

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

It seems like everything was going along well until around March 13, 2020, when COVID-19 took a big bite out of our collective reality. One year ago, at this time, the community was fully engaged in a cessation of any social activity that involved contact with others. I thank each of you for your patience and forbearance and for acting in ways that demonstrated your caring for your neighbors.

I marvel at the speed with which the community has come back. The collective understanding of the pandemic and its risks, as well as the availability of vaccines, have brought us to this point. We still are not entirely out of the woods, but we are a lot farther down the road in attaining the goal of zero new infections. I am reminded of a wise saying by an anonymous individual the other day, "These are difficult and concerning times. Don't let the fear of the moment drive out the hope for a great tomorrow." Hope and belief in the future have sustained us.

The majority of facilities have reopened in accordance with the most current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. We ask that you wear a face mask when indoors and keep a safe distance. Outdoors, masks are optional, but distancing continues to be recommended.

Upcoming Projects

The SW 90th Street postal and garbage transfer area plans are in permitting with Marion County for an expansion of the traffic circulation around site. Please be patient and use caution while workers are present.

The Recreation Center cabana, softball dugouts, pickleball courts, new access road, and additional parking started in mid-April. The current access road will be closed until the project is completed. Completion of this project is estimated for August. While all this is going on, the Recreation Center will also be receiving a roadside digital video sign.

Development work has completed on phase two of Weybourne Landing and homes will begin going up before the end of the month. With the pace of sales ever increasing, we have moved right into phase three. Otherwise, the status of various amenity improvements is the Weybourne Landing security gate that will be completed in the next two to three weeks.

Meanwhile, the Weybourne Landing cabana, pickleball courts and pool are progressing with an estimated completion date of July. We anticipate the pool being open in time for Fourth of July. The clubhouse and miniature golf course are beginning design now that the community is approaching 250 homes very rapidly. Construction is expected to start in early 2022 and take about 270 days to complete.

In much the same manner as Weybourne Landing, phase three of Longleaf Ridge is well underway with phase four anticipated to break ground this summer. Longleaf Ridge has shaped up to be a really beautiful neighborhood and people have noticed. There will be many new neighbors to meet very shortly.

Additional facilities will be added in the future and will be phased in during the future development Longleaf Ridge. Scheduling of facilities is one of the determining factors into future needs. All amenity locations tend to have peak periods during popular times. However, if the location sits idle for much of the time otherwise, expansion may not be warranted for that type of facility due to underutilization. We are carefully monitoring communi-

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15th Annual Ocala Open

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

Golfing fans love a playoff. It raises the bar, the anticipation and, of course, it's more golf.

On Friday afternoon, March 26, at the Candler Hills Golf course, fans got all of the above.

When the Indiana native, Seth Fair, teed off on the final hole with the man from Michigan, Willie Mack, he figured that Mack was the man to beat. But it didn't turn out that way. Instead, Fair and Floridian, Patrick Williams ended up in a tie at 17 under (196 for the tourna-

ment). They would both be shuttled back to the 18th tee box to replay the hole. They played the 18th again — and again, and again. The third effort was the charm for Seth Fair. His second shot was inches from the hole while Williams's hit was a good 12-feet from that illusive receptacle. He almost made it. But Seth Fair did and was crowned the 2021 Ocala Open champion.

Coming off the 18th green Seth Fair, all smiles, said, "I had a great time here. The course was in terrif-



Photos courtesy of Colen Built Development
Ocala Open 2021 champion, Seth Fair.

Sholom Park Happenings

By Christina Shearer



Photo courtesy of Nino Castaneda
Fun at the Park Music and Art, featuring the Nino Castaneda Band, will take place Sunday, May 2.

ic shape and the greens seemed to put out the red carpet for me. The people here really make you feel welcome and, I gotta tell you, the volunteers couldn't do enough for us. All in all, it was a great tournament."

The Ocala Open teed off Tuesday, March 23, with a charity Pro-Am. At the end of the day, it was Kevin Aylwin, Ray Brunett, Joe Clarkson and Cole Barrett who took the honors with a 23 under par. But the real winners were Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services. The 2021 Ocala Open Pro-Am was the best fundraising event to date with each charity receiving \$40,000!

The following morning, 132 professional golfers kicked off the three-day tournament. They put up some impressive numbers: 63 by Charles Wong and 64s by Patrick Williams and Willie Mack.

Williams maintained his winning strokes on day two, posting a 68. Seth Fair was closing the gap with an eight under, 63.

Forty-six professional golfers made the cut for the final day. At the end of 18, it was Fair and Williams both at 17 under, 196 for the tournament — the rest is history (see above).

On Top of the World's Director of Golf Matt Hibbs said, "This year's Ocala Open was a huge success. It's great to be able to watch these professionals compete for the \$15,000 winner's purse, and at the same time raise \$80,000 for Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services. Since inception, the Ocala Open has raised over \$813,000 for charities. We thank our partners and volunteers for helping make this event such a success."

Head Golf Professional Denise Mullen again took on the challenge of coordinating all 45 volunteers. "Truly," she said, "it takes a village." It was the effort of those "villagers" who significantly contributed to the success of the Ocala Open.

A special shout out also goes to Andy Jorgensen, his assistant, Jeff Egolf, and all the workers who prepared the Candler Hills Golf Course for the tournament— the pros sang its praises.

Sholom Park is a great place to implement an outdoor fitness routine and with the help of local yoga instructors; the park is now offering yoga in the park. Join certified yoga instructors Saturdays, at 9 a.m. on the Sholom Park stage. Bring water, a mat and get ready to relax your mind, increase circulation and improve flexibility with this free beginner to intermediate yoga class. Yoga will begin Saturday, May 1 and continue through Saturday, Oct. 23.

If you haven't already made your weekend plans, then pack up your chairs or picnic blanket and enjoy an afternoon of live music by the Nino Castaneda Band and the Heart Strings Trio Sunday, May 2, at Sholom Park's Fun at the Park Music and Art from 1 to 4 p.m. Visit the creative and artistic displays of local artists and artisans. Introduce your children or grandchildren to the world of art through interactive art and music stations. It will be an afternoon of fun for everyone.

May is considered National Meditation Month and Sholom Park's May L.E.A.F. Series "Mind Full to Mindful" is a great way to help you start a new meditation practice or revive an existing one. Join personal development coach and published author, Tracy Ryzan Ross, and learn to see the extraordinary in the ordinary while practicing simple ways to go from "mind-full" to mindful with meditation techniques.

The school year is coming to an end. Now what? Plan ahead and register the little ones in your life for a fun, educational, and interactive experience at Sholom Park's Lil' L.E.A.F. Series. Visit our website and Facebook page for dates and details.

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Williamsburg residents recently gathered on a sunny Saturday for the 2021 version of our annual picnic. This year's social was a bit different with everyone bringing their own lunch selections and of course, distancing. Linda Jones organized a "what changed for me in 2020" game with each person submitting an entry and the group guessing the author of the experience. We learned about a marriage, newfound cooking and sleeping skills, and a new puppy that won the day with his cameo appear-

ance! All who attended were happy for the group to be together again and enjoyed catching up with our neighbors. A 50/50 raffle rounded out the afternoon.

In additional news, planning has begun to put together new work teams to improve our resident contact information database and social announcement process and a holiday decorating group for our main entrance. Watch for announcements of new socials coming soon.

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



Residents enjoying the Williamsburg spring picnic
Photos by Jerry Nardone

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Community News

Kenneth D. Colen
Publisher

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ty expansion and need, as we plan forward.

As you've likely noticed by now, Candler Hills has continued to grow toward The Lodge at Candler Hills. As we move through the few remaining lots in this area, you will similarly notice in short order, the expansion of Candler Hills into the Ashford neighborhood. Sitework will be completed toward the end of the summer with home construction starting in August.

New, major roadway connections in and around these new neighborhoods to keep vehicles moving efficiently are also in progress; SW 80th Street is complete adjacent to Larkhill. This link will connect to SW 92nd Court Road for another entry into Candler Hills, as well as serving the newest phases of that neighborhood. Once opened, these roadways will provide both resident access and serve as construction access for future phases of development in the community.

Given the current growth envi-

ronment, there are a multitude of projects that are required to support the community. To that end, the multi-modal path north along SW 80th Avenue to SW 63rd Street Road is in the works with the lime rock base finishing by the end of April. This improvement will complete a major multi-modal path from SR200 right to the entry road at Stone Creek and connecting to that existing cart path system. This pathway offers an uninterrupted route of travel to shopping, entertainment, health and wellness facilities, as well as the serenity of Sholom Park.

Signalization plans for SW 80th Avenue at SW 63rd Street were approved by Marion County Engineering, a contract has been awarded, and long lead time components placed on order. Without a doubt, the controller is on back order because of a shortage in digital processors that run the programmable logic circuits. Hopefully, we ordered early enough that we are high up in the line for supply. On Top of the World anticipated approval by early April, however we've given up trying to make predictions in that regard. Construction of the signalization project would commence shortly after a permit is issued.

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays • Weddings • Anniversaries



George & Nancy Schaffer
40th Anniversary

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



World News Delivery

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

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

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

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

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

LOST OR FOUND A PET?

Call the SPCA of Marion County hotline at (352) 362-0985.

Community Patrol



Erwin Fluss

The Community Patrol aside from patrolling On Top of the World is also dedicated to keeping our residents safe.

There are rules for "right-of-way" at intersections. Normally the first car that arrives, goes first. When two cars approach at the same time, the car on the right has preference. When arriving at a four-way intersection, again the first car that arrives goes, but there are many instances when several cars arrive at the same time. It is courteous and safe to give the other driver a hand signal and yield. This only takes a second more and you are bound to get a smile and appreciation. Many times, the word "yield" also pays dividends in many other situations.

We volunteer for you! Please consider joining us. For further information, please contact Paul Altman (860) 460-7632 or shelvesc@aol.com.

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All Around Our World

Lynette Vermillion
(352) 236-OTOW (6869)
generalmanager@otowfl.com

What a great time of year! In May, we celebrate Cinco de Mayo on the 5th, Mother's Day, the 9th, and Memorial Day, the 31st. Let's all recognize those who served and sacrificed to guarantee the freedoms we have today. And, happy Mother's Day to all the moms. Enjoy your special day!

As I review columns past, I realize how long we have endured all things COVID-19. I want to recognize the hard work and dedication of our staff and the patience residents have shown during these unprecedented times. I am optimistic that we are finally moving toward getting back to some sort of normalcy with the vaccine so readily available now. We are working on the next phase of opening amenities; protocols must remain in place for now. As this information becomes available, it will be posted on otowinfo.com and at facilities.

Dogs in Vehicles

I know I touch on this subject every summer, but I continue to do so because we have so many new residents who are experiencing their first summer in Florida. With that being said, I'd like to remind all dog owners never to leave their animal(s) in closed up vehicles even with the windows cracked. Even though it may not feel very warm to you, temperatures rise very quickly in closed up vehicles and it only takes a matter of minutes for your animal to get distressed and even perish. Five minutes can turn into 10 and it may be too late when you return to your car. I can't say it enough, please do not leave your animals in vehicles unattended.

Years ago a resident advised that the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and the Ocala Police Department (OPD) will send out a deputy or an officer if you encounter this type of situation and cannot locate the owner of the vehicle. The MCSO can be reached at (352) 732-9111 and OPD at (352) 369-7000.

Renovation of SW 90th Street Postal Center and Garbage Area

We are getting closer to starting this project. We are still waiting on permits; however, the process is well on its way. We appreciate residents' patience as we work to convert this area to a neighborhood only garbage, recycling and postal site. More information will be provided regarding the site itself and how to dispose of old appliances, etc.

The association is not responsible for dumping entire households of furniture, construction debris, or contractor waste from jobs bid in the community. You may refer to the rules and regulations: 2. Routine disposal of garbage and trash ... Unusual types and excessive quantities of lawn and garden debris are the responsibility of the occupant. There shall be no disposal within the community of any unusual or excessive garbage or trash generated from within any residential unit (including but not limited to clothing, household furnishings or construction debris) except in drop storage containers, construction debris containers or dumpsters approved by the association and provided by the applicable oc-

cupant or other party at no cost to the association ...

Watering

Please don't forget that watering restrictions changed with daylight saving time. Your irrigation system should be set to water a half to three-quarters of an inch during each cycle, twice weekly during daylight saving time.

Because May is typically an extremely dry month, we might start to see a lot of stressed grass which attracts weeds, disease and insects. Applying adequate water and properly maintaining your irrigation system will prevent this from happening.

It is recommended that your irrigation system be checked monthly for proper coverage, leaks and head adjustment. You may want to visit the Homeowner Maintenance tab on otowinfo.com to check out the videos on irrigation programming.

Resident Services

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

- Closed daily, from noon to approximately 12:30 p.m. as lobby is closed for sanitizing. The entire area has to be vacated while the 30-minute sanitation process is occurring. The time may vary a few minutes as a result of starting late due to everyone vacating Resident Services.
- Closed the third Wednesday of every month (April 21), from noon to 1 p.m.
- Lobby is limited to six residents at a time.
- Social distancing of six feet and face masks are required.

Residents needing to utilize Resident Services at Friendship Commons may continue to contact the office by phone, (352) 236-OTOW (6869), or email us at otowservice@otowfl.com in lieu of visiting. We are experiencing higher than normal volumes and appreciate your patience. Be assured, your call or email will be returned as soon as possible. As a reminder, Resident Services is now located in Friendship Commons, Suite 500, and new resident orientations are by appointment only in Suite 200.

After Hours Non-Medical Emergencies

On Top of the World (Central)

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

Seasonal Residents and Extended Trips

During this time of year, many of our seasonal residents are heading back home and will not return until the fall, and others may be leaving on an extended trip. These residents may want to consider having a neighbor periodically check their home and irrigation system while they are away. Leaks can occur and power outages can sometimes cause the system to revert back to a default watering schedule.

We also ask that neighbors help so that homes do not appear vacant by picking up any newspapers or flyers that may be left at the residence. It also makes the home and neighborhood look nicer which benefits everyone.

Living in Harmony

Recently, several neighbor disputes have been brought to our attention, and we realize that misunderstandings do occur between neighbors. I ran across the following article on a community association website, and I thought it would be appropriate to share.

"If your neighbor behaves in a manner that fails to meet your expectations and makes you angry, the only way you are going to really resolve the situation is not by creating an even wider distance between yourself and them (anger), but by making a choice to get closer and put forth an honest effort to remedy the situation "together."

Effective communication can only occur when there is a process of two-way listening. Anger prevents us from honestly listening to anything but our anger. When

we transform our expectations and reduce our opportunities to get angry, we put ourselves in a position to make better choices about how we relate to the people around us and, in turn, how they relate to us. When everyone works together, anything is possible!"

Rule of the Month

We are hearing from residents lately about loud music being played during the daylight hours and into the evening. We ask neighbors to be considerate of each other as we live in such close proximity. You may notify Resident Services to address and especially if contractors who may be playing music to loudly. The rule, Offensive or Unlawful Activities ... No occupant may use or play, or permit to be used or played anywhere in the community any mechanical, electrical or other device (including, but not limited to, any musical instrument, stereo, amplifier, radio or television) between the hours of 11:30 p.m. and the following 7 a.m. in a manner that disturbs any other occupant in the community ...

I hope everyone continues enjoying the beautiful spring weather we are having and if you are new to the area, I highly encourage you to do some exploring. Ocala and the surrounding areas in Marion County have so much to offer, especially this time of year.

Longleaf Pine Trail

Longleaf Pine Trail is managed by the Native Plant Group who take great care of the trail and create a nature experience for you. They mark the trail by placing tree limbs and branches along the path. Pets are not allowed, please comply. The group wants you to enjoy the native setting, and ask that you do not remove the branches that define the trail.



JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

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Indigo East

Nora Domínguez
(352) 387-7372

In early May we usually experience moderate temperatures and humidity with hotter temperatures and higher humidity becoming more prevalent by the end of the month.

There are two special dates to celebrate and honor in the month of May – Mother’s Day and Memorial Day.

I would like to welcome all the new residents to Indigo East. Every-

one here is kind and supportive of their neighbors.

Relax and cool off at the Indigo East Community Center and Indigo East Fitness Center pools. Guests are allowed with a limit of two per household.

In the Indigo East Fitness Center, take advantage of the fitness equipment and Fitness on Demand (FOD). Strength training provides many benefits for your whole body, including health, better balance, stronger bones and improved mental well-being.

Be advised that some garden plots are available to Indigo East residents. If you are interested, please come to the Indigo East Fit-

ness Center office and one will be assigned to you, if still available.

The weekly Friday Happy Hour takes place from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Indigo East Fitness Center veranda and poolside. Come socialize with neighbors and friends with live music. Bring your own drinks; no glass allowed.

Happy Hour will respect social distancing guidelines, and residents will be required to wear a face mask if they cannot maintain six feet of distancing. Masks must be worn when entering and leaving the facility. This is a free event for Indigo East residents and \$5 per guests. All guests must be accompanied by an Indigo East resident.

All residents must present a valid resident ID for entry into any event.


The upcoming Happy Hour entertainment is as follows:

- May 7: Solid Gold
- May 14: Dave and Kenny
- May 21: Ben Simmons
- May 28: The Joe’s

2022 bookings are now being accepted. If you are still interested in running your activities stop at the Indigo East Fitness Center office and pick up the booking form.

Please use sidewalks and walking trails for leisure walks not community streets, and avoid disruption of the orderly flow of traffic.

Have a great month!



Friendship Connection

Carron Janssen

Our first two events of 2021 are in the books. On Sunday, March 14, we had a beautiful warm, sunny day with 47 people attending the barbeque at the Veterans Park. On Sunday, April 11, we had a chilly, windy, and rainy day but still had 43 people come out and pick up their meals. Yes, the weather did not stop us from serving meals to our friends and neighbors in the Friendship neighborhoods.

We are now going to return to our regular schedule of having events every other month. We are currently only planning outdoor events until safety protocols are lifted and we can again have more than 50 attendees. Our next barbeque will again be held at the Veterans Park pavilion Sunday, June 13, from 4 to 6 p.m. The theme for this event will be “Summer Here We Come.” Tickets must be purchased

in advance, and once again, only 50 will be sold. Tickets will be sold on the veranda at the Recreation Center from 8 to 10:30 a.m. on May 18, 19, and 20. If there are any tickets left after those three days, they will again be on sale the following week May 24, 25, and 26. Please remember to have your resident ID with you when purchasing your tickets. IDs will also be checked when you check in to the event.

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

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

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



Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton

Fun things are beginning to happen in Indigo East! The ladies breakfast held at The Club at Candler Hills Monday, March 15, was a huge success. Over 70 ladies attended the buffet breakfast, and everyone had a great time. A huge 50/50 pot of gold in U.S. dollars was won by Brenda Nash and Clea Gross won the door prize. Many thanks to Sharon Nickels Gruca and volunteers for taking on this project and doing a wonderful job in organizing the event. Another breakfast may be in late June.

Many thanks to Alice Caldwell in doing a great job in organizing the successful Saturday, March 27, Indigo East Social Committee sponsored Indigo East Spring Craft Show. The Indigo East Community Center was filled with 15 tables of talented crafters displaying their crafts. There were familiar faces of crafters and some new crafters who have moved into Indigo East. Many crafters are looking forward to the Fall Craft Show.

Thursday, April 15, was set aside for a meet and greet social for residents who have joined our Indigo East family. This event is sponsored by the Indigo East Social Committee for residents who have moved into the neighborhood between January 2020 and the present and have not yet experienced any of the social events the Indigo East Social Committee had hosted. There will

be more on this event in the June issue of the World News.

We are already entering the month of May, which brings about two patriotic holidays. Saturday, May 15, is Armed Forces Day. This holiday is observed annually on the third Saturday of May and honors the men and women who currently serve in all branches of the United States Armed Forces. The inception of Armed Forces Day dates back to August 31, 1949, but was not observed until May 20, 1950. The theme for that day was “Teamed for Defense” which expressed the unification of all military forces. Traditionally, this day is observed with parades, air shows and more.

The most commonly known May holiday is Memorial Day. The actual Memorial Day is always May 30 but in recent times, the holiday is celebrated on the last Monday of the month of May, regardless of the date on the calendar. Memorial Day was instituted as a remembrance of fallen military personnel. There are many traditions observed for Memorial Day, but, in many states, it is the unofficial first day of summer and celebrated with either cookouts or going to a beach, or both, by this, the holiday loses its true meaning. Red poppies are associated with Memorial Day, they are handed out and worn as a symbol of a fallen soldier.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have served, as well as those who are currently serving in our military. I also thank our police, firefighters and first responders who put their lives on the line to protect us. As usual, I’ll see you around the neighborhood.

GOLF CART REGISTRATION
Resident Services
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday
All residents in household must be present.
Bring golf cart, resident I.D. and insurance policy (stating amount of bodily injury).



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Shalesh Kaushal M.D., Ph.D.

EDUCATION

Undergraduate:

B.S. Yale University, New Haven, CT

Medical School:

M.D. Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

Graduate School:

Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA

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**The Lodge
at Candler Hills**
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With summer right around the corner, it is nice to feel that things are looking up as residents continue to get vaccinated. There are so many fun activities to enjoy in the community! Stay updated by visiting otowinfo.com for the latest information.

Happy Hour

Wind down at The Lodge at Candler Hills every Friday, from 5 to 8 p.m. on the outside pool veranda. Residents must show their Candler

Hills resident ID at the entrance. Guests will be permitted with the Candler Hills resident (two per household) and guest fees of \$5 per person will apply. Bring your own beverages and snacks and enjoy live entertainment with your friends. No glass is permitted at any time. Residents will be required to wear a face mask when entering and leaving the facilities and maintain social distancing at all times.

Upcoming Friday Happy Hour entertainment is as follows:

- May 7: Retro Express
- May 14: Take 2
- May 21: Solid Gold
- May 28: Bad Kitty

Pools

Come and enjoy the beautiful

outdoor amenities we have to offer here at The Lodge at Candler Hills and Candler Hills Community Center. Pools are available for your enjoyment from 9 a.m. to dusk.

Please take note of our monthly pool cleaning schedule closures:

The Lodge at Candler Hills is closed on the last Wednesday of the month.

The Candler Hills Community Center is closed on the second Wednesday of the month.

Please plan accordingly.

Hot Tubs

Residents, please note only two at a time when utilizing the hot tub. In order to keep each other safe, maintaining this social distance is very important.

Room Requests

2022 bookings are now being accepted for rooms at The Lodge at Candler Hills and Candler Hills Community Center. Room requests are done on a year-to-year basis and residents IDs will be required for bookings. If you are planning an event, it is important to have all paperwork submitted to the office two weeks in advance. This gives adequate time to submit setups and guest lists to the appropriate departments. The office is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



**Candler
Connection**
Debra Keirn

We hope that our planned activities can resume soon, and we can return to some form of normalcy.

The golf cart scavenger hunt and barbecue dinner has been rescheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18, at 4 p.m. The gathering of large groups has not been approved by the Lodge; therefore, we felt it was best to reschedule this event because more time was needed to accomplish the planning.

Hopefully the spring ice cream social will be able to take place Sunday, June 13. This is a good opportunity to meet new residents and

enjoy an afternoon of ice cream sampling as well as trying the old favorite (ice cream sodas). Watch for more information in the June edition of the World News and in "The Happenings."

The following is a list of future events that we are looking forward to:

- Sunday, Aug. 15: Summer ice cream social.
- Sunday, Oct. 24: Fall picnic.
- Saturday, Dec. 11: Holiday party.

The monthly potluck dinners have been cancelled until further notice. We are estimating that these dinners will resume in August. They are the last Tuesday of the month, and they start at 5:30 p.m. Sometimes we have a theme like Mexican, Italian, etc. If you are interested in helping with these din-

ners, please contact Deb Keirn at (352) 414-5737 or arthurkipdeb@verizon.net.

If you are interested in greeting new neighbors and helping with the Candler Hills ambassador program, contact Amy Waller at abwarnp97@aol.com.

The speaker series committee headed by Doug Dahlen cannot carry out their plans until The Lodge at Candler Hills is approved for large gatherings. We are looking forward to these informational gatherings.

New residents of Candler Hills can log onto candlerconnection.org and fill out the form to receive "The Happenings" by email to learn about events and activities. Currently 1,500 residents of Candler Hills receive "The Happenings."

The Candler Connection Facebook group has grown to 1,100

members. This Facebook group is a good source of information for Candler Hills residents.

Richard Steinfeldt has a "new resident" presentation on Facebook to welcome new residents to Candler Hills. You can access this presentation at steinfeldt.com/newresonline.pdf.

The next Candler Connection board meeting will take place Tuesday, May 4, at 4 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills card room.

I want to thank each and every Candler Hills resident for your patience during these challenging times. Face masks and six feet of distancing are still a very important protocol.

I hope to see you all around the neighborhood. Please stay healthy and safe, and we look forward to seeing you at some of the approved activities this year.



**Avalon
Social Group**
Jan Lindell

What a wonderful turnout we had for our first potluck dinner last month. Thank you to the people who helped me with setting up and cleaning up. Everyone had a very nice time meeting neighbors and making new friends. The food was delicious. We hope more Avalon residents will join and attend the future events.

Our next potluck dinner is Monday, May 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the

Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV; so please sign up via email or text. Please bring the name of your dish and recipe so we can enjoy your dish again at our homes. If the safety regulations are not lifted, we will not be able to have this dinner. The rule is no more than 30 people, face masks required, and only two people at a table. Sign up and I will notify you if we have to cancel dinner by text/email.

Thank you to everyone who filled out the question forms that will give me a better idea of other ideas and events besides potluck dinners everyone would like to see part of our activities. I am working on those ideas and will send out

an email with the first event. I am planning on a driveway get together. Check your email for further information.

As always, if you live in Avalon, you are welcome to join us. Please

contact me at iamgolferjan@gmail.com with your name, address, phone and email. We will add you to our member list and you will receive emails. Hope to see everyone at our May potluck.

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May is going to be hot and dry; you count on it. May is historically the driest month of the year in Florida. Below I have included some information along with a couple of tips to take to avoid high water bills, wasted water, and problems with your lawns and shrubs.

Grass is typically the first thing in your yard to show signs of stress. Train your lawn to grow a deep, extensive root system by deep infrequent watering. When watering your lawn apply half to three-quarters of an inch at each application. Water your lawn only when 30% of the lawn is starting to show signs of stress and try to stretch the duration between automatic irrigation cycles.

St. Augustine will show signs of stress by turning blue green and folding along the midrib of the leaf blade. Avoiding extended periods of stress on St. Augustine will help with overall health and recovery. Zoysia will brown and go dormant at the first signs of stress. This is normal and should be expected. Dry or problem areas should be monitored first to check coverage. If a problem is noticed, contact an irrigation contractor to repair the problem.

Irrigating routinely may not be enough to maintain your lawn with a lush green appearance during drought conditions. Hand watering is permitted using a garden hose with a shut off device such as a spray pistol that when released shuts off. Make sure you water in these areas and shut the hose off when you are done. All too often we see hoses left on, which creates high water bills from the constant drip and occasional busted hoses.

To determine how much water you put down, use a rain gauge. These are provided at the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Ag. Extension office free of charge or you can use a tuna can and measure the water applied. Put the rain gauge in various areas of the yard to see the distribution of the irrigation. Dry or problem areas should be monitored first to check coverage. If a problem is noticed contact an irrigation contractor to repair the problem. We have 100 free rain gauges available on a first come first serve basis; please visit Resident Services to pick one up.

Why live oaks? It's a question we get regularly and below is some information to help you understand. Oaks are the largest genus in the Northern Hemisphere with over 90 varieties and 435 worldwide. Oaks support more life forms than any other North American tree; providing food and protection for countless species of birds and insects

alone providing the backbone for our ecosystems around the world.

The leaf litter alone supports millions of microscopic debris-eating organisms that contribute to soil health as beneficial fungi and bacteria renewing the soil profile. Mature oak trees can shed over 700,000 leaves every year. Yes, that is a lot of leaves and yes, some need to be picked up, but these leaves support clean water and air and also support in carbon sequestration.

Yes, live oaks can get big, and along with leaf drop, can have bumper crop years of acorn drop but the shade created from these trees results in a 14.4% reduction in energy usage as defined by an Auburn University study conducted in 2009.

So, why do we use oaks in our landscapes? The answer: shade, carbon sequestration, canopy restoration, supporting ecosystems and clean air and water.

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Wednesday, May 19, noon to 1 p.m.

Perhaps you would prefer a customized small group program designed just for you and your friends or family? We got you covered! Choose the people you want to work out with (up to six in a group) and then select your trainer. Small group training has become increasingly popular for many reasons. Here is a look at why small group training offers big gains:

1. It is social! Without a doubt, this is one of the best components of small group training. You have the opportunity to customize your group with like-minded people you can laugh with and count on for support and motivation.
2. It is personal. With either two, four or six people to a group the trainer can focus on the specificity of your needs. It also allows the trainer to zero in on your form and technique, providing specific attention to your exercise execution. This ensures safety and success.
3. It is more economical. Many find that in addition to the camaraderie gained in working out with others, they also have the benefit of "splitting the check!"
4. It supports exercise adherence. Working out with family or friends makes it much easier to stay on track with an exercise routine. Most would agree that it is harder to break a commitment to a friend than a commitment to yourself.
5. It provides friendly competition. Working out with others on a regular basis offers the opportunity to measure exercise outcomes against your peers. Instead of measuring your progress in isolation, you have a realistic and honest environment for tracking your comparative gains.
6. Small group training fosters a sense of social belonging. This powerful, emotional state is the secret to exercise adherence and self-efficacy. A study by the International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (2017) linked emotional support to a positive association with intrinsic motivation for physical activity. Therefore, greater emotional support from peers encourages greater enjoyment, which increases the motivation to exercise.

For a complete listing of fitness classes in the Ranch Studio, Spinning Studio, pool and TRX Studio, please visit RanchOcala.com. Stop in anytime, to meet our trainers, have a look around, or take a facility tour. Commit to yourself not a contract! The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa offers membership alternatives ranging from a single day pass, to a 15 session Class Pass or full membership to accommodate your personal needs.



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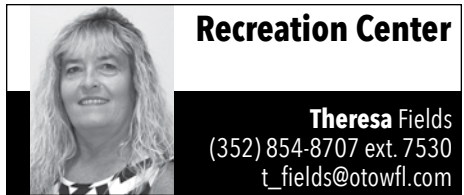
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GOOD NEWS TO SHARE?

Email otownews@otowfl.com with your idea(s). If approved, a World News writer will be assigned.

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



Spring is in the air with summer quickly approaching. Triple digit temperatures will be here before you know it ... make sure you stay well hydrated by drinking plenty of water when participating in outdoor activities.

Safety protocols are still in place at all amenities. Indoors - six feet of social distancing, wearing face masks, and using hand sanitizer. Outdoors - six feet of social distancing and wearing face masks, if social distancing is not possible. We anticipate changes to come soon so continue to monitor otowinfo.com as information will be posted.

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

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

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

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

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

Community Pools

With the warmer weather here, what better place to enjoy the outdoors than in one of the community pools? Please remember when utilizing the pool areas that pets are prohibited on the pool deck. Pool rules are posted around all pools and non-compliance will result in loss of privileges.

Please have resident IDs available when visiting the pool areas. Rules and procedures are strictly enforced. A resident must accompany their guest(s) and we are currently under a two guests per household restriction. Please note that children under the age of 15 are not permitted in the family pools until after noon during weekdays. Pool monitors are now present at the Recreation Center pool.

Community Bus

The community bus is now up and running mornings and afternoons. If you would like to ride the bus, you will still need to call (352) 789-5666 and make an appointment, as we have limited seating on the bus at this time. You can find a copy of the schedule in the World News, resident telephone directory, otowinfo.com or pick up a copy of the schedule at the Recreation Center downstairs lobby. The community bus runs Monday through Thursday.

Telephone Directories

The 2021 resident telephone directories have arrived. You may pick up your copy at Resident Services. If you have changes to the directory, you'll need to make them at that time.

Happy Hour

Join us for Happy Hour every Friday night on the outside veranda of the Recreation Center, from 5 to 8 p.m. The entertainment lineup for May is as follows:

- May 7: The Joe's
- May 14: Retro Express
- May 21: Tim Hargis
- May 28: Shawn Ash

Individual resident IDs will be required for entry into Happy Hour; anyone not producing a resident ID will be considered a guest and guest fees are \$5 per person. Children under the age of 15 are not permitted to attend Happy Hour. Please note that no outside beverages of any kind will be allowed.

Community Pavilions

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

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

Tuesday Crafters

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

Library

The community library, located in the Hobby Building, is now open seven days a week, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. You must scan your resident ID card for access. Please note face



Photo by Janis Holte-Pavlatos
Decorated by Theresa Fields, the Mother's Day tree is located in the Recreation Center downstairs lobby.

masks are required while inside the library at all times.

Community News

Please note that the service road that is located between the softball field and the pickleball courts will be closed for access through September 2021. Pickleball players will need to park in the Recreation Center parking lot and space has been provided for softball players along the front fence of the field. The Recreation Center pavilion and bathrooms will be closed during the construction period.

Memorial Day Ceremony

The Veterans Club will hold a free Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 31, at the Veterans Park at 9 a.m. The event will include a flag raising ceremony, wreath lay-

ing and guest speakers, Frank Kalusa and American Legion Post 354 Commander Dr. Allen James. Come honor and pay respects to our veterans who gave their all! For more information, contact Charles Calhoun at (352) 556-6004.

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

EVENTS/ACTIVITIES
Events and activities that take place behind the gates of On Top of the World are for residents only and Gateway of Services passholders.

BUS SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday

MORNING ROUTE

PICK-UP LOCATIONS

TIME

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

MORNING DESTINATIONS

ARRIVE

PICK-UP

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

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

AFTERNOON ROUTE

PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES

The Lodge at Candler Hills	1:15 p.m.	Candler Hills Community Center	1:20 p.m.
Crescent Ridge Post Office	1:38 p.m.	Friendship Colony Post Office	1:25 p.m.
Recreation Center	1:43 p.m.	Providence Post Office	1:28 p.m.
Americana Post Office	1:49 p.m.	Avalon Post Office	1:33 p.m.
Friendship Post Office	1:54 p.m.		

AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS

ARRIVE

PICK-UP

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

*All times are approximate

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

8/8/01 - 4/21

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

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A Picnic in the Park

By Ginny Nardone

On a balmy afternoon in April, members of the Scandinavian Club gathered at Sholom Park for an informal picnic lunch. After many months of not being able to gather, all who attended happily greeted

old friends and shared news of happenings in their lives. We were also glad to welcome several new members to the club and to share in the festivities.

If the beautiful, tranquil setting

was not enough to make for a relaxing day; our surprise guest, Dean Rehphol, added more to the experience. Dean entertained us with beautiful melodies on the violin and the harmonica. We all needed a spirit-lifter after a long, hard year, and we certainly received it at our picnic in the park. Many thanks to club assistant chair, Linda Pinney

for generating the idea for a picnic and for her hard work to make it a success.

Please note the club has not yet resumed its regular meeting schedule; we hope to be able to do so in the fall. For more information about the Scandinavian Club or if your contact information needs to be updated, please contact Ginny Nardone at (352) 304-8619.



Scandinavian Club members enjoying a picnic in the park.

Photo by Jerry Nardone



Photo by Russell Morrison

Pam and Mark Monk standing in front of their homesite.

The Evolution of a House

By Elaine Morrison
World News Writer

Phase I

In the beginning ... please stay with this, it is not a Bible story although the individuals within the story will readily accept your blessings and prayers.

Actually, it is a story which many of you are familiar with, the tale of what it takes to first decide upon a location for your home, then narrow that decision down to the possible state, county, and city you wish to dwell in and then finally choose an exact spot.

Once that matter is decided, the choosing becomes more intense. All that follows are choices, and when there are at least two choosing ... nothing more needs to be said about that.

Our story will follow the Monks, Pamela and Mark, as they begin the

process of building their dream home from start to finish, from sand to castle.

The Monks have a leg up as they already reside in Candler Hills. This allows them to personally oversee the progress on a daily basis. We shall see if that turns out as wonderful as it sounds.

It is a new year and Phase I has been completed. That means the model of the home has been selected as well as the homesite it will stand on. The sessions with World Design Studio have been completed. They were exciting and exhausting. Every decision from paint colors to front door design, appliances and placement of electrical outlets and other matters in between have been set, some even in cement.

We will pick up the story to show the progress in Phase II.

Michigan Club Members Seek Adventures

By Nancy Meininger

Michiganders typically spend summers meandering about in small towns near the water, recalling favorite memories of the "mit-ten state."

You'll find them in the back room at antique shops or treasure barns brushing off some dusty wagon wheels or leafing through a weathered copy of the Old Farmer's Almanac. History seems to run in their veins.

One thing is certain, if they stop at a local diner, no matter what the state, they'll ask for a pop or Vernors, leaving the typical server asking quizzically, "What's Vernors?"

Or they may want a Coney Island hot dog with lots of chili sauce and onions but just a splash of mustard. If you overhear that, you'll know they're from Michigan.

Finding treasures that trigger memories is part of the caste of a yooper or a troll, as it seems the

characteristics run both over and under the Mackinac Bridge.

Ask any Michigander about a Tigers or Redwings game and you'll see a flash of pride emerge.

Or ask them how Michigan did at the Ohio State game, and you'll see a redneck appear! Seems our breed is fiercely supportive of our home teams.

Michigan Club looks forward to the fall when we plan to get back together for our monthly meet, greet and eat potluck meetings at the Arbor Conference Center, starting in October.

Please gather your Michigan memories, photos and memorabilia and plan to join us and share your love Sunday, Oct. 3, in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-III at 5 p.m.

Call Nancy Meininger with any questions about the Michigan Club (352) 342-9757.



Photo by Nancy Meininger

Terry Connolly enjoys our potluck array of Michigan favorites!



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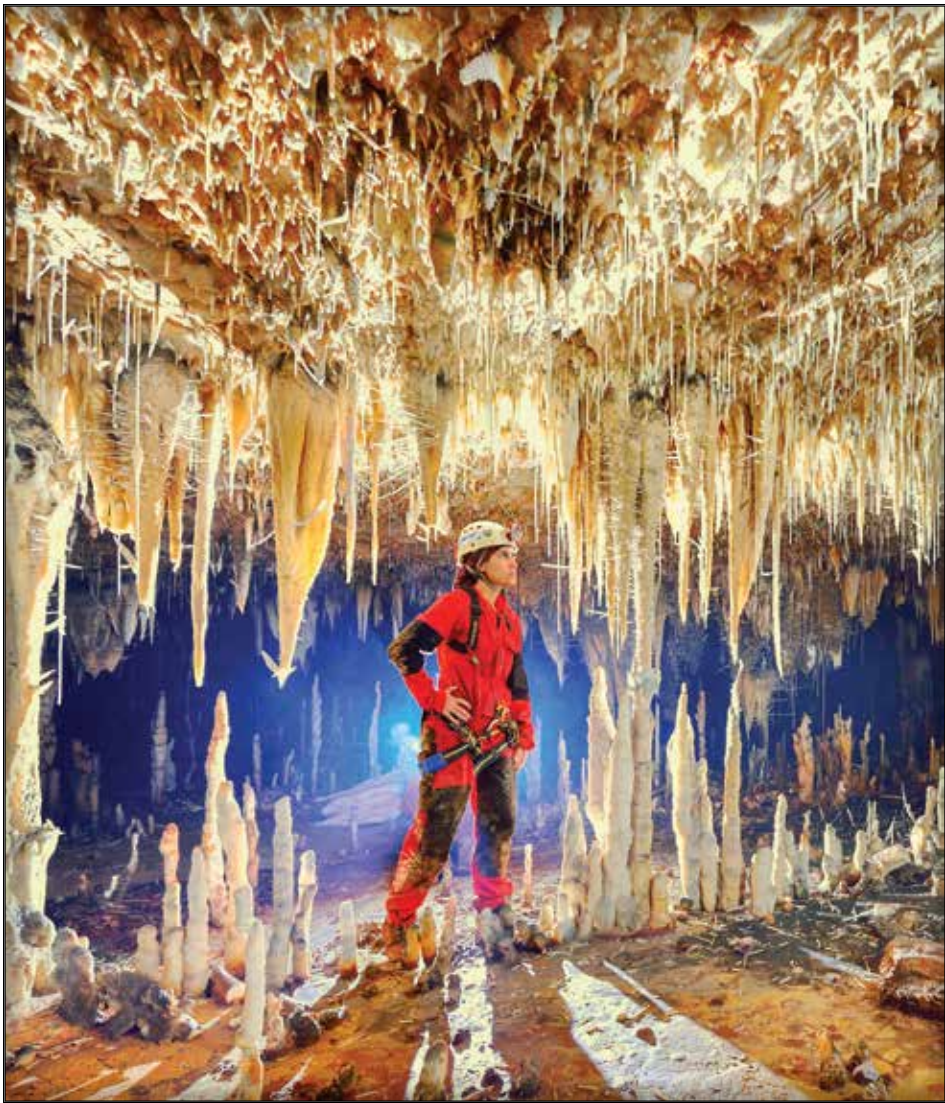


Photo by José Humberto Matias de Paula
One of the magnificent cathedrals in the Terra Ronca caverns located in the Goais region of Brazil.



World Traveler

Bill Shampine

If you are a spelunker, this column certainly should get your juices flowing! A huge complex of more than 260 caves is located in the wilds of Brazil about 250 miles northeast of Brazilia (the capitol of the country).

In 1989, the government classified this 150 square mile area as the Terra Ronca State Park. The park offers visitors an incredible display of stalactites, stalagmites, springs, and rivers running both inside and outside the caves. The park also has a very diverse and rich selection of flora and fauna on view. By the way, if you are like I am, you have a hard time remembering the actual names of the pointy things you see in caves that are either hanging down or pointing up. My mnemonic trick is to remember that the ones hanging down must be tightly connected to the ceiling or they would fall, thus a stalactite hangs down. Simple, right?

These caves were formed millions of years ago by the relentless action of rainwater and the Lapa River that flows down from the Serra Geral mountain range. Most of the caves still have rivers flowing in them. Of the many caves in the region, only a few are open to the public at the present time.

The best-known cave in the park

is the Caverna Terra Ronca. Because of a ceiling collapse a few thousand years ago, the cave actually has been divided into two sections. You can tour Terra Ronca 1 by yourself, but Terra Ronca 2 and most of the other caves open to the public require the use of a local guide. Because of the size of this cave system, I think having a guide is a really good idea.

The entrance to the Terra Ronca cavern system is a gigantic hole that is 315 feet high and 390 feet wide. One of the sites in the cave is a rock shelf that is 2,490 feet long and 330 feet high. Locals think of it as an altar and host a religious ceremony there at the beginning of every August. The cave is truly enormous. There are 1,600,000 square feet of cavernous halls (that is about 36 acres) with, in some instances, floor to ceiling columns that are more than 1,950 feet high!

The Lapa River still runs through both sections of the cave. Consequently, if you choose to go exploring, you can count on getting wet because you must walk in the river for significant portions of your excursion. Never fear, however, the government has installed a rope you can hang on to that will help you manage walking on slippery rocks.

Because of the location, it would take a pretty adventurous person to visit these caves, but, if one chose to do so, I think it would be an absolutely fabulous trip. These caves are enormous, and I think going inside them would be truly awe-inspiring.



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Singles Club

Sally Wall

The Singles Club needs you to be our secretary! We have a slate of officers for 2021-2022 except for a secretary. Your duties would be to take the minutes at our club and board meetings and help plan the activities for the coming year.

It would be sad for the Singles Club to disband after 36 years. Any single resident, male or female, is eligible to join the club and serve.

Please volunteer! Call Sally Wall at (352) 237-9103 or Shirley Handel at (352) 390-3136 by Monday, May 31.

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SWANS

Sandi Dickerson

Our March meeting was such a success that we now have 14 groups of four that will be meeting for the next four months for appetizer groups. Each lady in the group of four will take a turn hosting the event at her house.

In May we will be doing breakfast out Saturday, May 1. We are limiting the number of women going to 12 attendees. We will be going to the new Golden Spoon Diner in Heath Brook Commons. Several ladies have gone there already and have said that the food is very good. Can't wait to try it! If we need to take a second group, we will be doing that Saturday, May 8. Call Lois to make plans for breakfast out! It has been so long since we did this! It has always been one of our members' favorite activities.

Active Singles



Pat Jocelyn

The month of May was named after the Roman goddess Maia, who watched over the growth of plants, and was viewed as an earth goddess and nurturer. May was also linked to the Latin word "maiores." That translates to elders, ancestors or forefathers. All were celebrated during the month of May.

As elders in our own right, we have the time and opportunity to

Our semi-annual barbeque will be held Saturday, May 15. Once again Kathy Kloos and Sandy Welch will be in charge. Kathy and Sandy do a great job of pulling everything together for the barbeque! Please call Kathy if you plan to attend.

Immediately after the barbeque and cleanup, there will be a meeting of all those women who will be making our May trip to Daytona Beach. This trip is always lots of fun, even with the current safety precautions taken by all. We will be leaving Sunday, May 16 with part of our group staying three nights in Daytona Beach and some ladies staying for the entire week.

The Biloxi, Mississippi and Lancaster, Pennsylvania trips are full. Some cabins have opened up on the Thanksgiving five-day cruise leaving Sunday, Nov. 21. Please contact Lois if you are considering going on the cruise.

Our lunches in April went very well. We returned to Turnpike Mike's three times during that month. The weather was wonder-

ful, and we were able to dine outside. As usual, the food was excellent and very abundant! Several ladies took most of their lunches home - there is always so much food served there! No one can eat it all, so it becomes dinner that night and lunch the next day! Lois' books by Jean Grainger are still available. She has also just gotten Grainger's Robinswood trilogy. Once we know more about the trilogy, I will let you know the content. If they sound interesting to you just call Lois and arrange to borrow them - one at a time.

Our membership since the March meeting has really climbed. We now have one 110 members. It is so nice to see everyone making an effort to get to know each other at our events. The interaction among the ladies is very encouraging! You may join the SWANS at any time. Our motto is "SWANS are never alone!" Stay healthy and be smart about your activities! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Lois Nix for more information.

celebrate Mother Nature during May. It's a time where the weather averages in the high 80s and we're just starting to feel the return of increasing humidity, fairly low rain amounts and cool evenings in the 60s.

The Active Singles Club is forging ahead with tentative plans for activities later in the year, but we are still limited on the type of events we can sponsor. In the interim, why not call an Active Singles friend or two and plan some day trip adventures; blueberry festivals, outdoor entertainment venues, arts and crafts events or flower and garden shows to name a few?

Not a member yet? The Active Singles Club continues to offer sign-up opportunities and has one scheduled Wednesday, May 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Club at Candler Hills. Weather permitting, we will be outside on the patio or inside if it rains. Bring your resident ID and \$10 for dues.

As we've done in the past few months, we are continuing to introduce you to several Active Singles members via this column. This month we'd like to introduce Nancy Chatem and George Kaufman.

Nancy was born in Chicago, Illinois but grew up in Maryland. Subsequently she moved to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania where she worked as a systems analyst for a local hospital. Forty-two years later she visited a friend who had moved to On Top of the World Communities. The rest as they say is history. She's been living here for five years.

Although some activities have opened up including pickleball, Nancy is looking forward to once again participating in other activities including: wallyball, Samba (card game), and Mah Jongg. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Club,

Friendship Connection, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun and of course, the Active Singles.

Meet George Kaufman. The Englewood, New Jersey native and Miami transplant who worked for Bell South for a number of years and after retiring in 1983, moved to Ocala. He purchased a mini farm/vineyard and enjoyed mastering the art of winemaking. In 2010 he moved to On Top of the World Communities.

George joined the Active Singles Club about five months ago and enjoys dancing at The Town Square on Saturday evenings, daily walks and working out at the gym. He still takes pleasure in making wine and cutting gemstones (something he's done for more than 40 years).

For more information about our club, including joining, contact us at activesinglesotow@outlook.com, visit us at otowactivesinglesclub.com or join us on Facebook by searching - OTOW Active Singles Club. Remember, "we may be single, but we're not alone."



Photo by Gary Uhley

Meatloaf.

What's Cookin'



Gary Uhley

Meatloaf

1 package McCormick Seasoning Mix
½ sweet onion, chopped
1 small can tomato sauce
2 pounds ground beef or turkey
2 eggs
½ cup milk
¼ cup dry breadcrumbs (two slices of bread)
Barbecue sauce
Mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Shape meat mixture into a loaf and place into a greased loaf pan.
Bake in a preheated oven at 375 degrees for one hour. After removing from oven, carefully drain any grease or oil from pan.
Coat the top with barbecue sauce. Allow to cool before slicing.
Leftovers can be frozen for next time.

OneBlood
Bloodmobile



Sara Sommer

The Big Red Bus® was here Monday, April 5. We had a great turn out with 28 units of whole blood and eight units of double red cells collected. Not everyone can donate double red cells and I thank those four people who did. Each donor received a \$10 e-card to spend at many local places plus either a t-shirt or apron.

The bus will be here again Monday, June 7, at the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please mark your calendar. See you on the bus.



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Tech Tips



Shane Bobson
info@mybridgenet.com

What is Buffering?

Buffering is when a service provider (YouTube TV, Netflix) tries to stream video ahead of what you are watching so it plays continuously. When the video catches up to the point where the file has been streaming, there might be a delay. This means it will pause, and you'll see a rotating arrow, spinning circle, or loading message on your TV screen. Once the video stream catches up, it plays again.

What Causes Buffering?

There are two main causes of

buffering, and they either stem from your local network or from the streaming service you are using. If the issue is with your local network, there are a few common causes that can lead to buffering. Often, slow speeds from your ISP (internet service provider) may be caused by a service-related issue or if the customer does not have a large enough bandwidth package.

Or, there are too many devices being used at the same time for the available bandwidth. Other causes could be that your Wi-Fi network may be impacted by the environment such as barriers (think storm clouds), or conflicting signals from other devices, or the distance of your device to your router. Another culprit that impacts streaming quality is when a customer has

too many devices connected to the router at once.

Oftentimes streaming service providers like Netflix experience issues when they are overloaded with too much traffic. The streaming provider may be experiencing internet issues themselves or be on back-up services.

How Can You Minimize Buffering?

There are a couple of things you can do to reduce buffering. First and foremost, make sure you have adequate bandwidth. Most services require a minimum of seven too 10Mbps in order to manage a single device streaming at the standard 1080p quality. But if you are watching a 4K 7.1 surround-sound movie you will need at least 25Mbps to support that high qual-

ity level without buffering. Keep in mind that 25Mbps only supports that 4K TV, not necessarily all the other devices that share the same bandwidth in your home.

Another solution to buffering is to use an ethernet hardline wherever possible. A shielded ethernet cable is secure from outside interference and can handle data at a faster rate than Wi-Fi can. Get in the habit of routinely and properly power cycling your networking equipment. When you are experiencing buffering, pause the stream for a minute or two to give the stream a chance to catch up. Most of the time your video streaming will work with no issues, but occasionally, some streams simply cannot provide enough data.



Computer Club

Chris Kilbride

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

This month we feature Sue Lasser, who grew up in Maryland, then after college, spent her entire 42-year career in healthcare in eastern North Carolina. Starting as a bedside nurse, she quickly found her way to a progression of leadership positions spending 20 years as president of a 114-bed community hospital in Ahoskie, North Carolina. Along the way, she earned

a master's in nursing and one in healthcare administration.

Last month's World News prompted her to join our club, having learned helpful tips in her first two meetings. Sue's real passion is nature photography, learning primarily through online help sources and virtual courses. As an advanced beginner to intermediate in her knowledge of organizing and editing in Lightroom and Photoshop, she uses her Apple iPhone and MacBook Pro, with some editing done in Apple Photo.

Sue uses Zoom to teach a weekly resistance band strength class for Stone Creek, and to stay in touch with family and friends. She also teaches 45 shallow and deep-water aerobics water classes each month for On Top of the World and Stone Creek, including sharing her knowledge of healthy aging and the most effective way to improve muscle strength, flexibility and endurance

in the water.

Working in the flower garden, reading fiction, knitting, and needlepointing always trumps housework, as does cooking and baking when having folks join in to share a meal. Missing Carolina shag dancing, she is thankful for channel 701 on the Sirius XM app for its great shag music. At this point, her house is not smart, but the club will be a great avenue to gain more knowledge in all things technical.

Although she needs a longer zoom lens for her Canon camera, she can spend hours photographing butterflies and wildlife, easily getting lost behind the camera. Sue highly recommends viewing her favorite website explore.org with amazing live cams and gallery photos of wildlife around the world. By the way, her photography will be on display at Master the Possibilities throughout the month of June for you to enjoy.

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

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

We keep the meetings fun and offer suggestions and solutions to help our members. Hope to see you on Saturday!

GOT TRASH?
Please put all trash in compactor.



Toastmasters -
Talk of the World

David Wesenberg

We will meet via Zoom at 8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, May 12 and 26. Our theme for May is "Ch-ch-changes." We have some pretty exciting and interesting speeches that are worth seeing and listening to.

The results of the Division Speech Contest are in and our member David Wesenberg won third place with his speech "The Common Man."

David also spoke on "Robert's Rules of Order" and provided a handy guide on how to use these rules to streamline and organize meetings. To those who did not attend, this tutorial is given from time to time along with other handy tutorials as so many members come into positions of leadership.

Toastmasters held its open house Wednesday, April 28, inviting all past and all prospective members to hear a speech by Nina Johns, a Toastmaster from India, on "Overcoming Adversity." Nina is a three-time distinguished Toast-

master who feels Toastmasters has played a pivotal role in her professional development.

On Wednesday, May 5, Nancy Wilkins from our club will be leading a professional development session of resume preparation and job interviewing. People of all ages who wish to continue to work should find this interesting and valuable.

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

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

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

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

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The Moonstruck Astronomy Club held its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 8, via Zoom. Club President Jim Di Paolo welcomed members for another full agenda of activity. Vice President Larry Isenberg covered club business and then entertained members with a variety of interesting facts and trivia about the Moon.

Secretary John Bridges provided his monthly update on the night sky, including the positions of planets, the International Space Station, and constellations and bright stars to observe during the month of April. Jim Shuman presented the final part of his PowerPoint series on “Distances in Astronomy,” this time discussing how astronomers have used spectra of starlight to calculate distances as far as the observable edge of the Universe almost 14 billion light years away. Shuman highlighted the work of Edwin Hubble, a 20th Century astronomer after whom the Hubble Space Telescope was named.

Jim Di Paolo continued his presentations about NASA’s Perseverance Rover project on Mars. In the April meeting he focused on the experimental drone Ingenuity, which was being prepared to take its first flight. The drone is an experimental type of computer-controlled helicopter with onboard scientific equipment. Di Paolo explained that Mars’ gravity is weaker than Earth’s and its atmosphere is one hundred times thinner than Earth’s, both of which create new challenges for the drone’s propellers to lift, fly, and navigate effectively. NASA’s goal is to make use of drones on Mars to broaden their range of investigation and conduct experiments that only a drone could accomplish, making the Ingenuity experiment an important step in preparing for future missions. Club members were again enthused by Di Paolo’s presentation, which provided detailed photos and videos of the drone’s development and deployment by the Perseverance Rover on the red planet. NASA’s recent accomplishments on Mars are opening a new

chapter in our exploration of the solar system.

The meeting concluded with discussion of ways to conduct evening observing sessions once safety restrictions are lifted.

The observing sessions with telescopes are announced to members via email in the afternoon of any day that weather conditions allow for an open sky. The sessions are held near the R/C flying field

and last into the evening. The club is continuing to take precautions during observing events. Updated instructions will be provided in emails announcing each session.

Excitement about astronomy continues to grow; over 50 members are registered for the club. Regular club meetings are on the second Thursday of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. For now, they will remain via Zoom.

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



Image captured of NASA’s Ingenuity drone on the surface of Mars in April. Photo courtesy of NASA/JPL-CalTech



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Native Plant Group

Ron Broman

He turned the key and the engine stopped. The seat belt zipped back in place. He removed the key as the door clicked and opened. As his left foot felt for the pavement, his left hand felt for the handle of his cane. He was back!

Now, up over the curb, pressing his cane into the grass he pushed himself. One step, and another, eyes focusing half on the ground. The other half taking in what he had envisioned in bed. The place where he and his friends had labored to create, to clear a path, to invite others to smell and feel a piece of real Florida. A place where nature wins! He had returned. He was back. He was really back!

There she is! She's still here! The "she" he recognized was a shrub that has been maturing there for at

least a half dozen years. She hasn't grown much larger; only about five feet by five feet. Her species can reach up to 12 feet in height.

Those clusters of almost invisible pink flowers are just beginning to show. He remembers when she was transplanted there. Her propensity for inviting mockingbirds to leave mulberry-like "artwork" on home sidewalks initiated the move.

Those purple berries have made tasty jellies for human folks throughout the years.

And she's still here!

Can you picture her? Have I given you enough information, enough of a hint? Perhaps too much?

Where in the world grows this shrub? If you think you know where to find her let us know by calling (352) 861-4560. You might be a winner. Do you know her name, common and/or botanical?

You can call this number also if you wish to join us in the Native Plant Group maintaining our projects. You too can feel the joy of growing native!



Photo by Ron Broman

Where in the world grows this shrub?



The Jewish Club

Nancy Meininger

Get ready Jewish Club members for an ice cream social served with a heaping scoop of trivia by Williamsburg's own DJ Dave. Will it be all Jewish trivia? No. It will be a brain stretching, intellect-challenging quiz sprinkled with a bit of Hebrew wit. Will it be fun? Yes! Don't miss this one at The Lodge at Candler Hills Sunday, May 16, at 12:30 p.m.

Next, at The Lodge at Candler Hills Sunday, June 20, at 1 p.m., is first-person historical recreator Dee Collier, who will portray Sabine Bonhoeffer Leibholz, the twin sister of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Hers

is a story of intrigue and deception as we see the plot to assassinate Hitler through her eyes.

Game days are on the agenda for Sundays, July 18 and Aug. 15, at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Gather your favorite games, bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic refreshments and join us for some good old-fashioned fun.

Sunday, Sept. 19 is our annual welcome back from summer luncheon meeting with bagels and lox at 1 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills.

At the time of writing this column, there is still a limit of 50 for all indoor and outdoor events. This may change. Stay tuned for announcements on our upcoming events. For more information about the club, contact Nancy Meininger at (352) 342-9757.



Photo by Charlie Calhoun

Club members bundled up to gather at the Recreation Center pavilion for a crisp March get together.

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Genealogy Society

On Monday, March 15, Gena Philibert-Ortega, MA, gave a presentation “10 Reasons Why You Can’t Find Your Ancestor” via Zoom.

According to Gena, you must have a goal in order to find your ancestors. For example, where was my grandfather born, married or died? You then need to create a genealogy research plan. A key element is to set up a research log of what information you have and what you still need to find. It’s important to record your source citations.

You must conduct a reasonable exhaustive search both online at Family Search and Ancestry and offline at libraries, archives, genealogy societies and museums. Use WorldCat.org, which will let you search the collections of libraries near you and around the world for the information you need. Another source is archivegrid.com, which will give you archives near you and their collections of family histories and historical documents. For government records, e.g., naturalization records, passport records and

federal censuses, check NARA.gov and local state and county archives.

Historical events may determine records, their availability and who can be found in them. During much of our history up until 1906, the wife and children automatically became citizens when the husband/father took out citizenship papers. This is called derivative citizenship. After 1922, a woman had to apply for naturalization herself. Children under 18 years old derive citizenship from their parents’ naturalization if the child has a green card.

Consider the source and the probability that the event actually happened. Who was the informant and were they actually there, or did they hear it from someone else? The informant could be a neighbor. Analyze your findings, check the sources and look beyond what you think you see.

As you find information, record it and cite your sources. Take online family trees with a grain of salt. Don’t accept the information unless you check out the sources yourself to verify the accuracy of the information. Don’t make assumptions.

Remember, spelling was not important to our ancestors. The names appear differently based on nicknames, abbreviations or initials

used in official records.

To see more in-depth information on our speaker presentations, contact Wilma Kelly at otowgens@gmail.com to join our club. Dues are \$20 per year for an individual or \$35 for a couple.

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

On Monday, May 10, we will hold an open genealogy discussion by the membership on geneal-

ogy issues or discoveries they have learned.

On Monday, May 17, Loreen Sandeen, a librarian at the local Family Search Affiliate in Ocala, will give an educational presentation on what you can access from the affiliate that is not available online. She will also give FamilySearch.org tips and how the Ocala volunteers can assist with your research.

Visit us at otowgens.shutterfly.com.



We are a club of residents who have a connection to Texas by being born and/or raised there; living there for work, college or military service; spending time there for any reason such as vacation, professional, competitions, etc.; or having family living there. Spouses or partners who haven’t been to Texas (bless their hearts) are welcome too. We consider them honorary Texans by association.

Our main focus is on gettin’ together, jackin’ our jaws and havin’ fun. Most of our meetings are “bring a snack to share” type fare because our focus is more on the fun aspect. However, we have had chili cook-offs, pizza parties and a Texas style Oktoberfest. Our activities have included competitions like a poker run, Family Feud night,

Texas-themed trivia contests and even a Texas-themed horserace.

We’ve been entertained twice by residents Kathy and Charlie Petrosky. The first time was a celebration in honor of Texas Independence Day and the second was with musical stylings appropriate for line and partner dancing. The Dulcimer Group treated us to a playlist of Texas and country music they learned and prepared especially for us. On another fun night, we watched videos of famous Texas comedians performing their standup routines. We’ve even ventured outside the gates and moseyed over to the Orange Blossom Opry to watch some of our favorite Texas singers perform.

Our meetings are normally held monthly from September through May. Of course, this past year put a kink in any routine. We did manage a get-together in November to share tales of past Thanksgivings with a little fall trivia thrown in. In February we met for a trivia-style presentation called “Texas Twosomes.” Kathy and Chris Nastally generously offered to run a bocce night in March that was great fun. As we go to press a pizza picnic at the pavilion is scheduled. Our planned activity that night is an unusual game called “What Would You Do If I?”

Hopefully life will return to some type of normalcy by September. If so, some of the activities next season could include a return of our Texas-themed horseraces and poker run. I also have an idea for a “Game of Life – Active Adult Community Style.”

If you have a connection to Texas and this sounds like your kind of fun, please contact us. We welcome the opportunity to share more information about our group and get you on the email list for club news and notifications. Contact Kathy Cornell at (352) 300-3729, (352) 562-2801 or kcornell54@cfl.rr.com.

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Local performers will open this event. Amira Sims, Psychology, Humanities and Social Sciences Professor at College of Central Florida, will present the spoken word.

This event is sponsored by the Bridges Project of Ocala-Marion County.

Members: \$2; Non-Members: \$7
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Registration is available online 24/7 at www.MasterThePossibilities.org or call (352) 861-9751 for more information.

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Godmother on ‘Mother’s Day’

Mothers and grandmothers are thought of on this day. Still there is another mom, forgotten some might say. Godmothers, “unsung heroes,” who take a task in tow. To bring a child to face the cross and help to let him know. The value of a Christian life, with love to soothe the fears. A basis for his thinking, to last through future years. She often stands outside the light, while others take the glory. When the truth is really known, her gifts will tell the story. On Mother’s Day this godchild, sends all love and praise. To one who shared the gift of faith, that gives light to his days.

On Top of the World NEWS

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE?
Email otownews@otowfl.com with your idea(s). If approved, a World News writer will be assigned.

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



Travel Toppers

Anne Parker

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

The Father's Day (Sunday, June 20) cruise in Sanford is a three-hour trip down the St. Johns River on the Barbara Lee. The meal, prepared onboard, includes your choice of prime rib, chicken cordon bleu, salmon filet, roasted vegetable lasagna, chef's salad, or pasta primavera served with potatoes, veggies, salad, rolls and dessert. Hot or iced tea is included. A cash bar will be available. Reserve with Linda Hein at (352) 861-9880. For this trip, only residents and overnight guests are eligible to book. Masks will be required onboard the bus and the ship. All passengers will be required to show proof of being fully vaccinated when booking.

We are planning visits to the Suncoast Broadway Theater to see "A Christmas Story: The Musi-

cal" in December, "Ring of Fire" featuring the music of Johnny Cash in early 2022, and "Camelot" in May 2022. Details will be available later.


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

We have planned a 13-day Denali explorer cruise and tour that departs May 22, 2022. The six-day land tour includes Fairbanks, Denali Lodge, and McKinley Lodge. The seven-day cruise begins in Whittier with visits to Hubbard Glacier,

Glacier Bay National Park, Skagway, Juneau, Ketchikan; and ending with a two-day tour of Vancouver. The cabin prices per person with double occupancy include all fees and taxes, shipboard gratuities, transfers, motor coach to/from Tampa International Airport, insurance, airfare, Vancouver hotel, Vancouver tour and Victoria's Butchart Gardens tour are: MB mini suite with balcony, \$5,963; DB deluxe balcony cabin, \$5,708; BB balcony \$5,606; and interior, \$4,661. Contact Allan Rickards at (352) 390-3075 to book.

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

Visit traveltopperstours.com for updates.



Lions Club

Gail Morris

The Lions Club members want to thank all the folks in our community and beyond who made our raffle such a success. At this writing, which is about two weeks into our ticket sales we have sold all but 50 tickets. These funds will help our club continue its support in our community for our veterans and families in need.

We especially want to thank those entities that donated to our raffle so we could have such great prizes: Candler Hills Golf Club, The Club at Candler Hills, Circle Square Cultural Center, Latinos Y Mas and Southern Pig and Cattle Company. Please continue to support them.

Our winners won't be announced until our June column, because our drawing is Friday, April 30. However, our winners can expect a phone call when their ticket is drawn for the following:

First place: Golf for four at Candler Hills Golf Course (carts extra) plus gift basket from The Club at Candler Hills.

Second place: Two concert tickets at Circle Square Cultural Center with a \$25 gift card to Latinos y Mas.

Third and fourth place: Gift basket from Southern Pig and Cattle Company with \$25 gift card and selection of barbecue sauces.

The Lions Club is an international organization made up of many districts and this year there will be a district convention which had to be cancelled last year. Two of our members will be participating in the multi-district convention which will be held in Orlando. The convention participants will follow the CDC and Orange County guidelines for contact during the convention.

In our local community, if you know of someone who is struggling financially and is in need of an eye exam or glasses, please contact our Lions Club. We have an application process to provide for a variety of eye care services.

We are always looking for new

members to help us in our mission to "serve" our fellow citizens. It's been a difficult time for many, and our club is trying to be innovative in our quest to keep our club meeting our mission. Our meetings are a combination of Zoom and in person at the Arbor Conference Center Event Room with masks and social distancing, the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Anyone interested come check out our club. Contact Estelle Michelson, our membership chair, at (352) 861-7358 for more information or come by our meeting.

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Pickleball is Booming

By Bill Bender

All of us like to stump our friends with (sometimes useless) trivia. Well pickleballers are no exception, but we may be unique by what catches our eye. For example: What is the fastest growing sport in the whole wide world? Answer: Pickleball. What is likely the fastest growing club in our community? Answer: Pickleball.

There is no doubt that with an average of 10,000 people turning 65 years of age each day for 17

years (the Baby Boomer generation) that a sport attractive to seniors would be a natural to see growth. Right here in our own community, the Top Pickleball Club has seen a growth of over 80 new members (over 30%) since Jan. 1.

The club has had to adapt its practices to handle such growth by instituting what we've called "operation overflow." This change has optimized on court play time. A special membership meeting was

held Friday, April 9, to vote on this new practice. With over 100 members in attendance, it received overwhelming approval. If you come to see us in play (and we invite you to do so) any morning during club hours (7:30 to 10:30 a.m.), you are likely to see all 12 courts in use with a queue of players awaiting their turn.

The growth in the sport is only foreseen to continue. On Top of the World has recognized this as witnessed in last month's issue of the World News where Mr. Colen shared that "... permits are in hand for the substantial number of improvements at the Recreation

Center. The work will include additional pickleball courts ..." Based on what we see, these new courts will be well used and a significant addition to our amenities.

The Top Pickleball Club has been organized over the past several years, complete with even a mission statement: "The Top Pickleball Club, Inc. is a social, non-profit organization formed to provide fun, friendly and healthy recreational activities through the sport of pickleball."

With over 330 members, the club is led by a team of seven board members. They meet regularly to address pertinent issues regarding such things as safety, spending, improvements of all kinds, and special events. The board is guided by a set of formal bylaws, incorporated as an LLC, and has recently been recognized by the IRS as a 501c7 not-for-profit organization.

Weekly and seasonal events are part of our club's endeavors, such as the singles league, shootout, and ladies only round robin. They have been well attended and received rave reviews from their participants. A big thank you goes out to all of our members who organize them.

At the modest annual fee of \$10, membership offers a large contingent of your neighbors eager to play the game six mornings a week, ongoing training for those who want to advance their game, and special events for the more competitive. You are always welcome to just pay a visit and observe the play, whether it is something you might want to pursue, or if you're just curious.

If it sparks an interest, orientation to the game is held every Monday morning on the courts, check our bulletin board at the courts for the time. The only requirements are athletic shoes and water for your hydration, but for your safety, we also highly recommend eye protection. We have the paddles and balls for your use. If you enjoy this experience, the club is ready to welcome you. However, a warning - this game can be addictive. Don't say you haven't been warned! Hope to see you on the courts.



Photo by Shizuka Campagna

Ladies only Round Robin.

Billiards Club – Top Finishers

By Phil Panzera

Congratulations to the top finishers in session one of our Tuesday doubles league. Pat Murphy and Rich Deschenes took top honors, remarkably losing only two sets out of 22 played in the session. Bill Daly and Phil Panzera finished in second, and Ralph Szelenyi and Tim Taury came in third.

Also finishing this past month was the Night Owls Round Robin Challenge. Ralph Szelenyi, Tom West and Gary Schroeder finished in first, second and third, respectively. Ralph was a double threat in these two leagues and is one of our most rapidly improving players.

We wish to thank Fritz Langville

again for his outstanding efforts in routinely keeping all the room's tables and balls clean. This is not an easy task, and Fritz does it well, with good humor and a grace to be admired.

Last month I offered an antique pool ball from my collection to anyone who could tell me the oldest items in the billiard room. This little informal contest sparked an amazing response, with 87 entries ... well, no ... not really. Granted, the question was a bit esoteric.

The only entry I got for the oldest items in the room was for Ray and Joe, which came close, but missed by just a few million years.

The oldest item in the room as far as I can tell are the billiard table slates, clocking in at about 400 million years old.

For those of us who have repaired or assembled tables, I have always found these slates to be impressive. One would think that a nine-foot-long slate one inch thick would be easy to crack, yet it is not. They are literally rocks, consisting of clay and sand or volcanic dust. Supernaturally heavy, they were formed under great pressure, making them layered in an unusual way that allows them to be split into thin slabs while still keeping strength and durability.

If you want to see a quite interesting video in how Brunswick table slates are formed, cut and polished,

just search for "manufacturing of pool table slate" in YouTube.com.

The tie-breaker question for the second oldest item is also not obvious, and even a little surprising; it is the chalk we write with on the blackboards. That chalk was formed from 99 to 65 million years ago. It is a variety of limestone, formed from the shells and remains of plankton and tiny marine animals.

Note that the chalk we use on our cue tips is quite different. Our blackboard chalk is a naturally occurring substance, while cue chalk is usually a mixture of silica, corundum and dye, and sometimes other ingredients. As such, it is actually not even "chalk" at all.



Photo by Rich Aber

Top finishers in the Billiards Club league session one.

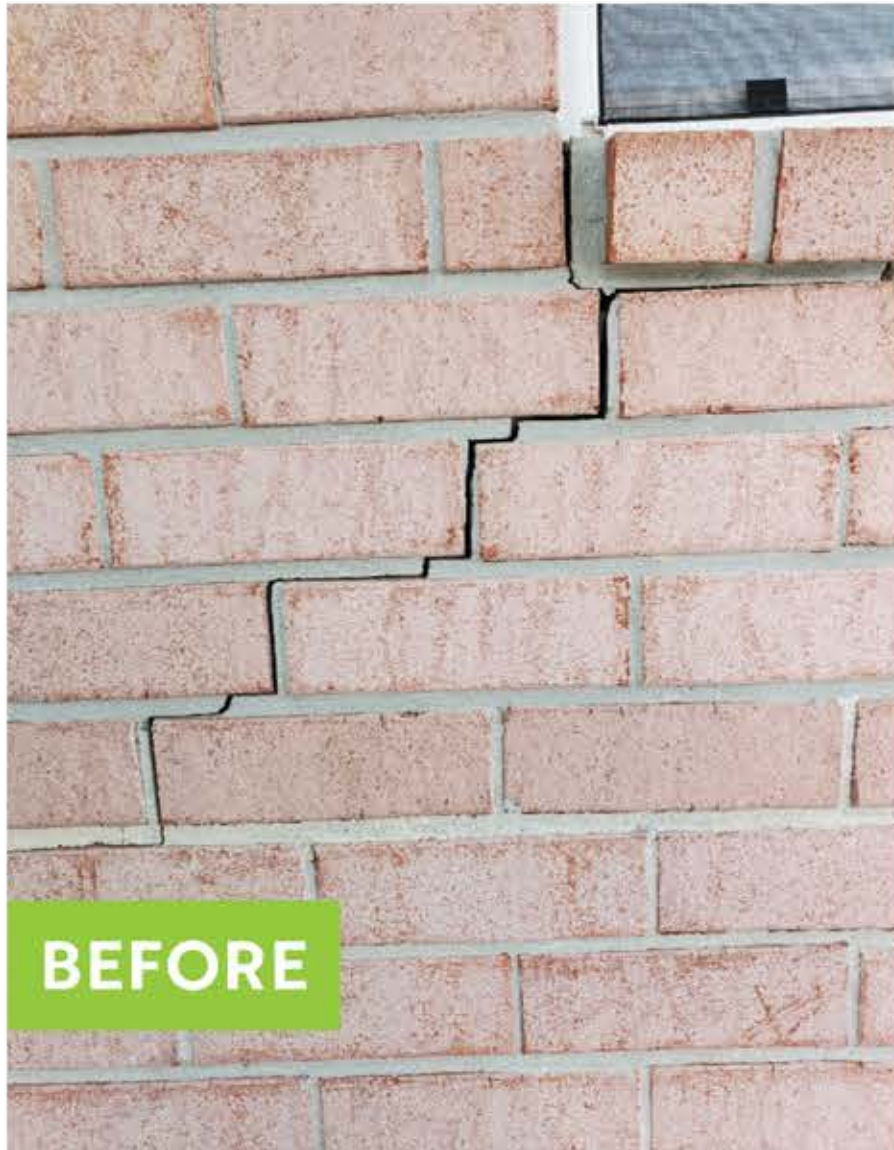


Photo by Fritz Langville

Top finishers in the Night Owls Round Robin challenge.

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Christine McIntire did it again, beating Lynne Dickson in a final match to win the Players Championship for the second year in a row. Christine Giza beat Jean Hsu on the final hole to win the consolation bracket.

McIntire likes the match play format because a bad hole doesn't throw you out of the round. The 32 contestants played very well this year, making it quite challenging, she said. But talk about competitive: She grew up with three brothers (ask what her nickname was the next time you see her).

A note from league president Linda Taylor: Since course conditions have improved, temporary rules are no longer in effect for league play; all USGA rules will be followed. Also, the league is up to more than 100 members, with 50 to 60 playing each week.

**Best 9 Individual Net
March 16/The Links**

Flight 1: 32–Gail LaGrange. 33–Diane Boston. 34–Sandy Snyder. 35–Shelly Karsnitz.

Flight 2: 32–Nancy Zielinski. 33–Peggy Ellenberger. 34–Connie Sohl. Tie at 35–Vickie Noltensmeyer, Connie Norris, Peggy Borro, Katie Schriewer.

Flight 3: 30–Joann Dellapenna. 33–Lilly Gee. 34–Iro Lisinski. 35–Maria Fournier. Tie at 36–Pamela Jones, Linda Blewitt, Eileen Gustavus.

Flight 4: 32–Debby Wilson. Tie at 34–Pat Lindstrom, Christine McIntire, Jean Hsu. Tie at 35–Kathleen Goodwin, Betty McNeeley, Marlena Laclair.

Flight 5: 32–Connie Feola. Tie at 34–Molly Lucieer, Linda Bervinkle, Sandy Chase. 35–Sandra Dechambeau.

Flight 6: 32–Linda Ryan. 33–Susan Yenne. 34–Antonia Varney. 35–Mary Driver. Tie at 37–Debbie Zile, Lynn Barber.

**Florida Scramble
with Candler Hills
March 23/The Tortoise & The Hare**

67–Sandy Snyder, Judie Anderson, Teri Stecker, Renee Aden. Tie at 69–Shelly Karsnitz, Katie Schriewer, Angelita Jingco, Debbie Zile; Beverly Ovrebo, Connie Sohl, Kathleen Goodwin, Gloria Cullins; Christine

McIntire, Roe Gromacki, Virginia Combs, Linda Ryan; Lynn Colomb, Pamela Jones, Sharon Johnson, Susan Yenne. Tie at 70–Connie Norris, Debby Wilson, Peggy Wiechmann, Rosann Ross; Linda Taylor, Joann Dellapenna, Connie Feola, Beth Wolinsky; Bobbie Wiener, Linda Blewitt, Marlena Laclair, Donna Brunnell. 71–MJ Strelec, Valerie Smith, Kay Budd, May Chin.

**Individual Stableford
March 30/The Links**

Flight 1: 39–Gretchen Normandin. 35–Vickie Noltensmeyer. Tie at 34–Christine Giza, Beverly Ovrebo, Linda Taylor. Tie at 33–Connie Norris, Lynne Dickson, Gail LaGrange.

Flight 2: 41–Joy Benson. 40–Peggy Ellenberger. Tie at 34–Linda Blewitt, Connie Sohl, Joyce Jones. Tie at 33–Nancy Zielinski, Katie Schriewer.

Flight 3: 38–Debby Wilson. 37–Ellen Brin. Tie at 36–Iro Lisinski, Sharon Johnson, Betty McNeeley. Tie at 35–Peggy Wiechmann, Lilly Gee.

Flight 4: 40–Sandy Chase. Tie at 39–Molly Lucieer, Mary Ruffner. 36–Kathleen Mansfield. Tie at 35–May Chin, Linda Bervinkle.

Flight 5: 42–Peggy Benedict. Tie at 38–Terry Wilks, Debbie Zile. 37–Antonia Varney. 36–Karla Kimball. 34–Geri Treppa. 33–Carolyn Cummings.

**Cha Cha Cha Team Net
April 6/The Links**

Tie at 104–Marlena Laclair, Jean Hsu, Terry Wilks; Lynn Colomb, Debby Wilson, Margaret Hudacik, Vickie Foster. 105–Lynne Dickson, Katie Schriewer, Virginia Madura, Antonia Varney. 108–Peggy Ellenberger, Joy Benson, Sharon Johnson, Donna Brunnell. 110–Beverly Ovrebo, MJ Strelec, Betty McNeeley, Linda Ryan. Tie at 111–Mary Ann Livingston, Lilly Gee, Ellen Brin, Geri Treppa; Connie Norris, Linda Blewitt, Kathleen Goodwin, Sandra Dechambeau. 112–Christine Giza, Connie Sohl, Linda Shurly, Elena Sumpter.



Photo by Sharon Johnson

Christine McIntire won the Player Championship for the second year in a row, beating the same opponent in the final round.

On Top of the World

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Candler Hills Ladies 9-Hole Golf

Denise Mullen

Have you ever thought if a particular golf ball would make a difference in your game? The answer is yes! We carry many different golf balls in both Golf Shops for your choice. Callaway has SuperSoft and SuperSoft Magna balls.

The Magna ball is an oversized ball that is super easy to hit and super long, straight and soft. The new SuperSoft has changed the cover on the golf ball to create exceptional spin control and feel while providing longer distance. When someone

tends to hit an offline golf shot, you want a golf ball that will produce minimal side spin so that the ball will have a straighter flight pattern and end up in a better place to play from.

Srixon has a Soft Feel and Soft Feel Lady golf ball to choose from. Both of these balls produce more feel, more distance, low side spin and the ability to have improved greenside spin, control and feel.

Bridgestone Lady golf balls offer distance to give you an edge and accuracy to help you hit straighter shots. Bridgestone also offers Precept Laddie Extreme golf balls that are extreme distance and exceptional feel.

All of these golf balls are offered in colors of white, yellow, orange,

green, red and pink. Stop by our Golf Shops and let our staff assist you with a selection for a ball choice that will better suit your game.

May's Thursday lineup of events are as follows:

- May 6: Ribbon Tournament is in honor of the Kentucky Derby and is where a color band will be placed at the bottom of the flagstick and you will not know until you arrive at the hole, whose ball will count.
- May 13: No event due to course maintenance.
- May 20: Red/White/Blue Scramble is where on the par 5s you will play from the blue 200 yard markers, par 4s you will play from the White 150

yard markers and the par 3s you will play from the orange tee markers.

- May 27: Low Net in flights.

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

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



Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole Golf

Beth Wolinsky

Playing golf in a lovely setting is always a plus. We are privileged to be able to experience this, especially at this time of year.

The Marion Junior Golf Association, formerly known as The First Tee, is an organization that the Candler Hills LGA-18 has always supported. A total of \$518 was collected for this group. A junior golf event was held Saturday, April 17, and a support sign for the event was bought by the league. The rest of the money was donated to this wonderful organization.

We welcome a new member, Peggy Shanfelt, to the league. Please

give her a warm welcome when you see her.

Do you know the origin of the term "birdie"? Here is an interesting golf fact. In 1889, a golfer named Ab Smith described one of his shots as a "bird of a shot." As a result, the word birdie was adopted into the game.

The Candler Hills LGA-18 is open to all residents. If you wish to join, please contact our president, Shelly Karsnitz, at karsnitz1@gmail.com.

It is important to remember to hydrate and replenish ourselves as we play golf. It's easy to forget when we are concentrating on playing golf.

Finally, have fun, stay safe and believe, achieve and enjoy golf.

Out with the Bad Individual March 4

Flight 1: 57–Shelly Karsnitz. Tie at 58–Lynn Colomb, Linda Taylor, San-

dy Snyder.

Flight 2: 54–Donna Smith. 55–Dawn Carroll. Tie at 56–Sara Nunn, Beverly Ovrebo 59–Judie Anderson.

Flight 3: 54–Pamela Jones. Tie at 57–Lisa Free, Joy Benson. 58–Joann Dellapenna.

Flight 4: Tie at 59–Kate Beaty, Toni Stevenson. Tie at 60–Teri Stecker, Carol Clark.

Flight 5: 47–Mary Ann McCourt. Tie at 53–Joann Delmar, Cynthia Gersten 54–Gail Banavige.

Stableford Partners A/B and C/D March 11

Stableford A/B Flight: 51–Beverly Ovrebo and Mary Jo Lock. Tie at 46–Iro Lisinski and Christine Giza, Dawn Carroll and Joann Dellapenna. Tie at 44–Sandy Snyder and Jonell Washburn, Shelly Karsnitz and Virginia Madura, Linda Taylor and Pamela Jones.

Stableford C/D Flight: Tie at 48–

Carla Kimball and DeAnne Green, Cynthia Gersten and Anne Dahlen. 46–Karen Curtis and Joann Delmar. Tie at 45–Vickie Foster and Beth Wolinsky, Mary Ann McCourt and Kate Beaty.

Aces Wild Individual March 18

Flight 1: 72–Sandy Snyder. 74–Shelly Karsnitz. 76–Christine Giza. 77–Beverly Ovrebo.

Flight 2: 79–Anita Nutt. 82–Mary Jo Lock. 83–Iro Lisinski. Tie at 84–Virginia Madura, Judie Anderson, Maria Fournier.

Flight 3: 84–Angelita Jingco. 86–Karen Curtis. 87–Lisa Free. 89–Toni Stevenson.

Flight 4: 83–Beth Wolinsky. 89–Rosann Ross. 92–DeAnne Green. Tie at 94–Laurel Rohrer, Carol Clark.

Flight 5: 88–Carla Kimball. 91–Mary Ann McCourt. 92–Vickie Foster. 94–Suzanne Sigler. 98–Peggy Shanfelt.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be emailed to otownnews@otowfl.com by the 12th of the month.



Bunco Babes Social Group

Micki Malsch

As of today, the Bunco Babes Social Group is postponed until Tuesday, Sept. 28. Please refer to the World News for updated information.

The group plays bunco in the

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Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio IV, which is the last room facing the building on the right, on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Registration is at 6:45 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m.

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

The cost is \$3 per person and all monies collected are returned at the end of the game to the category winners. Cash prizes are awarded

for the holder of the last player who yelled "bunco," the greatest number of "buncos," the greatest number of "mini buncos," the greatest number of wins, and the greatest number of losses. All ties result in a roll off with the highest roll declared the winner. There are also two drawings for door prizes for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your own beverage and snack if you wish.

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

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Golf
Matt Hibbs
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May is officially here and so are the summer temperatures. Here are some tips to beat the summer heat and stay hydrated on the course. Drink plenty of water. Each golf course has a water cooler every four to six holes, please be sure to use them. Eat a few bananas to keep your potassium levels up to prevent cramping. Also be sure to wear a hat and put on sunscreen. We all know how damaging the sun can really be.

May also brings the second major championship of the year, the PGA Championship held at the Ocean Course on Kiawah Island.



Ladies 9-Hole Golf
Russ Smith

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

- May 4: 3 Blind Mice is a fun game where the Golf Shop will pick three holes to not count towards the team score. The twist is you won't know the three holes till you get back in.
- May 11: Even Holes is where everyone plays their normal round of golf and we use the scores on the even numbered holes towards the game.
- May 18: LGA-9 is invited to play with the LGA-18. The game will be Sixes where you will play six holes as a shamble, six holes as a best ball, six holes as a scramble.
- May 25: Team Scramble is where everyone tees off, you pick the best drive, and everyone plays from there. You repeat this process until the ball is holed.

We are happy to announce that we have a new assistant golf professional, Candon Ehler. Candon comes to us from Nebraska and is a diehard Huskers fan. He previously worked at Kokopelli Golf Club in Arizona, where he was the assistant golf professional. Candon is in level one of the PGA program and is working toward become a full member of the PGA. He joined the team back in April and has done a great job taking his experience from his previous club and implementing it into our system.

Candon will gradually transition into working with all of our On Top of the World golf club leagues and I hope you all join me in making him feel welcome.

As we continue to get back to normal, we are allowing the removal of the flag stick again but this has led to questions of whether or not you should. For those of you who think there is an advantage to having the flag in the hole, research by the USGA has shown that there is no advantage in being able to putt with the unattended flagstick in the hole. In some cases, the ball may strike the flagstick and bounce out of the hole when it might otherwise have been holed, and in other cases, the ball may hit the flagstick and finish in the hole when it might otherwise have missed. In my personal opinion to help with the pace of play you should putt with the flag stick in when you are outside of 15 to 20 feet and based on your judgement remove it when you're inside of that range.

Collin Morikawa is this year's defending champion, here is who our professional staff thinks will be crowned champion this year. Matt Hibbs - Tommy Fleetwood; Denise Mullen - Rory McIlroy; Russ Smith - Dustin Johnson; Nick Schwander - Justin Thomas; and Candon Ehler - Justin Thomas.

It's my pleasure to introduce the newest addition to our professional golf staff, Candon Ehler, assistant golf professional at On Top of the World Golf Club. Candon comes to us from Scottsbluff, Nebraska where he coached the Scottsbluff High School Golf Team. Candon was also the tournament coordinator/assistant golf professional at Kokopelli Golf Club in Gilbert, Arizona. We are looking forward to Candon helping elevate our team to the next level. Make sure to stop by and say hello.



Fit Tips
Larry Robinson
(352) 387-3571
larry_robinson@otowfl.com

TRX Tips

TRX is coming to the Recreation Center! TRX is a type of suspension training, and it is highly effective in developing strength, balance, flexibility and core stability simultaneously. Suspension training leverages your body weight against gravity. You are in control of how much you want to challenge yourself on each exercise, because you can simply adjust your body position to add or decrease resistance.

FIT TIP #1: Stay strong to the "core." TRX training is referred to as "core centric" movement. All of the TRX exercises require you to stabilize therefore switch on all the core muscles.

FIT TIP #2: Get fit and functional. Functional exercises and TRX go hand in hand; they mimic ADL (activities of daily living).

FIT TIP #3: Concentrate on compound movements. TRX forces your body to use multiple joints and muscles when training (compound exercises) which helps with strength, balance and function.

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In May Candler Hills Golf Club will host the annual World Memorial Day Tournament Monday, May 31, with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. The format will be two best balls of four and you may create your own foursome. The cost is \$15 per player.

Golf is a wonderful game that we all love but don't forget about the most important part of golf, safety. If not careful, you can get injured in a variety of ways on the golf course. Here are some safety tips to help you in case of an emergency.

- Always call 911 first in emergency situations.
- Make sure to carry a mobile device in case of emergency.
- On Top of the World and Candler Hills scorecards have Golf Shop phone numbers and addresses in case of emergency.
- All Golf Course restrooms have addresses in case of emergency.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, May 15: Par 3 Challenge at The Tortoise & The Hare.
- Monday, May 31: World Memorial Day Tournament at Candler Hills.

World Accolades

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: John English, hole-in-one #13. Doug Hines, hole-in-one #15. Kay Budd, eagle #9. Dan Ossege, eagle #9 and 12. Dwight Weirich, eagle #5.

THE LINKS: Bill Maxwell, eagle #7. Randy Paul, hole-in-one #5. Garry Gerlach shot 71 one stroke under his age.

CANDLER HILLS: Mary Jo Lock,

eagle #18. Joe Schuberth, lowest score 69. Yeong Lee, hole-in-one #13. Glenn Nunn, hole-in-one #13. Chuck Engeman, hole-in-one #17. Beth Wolinsky, lowest score 89. Kate Beaty, eagle #7. Keven Lansing, eagle #7. Mike Altomare, eagle #12.

Congratulations!

Golf Tip of the Month

Flexibility is the key to a successful golf swing, which leads to a lower handicap. Increasing flexibility has many benefits to the golf swing; increased swing speed, an increase in range of motion, creates a more fluid swing and promotes overall better health. Here are a few drills you can do from the comfort of your home to increase flexibility and improve your game.

- Shoulder stretch: Hold a golf club above your shoulders and extend arms. Feel the stretch throughout your shoulders. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds.
- Back and leg stretch: Bend over at the hips and touch your toes. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds.
- Hip flexors stretch: This will help stretch your hips, legs and torso. Begin in a forward lunge position and raise your arms over your head. Keep your head up and stretch. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds.

Add these stretches into your daily routine and in about a week you should start to see the benefits on the golf course.

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Beautiful, warmer weather and longer days are appreciated by R/C Flyers; more flying! However, do we realize that all this great weather causes the grass to grow fast and full at the flying field, which requires maintenance. Fortunately, we have a great member of the club, Tom DiSanti, our field marshall, who coordinates many aspects of the required maintenance to our facilities. Tom coordinates the grounds care, schedules the work parties, and stays on top of other necessary upgrades to the flying field.

Tom DiSanti has lived here for three years and became a member of the R/C Flyers two years ago. Tom will tell you that he never flew R/C planes before joining the club. Tom started his training on R/C planes with Mike Betz and continued with Mike for about two months before he started solo flying. Within six months of joining the club, Tom became the club's field marshall. Tom now has a good size fleet of airplanes that he flies which include his Carbon Cub that he trained on, low winged aircraft, war birds; and he also now has jets that he flies. Tom readily admits to all the other R/C pilots, "I am hooked on R/C flying!" Well, Tom, I believe that there are many of us who can easily admit we are hooked. We are extremely fortunate to have this opportunity in our community!

There are now 170 club members in the R/C Flyers. There are a great number of really knowledgeable and friendly members willing to share information and techniques, whether it be about flying a particular aircraft or repairing an aircraft. As of this writing, there are seven new students in training and one pilot undergoing a refresher training according to Mike Betz, instructor coordinator. Welcome and thanks go out to our new flight instructor, Alex Fedele. Alex has been a previous instructor for 15 years in Massachusetts and has been flying R/C planes since 1984. Congratulations to two new pilots, Doug Stansbury and Steve Bilcich,



Photo by Dan Gaffin

Field Marshall Tom DiSanti.

who each received their pilot certificate award at the club's April meeting.

If you are interested at all in watching the pilots fly, we encourage you to come up to the flying

field. And if you are especially considering becoming a pilot, definitely come up to the flying field and talk to the pilots and watch them in action. There is also a lot of information available on the R/C Flyers

website at otowrcflyers.com about joining. If you still have questions, you may call the R/C Flyers Club president, Carl Schneider at (864) 344-7220.

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Tennis

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It is getting warmer, and my advice is the same every year – stay properly hydrated! Sports drinks are a pretty good choice, especially those with low or no sugar.

The good news is that several previous players are returning to the courts, as well as new players. The courts are filling up nicely.

And even better news is that with the help of Bridget Trenkle and Jim Sullivan, we now have a Facebook pages for tennis and POP tennis.

There are a number of new and former POP tennis enthusiasts who have shown much interest in playing; therefore, we assigned a couple of inside courts (seven and eight, in the lower area) for them Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 9 a.m. We have some paddles that anyone may borrow So, come on down and try it, perhaps you will like it!

Be Nice to Your Feet

Going beyond shoes, performance socks and insoles are part fashion and function – but more

importantly, they can keep you healthy. Thinking only of shoes when contemplating footwear shortchanges your feet.

Performance socks and insoles may not necessarily be keys to better play, but they do contribute to keeping you healthy. With proper fit, socks protect feet from blisters and germs. Quality workmanship and extra padding help reduce stress. Higher end materials manage moisture and keep feet from overheating inside the shoe.

As for insoles, they offer what nature may have failed to provide. They reshape and align the foot for a more anatomically supportive foundation, which benefits the lower body’s skeletal system. They also add extra protection for existing foot problems and insulation against the pounding of the court below.

The advice on when to replace socks and insoles is similar to that for shoes. Socks wear through their most beneficial attributes within about a year, if used once a week. Insoles produce reduced utility after approximately six months, if worn every day.

When it is time to shop for new tennis shoes, it’s also time to pick

up new high-performance socks, and possibly a replacement insole that conforms to the reality of your feet. Supporting adaptation to the different pressures on feet, some are anatomically shaped left/right footbed and offer arch compression and complete ankle cushioning. Additional comfort and security are provided through superior wicking ability, and built-in traction for the footbed. Some provide supportive zone cushioning, with particular attention paid to extra ankle support, right/left anatomically fit; antibacterial and advanced wicking properties through the insole, and anti-wear areas on the toes, first metatarsal and heel. Some offer exclusive fiber blends and long-lasting cushioning, robust padding in

high impact zones and throughout the toe box and elastic panels to enhance secure fit.

When shopping for shoes, it is my advice to purchase shoes made for tennis. Avoid cheap, chunky shoes or shoes made for running, with sharp edges and no lateral support. Remember that one of the most important items of your tennis equipment is your shoes. They support the entire weight of your body through the rigors of the sport, through constant shifting, sudden starts and sudden stops, moving forward and backwards and laterally. So, next time you shop for these items, think how important your feet are and how important it is to take good care of them. See you on the courts!



Archery Club

Leslie McCormick

Here is a look at the sport of target archery from the view of the Archery Club: busy, busy, busy! A range schedule is developed and posted for our members each month and when we opened the range in May 2020, the schedule was fairly simple with only a few days showing activity. A year later the schedule shows some type of planned activity almost every day! It is no wonder that Bill Millican, our director of pro shop and range operations, estimates that our 14 targets combined take 15 to 20,000 shots each week!

The highlight for April was our quarterly membership meeting which was held at the range and featured a guest speaker, Edna Jordan. Edna is a “senior” like us and has been participating in target archery for less than four years. She was the 2020 Florida Shooter of the Year with 16 total records set or broken. Her accomplishments are amazing. She shared how she practices (six days a week) and the wonderful opportunities that competitive archery has given her for travel and lasting friendships.

She opened up her presentation for a “Q and A” segment and shared information such as her breathing technique while shooting, the support she receives from her husband who gave her a dozen arrows for Valentine’s Day in lieu of roses and how she approaches competition – not against other archers but against herself, always focusing on a better personal score and then the rest falling in place.

The membership meeting wrapped up with the announcement that management has approved the new bulldog 48-inch by 48-inch targets with easy arrow pull. We are excited to receive these new targets and the expected benefits they will provide our members once management submits their purchase order. Bill described how the target faces are rotated like the face of a clock: 12/3/6/9, to extend the life of the targets.

Following up on the momentum of Edna’s presentation, the lady members of the club had a social gathering mid-month to discuss and share ideas to get more ladies involved in the club and the club’s activities.

During April, members participated in three club shoots organized by Jerry Hoppe, director of range events. One of the shoots was the second time for a Dart Board Challenge. In lieu of what you would recognize as a typical archery target (colored rings) the target was a dart board face at 20 yds, with archers shooting 30 arrows. There were two workshops offered to encourage more of our relatively new archers to come out for the club shoots. Etiquette at the shooting line and format for a tournament were explained such as the “A” group and “B” group as well as how to score and when to touch and remove arrows from the target.

As with all clubs, we are fortunate to have wonderful volunteers managing the daily activities at our range. 25 members came out for

an unplanned, spur-of-the-moment range clean-up morning! One of our volunteer teams is the safety committee under the leadership of Leo McCormick, director of safety and training. Leo held an information session for members who were interested in joining the safety committee with a follow up training program scheduled for those new members.

The first quarter of 2021 we welcomed 36 new members. If you are interested in learning about our club you are invited to come over to the range at the Veterans Park and see what we are all about. Membership information can be obtained at the range or from Leslie at llmccorm74@aol.com. All new members start with a required safety orientation session offered each Wednesday, including archery basics if you are new to the sport.

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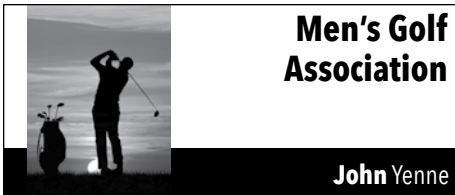
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Expanding membership and weekly player participation shows a welcome return to normal in the Men's Golf Association. Record membership reached 306 last month.

Please welcome our newest members: Peter Nagle, Dick Gromacki, Don Wheeler, Robert Corbett, Tommy Lowe and Julian Hobby.

Mark these upcoming events in your calendar:

- Wednesday, May 5: Scramble (The Links)
- Wednesday, May 12: Shamble Candler Hills invite (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Tuesday, May 18: MGA invited to Candler Hills
- Wednesday, May 26: Individual Low Net (The Links)

Individual Low Net

March 24/The Tortoise & The Hare
Flight 1: 68–Brian Wilder. 70–Joe Wilks. Tie at 71–Marty Brown, Rick Schriewer, Larry Gibson. Tie at 72–Ken Zweiback, Thomas Laclair, Greg McDowell.

Flight 2: 69–Jim Weaver. 72–Bruce Venslavsky. 73–Rusty Rhodes. Tie at 76–Charlie Taylor, Dave Cuvellier, Rick Plesea, David Miller, Dan Goggin.

Flight 3: Tie at 71–Mike Madura, Roy Coombes. Tie at 73–Gary Hassett, Roger Sparks. Tie at 74–Ruben Alvarez, Henry Sohl. Tie at 77–Larry Manion, Dale Budd, David Wohlleber, Richard Deschenes.

Flight 4: 69–Dale Clarke. Tie at 72–David Hannasch, Thomas Martinetto. 73–Ronald Grob. Tie at 74–Tom McHaffie, Paul Snyder. Tie at 75–Brad Weirick, Carl Zeiler.

Flight 5: 71–Bob Gee. Tie at 73–Norman Schulze, David Johnson. 74–David Garland. Tie at 75–Loren Magsam, Leonard Ruble, John Owen. 76–Clay Norgan.

Flight 6: 69–Nick James. 70–Douglas Coleman. Tie at 72–Bill Searight, Joe Polizzotti. 73–Tom Neville. Tie at 76–John Bauer, John Hartney. 79–Dennis Pope.

Individual Net 4 Clubs & Putter

March 31/The Links

Flight 1: 71–Jerry Englar. 72–Marty Brown. 73–Larry Gibson. 74–Anthony Morris. 75–Greg McDowell. Tie at 76–Terry Hubbartt, Garry Gerlach. 77–Brian Wilder. Tie at 78–David Butler, Bill Manny, William Cline. Flight 2: 67–Bruce Venslavsky. 69–Rick Plesea. Tie at 70–Rusty Rhodes, Gregory Dyer. Tie at 73–David Wohlleber, Paul Stoecklin, Dan Goggin. Tie at 74–Jim Weaver, Mike Ball. 75–Jim Lefaver.

Flight 3: 72–Dale Clarke. 73–Joseph Mandala. Tie at 74–Dwight Weirich, Ruben Alvarez. 76–Thomas Martinetto. Tie at 77–Rino D'amico, Henry Sohl. Tie at 79–Larry Manion, Roy Coombes, Joe Wong.

Flight 4: 67–David Hannasch. Tie at 68–Bob Marks, Bob Barbee. 74–Brad Weirick. Tie at 76–Larry Cordill, James McCormack, Damon Boston. 77–Steve Houston. 78–Ronald Grob. 79–Norm Hayworth.

Flight 5: Tie at 69–David Woitek, John Owen. 71–Bill Dobbins. Tie at 74–Tom Neville, David Garland. Tie at 76–Tim Williams, Mike Driver. Tie at 78–Charles Crenshaw, Fred Strelec, Ralph Solvold.

Flight 6: 66–Thomas Norris. Tie at 69–Charles Miele, John Bauer. 74–Bill Searight, Tom Cummings, Joe Polizzotti. Tie at 76–Nick James, Mike Lane. Tie at 78–John Hartney, Dennis Pope.

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We welcomed new members Bill McElroy, Robert Hilton and Robert Corbett.

Individual Quota

March 16

Flight 1: +2–David Butler. +1–Brian Guthier. Even–Joe Schuberth. -1–Mike Deahl. Tie at -2–David Fritz and Tommy Lowe

Flight 2: Tie at +2–David Fosdick and Bill Wallenstein. +1–Paul Rubly. -1–Rich Schriewer. Tie at -2–Rick Strynar and Rusty Zarrell

Flight 3: -4–Gilbert Green. Tie at -1–Mori Fierce and Dennis McCourt and Robert Springmann. -2–Lyle Gave.

Flight 4: +3–Don Edmond. Tie at Even–Richard Ross and Brad Best. Tie at -1–Tim Beaty and Joe Pruss.

Flight 5: +9–Bill Searight. +7–Edwin Ortiz. +6–Tom Nutt. +5–Dutch Schulze. +3–Frank Esposito.

Team Two Best Balls

March 30

Tie at -22–Tony Morris and Rusty Zarrell, James Dewey and Frank Esposito, Robert Jahnke and David Vermilya, Steve Thesman and Edwin Ortiz. Tie at -20–Mike Altomare and David Clune, Brad Best and Tom Joy,

Tom Presnick and Jim Kurlapski, George Brombacher and Marvin Brooks. Tie at -19–Paul Sepulveda and Lyle Gave, Joe Jingco and Bill Searight. Tie at -16–Mike Kelly and Bill Wallenstein, Mori Fierce and Donald Huston, Lonnie Page and Charlie Taylor, Don Edmond and Randy Ford. Closest to the pin #17–Bill Wignall. Closest to the pin #8–Sam Fox.

But both Bill and Sam missed their birdie putts!

Low Net Match Play Qualifier

April 6

Flight 1: Even–Bill Gurbisz. +1–Tom Presnick. +2–Paul Sepulveda. Tie at +3–David Fritz and Brian Gauthier.

Flight 2: -1–Mike Deahl. Tie at +3–David Butler and Paul Rubly. +4–Bilby Scholp.

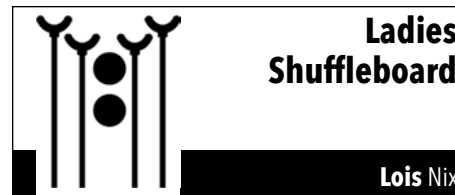
Flight 3: -2–Joe Pruss. Tie at -1–Joe Jingco and Larry Smallwood. +2–Mike Cunningham.

Flight 4: -2–Ken Zweiback. Tie at +4–Peter Vincelli and Dick Gromacki and Dennis McCourt.

Flight 5: -4–Brad Best. -3–James Dewey. Tie at -1–Sam Fox and Hal Levine

Flight 6: -8–Tim Williams. -2–Frank Esposito. +3–Bill Searight. +7–Marvin Brooks.

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



We are coming to the end of our 2020-2021 season on our new shuffleboard courts. We did have several interruptions throughout the season but that didn't stop us. Management supplies the equipment to play, and the mixed league maintains the courts and the surrounding area with some assistance from our ladies-only league.

On the side wall of the storage room is equipment for residents to use. Please after you shuffle make sure that the fans and the lights are off, the scoreboards are clean, and the equipment is returned to its proper place. On the bulletin

OTOWInfo.com

boards are the days and times that the clubs have reserved the courts.

Our summer schedule will be on Wednesdays at 9 and 11 a.m. and Mondays at 5:30 p.m. when we play 10 pin. We will keep score, with no weekly record keeping. Our first play of the summer is Wednesday, June 2. If safety guidelines are still in place, we will have to limit play to 20 women. This did work well for our season; 20 women at 9 a.m. and again at 11 a.m. Monday nights were lighter but well attended as we used some of the courts for practice. Shuffling is open to all resident women and those with the Gateway of Services pass. You do not need to know how to play.

We are ending our season with 68 paid members.

March

12–Lois Nix. Tie at 10–Darlene Clark, Marsha Lau. Tie at 9–Kathy Kloos, Sandy Welch.

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



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FITNESS SCHEDULE

May 2021

Recreation Center Ballroom

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM	Chair Yoga* Maureen		Chair Yoga* Haley		Chair Yoga* Sandra
10:00 AM	Balanced Body* Tucker		S.O.S* Larry		Balanced Body* Ingrid
11:00 AM	Strength & Stretch* Tucker		Zumba® Gold* Kitti		Strength & Stretch* Tucker

***Face masks are mandatory**

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

Recreation Fitness Center orientations and balance assessments are free by appointment only. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534 to schedule.

Arbor Conference Center (Dance Studios I, II, III)

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 AM	Yoga* Mary			Yoga* Kathy	

***Face masks are mandatory**

Arbor Fitness Center Pool

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6:00 AM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
7:00 AM	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
8:00 - 9:00 AM	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Deep Water Fitness Class**	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Deep Water Fitness Class**	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Deep Water Fitness Class**
10:00 - 11:00 AM	Open	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Open
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Closed for Cleaning	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 - 1:30 PM	Aqua Aerobics Club	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Aqua Aerobics Club	Shallow Water Fitness Class**	Aqua Aerobics Club
1:30 PM	Open Swim 1:30 - 2:30 PM	Water Volleyball 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Open	Water Volleyball 1:30 - 3:30 PM	Open Swim 1:30 - 2:30 PM
2:30 PM	Deep Water** 2:30 - 3:30 PM				Deep Water** 2:30 - 3:30 PM
3:30 PM	Open	Open		Open	Open

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

For pool inquiries, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7639.

**** Fee-based class**

Arbor Fitness Center orientations and posture assessments are free by appointment only. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7638 to schedule.



Fitness Happenings

Cammy Dennis
(352) 854-8707 ext. 7532
cammy_dennis@otowfl.com

Meet Quincy Henry!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the Arbor Fitness Center's new Supervisor and Personal Trainer Quincy Henry. Quincy is an A.C.E. certified personal trainer possessing a deep desire to service the On Top of the World community. His coaching philosophy and exercise prescriptions are designed to improve health and quality of life.

Quincy is an advocate for the value of strength as we age, with an emphasis on developing and maintaining a high quality of movement and function. Quincy can assist you with improving strength, balance, posture, mobility and weight management. Stop by the Arbor Fitness Center and get to know Quincy during our "Ask the Coach" sessions Thursdays at noon. Bring your questions and get advice from an active aging expert!

I asked Quincy to talk about his motivation for making fitness his full-time career.

Quincy: "I was motivated to make fitness my full-time career by the mentors and coaches I have looked up to over the years. I am humbled and grateful to call coaching my full-time career, as it's been a long road to get here. I know firsthand how big of an impact fitness can have on one's life; it saved mine. The sense of well-being, independence, and confidence one gets from being fit is magical and I continue to be motivated every day by the changes I see in my clients."

Why are you so drawn to coaching the active aging population?

Quincy: "The active aging population is an ever-growing demographic, but unfortunately there are an estimated 49 million people in the 55-plus age group who would not currently be classified

as “active.” Through little fault of their own, many just don’t know where to begin, and the fitness industry is often at fault. Marketing fads and gimmicks ultimately leave people feeling disenfranchised and confused. I see this as a disservice and something I aim to correct. In my eyes, the older adult population is full of energy, potential, and wisdom. They should know and feel that they are as capable as anyone is at any age. Small improvements in movement quality, mobility, and increases and strength can create a meaningful, lasting change in one’s quality of life. I try to simplify things and make effective, efficient exercise accessible to all. To witness these meaningful changes and help empower residents is what draws me to working with this incredible and dynamic population.”

What is the “one big thing” you could advise older adults to help



Photo by Cammy Dennis
**Supervisor and Personal
Trainer Quincy Henry.**

them age optimally?

Quincy: “Understand that life is a sport with a clock that doesn’t stop ticking. You are an “athlete of aging” and we must keep ourselves prepared for what life can throw at us. Be it injury, illness, or conditions outside of our control, strength makes you better prepared. Strength doesn’t mean bench pressing 500 pounds or lifting the back end of a car. No, strength has a higher purpose. Strength is a mindset, and the ability to do the

things you need or want to do every day without depending on assistance. A few examples are: getting up and down from a chair or the floor, moving a wheelbarrow around the yard as you garden, carrying groceries into the house, or picking up the grandchildren. Age can sneakily deteriorate, and so will these abilities over time. We must practice and train them. So, my one big thing ... I advise to age optimally. Don't be afraid to be strong; the game of life requires it."





Hi, my name is Zack and I am disrespectfully referred to as the “little white shack on the edge of the racetrack.” Well, let me tell you if we were launching missiles, I would be respectfully referred to as SpaceX Command Center or Houston Control.

To give you an idea of my importance, we race 15 qualifying races, and 15 points race a day in six-car heats averaging 8.5 laps per race. My computer system is linked to the track sensors and I record approximately 1,500 lap times for all cars on a single day. We race twice a week, every week of the year, and so move over Elon Musk, we are keeping track of 150,000 laps a year versus your 12 launches a year.

The races are arranged into six-car heats with the fastest from the preceding practice placed into A-Main, the next fastest into B-Main, and in some cases C-Main. I print schedules showing 15 heats for both the qualifying and points races which my assistants post at the drivers stand. At day’s end, the winners of each of the eight classes and the car with the fastest lap times are determined. Races last three minutes with amazing driving and some crashes. Not to worry, the cars are very durable and usually survive collisions with minor scratches.

Some of you wonder where the entertaining race manager’s voice comes from, well, it is from me. I have a very well-designed PA system, which is used to announce each class, starting and finishing signals, and individual lap times. It is entertaining because our announcer gets quite humorous on occasion which makes watching really fun. Race day usually lasts for three hours on Tuesdays and Saturdays with the first start at 9 a.m. during the summer schedule. There is now a new class of cars called the Legend that is racing on Thursdays at 10 a.m. These are cute little model cars from the 30s and 40s. They have magnificent paint jobs and look like the cars that Bonnie and Clyde drove but without the bullet



Photo by Gene Mangold

Little white shack on the edge of the racetrack.

holes.

The track utilization is increasing dramatically with racing three days a week, car practicing, and maintenance every day. There are now 88 members and many of the regular drivers have multiple cars, so we have hundreds of cars.

Oh, I forgot, I take all those lap times mentioned above and post the results of each heat so drivers can see how they did. I keep my

assistants running back and forth from me to the driver’s stand posting board, they are making 30 to 40 round trips per day. They like the summer schedule with the start time at 9 a.m. when temperatures are cooler. When it gets cooler in October, we will go back to the winter schedule of 1 p.m. starts.

Please see below the March 2021 certificate winners or eight classes
Rage-Michael (Mike) Beyer.

Two-wheel buggy-Ron Kaulfersch. Novice-Jerry Maguire. Two-wheel truck-Bob Zangmeister. Four-wheel buggy-Paul Burrey. Four-wheel truck-Dave Clark. Touring Cars-Bob Zangmeister. GT Stock- Bob Herbst.

Please come out for the races and see me, the “little white shack on the edge of the racetrack.” If you would like more information, contact Fred Penichet at (914) 588-7293 or fredpenichet@msn.com.

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If you are interested in learning how to play cornhole, we are conducting a basic cornhole training class Wednesday, May 12, at 1 p.m. at the Veterans Park courts. To participate, contact Bill Ballweg at otowcornhole@yahoo.com. Our Saturday, March 13, Cornhole Club picnic broke attendance records for the third year in a row. Thanks to our club members who attended and made it a big success. We are already looking forward to next year!

OPEN PLAY: Excellent turnout continues in our spring/summer open play schedule. With players arriving prior to our advertised start time of 7 p.m. each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, play usually starts about 30 minutes early because we begin when the first 24 players sign in. But regardless of when you sign in, you still get to play, have a great time and get home around 8 p.m.

Since our April column was published, we have had several additions to our Cornhole Club open play Hall of Fame, which recognizes players who have a run of consecutive three-point shots. New to the list is Charles Lemme (seven in a row, which he accomplished twice in one week); and Glen Richard and Bob Helf had five in a row. Congratulations to all of you!

Who will be the first to hit eight in a row? Check the complete list on the storage room door and see what the parameters are for your name to be added to the Hall of Fame during open play.

For more information on open play, contact Jim Russell at jimrussell44@outlook.com.

LEAGUE PLAY: The men's league was very competitive and ended up with a three-team battle for the championship. The winter season winner was the Undertakers (Bob Helf and Bill Ballweg), second place was the Professors (Joe Lawson and Dave Rearick), and following closely behind was the Corn Slingers (Charles Lemme and Glen Richards). The bags are already flying in our spring season, which includes a number of very good teams so it will be an exciting season. The winner of the mixed winter season league was the Teachers (Donna Hansen and Joe Lawson) with an impressive 23 to one record. With back-to-back championships the Teachers have taught the other teams in the league they are the best in class. Finishing in second was the Cornhuskers (Robin and Bill Ballweg). The women's league is finishing up its second successful season, with two new teams joining the original four teams, for many very competitive matches. We look forward to the league resuming competition in the fall, hopefully welcoming some more new teams. For more information about any of our league play formats, contact Bill Ballweg at waballweg@yahoo.com.



Photo by Rhea Russell
Cornhole Club members enjoying our third annual picnic at the Veterans Park.

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New Dancin' On the Top

Arlo Janssen

The spring season is well underway here in Florida and Memorial Day is our next big holiday event. All New Dancin' On the Top Club officers wish you and your family a wonderful Memorial Day. We want you and our family of dancers to be safe and healthy this summer. We

want you to enjoy dancing when it returns full time to our great community.

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

The New Dancin' On the Top Club membership cards are here and will be available for our members at our first dance. Preparations are

underway for our 2021 dances to be held later this year. Please watch for any future changes to our New Dancin' On the Top calendar. Our club members are anxious to do more dancing this year!

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

dance nights.

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



Ballet Club

Eugenie Martin

It is hard to believe that the Ballet Club has been going strong for almost 15 years. In 2006 we started with four members and now we have over two dozen. Not all dancers participate in all classes, however. Classes usually contain seven to 10 dancers, which permits

us to dance with social distancing, and gives the teacher time to correct and help individual dancers, if needed. Members of the group get along very well, socializing before and after class, and having friendships outside of class.

Our new Beginner/Technique class is going very well, with five new dancers having joined us, and more experienced dancers using the class to improve their technique. In addition, the more experienced dancers sometimes help beginners in a very kind way, so that

less experienced dancers can learn while feeling they are part of the "dance family."

Newcomers are always welcome to our classes, and no ballet clothes are necessary to start. All you need are stretchy exercise clothes and socks, plus a mask and bottle of water. I suggest that all potential dancers call me in advance of coming to class, so I can learn about any past dance experience, and point you in the direction of the class that best fits you.

All of our classes are held in the

Arbor Conference Center Ballet Room, just to the left of the restrooms. Our weekly schedule is as follows:

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

For information about the Ballet Club, please contact me at (352) 854-8589 or eugeniemartin@aol.com. Happy dancing!

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.



Shuffleboard

Walter Lamp

The summer schedule will begin in the first week of May. We have captains for all three shifts: Monday, 9 a.m.; Tuesday, at 1 p.m.; and Thursday, 9 a.m. In the summer, there are no individual scoring records kept; just scores of the games to determine who wins or loses.

Plans are being made for the upcoming season in September. We are hoping for a 35th anniversary celebration in September around the time the season actually be-

gins. We are waiting for more details and permission to use one of the pavilions outside; details to follow.

The club officers for the next season are the same individuals who have carried us through the past year. They are Jane Boyer, president; Walt Lamp, vice president; Annette Hodges, treasurer; and Joe and Jane Bartosh, secretaries.

March

Men/Women

Monday a.m.: Charlie Lentz/Vicki Lentz. 32-Vicki Lentz. 30-Joe Bartosh.

Tuesday p.m.: Lou Fisher & Bill Weir/Jane Boyer.

Thursday a.m.: Phil Weiner/Annette Hodges.



Call of the Wild

Roger Bonifield

Well, we are finally underway again. We just had our first official meeting in over a year, and everyone was excited about being back together and looking forward to the many events we have planned for the future. We welcomed a number of new members and had some great times exchanging our fishing and outdoor stories with those we hadn't seen in quite some time.

It won't be long before many of our special activities like our famous fish fry, among other events, are back on the schedule again. As soon as capacity restrictions permit, we will resume scheduling guest speakers on a variety of topics multiple times a year. We plan to restart our relationship with local charter captains for area fishing trips; and with a new director of hunting and shooting sports, we hope to provide more opportunities for members with those interests. Several other fun activities like shore fishing trips, picnics and more are in the planning stages.

So, if you would like to be a part of what we are doing, or better yet, help us plan and coordinate any of these great activities, please feel to join us. Our next meeting will be at the Veterans Park pavilion Wednesday, May 5, at 1 p.m. and anyone is welcome to attend as long as we stay below the capacity restrictions of that facility at that time. Face masks and social distancing restrictions will be in place.

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

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

May 5th
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May 9th
MOTHER'S DAY
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May 16th
NATIONAL BBQ DAY
BBQ Sandwich special!

May 18th
NATIONAL NO DIRTY DISHES DAY
Come out and eat and we'll clean up for you!

May 25th
NATIONAL WINE DAY
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Arbor Fitness Center

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Stop by, ask the coach, and up your fitness game!



**Sidekicks
Western Dance**

Paula Shira

April showers bring May flowers and the Sidekicks' end of season party. By the time you read this we will be within days of our traditional year end party, but it will be a new tradition this year; it will be held outside. We will celebrate our season of dancing, officially welcome the newest Sidekicks and enjoy ice cream, cookies and dancing. Beginners will continue to dance until the end of July. This will allow them to learn a few more dances before officially joining the main

group when the fall dance season starts. Our main group will take the rest of May off and then dance in June and July using a combination of workshops and regular dance sessions.

When we restart in the fall, we will use a slightly revised system. We are hoping that we will be able to dance with more than 50 people on the dancefloor but if not, we will find a way to work around it and have as many Sidekicks on the floor as possible. We are planning on a weekly full hour workshop class. This class will lead directly to the main dance session where the dance that was taught in the first hour will be danced by the entire club during the second hour.

We know that there are some

dances everyone knows, some dances very few people know and a lot of dances in the middle. Those are the dances that everyone has seen, most people like, but not everyone has benefitted from being taught the dance. We are also planning for our next beginner class so if you are interested in joining Sidekicks Partner Dance Club, stand by for more information.


As we wrap up this season and look forward to the next season, Sidekicks coordinators are so grateful to each and every member of this incredible club. You have supported us through thick and thin. You are all incredible and we are so happy to dance with each and every one of you.

Even on weeks when we do not

have an official dance session there are plenty of opportunities to dance. There is pre-recorded music on The Town Square Thursdays and Fridays and live music on Saturdays. Look for us on the outside circle as we dance around the line dancers. If the dance looks familiar or if you just think it looks like fun (which it is), hop in the circle and dance with us.

Visit patternndancers.wixsite.com/sidekicks or check us out on Facebook. We are Sidekicks Partner Dance Club.

The Sidekicks circle is never complete without each and every one of you and there is always room for more. Please stay safe, follow all the protocols in place, and dance every chance you get.



Line Dancing

Nancy Carmack

Line dancing continues to be a popular hobby even while going through all the limitations and challenges we've experienced during the past year. We are now winding down for the end of the dance season. Our practice leaders have done an excellent job of keeping the classes going during the interim period since Marilyn McNeal retired.

All Beginner classes will end

Monday, May 24. Practice sessions will most likely continue through July. Leaders will keep you informed. Darlene Miller will be the new professional line dance teacher for Beginner and Improver Plus classes starting in September. Her phone number will be published when the new dance season starts. Theresa Field's news column will have updated information regarding schedules and when to purchase passes for these classes.

Freddie Sharp's Intermediate class will dance through July and take August off before returning in September. For further information, call her at (352) 387-7775.

In addition to these classes,

Sheryl Bradley is now teaching line dancing in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios on Thursdays. She focuses mostly on country music. The schedule for her classes follows:

- Improver/Low Intermediate: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Beginner Level 1 & 2: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Absolute Beginner: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

For further information, she can be reached via e-mail at sbradley057@yahoo.com.

Even though we don't have official dance classes during the summer months, we can still enjoy dancing by going to The Town

Square Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 7 to 10 p.m. We have our recorded favorites on Thursdays which brings out many of our line and pattern dancers. There is a different variety of recorded music on Fridays and live entertainment Saturdays, which also gives dancers a chance to use their experience in deciding which dance they can do to the particular music that is being played. Being able to match dances to music being played is a fun and challenging skill and makes learning different dance rhythms very worthwhile.

Think about joining us for great fun, good exercise and socializing with friends!



Bocce

Micki Malsch

This is how we roll! League play ended Tuesday, April 27 with the best of bocce. The winners will be announced in the June edition of the World News.

The new league season begins Tuesday, Oct. 5. League play will remain Tuesdays, at 11 a.m. As of this writing, face masks remain mandatory.

Dues are \$5 per player and cover the cost of liability insurance. This entitles you to play as many times as you want when league or open are played. Any league representative can give you the form to fill out

and collect your dues

Open bocce is played Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Please arrive a few minutes early so that a count can be taken and the numbers of players per court can be decided upon. Restrictions have been lifted and all six courts are being utilized. Mandatory social distancing is in effect for open bocce, masks or face coverings are recommended. Social distancing guidelines will affect the number of players per court.

Open bocce is a good opportunity to practice or learn the game. Anyone who shows up can play. Teams are determined by the luck of the draw. This is your chance to watch and learn or play, however as a new player, once you have played with the league on three occasions

you will be expected to join the League, pay dues, and sign a Release and Hold Harmless consent form.

Due to mandatory restrictions of the number of people permitted for indoor social gathering, the banquet scheduled for Saturday, May

8, has been cancelled.

A directory is in the storage unit which contains an alphabetical list of all members. Please make sure you have entered your name and contact information.

All are welcome to watch and learn or play. Until we roll again ...

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Co-Ed Recreational Softball

Sherry Winn

On a Saturday in mid-May our wonderful group will be back to play Co-Ed Community Recreational Softball on the new and improved field. Mentor Dave Rearick will be guiding Austin Easterling and Bernie Bossert to prep and chalk the diamond.

Warm spring weather will more regularly welcome us to a new season. We'll continue to tease "Yankees" Frank Dragos during the shoulder stretch and then Captain Rich Munsell will remind us how to "cap on, cap off" to improve our running during pre-game warmups. Newbie Carleton Chin Queen's infectious good attitude brightens the morning as Karen and Kevin Jen-

son head down from the pickleball courts to lead and ensure our teams are balanced. (Depending on the day, we will field eight to 16 players per side.)

"Buzzsaw" Buzz Polek is now our main pitcher, while wife Dee keeps score when another pitcher, Denis Pitman's family member isn't here. Our pitchers are further rounded out with "No Fail" Dale Clark, recently added Rick Anchors, Frank and Kevin. Our original pitcher, Mary Selm, now unfortunately has family commitments.

Catcher George Conser still has great muscle memory which enables him to keep playing, and Angela McCormack surprised her athletic husband Jim one day by hitting over his head at shortstop!

Though most folks have their preferred positions, we're all flexible. The infield most often consists of "Star" Robin Ballway, "Laughing" Lisa Dragos and Joe "Mets" Manzel-

lo at first. Mike Benes (who really can throw overhand from second when a win is on the line), Bernie Lion still roars, Karen Jenson keeps everyone on point and Arlene Carleton who is joyfully finding her inner athlete prefer second. Austin Easterling and Richard "The Rabbit" Anderson cover the rover position exceptionally well.

On shortstop, you'll often find dependable Barb Doughtry (who shares her new bat), "Crush It" Chris Lopez, Jim McCormack and "Phun" Phil Schenck when they're not working. Jose "The Jester" Lopez and Frank Dragos have powerful, accurate arms from third base.

Snowbirds Dick Drew and Joe Sanders join us when they're in residence; newbies Jim Rousseau and Gary Keller are finding their places, while Jim and Judy Sullivan, Mark Uberstine and David Levins are forming new "Friendships" outside their "Village."

Joe Mosley is now a "Working Joe," Gary Hamilton, Scott Bloch and Sandy Hoskins have been bitten by the pickleball bug but hopefully, now that those courts will be enlarged and closed, maybe we'll see them on occasion.

Yours truly keeps things running, plays wherever needed, cheers everyone on and recruits potential players.

If you're a new resident waiting in the wings, rest assured our ranks are always flexing based upon the day.

Yes, we will continue to play during the summer with fans and misters in the new dugouts. Please bring lots of water for hydration.

During construction, On Top of the World will provide temporary, alternative access to parking and the field across from the driving range.

We look forward to seeing you Saturdays, at 9 a.m.



Softball

Tom Sheridan

The Softball Club closed out its winter season with a final game Wednesday, April 7, a few weeks earlier than scheduled to take advantage of planned field improvements by On Top of the World crews. Members and their partners celebrated the season finale with a barbecue Thursday, April 8, at the pavilion.

Team Dreamers, coached by Dave "Cork" Clune, was crowned season champs, topping the standings in the eight-team league with a 16 to seven record.

Softball will be back in mid-May for the spring-summer season, offering residents a great opportunity for competition, friendship and exercise. Not to mention bringing a wonderful, exciting spectator sport to the community.

When games resume, players will enjoy spanking new dugouts which replace the original structures, now many years old. In addition, crews will have laser-leveled the infield and reseeded the outfield.

The league expects to field six teams for the summer season. Vacation schedules and the flight of snowbirds north typically reduce

the number of players available. In the winter season the league had eight teams and with continued growth the club anticipates possibly more in the fall.

Summer league players can expect to experience some minor inconvenience while other major amenities work continues in the area through August. Heavy construction will close the access road

to the field and pavilion area while several new pickleball courts, new parking areas and a drainage retention area are built. However, On Top of the World will create a temporary parking area beyond the outfield to accommodate players.

"The club and its members really appreciate the effort community leaders are making so we can continue this great amenity during

construction," said Jeff Thomas, chair of the Softball Club's board.

During the season break, practices may be curtailed by construction as well. However, current, new and prospective players can take advantage of several softball clinics planned for May. New players are welcome anytime. For information about softball, contact tomsherdan.fl@gmail.com.



Photo by Tom Sheridan

Team Dreamers reigns as champions of the winter season. Coach "Cork" Clune is bottom right.

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Sessions Orient Members on Wood Shop Tools

By Susan Yenne
World News Writer



Photo by Susan Yenne

Dave Keitz conducts an orientation session on tools at the Hobby Building Wood Shop.

Alcohol Ink

By Elizabeth Wales

Last month Anne wrote about the Art Group's drawing exercises at our Wednesday sessions. As she said, practice is always good, and these days we have lots of time on our hands to give new things a try.

This month I want to introduce a different form of art called alcohol ink. It is certainly not new, but is catching on and becoming a very popular, abstract way to create interesting art works. One uses spe-

cial paper called YUPO®, and the ink is found in craft and hobby stores. Plain 91% isopropyl alcohol is available at drug stores. The only other items you need are an eye dropper, tiny paint brush, small gauze pads, and a drinking straw. Not many supplies or a big investment are necessary. The paper is a bit expensive, but you can cut it into pieces to create small images that can be pasted onto greeting card paper to make

a handmade special card for your family and friends. Dropping tiny spots of colored ink onto the paper and allowing it to drip creates surprising pictures. Often, they morph into flowers blooming, and adding different colors plus alcohol, drop by drop, make the hues blend and make new shapes appear.

Beginning in May there will be instruction on this activity at our usual Thursday meetings in the Hobby Building Art Room from 9 a.m. to noon. Should anyone be interested in learning about alcohol ink, I will be there to assist and

them. In each session, with up to six Wood Shop members attending, Keitz explains how the tool works, what it can be used for, how to safely use the tool, what not to do and other best practices. Nothing is created in the session.

"I started the sessions because I have a little more discretionary time this year and I have always promoted the shop as an opportunity for a new recreation for folks who come to On Top of the World," Keitz said. "Helping inexperienced residents get comfortable with the machines is part of that."

Each session goes from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, when the shop closes to other work so participants can hear. To sign up for a session, members must go to the Wood Shop. If a session is filled, a member can sign up as an alternate or for a future session. Keitz plans to keep offering the sessions until everyone who wants to has had an opportunity to participate.

"They are well-organized, including a printed outline," said Bill Bender, who has attended three sessions. "Dave presents clear explanations regarding the safe and effective operation of equipment based on his long wood-working experience."

He said participants also learn where things are stored in the Wood Shop and clever fixtures that have been made to help with specific tools. Even if a member is familiar with the tools, the sessions are helpful. "The 'icing on the cake' is when Dave ends the sessions with the offer that if we have any questions or need help, 'just give him a call,'" Bender said.

The Wood Shop has more than 230 members this year. Only seven are allowed to work at one time because of space constraints and safety rules. The shop is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, with the busiest times from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Members are encouraged to join a shop cleanup at 6 p.m. Thursdays. A board member working alone takes nearly two hours; a helper cuts the time to an hour.

share my supplies. This activity is easily taught to grandchildren of almost all ages, so it is actually possible to get them away from their phones for a little while!

The Art Group is very informal, and all new residents are warmly invited to any or all of our various meetings. Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon and Wednesdays, from noon to 4 p.m. are also in our schedule, so any resident can bring their own art supplies and join us. We are easily able to keep a social distance from one another.



Photo by Elizabeth Wales

Sample of alcohol ink painting creations.

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While Seth Fair took home the 2021 Ocala Open title and the \$15,000 first place check, the event netted \$80,000 for the real winners, the benefiting charities. Interfaith Emergency Services and Hospice of Marion County each received \$40,000 as a result of the success of the tournament. Without your contribution, this would not have been possible.

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Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr

Life is slowly starting to feel a little more normal. Let's hope we continue on this path.

As we still cannot meet, I would like to invite cardmakers to send me a photo of a card they are especially proud of. This is the time to show off your creativity! I will submit a photo monthly until we are meeting in person again.

Our group is open to all crafters – beginners or those more experienced. One or two people do a presentation each month. The group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

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

For information on any class or for general information, contact Kathy at the number/email below. There are basic supplies that are needed, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and card stock. Everyone in the group shares their supplies and everyone brings new ideas to the table. You are only limited by your imagination!

If you feel this might be a class you would enjoy, or if you have any questions; please contact Kathy Hoefer at (352) 237-6439 or kathyh508@yahoo.com. We look forward to introducing new people to our fun craft. Until then, keep on stampin'!



Photo by Cathy Lewandowski

Cathy Lewandowski's open book wedding card.



Pat Szabo.

Photo by Gail Schultz



Sunshine Quilters

Karen Luther

Come join Sunshine Quilters! We welcome anyone interested in quilting. One-on-one mentoring is available to all. The club meets on Tuesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. as well as our weekly sit and sew on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room.

Yearly membership dues are \$10. A club meeting is held once a month. Our focus is on supporting Alpha Center for Women and Marion Senior Services, as well as learning new sewing techniques, working on our own projects, and socializing among members. This month we welcome our newest member, Cheryl. For more information about Sunshine Quilters, contact Lisa at (610) 304-1273.

Our upcoming Tuesday calendar of events is as follows:

- May 4: Monthly meeting followed with sewing caddy by Yolanda.
- May 11: Block of the month by Gail.
- May 18: Rag quilt by Ruth.
- May 25: Sit and sew.
- June 1: Monthly meeting.

This month, Sunshine Quilters features club member, Pat Szabo.

Pat is a native of Michigan City, Indiana. She and her husband Joe, married 42 years ago, moved to On Top of the World in 2000 from Venice, Florida. Pat credits her mother as her inspiration for her quilting interest. Using her Kenmore sewing machine, she completes many projects with her favorite being a crazy quilt. Pat uses the Google search engine for finding sewing tutorials and information when she has a question.

Pat has been our liaison for the past five years working closely with Alpha Center for Women and Marion Senior Services, which both are organizations we currently support. Each month, she diligently collects up the comfort quilts that club members have completed and ensures they have a Sunshine Quilters label on the backing. She then delivers the quilts to the two organizations. We are appreciative of our members who graciously make these lap to crib size comfort quilts and those that quilt them.

Pat finds much satisfaction in assisting with this project. She states, "While working in the library system, I saw the value of community service. Passing on information and resources to the public was rewarding, so I continue." She feels both centers provide a great service and a positive impact on the people they serve. Alpha House has received 13 quilts since the first of 2021 from the Sunshine Quilters.

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

Master the Possibilities is excited to announce the kick-off date for the upcoming term. Mark your calendar now for Wednesday, May 26, and visit our website from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day for a complete lineup, sneak peek, and pre-registration of courses for July through December 2021.

Our kick-off this term will be a virtual experience with videos, handouts and tons of information on what to expect with our upcoming Harvest of Knowledge curriculum. More than 50 instructors can be viewed with tidbits about course content and what can be expected when attending a course of that na-

ture. All registrants that day will be placed in a drawing for a chance to win a free class.

With more than 750 class opportunities next term, there is sure to be something for almost anyone who wants to continue learning.

Have we grabbed your attention yet? Well, if not, here are just a few of the upcoming courses: "Croc-tober Celebration," "Barefoot Yoga in the Park," "9/11" History channel documentary, "Remembering Pearl Harbor," the "Holiday Extravaganza," and "The Bear Didn't Do It." See you at masterthepossibilities.org Wednesday, May 26 to participate in this much-anticipated kick-off.

Did you know that Master the Possibilities hosts a week-long intergenerational event every summer? This year's Ageless Adventures will be held the week of July 12 with more than 15 courses adults and

children may take together. Unlike like a children's camp, this event is structured for an adult and child to share the learning experience together.

Learn about our Solar System or learn a dance routine together. Fly different drones or experience a presentation from Martha Washington. Take an in-depth look at unique animal adaptations for their survival, meet the Circle Square Ranch cows, or try your hand at stained glass and make a stepping-stone together.

Registration is happening right now for this week-long event. As a reminder, our courses are open to the public. An adult may bring more than one child to class, but a registration must be completed for each participant. For more information, or to sign up for our Ageless Adventures events, visit our

website 24/7 at masterthepossibilities.org.

For more information or to receive registration help, call our main office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (352) 861-9751.

Don't forget, we are still Learning Without Limits here at Master the Possibilities. There are more than 250 course opportunities this month for a person to always be a student! When visiting our classrooms, please remember that we are still following CDC guidelines in our classes. Students are required to bring and wear a mask while in our buildings and follow social distancing with seating. Our team will continue to disinfect all classrooms prior to each class meeting, so our students may feel comfortable when participating in any of our courses.



Ageless Adventures takes place the week of July 12.

Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

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Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky

Last month we talked about rain songs for April showers. This month I thought we should talk about May flowers. I did a search for flower songs and found 68. It made me smile to find so many flower songs for children. “The Farmer Plants Some Seeds” is sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” Children’s songs are usually happy songs. I thought what are some rain songs that can bring us happily into May.

We all know “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head.” In that song the lyrics remind us that “You’ll Never Stop the Rain by Complaining.” We are also told, “The blues they send to meet me won’t defeat me. It won’t be long ‘til happiness steps up to greet me.” I bet you were just singing that to yourself.

“Pennies from Heaven” is another song that helps you to keep things in perspective and recognize that you are a lot more blessed than you may feel. We are told to make sure our umbrella is upside down to catch all the blessings raining down.

We are still waiting for the time we can safely return to karaoke. This is such a social activity. We need to follow all directives given by On Top of the World for the safety of the group.

For our singers out there, we want you to be prepared for when we can return. Health microphone covers will be mandatory, and we ask all singers to bring one with you. Put yours on before singing and remove it for the next singer.

Why not take some time now to get some new songs ready? Keep a song in your heart until we meet again!



Photo by Kathy Petrosky
May flowers.



View from the Library

Linda Barilli

In “I Owe You One” by Sophie Kinsella, Fixie finds herself getting more and more involved in the family retail business, a popular place in town. Fixie has been brought up with family values. Family comes first, no matter what. But that gets a little complicated as the siblings become adults and the various personalities come into play. Of course, there are romantic entanglements thrown into the mix.

Kinsella is a wonderful storyteller; she does not skip a beat. And all’s well that ends well.

This and other Kinsella books can be found in softcover fiction.

“Solo” is by Jill Mansell, a British author of romantic comedy. Ross and Max are brothers. Both are eligible, devilishly handsome, and excessively wealthy. Women fall at their feet.

Holly is head over heels for Max, but he detests everything about her.

Ross has fooled around and fell in love with Tessa, who is extremely independent and playing hard to get, even though she finds herself in a compromising situation.

Page by page this becomes an exceedingly funny story, having the best witty dialogues you’ve read in a long time. There are non-stop twists and turns, making this a book you can’t put down. “Solo” can be found in hardcover fiction.

“A Shell of a Problem” by Jennifer L. Schiff is a Sanibel Island Mystery. Guinevere (Guin) Jones has moved from Connecticut to Sanibel Island, Florida. She lands a job with the local newspaper writing articles about the shell community, which

is very prominent in the immediate area. The Golden Junonia becomes the hot topic in more ways than one. Guin gets embroiled in a murder investigation. She also finds unexpected romance along the way.

This is a slow, easy read, a great book for beach reading. “A Shell of a Problem” can be found in the Florida section of our library.

“Awaken My Heart” by Diana Mills takes place in Texas in the early 1800s. Marianne is a pretty señorita, 18 years old, the daughter of Weston Phillips. Phillips is greedy for more land, wanting to displace the Mexican families that live in La Flor Valley, so his cattle can have more grazing land. As Marianne rides her milky white stallion Diablo, she comes across Armando Garcia. He is the protector of La Flor Valley and its inhabitants. He is challenged by the fact that this valuable land is wanted by the government and Weston Phillips.

One of the rougher members of his group decides that the way to stop Phillips is to kidnap his beautiful daughter. But she is not sure that she is more valued by her father than the land he wants to possess. Marianne is frightened, but her faith helps her to endure. Marianne is sympathetic to the Mexican families and begins to be accepted by them. The outcome is a little surprising. This book can be found in hardcover fiction.



Concert Chorus

David Wesenberg

I was recently singing one Saturday afternoon at Circle Square Commons with a doo wop group when a lady came up to me asked if I was the guy who sang with the Concert Chorus. I asked her if she enjoyed the chorus and she said they were wonderful! She said she always looks forward to the chorus performances.

Well, the future is looking brighter for chorus activities in later summer and fall in preparation for the holiday program. If you are a member or want to be member, start vibrating your tonsils and exercising your voice. If you love being in the audience stay tuned.

Our fall concert focuses on music for the holidays. Sharing familiar songs, and introducing a few new unfamiliar songs is great fun for our wonderful audiences and great fun to sing.

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

Singing is always a lot of fun!

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

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Putt! Putt!

By B.J. Leckbee
World News Writer

Among the amenities available to residents (and Gateway of Services pass holders) of our community is one that hasn't been used much during the past year. It doesn't require a card or a club membership, and it's available from dawn to dusk. It's located between the Recreation Center and the Hobby Building.

You've probably guessed that it's the miniature golf course.

Phillip Hisey and Andy Jorgensen teamed up to rebuild this course in 2009, and it was completed in May 2010. The course underwent additional renovations in March 2020 with a true Astroturf being installed, and new landscaping and curbing around the entire course.

The size of the course is 4,600 square feet total. It's a full 18 holes, and all are different.

One of the challenges is that with the entire surface being one shade of green, it's not easy to notice the dips and slight changes that can cause a well-hit ball to change course and miss the hole. Careful inspection is recommended prior to hitting the ball. Keeping score is optional, but how can you improve your game if you don't know your scores?

Until March 2020, this course was heavily used by residents and their guests of all ages. Some clubs in our community challenged each other in tournaments for fun. Then outside influences came into play and safety restrictions were put into place with limited access to equipment.

But now those restrictions have been lifted and the white storage bin off the first hole has returned and is fully stocked with putters, balls and score cards.

It's game on for all!



Photo by Dave DeAngelis
Putting away are Virginia Garcia and Bill Thessin.



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Photo by ShutterBug Gail Schultz

Alpaca Magic.



ShutterBugs
Photography

Connie Filip

Think of your favorite work of art: maybe a song or a painting? It's not just the notes in the song or the materials used in the painting; it's the creative mind that puts it all together.

So - here's your best photo tip, ever: Cameras don't make pictures, people do.

It's nice to have the best tools, but that's not necessary. And your choice of the best exposure helps, but in the end, here's what's key: Think about what you want to capture for others to see and feel.

So, before you press that shutter, think about what you want your photo to say. Try to capture the fun or an amazing moment. Make it more than recording your family's faces. Look for those action shots, family interactions, or catch that special smile or the inner emotion in their expressive eyes.

Think about your photo telling everyone a story. Remember,



Photo by ShutterBug Dave Schultz

Mill Creek retirement.

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Poetry

Linda Toner

A Poem About a Poem

When I was younger, I used to think
It must be cool to write in ink
When I got older, I found out
That ink smears easily, without a doubt
Then ballpoint pens came, I am aging myself
It made writing so easy, it was a great help
The words came easy, my hand was free
To write the thoughts as they came to me.
But I have found that with a pen, I can't edit and so when I write my poems for all to see I'm back to a pencil and I am free
To write and erase until I have.
A poem that's pure, it needs no salve
A pen for writing, a pencil for composing
The words in my head prevent me from dozing
They flow from my pencil for all to see
To write the rhyme sets me free.

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Since We’re Featuring Music Stories...

By Alex (Skip) Borsos, Jr.

I appreciated Alan Ross’ article on Merle Haggard in the March issue of the World News, which inspired me to write about my time as an unpaid photographer of a little known but regionally popular doo-wop group of the late 50s and early 60s, The Plurals.

The group attended Essex County Vocational and Technical High School (Boy’s Vo) in Newark, New Jersey. In 1956, they began harmonizing at the bottom of a stairwell in the school to “get the echo.” They honed their voices and style and by 1958 caught the ear of Frankie Freid, who got them a recording contract with Wanger Records in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Their first record was “Donna My Dear,” named for lead singer, Pat Mazzillo’s girlfriend. (“My Dear” was an afterthought to avoid any legal issues over Ritchie Valens’ big seller “Donna,” also named for his girlfriend.) “Donna My Dear” was backed by an up-tempo tune called, “Miss Annie,” both songs co-authored by all five singers.

Frankie lined up gigs mostly in North Jersey, along The Shore, and New York Metro area, and a special weekend concert in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, sponsored by WLBR-AM disc jockeys Henry Homan and Al Bruce.

I got to know them when they had rehearsals in the parish hall of the former Roseville Methodist Church that I attended. Their music teacher at the high school was also our church organist, Graydon Clark, so it was easy to just pop in and listen. On March 13, 1959, they were auditioning a new lead singer

named Mike Benz of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

In April 1959, the group cut their second record, a ballad, “Good-night” on the flip side

“I’m Sold (on You).” A month later, they had another weekend engagement in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, which is when they invited me to go along and be their photographer.

In May, an engagement was in the fellowship hall of a church in Teaneck, New Jersey. A tribute act to The Everly Brothers didn’t make it, so after their own performance, they were asked to fill-in and do a couple of Everly Brothers songs, so after a hurry-up rehearsal, two of the guys came on and did the tribute.

Pat Boone, who lived nearby and a student at Columbia University, was scheduled but had to cancel.

In June 1959, they did a concert for a Jewish youth group in Far Rockaway, New York, and I want to publicly thank Gail Weiss (wherever she may be) for my first and one-and-only piece of fan mail! I still have the postcard and her autograph!

Their last concert was at the Elliot Street School in Newark, New Jersey on March 31, 1960.

So, whatever happened to the group members? Bass singer, Bob Black, lived in Flagler Beach, Florida working at a car dealership, and second tenor, Carl Anderson lived in Brick, New Jersey, retiring as a Garden State Parkway toll collector. First tenor, Rip Wagner, lives in retirement outside of Chicago on a lake, and now sings with the DePaul Community Chorus and starting to concentrate on opera and musical theater. Baritone, Ted Bennett, manages a number of musical venues in the North Jersey Metro area. The second lead singer, Mike Benz dropped out of sight and hasn’t been heard from since that last concert in 1960.

It was an exciting experience to be with such a group at the height of the genre’s highest popularity. Rock n’ roll forever!

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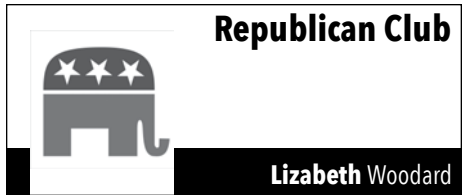
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On Friday, April 9, the Republican Club's president called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. An opening prayer was given by Brenda White and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. After new members and guests were given the opportunity to introduce themselves, all veterans and members with April birthdays were recognized.

Fiona Bowling gave a presentation regarding her U.S. immigration process and the story of her journey to becoming a legal U.S. citizen, which began at the tender age of 16 when she arrived in the United States on her own to meet her mother for the first time. She displayed the immigration application, the U.S. flag and the flag of her former country - Great Britain. She also summarized the application questions; one in particular, asked applicants if they were in any way involved with the Nazi party!

Fiona spoke eloquently about her bittersweet decision to renounce her British citizenship and become an American citizen with all the rights and privileges afforded by this country, especially the right to vote. Fiona indicated that people from 92 other countries joined her in becoming a citizen of the U.S. on April 4, 2008, when they recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Oath of Citizenship.

She showed the contents of a packet she received that day: a commemorative plaque signed by Presi-

dent George W. Bush, an American flag, and copies of The Constitution, Declaration of Independence, The Citizen's Almanac, and The Flag Etiquette Book. Her story was patriotically inspiring and even to this day she is very emotional about her experience.

The meeting proceeded with a discussion regarding voting issues currently in the news. Members were invited to share their opinions regarding these and other concerns. At the May meeting, groups will be formed to focus on a particular issue of their choice in order to begin a grassroots effort to contact members of Congress. Elected officials will be encouraged at the county, state and national level to take action on our behalf.

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

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

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8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday
All residents in household must be present. Bring golf cart, resident I.D. and insurance policy (stating amount of bodily injury).



Our next online meeting will occur Thursday, May 27, at 6 p.m. Login information will be emailed to our club's members Monday, May 24. If you are an independent voter who would like to attend, please contact us via the information in the last paragraph.

Our speaker will be James Stormer, the president of the Ocala chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL). The CCL is composed of citizens who are concerned about the world that their children and grandchildren will live in. Global climate change is a hot topic. Jim will talk about HR 2307 (the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act). It will create a program that will decrease our carbon emissions while sending you monthly checks

without affecting the national debt. Learn all about it at our meeting.

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

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

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



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**Artistic
Crafts & Gifts**
Chris Kilbride

The Artistic Crafts & Gifts Group's Tuesday craft show at the Recreation Center Ballroom is from 9 a.m. to noon each week. Our website ArtisticCrafts.org will give you a glimpse of what you'll find each Tuesday and includes the listings of our virtual vendors. Feel free to connect with any crafter throughout the week if you find something you would like to purchase. All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday show.

This month we feature the background of Leigh Workman who has been a porcelain painter for 40 years. Having worked in oil painting during high school, she stopped when entering college. After her first year of teaching first graders in Nashville, Tennessee, her principal told her that she needed a hobby to get her mind off of work or she would burn-out. Not wanting to return to oil painting, she was introduced to Mrs. Stubblefield, a china painter wanting to teach others. Leigh fell in love with it and stayed with her mentor until they put her in a nursing home.

Her husband John bought her a kiln for home. She later found a



Photo by Chris Kilbride

China painting teacher Leigh Workman displays her creative artistry.

delightful group of painters called the PPPs and painted with them until she and her husband moved here eight years ago. There are very few china painters in this section of Florida, so she started teaching her neighbors. That grew into an invitation to teach at Master the Possibilities. With an opportunity to sell, she joined our weekly craft show, where her table displays a wide variety of painted items for residents and their visitors to see and purchase.

Leigh has about 12 ladies who paint with her on a regular basis, including students at Master the

Possibilities, where she tries to have one class each month. New classes start in July.

China painting is a very, very old art. They use dry paints which they mix themselves with several different liquids such as mineral oil, clove oil, lavender oil, and even water base oils. All kinds of brushes are used, and the canvas is glazed porcelain. As they paint, they fire their projects in a kiln at a low temperature compared with the high temperatures of ceramics. This way of painting is very forgiving and very versatile. You can paint jewelry, dishes, vases, lamps, dolls, and

porcelain boxes. If it has a good glaze on it, you can paint on it.

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

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

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- **When:** May 4th, 2021
- **Time:** 11a.m – 4p.m.



SPCA of Marion County is seeking new members. Do you have the volunteer spirit? Do you like to engage other folks in upbeat conversation? We need you!

Volunteer activities include a two-hour shift once a month at the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market on Thursdays. We can use your talents taking on the treasurer's duties: recording donations, paying for veterinary care, storage facility, etc. You could foster one cat or one dog as they get veterinary care and vaccines while waiting for adoption. SPCA covers all costs; fosters supply love, nurturing, and socializing. Are you computer savvy? You could keep up our website and email communication.

Hopefully, our activities will increase toward the end of the year. We hope to resume general meetings in September, also restaurant fundraisers, and adoption events. Let us know your ideas for the future.

This month's featured pets are Chico and Benji. Chico is a senior chihuahua, about 10 years old, healthy and up to date on vaccines. He is blind in one eye and very lovable. He gets along with other small dogs. Benji is a five-year-old tabby with a gentle demeanor. He was rescued from a feral colony when he showed up for feeding time with a gash on his leg. After getting vet care, he was so sweet that one of our members took him into care.

Call (352) 362-0985 to set an adoption appointment. You could also send an email to spca.marion.county@gmail.com. All available pets are featured on our website spcaofmarioncounty.weebly.com.



Photos by Donna Smalley & Paula Gajewski
Chico (top) and Benji (bottom).

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Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel

Happy Hookers continue to meet separately and work privately on their projects. We continue to anxiously wait for the time we will be able to bring our group together. However, just because we are not meeting as a group does not mean that we are not receiving donations. We have been the recipient of donated items as individuals went through their crafting projects. Ellyn Weir, who serves as the contact person for all donations, shared recently what those donations were used for. -Many of the skeins of yarn that were wool found a home with the ladies who have been knitting/crocheting helmet liners for our military. -The pastel skeins were given to a lovely lady who has knitted dozens of baby sweaters, hats, and socks and had just gotten a request for a dozen more sweater sets and needed blue. Wouldn't you know, there were some that had been donated, so off that donation went to help complete the request.

-Some of the ladies in our group who do special things for charity were able to receive various types of yarn to help them along.

-Many unfinished projects were donated, and whenever possible, Ellyn is finishing them. They are then passed to various organizations that Happy Hookers has supported in the past.

All kinds of knitting needles have been donated (mostly straight

ones), so anyone needing to replace or acquire a specific size can contact Ellyn and she will be happy to deliver if we have them.

While yarn and various tools are common donations, we also got many kits of small needlepoint or embroidery pieces. All craft donations are welcome, and we try to get them disbursed to the various organizations who can use them. Along with Ellyn, Happy Hookers shares a very heartfelt thank you to each and every donor.

Happy Hookers is open to all residents. When we are able to meet as a group, we will meet year-round on Mondays, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agenda nor penalties for missing a meeting, arriving late or leaving early. Life can and does interfere at times, and we would hate for that to hold you back.

What we do have is a large group of ladies busy with crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering and handcrafting of all kinds. This is a very talented group that's never too busy to help someone with a difficult pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they happen to be working on.

If you have any questions about our club, you may call Naomi Berman at (352) 873-4328. If you have yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, crochet hooks or other crafting tools that you no longer have a use for, donations are always appreciated. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting time or contact Ellyn Weir at (352) 509-4355 to arrange for pickup.

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Photo by Lennie Rodoff
“I Heard It Through the Grapevine” with Kitty Wills, Joe Wood, Janet Becker, and George Brush.



Photo by Lennie Rodoff
Prop man, Craig Ehle and Ray Charles, Ham Cunningham in “Hit the Road, Jack.”

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14071 - 6/21

The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski

Last month, we took a tour of memory lane, highlighting some songs and dance. But The New Pretenders have so much more to offer. We gladly share some of our other successes.

Comedy is one genre of entertainment that is not as easy to pull off as it looks. However, Darlene Clark took the notes of comedienne Jeanne Robertson and related the monologue dedicated to the shopping trip of Robertson’s husband. It was no wonder he is referenced as “Left Brain!” Not to be outdone, Bruce Herget recounted a similar story about the professor’s wife!

Another venture into the world of comedy happened when Ron Fulton pulled an unsuspecting Joel Kurtz from the audience. Joel was transformed before our eyes into Cher! Another memorable time was the interaction between Elvis, Dave Guildford, and the audience. He called upon a lady during each performance and presented her with a monogrammed scarf! Opening numbers like “Celebrate” and “We Will Rock You” had the crowds on their feet. Many sang along with “Friends in Low Places” and “Margaritaville” and, naturally, the closing patriotic number for each and every show.

We remember fondly when a life-sized “dummy” was rolled onto the stage allowing the ventriloquist to work his magic. The ventriloquist was none other than Hal Stanley and the puppet was Bill Shampine. It should come as no surprise that we’ve had more than a few brave men get up, dressed in drag. Believe it or not, Carol Shisler, Jeanne Nichols, Charlene Erle, and Shirley Schopf brought the house down as the Oak Ridge Boys in the classic, “Elvira!”

The New Pretenders have stepped back in time to cover music across the centuries. The Rock Ages included visits from “Alley Oop” to the 50s and beyond. Who can forget the historical lessons from “Marie Le Veau?” Bob Schmitt as the storyteller relayed the story of the Cajun Queen, Marie Le Veau who was portrayed by Mary Ann Berardi. She made a deal with Handsome Jack, George Brush, but was thwarted by his deviousness. You can only imagine what happened after that!

All of these acts have been backed up by our amazing band. These musicians have tackled everything to pull off flawless performances because of their dedication to the craft. The big band era has been fun always, particularly when chickens pecked away at “In the Mood.” The band’s forte, however, remains Dixieland particularly when the Firehouse 5 + 1 can be heard. The expertise of our musicians is quite evident when you observe Fran Allen on the violin, Rita Miller on the clarinet, Joel Kurtz on the trombone, Tom Miller on bass, Terri Molnar on the keyboard, Nancy Kibler on steel guitar, and Philene Frazar behind the drums!

The band is quite versatile, too. You often see a musician put down one instrument only to pick up another that is featured in the program. The unusual instruments have included the cello, the mandolin, the French horn, and the shovel-guitar! The very talented Tom Miller crafted this instrument and perfected its play; he can pick a banjo like no other, too. We also play washboard, whistles, cow bells, and sirens!

A shout-out to all residents, both veterans and newbies: we always are on the lookout for new members and this year is no exception. Perhaps our musings have sparked a desire in you to join our group. It’s really easy: just contact any member or Nancy Grabowski, the director, at (352) 209-4699.

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The Model Railroaders Club display, located in the Hobby Building, will consist of three layouts: HO scale, G scale and O scale. The largest layout, the HO scale, is nearing completion with work now focusing on scenery. This column will focus on the HO trains; we'll report on the other two scales in the future.

HO is a rail transport modeling scale using a 1:87 scale (one and a quarter inch to one foot). It is the most popular size of model railway in the world with rails that are spaced a little more than a half inch apart. The trains use a digital control system (DCC) where commands are encoded at the controller and received by any decoders receiving power from the track. Digital control allows independent control of each locomotive's speed and direction as well as other functions. DCC allows club members to control their trains by using wireless hand-held controllers, or they can use an app on their iPhone.

The club's HO layout is meant to recreate "somewhere in Pennsylvania" from 1955 to 1965. It spans the perimeter of the room and consists of two main line circuits with a total of 384 feet of track. In addition, there are several more feet of sidetracks where the trains can pull

into the different areas. Everything is connected by miles of wiring hidden underneath the display table.

Over the past year, club members working in small teams created the hand-crafted scenery using Styrofoam, foamboard, cardboard boxes, plaster cloth, Sculptamold and other odds and ends. The buildings and vehicles are built from kits. The roadways, crossings, poles and fences were added as well along with an operating trolley in the city and a working lumbering operation in the woods.

The trains travel past a swimming hole and picnic in the park, through downtown "Franklin, Pennsylvania" and past the warehouses and suburb areas to a coal mining operation. After crossing a river there is a lumbering operation then a small farming community and after the rail yard trains loop around back to downtown. The backdrops on each wall are original designs and hand-painted by Bill Eleazer on tempered hardboard. Each panoramic scene brings the layout to life.

The Model Railroaders Club is always welcoming new members, and you are invited to stop by. Call Jim Lynam, club president, at (352) 861-2822. Club members work on the layout during the week and run trains on Fridays, from 2 to 4 p.m., which is open to the public. Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month, at 9 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

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



Up close on the Model Railroaders layout. Photo by Barbara Ann Cain



More and more sewers are coming into the hive to prepare our quilts and other items. We've had several new members join us and we are getting quite a number of quilts ready for distribution. We also started making a few clothing items, which are just adorable.

In the last 30 days, we delivered 95 quilts and bags plus 75 toys. We use donated cotton fabrics for making the quilts and toys. Stretch knits and cottons are used for children's clothing. And drapery and

upholstery fabrics become the bags that house the quilts. Thank you for your support and donations.

Our mission is to provide comfort for the abused, abandoned, and neglected children of Marion County. Your donations all year long help us to do just that. Stop by our hive on any Thursday in the Hobby Building Art Room, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. We would be happy to show you our creations made with love for the children. You may find our club is just what you have been looking for to round out your week.

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



Detail of a donated quilt. Photo by Linda Lohr

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The Veterans Club at the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

Photo by Charlie Calhoun



Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun

Last month members of the Vet-

erans Club and the Renegade golf cart parade group presented over 200 cases of Gatorade, snacks, toys and thank you cards to Marion County Sheriff's Office to show our appreciation for their service. On Monday, May 31, at 9 a.m. we will conduct a wreath laying pro-

gram to honoring veterans on Memorial Day at the Veterans Park. All are welcome to attend. Later that day, we will also be attending the Memorial Day ceremony at 3 p.m. at the World Equestrian Center. The Marion County Veterans Council, Inc. will have their new bus and

take collection for their stuff a bus program. Military memorabilia will be available as well. Our Veterans Club meets every month on the third Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV at 3 p.m. For more information, please call me at (352) 556-6004.



Ocala Open charities, Hospice of Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services, receiving donations in March.

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Misc. Items: Large air compressor, \$50. 12' extension ladder, \$25. 26-piece punch bowl, \$10. Ball canning jars, 1 pint size, \$5. (352) 873-2171.

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Saturday, May 8: 8639 SW 95th Lane (Friendship Village), 9 a.m. to noon.

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Saturday, May 15: 9123, 9154, 9173, 9235, 9255, 9270, 9273, 9288, 9305, 9314, 9340 SW 91st Court Road (Renaissance Park), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • 9163 SW 91st Court Road (Renaissance Park), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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