on which courts. League

dues are collected in September when teams are formed and rosters are set. Team standings are posted each week.

Maybe the commitment of league play isn't for you. We always need substitutes. This status means your name is added to the list at a time slot you designate, and teams can contact you to see if you are available for them. If you are available, you play. The substitute lists are posted with the regular team schedules. If you are considering forming a new team for league play or have any league-related questions, please contact Jim Wolfer, the 9 a.m. league representative, at 732-580-4915.

As always, let the bocce balls roll, stay cool, and summer on!



Ray Ihlenburg



This is the second year that the R/C Flyers have supported the Ageless Adventures program, sponsored by Master the Possibilities, for parents, grandparents, and grandchildren. This program enables parents and grandparents to bring their children or grandchildren to the flying field for a hands-on experience learning about and flying a fully functional R/C aircraft.

The morning of Thursday, July 10, began fairly cool for this time of year with light clouds and a slight breeze. Nine youngsters attended the introduction to R/C flying session, which began at 9 a.m. The first order of business was a brief ground school session to review field safety and safety procedures around the models. Then, a description of the major components of all R/C aircraft was presented in a show-and-tell fashion. The transmitter, receiver, servos, and control surfaces seemed to capture the attention of all the attendees! Of course, it may have helped that we joked there would be a test on the flightline when it was your turn to fly.

Two dedicated pilot instructors, Doc Consuegra and Jon Van Skiver, further introduced the two aircraft to be flown to the children and then took their respective groups to the flight line. There was no hesitation when the first volunteer was requested to fly. As with any new novice student starting at the field, each of the trainer aircraft and instructor had a dedicated set of transmitters allowing the student to hold the actual transmitter used to control the aircraft but the instructor, with the bush of a button on his transmitter, can assume control when the student gets into trouble. The instructor took off and stabilized the aircraft; then, one by one, his group of students got "stick time" flying in the traffic pattern while controlling the turns and altitude.

Many schools offer STEM classes to their students, often incorporating hands-on activities and problem-solving exercises. Sometimes, there is a reluctance to sign up for a STEM class for various reasons. It's great fun when we can slip a STEM class in without making a big deal of it. We hope that our efforts will spark curiosity in young people to consider aviation studies and potential careers. After all, the sky is the limit.

Fly good ... land better.

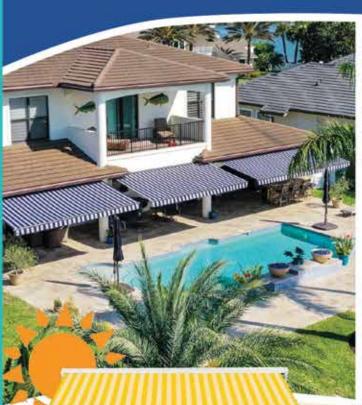
Talented instructors help young eagles take flight.

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Sidekicks **Western Dance**

Rich Gautier

Looking for something new to shake up your routine? Sidekicks Western Dance Club might be just what you need. Joining a structured partner dance club could be the highlight of your summer

Ever wish you could see yourself getting better at something? At Sidekicks, every session builds on the last. You learn real dance patterns and routines no guesswork, just clear steps forward.

Feel the progress: Each new move mastered is a mini-victory.

Boost your skills: Repeating patterns helps you get smoother, sharper, and more confident.

Celebrate milestones: Nailing a tricky routine feels great, and the group will cheer you on.

Dancing with a partner is like having a conversation without a single word being spoken. You pick up on subtle cues, learn to trust each other, and share a laugh when things get a little out of sync.

Non-verbal skills: You get better at reading people, not just on the dance floor.

Trust and support: You and your partner rely on each other to build a genuine connection.

Group energy: Everyone is learning together, so there is always someone to share a high-five with.

Patterned dance is not just about moving your feet; it is a mental exercise, too.

TRASH COMPACTOR FULL? Please take trash to another location. Do not place trash outside of trash compactor.

Memorizing routines and keeping up with the music keeps your mind sharp.

Stay sharp: It is like a puzzle for your brain, but more fun. Build good habits: Showing up to

practice helps with time management and discipline.

Set and reach goals: Each new dance is a goal to work toward, and you will feel great when you get there.

One of the best parts is the people. Sidekicks is about building a friendly, inclusive group where everyone's progress is celebrated.

Shared goals: Everyone is working on the same routines, building

Make new friends: The club is a great place to meet friendly faces and enjoy a supportive atmo-

You get a workout and leave each session with a smile on your face. Dancing is a great way to shake off stress and boost your mood.

Move your body: Dancing works muscles you did not even know

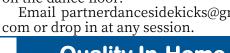
Forget your worries: Focusing on the steps helps you leave stress at the door.

Build resilience: Sticking with it, even when you mess up, makes you stronger inside and out.

Here are the upcoming regular sessions from 5 to 6 p.m.: Tuesdays, Aug. 5 and 26, Sept. 9, 16, and 30. The beginner's teaching session is from 4 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 30. All sessions take place in the Recreation Center Ballroom

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced dancer, you are welcome to join any session. No prior experience or partner needed – just bring your curiosity and a willingness to have fun. See you on the dance floor!

Email partnerdancesidekicks@gmail.



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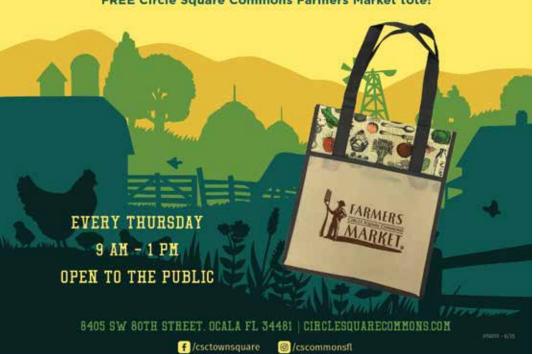
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Broadway and tap classes pose for a group shot in between lessons.

Broadway & Tap Dancing

Elaine Voorhis

In a recent AARP magazine article (June/July 2025), written by Dave Barry, based on his own "research," he stated that Gen Zers aren't dancing. How is this possible? Is it true? If so, what a shame! They are missing out on a great deal of fun and exercise.

I, for one, am very happy to be part of the generation that attended school and church dances. Think of all the memories that you made ... how excited you were the first time a boy asked you to dance, or maybe how nervous you were asking a girl to dance. Additionally, school and community dances provided an opportunity to dress up. It was a great way to spend time with friends, meet new people, have fun, and create wonderful memories. Maybe you met your future spouse there. Can you imagine the pictures we would have posted on Facebook if it were around then? Maybe that wouldn't have been such a good idea!

Our generation is still moving and grooving. There are so many opportunities to dance, whether it's freestyle or choreographed. Our tap and Broadway classes offer excellent exercise for both our bodies and brains. Learning steps require focus and concentration, which helps keep the brain healthy. To quote Livestrong.com, "A small July 2018 study in 'PLOS One' found that aging adults who participated in a six-monthlong dance program that involved learning choreography developed not only physical fitness, but increased the volume of their grey matter as well, which is one way to measure brain health and

Our Broadway and tap classes offer choreographed routines expertly and patiently taught by our instructor, Penny

Penny, a trained professional, operated a dance school for over 20 years on Long Island, New York, and has received numerous awards. She builds our confidence with every step. Those of us who have been doing tap and Broadway must have a lot of grey matter by now because we've learned many routines. The Broadway classes learn a new routine about every seven weeks, and many of us have been doing it for several years. We're going to need bigger hats for all that grey matter!

In addition to all of that, the movement of the feet while tap dancing creates different rhythms and tones and builds strong ankles. Transferring weight from one foot to the other also helps with balance. All good things for us seniors to do.

Don't forget to mark your calendar because you don't want to miss the Broadway classes performing their latest routines, plus maybe some other surprises, on Friday, Aug. 22, at 1 p.m. Residents are invited, and it's free.

Contact us at broadwayandtap@yahoo.com if you have any questions regarding our classes or booking a performance. We'd love to hear from you!

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Poms Dance & Cheer

Pamela Kalamaras



The Poms Dance and Cheer Squad sparkled at the Patriotic Celebration held at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons. Once again, we thought we would end up being soaked in the rain,

Jazz Dance Club



I am so fortunate to have a talented and lovely group of dancers. The performing group of the Jazz Dance Club is The Ovation Dancers.

My jazz dance class and rehearsals are held 11 a.m. to noon every Monday for advanced and more experienced dancers specializing in the Broadway jazz style.

We are currently rehearsing for the new murder mystery that will be performed at The Lodge at Candler Hills for Ashford residents on Friday, Oct. 24,

but we made it through our entire performance, with seconds to spare, before the skies opened.

Our performance included patriotic numbers, and when we cheered and chanted U-S-A, the crowd went wild with enthusiasm. Their outpouring of spirit prompted us to do our best. What a fun time and great experience for our newest members. We would like to extend a huge shout-out to all those who attended the event, a show-stopping afternoon of

and at The Landing for a SPCA of Marion County fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 7, and Saturday, Nov. 8. More details regarding times and ticket sales will be in our Murder Mystery Dinner Theater column in the coming weeks. The theme is the 1950s, so the music and dances will be from that rollicking rock 'n' roll period!

I would like to welcome new people to the benefits and fun of basic jazz dance moves. Plans are being made to add a class for beginners after the summer. Watch this space for news of the time and place!

'Great dancers are not great because of their technique, they are great because of their passion." - Martha Gra-

For more information, please contact Liz Lieberman at 702-378-6300 or lizzylieberman@gmail.com.

entertainment.

We have many exciting performances scheduled for the summer and into fall. The ladies are working diligently to learn new steps and prepare to shine. We will also begin practicing our newest "Dancing through the Decades" theme, featuring songs from the 1950s. The medley includes songs that will have you singing along and dancing in your seats! Our unique new uniforms will add to the enjoyment.

Now is the time to contact us for a performance for your club or special event. "Dancing through the Decades" will be available starting in September. Please contact Pam Kalamaras at pammykal@

aol.com to book the Poms Dance and Cheer Squad as soon as possible, as our dates fill up quickly. We welcome you to also email me for more detailed information, videos and photos, or to view our rehearsals. If you're interested in joining our team, I'd be happy to offer further guidance, information, and support. Entering this new world of dance and cheer is like no other dance in the community. Our unique and exciting performance club is now being offered at many 55-plus communities nationwide. We invite you to visit us to learn more about what we're all about and possibly join in the fun.



Photo by Fran Calho

Poms Dance and Cheer Squad, along with members of the Marion County Honor Guard.



The Ovation Dancers.

Line Dancing

Tamara Stanford



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Line dancing, taught by instructor Joe Spencer, will begin on Monday, Sept. 8, in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Tickets for September and October dance instruction can be purchased through the OTOW App from Tuesday, Aug. 5 through Friday, Aug. 15. All dancers must display their paper dance ticket. A lanyard is a good way to do this. Tickets are distributed from the staff office on the first floor of the Recreation Center beginning the day after purchase. The staff office is not open on Monday, and

the office closes at 3:30 p.m.
Each class – Improvers, Beginners, and Absolute Beginners – maintains a list of the registered dancers. When you pick up your ticket at the office, please verify that your name is on the correct class roster. The cost of a two-month ticket is \$25.

Joe begins class instruction with the Improvers at noon, Beginners at 1:15 p.m., and Absolute Beginners at 2:30 p.m. For safety, dancers must wear shoes

that have at a minimum a heel strap.

The June dance social was held in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Saturday, June 21. The dance theme was "Where Will We Wander?" There were 100 dancers in attendance, and we had a great time stepping to fun music. There were three dance sections. Everyone dances to the same music. However, different sections may have dancing steps specific to their level of training. There was a drawing for prizes at the dance. The winners were Susan Kline, Linda Metzler, Randy Privett, and Chuck Nel-

We look forward to the next dance socials.

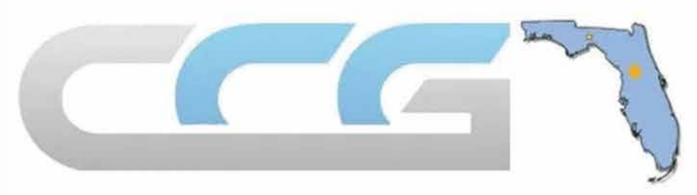
Dance instructor Joe Spencer can be reached at Joeship1@yahoo.com should you have questions about line dancing.

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





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Fiction Writer's Workshop

By Ray Cech **World News Writer**

The Fiction Writer's Workshop meets of the opposite sex, but I will leave it at monthly at Master the Possibilities. The class is filled with writers and wannabe writers. Writing techniques are discussed, and short stories are written and critiqued.

The Squatter

By June Weiner

Have you ever wondered about the man behind the camera, the person who captures the photos of buildings crumbling in earthquakes, of an aggressive elephant trampling through an African village, or a tornado ravaging everything in its path?

I am that man, unknown to you, but recognized in my close circle of associates for my award-winning photography. My name is Robert Atlas, photographer, adventure-seeker, and self-proclaimed loner. My life is spent on planes, jeeps, and motorcycles; any vehicle that puts me in the center of the action.

My recent project, in Venezuela, has come to an end and I am heading back home to Los Angeles. When the plane lands at LAX I gather up my duffel bag and backpack and disembark.

On the taxi ride home, I roll down the window and let the wind blow through my shaggy brown hair. I catch a glimpse of myself in the rearview mirror and notice the character lines chiseled on my face and forehead. I don't normally have the luxury of studying myself; my eve is trained to look outward at the world.

"How has the weather been around here?" I ask in an attempt to make some small talk with the driver.

"Can't complain," he says. "My wife does all the complaining for me." He snickers and then reflects for a moment before continuing. "Really, the missus is a good wife and mother to our three

His comment about his family conjures up thoughts about my life, a marriage-less, childless existence. I have no time for women and romance. That's not to say I haven't been with my share

When the cab pulls up in front of my house, I get that let-down feeling, like at the end of a roller coaster ride. Even when surrounded by the comforts of home, I invariably miss the excitement of my job. I am lured by the cacophony of third-world cities, the barking street vendors, the aroma of spicy foods, and speeding scooters weaving haphazardly through traffic.

I turn the key to enter my house and notice the blinds are open on a side window, which I find odd. I always close up the entire house before heading out to an assignment. Peeking in, I see, of all things, a young boy watching cartoons on my TV. His back is turned to me; all I see is his dark-haired head.

"What the hell," I say out loud.

I stomp back to the front door and barge in.

What are you doing here?" I ask the boy who stares at me with wide brown

eyes.
"Mama," he cries out as he runs toward the kitchen.

I follow and practically bump into a frantic-looking petite woman holding a spoon in her hand. A pot of something that smells delicious is simmering on the stove and food-stained bowls clutter the counter.

"Please, señor," she says. "Please don't hurt us.'

'What the hell are you doing

here?" My loud, angry voice echoes in

my ear.
"Please, I will explain," the woman says, tears welling up in her eyes. "I am Delores and this is mi hijo, Hector. My husband beat me. I had to find a safe

place."
"Oh, so you decided it was okay to be a squatter.'

I clean houses in this neighborhood, and saw that yours was empty for many days." Delores sniffled and wiped her nose with the back of her hand.

"Well, sorry for your problems, but you can't live here."

"Please, can I stay until morning?"

Hector stares up at me with his large, soulful eyes. I have photographed peasants living in squalor but I blocked feelings of compassion; they were mere objects for me to capture on film. Now, I find myself with a tinge of emotion for

this poor woman and her child.

"Well, alright," you can spend the night. "I will help you find a shelter."

'Gracias, señor, gracias.'

I unexpectedly enjoyed the evening. Delores had prepared enchiladas with the tastiest sauce I had ever eaten. After dinner, while she did the dishes, I took out my old checkerboard set and showed Hector how to play. It put a smile on my face to hear him squeal with delight when he made a winning

As soon as the kitchen was tidied up, mother and son retired to their room. I ventured into the study and opened my computer with a mission to find her a home for battered women.

In the morning I woke to silence. Half asleep, and still in my underwear, I ambled out of my bedroom. The house was empty and all of Delores and Hector's belongings were gone.

In a daze, I thought that I had dreamt about last evening's episode until I opened the refrigerator and eved the leftover enchiladas. Before long my phone buzzed. A new mission awaited me; to hop on the next flight to Syria to capture the civil unrest.

I spent a long month there, on the ground and in a helicopter, dodging grenades to catch a newsworthy photo. For the first time, I found myself longing to sleep in my own bed, away from the world's madness. Thankfully, the assignment ended the first week into the New Year. As the plane approached LAX, I noticed a thick bank of smoke off in the distance. It wasn't long before all of us passengers learned about the treacherous fires spreading through Los

Once in the terminal, I made several phone calls to discover that my house was in the danger zone. I rented a car and drove toward home, hoping that somehow it had been spared. Bumper-to-bumper traffic, roadblocks, and a maze of detours prevented my passage. No vacancy signs flashed from every motel. In frustration, I beat my fist on the steering wheel and swore out loud.

I drove by a bus stop and spotted Delores and Hector sitting on the bench. Was she stranded? I pulled over to the curb, rolled my window down, and called out

'Señor, I am sorry, your home, is destroyed," she said leaning into my car window.

"Oh, my God," I moaned. "What about you? Do you have a place to stay?" "Yes, I found an apartment," she

said. "The fires have not spread there."
"That's good," I said. "I am not so lucky.

"You will come and stay with us, señor. You can sleep in Hector's room and he will move to the sofa.

My eyes clouded up with tears. I couldn't form any words with the constriction in my throat.

Delores and Hector piled into my car and we headed toward the safety of their



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Upcoming Art Exhibit

By Marianne Hoffman

It's raining. It's pouring. It's summer in Florida. So, why not use the thunder and lightning to inspire you? Stay inside where you'll keep dry. Join the Art Group and create dramatic weather-

related paintings and/or drawings.

While the sun may not be shining outside, fun will be abounding inside. Fellow artists will share their tricks of the trade and spare you from any torrents of

wind and rain. Your creative juices will flow so you won't fret about the storm. Famous artists have recreated weather on their canvases for years. Now it's time for you to try your hand at it. Be a storm trooper and create your own masterpiece!

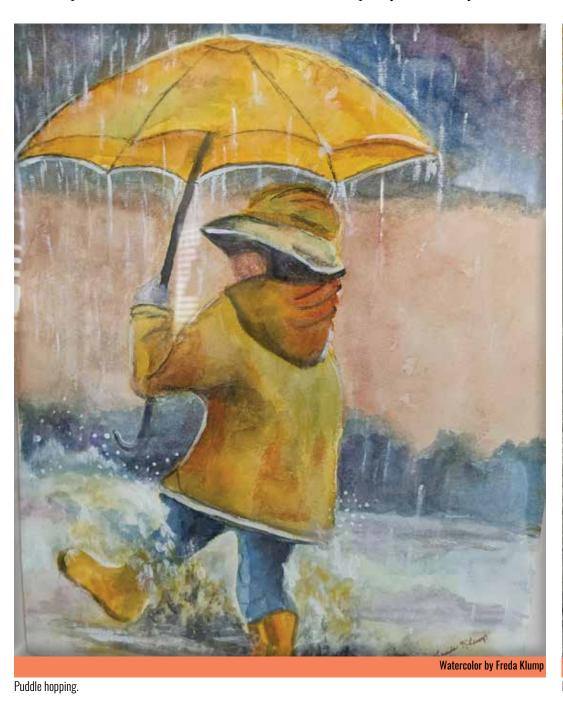
During the entire month of August, the Art Group's works will be displayed in the lobby of Master the Possibilities.

Meet with other resident artists in the

Hobby Building Art Room two days a week: Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

New members are welcome. It's a fantastic way to stay out of the weather and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow artists. So, grab your brushes, your pastels, your pencils, your canvases, your art paper and head for our oasis. For more information about the Art Group, contact Freda Klump, director, at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com.

Acrylic by Maria Adrian





Rain dance.

Vaticano Museum, Sistine Chapel, and **Basilica St. Peter**

By Rosalina Norita

The Vatican has been an indepen- landaio, and Cosimo Rossellini, which dent state since February 11, 1929, and is known as Vatican City. The Lateran Treaty resolved the "Roman Issue" between the church and the Italian state. Pope Julius II initiated the construction of the new basilica, entrusting Donato Bramante with the design of the grand architectural project, which took 176 years to complete.

Michelangelo, Raphael, Antonio da Sangallo, Antonio del Pollaiuolo, Giuseppe Momo, and Gian Lorenzo Bernini are renowned Italian artists and sculptors who created masterpieces that can be admired in the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, and Basilica of St. Peter.

The Vatican Palaces constitute a cluster of buildings whose construction commenced in the Middle Ages and continued under the patronage of numerous popes. The entrance is flanked by two larger statues of Michelangelo and Raphael, which support the coat of arms of Pius XI, during whose pontificate they were constructed. The Vatican Apostolic Library was established by Sixtus IV in 1475 and situated in the long wing created by Pirro Ligorio in 1587 at the behest of Sixtus V.

Between 1475 and 1483, Sixtus IV commissioned Giovani de Dolci to construct the Sistine Chapel. He intended for his essential building to be architecturally isolated, virtually inaccessible from the exterior, as if it were fortified.

The decoration of the chapel commenced in 1482, transforming the austere, nearly barren space into a priceless gallery showcasing 15th and 16th century Italian Renaissance paintings by esteemed artists, including Pietro Perugino, Sandro Botticelli, Domenico Ghirserved to illustrate the parallel narratives of the Old and New Testaments, facing one another on the central strip of both walls.

The left, with Moses (Old Testament) on one side and the life of Christ (New Testament) opposite, was painted parallel to each other on the two lateral walls. Thus, the journey of Moses, attributed to Pinturicchio, corresponds on the opposite side of the baptism of Jesus, which was indeed painted by him, in addition to the classical Christian symbolism.

The following pictures are the work of Botticelli; the biblical series on the left includes Moses with Jethro's daughters, and in the Gospel sequence on the right, the temptation of Christ and the healing of the Leper. Crossing of the Red Sea by Cosimo Rosselli, dedicated to the Old Testament, is the calling of the first Apostles by Domenico Ghirlandaio. Michelangelo's artistic journey was

shaped by his mentor, Ghirlandaio. Upon entering St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, designed by Gianlorenzo Bernini, the chief architect, a grand plaza with columns shaped like keys referencing Jesus's remark about handing the keys to St. Peter becomes apparent. This ranks among Bernini's greatest achievements and can only be fully appreciated in person. Similarly, one of Bernini's most notable sculptural creations, located inside the basilica, is noteworthy. The 94-foot-tall baldacchino, a bronze canopy rising above the basilica's high altar, is remarkable. Its columns, rather than being simple vertical supports, twist upward, and the top is adorned with intricate gilded designs and allegorical figures.



Gianlorenzo Bernini's baldacchino at St. Peter's Basilica.

Recreation

Shannon Prince 352-854-8707 ext. 7530 shannon_prince@otowfl.com



Event and trip information is available in several places for your convenience: on the OTOW App, at OTOWInfo. com, and in the Life in Motion Wellness Connections catalog. Most Recreation events held in On Top of the World (Central) are free for residents with a valid resident ID. Guests are always welcome, with a \$5 fee per person for these events.

To make things even more convenient, we're excited to offer the new OTOW App, available for download in the App Store and Google Play. Once approved (please allow up to 72 hours for resident verification), the app gives you access to everything – register for events, book rooms, and pay for trips or classes, all from your phone, tablet, or computer. It's quick, easy, and available anytime. If you don't have access to a smart device, stop by the Recreation Center and try out one of our brand-new OTOW App kiosks. We're happy to help you get connected!

Here's some exciting news: starting Friday, Aug. 1, all monthly event listings from the activity calendars will move to a digital format through the OTOW App. This means the printed calendars you're used to seeing in World News will be discontinued. But rest assured, your favorite events aren't going anywhere! You'll still be able to view everything:

- In the OTOW AppAt OTOWInfo.com
- On TVs throughout the amenities
- · On flyers posted around the community

We are grateful for the way our community has embraced this transition to digital. Your support helps us grow and continue to bring you even more exciting opportunities to stay active, social, and involved. So don't wait, download the OTOW App and register today. There's a world of fun waiting for you, right here at On Top of the World!

For events requiring registration, please use the OTOW App. The required payment is due at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued within 14 days of any event or trip.

Social Committee

Looking to get involved and make a difference in your community? The On Top of the World (Central) Social Committee is always looking for enthusiastic resident volunteers to help shape the fun! The committee meets monthly to share ideas, offer feedback, and assist in planning, organizing, and decorating for upcoming Recreation events. Your input is a valuable part of creating activities that our community truly enjoys. Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Recreation Center Lounge. If you'd like to

join us, RSVP by calling 352-387-7530 or emailing shannon_prince@otowfl.com. We'd love to have you on board. See you

Recreation Center

Happy Hour (Free)

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 music, dancing, and The Pub. This event is free to residents. Resident IDs will be required to attend Happy Hour. Anyone without a resident ID is considered a guest. Guest fees apply at \$5 per person. Children under the age of 15 are not permitted

Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

- · Aug. 1: Soundwaves
- · Aug. 8: Crystal Vision
- Aug. 15: Area 81Aug. 22: Highway 94
- Aug. 29: Kathleen Kane

Music at the Pool Pavilion (Free)

Enjoy some great music at the pool and pavilion area at the Recreation Center from 1 to 4 p.m.

Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

- · Saturday, Aug. 2: Groove Dawgs
- Friday, Aug. 8: Steve Lazarus
- · Friday, Aug. 29: Dan Flok

Karaoke (Free)

Karaoke is always fun! Sing your heart out or just come and enjoy the music. Karaoke is every second Thursday of the month in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. \$5 guest fee applies.

Ladies Night (Free)

Ladies, you are invited to join us on Tuesday, Aug. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Ben Simmons is the musical guest for the night. Bring beverages and snacks. See you there. \$5 guest fee applies.

Movie Night (Free)

Join us for a cinematic night out, featuring, when possible, a newly released movie! The movie license covers only the Recreation Center Ballroom; therefore, we are unable to transfer its use to other buildings. Join us on Thursday, Aug. 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. for the action/drama "The Amateur" (two hours, PG-13). Free popcorn and The Pub will also be open. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks

The Ballroom will not be accessible as a cut-through to and from the pool or The Pub during this time. Please make your way around the building so that the darkness of the "theater" can be preserved. \$5 guest fee applies.

Golf Cart Safety Training (Free)

Senior Health and Safety Manager Jonathan Miller from Colen Built Development will present an important golf cart safety session on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. If you haven't attended one before, now is the perfect time to learn how to drive a golf cart defensively; it could save your life. Registration is required; please call 352-387-7533 to reserve your spot.

BUS SCHEDULE On Top of the World Monday - Thursday PICK-UP LOCATIONS MORNING ROUTE The Lodge Parking Lot - SW 87th Cir. The Lodge at Candler Hills 8:35 a.m. 91st. Cir. East - 91st. Cir. West - Post Office 8:42 a.m. Providence. Providence. .90th St. - 92nd Pl. Rd. - 96th Ct. Rd. - 97th Cir Avalon Post Office. 8:51 a.m. Windsor East 94th Pl. - 94th Lp. 8:55 a.m. Windsor West 95th St. - 95th Lp. 8:58 a.m. 97th Lane - Post Office - 99th Ave. - 96th St. Crescent Ridge 9:01 a.m. At Bus Stop Sign in Parking Lot 9:04 a.m. Recreation Center Americana Village 89th Ct. Rd. - Post Office - 85th Ter. Rd. 9:08 a.m. Post Office - 84th Ter. - 93rd St. Friendship Village 9:12 a.m. Friendship Colony 83rd Ter. - 90th Pl. - 87th Ave. - 97th St. 9:16 a.m. Friendship Park .97th St. - 94th Lane. 9:20 a.m. Friendship Village 89th Ct. Rd. - 92nd St 9:22 a.m. 90th St. - Post Office . 9:26 a.m. Friendship Colony. Candler Hills Community Center. At Bus Stop Sign in Parking Lot. 9:31 a.m. Indigo East Community Center. Parking Lot Call one day in advance for pick-up Call one day in advance for pick-up Weybourne Landing Parking Lot Longleaf Ridge Model Center. Parking Lot Call one day in advance for pick-up **Exit Community** .9:36 a.m. MORNING DESTINATIONS Arrival and pick-up times for Freedom Library (Tues/Thurs only) Paddock Mall according to the number of VA Hospital Walmart passengers. The bus driver will Dillard's/Kohl's Target Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center each destination for that day Sam's Club Home Depol Return to On Top of the World to begin drop-off/pick-up for the afternoon run. AFTERNOON ROUTE PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES The Lodge at Candler Hills. 1:15 p.m. Candler Hills Community Center .1:20 p.m. Friendship Colony Post Office Providence Post Office Avalon Post Office Crescent Ridge Post Office 1:38 p.m. 1:33 p.m Recreation Center. 1:43 p.m. Americana Post Office 1:49 p.m. Friendship Post Office 1:54 p.m. AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS Arrival and pick-up times for Friendship Center Bravo Supermarket afternoon destinations will vary **Big Lots** according to the number of Walmart Neighborhood Market Bealls & Dollar Tree passengers. The bus driver will Walmart ALDI/Lowe's announce the pick-up time at *Please arrive about 5-10 minutes earlier, as all times are approxi #9801 - 2/24

For information, call 352-789-5666.

Tropic Trivia

Ready to test your knowledge at Tropic Trivia? September tickets will be on sale from Tuesday, Aug. 5, through Friday, Aug. 15, and a team representative may purchase a table for the entire team each month. Tables are \$40 and must be purchased through the OTOW App. Once you've secured your table, stop by the Recreation Department to choose your table location. Spots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ballroom Dance Class

Register for the August class and learn to "Two Step" with ballroom instructor Butch Phillips. Classes are held every second, third, and fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The cost is \$30 per month for three weeks of classes. See the OTOW App for details.

Club Fair

Explore the many clubs available in your community at the upcoming Club Fair! Meet club representatives, ask questions, and discover new ways to get involved. If your club would like to host a table, registration forms will be emailed to club presidents on Sunday, Aug. 3. Table reservations will be accepted from Monday, Aug. 4, through Friday, Sept. 5, or until all tables are filled. Visit the Recreation Center office to submit your form and select your table. Please note, only clubs registered with the Recreation Department are eligible to participate. The Club Fair will take place on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Annual Craft Fair and More

For residents interested in participating in the annual Craft Fair and More, registration will begin on Tuesday, Aug. 5. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. You can pick your table when you register in person at the Recreation Center. Please bring your resident ID with you. The tables inside the Circle Square Cultural Center and the tables outside on the porch are \$100 each, and the outside tables on The Town Square are \$55 each. Registration times are Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Craft Fair and More is free to attend and open to the public.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

World Class Active Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

Get fit with weekly fitness classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Visit the Recreation Department at The Lodge at Candler Hills to pick up the wellness schedule and find out what to bring for each class.

Chair Volleyball (Free)

Get moving and have fun on Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Ballroom for chair volleyball! Rules and teams will be determined on the day of the event. Come on out and participate in this exciting, new active aging sport.

From the Top Line Dance Class (Free)

Join us each Tuesday for our weekly line dance class from 10 a.m. to noon. Chuck and Donna Nelson host this instructional class.

Open Game/Card Play (Free)

Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Card Room is open for game day. Bring your games and cards and have a great time. Reminder, only water is allowed.

Happy Hour (Free)

Cheers to a great community! Join us for Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. Feel free to bring your own beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies.

The entertainment schedule is as fol-

- lows: Saturday, Aug. 2: Highway 94
- · Saturday, Aug. 23: Automatic Duo

Kocktails & Karaoke (Free)

Sing your heart out! You'll feel right at home singing with your neighbors to cheer you on. Enjoy the fun on Thursday, Aug. 7, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Charlie and Kathy Petrosky. Bring beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies.

Safety Training Class (Free)

The Colen Built Development safety team conducts safety classes. Golf Cart Safety will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend, registration is required.

Girls Night Out (Free)

Come on, girls, let's dance! Join us Thursday, Aug. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Tim Hargis. Bring your own beverage

GOING OUT OF TOWN?
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of the World News at
ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala.





and table snacks, and have some fun. \$5 guest fee applies.

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

Sit poolside or under the pavilion for live music with Steel Drum Randy on Sunday, Aug. 31, from 1 to 4 p.m. Relax in the sun, or swim in the pool, and make it a day with great music. Food may be purchased from the Blazin' Bites food truck. No glass containers are allowed in the pool or on deck or under the pavilion.

Musical Game Night

Enjoy this musical fun night on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. Come and enjoy the game "PRIZEO" along with trivia and "Name That Tune." Tickets may be purchased via the OTOW App or by visiting the Recreation Department at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Tickets cost \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

For events requiring registration at The Lodge at Candler Hills, please use the OTOW App. The required payment is due at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued within 14 days of any event or trip.

Indigo East Community Center

Happy Hour (Free)

Plan for a great time out with your friends and neighbors on Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your favorite cocktails and snacks. Dance, socialize, relax, and enjoy! \$5 guest fee applies. The entertainment schedule is as follows:

- · Aug. 1: DJ Frank
- · Aug. 29: Tim Hargis

Trivia

Get in on some friendly and fun competition with your neighbors and friends at trivia night on Monday, Aug. 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite snacks and beverages to share with your team. The cost is \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Music Trivia

Challenge your mind by playing rounds of music trivia and "Name That Tune" on Thursday, Aug. 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. First, second, and third-place prizes will be awarded. The cost is \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Karaoke (Free)

Do you sing? Choose your song and share your voice at karaoke on Thursday, Aug. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring beverages and snacks. Feel free to sing solo or in a group. \$5 guest fee applies.

For events requiring registration at the Indigo East Community Center, please use the OTOW App. The required payment is due at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued within 14 days of any event or trip.

The Landing

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

Relax or take a dip at the pool on a lazy August Summer afternoon! Sunday, Aug. 3, 1 to 4 p.m. Sandra and Alex will be playing tunes in the Pavilion. Anabella's Sweets and Treats food truck will be here with lunch and ice cream. No beadfilled floats are permitted in the pool.

Monthly Music Series (Free)

Rock 'n' Roll Rewind will take place on Monday, Aug. 25, 5 to 8 p.m. Music from the '60s, '70s, and '80s will be featured at this "blast from the past." DJ Donna Carrier will be bringing the best of the era with classic rock hits to get you singing and dancing. \$5 guest fee applies.

Happy Hour (Free)

Join us for Happy Hour! Party with great friends and enjoy fantastic music from Rock Solid on Thursday, Aug. 28, 5 to 8 p.m. \$5 guest fee applies.

World Class Active Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

Get fit with weekly fitness classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Visit the Recreation Department office at The Landing to pick up the wellness schedule and find out what to bring for each class.

For events requiring registration at The Landing, please use the OTOW App. The required payment is due at the time of registration. No refunds will be issued within 14 days of any event or trip.



Club

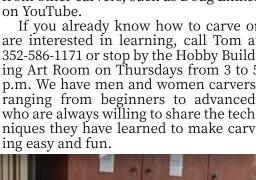
Woodcarving

We welcome our new members, Jim Bergensen and Jim Sullivan. This month, we feature David David is one of our primary teachers in the club. He does an excellent job of teaching you how to make a carving of your own, complete with lessons, carving material, and tools. At the

end of the lessons, you have a completed

carving. He makes it easy to learn how to carve wood. He has been carving for about nine years. His preferred material is basswood. He carves in the round, three-dimensional pieces. He likes to carve caricatures. He draws inspiration from other carvers, such as Doug Linker

If you already know how to carve or are interested in learning, call Tom at 352-586-1171 or stop by the Hobby Building Art Room on Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. We have men and women carvers, ranging from beginners to advanced, who are always willing to share the techniques they have learned to make carv-





Eastern tiger swallowtail at Sholom Park.



Mark Holmes



Are you looking to delve deeper into photography? But are you unsure about how to proceed? ShutterBugs can certainly help! Join one of our informative and interactive meetings soon. Learn by doing when you join in on a monthly field trip.

For now, let's take a brief look at some camera choices. Your smartphone camera is likely very good, with numerous features, and yes, you can be an active club member using only your phone. A smartphone with a good camera may serve you well. They're portable, intuitive, and often come with excellent built-in features, such as face detection and autofocus, as well as software to enhance your photos.

If you want to get into digital photography, for most needs, a mirrorless camera or a point-and-shoot with a simple interface is perfect if you're just starting out. Some models even have larger buttons and touchscreens designed with accessibility in mind. To take things up another notch, a true DSLR allows you to utilize numerous built-in features and capabilities, and you can add various lenses for specific needs, such as landscape, portrait, and telephoto. As a result, you might even look like a pro while you're at it.

Whether you use a smartphone, point-and-shoot camera, or DSLR, don't forget to back up your images to an online cloud service or an external memory storage unit, so your memories are safe.

We're pleased to announce our updated website at otowspc.com, where you can learn about the club, view member photos, find helpful video tips, and more. Join our Facebook group (ShutterBugs OTOW Photography Club). Remember, you can see some of our members' photographs on display in the Master the Possibilities lobby. Exhibitions change monthly.

The ShutterBugs motto: "Those who don't know should ask, those who do know should show and tell."

For more information, contact Harry Boyajian at 786-642-3140.



David Bride is teaching Jim Bergensen to carve an owl.

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Photo by Linda Toner



CARDS & GAMES



Bingo

Nancy Grabowski



The "dog days of August" are upon us! Why not take advantage of the refreshingly cool air in the Recreation Center Ballroom? We invite you to join us each Wednesday evening for bingo.

On Wednesday, July 2, we honored America with a game representing the flag- no surprise there! However, the big surprise was the prize money for this particular game ... \$250! It was our way of thanking the loyal players who come each week to support our efforts. Congratulations, Frank ... our lucky winner!

Near 2:45 p.m., each Wednesday, bingo volunteers start setting up the equipment and supplies needed, so you can begin purchasing 70/30 raffle tickets around 4 p.m. The prices are minimal: three for \$1 or 10 for \$3! When the hands on the clock tell us it's 5:30 p.m., lucky tickets are drawn and the possessor reaps a \$20 payout.

Each game card costs \$1, and you play it for all 20 games. The purse for the games is determined by the number of cards the audience has purchased. The 10th game is always played for \$75, and the 20th game jackpot grows in \$10 increments from \$110 up to \$250, determined by a set number of balls for each

You must bring your resident ID card each time you come to join us. Guests are welcome and must be accompanied by a resident. Florida statutes prevent anyone under the age of 18 from attend-

Another part of the statute prohibits the use of alcohol in the ballroom. It includes beer, wine, and other alcoholic beverages. They can be purchased in The Pub, finished there, or on the patio. Volunteers place signs at their seats so

they can complete their assigned positions. Please respect this small request. You may, however, save one seat other than your own if you choose to have a bite in The Pub or use the gym, sit on the patio, or whatever. We kindly request that you refrain from tipping the chairs, as this presents a tripping hazard.

Come join us for a fun evening! Who knows? It may be your lucky night!

If you wish to become a volunteer, speak with Carl Folkers or Nancy Grabowski on any Wednesday.

Bridge



Monday Afternoon

By Carol Johnson

June 2

1: Barb Heller & Jean Krueger; 2: Carolyn Higgins & V.J. Hentz; 3: Bruce Gillett & Arlene Loepp; 4: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick.

June 9

1: Arlene Loepp & Bruce Gillett; 2: Mary Bloch & Billie Anderson; 3: V.J. Hentz & Carolyn Higgins; 4: Ron Smith & Steve Sekac.

1: Diane Robinson & Carol Johnson; 2: Bruce Gillett & Al Kremer; 3: C.J. & Dennis Dust; 4: Mike Meirick & Craig Ford.

MAXIMIZE

YOUR

RENTAL

INCOME,

MINIMIZE

YOUR

STRESS

June 23

1: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 2: Donna Peters & Rad D; 3: Jean Krueger & Barb Heller;4: C.J. & Dennis Dust.

June 30

1: Diane Robinson & Carol Johnson; 2: Darlene Clark & Linda Curtiss; 3: Al Kremer & Bruce Gillett; 4: Billie Anderson & Mary Bloch.

Tuesday Night Duplicate

By Bob Kraus

We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II, and play begins at 6 p.m. Please arrive by 5:50 p.m. to sign in and allow time for setup. We can accommodate up to nine tables. Bring your partner and \$0.50 per person.

The boards are scored after the game and the results are emailed to the group within a few days.

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

June 24

1: Bob Kraus & Virginia Collins; 2: Matt Oram & Sylvia Zelkin; Tie at 3: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; and Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman; 5: Dan Lack & Paul Agarwal.

July 1

North/South 1: Matt Oram & Sylvia Zelkin; 2: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 3: Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman.

East/West

1: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller; 2: Gary Moses & Diane Turkin; 3: Dennis Wallace & Judi Wallace.

July 8

North/South 1: Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp; 2: Dan Lack & Paul

Agarwal; 3: Chris Wachter & Jeff Young. East/West

1: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 2: Barbara

Heller & Jack Heller; 3: Matt Oram & Sylvia Zelkin.

Wednesday Afternoon By Dianne Robinson

June 4

1: Linda Curtiss; 2: Kurt Baumgartner; 3: Mike Meirick; 4: Debbie Quinn; 5: Carolyn Higgins; Cons: Joan Keinath.

June 11

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Kurt Baumgartner; 3: Trudy Baumgartner; 4: Carolyn Higgins; Cons: Bob Durst.

June 18

1: Kurt Baumgartner; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Jeff Young; Cons: Mike Meirick.

June 25

Mike Meirick; 2: Pat Quinn; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Marlene Floeckher; 5: Bruce Gillett; Cons: Ram Ray.

Thursday Afternoon

By Marlene Floeckher

June 5

1: Kurt Baumgartner; 2: Marlene Floeckher; 3: Pat Quinn; 4: Billie Andersen; Cons: Debbie Quinn.

June 12

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Bill Searigixt; 3: Dianne Robinson; 4: Linda Curtiss; 5: Beverly Meirick; Cons: Mary

June 19

1: Bill Searigixt; 2: Linda Curtiss; 3: Betty Schaff; 4: Kurt Baumgartner; Cons: Bruce Gillett.

June 26

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Bill Searigixt; 3: Bob Durst; 4: Bob Knowles; Cons: Dianne Robinson.

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Thursday Night

By Penny Wagener

Join our friendly bridge group at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II. All skill levels are welcome whether you're fresh from lessons, returning after years away, or an experienced player. No partner is needed; we pair and rotate throughout the night. Bring 25 cents, a smile, and a good attitude. We play three rounds of seven hands and finish by 9 p.m.

Come for fun and friendship, and you might even win the "2 prize" - a prize given out for taking a trick with the two of trump that can be passed around throughout the evening.

1: Chris Wachter; 2: Drew Brehm; 3: Larry Bernier; Cons: Maureen Brehm; 2 prize: Chris Wachter.

June 19

1: Ron Smith; 2: Jeff Young; 3: Chip Auger; Cons: Al Whitford.

June 26 1: Chris Wachter; 2: Jeff Bell; 3: Brent Powell; Cons:

Jeff Young; 2 prize: Ram Janaki. July 3

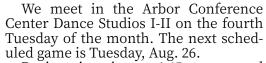
1: Matt Oram; 2: Jeff Young; Cons: Penny Wagener; 2 prize Brent Powell.

July 10

1: Brent Powell; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Ram Janaki; Cons: Vicki Mattingly; 2 prize: Gary Moses.

Bunco Babes Social Group

Michelle Malsch



Registration is at 6:45 p.m., and games begin at 7 p.m. You do not need to call to register; simply show up with your resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. The room is set up for 48 players. Please ensure you arrive on time to secure your spot. It will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Always check the World News for the latest updates on our

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

If you have never played, 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 gameplay. 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 have exact change), and all collected funds will be returned to the category winners at the end of the game. There are also two door prize drawings for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your beverage and a small snack if you wish. After the first three sets have been played, there will be a short intermission.

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!

Cribbage



Our Cribbage Group meets in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II on the first and third Thursday of the month from 3 to 5 p.m.

We welcome new players to join us. We're a non-competitive group of all experience levels.

If you have a cribbage board and deck of cards, please bring them; however,

we have extras on hand.

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

Euchre



By Mary Bloch

Friday Night

May 9

1: John O'Brien; 2: Carol Condino; 3: Angela Brady.

May 16 1: Scott Bloch; 2: Edith Kolb; Tie at 3: Lloyd Beitel &

Jim Brogan.

1: Pam Brown; 2: Phyllis Jarskey; 3: Lou Pine.

May 30

Tied at 1: Pam Brown & Jim Brogan; 2: John O'Brien; 3: Kurt Baumgartner.

June 6

1: Bruce Tredinnick; 2: Linda Brown; 3: Jim Brogan. June 13

1: Ken Knapp; Tie at 2: Edith Kolb & Kurt Baumgartner;

Tie at 3: Jean Gillette & Bob Moravec. June 20 1: Pam Brown; 2: Mary Bloch; Tie at 3: Sande Caton

June 27

1: Bruce Tredinnick; 2: Mary Bloch; 3: Robert Moravec.

Mah Jongg

& C.J. Dust.

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 Arbor Activity Center Card Room III. Please arrive a few minutes early as we will draw chips for table assignments. After three or four games, we will switch tables to make new friends and change the gameplay. Join us for a couple of hours of fun.

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

Pinochle



Tuesday Night By Herb Katz

lune 3

1: Ilene Casper; 2: Jae Kallai; 3: Norma Miles.

June 10

1: Bud Alderman; 2: Mike Romano; 3: Norma Miles. June 17

1: Jim Magoon; 2: Norma Miles; 3: Ilene Casper. June 24

1: Ray Kallai; 2: Paul Jenkins; 3: Edna Frye & Jim Magoon.

Friday Morning

By Mary Hannon

June 13

1: Ilene Casper; 2: Jim Magoon; 3: Stu Shaub. June 20

1: Phyllis Jarskey; 2: Judy Fries; 3: Stephen Mintz. June 27

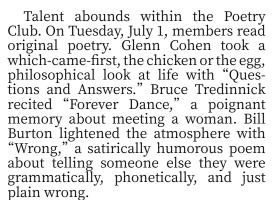
1: Ilene Casper; 2: Debbie Martello; 3: Edna Frye. July 4

1: Andy Nuccio; 2: Ilene Casper; 3: Herb Katz.

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Poetry Club

lanice Puta, Barbara Scales, &



Shirley Thomas shared three limericks, one of which was especially near and dear to us regarding golf carts at Publix. H. Dean Barks recommended that we read John Drury's guidebook, "Creating Poetry." Tim Reisdorf, a visitor, joined our session. He shared "Solitor, John Public Western Wilson Louise Published Publish tude" by Ella Weaver Wilcox. Janice Puta recited "Start Your Day" reminding us that we are a soul, and encourages us to open our heart daily to be one with the all-that-is.

Pete Seeger wrote, "To everything, turn, turn, turn. There is a time for every purpose under heaven." The Poetry Club, which began in May 2024, is taking an unexpected yet welcome direction. The group is moving beyond the boundaries of On Top of the World. That's right, readers. The group is forging into uncharted territory, expanding our horizons to engage the world beyond the gates at local, and not-so-local, venues.

For example, a couple of our members recited poetry at the Hiatus Brewing Company on Thursday, July 3. They will attend the April 2026 Jacksonville Southeast Haiku Association event, dedicated to the 5-7-5 syllable format of Japanese poetry, highlighting nature.

On Thursday, July 17, the group met at Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli to plan other future events. This new presentation format will be simultaneously challenging and rewarding. Let's face it. Many of us have not stood in front of a room full of people since giving our grade school book reports. We support each other in presenting our best written work.

A few of our group have other irons in the fire. Bill Burton continues to write songs. Glenn Cohen is discovering that he is truly a gifted poet. Lloyd Howell is busy reading excerpts from his chapbooks to audiences. Shirley Thomas's strong creativity is producing combinations of artwork and poetry worthy of the finest art studios. Janice Puta is publishing "Your Journey to Wholeness," a guidebook and journal focused on healing through purposeful living connected to higher consciousness. Bruce Tredinnick is completing his poetry collection for publishing. Barbara Scales has an Irish romantic comedy, "The Shillelagh Express," under consideration with a Florida literary agency.

In closing, dear readers, we invite you to watch the newspaper and the online announcements page of On Top of the World. We would love for you to join us at one of the venues. Until then, take

For questions, contact Bruce Tredinnick at 352-857-7938.

Poetry

Janice M. Puta



Run With Me

Run with me deeper into becoming.

Run with me farther into the boldest dreams.

Run with me higher into the brightest light.

Run with me,

the journey opens wide.

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Poetry

Linda Toner

Leadership

What is leadership?

As a matter of fact

who is fit and trim,

others to act.

it is one who influences

Let's say you see someone

He says, "I go to the gym."

So you start going because

you want to be like him.

but a leader is someone

They learn through life,

He's a born leader,

people may say,

by trial and error,

what to say and do

until they get it right,

both day and night.

Leadership, for some,

does not come naturally

they step up to the plate

and they do what needs

to accomplish a task,

A leader is someone

Their knowledge is vast,

their experience is ample

and they show leadership

RESIDENT ID CARD

they become a leader and actually

but through hard work

they take the reins

and do the deeds,

to be done

"So follow me.'

is all they ask.

you look up to, someone you want

to emulate too.

by example.

they work on themselves

and they never

give up trying

who is made.

You ask, "How did you get that way?"



View from the Library

David Wesenberg

If you were to drive through Northeast

Gene Stratton-Porter, a naturalist, built two residences in the area. She wrote books about the area and its preservation, with sales of 50 million books by 1924. Among them was "Freckles," a

quiring him to circle the swamp twice a đay, walking seven miles each time.

Freckles grows into a man of character, toughening up and facing the difficult and dangerous job, and earning an honest dollar. He builds a cadre of friends and supporters who love him, including the Duncans with whom he stays and his boss, Mr. McLean, who essentially adopts him as a son.

He meets the Angel, a beautiful and outspoken girl who assists the Bird Woman, a naturalist who photographs the unique birds rampant in the swamp. It appears that the Bird Woman is author Gene Stratton-Porter, though this is never explicitly stated. He falls in love but feels he is not her social equal.

We are introduced to Black Jack, who knows the Limberlost backward and forward and is trying to steal the valuable timber despite Freckles' guardianship of the Limberlost. This sets up the premise and primary conflict of the story. To divulge the detailed elements of the story would deprive the reader of a good yarn with the elements of surprise and delight that reward any dedicated

This is a book about character, values, good and evil, lofty aspirations, simple pleasures, and love. It is well-plotted and does not hide the deep feelings and conflicts that we all experience in our lives.

I highly recommend this book as a snapshot of culture in 1904 and its insights into our lives today. Read the book! You will be glad you did.

> BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR Pick up after your pet.

Indiana between I-70 and Fort Wayne, you would see more Indiana farms and crops and never know that once 20 square miles of this area was Limberlost Swamp, stuffed with high-value timber and unique flora and fauna rarely seen or experienced elsewhere. Between 1890 and 1910, this beautiful area was drained and destroyed by a steam-powered dredge, and all of the timber was cut, leaving just routine farmland.

book about an orphan delivered to a Chicago orphanage as an infant. I learned of the book from my mother, who gave me a battered old copy she had loved as a young woman. It was published in 1904. Freckles begins the story by asking for a job with the Grand Rapids Lumber Company, which Mr. McLean owns.

McLean is confronted by a homely, redheaded, freckled teenage boy with no right hand and no name other than Freckles, dressed in the roughest of clothing. Impressed with Freckles' attitude but not with his resume, McLean offers Freckles the dangerous job of guarding the Limberlost Swamp timber and maintaining the fence around it, re-







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Manual rail construction.

Model Railroaders

Jim Lynam



How did they construct railroad tracks in the early years?

In the United States, canals were constructed to pull barges using horses walking a path to the side of the canal. Later, tracks were laid on these paths. The first tracks were made of wooden rails spiked to wooden cross ties. As developed in Europe, carriages with flanged wooden wheels would ride on the rails and were pulled by horses. As expected, the wood became subject to rot. The first attempt to replace wooden rails was to use cast iron. However, cast iron would become brittle and would break under load. Wrought iron was then used, but it was expensive to produce and difficult to manufacture in large quantities.

The earliest rails were laid directly on the ground. It didn't take long to realize that rain and water would wash out the ground under the tracks, making them unusable. The solution was to raise the track-bed above the surrounding area so that the water would drain away by gravity. The next step was to add ballast, in the form of crushed rock, between the ties for added stability.

As the weight of the locomotives and loaded freight cars increased, the rails would sink into the ties, destroying the level. Furthermore, the iron rails would rust, as would the iron spikes, and the rails would collapse. The first tracks

were laid with both rails ending at the same location. The weight of the train pushed the rail assembly down below the next section, causing derailments. The resulting solution was to stagger the length of the opposing rails. This produced the "gentle rocking" sensation that became synonymous with riding

The advent of steel rail construction largely solved the early problems. Steel plates held the base of the "I-beam" rail and were spiked into the creosote-treated ties. Laying steel rails in a straight line was comparatively easy. Bending steel rails to traverse curves was a formidable obstacle in the late 1800s. They would spike the rail and use jacks to bend the rail to the desired radius. Then they had to bend the opposing rail to match the

Today, concrete ties have replaced the wooden ties. Welded steel rails have made the ride smoother, safer, and faster. The best example of modern construction is the recent completion of the SunRail track from Miami to Orlando.

The Model Railroaders recently completed a diorama demonstrating manual labor track construction, including the sound of driving the spikes!

The club invites you to visit the Hobby Building Model Train Room and see everything in operation on any Friday from 2 to 4 p.m.

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, Aug. 6, in the Hobby Building Event Room. If you have any questions, please text Jim Lynam at 352-861-2822.

The New



Despite the early August date, The New Pretenders are ramping up their practice sessions. We are getting down to business so that another flawless presentation can take place on Feb. 6, 2026, at 7 p.m., on the Recreation Center Ballroom stage. Our program will be presented again on Feb. 7, 2026, at 7 p.m. and Feb. 8, 2026, at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$12 for reserved seating and \$10 for general admission. No tickets are sold at the door and sales begin in January 2026.

In last month's column, you met some of the "freshmen class." We continue with our introductions: Barbara Benyaker, Ina Kline, Shelley Kline, Christi Lucas, and Lois Smith-Weiss.

Barbara is an avid dancer and funseeker! She was born in Pennsylvania, worked in the insurance industry before retiring, and moving here. Barb loves to travel, especially to shows. She is always up for adventure with a smile that never disappears!

Ina, who was born in New York and raised in Miami, spent much of her adult life in Maryland. She met and married Shelley and finally retired to relocate here. Ina loves to travel, ballroom dance, and join in the fun with several of the clubs. Shelley, mostly the strong, silent type, says, "Me, too!" Shelley is a trained musician, featuring the trumpet in his accomplishments.

Christi Lucas is well traveled; born in California, raised in Missouri, and lived in various parts of Florida before settling here. Christi loves travel and diamond art almost as much as dancing! She's also a member of The Dancing Jewels.

Lois Smith-Weiss is a Jersey girl who has enjoyed other states as well, including much of Florida. Lois has a talent for sewing but willingly puts it aside to play Scrabble or Mexican train. «There»s so much to do here! I never dreamed I'd be this busy in retirement.'

The New Pretenders hope to meet many of you at the Club Fair in September. Perhaps, you'll be the next gal or guy to join us!

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

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Paradise Players



As the 2025 season concludes, preparations and auditions are underway for the upcoming play "A Comedy Tonight," scheduled for two performances on Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Recreation Center. We invite individuals interested in developing acting skills, creating props,

or participating in technical roles, such as lighting and sound, to join us. Additionally, singers, actors, and extras are encouraged to attend. Our team is dedicated and welcoming.

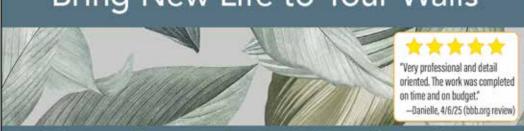
The scheduled meetings are as follows: Sunday, Aug. 3, Wednesdays, Aug. 13 and 20, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio IV from 2:30 to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, Aug. 27, at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

We look forward to your participa-

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.

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Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel



Welcome to August! As the song goes, "Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer." It's hot and sometimes hazy. Our talented group is not lazy; we continue to create hats, scarves, blankets, and bears, as well as other items, regularly. While what our group does is not "crazy," this writer researched a few fun facts about crocheting and knitting.

Crochet comes from the French word "croche," meaning "hook." Crochet played a vital role during the Irish Potato Famine (1845-1850), helping people earn a livelihood by creating intricate pieces and lace.

Crochet's popularity spans various cultures and communities, with a global community of crocheters creating a wide range of items, from clothing to art.

Knitting came first. Evidence of knitting dates back to the 11th century, while the modern form of crochet emerged in the early 19th century. Knitting was once a male-dominated occupation in some parts of Europe, with men forming knitting guilds. It takes 32 muscles to knit.

Happy Hookers is open to all residents. We meet on Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agendas, or penalties for missing a meeting, arriving late, or leaving early. Life can and does sometimes interfere, and we would hate for that to hold you back.

We have a talented group of ladies busy with crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, card crafting, embroidering, and handcrafting. They are never too busy to help someone with a complicated pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they are currently working on.

If you have questions about our club, call Naomi Berman at 352-873-4328. We always appreciate donations of yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, crochet hooks, or other crafting tools. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting, or contact Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 to arrange pickup.

LEASH LAWDogs must be on a leash at all times.

Sewing Bees

Ann Gallo



Have you had enough of this heat yet? Although it may be in the 90s, the Sewing Bees are in full swing, preparing Christmas quilts for distribution.

Our latest agency is SoZo Kids. These children live in the Ocala National Forest with their families, experiencing tremendous poverty. SoZo Kids picked up 90 quilts and a large quantity of summer clothes. At Christmas, they provide toys to over 3,500 children. We hope to be able to assist them this Christmas.

We are gearing up for the fall and winter distributions, our busiest time

of year. In addition to distributing hundreds of quilts, we anticipate filling 150 Christmas stockings for children aged five to teenagers. If you would like to help fill our stockings, please email SewingBeesClub@gmail.com to learn how.

Did you know that in some societies, quilts held such high value that they were used as a form of currency? They were often traded or given as gifts to mark important occasions or seal agreements between families or tribes. This practice highlights the significance and cherished nature of quilts throughout history.

Stop by and see our program in action. We meet every Thursday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. and the second and third Saturdays of the month from noon to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room.

Hobby Building Art Room.

You will find a very generous group of men and women who share their tal-

ents by offering warmth and comfort to the homeless, foster care, and disadvantaged children in Marion County. Last year, we made and distributed 1,003 quilts.

If you sew, you don't have to complete every phase of the quilt-making process. Many hands are involved in the final quilt. We have sewing machines available for your use. Dues are \$15 for the year.

We are always in need of children'sthemed cotton, solid-colored cotton, or flannel fabric. Gift cards, especially from Hobby Lobby and Michaels, are always welcome.

Join our page on Facebook (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive.

Questions? Call or text Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 or Susie Clauson at 904-422-5135.



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Ukelele Club

Carol Himes



Many of us immediately associate the ukulele with Arthur Godfrey, undisputed king of early television, or with Tiny Tim and his incredible falsetto crooning "Tip Toe Through the Tulips" later in the 1960s. However, these iconic entertainment giants are not the only famous music legends who have found enjoyment in playing the ukulele.

Beatles guitarist George Harrison loved the ukulele and often played "Here Comes the Sun." While the song was originally written and performed on guitar, Harrison's fondness for the ukulele led him to adapt it for the smaller instrument. Harrison wasn't the only Beatle who fell in love with the ukulele. John Lennon reportedly loved the instrument and played it both during recording sessions and during his spare time.

Many contemporary artists have also adopted the ukulele into their repertoire, including Taylor Swift, who is often seen playing the ukulele during her famous concert tours. Other ukulele-playing icons include Aerosmith's Steven Tyler, Cyndi Lauper, Pete Townshend of The Who, Pearl Jam's Eddy Vedder, Elvis Presley, and the boss himself, Bruce Springsteen.

These famous names in music join the list of the great ukulele players from right here in On Top of the World! If you want to see what the magic and fun of the ukulele is all about, come join us every Wednesday in the Arbor Activity



The Ukulele Club playing at Ocala Senior Living.

Center Music Room. The learning begins at 2:30 p.m. with Uke 101, followed by strumming, singing, and fellowship during Song Circle at 3 p.m. At 4 p.m. the more adventurous of us continue with intermediuke, a more challenging learning experience. For questions and more information, contact Janet Voyles 812-319-7761 or artemisclarinet@ gmail.com.

REPLACEMENT CAR DECALS Bring your car, resident ID, auto registration and \$10.

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

One of our club members is transi-

tioning from Tesla enthusiast to Tesla

owner. He ordered a Model Y, now

known as the Juniper, and plans to pick

have his car delivered by itself. A driv-

erless Tesla travelled directly from the

factory to the buyer's home about thirty

minutes away. Here's a link to the video

> cnbc.com/2025/06/28/tesla-first-driverless-delivery-new-car-to-customer.html. A new enthusiast joined the club at our last meeting. He is waiting for the

The Tesla Owners and Enthusiasts

Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II. You do not

have to be a Tesla owner to attend. There

are no dues. There are speakers at some

meetings. Most meetings are spent discussing our vehicles. Come and join us.

We are happy to answer any questions

you may have about these amazing ve-

A Texan became the first person to

it up in about one month.

Dan Lack

new Model 2.

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On Top of the **Wheels Car Group**

Lyn Yanss

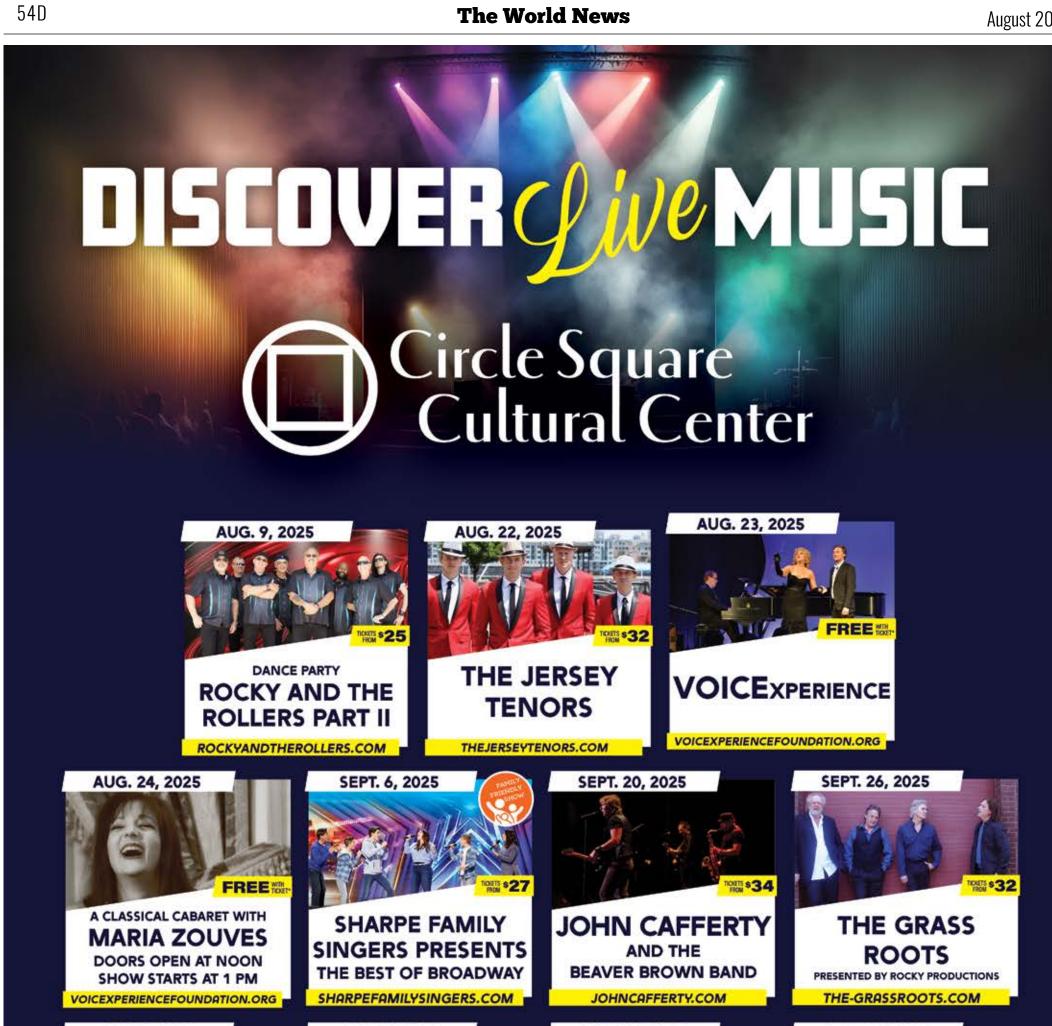
Are you interested in automobiles? Do you own a vehicle of personal significance? We invite you to become a member of the On Top of the Wheels Car

Club. Our meetings are held monthly at Mama B's Diner at 8 a.m., providing an opportunity for members to enjoy breakfast with fellow enthusiasts and coordinate upcoming events. Our activities include car shows, cruise-ins, and social gatherings where members can discuss engine modifications and appreciate parked vehicles. To join, please contact George Hill at ghilljr.500@gmail. com. We look forward to welcoming you to our community.











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Concert Chorus

Joanne Houston



through our awesome holiday concert music. We officially begin rehearsals on Tuesday, Sept. 2, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. We meet each Tuesday morning and have a great time together.

Last year, the Concert Chorus had over 90 singers participating. Reading music is helpful but not required.

Our holiday concerts are scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center.

To join, a \$20 membership fee applies, and all are welcome. Music is provided.

The last summer rehearsal is sched-

The last summer rehearsal is scheduled on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room, where you will be able to meet other members, preview the holiday concert music, and become a member at that time.

If you love to sing, you'll enjoy meeting other talented and friendly singers. Consider becoming part of the Concert Chorus! For more information, please contact Joanne.houston57@gmail.com or Deboraasmith@gmail.com.



Holiday concert.

Drum Circle

J. Ashi Olshan



Drum what you feel. You don't have to be an experienced (hand) drummer to drum out whatever energy wants to be discharged in some creative, productive way – while enjoying the natural highs of drumming in a circle of 15 to 20-plus new friends.

When we lifted the ban on interior gatherings back in 2021, Ruth Greenfield, like many of us, had pent up stress just dying to be expelled in some positive, relaxing way. So, she started her coed Drum Circle Club, still going strong after three years, with surprisingly more women than men.

If you have not drummed before, then start out by playing along softly – letting your volume build as the contagious syncopated rhythm in the room fills your bones and transports that energy to your fingers. Everyone has rhythm inherently embedded in their DNA, just needing a little push to let it confidently flow out – naturally. In fact, drumming was the original music, dating back to the beginning of mankind, and still joyfully practiced for fun and relaxation – and as rituals in many tribes – around the world.

One hand or two, it's up to you, no one is keeping score. And if you don't yet own a pair of bongos, a djembe, a conga drum, tambourine, or maraca – to keep the beat, we have all kinds of extra drums and percussion instruments to give you a taste and get you started.

The Drum Circle Club is still being offered for free - no club dues - on the second Thursday of each month, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Come check it out, you might just be surprised by your inner drummer, as you turn off your mind for an hour of relaxing drumming meditation. Ruth Greenfield can be contacted at 201-887-5547.

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Toppers Banjo

David Wesenberg



Toppers Banjo Band meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. An instrumental practice subgroup meets at 12:15 p.m. on Mondays. This provides plenty of opportunities to join us and explore the banjo as an instrument to entertain.

We are currently seeking to add experienced banjoists who can excel as lead banjo players. Our band is a great place to learn and appreciate banjos and banjo playing at all levels. We work to share our knowledge and love of banjo music by improving our skills and learning from one another.

We also have other musicians who add color and shape to our music with acoustic guitars, percussion, piano, and bass. Vocals are added to share familiar tunes and lyrics. Our goal is to deliver quality musicianship and genuine entertainment.

55D

We have also been welcoming visitors to listen to the band when we practice, which increases our joy in playing and their joy in listening. Wonderful musical moments occur. Listener feedback is a key element in improving our sound.

This is a great time to join us if you have an interest in banjos and banjo music. We welcome new, active, or aspiring banjo and acoustic guitar players and other musicians to join us in playing and singing banjo music. If you like to play, come and join us. If you have some ideas to improve performance values and presentation, we want to hear them. If you'd like to simply listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Eddie Martin at udeddie2@gmail.com or David Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com

inc.com.

OTOWInfo.com

On Top of FRIENDSHIP COLONY the World Vehicle Decal Event

Attention Friendship Colony Residents!

You are cordially invited to attend the scheduled RFID Vehicle Decal Drive-Through Event for your neighborhood.

This drive-through event will occur in the Circle Square Cultural Center parking lot from 8 am to noon on the specified dates below. Entrance to this event will begin on SW 79th Street Road. Please follow all directional signs to ensure a proper flow of traffic. For an expedited experience, you may remove your existing decal before arriving at the event.

Residents should arrive on their assigned day to facilitate seamless distribution:

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 - Last names: A-H Wednesday, August 27, 2025 - Last Names: I-Q Thursday, August 28, 2025 - Last Names: R-Z

Residents with different last names in the same household, can collect their decal(s) on either date.

Can't attend on your assigned day? Please reach out to otowservice@otowfl.com for rescheduling information. As a reminder, your barcode will continue to work while we integrate all communities.

*Future dates have been scheduled for other OTOW neighborhoods.



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Live Life to the Fullest

Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky

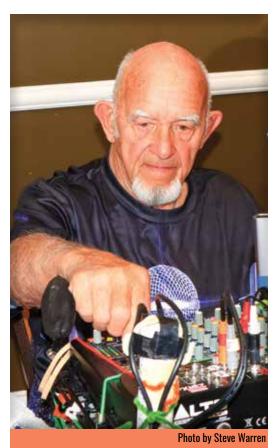


One Christmas in the 1990s, Charlie bought me a karaoke machine. He knew I liked singing because I came from a singing family. That machine was a single box with a screen and a built-in cassette player. Back then, the songs were all on cassette tapes. He gave me a Patsy Cline tape and a tape of Irish American songs. Charlie never sang. He just listened. In 2006, we moved to On Top of the World and were introduced to karaoke. At this time, CDs were being used. Charlie got a karaoke player for home. I found a woman in Kentucky who made karaoke disks. I started singing at home. Charlie was still just listening. We went to karaoke for a while and we remained clappers, still listening. One evening, I decided to sing "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden," and that was my start. Charlie was still listening.

Charlie was playing the music for Vivian, the woman who started Karaoke Friends. She had a disk-playing system. After a while, he bought his setup, which did digital music. He began using that system at Karaoke Friends to get used to it. After a couple of years, he said, "I think I want to try a song." He sings country and has recently taken a liking to Rod Stewart's remake of oldies. After practicing at home, he is now a karaoke singer. He fell in love with the Bose system and enjoys using it at karaoke.

This opened his world to mixers. To this day, he continues to watch videos on how to use different effects on the mixer. It has become his primary hobby. A favorite pastime of his is learning a new song. His repertoire of songs has dramatically increased. Music has become an essential part of his life. Now, finally, Charlie enters the singing scene.

Charlie enters the singing scene.
You can easily get involved with karaoke. We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room on the first and third Mondays of each month. Singing starts at 5:30 p.m. This month, we meet on Aug. 4 and 18. The second Thursday of the month is karaoke in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 5 p.m. Candler Hills has karaoke on the first Thursday of the month in The Lodge at Candler Hills at 5 p.m. Remember, you do not have to be a singer to come.



Where the Cool Kids Return

Charlie Petrosky.





Fun with Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson

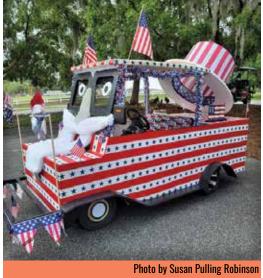


Celebrating our nation's 249th birthday was a popular day for both our parade participants and the many spectators who lined the route. This parade included stops at the Brookdale and Bridgewater assisted living facilities, where residents enjoyed the many patriotic carts and classic cars on display. Designated charities included Operation Shoebox, Chuck's Piggy Bank, Dunnellon Elementary School, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Veterans Helping Veterans. Thank you to the many folks who turned out to make generous donations to these causes.

Mark your calendar for the following Saturdays so you won't miss the parade:

- Aug. 30: Labor Day
- Sept. 20: Dog Days of Summer
- Oct. 25: Halloween
- Nov. 8: Veterans Day
- Dec. 6: Holiday Golf Cart Parade
 - Dec. 20: Holiday Season

Membership in our Facebook group (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts) is now over 600! If you have a golf cart, please consider jazzing it up (or not) and joining in as we "parade for a cause." Each parade



Uncle Sam golf cart.

benefits one or more local charities. For more information and to receive emails about this club, please email otowfunwithgolfcarts@gmail.com. We all have a lot of fun cruising around in our "mini-

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 Chatroom). If the parade is not coming to your house, please meet us at the Recreation Center as we

Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr



On Thursday, July 3, Sandy Cordill presented several cards using medallion dies. All the cards had a color theme and came out great! They can be used for any occasion.

We thank Sandy for her presentation and for supplying all the dies and materials necessary to complete the cards.

Our group is open to all crafters, whether you're a beginner or more experienced. Each month, one or two people will present. The group meets on the first and third Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

Anyone can be a presenter; the cards

do not have to be fancy or complicated. Our group is based on friendship, socializing, and helping each other.

Contact Connie Press using the email below for any class or general information. Basic supplies, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and card stock, are required. 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. Our next presentation class is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 7. The next technique class is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 21.

Until our next meeting, keep on stampin'!



Cards presented by Sandy Cordill.

Photo by Sandy Cordill

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FIND IT IN THE ... CLASSIFIEDS!



FOR SALE, WANTED AND LOST/FOUND

ADS: There is no charge to residents as long as it is not of a business nature. There is a \$500 limit on FOR SALE items. Items valued at more than \$500 (i.e. golf carts) may be listed, but price will not accompany the ad. Auto, apartment, financial service, home, legal, real estate, and timeshare ads WILL NOT be accepted. Ads may be emailed to otownews@otowfl.com.

ESTATE/TAG SALE ADS: There is no charge to residents, however, residents must register their estate/tag sale with Resident Services at Friendship Commons. Visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala and click on "Resident Info" to download the appropriate form for your community and submit it to Resident Services by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

SERVICE ADS: Will be accepted from residents and non-residents and may be emailed to otownews@ otowfl.com. For advertising rates, visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala and click on "Advertising Rates."

AD DEADLINE: Noon on the 12th of the month. If the deadline falls on a weekend, then it's noon on the Friday before. For more information, call 352-387-7466, otownews@otowfl.com or visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

The publisher reserves the right to reject any ad which, in his judgment, would not be in the best interest of the residents of On Top of the World Communities.

For Sale

Furniture: Cypress table. Solid wood armoire, \$200. Email serinapedano@gmail.com.

Furniture: Early 18th-century Austrian chairs (4) in need of repair. Free! 352-414-8066.

Furniture: RST Brands outdoor set with Sunbrella cushions and covers, ginkgo green, bronze aluminum – dining table, dining chairs (4), coffee table, chaise lounges (2), end table, chairs (2), ottoman loveseat, and accent pillows (4). Polywood patio furniture, green – glider chair, fixed chair, ottomans (2), and double chair with table unit. 610-721-1424.

Golf Cart: 2023 Star Sirius, 2-in-1 combo golf cart, holds 4 people or holds 2 people plus 2 golf bags, lithium battery, includes canopy top and sunbrella curtain, seat belts, light package with turn signals. 610-721-1424.

Golf Cart Equipment: Club Car 48volt charger and E-Z-GO 48-volt charger. 352-512-1787.

Home Décor: Grandfather clock. Email serinapedano@gmail.com.

Misc. Items: Shark rotator pet plus upright vacuum (NV255) with owner's guide, \$75. Arlo wireless home security camera systems (3) with solar panel and gutter bracket. \$95 per set. 610-721-1424.

Misc. Item: Teeter inversion table, \$100. 317-443-2955.

Pet Supplies: Pet Gear stroller, \$150. 631-609-1121 or 352-414-0225.

Sports Equipment: ZuGo e-bike, step-through, 48-volt, 750-watt, LCD display, Kenda 20" 4.0 tires, 20" frame, 4-6 hours to charge, 15-38 mile range, max speed 31 mph. 610-721-1424.

> RECYCLE OFTEN. **RECYCLE RIGHT.** Visit OTOWInfo.com for a list of acceptable items to recycle.

Tag Sales

Friday, Aug. 1 & Saturday, Aug. 2: 8437-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 9: 7728 SW 85th Circle (Weybourne Landing), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 22: 8882 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 8951 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23: 7930, 7946 SW 88th Street (Indigo East), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 29 & Saturday, Aug. 30: 9143-F SW 83rd Avenue (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Services

American Junk Removal & Demo: One call, we haul – one item, room, or total clean-out. Total kitchen & bath demolition. Lawn/ landscape clean-up. Dumpster rental. Call/text Garfield 561-306-6969. Quality work, competitive prices, licensed & insured.

Andy Dahms Interior Painting: Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or andygoodeats1@gmail.com.

Bates Lawn Services LLC: Family owned & operated. Mowing, weeding, pruning, mulch, stone & plants. All landscape needs. Fully insured. Senior discounts. Mike or Daisy 352-207-7221.

Bathroom & Flooring: Tile and LVP installation. Five stars on Google. Many satisfied customers in On Top of the World. Free quotes. Insured. Innovate - Home Renovation (L20000157682), Gabriel 352-216-2202.

Cleaning by Evelyn Lee: House & deep cleaning, move-outs. Licensed, bonded & insured. Sunshine Cleaning Service of Ocala, LLC. 352-286-6055.

Computer Help: Arthur Burditt, 352-875-7878. House calls, \$60/ hour. Tutoring, setups, installations, Windows upgrades, PC cleanups, security software, internet connections, email access, printers, wireless devices.

Estate Sale Services: Ready to sell the contents of your home? Community resident providing estate sale services for all neighbors. I'm here to help. SW Ocala Estate Sales 352-219-6799.

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Handyman: Insured. JAO Home Improvement & Repair – all your home's needs – carpentry, builtins, roll-out shelves, moldings, faux painting, tile, and furniture touch ups. Visit JAO Home's page at www.ashiarts.us or call 707-280-3823 (resident).

Handyman: Repairing sliding glass door rollers/tracks, sliding garage screen doors, window balances, sliding shower doors/guides, doors & locksets, door seals. Installing handicap grab bars. One call does it all! Steve, S&T Quality Services 352-207-8682.

Jordan's Golf Cart Batteries: 6-6v installed \$780. 6-8v installed \$860. 4-12v installed \$900. Free battery check. Call 352-789-2812 with any questions.

Maid in America by Ann: Quality cleaning services. Pet sitting available. Insured & reliable. 609-276-1099.

Music Lessons: Piano, cello, organ, composition, and conducting. Contact Johnathan Couch at 352-425-9148 or johnathan.couch@ aol.com. Accepting students aged 7 to adult. Discounts available for families enrolling multiple students.

Music Recordings: A former professional Nashville songwriter will set your lyrics or poem to music and deliver a mastered recording suitable for CD or streaming for \$175. Stu 615-260-8617.

Painting & Drywall: Interior painting & drywall repair. Experienced, affordable & professional. Insured. Free estimates. References available. Visit josephdonofriodrywallandpainting.com call 352-857-8367.

Paint Time LLC: Interior & exterior painting. Quality is our goal! Also offering power washing. Let's spruce up your home inside & out. Call/text Matt at 352-640-6467.

Professional Translations: Spanish English or English Spanish. 30 years of experience, from marketing to legal, call 818-669-9731.

Reliable Airport Transportation: Servicing all major airports and cruise terminals. I can accommodate up to 5 passengers (minivan). Reasonable rates. Door-to-door service. Bob 352-601-7250.

Spanish Conversation: Private lessons, \$50 per hour. Call 818-662-9731.

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Transportation: Doctor's appointments, shopping, hair, surgery center, hospital, etc. Diane 352-854-9999 (resident). Please leave message (no texts).

Transportation: Excellent, friendly service to Tampa, Orlando, Sanford, and Gainesville airports and Port Canaveral. Dropoff/pick-up. Sue's Transportation 352-446-7425 (resident).

Transportation: Local doctors' appointments, shopping, etc. Anna 352-873-4151 (resident). Leave message.

Transportation: Professional rideshare driver since 2014. Airports and recurring trips to and from varied destinations are welcome! Larry (resident) 352-509-5211.

We Buy Golf Carts: Fast, friendly, fair. Will beat competitors' offers. Cash paid. Same day pick up. 352-812-5630.

Weed Pulling: Yard work, mowing, topsoil for lawn/garden and haul away. Offering organic weed/grass killer. Insured. 352-454-2009.

Wanted

Donations: Dog or cat food [SPCA of Marion County 352-362-0985] · Electric golf carts in full working condition for use by volunteers for local park. [Barbara btsprigg@gmail.com] · Non-perishable food for food bank, and cards for veterans [Anne 843-504-0032] · Personal hygiene, school/craft supplies & small appliances for homeless; pet food/ supplies for animal shelters; used cell phones, computers & musical instruments for troops/veterans; theatrical costumes & props; socks, underwear & men's clothing [Donna 352-237-3062] · Yarn for VA hospitals, children, and newborns [352-843-6519].

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

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call SPCA of Marion County at 352-362-0985.

Shipmates: Ahoy there! Are you interested in R/C scale model boating? Contact CJ at cjh2frank@ gmail.com.





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