

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Common Sense About Wildlife

Once upon a time, there was a coyote who was afraid of people. But over time, people began leaving food out for the coyote. People started taking pictures of the coyote. And people started accepting the presence of the coyote – as if it was welcomed. Next thing you know, the coyote was no longer afraid of people and was ready to settle down in its new home. Sound like a script for a future Disney movie? Unfortunately, it will not be a movie and will not have a happy ending.

Wildlife experts say this scenario is taking place. Instead of coyotes being taught to be afraid of people, the animals are discovering that places like On Top of the World may be a good place to live and raise families.

If residents want to prevent conflicts with coyotes, they must send a different message.

Management has posted signs about coyotes, the Community Service Office has purchased an inventory of sprays and noisemakers to deter coyotes, and this newspaper has published articles about coyote deterrence.

Senior Wildlife Assistance Biologist Heather LeBlanc with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) encourages residents to reinforce coyotes’ natural fear of humans by removing attractive food sources and hazing or scaring coyotes when seen.

Some residents have been observed leaving food outside or along walking trails. This encourages the coyote’s persistence. Feeding activities of this nature violate state law, specifically Florida Administrative Code 68A-4.001, General Prohibitions (3).

Director Lynsey White of Human-Wildlife Conflict Resolution for the National Humane Society said, “We have to change our behavior that is contributing to this (problem).”

Lynsey said coyotes are naturally scared of people, but we are teaching them not to be afraid. The more familiar they become, the more trouble and conflict may happen.

The fact of the matter is that reporting such incidences is incredibly important. If residents start receiving citations or fines for leaving food out or deliberately feeding coyotes, it will begin to change their behaviors. Not making food readily available may lessen the comfort zone for coyotes.

Residents are encouraged to take clear pictures or clear videos of people feeding prohibited wildlife, such as coyotes. Feeding violations can be reported to the FWC’s Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922.

If photos or videos are not possible, then write down a specific location and a specific time very precisely when the feedings are taking place. Authorities can use this information to witness violations in progress and issue warnings or citations to individuals engaging in illegal acts.

Lynsey said trapping and relocating coyotes does not work and is very expensive. Killing coyotes is not an option.

Biologists gave the example of the State of California spending millions of dollars in an attempt to remove coyotes from populated areas – that effort failed. The commission also reported that within 48 hours of relocating coyotes to a new territory, the animals are already gone, attempting to return to their original location from which they were taken.

Coyotes have established themselves in urban areas across the country, not just in Marion County, Florida.

For more information on dealing with coyotes, visit myfwc.com. If someone wants to report coyote feedings or request more information, they can contact the Northeast Regional Office at 352-732-1225.

If you enjoy walking your small dogs (or cats) early in the morning, partner up with some of your fellow neighbors and their pack on the walk. The larger numbers also intimidate coyotes. It is also



Fourth of July Festivities

By Dave DeAngelis  
World News Writer

Did anyone else miss last year’s Patriotic Celebration because you thought that the fifth was the fourth? No? Just I? Hmmmm ... okay, so please remind me to attend this year’s spectacular Patriotic Celebration on of all days, the Fourth of July! Who woulda thunk it? Last year’s attendees raved about how great the night was from start to finish. Looks like this year will rival last year.

We’re talkin’ nonstop fun from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Live music. Dancing. Food trucks. Beverage kiosk. Photo kiosk and, of course, fireworks! The gates open at 4 p.m., but here’s an important reminder. Please don’t set up camp before 4 p.m., and saving of tables is not permitted. Just sayin’ . Once you are comfy, here’s what you will thoroughly enjoy throughout the evening.

**4:30 TO 5 P.M.:** Opening ceremony with Kathleen Kane singing our National Anthem supported by the Veterans Club Color Guard and a performance by our enthusiastic Poms Dance & Cheer Squad!

**5 TO 6 P.M.:** Music by Live Effect, the high-energy dance band with tight vocal harmonies performing all the hits from yesterday and today!

**6 TO 7:30 P.M.:** Rocky and the Rollers, whether for dancing or sitting at a concert, all ages will enjoy them and have you dancing in the aisles. You will not want to miss this band!

**7:30 TO 9 P.M.:** Blonde Ambition, playing Top 40, ‘70s, ‘80s, ‘90s, hip hop, rock, pop, Latin crossover, salsa, reggaeton, American standards, big band, Motown, and everything in between.

And then, from 9 to 9:30 p.m., fireworks! Spectacular ones, not the neighborhood snoozers. The kind like last year (or so I’ve been told). Big ones, really big ones. The kind that is somehow attached to your jaw to slack it open.

The kind you find yourself inadvertently elbowing your spouse over, but your spouse is on your other side. The kind that makes you cheer. There will be more oohs and aahs than at an international massage festival.

Throughout the festivities, enjoy the delectable goodies that will be served by Squeazy Lemonade, Fat Tiki, Curbside Cuisine, Blessed Beyond BBQ, Leilany’s Flavor Fusion, DBH Hummus Company, and Blazin’ Bites. Plus, Mr. B’s Big Scoop will be open to satisfy your ice cream cravings. You’ll no doubt work up an appetite with all the kinetic energy you’ll no doubt be spending.

The Patriotic Celebration at The Town Square is located in Circle Square Commons on Friday, July 4, 2025, from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. (gate opens at 4 p.m.). This event is open to the public with \$20 cash-only parking. However, parking is free for On Top of the World, Stone Creek, and Calesa Township residents with a valid resident ID or event pass.

For the latest event information, please follow Circle Square Commons on Facebook or Instagram.

See you there! I’m not missing this one.

Golf Cart Safety

By Geoff Oldberg

Some things you may not know. There are approximately 60 miles of streets and 20 miles of multi-modal paths in On Top of the World. On any given day, there are several thousand vehicles and hundreds of pedestrians traveling throughout the community. That is a lot of traffic, and traffic concerns are the number one complaint received by the Marion County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO).

We have an agreement with the MCSO authorizing them to enforce state traffic laws within the community. The safety of our residents and visitors is our top priority.

Here are some facts and important information:

- Golf carts, by law, are not to exceed 20 mph on the streets. For safety reasons, they should never exceed 15 mph on the multi-modal paths.
- If a golf cart is designed to go faster than 20 mph, it must be registered and insured, just like your personal motor vehicle (car, SUV, or pickup).
- Golf cart operators must obey all traffic laws. This means traveling in the same direction as vehicular traffic, yielding at intersections, stopping at stop signs, obeying the speed limit, using turn indicators, and using the proper lane.
- If a multi-modal path is available, it must be used. It is against the law to travel on a street when there is an available multi-modal



Photo by Geoff Oldberg

Marion County Sheriff’s Office is authorized to enforce state traffic laws within the community.

path except when crossing to enter another street, path, or parking area.

- If the operator of a golf cart is 15 to 17 years old, they must have a valid learner’s permit or driver’s license. If they only have a learner’s permit, they must be accompanied by a licensed driver. Drivers 18 years or older only need a government-issued photo identification card.
- Golf carts and low-speed vehicles (LSVs) are not the same. Golf carts are designed to go no faster than 20 mph. LSVs are designed to travel at speeds exceeding 20 mph but not exceeding 25 mph and must be registered and operated in the same manner as your car or truck. They should not be driven on multi-modal paths. Operating an unregistered LSV or without a valid driver’s license is a criminal offense.
- Operators of golf carts and LSVs can be issued traffic citations.

During the first quarter of 2025, MCSO conducted 61 traffic stops inside On Top of the World. Thirty of those stops received a written warning, 24 received a verbal warning, and seven received a citation. The majority of traffic stops were for speeding. There was one DUI. Most of the stops were motor vehicles, but one golf cart received a citation.

In May, they conducted over 30 traffic stops and issued nearly 10 citations. Two golf cart operators received citations. The citations averaged over \$200 each and will likely result in increased insurance rates for the drivers.

Drive carefully, be alert, be courteous, and be safe. You may save a few bucks and maybe even a life.

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Is It Legal?

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



**SCAM ALERT #1:** I am receiving anywhere from four to five texts every day, warning me that my Social Security checks are being stopped, that a disaster is happening, or a calamity will occur, etc. All I have to do is donate to this cause or that one or who knows what. I am 100% positive that most of you have received the same or similar messages. Block and delete them, or just delete them, but most importantly, do not reply!

Most of these are true phishing scams. Some may not be actual scams, but even so, once you contribute, they’ve got you! Delete, delete, and delete.

There are three words with which I want you to be familiar. Three wonderful words: “block,” “delete,” and “no.” Block scam texts and emails. Delete scam texts and emails. Say no to texts and emails (or to anyone) asking for money. No is such a wonderful word, easy to spell, easy to say. It works for scams, even for children and grandchildren.

**SCAM ALERT #2:** A few days ago, I was on a website when, suddenly and without warning, a pop-up appeared on my computer. It said my computer was infected by a virus or something similar, and it was extremely harmful. All I had to do was click on a link that was right there in the pop-up. Just click here, or was it click there? Not only did it suddenly appear, but I couldn’t seem to delete it.

Well, folks, one thing I knew not to do was click anywhere on that pop-up. And I didn’t. Instead, I shut down my computer – “control, alt, delete.” I’m technologically challenged, and I did know that it was the wrong way to do it, but I didn’t have one of my grandchildren around to look with pity at me, sigh, and

then say, “Do this, Grandpa.” So, I shut down and hit restart, and that took care of the problem. The pop-up was gone.

Look here! If you ever receive a pop-up that just suddenly appears on your computer screen, it is always, always, always a scam. No exceptions. Do whatever you have to do to get rid of it immediately. It is a scam!

**Q.** You seem fixated on scams. Do you think we are not educated enough or not smart enough to handle them?

**A.** Well, I don’t know about you, but I’m not even close to being educated enough or smart enough to protect myself from being scammed. Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated and intelligent, capable of fooling anyone. I’ve recently learned from a seminar hosted by the Florida Attorney General’s office that many scammers hire psychologists to teach them how to engage with individuals who resist them or who might be skeptical. Scamming is a multi-billion-dollar industry, yes, an industry. Over the years, I’ve had several clients who have lost thousands of dollars to phishing scams, with the worst being romance scams. So, yeah. I am fixated on scams.

**Q.** Do you talk just the same way as you write?

**A.** Yeah. But I cuss a lot, too.

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

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

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2025 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

On Top of the World NEWS

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

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



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By Dave DeAngelis



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Lifelong Learning

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This July, Master the Possibilities invites everyone to take part in a full calendar of events and classes designed to educate, inspire, and connect. With more than 100 courses offered this month, Master the Possibilities provides something for every learner. History enthusiasts, curious minds, and lifelong students will find plenty to explore. At the same time, grandparents and grandchildren can enjoy meaningful experiences together through specially designed programs that encourage shared discovery and connection.

The month begins with a favorite: Ageless Adventures. This special inter-generational event is more than just an event. It allows grandparents or parents to team up with a younger family member for a fun and educational experience. Ageless Adventures is all about learning together and making lasting memories. Most classes are full. The schedule of available opportunities may be found at [masterthepossibilities.org](http://masterthepossibilities.org) > Special Presentations > Ageless Adventures. Our team is excited to share this week-long event with these younger learners from July 7 through 11.

Also starting in July is the first part of our fall curriculum series titled “World War II: Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future.” This themed program will continue through December, taking a deep look at the people, places, and events that defined the Second World War. Through expert-led lectures, historical overviews, and personal accounts, participants will gain valuable insight into the war that changed the

course of history.

One of the most anticipated events this month is a presentation by visiting speaker Edith Gandy called “Silent Wings: The Daring Glider Pilots of World War II.” Gandy, the daughter of a World War II glider pilot, shares the incredible story of these unsung heroes. These American pilots flew into combat in un-powered gliders, often behind enemy lines, delivering troops and equipment during some of the war’s most daring missions. Known for their fearless nature, these pilots took pride in saying that the “G” on their wings stood for “guts.” Gandy’s connection to this story adds a unique and heartfelt layer to the presentation. The cost to attend this Thursday, July 17, presentation from 10 a.m. to noon in Live Oak Hall is \$5 for members and \$10 for the general public.

These programs are just a glimpse into the wide range of offerings available this month. From creative arts and wellness to science, history, and current affairs, Master the Possibilities offers high-quality classes for all interests. Our instructors bring real-world experience and passion to every session, creating a welcoming and engaging learning environment. Visit our website 24/7 for a full lineup of events and to register at your convenience.

Assisted registration is available Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our friendly staff and volunteers are available to assist you with registration, either in person at the Education Center or by phone at 352-861-9751. Whether you are trying something new or returning for another class, we are here to assist you every step of the way.

This July, take the opportunity to explore, learn, and connect. Join us at Master the Possibilities, where every class is a new chance to grow, and every experience is designed to enrich your life.

GOLF CART REGISTRATION

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

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# Community News

► Continued from Page 1A

a great strategy to make new friends. Ensure pets are walked on a short, non-retractable leash. Carry something that makes noise, like a small air horn. Hazing, as this is called, really sends a message to the wildlife to move away. Over time, as coyotes realize they are not welcome, they tend to migrate to more hospitable areas away from residential areas.

Residents should avoid contact with these animals. For further information on this program, please visit [MyFWC.com/coyote](http://MyFWC.com/coyote).

## Community Updates

**FOOD & BEVERAGE:** For June, Blazin’ Bites Food Truck will be set up at the Recreation Center pavilion, Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In addition to The Pub being open, poolside cookouts will be scheduled from Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center, featuring rotating menus.

The Club at Candler Hills is now closed on Mondays through Monday, Nov. 3. To better serve our customers, new hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The restaurant will be closed for maintenance from Monday, July 28, through Monday, Aug. 11, reopening on Tuesday, Aug. 12.

**THE SUMMIT IN LONGLEAF RIDGE:** The Building has been completely dried in, and the next steps are the mechanical systems of the building and exterior metal framing. As a reminder, this will be a 20,000-square-foot amenity with a 6,000-square-foot ballroom, card room, a large main pool, and a resistance pool. The estimated completion of this project is forecasted for winter 2026.

**AZURA FITNESS CENTER IN CANDLER HILLS:** Sitework has started on this project inside the construction fence. Construction of the building is estimated to begin this summer. We appreciate your interest in the project but kindly request that you stay outside the construction fence. This 8,000-square-foot facility will feature a large pool and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

**RECREATION CENTER:** There are three construction projects underway for this amenity. A “facelift” and update of the building and landscape in the front are in the works. At press time, we should be nearing the completion of the covered pickleball courts and the small pavilion near the parking lot.

**WOODWORKING SHOP:** The new, expanded wood shop building is planned for the parcel of land just north of the existing Bay Laurel Center CDD Water Plant #1. This 7,200-square-foot building will be constructed on the site where the Eco Gardeners Club garden was located, providing additional space for our growing wood shop membership. It will also feature separate suites and serve as a general-purpose space for activities such as table tennis, ballet, and other

uses.

**ECO GARDENERS GARDEN:** As mentioned previously, a new, convenient location has been selected for the current SW 99th Street Eco Gardeners garden. This relocation offers the added benefit of additional garden plots. Garden club members have until Friday, Aug. 1, to vacate the previous SW 99th Street garden.

**CANDLER HILLS GOLF CLUB:** The Candler Hills Golf Club closed in early May to begin a renovation to the playing surfaces. The crews have been busy excavating the putting surfaces and preparing the course for new turf. New landscaping will be installed around the Golf Shop, restaurant, and community center. While the goal is to reopen sometime later this year, the weather will be the main driver in determining this timing. While this work is being performed, the Golf Shop will have reduced hours but will still be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**IRONS 9 GOLF COURSE:** Construction has begun on the new nine-hole pitch and putt golf course near SW 80th Street and SW 92nd Court Road. Look for an opening on this project near the end of the year.

**GATEHOUSE (SW 92ND COURT ROAD):** A new, automated gatehouse will be erected to replace the temporary gate at SW 80th Street. The design team has been chosen, and work has begun on the permit drawings for this project. This automated gate will include a dedicated lane for guests to interact with the virtual gate attendant and a bypass lane for resident owners. At the time of writing, there is no projected start date. Once plans are submitted to the building department, there will be a better window to determine a start date.

**BAY LAUREL CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:** The construction of Bay Laurel’s new office building in Calesa is anticipated to be completed by late summer. We encourage all residents to remain informed regarding the timing of the transition to the new facility.

Adjacent to this site will be Water Treatment Plant #4, a very advanced water treatment facility servicing both all of Calesa and the entire Bay Laurel Center CDD water transmission system.

Bay Laurel Center CDD has begun the demolition of the South Water Reclamation facility. It is anticipated to be completed by September. Once the plant is

entirely demolished, the site will be graded, and a new warehouse facility will be built. This warehouse will store piping in sizes up to 36” in diameter, as well as pipe fittings and fire hydrants will be inventoried onsite.

**DOG PARK (SW 99TH STREET ROAD):** The dog park underwent a revamping last month. The project’s scope included replacing the turf with new drought-tolerant bermudagrass, landscaping around the perimeter, pruning trees on both the interior and exterior of the park, and an overall refresh. The new turf should provide for greater recovery from the wear and tear of our furry little friends and improve the overall appearance of the area.

## Roadway Improvements

**SW 90TH TERRACE:** By now, you will have likely seen that work in this area has commenced. There will be some light clearing near the Weybourne Landing entry to make way for the multi-modal path extension, which is set to begin taking shape this month. Watch this space for further announcements as to the opening of the pathway.

Work has also begun on the extension of SW 90th Terrace from SW 79th Street to SW 63rd Street Road. Residents in and around Weybourne Landing can expect increased construction traffic and activity in this area during the project’s duration. The contractor’s goal is to complete this roadway before the major construction of 80th Avenue begins, providing an alternative route of travel north.

**SW 92ND COURT ROAD:** Those of you keeping tabs in the vicinity of this project will have seen that approximately one-half of the roadway has been paved, including a new multi-modal path. There is still considerable work to be done to complete the roadway and fill in the existing landscape, but we have reached a major milestone. This roadway is expected to be completed by the end of the year and will provide an alternative route of travel from Longleaf Ridge to Candler Hills and The Town Square.

**SW 80TH AVENUE:** Sources at the Marion County Engineering Department assure residents in and around SW 80th Avenue that construction is slated to begin in late 2025 to widen the road from two to four lanes. The completion period is approximately two years from the start.

## Landscape Update

July is typically a wetter-than-normal month, making it a great time to reduce your irrigation usage. Florida can experience routine afternoon thunderstorms that provide sufficient moisture to keep your lawn and landscape alive. If you haven’t checked your rain shutoff device recently or find your irrigation running in the rain, now would be a good time to do so. The easiest way to check the sensor is to turn your irrigation on, then spray water using a garden hose at the sensor until the irrigation turns off. If it does not, you may have a faulty sensor that needs to be replaced. The cost of replacement is far less than the cost of the wasted irrigation water.

## Practical Preventative Home Maintenance

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

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

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Resident Services

**Heather Ray**  
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Summer is officially here!  
Please note that our offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Join us at the Patriotic Celebration at The Town Square on Friday, July 4, from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy live music, dancing, food trucks, and fireworks –we hope to see you there!

**AppFolio**  
AppFolio is our property management application. AppFolio offers a variety of features to help enhance your living experience. If you have not already registered for AppFolio, we encourage you to do so. You may contact Resident Services if you need assistance. Once registered, you will have access to your resident portal, where you can pay dues, submit maintenance requests, submit modification requests, and access important information.

**Schedule an Appointment**  
We are excited to announce that you can now schedule appointments with Resident Services or Modifications and Compliance directly through the OTOW

Avalon Social Group

**Laura Gavey & Sharon Hall**



Hot enough for you, Avalon? What would make it a little cooler? Ice cream! We are looking forward to a great summer crowd for our annual ice cream social, which will be held on Monday, July 14, at 5:30 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios. Doors will open at 5:20 p.m. Our guest speaker, Wellness

App. This new feature is part of our effort to streamline processes and better serve you.

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

**Envera**  
You may have noticed that the barrier arms at all entrances and exits have been upgraded to new LED arms. These arms now lower after each vehicle and are fully integrated with our system. As a reminder, the proper operation speed is five miles per hour; please slow down when approaching. We are working to develop an enforcement system to follow up with gate violations that the system has documented on camera.

Avalon will be the next neighborhood scheduled to receive their decals for Envera. This will take place in the parking area behind Circle Square Cultural Center from 8 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, July 22, and Wednesday, July 23. Motorcycle decals have arrived. Please visit Resident Services if you are in need of one.

Director Cammy Dennis, will discuss personal health and fitness. Hopefully, she won't notice the ice cream treats and will help us find ways to exercise and enjoy ice cream too!

Your \$2-per-person pre-paid reservations must be made by Monday, July 7, by contacting Sharon Hall at 270-855-1354.

Are you new to Avalon or our social events? For up-to-date Avalon news and upcoming events, we encourage you to join our Facebook group (Avalon Social Club). This is a private group, and you will be asked for your address to verify that you are an Avalon resident.

Safety First

**Jonathan Miller**



As citizens of the United States, we entrust our common defense and safety to the great leviathan called the federal government. But other factors of safety are all around us, and we don't seem to give them the recognition they deserve.

True story: In Big Lake, Minnesota, a four-year-old boy was credited with saving his mother's life by taking care of her and two younger siblings when his mom went into septic shock. Mom was a registered nurse. She said she felt sick enough (with the flu) to go to the emergency room. The young nurse planned to drop the kids off at her sister's home and drive herself to the hospital. While preparing to go, she had a coughing fit. She said she felt like she was breathing through a straw and was terrified, then felt like she wasn't breathing at all.

The young nurse suffered from asthma and had a nebulizer at home. The nurse attempted to reach the nebulizer but fell to the floor before she could grab it. That's when the four-year-old stepped into action. He instinctively brought the nebulizer over, plugged it in, connected it, and added all the necessary medications.

The nurse explained; he held it to my face and said, "Just breathe, mom!" He was practicing with me. The nurse said she and her husband had never shown their son how to use the nebulizer, for he was only four, so why would we do

that?  
But the little guy was not done working. He then picked up the phone and pressed the side button to tell "Siri" to call dad. Again, they had not shown their son. The child's message to "call daddy" prompted the nurse's phone to call her father, who alerted family members who lived in the area and called 911.

A state trooper was able to get on the phone with the young lad, who explained to the officer, "Mommy needs help. She's on the floor. The trooper was able to get all the answers from the four-year-old, and mommy is alive!

The little man was even astute enough to rush over to the door to unlock it before the paramedics arrived.

Message: There are no age limits to saving someone from harm. We also find that you don't even have to be a human. There have been many stories of pets "instinctively" saving family members. This child knew what to do because he had paid attention. He watched his mother daily and knew the machine was something that he should know about, even if his parents hadn't thought about training him.

The child became the first emergency responder to his mother and came through with flying colors.

Just imagine knowing, for the rest of your life, that you are alive because your four-year-old child wanted you to be! Make safety a priority in your life and spread safety like the wonderful gift that it is. Be ready to present yourself as a lifesaver if needed. Anyone can save a life, and that would include you. Please send me your story by emailing jonathan\_miller@colenbuilt.net.

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Candler Connection

Debra Keirn



The next potluck dinner will be on Tuesday, July 29, at 5:30 pm. It's hot outside so let's have a sandwich, salad, and dessert night. Last names beginning with A-H should bring a salad; I-P sandwiches; and Q-Z dessert. Please prepare your dish for 12 to 15 people and label it with the ingredients to help those with food allergies. The \$1 fee at the door covers tablecloths, eating utensils, plates, decaf coffee, creamers, and centerpieces. RSVP by phone to Deb Keirn at 352-414-5737, by text at 814-571-7908, or by email at arthurkipdeb@verizon.net to be added to the attendee list.

An ice cream social will take place on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets will be \$6.50 per Candler Hills resident and \$7.50 per guest. There will be vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, butter pecan, salted caramel, and no-sugar-added moose tracks. We also will have root beer and orange floats. You can even go back for seconds. Ticket sales start on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from July 1 through July 17. Join us for an afternoon of socializing and enjoy ice cream treats.

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

On Friday, Oct. 31, the Halloween Fright Night will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Our DJ will be Z Street Band. Come dressed in costume and win a prize in various categories, or simply come and enjoy an evening of good food and music. There will be various food stations.

Tickets will be sold Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 23, 25, 30, Oct. 2, 7, and 9 for \$25 per Candler Hills resident and \$27 per guest.

Our annual holiday party is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 12, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Gourmet Affair will cater, and Ross Getek will provide the music. The menu includes chicken Italiano, pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon and onion, Caesar salad, and a variety of cakes for dessert. Tickets will go on sale in November for \$45 per Candler Hills resident and \$47 per guest.

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

Suggestions are always welcome for 2026 events; please contact me at 352-414-5737. See you around the neighborhood!

Crescent Ridge Happenings

Carol Lewis



We had a small group for our Sunday, June 8 social, and the conversation flowed vigorously until we had to push everyone out the door! It's great to see neighbors getting to know one another and enjoy listening to each other's stories.

Our next social event is scheduled for Sunday, July 13. In the meantime, let's enjoy some typical Fourth of July fare as we gather and maybe share stories of childhood memories celebrating this day; perhaps dress in some red, white, and blue to add to the festive feel.

Our 2025 monthly socials are held at the Arbor Activity Center Event Room from 3 to 5 p.m. Bring a beverage of choice and a dish to share if you choose, or just come for the fellowship.

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

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

Kestrel Knowings

Lyn Yanss



Welcome to the Dog Days of Summer here in beautiful Kestrel!

We had a fantastic turnout of over 80 women at the successful Kestrel spring fashion show in May. Our fantastic Kestrel models showcased the beautiful clothing from Jasmine Boutique, and everyone enjoyed mimosas and sweet treats. Given the great response, we are considering hosting another show in November, so stay tuned for updates.

The Kestrel Social Committee will be meeting throughout the summer to continue planning exciting events for our neighborhood.

Great news! We've received permission to bring back music "singo" (note the spelling change - we can't use the word bingo in the description). Keep an eye out for the announcement of the date and time!

Are you a craft enthusiast looking to share your talents with fellow residents? Consider joining our fall driveway crafters event! For more information and to participate, please reach out to Jan Eaton at jeaton1000@comcast.net.

Kestrel will be participating in the neighborhood raffle basket contest at the Candler Hills Trunk Show in November. All proceeds from our basket sales will help support future Kestrel events.

If you'd like to have your name and contact information included in the Kestrel directory, please contact Jan Eaton at jeaton1000@comcast.net.

Wishing you all a happy Fourth of July!

Newcastle Social Committee

Anne McCauley



In honor and remembrance of those who gave all to our country, Newcastle residents, once again, gathered at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom on Memorial Day. The potluck dinner was well-attended and included six of the retired veterans residing in Newcastle. The Missing Man Table, along with a table holding military memorabilia, were beautifully displayed. From the ceiling hung the military flags of the United States.

Charles Dodge gave an educational presentation on the correct order to display the flags, which is based on their historical establishment but changes during a time of war. The second annu-

al All-American Pie Eating Contest was held after dinner. Congratulations to Mike Bianchi, who ate his way to victory over the four other competitors.

Later this month, the Newcastle summer party will be held on Saturday, July 26, at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Doors will open at 4 p.m., and Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken will cater the food. There will be a "Guess Who" game during the event, along with something new, Newcastle Feud. More details about this event will be provided via email and on our Facebook page.

A new event has been added to the Newcastle Social Club calendar. Save the date of Friday, Sept. 26, for a Polynesian Luau to be co-sponsored by Newcastle and Alendel neighborhoods. The committee is hard at work creating a fun and exciting event with live entertainment. You won't want to miss this event.

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

Longleaf Ridge Friends

Michelle Migdal, Kathleen Taylor, Debra Vitale & Judi Walsh



This is the time of year when we pause to reflect on the courage and sacrifices made to establish our free nation and preserve our liberties. Many Longleaf Ridge neighbors attended services on Memorial Day and Flag Day. Flags were on display throughout Longleaf Ridge. Neighbors celebrated the freedoms we enjoy at a barbeque on Memorial Day hosted by John and Michelle Marcinek. We all look forward to the Fourth of July Patriotic Celebration at Circle Square Commons. Our newest neighbors will be awestruck by the festivities and fireworks.

Longleaf Ridge neighbors enjoyed a delightful pop-up event at the Recreation Center pool patio. They enjoyed a lovely picnic, music, and dancing with Kickin' Country with Randy, along with lots of line dancing, snacks, and drinks. Although it was a bit warm, the breeze, fans, great music, and cool pool kept everyone happy.

To take a break from the heat, Longleaf Ridge men gather weekly for a lively session of pool at the Arbor Activity Center Billiards Room. The focus is on shar-

ing laughs, enjoying camaraderie, and having a good time together.

Mike and Mary Evans hosted a drinks-on-the-driveway party in May with over 90 neighbors in attendance. There was even line dancing in the street during the gathering. Mike grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, and also served up some tropical "green iguana" drinks.

Other drinks-on-the-driveway and barbeque events allowed neighbors to socialize in our beautiful neighborhood.

Twenty-seven Longleaf Ridge ladies gathered at Mimi's Cafe for dinner in May. It gave our newest neighbors a chance to get better acquainted while sharing stories, enjoying laughter, and savoring a delicious meal.

Many thanks to Sandra Ritchie and Bea Pressler for contributing to this column.

As our community continues to grow, we look forward to welcoming all the many new neighbors to the Longleaf Ridge neighborhood. Please remember to join our private Facebook page (OTOW Longleaf Ridge Friends) and provide your phase and lot number/address. Please send questions to otow-longleafridge@gmail.com.

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Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun



Several members of the Veterans Club have been honored by the Marion County Veterans Council for their service to our country and community. Over 20 banners are on display in and around Ocala of local veterans who have made significant contributions to their community after serving their country in uniform. These hometown heroes served our country for many years as Marines, sailors, soldiers, and airmen. These men and women of our armed forces came home to Ocala and continued to serve their community as volunteers, police officers, firefighters, and leaders in our hometown. These efforts have earned them the title of hometown heroes.

Service above self is what makes living in On Top of the World so great. We are blessed to have truly selfless people



Photo by Nancy Erasquin

Carlos Erasquin.

living right next door to us.

The Veterans Club meets the third Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV at 3 p.m. Please join us for an hour of information on veterans’ benefits and opportunities to serve our community.



Photo by Gwen Fabian

Williamsburg neighbors discover the love of the hunt.

Williamsburg Neighbors

Nancy Meininger



It’s no wonder Williamsburg neighbors look forward to their golf cart scavenger hunt picnics every spring. The instructions for the hunt read like the song “Getting to know you ... Getting to know all about you.” So, as participants sought the address where the airport driver lives and where Chuck, the Western book author, resides, they learned all about their neighbors and their neighborhood!

They laughed and joked aboard their teamed golf carts, eager to claim the winner’s pot in this creative and fun scavenger twist created by Carmel Kessler and Gwen Fabian. The most challenging question was, “How high and how low do the addresses go in Williamsburg?”

The hunt ended with a potluck lunch at the Veterans Park pavilion. The pot was split between the winning cart and the holiday dinner fund, this being a fundraiser for it.

Williamsburg neighbors enjoy getting together in a bit of competition, whether it’s for the monthly game night, overseen by Lynn and Bob Phelps; the weekly bocce night, overseen by Carmel and Dave Kessler; or the monthly dinners out, overseen by Linda and Brian McDonald. The diners recently enjoyed an Italian fest at Franco’s Italian Restau-

rant on Silver Springs Boulevard.

“Welcome to Williamsburg, a great place to live,” is the enthusiastic greeting from neighbor Deanne Sanders, who greets all new neighbors moving into the neighborhood with a bag full of goodies, including phone numbers and helpful lists to help them get settled in.

Our ambassadors for each street have also been busy.

Keeping our website up to date is the responsibility of Earl Cook, who encourages everyone to check it frequently to stay informed about upcoming events and make reservations to participate – WilliamsburgNeighborsOTOW.com. Or follow us on Facebook (Welcome to Williamsburg OTOW). Or you can text or call Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757.

Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton



The Indigo East ladies luncheon committee Christmas in July luncheon is progressing nicely. The date is set for Thursday, July 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The menu is tentative and includes honey-glazed ham, sweet potato casserole, salad, and dessert. Negotiations are currently underway for Santa to take time away from his vacation and possibly make arrangements for an elf or two to make an appearance. There will be door prizes and more, and a tremendous amount of fun to be had by all. Tickets can still be purchased on Thursday, July 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The luncheon is exclusively for Indigo East residents, and a resident ID is required for ticket purchase.

The Indigo East Social Committee’s ice cream social is planned for Sunday, Aug. 10, beginning at 2 p.m. and is open to Indigo East residents only. Jana McElroy will host the ice cream social. There will be premium vanilla and chocolate ice cream, as well as various toppings. Additionally, there will be sugar-free vanilla. Tickets will be sold on the following dates and times: Friday, July 11, from 5 to 6 p.m.; Monday, July 14, from 11 a.m. to noon; Wednesday, July 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Monday, Aug. 4, from 11 a.m. to noon. There will be door prizes and more. A valid resident ID is required for ticket purchase.

For the past couple of months, I have been highlighting the amenities and events held in Indigo East for its residents. This month, I’m highlighting the Stretch and Balance classes, held every Thursday at 10:15 a.m. The class, developed and taught by Sarah Louge, is exclusively for residents.

Suppose a resident prefers to exercise in the morning. In that case, water aerobics is held throughout the year every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at both 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. at the Indigo East Community Center pool. All winter water aerobics classes are held in the heated pool, provided the weather is 60 degrees or above.

Indigo East is home to numerous games for residents, which are held at various times throughout the month. Such as bunco on the second and fourth Tuesdays, Mexican train held every Thursday, mahjong on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings, and cornhole every Friday morning.

In addition, if you enjoy a great card game, residents play euchre on the second and fourth Mondays, pinochle is held every Wednesday afternoon, samba is held every Thursday evening, men’s poker is held every Thursday of the month, and pure poker is held on the first and third Wednesday of the month.

If residents want to relax, work on their craft projects, and socialize, they can meet every Monday at Crafty Ladies at 1 p.m.

All games, except for cornhole and water aerobics, are held indoors in the Indigo East Community Center. Indigo East is a self-contained neighborhood with something for everyone.

Wishing all neighbors a fabulous Fourth of July. As usual, I’ll see you around the neighborhood.

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Active Newcomers Club

Linda Baker



It’s hard to believe we’re halfway through 2025! It is hot in Central Florida, and many of our friends have retreated to the North until fall. Those of us who remain are pursuing indoor activities. That includes the members of the Active Newcomers Club.

Over 100 members attended our pizza party on Saturday, June 14, in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Guests enjoyed garden salad and a wide variety of pizzas. The ice cream sundae bar was a big hit!

Speaking of hits, music by Bart played them all and got the crowd up and dancing. It was a great evening with friends, new and old.

All residents who have closed on their homes within the past four years are invited to join us for doing donuts on Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Veterans Park pavilion. You bring your choice of beverage, and we will supply the donuts. We will have membership and small group information available for those who are interested in joining our club.

Reserve Thursday, Sept. 18, for our tailgate party at the Veterans Park. There will be games, food, and fun to kick off football season and fall. We will be hosting our annual Halloween party on Saturday, Oct. 25, at The Lodge at Candler Hills. This event is always a frightfully good time.

Do you love trying new recipes? Are dinner parties your jam? Join our foodies group! Foodies meet on the third weekend of the month in the homes of members. The host sends an invitation with the theme of the dinner, providing the main course and an appetizer. Guests RSVP and coordinate with the host to provide sides and desserts that complement the theme. The goal of the foodies group is to experiment with new foods, get together with friends, and have fun.

Cora Schlifkin is the group’s leader. Cora assigns hosts and attendees each month. When members join the foodies group, Cora reaches out to ask how many people the new member is comfortable with accommodating in their home, as all foodie group members are required to host at least once during the year.

If you would like to join the foodies group or you have questions, please send an email to [activenewcomers34481@gmail.com](mailto:activenewcomers34481@gmail.com) with “foodies” in the subject line.

Membership applications for 2025 are available on our website. Now that half the year is over, dues have been reduced to \$10 per person. When completing your application, please ensure that you read the descriptions and requirements for small groups carefully before making your selections. To participate, you must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

To learn more about Active Newcomers Club, visit [activenewcomers.org](http://activenewcomers.org). Members can also visit our Facebook page (Active Newcomers). Email us at [activenewcomers34481@gmail.com](mailto:activenewcomers34481@gmail.com) for more information.

HANDICAP EQUIPMENT

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

Community Emergency Response Team

Jane Belz



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members recently added traffic control to their list of skills. The program consisted of two hours of classroom instruction and two hours of practical experience, taught by residents Allen Abbott and Jon Fiedler, both of whom are CERT instructors for Marion County.

After learning the best way to direct traffic in various situations, the group put their new skills to the test by taking turns practicing with handheld radios to guide their fellow participants through a safe flow of traffic.

Each member who completed the course received a certificate and wallet card attesting to their training from the Marion County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) Division of Emergency Management. The club now has 18 CERT members who are eligible to volunteer as needed with MCSO or when called upon by On Top of the World staff for events.

Hurricane season is upon us. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a 60% chance of an above-normal season. CERT plays a significant role in disaster readiness and response.

CERT is a group of volunteers trained to support local emergency responders and provide essential services before, during, and after disasters. Before a storm, preparedness is crucial to minimizing the impact of a hurricane. CERT members help educate residents on preparedness and safety measures by disseminating information at club fairs, special events, and meetings. Once the storm has calmed, CERT members assist first responders by conducting search and rescue operations, administering basic medical aid, and helping to ensure an efficient disaster response when professional emergency services may be overwhelmed. After the storm, CERT continues to serve the community by assessing damage, distributing supplies, and offering recovery guidance. Vitrally important, our communication team relays critical information when traditional communication networks are down.

Becoming a CERT member offers numerous benefits, such as developing

valuable life-saving skills, contributing meaningfully to your community, and building a network of like-minded individuals dedicated to safety. By investing in training, resources, and education, we can weather the storms ahead together.

Consider joining our CERT group by attending one of our meetings to find out more. Snowbirds are always welcome. We meet the second Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room. Applications and additional information are available at each meeting. Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 8. For more information about CERT or upcoming meetings, please email [ontoptheworldcert@gmail.com](mailto:ontoptheworldcert@gmail.com)

Community ham radio operators can assist us from home by tuning in to simplex frequency 146.565. During disaster events, we rely on neighborhood reports on building damage, blocked roads, medical emergencies, and other critical information. From our designated Command Center, Ham radio operators establish contact with Marion County Emergency Management. For more information, contact Bruce Twiss at [brucetwiss@yahoo.com](mailto:brucetwiss@yahoo.com).

Democratic Club

Mark Miller



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

Our May meeting was held on the fifth Thursday of the month rather than the usual fourth Thursday, which was May 29. The meeting was structured as an open dialogue. Our members had the opportunity to discuss political matters that are important to them. Knowing our group, we needed to implement timers so that anyone who wanted could have a chance to speak.

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

Our speaker for July will be Tamboura Jenkins, a candidate for Ocala City

Council.

We continue to support the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village. The veterans residing there need our support for many items we all take for granted. Priority for donations is laundry detergent. Other items needed include pillowcases, twin-size sheets, twin comforters, a 1.7 cubic foot refrigerator, a small microwave, men’s razors, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, shaving cream, and toilet paper. The following food items are needed: canned meat, canned chili, ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese, microwaveable rice, boxed milk, cereal, canned fruit, crackers, individual snacks, and coffee. They do not need clothing except for shoes. Please bring your donated items to our meeting.

If you are unable to attend any meetings, please let us know, and we’ll do our best to deliver your donations to the Ritz. Alternatively, you can drop them off before the meeting starts. If you’d like, you can order online and have the items delivered directly to the Ritz. Please email us to get the shipping address, etc.

If you need a ride to any meeting,

please call or email the club to arrange for it at least three days before the meeting.

For more information, contact Mark Miller at 443-848-8549 or [demclubotow@gmail.com](mailto:demclubotow@gmail.com).



Photo by Leslie Miller

Meghan Bowman from WUSF with Mark Miller spoke to the Democratic Club in April.

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Republican Club

Margaret Nodine



Well, summer has arrived. We celebrated our dads. We thanked them for shaping who we are today as we worked, raised our own families, and supported our country. We also celebrate our flag of red, white, and blue – may it wave brave and strong.

I will give you a more detailed recap of the June meeting in the next issue. Our guest speaker was Representative Ryan Chamberlin of District 24. He has served the district south of Ocala since May 2023 and will continue until the next election in May 2026. Representative Chamberlin

Finding Zen

Robert Colen  
info@sholompark.org



At Sholom Park, we are fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers who give their heart, time, and effort to help maintain a place of beauty, peace, and reflection in Marion County. Among those special volunteers is Hisako Sawai, whom you might see in the Zen Garden, gracefully raking the gravel of our Zen Ocean.

When Hisako moved from San Diego to Ocala in late 2023, she was looking for a peaceful place to walk, reflect, and reconnect with nature. What she found was Sholom Park – and what we found in her was a devoted volunteer.

Inside the Japanese-inspired Zen Garden lies the Zen Ocean, where carefully raked gravel mirrors the ebb and flow of ocean waves. After one of her morning walks, Hisako paused to admire its quiet beauty. When she noticed Sholom Park staffer Ray Rooney tending the garden, she asked if she could help. Ray welcomed her enthusiastically – and Hisako has been returning ever since, lending her steady hands and quiet spirit to shape the ocean waves.

Some days, the patterns she rakes are calm and soothing. On other days, they carry more energy and motion. Each de-

serves on several committees, including the Select Committee on Property Taxes, Ways and Means, Economic Infrastructure, Human Services, Justice Budget, and Intergovernmental Affairs. It was both an informative presentation and a thoughtful question-and-answer session.

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

Come and join us throughout 2025: July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, and Nov. 14. Doors open at 4 p.m. Look for our banner at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. God bless America, and have a safe, enjoyable summer.

sign reflects the rhythms of daily life, offering a gentle moment of reflection for those who pass through.

Originally from Tokyo, Japan, Hisako came to the U.S. for her studies, later building a career in medical science. She now lives in Ocala with her daughter, an equine professional, and continues to visit Japan regularly. Nearly every morning, Hisako walks the park’s two miles of paved trails before arriving at the Zen Garden, where she rakes the gravel into flowing patterns reminiscent of the stone gardens in Kyoto and Nara. “It’s peaceful, beautiful, and rejuvenating,” she says.

Visitors often leave the Zen Garden feeling restored, unaware of the hands behind its beauty. But that’s part of the beauty – Hisako’s quiet presence helps bring calm to others.

Volunteers like Hisako are the heart of Sholom Park. Whether raking gravel, planting flowers, or assisting with events, every act of service supports our mission: to inspire peace, connection, and community.

Sholom Park is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is free for all to enjoy. We invite you to explore its gardens, labyrinth, and koi pond – and if you feel inspired to give back, consider volunteering. To learn more, contact Misty at 352-854-3677 or visit sholompark.org.

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Citizens on Patrol

Rocky Pizzarello



Recently, the Marion County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) consolidated several Community Patrol groups in the southwest district into a single group called Citizens on Patrol (COPS). The MCSO website describes the program this way: “The Citizens on Patrol program is intended to serve as additional eyes and ears for the sheriff and his deputies. It is not intended to replace routine patrol activities of the sheriff, but to provide the county with additional observation capabilities to help reduce crime.”

The On Top of the World Citizens on Patrol group (formerly known as the Community Patrol) was started just over 20 years ago. We would like to share some of our outstanding highlights and recognize some of our members for their accomplishments.

**YEARS OF SERVICE:** We have several current members who have been long-term volunteers of the Citizens on Patrol. Current members Gary Rodoff and Charlotte Wall have over 20 years of service; Elizabeth Chadwell, Elmer and Joy Greene, and John Gysen have between 15 and 19 years; and Frank and Jeanne DiPiero, as well as Patrick McGuire, round out the double-digit volunteers with 10 to 14 years of service.

**HOURS OF SERVICE:** Since the program’s inception, we have had 205 members donate 62,247 hours of service (more

than 31 working years) to our community. Gary Rodoff leads the pack with 3,953 hours, followed by Elmer Greene with 2,084 hours, John Gysen with 1,396, Joy Greene with 1,258, and Charlotte Wall with 1,069. There are several other volunteers with over 500 hours of community service to their credit at On Top of the World. Alphabetically, they are Bill Aman, Elizabeth Chadwell, Allison Cranmer, Frank and Jeanne DiPiero, and Patrick McGuire.

**WHAT WE DO:** As we drive on our patrol shifts, we keep our eyes and ears open. So far in 2025, we’ve made 3,029 visits to our neighborhoods and 526 visits to the surrounding shopping areas. Friendship received the most visits, with 170. Crescent Ridge had 154, followed by Longleaf Ridge (149), Circle Square Commons (139), and Avalon (132). The remaining neighborhoods averaged over 90 visits each during the period. Canopy Oak Shopping Center was visited 91 times, and Friendship Shopping Center was visited 84 times.

**NEW LOOK, SAME SERVICE:** The Marion County Sheriff’s Office is now providing citizen volunteer shirts for all volunteers in Marion County. Additionally, we now have access to multiple patrol vehicles, so if you see one of your neighbors driving a Ford Explorer SUV instead of a sedan, know we’re the same friendly volunteers, but riding just a bit higher. Thank you for your support over the past 20 years. We look forward to the next 20!

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## Ducks on the Pond

By Dave DeAngelis  
World News Writer

Pat York said that the variety of activities at On Top of the World was a key motivator in her decision to move here from Sebastian, Florida, in 2020. So here she was, sitting outside by the Arbor Fitness Center pool on that sunny third day in May with friends Diane Battaglini and Sherry Stoelting. Just sitting there, catching some rays, minding their own business. Hardly a breeze was evident, certainly not strong enough to cause the rustling in the bushes that was becoming more noticeable. Nope, it wasn't the wind causing the rustling they realized, as the duck made its grand entrance onto the pool deck stage. She was mama duck, but let's call her Della Duck to make the rest of the story fall into place.

Speaking of falling into place, waddling right behind Della were the six tiny waddlers ... let's call them Huey, Dewey Louie, Larry and his other brothers Darryl and Darryl. Is that six? Yeah, that's right. Pat, Diane and Sherry watched in amazement as Della jumped onto the pool ledge and right into the pool. One by one, the kiddies, without hesitation, and no duckguard being on duty, jumped onto the ledge and plopped right into the pool. Such a cute sight it was, this feathered family taking a leisurely swim in a people pool. Della must have realized as much as she flew back

onto the deck and urged the little ones to do the same. Only one problem – they were too small to make that jump and hadn't yet reached the age of flying. As Pat said, "They could fit in the palm of your hand."

Pat, Diane and Sherry quickly called the police, who immediately arrested the ducks for having no IDs for pool entry. Well, okay, for disturbing the bushes as well. In reality, Pat, Diane and Sherry sprang into action by "putting some blocks on the first level of the pool edge, and then a paddleboard, and even a yoga mat to help them get out but they were just too little."

The animal rescue folks were then contacted and upon arrival, they instructed Pat to have everyone to "form a line in the pool and try to get the ducklings as close to the edge as they could. This didn't go over well with mom Della, as she began divebombing the rescuers trying to protect her little ones. Slowly, Pat and company herded them to one part of the pool. There, they "were able to scoop a couple out by hand as the rescue worker used the pool scooper to get the rest out and they went running and chirping for their mom who was right there trying to gather them up."

Once back together, Della, Huey, Dewey Louie, Larry and his other broth-



Photo by Pat York

Family of ducks in the Arbor Fitness Center pool.

ers Darryl and Darryl scurried toward more bushes by the parking area, their first swimming session now under their bel ... er, uh ... feathers. Pat's decision

to move here to enjoy the various activities certainly proved to be unexpected, yet satisfying on this ducky day in May.

## Memorial Day Ceremony

By Phil Panzera  
World News Writer

Perhaps you think all these veterans' ceremonies are just somber and dull af-

fairs, with men in uniforms delivering dry speeches and handing out awards?



Photo by Megan Cook

"Favorite Son" with Dexter Vance as Will Rogers and the Ovation Dancers at the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Well, you'd be wrong. Yes, some of that dry stuff is necessary, but this year, we had three lively song and dance routines and another three talented solo performances.

It was an entertaining and energetic program, mixed in with some serious moments to remember and honor the veterans who have sacrificed so much for their country. It was an eclectic mix, but it worked beautifully. Perhaps consider giving these ceremonies a try? The next one is for Veterans Day, on Monday, Nov 11.

The song and dance numbers received huge applause from the packed house. The Dancing Jewels and the Poms Dance & Cheer Squad put on their usual rousing routines. The Ovation Dancers also joined the lineup for the first time. Led by Master Chief Dexter Vance, the Ovation team did a snappy seated routine incorporating arm and leg choreography borrowed from many contemporary and street dance groups. They even got the crowd roaring when they effectively channeled the Rockettes' high-kick style.

Heartfelt patriotic songs were beautifully performed by Carolyn Hoffman and Anabel Parra. Anne Nance Parker of the Blue Star Mothers gave the welcome

prayer.

Veterans Club President Charlie Calhoun mentioned the Honor Guard and the urns for unclaimed veterans, which were so generously crafted by the woodshop. He also mentioned several other organizations and events, and he presented an award to Ann Gallo for outstanding veterans support by the Happy Hookers and Sewing Bees.

Major Phil Panzera gave the keynote address, accompanied by a slideshow on the Vietnam War, which ended almost 50 years ago to the day. The stirring presentation was intended to show "what" our combat veterans experienced and better answer "why" we should remember their gallantry and sacrifice.

Major Panzera read a moving citation for the Medal of Honor awarded to a legendary Marine, and it was an emotional moment. Past American Legion Commander Daniel Maffeo wrote a congratulatory note saying, "I watched intensely at Vietnam War pictures that hit me hard, and yes, I had tears several times during the keynote speaker's honorable presentation."

We thank all attendees for their support, respect and appreciation for our fallen, that gave all for the freedom we enjoy today.

## Installation of Officers

By Gail Morris

The installation of our new officers marks the beginning of a new year for our Lions Club. We were privileged to have District Governor-Elect Suzie Rodgers preside over the installation with a helping hand from Suzie's husband, Stan, on Tuesday, May 13. The club officers this year include a few returning officers and some of our new members who volunteered. Join our club, and

we will put you to work. We love active members.

The services committee is preparing to go shopping for school supplies. This is one area in which our three supported elementary schools need assistance. We check in with the community liaison staff at the schools to determine their needs, ensuring we are meeting them. The school supply list is extensive, and

some of our students require additional support to help them succeed in class. It's a good feeling for these students to know they have the notebooks, pencils, folders, and pencil boxes they will need ready for them at school. This is just one of the areas where we use the funds raised at our Casino Night.

Our year begins on Tuesday, July 1. We have meetings scheduled for both the second and fourth Tuesday in July to conduct the business of our club and prepare for the Lions District 35L "mini" conference here on Saturday, Aug. 2. Our club is privileged to host this con-

ference and welcome Lions from across our district which includes the panhandle of Florida to Jacksonville and south to Marion County. Our members will be busy this summer.

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

The Lions Club meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m. For further information, please contact Estelle Michelson, our membership chair, at 352-861-7358.



Photo by Beth Vaudo

PCC Stan Rodger, Membership Chair Aveila Perkins, Vice President Harold "Duane" Covert, Board Member Caroli Cecala, District Governor Elect Suzie Rodgers, Treasurer Gail Morris, and President Ken Vaudo.





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Eco Gardeners

Phil Karcheski



It’s still hot in July, and gardening in hot weather presents unique challenges, but with the right strategies, you can still enjoy a bountiful harvest. The key is to understand how heat impacts your plants and take proactive measures to mitigate stress.

- 1. WATER WISELY AND DEEPLY:** In scorching temperatures, plants transpire more, meaning they lose water through their leaves. Consistent and deep watering is crucial. Water early in the morning before the sun gets intense or in the evening after the heat subsides. Aim for at least six inches of water penetration. Shallow watering encourages shallow root systems, making plants more susceptible to drought. Drip irrigation or soaker hoses are ideal, as they deliver water directly to the root zone, reducing waste from evaporation or runoff. Avoid overhead watering during the day, as water on leaves can magnify the sun’s rays and lead to scorching. Don’t just water on a schedule. Stick your finger a few inches into the soil to feel for moisture. If it’s dry, water. Over-watering can be just as detrimental as under-watering, leading to root rot.
- 2. MULCH** is your best friend in hot weather. A two- to four-inch layer of organic mulch (such as straw, shredded leaves, or compost) around your plants offers numerous benefits, including temperature regulation, moisture retention, and reduced water evaporation from the soil surface. A thick layer of mulch smothers weeds. Organic mulches decompose, improving their structure

- and fertility over time.
- 3. PROVIDE SHADE:** plants can suffer from prolonged exposure to intense afternoon sun. Shade cloth is often sufficient for vegetables by significantly reducing air and soil temperatures. Use stakes or hoops to create a frame, ensuring good air circulation.
  - 4. CHOOSE HEAT-TOLERANT VARIETIES:** Some vegetables are better equipped to handle the heat. Include okra, sweet potatoes, eggplant, peppers, various types of squash (such as zucchini and butternut), cucumbers, and certain tomato varieties (look for those bred for hot climates) that thrive in warm conditions. Greens, such as Swiss chard and Malabar spinach, as well as some lettuce varieties, can tolerate warmer temperatures.
  - 5. IMPROVE YOUR SOIL:** Healthy soil with good organic matter content retains water more effectively and supports stronger plants. Avoid fertilizing during heatwaves. Fertilizing encourages new growth, which can stress plants when they’re already dealing with high temperatures. Weeds compete for water and nutrients, so keep your garden beds clear. For fruiting plants like tomatoes and peppers, regular harvesting encourages continued production and reduces stress on the plant. Don’t prune excessively during the heat. Leaves provide natural shade to the fruit, helping the plant regulate its temperature.

For more gardening tips, visit our Facebook page (OTOW Eco Gardeners). At the time of this writing, there are still garden plots available in our new garden at the corner of SW 90th Avenue and SW 97th Lane in Americana Village. If you are interested in joining, please send an email with your name, address, and phone number to [gardenc58@gmail.com](mailto:gardenc58@gmail.com).



Long-time members at the last R/C LadyBirds luncheon.

R/C LadyBirds

Linda Lohr



On Friday, May 9, long-time members gathered for the last LadyBirds luncheon at The Club at Candler Hills. It was attended by Barbara Wright, Lyn Titcombe, Leigh Workman, Jill Wagner,

Hedy Schamal, Jean Jarmel, Linda Lohr, Barbara Treblecock, and Gloria Scicluna, one of the club’s founders. We were joined by Kathleen Betz, a new member who is considering re-activating the club.

We had a wonderful time reminiscing and looking at old photo albums.

The group plans to continue hosting luncheons so we can stay in touch with each other. It’s been a great 20-plus years!

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come together weekly to share our experience, strength, and hope. If you are in recovery or think you have a problem with alcohol, please join us. We meet weekly on Mondays from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information and to be notified of changes to the schedule, please email [friendsofbillwocala@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbillwocala@gmail.com).



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Shane Bobson  
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Discovering the Digital World: Hobbies and Learning Online

For residents, the internet isn’t just a way to connect with family, it’s a vibrant portal to endless discovery and lifelong learning. Forget any notions that technology is just for youngsters – the digital world offers an incredible array of opportunities to enrich your days, expand your horizons, and even pick up a new passion, all from the comfort of your home.

Imagine delving into the mysteries of ancient Egypt, learning to speak a few phrases of Italian for that dream European vacation, or mastering a new watercolor technique – without ever leaving your living room. This is the power of online learning, and it has never been more accessible.

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg



The Scandinavian American Club meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Activ-

ity Center Event Room from September through May. American Scandinavian Club does not meet during the summer months (June through August). Our first fall meeting is on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

Beyond formal learning, the internet offers a vast world of cultural exploration. Many of the world’s most renowned museums and art galleries now offer virtual tours. Stroll through the Louvre in Paris, admire the masterpieces at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, or explore the British Museum’s vast collections – all with just a few clicks. It’s a fantastic way to experience art and history without the crowds or travel expenses.

For those who love to read, the internet is a bibliophile’s dream come true. Digital libraries allow you to borrow e-books and audiobooks directly to your

tablet or smartphone, offering a vast selection at your fingertips. You can also join online book clubs, connecting with fellow readers from across the globe to discuss your favorite titles.

And what about those personal interests? The internet is teeming with communities built around every imaginable hobby. Love gardening? There are forums and websites dedicated to every plant, pest, and planting technique. Passionate about cooking? Find endless recipes, cooking demonstrations, and culinary blogs to inspire your next meal. From genealogy and birdwatching to chess and crafting, you’ll likely find a welcoming online community ready to share knowledge and enthusiasm.

The beauty of exploring the digital world for hobbies and learning lies in its flexibility. You set the pace, choose your interests, and explore at your convenience. It’s a wonderful way to keep your mind active, satisfy your curiosity, and add exciting new dimensions to your life here at On Top of the World. So, take the leap, explore, and let the digital world surprise you with its endless possibilities.

Technology Club

Chris Kilbride



Every Saturday at 9 a.m., the Ocala Tech Club meets for an hour through our weekly online Zoom meetings. We aim to help resident members stay informed about the ever-changing technology surrounding us through discussions on Android, Windows, and Apple devices, including current issues. OcalaTechClub.org offers a wealth of valuable information about our group.

We should be used to change by now at our age, and the fact that we have no control over it – or do we? For those entrenched in the Microsoft world, Windows 10 has an end-of-support date of Oct. 14. You realize this means your devices won’t be secure after that with any patches, including no new features or technical support. However, if you don’t go calmly into the free Windows 11 upgrade before that date, Microsoft has graciously offered another choice for a fee, of course.

They are calling this their three-year Extended Security Updates (ESU) paid subscription program. Security updates will be available for Windows 10, with a \$30 annual charge per device for home users. For businesses, the cost will be \$61 in the first year, \$122 in the second year, and \$244 in the third year for security. Microsoft 365 apps, including Teams, Outlook, Word, Excel, and OneDrive, will continue to receive security updates under this program until the October 2028 end date.

There’s another catch to this. If you skip year one and start your extended support program in year two, you will still be required to pay for the first year and all subsequent updates, as updates are cumulative.

Now, your third choice is to do nothing and hold tightly to your insecure Windows 10. Then consider the cost of whatever trouble you might encounter in the world of hacking, bugs, viruses, scams, computer hijacking, and other scary scenarios lurking about.

Open your computer to Settings > Privacy and Security > Windows Update. Depending on its age, you would see an option to upgrade to Windows 11 for free. If you don’t, a new computer is in your future.

When in the ESU program, devices must be running Windows 10 version 22H2 to be eligible to install updates.

In the free upgrade to Windows 11 (before Oct. 14), you’ll get to use your gray cells to learn new things. It will take time to get to know the ins and outs and adjust accordingly. You’ve had to upgrade on previous versions; think of this as a free new adventure!

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

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

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Photo by Silvia C. Garcia

Celebrating culture and community, Latinos Club members participated in the "Around the World" event wearing traditional attire.

**Latinos Club**

**Silvia C. Garcia**



¡Hola Amigos! I’m excited to share updates from our club. Be sure to visit our Facebook page (OTOW Latinos Club Ocala) to check out photos and videos that are sure to entertain you and make you smile (or even laugh out loud)! You do not need to be Latino to join the fun! Monthly dining experiences remain a member favorite, offering delicious food, lively conversation, and great opportunities to connect. Equally popular are our free weekly game nights, providing the perfect balance of excitement and relaxation. Recently, Chicas Latinas came together for an enjoyable evening at Yamato Restaurant. Baila Caliente social and dancing with DJ Petroski was a red-hot success! It sold out quickly, and many members called it our best event yet. We were entertained by “Felix” (Ivan Vazquez) and his wife, Ivy Cortez. Congratulations to dance competition winners Nilva Torres and Ina Kline and to our many lucky drawings and 50/50 raffle winners! Save the date! Upcoming events include Painting with a Twist on Friday, July 18, will give you the opportunity to sip, paint, and unleash your creativity; Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards on Saturday, Aug. 9, will delight you with grape stomping, winery tours, wine tasting and bar, live music, food court; dominoes tournament on Sunday, Aug. 17, for fun and friendly competition; Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 13, is where we will be celebrating our roots, our music, our food — and most of all, each other – a joyful tribute to cul-

ture, music, and unity with DJ Joe Ortiz; Silver Springs State Park glass bottom boat tour and brunch on Thursday, Oct. 16; and Honoring Our Troops Ceremony at the Veterans Park Memorial on Saturday, Nov. 1. Our “biggest loser” weight loss competition is off to a strong start! Weekly weigh-ins, group encouragement, and a little friendly competition are helping everyone stay on track. It’s inspiring to see members investing in their health, happiness, and self-esteem –one pound at a time! Featured members: Beatriz Kelemen, the club’s co-social coordinator, was born in Venezuela and has a master’s degree in project management. She pursued the family’s glass art passion in fused glass with her twin sister Alicia. Beatriz’s husband, Warner Whitfield, is a glass blower born in Illinois. Together, they enjoy their vocation by creating art inspired by nature and the flowing movement of Florida’s and the Caribbean’s shallow waters. Their awards include Metropolitan Museum of Art, Stephen King, Whoopi Goldberg, Arnold Schwarzenegger, King of Jordan, and Premier of Newfoundland Danny Williams. Nilva Torres, the club’s co-social coordinator, born in Panama, is well-known and loved by many. Her husband, Jose Torres, a member of our board of directors, was born in Nebraska. They both feel blessed to live in Candler Hills and work in our community. A message from them, “Come and check out our club – you will find the Latinos Club is not only fun, but we will welcome you with open arms no matter where you are from!” For more information call Silvia C. Garcia at 561-801-8188; Ivan Vazquez at 727-403-9629; or Jesus Alvarez at 954-549-7953.

**Global Diversity  
Asian Social Club**

**Rosalina Norita**



The “Around the World” event provided residents with a vibrant multicultural experience, featuring music, dancing, food from around the globe, and tables representing various countries and cultures. Our club proudly presented the Global Diversity Asian Social Club table, showcasing a vibrant assortment of Asian, Latino, and international cuisines at the dining station. We prepared a distinctive, nutritious pudding infused with seaweed and flavored with lychee, mango, melon, and strawberry, notable for being gluten-free, carbohydrate-free, cholesterol-free, and rich in fiber, enabling guests to enjoy a guilt-free indulgence. Leonard wore a traditional Balinese outfit, complete with a “songket udeng” – a ceremonial cloth headpiece from Bali that men wear during ceremonies and special events. The udeng symbolizes respect and focus, tying cultural pride to spiritual values. The traditional head-dress worn by Balinese men, known as udeng, carries a profound cultural sig-

nificance and plays an essential role in the everyday life of Balinese men. Other guests at our table wore a striking black vest with Eastern European-style embroidery, adding rich visual detail to the event. The jeweled vest exemplifies traditional stitching patterns characteristic of wealthy, upper-class Slavic regions, signifying status in elite social affairs in the 1800s. Most women embroidered regional or village patterns in red thread on balloon sleeves worn during memorable entertainment in all-female circular group dances. Ethnographic museums in Eastern Europe today primarily showcase peasant clothing, while the inclusion of jewels on clothing served as a means of survival during the communist era. One participant stood out in a vibrant Caribbean dress, accompanied by matching earrings, embodying the warmth and spirit of island cultures. The Recreation Center Ballroom was transformed into a dance floor with music from the ‘80s, pop rock, and rock ‘n’ roll, as numerous guests took to the dance floor. It was a joyful evening of sharing stories, traditions, and tastes from around the world, all within our community’s confines. Events of this nature serve as a poignant reminder of how diversity unites people and enriches our lives.



A table full of colorful hibiscus flower arrangements on a tablecloth of Bali Prada and the billowing yellow umbrella.

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Active  
Singles Club

Catherine White



This month, we have a great mix of outdoor and indoor activities to help you beat the heat! There is a plethora of eating opportunities, from breakfast to dinner. We start off the month with a Tuesday morning breakfast at Eggs Up Grill. And every Sunday afternoon, we have lunch at Cody’s right outside the gate.

SWANS

Lois Nix



Summer weather prevents the SWANS from being as active with outside events. May usually is the last of our outings. Our trip to Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings’ home was enjoyable and is an interesting part of local history, followed by lunch at The Yearling, which was also good. Some of us SWANS continually go on this outing because of the lunch venue. Cedar Lakes Woods & Gardens is truly beautiful, with a lot of walking involved. After the tour, we went to Sister’s Place in Williston. When summer is over, we will continue other trips, especially nature walks. SWANS meet all year round. We do not collect dues. Since we socialize in our

At the end of the month, we plan to have dinner at Live Fire Chefs. If you haven’t been there before, it’s a real treat, so don’t miss out and register now! On Saturday, July 12, a dance party will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Indigo East Community Center. This is a no-frills event; bring your snacks, drinks, and ice cubes. Wear your dancing shoes, Tim Hargis will be playing, and he never disappoints! Pickleball takes place at the end of the month, when we should be able to appreciate the newly added shaded area. See you on court #20 at 1 p.m.

homes and take trips, all single women in On Top of the World are invited to join us. We reserve the use of On Top of the World amenities five times a year. A valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass is needed for inside the gate events. June’s brunch at Stone Creek Grille was well attended. Edo’s for lunch was good, and Stumpknockers is a unique restaurant on the river. Our appetizer, lunch, and dinner groups remain popular. These groups of six women meet through September. At our Saturday, Sept. 6 membership meeting, new groups will be created. From Sunday, Sept. 7 to Wednesday, Sept. 10, we will be taking a mini-vacation to Daytona Beach. As of this writing, only three rooms are left. If you are interested in joining us, please call Lois at 352-854-0558 (no texts). Thanks to the SWANS who volunteered to help with coordinating some of our events. Volunteers are always needed in any club to keep them active.

Hand, Knee, and Foot enthusiasts will gather every Wednesday night except July 23, where you can bring and play “What’s Your Game.” Feel free to bring your favorite board or card game. Bunco will also take place on Wednesday, July 9, at 5 p.m. Be sure to check the calendar to see the location and register for this event. Short walks will take place at Sholom Park on Sundays at 10 a.m. Make sure to wear a hat and bring lots of water. Sunday is a popular day, as we will be promoting bowling and mini golf throughout the month. So, you’d like to know more details?

SWANS has been fortunate with volunteers for 19 years. Master the Possibilities will continue with a samba class starting Friday, Aug. 1, for three weeks. Lois V. Nix teaches the class; if interested, register at MasterthePossibilities.org.

Women of  
the World

Lois Rowland



Women of the World is a social and charitable organization. We are not a travel club. Our mission is to entertain, inform, educate, and inspire our members through our monthly meetings and to contribute to the local community by providing much-needed goods to those in need in Marion County. Our monthly meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at noon in the Recreation Center. We do not meet during the summer months, but the board members are busy planning more entertainment, more excitement, and just plain more! The board of directors includes Michele Croud, president; Dolores Burke, first vice president; Marcia Meloni, second vice president; Anita Martinetto, treasurer; Lois Rowland, secretary; and chairwomen Jan Spielvogel, Patricia Pratt and Ellie Richards. The first meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 18. Our 2024-2025 year was very successful. Our members donated goods to the following charities: the Pearl Project, Pa-

Please visit otowactivesingles.com, where you can view our monthly calendar of events. If you’d like to join our club and register for a few events, you can do so online. Attend our board meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. You can also visit us at our general membership meeting, which is held on the third Wednesday of every month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios. If you prefer to use email, please find us at otowactivesingles@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (OTOW Active Singles Club). Check us out! By the way, we are always looking for a few good volunteers.

SWANS play samba every Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room. We invite all single women to join us, learn samba, and join the support, socialization, and friendship of other SWANS. Have a good summer. SWANS are never alone; SWANS are never forgotten.

triot Service Dogs, Arnett House, Florida Kids Helping Kids, Chuck’s Piggy Bank, Wear Gloves, Shepherd’s Lighthouse, Pay It Forward Outreach, and Operation Shoebox. In addition to these generous donations, a total of \$9,500 was given to Emphath Hospice of Marion County, which will go toward the renovation of the building that will house the Nancy Renhart Dementia Education Program. Other programs voted on by the members received \$1,000, including Shepherd’s Lighthouse, Operation Shoebox, Patriot Service Dogs, and the Arnett House. A satisfaction survey was distributed to members, both past and present, for suggestions on ways to improve the meetings. The board members will review these results to identify potential ideas for implementation in the coming year. A bunco fundraising event is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 19. The 23rd annual Fashion Show will be in March 2026, with the final date to be determined. We hope to see everyone again next season. The club is open to all women residents who hold a valid resident ID or a Gateway of Services pass. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Michele Croud, president, at 586-872-1966.

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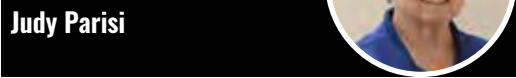
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Michigan forest. Photo by Nancy Meininger

Rhode Island Group



The Rhode Island Group met on Saturday, May 24, for lunch at Stone Creek Grille. As always, it was an enjoyable opportunity to share stories about Rhode Island and discuss summer plans, including trips back north. Regrettably, we learned that two of our favorite restaurants are closed. The son of the founder of the Old Canteen on “The Hill” retired and sold the restaurant, and Matunuck Oyster Bar was recently closed due to a significant fire. We’re hoping the latter will rebuild.

The Fourth of July brings picnics, fireworks, and fun-filled celebrations. It is also a time to reflect on what makes this day so special. On July 4, 1776, John Hancock, on behalf of Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. This document contains the iconic words: “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

In this document, the 13 Colonies declared their independence from Great Britain and listed the reasons underlying their actions. Interestingly, while the Colonies declared their independence on July 4, Rhode Island had already severed its allegiance to Great Britain on May 4, 1776 – a full two months earlier, in the act of Renunciation.

Rhode Island viewed religious and political liberty as rights, not privileges

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Michigan Club

Nancy Meininger



What is summer like in Michigan? Close your eyes and ... feel this crisp 60-degree morning walk through a trillium-floored forest with squirrels leaping from tree to tree; smell the damp, dark soil with Iris poking through, their velvety blooms open to the sun; listen to the bird songs break the stillness that surrounds the deer standing in the meadow watching us.

Many things happen here that trigger memories from decades ago. Look up. Northern lights splash across the midnight sky. Maple-seed spinners float down to the wet, dewy grass. Smell the lilacs in full bloom. These are all pieces of memories coming together from de-

acades ago in this place we once called home.

Summer is a time of peace, fun, and memories all rolled into one. We look forward to campfires and endless walks on the beach. To discovering gifts nature has left for us among the Petoskey stones and water-polished sea glass waiting to be found.

We relish family dinners and games that last into the wee hours of the night. These are the reasons we pack up our whole selves and make the pilgrimage back to our roots each year.

We could do anything we want. We choose this. To make memories more.

Michigan Club is on a summer hiatus. Stay tuned for more information about our Oktoberfest potluck with Bavarian music on Sunday, Oct. 5, at 5 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II.

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



Rhode Island Group. Photo by Judy Parisi

that could be taken by a King or Parliament, and opposed any actions that might impact her rights or trade.

A major issue was the Stamp Act of 1765, the first direct tax on the Colonies imposed by the British Parliament, requiring colonists to pay a tax on various printed materials. It was widely protested in the colonies as it represented taxation without representation. Other acts followed, such as the Townshend and Intolerable Acts, motivating the Colo-

nists to fight for self-governance.

Following the War for Independence, the United States Constitution was drafted in 1787 and subsequently ratified by nine of the states by 1788, taking effect in 1789 with the Bill of Rights, the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution, ratified in 1791. The Bill of Rights provided specific guarantees of personal freedoms and limitations on government powers.

These documents lend meaning to

our celebration of Independence Day, as they outline our nation’s core guiding principles.

The Rhode Island Group meets periodically for lunch to reminisce on our time there. We welcome all who have lived, studied, worked, or served in Rhode Island, as well as their families. If you are not on our email list, please contact Judith Parisi at judith.paris@gmail.com.

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Freethinkers

Kathy Bell



“We establish no religion in this country. We command no worship. We mandate no belief, nor will we ever. Church and state are, and must remain, separate.” – Ronald Reagan

The Freethinkers Club, like all freethought communities, is committed to advocating for the full separation of church and state. We support the right of individuals to participate in any religion they like or no religion at all. As freethinkers, it is science and reason which guides us in our decision making.

We welcome anyone on the continu-

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um, from religious skeptic to atheist, to join us for our bimonthly presentations and discussion groups, where we learn about important topics and socialize with other non-theists.

In June, Dr. Rod Broker, who is an academic, counselor, and former Lutheran minister, spoke on the topic, “Jesus without God,” and how it is possible to admire and emulate Jesus as an advocate for economic and social justice without believing in his divinity.

On Sunday, June 22, ChatGPT was the featured speaker at our meeting, sitting in on a panel discussion with several of our freethinkers. And, of course, she showed us just how smart she is, not without a bit of humor.

On Monday, June 23, our book club took a deep dive into “Prequel: An American Fight Against Fascism in the 1930s” by Rachel Maddow. Freethinkers love to discuss and share a wealth of insights and opinions!

Next up, we will hold a speed meeting (akin to speed dating, but without the dating part) on Sunday, July 6, so that freethinkers can get to know each other

a bit better and spend five minutes chatting with 10 others. We all have a story to tell about how we came to be freethinkers.

On Sunday, July 20, our presentation, “Librarians Speak Out,” will feature librarians from the Marion County Public Library System who will discuss library programs, and of great interest to freethinkers, how the banning of books affects the library, librarians, and all of us with freedom of speech, as well as the expansion of our local branch, Freedom Library.

In addition to our twice-monthly meetings, we have three dining-out opportunities monthly at various restaurants, as well as occasional field trips and social gatherings.

Our book club will announce its next selection by Monday, July 14, for the Monday, Aug. 25 meeting. If the Freethinkers Club is a good fit for you and you would like more information about our freethought community, visit [FreethinkersFlorida.com](http://FreethinkersFlorida.com) or email [FreethinkersFlorida@gmail.com](mailto:FreethinkersFlorida@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting you soon.

Joy in the Mourning

Deb Thompson



Joy in the Mourning meets every Friday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Contact Deb at 352-445-4860 or Mimi at 954-254-9187 for information.

Although grief is a natural emotion when the one we love is no longer with us, yet, it is anything but natural to deal with. Faced with a myriad of emotions can be overwhelming and exhausting. Common questions are: when will this grief end? Will I ever return to a state of normalcy? Does anyone understand the loneliness and challenges I have?

As we embark on the journey, we know that healing does not mean forgetting our loved ones. We understand that grief is a testament to the love we once shared, and we know life will never be the same. This does not mean our once-familiar life, now altered, cannot be good. Most probable joy will be discovered in time.

In the “Grief Connection,” Gary Roe says, “Our world needs people who know grief and how to navigate loss well. You can be one of those people. So much of life is about overcoming adversity and turning pain into purpose.”

Have you ever stepped out of your comfort zone to help someone in need and then experienced a sense of satisfaction and joy? The journey of working through grief does not have to be depressing or debilitating. Grief is as unique as the individual relationships were. However, connecting with others on this road to recovery is very helpful.

The absence of pressure to move on is refreshing, while subtle motivation to keep moving forward is encouraging. Your pace is up to you. Dealing with the details of your grief is solely your design. “People will make all the difference in your grief process one way or the other. Limiting the influence of unsupportive people will guard your heart from additional pain and frustration,” says Gary Roe.

The following poem is dedicated to Joy in the Mourning friends for their continual courageous efforts.

**Moving Through**

When it is time, you will know.  
No need for others to tell you so.  
Your heart and mind are working through every aspect.  
Please do no rush me, what I need is your respect.  
Years of loving and intimate sharing have become a part of me.  
So, if you do not understand, please let me be.  
Those who have experienced the cost of their soulmate’s loss are now faced with challenges where only we can be the boss.  
Changes take place in every part of life.  
The grief process is hard enough without additional strife!  
So, what can one do to transfer comfort toward you?  
A suggestion from the Bible that is honest and true,  
John 11:35, ‘Jesus wept’ as he understood what his friends were going through.  
Weeping may be outward or concealed in the heart.  
Compassion toward others is the best place to start.

Moving Through

By Deb Thompson

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What’s Cookin’?

Nancy Grabowski



This dessert is especially good for those summer gatherings!

**Banana Split Cake**

1-1/2 sticks of butter, melted  
3 cups of graham cracker crumbs  
2 sticks butter, softened  
2 cups confectioner’s sugar  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
6-7 bananas  
Lemon juice  
1 cup crushed pineapple  
Whipped cream or Cool Whip  
Chopped nuts

Mix one and a half sticks of butter and graham cracker crumbs. Press into a 9x13 pan.  
Beat two sticks of butter, sugar, eggs, and vanilla for 20 minutes then spread over the crust.  
Cut bananas, lengthwise, dip them in lemon juice, and arrange on filling.  
Drain crushed pineapple and spread over bananas.  
Cover with whipped cream or Cool Whip, sprinkle with chopped nuts. Refrigerate for several hours or overnight. Serve in small squares.

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**Silver Rainbow Club**

**Jeanne Bennett-Bailey**

We are a welcoming and affirming social group open to all. We are LG-BTQ+ allies, providing a space for gathering, socializing, and enjoying each other’s company. We host various activities throughout the year, including coffee gatherings, luncheons, cookouts, dances, and other social gatherings. To get the latest information about all our events, visit [SilverRainbowClub.com](http://SilverRainbowClub.com) and our Facebook page (Silver Rainbow Club). Our annual club fee is \$10 per person.

We will be sponsoring a music trivia event on Sunday, Sept. 21. Fifty percent of all proceeds collected will be donated to Interfaith Emergency Services’ Food-4-Kids Backpack Program. Tickets will go on sale in August. We hope to see you there!

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The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines the word “pivot” in several ways, including as an adjustment or modification made to adapt or improve. The Jewish Club had to pivot in May when the scheduled speaker canceled just weeks before the monthly meeting.

Second Vice President Lois Trepper came to the rescue with, “Let’s have an ice cream social!” Lois, co-chair Sue Miller, and their hospitality committee volunteers served three types of ice cream – chocolate, vanilla, and sugar-free – along with toppings to the 68 members at the last meeting of the season on Sunday, May 18 at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Several members said it was nice and a welcome change of pace to sit and talk with friends while enjoying the ice cream during the meeting.

Kate Beeders gave a presentation highlighting some companies that originated in Israel. She pointed out Israel has become a global tech powerhouse. “It has more start-ups per capita than any other country and has produced over 100 unicorns, companies valued at \$1 billion-

plus,” she said. Some of the companies and inventions she cited included Waze, Epilady, the cherry tomato, modern drip irrigation, and the pill cam.

In honor of Memorial Day, Jay Wallet spoke about the Soldiers’ Section of the Hebrew Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. It is the only cemetery outside of Israel that is only for Jewish soldiers. According to Jay, “There is an iron fence, considered a work of art, surrounding it.”

It was a beautiful day, sunny and breezy, on Thursday, May 1, as about 20 members enjoyed the Singing River Cruise aboard a 40-foot pontoon boat exploring the nearby Rainbow and Withlacoochee Rivers. Of course, Captain Jon Semmes broke out the guitar and serenaded the group with his customary Florida songs. Thanks to Linda Devine of the social committee for organizing this fun outing.

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

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



Photo by Mark Frankel

Jewish Club members get ready to enjoy an ice cream social in May.

Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



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

Reservations for Travel Toppers trips can be made Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the coordinators listed for each event. Reservations can be made for only two people at a time, and guests will go on a wait-

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

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

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

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

We are pleased to offer a 16-day trip, “Highlights of Route 66,” from Sept. 18 to Oct. 4, 2026. This tour departs from Chicago and then travels through eight states, concluding in Los Angeles. The price is \$4,719 per person and includes

escorted tours, accommodations, transportation, prepaid gratuities, travel insurance, and transportation to and from Ocala. The deposit is \$649 per person, with the final payment due on June 30, 2026. For more information, contact Linda Hein at 352-861-9880.

All our trips require payment by check only, which is nonrefundable. Traveltopperstours.com offers more details and up-to-date information about our trips. Trips sponsored by Travel Toppers Tours are open only to residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. Copies of Gateway of Services passes must be submitted with the resident’s check to prove the resident is current for 2025. Any non-resident who participates must be a guest of a resident club member.

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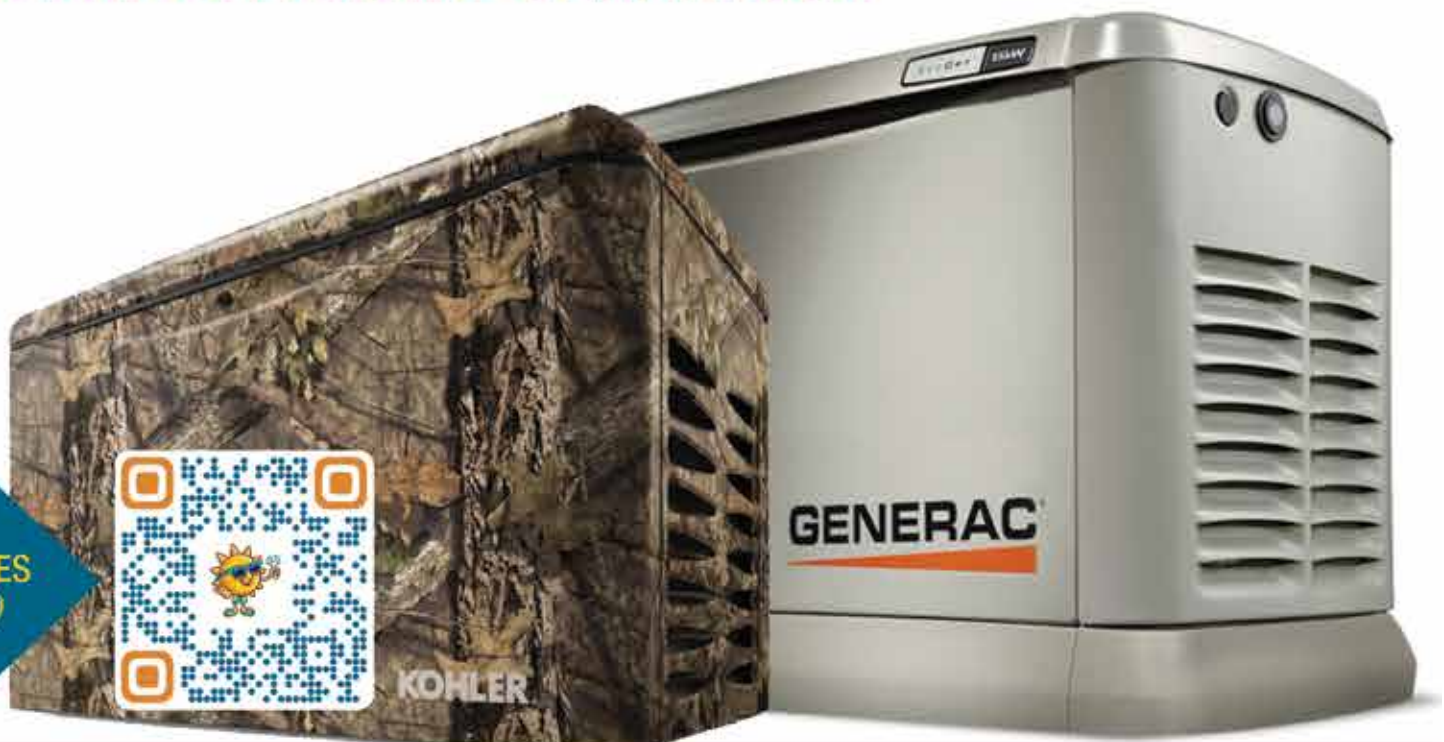
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SPCA of Marion County

Heather Tahan



If you love animals, please consider joining the SPCA of Marion County, a 501(c)(3) organization helping Marion County pets in need. Although we are taking a hiatus from the Thursday Circle Square Commons Farmers Market during the summer, you are welcome to attend our monthly meeting. We meet every third Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Friendship Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 9510 SW 105th Street, Ocala, Florida 34481. To learn more, please visit [SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com](http://SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com), follow us on Facebook (Marion County Fl SPCA), or email [spca.marion.county@gmail.com](mailto:spca.marion.county@gmail.com).

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, July 17. Donations of pet food and supplies will be accepted at the porch of Evelyn Sarns Holiday, located at 8880-C SW 94th St, Ocala, Florida 34481. To pre-

vent accidental ingestion by pets, please refrain from using staples to close open bags.

Save the dates: Friday, Nov. 7, and Saturday, Nov. 8, we will be hosting a murder mystery dinner featuring one of the theatre groups. More to come soon!

Protect your pets during Florida’s summer heat and hurricane season. Florida summers bring intense heat and hurricane threats, making pet safety a top priority for every owner. With a little planning, you can keep your furry companions safe through both. High temperatures and humidity can be dangerous for pets. Always provide fresh, cool water and avoid outdoor activities during peak heat (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Walk dogs early in the morning or after sunset and check the pavement with your hand – if it’s too hot for you, it’s too hot for them.

Never leave pets in a parked car, even for a few minutes. Temperatures inside can soar in seconds. Watch for signs such as heavy panting, drooling, lethargy, or collapse, and contact a veterinarian immediately if they appear.

Keep pets indoors and provide shade and cooling tools, such as fans, cooling mats, or even kiddie pools, to help them stay comfortable. Leaving a pet in a hot car is also considered animal cruelty per Florida law.

Another risk of Florida summers is hurricane season, which runs from June through November. To be prepared, create a pet emergency kit that includes food, water, medications, vaccination records, leashes, carriers, and comfort items. Keep ID tags updated and consider microchipping your pets in case you’re separated. Have a list of pet-friendly shelters or hotels in advance. Proof of vaccinations will be required, so be sure to keep your pets up to date and have their medical records handy. Never leave pets behind during an evacuation; if it’s not safe for you, it’s not safe for them. Lastly, keep a current photo of your pet and be aware of their hiding spots at home. Be sure to block those hiding places before a storm. Keeping your pet safe from heat and hurricanes shows the love and responsibility every animal deserves.



Photo by Dawn Case

To find out more about adopting this sweet two-year-old, well-behaved, housebroken male poodle mix, please contact Dawn at [dcindc3@verizon.net](mailto:dcindc3@verizon.net).

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” – Aesop

Blue Indigo East Democratic Club

Lydia Kuust



The Indigo East Democratic Club meets on the fourth Monday of every month in the

Indigo East Community Center Ballroom at 2 p.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 28.

We chose to have a shorter meeting in May since this meeting date fell on a holiday. Our members had expressed an interest in hearing about various independent sources where they could follow newsworthy events as they happen in our country. Lydia Kuust provided

that information.

Nancy Carp spoke at our June meeting. As a continuation of the information offered in May, she shared social media sources about news happenings and sharing opinions about those events.

In April, we heard from Tristin Baker, a representative for Isaiah’s 117 House, which provides a more supportive, less traumatic transition for children taken from their homes and placed into foster care. Our club has chosen to support this cause. Currently, they are still in need of lemonade mix and cups, so please think about bringing some of those to our next meeting. Isaiah’s 117 House offers lemonade to visitors at farmer’s markets and other local events as people stop by their booth to learn about this organization.

We have a full slate of officers and a board of directors, but we continue to need more volunteers for our various

committees. If you are interested, please contact me – in person at our meetings or using the contact information below.

In this time of uncertainty, we need to connect and support one another. Attending and participating in our meetings offers an opportunity to be with others who share similar beliefs. Since our inception, our member roster has continued to grow with each meeting.

Democrat or not, you will be welcomed the next time we meet. If you need a ride to this meeting, please let me know at least a few days in advance. You may contact me on 802-345-0669. I do not answer my phone if I don’t recognize your number, so please leave me a message, and I will return your call or send me a text at the same number.

You may also send an email to [iedemocrats@yahoo.com](mailto:iedomocrats@yahoo.com). I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Ohio Buckeyes Social Club

Amy Ingram



On Thursday, July 3, the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club will be hosting our Independence Day Celebration party at The Lodge at Candler Hills poolside pavilion from 4 to 7:30 p.m. The club will provide all the meat and fixings for hamburgers and hot dogs. Members will enjoy music, a 50/50 raffle, mini axe throwing, and cornhole competitions. Space is limited, and members must RSVP for this event.

Other events to be held this year in-

clude a Halloween party with a chili cook-off, our annual Christmas party as well as the fall football game watch parties. Our first game watch party will be held in the Recreation Center Derby Room on Saturday, Aug. 30, when The Ohio State Buckeyes take on the Texas Longhorns. Kickoff is set for noon. Seating is limited, so members will be required to RSVP. Do not miss out on all the fun; the time to join the club is now.

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club, email us at [buckeyefans34481@gmail.com](mailto:buckeyefans34481@gmail.com). Annual dues are \$20 per person, and the club is open to any resident with ties or an interest in the state of Ohio. You can also look for us on Facebook (Residents of On Top of the World Buckeye Social Club).

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# Introducing World-Class Active Aging

By Leslee Stephens

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our World-Class Active Aging (WCAA) program, an exciting new virtual wellness initiative offered three days a week at The Lodge at Candler Hills

and The Landing at 8:30 a.m. Designed to support vibrant, healthy lifestyles, WCAA offers residents a dynamic mix of video-guided fitness classes that promote mobility, strength, flexibility, and

heart health.

Each 30- to 45-minute session is curated to align with the principles of active aging, making it a perfect addition to anyone’s weekly routine. Whether you’re looking to boost your cardiovascular endurance, build muscular strength, enjoy the rhythm of dance, or find calm and flexibility through stretching, WCAA has something for you.

We’re proud to report that each class consistently sees participation from about 30 residents, all enjoying the op-

portunity to move freely in spacious, comfortable settings. Both The Lodge at Candler Hills and The Landing offer ample room for participants to spread out and move confidently, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all fitness levels.

Our residents have quickly embraced the WCAA program, noting the increased energy, improved mobility, and positive mood they experience after class. It’s more than just fitness. It’s an uplifting way to start the day, connect with neighbors, and prioritize personal wellness.

As we continue to grow this initiative, we’ll be expanding our video library to include even more class styles, such as balance training, meditation, and low-impact aerobics. Our goal is to keep the program fresh, engaging, and inclusive for all participants, no matter their ability or fitness level.

WCAA is more than a class; it’s a commitment to aging well, staying active, and making wellness a fun, consistent part of life. With expert-led videos, a supportive group setting, and a welcoming environment, these sessions are an outstanding way to invest in your health.

So, lace up your sneakers, grab a water bottle, and come join us at The Lodge at Candler Hills or The Landing. Let’s move together, laugh together, and stay strong together, because aging actively is the best way to age well. Reminder: these videos are also located at Indigo East Fitness Center and the Arbor Fitness Center (Fitness On Demand) for your enjoyment.

World-Class Active Aging is here, and it’s changing the way we start our mornings for the better.



Photo by Leslee Stephens

World-Class Active Aging fitness class at The Landing.

# What is Dartball?

By Gerry Meier

The Dartball Club was formed in late 2023 and meets at 5 p.m. every Wednesday at the softball pavilion. We currently have about 20 active members.

The first dartball board was introduced by the Apex company in 1923. On March 31, 1941, Life magazine ran a story on dartball, stating that Philadelphia, Kansas City, and Milwaukee were strongholds of the sport.

What is dartball? Dartball is a game in which darts are thrown at a large wooden or homasote board that resembles a baseball field, with colored areas denoting bases. Dartball uses baseball-like rules and scoring.

Dartball rules and board configurations vary from league to league, with teams comprising either seven or nine players plus alternates.

Dartball teams are usually formed by churches, often playing their games during the fall and winter months in church basements or communal areas, and known as “church leagues.” There are also “city leagues” comprised of taverns and organizations, such as the Knights of Columbus, VFW, Moose, and Elks Clubs. Most leagues end their seasons with championship tournaments.

Dartball games can be competitive; just as in baseball, the opposing team and its supporters may attempt to distract the “batter.” In each match played, there are three individual nine-inning games.

The Dartball Club does not currently have set teams. We draw cards for teams each week to determine teams for the

night.

The player throwing darts is the “batter.” Darts can be thrown overhand or underhand. Players throw darts toward the playing field from the pitcher’s line at a distance of 20 to 25 feet. Where the dart lands on the board determines the outcome of each pitch.

The batter continues to throw darts until they are safe or out. A batter is considered safe if their dart lands on first, second, or third base or by any combination of plays that put him safely “on base.” A run is scored when a player advances safely around first, second, and third base and returns safely to home plate.

A player may score by hitting a home run or by any combination of plays after he is “on base” (first, second, or third base) by subsequent batters getting either base hits or a home run that brings him home. A player who advances around all of the bases to score is credited with a run (R). While runs scored are considered an important batting statistic, runs batted in (RBIs) are regarded as higher.

Once the player has concluded their turn at bat, the next player on the team follows suit until the team makes three outs. Then, the other team has its turn up to bat.

The game concludes at the end of nine innings, with the team scoring the most runs winning the game.

For more information on dartball, see “Resident Clubs & Groups” on the OTOW App.



Photo by Gerry Meier

Dartboard in play.



Photo by Brenda Foster

Tennis Teaching Pro Jorge Privat and club members learn tennis fitness from John Gibson.

# Tennis - It's a Passion

By Brenda Foster

Looking for a real game – one that challenges your body, sharpens your mind, and connects you with a great community? Welcome to tennis.

Tennis is a game of passion, competition, and continuous learning. It’s not easy, and it’s not for everyone. But if you want to challenge yourself, champion your health, and stay sharp, then accept no substitutes.

Whether you’re returning to the game or picking up a racquet for the first time in years, we’re here to help you get started, improve, and have fun.

Our teaching pro, Jorge Privat, and the Tennis Club have been working hard to elevate tennis in our community. We began by surveying players to understand their needs. That feedback guided us in expanding monthly clinics, adding sessions led by advanced players, and making loaner racquets, balls, and hoppers available to those rejoining the game.

Over the past year, we’ve held a successful picnic at the Veterans Park and a variety of themed clinics. Kathy Kelly and Brenda Foster ran a ball machine clinic that helped players improve their groundstrokes, backhands, and volleys. Rob Schween led serve-focused clinics, while Leslie O’Brien offered drop shot training – an underrated skill, even if it’s not the friendliest shot on the court.

We also teamed up with trainer John

Gibson at the Arbor Fitness Center to learn how to stay fit and injury-free through tennis-specific workouts. And when it was time for a break, we gathered at The Club at Candler Hills to enjoy food, drinks, and the Australian Open finals with fellow fans.

One exciting development is our new inter-community tennis socials with Stone Creek and Spruce Creek. Each month, five mixed doubles teams (3.0–3.5 level) from two communities face off, followed by snacks, music, and a showcase match between each community’s 4.0-plus players. Our first event was held Thursday, June 19 at Stone Creek – check Facebook for results.

Looking ahead, we’re planning more social events, trips to the USTA National Campus and the University of Florida, watch parties, and new tennis shirts. Even better, court resurfacing is scheduled for 2026!

Much of this progress is thanks to our dedicated committee: Al Contarino, Nicole Eddy, Brenda Foster, Walter Galas, Kathy Kelly, Butch Mulligan, Rob Schween, and Bridget Trenkle. When you see them, offer a well-deserved “thank you.”

You’ve survived decades of life. You can handle a tennis ball.

For more info, contact Brenda Foster at [brenda@gcfonline.com](mailto:brenda@gcfonline.com) or follow us on Facebook (OTOW Tennis).



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Golf

Matt Hibbs  
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Well, we are officially halfway through 2025, and we’re just a day away from Independence Day. The Fourth of July has always reminded me of fireworks, parades, barbecues, picnics, fairs, golf, baseball, and fun. What memories come to mind when you think of this memorable holiday?

July also brings us the fourth major golf championship of the year, the 153rd Open Championship. This year’s event returns to the Royal Portrush Golf Club, where Shane Lowry triumphed in 2019. Here are the professional picks for

this year’s Open Championship: Matt – Tommy Fleetwood, Denise – Shane Lowry, Russ – Rory McIlroy, Dean McCann – Shane Lowry, and Kelsey Hummer – Scottie Scheffler.

The On Top of the World Golf Club will host the annual Fourth of July golf tournament. This year’s event will take place on Friday, July 4, with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. You can create your team for \$20 per player, which includes awards and prizes. The format will be one best ball of a foursome. Please register in your respective Golf Shop.

With aerification in full swing and course closure rotations underway, this is a great time to discuss aerification. Although you may only see the effects on the surface, the impact of aerification goes deep into the soil profile and provides several benefits for years to come.

By mechanically removing organic matter, we create additional pore space

for oxygen, nutrients, and water while also providing an area for new roots to grow. Aerification can significantly improve drainage, which is especially important during the summer rainy season. In Florida, the slower golf season coincides with the warmer growing season, allowing the turf to recover quickly and reducing the impact on golfers for the remainder of the year.

**Upcoming Events**

- Friday, July 4: Fourth of July World Event at The Links and The Tortoise & The Hare.

**World Accolades**

**THE LINKS:** LuLu Kerfkoff shot one under par with a score of 71. Richard Doyle with an eagle on hole #3.

**THE TORTOISE & THE HARE:** John Mayfield and Paul Snyder each had a hole-in-one on hole #15, while Lori Pizzini had a

hole-in-one on hole #6.

Congratulations to all of you for these outstanding accomplishments!

**Golf Tip of the Month**


How many of you want to improve both your accuracy and distance? I bet that includes everyone who plays golf! Many golfers tend to swing with just their arms, which limits their potential. To help enhance both areas, focus on completing your golf swing. Here are a couple of key points to keep in mind:

1. Complete your turn by ensuring your belt buckle is pointing toward the target after striking the ball.
2. Make sure that 90% of your weight is on your front foot at the end of your swing. Your back foot should simply help with balance.

By concentrating on these two fundamentals, you should see improvements in both distance and consistency.

Horseshoes Club

Vern Kessler



Horseshoes is the most fun you can have with two and a half pounds of steel. The Horseshoe Club wishes to give a

big thanks to the On Top of The World Recreation and Maintenance departments for supplying the horseshoe pits with fresh red clay dirt.

The Horseshoe Club does not charge any fees associated with becoming a member of the club. All the equipment needed to pitch horseshoes is furnished to the club by On Top of the World. During the regular weekly pitching time, the

club makes a donation jar available for anyone who wishes to make a voluntary contribution. These funds are used to offset the club’s minimal expenses.

This is a great time of the year for anyone interested in the Horseshoe Club and pitching horseshoes to come out and join the club on Tuesday mornings. In the summer months, the club has open pitching. Open pitching means that the club members just pitch against themselves, and when interested residents come to visit the club, a club member has ample time to assist them with the finer points of pitching shoes. This is a great opportunity for individuals to assess their interest in continuing with

the club as a member.


The club pitches horseshoes on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the Veterans Park pits. Practices on Thursdays start at 9 a.m. Members are encouraged to attend practice. This is a time when each member helps the others with the method of pitching the shoe for points and ringers. The more a member practices, the luckier they get.

Residents are invited to join our club and experience the fun at the horseshoe pits in the Veterans Park. Please note that horseshoe pits are available almost every day for residents.

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

Cornhole Club

Vincent Stevens



Summer has arrived a bit sooner than expected and carried a definite impact. Words of wisdom for all outdoor activities are to slow down and stay hydrated.

Open play sessions continued at near-full-house levels on most occasions despite the annual snowbird departures and the 90-plus-degree afternoon heat. All league activities remain on hiatus over the summer months.

**OPEN PLAY:** Despite the afternoon heat, all of our regular members are keeping our open play sessions at full house level on most occasions, even on Thursdays,

which has typically been one of our slower afternoons.

As usual, we continue to use our “poker chip” method to assign play lanes and partners randomly. This method allows members to play with or against others at all skill levels and typically provides somewhat evenly matched teams. Should the random method result in significantly mismatched teams, players are free to make adjustments within their particular foursome or refer the issue to the open play host.

We continue to assign lanes and partners when 20 members (the venue’s capacity) are on site. Members arriving after play has begun can wait for a lane to clear or set up boards on the grass alongside the courts.

**LEAGUE:** All league activities remain on hiatus during the summer months. League activities are expected to return in the fall.

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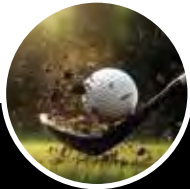
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Men’s Golf Association

John Yenne



They say only mad dogs and golfers chase after balls in the Florida summer sun. And here we are. In July, par is nice, but surviving without heat stroke is even better. As summer settles in on the Men’s Golf Association, consider these words of wisdom:

- Drink plenty of water before, during, and after your round, and apply sunscreen generously.
- Keep a cool towel handy.
- Wear light-colored, moisture-wicking clothing and a wide-brimmed hat.
- Be mindful of the signs of heat-related illness, including dizziness, headache, muscle cramps, or nausea. Stop playing and seek a place to cool off if you suspect it.
- Good players study the greens, but great ones study the shade.

And this summer, if your ball ends up in the trees, don’t see it as trouble – see it as mercy.

Membership has increased to 265. Please welcome our newest members: David Roach, Bruce Rothenberg, Rick DeRoven, Jeff Gerber, Bill McElroy, Mike Inge, August Rosenberger, David Perry, Mark Durso, Cecil Avery, Denis Bricker, Randy Kajewski, Greg Dietrich, Brian Dittrich, and Mike Benes.

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

Put these upcoming Wednesdays in your calendar:

- July 9: 3 Best Balls (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- July 16: Team Two Best Balls, Four Clubs & a Putter (The Links)
- July 23: Individual Net (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- July 30: 1-2-3 Best Balls (The Links)

For upcoming events and a new tip-of-the-month feature, visit [www.otow-mga.com](http://www.otow-mga.com).

Chicken Day Scramble  
June 4/The Links

Tie at 53–John Yenne, Jim Bobowski, Paul Snyder, Bruce Green; Tom Neville, Vernon Kessler, Dennis Kissen, Mike Inge. Tie at 54–Rick Schriewer, Rick Deroven, Terry Rizer, John Evans; Don Livingston, Paul Stoecklin, Patrick Schwinn, Carl Zeiler; Tim Carlisle, Michael Almon, Bob Leiter, Clarence Higdon. 55–Kevin McGuinness, Joseph Stefani, Joe Baumgartner. Tie at 56–Ray Kallai, Ray Christ, Joe Pruss; Ron Pratt, David Metzger, Dale Budd, Tary

Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association

Jo Della Penna



Black Tee Scramble  
May 6/The Tortoise & The Hare

41–Page Falconer, Joann Della Penna, Robin Le-Master, Susan Martin. Tie at 42–Christine Giza, MJ Strelec, Robyn Attwood, Connie Lukas, Lisa Free, Janette Sheil, Jean Czachor, Carol Carney. Tie at 43–Judi McGuinness, Cho Yulan, Eileen Gustavus, Liz Lang, Sandy Snyder, Cindy Channell, Nancy Zielinski, Rosann Ross, Linda Taylor, Mary Ruffner, Diane Hartman, Donna Townsend. Tie at 44–Virginia Combs, Debra DeMatteo, May Chin, Sharon Fairclough, Joyce Jones, Pamela Robison, Sandra Randles, Va Donna Hall, Kathleen Goodwin, Connie Norris, Terry Lemesh, Laurel Staiger, Vickie Noltzenmeyer, Dee Dahowski, Marte Dobosh, Beverly Ovrebø, Debby Wilson, Jane Hall, Joann Ropel.

Low Gross/Low Net (Individual)  
May 13/The Links  
Gross

Flight 1: E–Sandy Snyder. +6–Gayla Aldridge. Flight 2: +13–Jill Strey. +17–Patty Whitley. Flight 3: +16–Susan Martin. +20–Debra DeMatteo. Flight 4: +24–Robin Le Master. +29–Nancy Zielinski. Flight 5: +27–Connie Lukas. +28–Joann Ropel.

Net

Flight 1: +1–Shelly Karsnitz. +3–Laurel Staiger Flight 2: -1–Joyce Jones. +4–Liz Pruss. Flight 3: E–Brenda Hoffman. +4–Beth Wolinski. Flight 4: +6–Robyn Attwood. +8–Peggy Shanfelt. Flight 5: E–Renee Middleton. +8–Barbara Vincent.

6/6/6 Partners  
May 20/The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: 69–Peggy Wiechman & Vickie Noltzenmeyer. Tie at 70–Va Donna Hall & Linda Taylor. Christine Giza & Michelle Otto. Tie at 71–Kathleen Goodwin & Judi Anderson, Jill Strey & Susan Martin. Tie at 73–Joanne Woolery & Lulu Kerkhoff, Lynn Colomb & Bobbie Wiener. Tie at 74–Christine McIntire & Judi

Bole; Doug Buckler, David Emmons, John Snyder, Leonard Ruble; Paul Derosso, Percy Millet, Mike Clancy, John Johnson; Dan Goggin, Wally Wohlleber, Raymond Hendrix; John Herman, Gerry Messenger, Larry Turner, Bill Kenyon; Doyce Mathis, Gary Niland, Bob Epps, Greg Brown. Tie at 57–Rick Plesea, Louis Heger, Bob Lieberman, Edwin Ortiz; Dick Emmons, Joseph Mendola, Dennis McCourt, Mario Grosso; Jerry Williams, Roger Sparks, Bigelow Robinson, Richard Deschenes.

Mc Guinness, Gayla Aldridge & Shelly Karsnitz. Flight 2: 70–Joyce Jones & Donna Brunell. 73–Debra DeMatteo & Robyn Attwood. 74–Sandra Randals & Donna Isaac. Tie at 75–Sandra Mansfield & Renee Middleton, Robin Le Master & Marla Bennett, Diane Hartman & Terry Lemesh. Tie at 77–Peggy Shanfelt & Joann Delmar, Barbara Vincent & Paula Lilly.

One Gross, One Net Best Ball  
May 27/The Links

143–Susanne Mullineaux, Judie Anderson, Sharon Fairclough, Connie Lukas. 146–Diane Hartman, Patty Whitley, Christine Giza, Ronda Richley. Tie at 147–Cindy Channell, Susan Martin, Darlene De Berry, Anne Dahlen, Robin Le Master, Bobbie Wiener, Sandy Snyder, Terry Lemesh. Tie at 149–Nancy Zielinski, Joyce Jones, Va Donna Hall, Liz Lang, Barbara Vincent, Liz Pruss, Marcela Nunez, Lori Pizzini.

Two things to remember when playing in the summer heat: sunscreen and hydration! Drink lots of water and reapply sunscreen after nine holes.

Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



We are now into our second month of the closing of the Candler Hills Golf Course. Driving by, it certainly looks like a wasteland and a far cry from our beautiful course. It will be interesting to view the progress as work continues.

Golf has its own vocabulary. From birdie to ace to calling the green the dance floor, it runs the gamut. There is one term, however, that is quite fascinating – the platypus. This refers to a ball that is hit out of bounds, but the player still manages to make par. The platypus is pretty rare, and so is making a par after hitting it out of bounds. May we all be so lucky to get a platypus!

One of the last events before Candler Hills closed was Carnival Day. This is always fun, and it was no exception this year. We made our way through a myriad of unusual holes, laughing and enjoying ourselves.

We look forward to next year’s Carnival Day and thank Sandy Snyder and her team for all their efforts in setting everything up.

Please remember to stay hydrated once again. Summer is upon us, and the need for hydration is even greater.

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

Carnival Golf Day (Individual)  
May 1

Flight 1: 50–Gail Lagrange. Tie at 54–Sandra Mansfield, Faun Doctor. Tie at 55–Christine Giza, Gayla Aldridge. Flight 2: 53–Lori Pizzini. 54–Page Falconer. 55–Judi McGuinness. 56–Mary Dawson. 57–Jill Strey. Flight 3: 47–Lynne Dickson. 55–Kathleen Goodwin. 58–Janette Sheil. 60–Vickie Noltzenmeyer. 61–Debby Wilson. Flight 4: 56–Patty Whitley. 57–Janelle Gluckman. 58–Ellen Brin. 61–Liz Pruss. 62–MJ Strelec. Flight 5: 59–Brenda Hofmann. 60–Virginia Madura. 61–Donna Isaac. Tie at 64–Teri Stecker, Susanne Mullineaux, Connie Norris. Flight 6: 57–Nancy Skoch. 59–Anne Dahlen. 61–Donna McCombs. Flight 7: 58–Jana McElroy. 60–Marla Bennett. 61–Connie Lukas. 62–Sandra Randles. 63–Donna Townsend. Flight 8: 59–Terry Lemesh. 66–Joyce Thomas. Tie at 67–Grace Turato, Nancy Olson, Kathy Sparks. Flight 9: 59–Carol Deahl. Tie at 65–Marianne Hoffmann, Paula Wadsworth. Tie at 66–Jeanne Newman, Patty Snyder.

Wellness Cancer Support Group

Robin Storch Scheraga



We meet casually on the first of every month at 10 a.m. Please join us at the tables in the hallway next to Sid’s Coffee Shop & Deli at Circle Square Commons.

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

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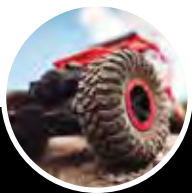
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R/C Car Club

John Schoenherr



During our races, there are often spectators who are curious about what R/C racing is all about. A very common question is, “How do I get started?” The R/C Car Club is very aware of the anxiety that newcomers to the sport experience about getting started in racing, and the club has created several classes of races designed to help rookies get started.

The first step that a new driver can take is to ask any of the members how the races are organized. So don’t be shy, just ask.

The easiest racing to get started in is slot cars. Purchase a car, which costs approximately \$60, and start racing. Before you decide to buy a car, talk to the experienced drivers about the options available in slot car racing.

The longest-running class of cars for new members who race on the outdoor track is the Traxxas 4-Tec model 2.0. This class was created to make it easy for new members to get started. The 4-Tec 2.0 BL-2s model is a ready-to-run (RTR) car that can be purchased with the body for \$330. The rules for this class require the BL-2s motor and the standard 23-tooth pinion gear, ensuring equal competitiveness among all drivers.

Another class designed for newer drivers, although many experienced drivers also enjoy it, is the sportsman class. Pretty much any sedan-type car is eligible to race. Be sure to read the class rules before buying a car. The unique feature of this class is the 23-second lap speed limit. Regardless of the car you are driving, you must set it up to not exceed 23 seconds on any lap. If you go under the speed limit, you are penalized one lap for each violation. This format is an equalizer for all drivers.

And finally, the newest class approved by the membership is the 1/12 scale Losi NASCAR vehicle. The cost for this RTR vehicle is \$250 and includes everything needed to race, including the battery and charger. Since this class was approved for racing, many new members have purchased the car and are having a great time racing it.

Slot car drivers meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. R/C electric car racing is every Wednesday and Saturday at 9 a.m. at the R/C car track. Legend car racing is every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the R/C car track.

For more information, please contact John at 608-477-3420.

May

Traxxas-Larry Ericksmoen. Two-wheel buggy-Jim Printer. Four-wheel buggy-Mark Busch. Pan Car-John Schoenherr. Touring-Ron Kaulfersch. Two-wheel truck-Bob Paxson. Four-wheel truck-Fred Penichet. Limited-Ron Kaulfersch. 17.5-Ron Kaulfersch. Sportsman-Jim Printer. Truggy-Neil Sorensen. NASCAR-Dave Ackroyd.

Winter Season

Traxxas-Larry Ericksmoen. Two-wheel buggy-Paul Beyer. Four-wheel buggy-Paul Beyer. Pan Car-Bob Paxson. Touring-Terry Altman. Two-wheel truck-Roy Macomber. Four-wheel truck-Bob Melzer. Limited-Bob Herbst. 17.5-Mike Main. Sportsman-Paul Beyer. Truggy-Paul Beyer. NASCAR-Peter Martin.

REPLACEMENT CAR DECALS

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R/C Flyers Club

Ray Ihlenburg



If it rolls, floats, climbs, or flies, chances are it has been modeled and radio-controlled. Flying a radio-controlled (R/C) airplane has one challenge that other forms of R/C modeling do not present to the operator. Consider that the R/C train engineer has the track; the R/C car driver has to steer the car around the track or course. The R/C sail- or has several unique variables to contend with, including the sails, hull, and water. However, they work in conjunction with the rudder to steer the yacht. These R/C models are two-dimensional, requiring steering and application or management of energy for power.

The challenges the R/C pilot must contend with are an extra dimension known as a pitch for 3D operation and an unforgiving boundary called the ground.

Therefore, the three control axis; yaw, roll, pitch are controlled by the rudder, ailerons, and elevator, respectively. The pilot must also utilize the throttle in conjunction with the three-axis controls, as the throttle has a direct impact on the aircraft’s speed and response to the pilot’s control inputs.

Additionally, an airplane with a lifting airfoil tends to climb as power increases and descend as power is reduced. As in any full-size aircraft, all these controls are managed together for a successful takeoff, flight, and landing. It’s not nearly as hard as rubbing your stomach while patting your head while standing on a balance ball.

While the above is happening, the pilot must keep the airplane within the established “flight box.” At our field, the flight box extends from the east and west end of the paved runway to the respective “big clump of trees” and extends north from the runway “to the top of the hill.” Add to this, the maximum altitude allowed by the FAA is 700’ above the ground. These spatial constraints form the flight box that is centered in front

of the pilot’s station, and the airplane is kept within these limits. This is a huge volume of airspace in which to operate, but since the pilot must have line-of-sight contact with the aircraft, it is about the limits for safe operation.

Seeing the airplane is paramount to flying R/C models. It is the only physical connection the pilot has with the aircraft. This is why keeping the airplane in the flight box is so important. When the aircraft gets out of the flight box or is too far away to discern direction, trouble is not far away. Looking up too steeply carries a risk of disorientation, especially as we age and become less agile. Pilots must always keep the airplane in front of them.

Most pilots are capable of handling these challenges, but when physical limitations creep in, the club helps those pilots stay flying. In addition, the club’s instructors teach the new pilot to handle the controls and have fun doing it.

In closing, flying an R/C model aircraft is a challenging but very enjoyable way to retire.

Top Pickleball Club

John Maggio



A lot has happened since May. Construction of a roof over the back courts has begun. It is projected the construction will be completed by the time this column is printed. This is a significant improvement in terms of providing shade in the summer, as well as during rainy weather.

In May, we held our first 1.0 - 2.5 round-robin tournament. We had 24 participants. Gold-Joseph Manzello. Silver-Bob Caswell. Bronze-Jon Trace.

Judging by the number of participants and the level of play, it’s clear that everyone had a great time! Thanks to Vice President Bob Young and Treasurer Shelly Leavenworth for organizing and running this great event.

In June, we said farewell to the many snowbirds returning to the somewhat cooler climates, and we hope they enjoy their summer. For those of us remaining, we are still playing, but we usually start very early and leave as the hot part

of the day arrives.

We continue to get new members with varying skill levels. Our club now has over 600 members! However, we have enough courts for everyone who wants to play.

If you’re interested in playing pickleball and have never tried it before, we have skilled volunteers who can help

you get started.

If you want more information, you can go to the OTOW App and look for Top Pickleball Club, or there is contact information on the bulletin board at the top courts, or just show up to the introduction class, which is held every Monday, 10:30 a.m. on the upper courts.

Come join us and join the fun!



Photo by Jim Sipe

2.5 round-robin participants.

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Archery Club

Suzanne Shea



The bow and arrow seem to have been invented in some form on every continent on Earth except for Australia. Although nobody knows the exact location of the bow’s first use or who the first archer was, it is thought that archery (the use of bow and arrows) was most probably developed in Africa over 70,000 years ago. Firearms have largely replaced archery in both hunting and

warfare, but it is still practiced today for hunting and as a target sport, with target archery being the most popular form.

The Archery Club manages the range at the Veterans Park. Our members range from novice to competitive skill level. A wide range of equipment is available for those new to archery or returning after a long hiatus. We also have a well-equipped maintenance shop to keep club and personal archery equipment in good working condition. We also offer workshops for members, training them to care for their equipment and assisting with maintaining club equipment.

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

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

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

Every Friday, we host “Freestyle Friday” from 9 a.m. to noon. Club mentors are available at the range to assist our novice archers with skill improvement.

If you’re considering joining the club, this is a great opportunity to meet fellow members, learn more about the sport, and have fun.

Club membership is open to all OTOW residents with a valid ID and residents with a Gateway of Services pass. Interested in becoming a member? Visit [otowarcheryclub.org](http://otowarcheryclub.org) > New Members and download the application form and required waivers.

For additional information or to learn about the next steps to join the club, please contact Chuck at [chuck-archery@strickland.net](mailto:chuck-archery@strickland.net) or 407-257-9668, or Suzanne at [Suzanne.shea61@gmail.com](mailto:Suzanne.shea61@gmail.com) or 908-510-5714. Keep it in the yellow!

Ladies Shuffleboard

Lois Nix



With the evening breeze, the flags were swaying at the Veterans Park on Monday, June 2, when we started our summer season of shuffling. We had a great group of ladies shuffling, which included two new players. We shuffle at 5:30 p.m. We ask players to arrive 15 minutes early to pick a chip, which determines the court and the player with whom you will shuffle.

On Wednesday, June 4, at 9 a.m., we had a good group to shuffle. We also welcomed two new members. Our seasonal players utilize the summer months to practice various techniques and strategies to enhance their game. We have many ladies who are good shufflers and have been shuffling for years. These ladies are so willing to assist new members with the basic rules and informa-

tion about shuffleboard.

We are hoping that our courts will be resurfaced and repaired before our season starts in September. If so, then perhaps we can have our yearly tournament next season. We invite all women residents to join us for an evening or a morning of fun and to meet and make new friends. To participate, you must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

**May**  
9–Helen Anderson. 8–Carol Noval. 7–Jane Dormanen, Ruth Greenfield, Barbara Russell.  
Most Wins

**2024-2025 Season**  
56–Sandy Welch. 50–Barbara Russell, Lois V. Nix. 49–Jane Dormanen

**Most 30-plus 2024-2025 Season**  
13–Sally Herrick, Lois V. Nix. 11–Dee Caple. 9–Sandy Welch, Marge Adragna. 8–Barbara Russell, Jane Dormanen. 7–Ruth Greenfeld.

Hope to see you on the courts. Have a great summer.

Bocce Club

Kathy Nastally



Happy summer! In the history of bocce ball, the first known documentation of the game dates back to an Egyptian tomb painting that depicts two boys playing in approximately 5200 B.C.

Bocce ball is reportedly the third most popular sport in the world, after soccer and golf. In Italy, across all demographics, bocce ball is considered a perfect activity for a relaxing afternoon. “In bocca al lupo” is a renowned Italian expression meaning best of luck, to which one may respond crepi (may the wolf die) or grazie (thank you). The expression seems to find its origin in the hunting world, where hunters wished each other not to end up in the wolf’s mouth to be devoured. Who knew?!

Also, are you aware there is a drink called the bocce ball? Mix 1.5 ounces of vodka, ½ ounce of amaretto, 5 ounces of orange juice, a splash of soda water on ice, and garnish with orange slices. Who measures? Up for a fancy amaretto? You can get Adriatico directly from Italy!

Speaking of beverages, summer heat is here. Heat-related illnesses, such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke, are serious but can be minimized by staying hydrated, wearing light-colored clothing, and avoiding work or play during the hottest times of the day. Drink plenty of fluids, including water and sports drinks with electrolytes. This is especially important if you are on medi-


cation. You should avoid alcohol or fluids with caffeine, such as tea, coffee, or colas, as these have diuretic properties that can lead to dehydration. For emergencies, always call 9-1-1 first. Our closest AED is located in the Arbor Activity Center, behind the bocce courts, near the bathroom entrance, in the worker breakroom cabinet. The signage is very clear. The Arbor Fitness Center, right next door to the bocce courts, also has an AED.

League play is on hiatus for the summer. Anyone new to bocce ball is invited to come on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. A league coordinator is available to help and answer questions. Open play is available on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. throughout the year. We are limited to 48 players; we draw cards for court assignments and teammates. We play two games; each game is played to 16 points, and the first team to reach 16 points wins. Everyone must sign in, so come up a little early.

New players will be asked to present a valid resident ID or a Gateway of Services pass and complete a Hold Harmless form. Our dues are \$15. League play is from October through April. Closed-toe shoes are required on the courts for safety reasons, and court one has a handicapped removable access wall.

We’re looking for a club vice president to join our board. We’re also looking for league-season substitutes. Maybe long-term commitments aren’t your thing, so consider being a substitute! For questions or inquiries, please contact President Pam Brown at 970-531-1890. See you at the courts. Let the bocce balls roll!

Bay Laurel



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R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



A common question from onlookers is, “What happens when they get stuck out there?”

It’s reassuring that our pond is narrow enough that it isn’t too far out there, and a whisper of wind is usually enough to propel these lightweight beauties to shore or perhaps a gentle nudge from another sailboat or a tiny electric-powered R/C tug boat to coax a wayward vessel back to shore.

The old race buoys used to be real mischief-makers, snagging unsuspecting boats as they rounded the mark. The new larger buoys are a solution to keep those hang-ups a thing of the past – a major win!

Of course, there are the more dramatic rescues. A dismasting, with the sail dipping into the drink, is the stuff of R/C sailor nightmares, short of a full sinking! Then it’s all hands on deck – or rather, all other boats to the rescue, nudging the unfortunate craft ashore like a pod of helpful dolphins or deploying that trusty little tug. And when two boats get their rigging in a tangle, it’s a slow dance to shore, testing everyone’s patience as the wind struggles to make sense of the combined mess.

The tale of a boat dramatically breaking in half is a classic! Thank goodness for the trapped air bow, which kept it afloat while a phone call to a trusty kayaker who generously drove to the pond

Call of the Wild Sports Club

Scott Bloch



The club wants to thank Frank Chagoya for all that he did as our events director. His fiery spirit encouraged many to participate in our various activities. Thank you, Frank.

Recent reports from Lochloosa Lake and Orange Lake are saying large bluegills are still being caught in large numbers. Rodman Reservoir offers a diverse catch of fish.

Member Larry Brooks took an over-

for a rescue. Thanks, Nub.

One of my recent blunders was not securing the main hatch, and my DF95 was filled with water, except for the air trapped in the bow. Out came the small tug, towing a line of ping pong balls to grab by encircling the stricken vessel and tow it back to port.

Then there was my grounding getting too close on the “far side” – a potential quarter-mile walk averted by the skilled maneuvering of the rescue tug, lassoing the stranded boat with ping pong balls and pulling it free. Success!

A summary of our retrieval strategies are:

- The Long Reach: For those close-to-shore groundings, a trusty long pole for a quick pluck to safety.
- The Wind’s Whisper (and a bit of a walk): Letting Mother Nature do the work by blowing it ashore, even if it means a long wait and a hike to the other side of the pond.
- The Cooperative Nudging by other sailboats to get the stricken boat ashore.
- The Mighty Mini-Tug: The electric-powered R/C tug hero, ready to push or pull a fellow boat out of a bind.
- The Last Resort (The “Oh, alright, I’ll get the big boat”): The inflatable boat at home, a commitment of several hours, reserved for only the direst of circumstances.

A disabled boat is a relatively rare occurrence. However, the unexpected does happen. Races are every Sunday and Wednesday at noon.

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

night red snapper trip on the Gulf. Listen to his report at the August meeting.

Joe London and I fished at the Inglis spillover. I managed to catch two snags but no fish. Both of us had curious fish come after our mud minnows but decided not to bite.

Then, there are those members who prefer to shoot at targets and continue to hone their skills. Director Paul Jorgensen takes a group to one or more of our local ranges.

The Inverness Gun Trader Show takes place Saturday, July 19, and Sunday, July 20, at Citrus County Fair Grounds.

Visit [cotw.springly.org](http://cotw.springly.org) for all current club information. Join us at the next meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 6, at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.



R/C tug to the rescue. Photo by Leigh Workman

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INSTRUCTOR: EDITH GANDY  
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Members: \$5 | General Public: \$10

U.S. glider pilots spearheaded major World War II invasions in concert with Allied forces, delivering thousands of troops into combat. They had the reputation of being tough and were known to brag that the “G” on their pilot wings stood for “guts.” Learn about these pilots and their role in World War II from Edith Gandy, daughter of a World War II glider pilot.

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Co-Ed Recreational Softball members warming up before the game. Photo by Pat Wilbert

Co-Ed Recreational Softball

Pat Wilbert



June has passed, and now the summer has begun. Yes, it’s hot, but that’s what Florida living is all about. We still manage to get out there on the field to play the game we all love, softball.

Co-Ed Recreational Softball is a great participation sport for men and women together. Regardless of your experience or age, we welcome all newcomers. Every Saturday at 9 a.m., we begin the day with stretching to ensure we are prepared to hit, catch, and run. If you are unable to run, we have great volunteers

who will run for you. Teams are chosen evenly, and we start the game between 9:15 to 9:30 a.m.

Everyone who participates has a lot of fun, laughing and enjoying the thrill of playing this wonderful recreational sport. We recommend that you stay hydrated, so please bring plenty of fluids. We do have water in the frig, should you forget, and fans in the dugout to keep us cool. We also provide equipment (glove or bat) should you need it. We play seven innings with three outs, and everyone gets to bat.

We look forward to meeting new players, so come down and try this fun sport. Great people, relationship building, and lots of exercise.

Softball is more than just a game; it’s a journey filled with highs, lows, challenges, and triumphs.

Rec Softball Club

Bryan Tully



The winter season ended on a historical note. The Ball Busters, guided by first-time manager Luis Puentes, won their first game of the season and remained in the top spot for the entire schedule. After a hard-fought 17-14 win over The Batmen in the preliminary round of the playoffs, The Ball Busters pulled away from the Good Timers 20 to five in the finale. This marked the first time that a

rookie manager took the crown and also the first time a team went “wire to wire” to secure the championship. Congratulations to Steve Pennell, Vic Gonzalez, Luis Puentes, Guy Stiebing, Stu Martin, Andy Cheyne, Pete Feliciano, Ray Parlatto, Jeff Thomas, Rick Dykstra, Ron Carlson and Paul Martello.

After a brief respite, the summer season is now underway. There are some new players in the league, and they have made an immediate impact. While the temperatures have climbed, so have the fun times at the ballpark. There is now shaded seating, so we encourage fans of the batted ball to come out and spend some time with us. It’s always a beautiful day for softball; let’s play two!

OneBlood Bloodmobile

Sara Sommer



Big things are happening with the Big Red Bus®.

First thing, the Big Red Bus was at On Top of the World on Monday, June 2. We collected 25 units of whole blood and eight units of double red units. Great job.

The second thing is that the Big Red Bus will be participating in the Patriotic

Celebration at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons from 3 to 9 p.m. This drive is open to the public. What better way to celebrate our nation’s birthday than to give the gift of life?

The third thing, the Big Red Bus will be here on Monday, Aug. 4, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center parking lot. The Big Red Platelet Mobile will be joining us from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Platelet Mobile may be joining us for all our Monday drives. Stay tuned for further information. Please mark your calendar for all these dates. See you on the bus.

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Join us for this **FREE** introductory class and discover the many benefits of using water for happiness and healing—body, mind, and spirit—while having fun!

Meditation doesn’t have to be an uncomfortable or passive discipline. In this class, you’ll experience how it can be both active and enjoyable, especially when practiced in water. Free from the pull of gravity, water supports the body in a way that reduces discomfort often felt during traditional, dry-land meditation—making it especially beneficial for aging bodies.

Bring a towel, water to drink, and an open mind & heart. You’ll hear how to enhance your life, while learning some unique and useful skills to employ in bodies of water: tubs, pools, lakes, rivers, and oceans.

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**On Top of the World**

**AVALON**  
**Vehicle Decal Event**

**Attention Avalon Residents!**

You are cordially invited to attend the scheduled RFID Vehicle Decal Drive-Through Event for your neighborhood.

This drive-through event will occur in the Circle Square Cultural Center parking lot from 8 AM to Noon on the specified dates below. Entrance to this event will begin on SW 79th Street Road. Please follow all directional signs to ensure a proper flow of traffic. For an expedited experience, you may remove your existing decal before arriving at the event.

Residents should arrive on their assigned day to facilitate seamless distribution:

**Tuesday, July 22, 2025 - Last names: A-L**

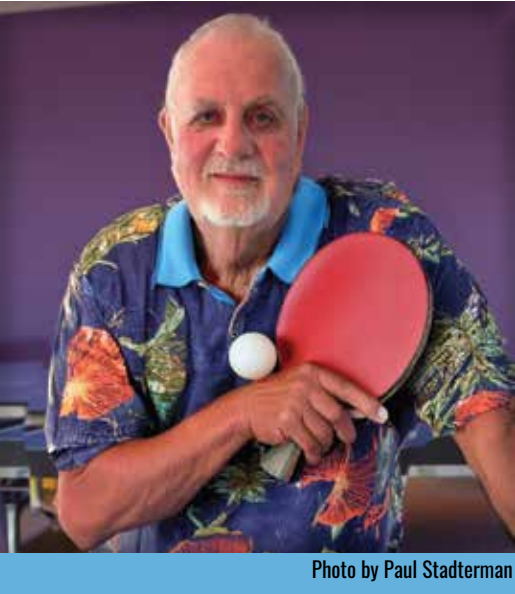
**Wednesday, July 23, 2025 - Last Names: M-Z**

Residents with different last names in the same household, can collect their decal(s) on either date.

**Can’t attend on your assigned day?** Please reach out to [otowgates@otowfl.com](mailto:otowgates@otowfl.com) for rescheduling information. As a reminder, your barcode will continue to work while we integrate all communities.

\*Future dates have been scheduled for other OTOW neighborhoods.





Club President Paul Stadterman.

Table Tennis

Paul Stadterman



The Table Tennis Club had an exciting year filled with camaraderie, competition, and community spirit. Here are some recent highlights and a glimpse into what is ahead for our growing group of passionate players.

We meet every quarter, with our next meeting scheduled for mid-July. These meetings begin with a delightful mix of entrees provided by the club and mouthwatering desserts and side dishes contributed by our talented members. We socialize and then discuss upcoming events, ideas for improvement, and general club business. The day wraps up with spirited table tennis matches that showcase the passion and energy of our members.

Our club tournaments have become standout events. The first tournament welcomed all members to participate, generating enthusiastic competition and fostering a strong club spirit. Our second tournament was an all-women’s event, allowing the ladies to shine and test their skills. Given the tremendous success of these events, more tournaments are in the works for the rest of the year.

President Paul Stadterman rolled out a four-week video training program designed to help members improve their game. Available to every member, it focused on foundational techniques, strategies, and ways to elevate overall performance. A valuable tool for both beginners and experienced players to refine their skills.

One of the most rewarding aspects of our club is the spirit of sportsmanship that defines every game we play. Whether in a friendly rally or a fiercely contested tournament, our members consistently demonstrate respect, encouragement, and a love for the game that goes beyond the score. Newcomers are always welcomed, and more experienced players are quick to offer tips and support. In this inclusive and positive atmosphere, everyone feels they belong.

Exciting developments are on the ho-

Weight Loss Group

Laura Gavey



Looking to lose weight and feel better while being supported by neighbors and friends? We have the group for you! The Weight Loss Group meets once a week to share ideas on weight loss, healthy cooking, exercise, and tips to help us achieve our own goals. Follow the food plan that works best for you.

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

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

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On Top of the World

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

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

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

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Beginner/Intermediate Tai Chi	STRONG	Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi	STRONG	Core & More
9:00 am	Power Yoga	Pilates Fusion	Yoga	Pilates Fusion	Yin Yoga
10:00 am	STRONG	Power Yoga	STRONG	Yoga	STRONG
11:00 am			Yoga		ABC Yoga
1:00 pm				Fitness Orientation*	

Arbor Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 5:30 AM - 8:30 PM; Saturday 7 AM - 8:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM - 7 PM  
\*Fitness Orientations are free. Space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7638.

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER INDOOR POOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5:30 am	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
7:00 am	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim
8:00 am	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk	Water Walk
9:00 am	**Deep Water Aerobics	**Shallow Water Aerobics	**Deep Water Aerobics	**Shallow Water Aerobics	**Deep Water Aerobics
10:00 am	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Open Swim
11:00 am	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 pm	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics	Aqua Aerobics Club
1:30 pm	Open Swim	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Water Volleyball Club 1:30 - 3:30 pm	Open Swim
2:30 pm	Open Swim				
3:30 - 8:15pm	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim	Open Swim

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

rizon with the upcoming opening of our brand-new table tennis room in the new amenity building. This facility will serve as the new home of the Table Tennis Club, providing us with more space, improved amenities, and the opportunity to welcome even more members into our vibrant community.

We are always seeking new members, fresh ideas, and ways to improve our club. Whether you’re a seasoned player or a curious beginner, our club is a great way to stay active, meet wonderful people, and have a lot of fun.

Join us at the Arbor Conference Center. Intermediate singles/doubles, Tuesday, 1 to 3 p.m.; singles, Friday, 3 to 5 p.m. Ladies doubles/singles, Monday, 1 to 3 p.m.; doubles, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon; singles, Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. All level doubles, Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 5:30 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, 1 to 3

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

For more information, please contact President Paul Stadterman at pstadterman@yahoo.com.

On Top of the World

NEWS

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# The World of Golf

By Ray Cech  
World News Writer

In April, the Wall Street Journal treated us to an article that most golfers should find interesting: “The Evolution of Golf Courses – From 1880 to Now.” The article discussed golf course design, indoor golf, injuries, putting, and why walking the course is once again cool. Here are a few takeaways plus everything you need to get on the course to play your best game:

### Golf Course Design

The only rule when planning a golf course is that the hole must be four and a quarter inches wide – the rest is up to the architect. Around 1880, the North Brunswick golf course in Scotland was designed using the natural landscape; animals dug holes, the wind regularly changed the course challenges, and blind shots were the norm, especially when hitting out of an “underground” bunker.

However, that terrain would not attract the number of golfers needed to make a profitable investment.

Flash forward to 1911 and Southampton, Long Island. The self-described “golf course architect,” Charles Blair Macdonald, was said to have “beat the course into submission” – many of the hazards stayed in place, like the sand trap dead center to the expected landing zone off the tee. However, MacDonald’s approach to taking the natural landscape and working with and around it motivated other golf course architects – many from Great Britain.

The period from 1919 to 1939 became known as “The Golden Age” of golf course design. The rest is history.

### Indoor Golf – “Is Having a Moment”

In this up-and-coming “sport,” the golfer plays 18 holes using a simulator that projects the golf course on a large screen, and every shot is then followed from strike to landing. The player hits a live golf ball and, on the screen, watches its flight, hopefully to the center of the fairway. He then takes his next shot and follows it as if on a true green grass golf course. After the first couple of holes, we are told that golfers will most likely feel right at home as if on their favorite 18-hole outdoor golf course.

The sport grew out of sporting goods stores, such as Dick’s, that use a simu-

lator for potential buyers to try out different clubs. Simulator companies saw the potential and began adding full golf course simulators. The National Golf Foundation tells us that between 2019 and 2024, the number of green grass (outdoor) golfers grew by 17%, while the indoor, non-green grass golfers using simulators grew by 170%. The foundation also noted that 36 million golfers played at indoor facilities last year. The average age of these golfers was 31, with 43% female. By comparison, the average age of green grass (outdoor) golfers was 44, and women comprised 28% of those players.

This year was the inaugural year of the first indoor golf league, Tomorrow’s Golf League (TGL). Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy are the league’s key investors and players.

### Injuries

A study conducted by Duke University determined that golf injuries are mostly preventable. With proper exercise, strengthening, and rest between games, hospitals and clinics would not receive the number of golfing injuries they currently do. Also crucial to reducing injuries is for the golfer to work on perfecting the proper mechanics when coming through the swing.

Golfers who have played for a while mostly understand the importance of stretching and warming up before and after every game. The study pointed out that by strengthening the core muscles (abs, shoulders, arms, and back), golfing injuries would be allocated to a heating pad versus a hospital waiting room. Statistically, 24% of injuries occur to the shoulders, 11% to the elbow, 17% to the forearm, 12% to the hands, and almost 16% to the wrists.

Surprisingly – or perhaps not – more than 44% of injuries occur because of golf cart error (e.g., the driver not paying attention, taking the terrain too quickly, racing to the ball, turning sharply, and you knew this one was coming, drinking and driving).

The bottom line regarding injuries is to keep the body in shape, particularly those core muscles. And remember – give the body a rest.

### Walking the Course

Recently, when I told a friend that golf was good exercise, he looked at me with a smirk and said, “Yeah, right! Hit the ball, get in the golf cart, hit the ball, get in the golf cart. That’ll keep you in shape, eh?”

With increasing emphasis on healthy living, golfers, particularly those who feel the need to combat aging with more physical activity, are welcoming the comeback of walking the golf course. With the introduction of lighter-weight golf bags and the availability of bag carriers (push carts), slinging the bag over the shoulder is no longer the challenge.

Prior to 1951, when the first electric golf cart was introduced, everyone walked. Soon, however, the carts were ubiquitous, and golf courses adjusted. Golfers found themselves “hitting the ball, getting in the cart, hitting the ball.”

Walking is back and catching on rapidly, just about all over the country. According to a 2006 study by the Mayo Clinic, walking a golf course takes approximately 12,000 steps. Still, if you assume you’re not hitting the center fairway with every stroke, those steps can increase dramatically. But it’s all good exercise.

Golf bag push carts cost approximately \$200. But of course, if you don’t want to push or pull, you can spend upwards of \$1,000 for a remote-controlled cart. Push carts are also available locally at sporting goods stores.

### Putting

John Paul Newport who wrote the putting segment for the Wall Street Journal, starts with a “disclaimer,” “Putting is an annoyance and a riddle that can never be solved.” He then occupies a full page in contradiction. I searched Newport’s article from top to bottom, paragraph by paragraph, word for word, and concluded that he was not going to leave us with any magic bullets. But he did leave us with enough “good stuff” to share.

Newport starts by going back to some of the pros like Mickelson, Palmer, Watson, Bobby Jones, and Sorenstam – what do they say? These successful professionals agree that putting is in the hands of the beholder. From the grip through the swing until the ball drops and the head is frozen, all motion is derived from the individual golfers working on and perfecting their putting style.

Newport recommends building a putting technique through what I’ll call trial and error. “You have to start with your current putting method and pay atten-

tion to specific aspects of your stroke.” Maybe you use stiff forearms, a short stroke, or lift the club after the strike – you’ve got the idea. Strike a few dozen balls using your current style, then try changing one technique one at a time (e.g., relaxing your grip, changing the direction of the club face, or if you’re standing directly over the ball, try backing up a bit). Do you always aim directly at the cup or pick a spot well before it reaches the cup?

At some point, Newport tells us, “You will start looking at videos and reading books. But you must remember that you are not trying to replicate someone else’s techniques – you are developing your own.” Tom Watson said, “Successful putting is 10% mechanics and 90% feel.”

### Let’s Play Golf

Golf is not only an amenity at On Top of the World but also a way of life for many residents. So, to perform your best, our golf professionals provide everything you need to golf your best life!

**INTRODUCTION TO GOLF:** Are you interested in golf but not sure where to start? Check out the Introduction to Golf at Master the Possibilities. Join PGA professionals Matt Hibbs and Russ Smith for a presentation on golf basics. If you’re interested in learning the game of golf but are too intimidated to step foot on the course, this is the class for you. Topics will include rules, etiquette, learning the lingo, fundamentals, etc. This is a great way to begin a wonderful relationship with a sport for life. To register, visit MasterthePossibilities.org.

**GET GOLF READY:** Once you’ve been introduced to the basics, the next step is to prepare to play. Get Ready Golf will get you on the course and playing in no time. Visit either Golf Shop for more information.

**GOLF CONDITIONING WORKSHOP:** Coming this fall, the Swing Strong Golf Conditioning Workshop will help you improve your swing and overall performance on the course. Through targeted exercises, you will learn how to strengthen key muscle groups, enhance flexibility, and boost stability for better control and power. Whether you want to drive farther or putt more consistently, this workshop will help you fine-tune your body for a smoother, more effective swing. Visit either Golf Shop for more information.

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Jazz Dance Club

Liz Elliott Lieberman



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

We were honored to perform at the

Recreation Center on Memorial Day for the Veterans Club. Each dancer carried the flag of the different branches of the military, including the Prisoner of War flag. Our very own veteran, Dexter Vance, joined us for “Favorite Son” and gave a short description of the brilliant comedian Will Rogers, who was known as Oklahoma’s “Favorite Son” in the 1930s. The patriotic number we performed was part of the Broadway show “Will Roger’s Follies,” choreographed by the multiple Tony award winner

Tommy Tune. It’s quite a show-stopper, involving a great deal of memory and fast coordination, which, for us seniors, is quite an accomplishment! We were also inspired by Anabel Parra, who sang “America, the Beautiful” as part of the Ovation Dancers tribute to a very emotional and wonderful day honoring the fallen who gave all for the freedoms we enjoy today.

I teach my jazz dance class from 11 a.m. to noon every Monday for advanced and more experienced dancers

in the jazz style.

I hope to welcome new people to the benefits and fun of basic jazz dance moves, so plans are being made to add a beginner’s class after the summer. Watch this space for news of the time and place!

“To dance is to be out of yourself. Larger, more powerful.” – Agnes De Mille

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

Line Dancing

Tamara Stanford



The 2024/2025 line dance year is complete. We had another wonderful year. Instructor Joe Spencer worked hard to find new, fun dances for each class. Beginners were taught about 28 new dances, and the Improvers 24 new dances. The class with the most new dances was Absolute Beginners, with about 29 new dances. That’s a lot of steps and a lot to remember.

New dance instruction traditionally begins on the Monday after Labor Day and finishes at the end of June. The 2025/2026 dance year will begin on Monday, Sept. 8. Dance tickets will be

available on the OTOW App from Aug. 8 through Aug. 15. You can pick up your paper ticket, which is required for class attendance, the day after purchase on the OTOW App.

For readers unfamiliar with the process, the ticket is purchased through the OTOW App, the paper ticket is retrieved from the Recreation Center office, and is displayed during dance instruction, workshops, and practices. Please note that the staff is unavailable on Mondays, so tickets will be available from Tuesday through Friday until 3:30 p.m.

The Improvers, Beginners, and Absolute Beginners will continue Wednesday dance practice in July. Improvers practice from 10 to 11 a.m. Beginners will have a workshop from 11 to 11:30 a.m., and practice from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Absolute Beginners will practice from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m.

The Wednesday practices are open only for line dancers who purchased tickets this year. There are no Wednesday practices scheduled for August.

There are plenty of dance opportuni-

ties in July and August. Check the OTOW App, the World News activity calendar insert, and your email.

For line dancing questions, contact Joe Spencer at joeshipl1@yahoo.com.

Beginner Line Dancing

Janice Meade



If you enjoy line dancing but stopped because of too many turns or fast restarts, or you’ve slowed down but still want to dance, this class is for you. We dance the old ones like “Come Dance with Me” and new ones like “Liar,” which are great for Absolute Beginners

and Beginners. We dance, take a break and dance. We are there to help each other and have fun. If you have experience with line dancing and know the basic steps, you are welcome to join our class.

Line dance is a low-impact aerobic exercise that works your body and brain, improves your balance, is fun, and allows you to socialize and meet new people. Mark your calendar for Monday at 2 p.m. and Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio I. Call 352-861-9345 with any questions.

Ballet

Eugenie Martin



As far as I know, the Ballet Club will be having classes throughout the summer months. Some of our teachers do travel, but we have other dancers who very nicely help when a teacher is unavailable. So, if you’re thinking of joining our classes, you can do it at any time, including over the summer.

Our classes are held in the Arbor Conference Center, Studio D. We offer five weekly classes catering to varying levels of experience. Here's our schedule:

- Introductory/Beginner: Thursdays, 1 to 2:15 p.m.
- Advanced Beginner: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Intermediate I: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Intermediate II: Fridays, noon to 1:15 p.m.
- Technique/Advanced: Wednesdays, 1:15 to 3:30 p.m.

Even if you have previous ballet experience, we recommend starting with the Introductory/Beginner class on Thursdays at 1 p.m. That way, you can see how we do things and start a little slower if you haven’t been dancing for a while. That is usually the case with most residents who have just moved here. You can always transfer to a more advanced class once you get in shape.

If you do not have ballet clothes, just wear stretchy exercise clothes and put socks on your feet. Remember to bring a bottle of water to keep yourself hydrated. Most of us wear ballet skirts, so I always bring extras for newcomers. For more information on our classes, please call me at 352-854-8589. Happy dancing!

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Schedule and prices are subject to change without notice. Reduced ticket prices are available for On Top of the World Communities and Stone Creek residents (with valid resident ID) for Circle Square Cultural Center-produced shows only. Ticket prices do not include sales tax. ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL. Call or visit the box office to reserve handicapped seats. Refreshments are also available for purchase at events. \*Free tickets are not available online. They must be picked up at the box office during regular business hours. There is a limit of two tickets per household.



#WORLDNEWS



Sidekicks  
Western Dance

Rich Gautier



What if joining a club could feel less like a commitment and more like a playground for grown-ups? At Sidekicks Western Dance Club, each session is a chance to rediscover the fun of learning, make new friends, and experience the enjoyment of mastering something new together.

Remember how learning felt as a child? Every new skill was an adventure, and every mistake was just part of the process. At Sidekicks, that spirit of play is alive and well. Research indicates that learning through play enables people of all ages to build confidence, foster creativity, and manage stress. When you are laughing, moving, and sharing the experience with others, you are not just learning steps – you are building memories.

One of the best parts about joining Sidekicks is that you can make mistakes freely – no one is watching you because everyone is focused on their dancing. This creates a relaxed atmosphere where you can try new things, stumble, and laugh it off, knowing everyone else is in the same boat. The pressure to be perfect disappears, making room for genuine enjoyment and growth.

Dancing at Sidekicks is not just about learning routines; it’s about creating a community. It’s about learning to communicate, collaborate, and trust – not just with your dance partner but with the entire group. These are skills that go far beyond the dance floor. You may find yourself more confident in social settings, better equipped to work with others, and more open to new experiences.

Are you worried you have “two left feet?” Do not be. The summer dance sessions are open to everyone, and the steps are easy to pick up at your own pace. No special shoes or prior experience are needed—just a willingness to try, laugh, and maybe even surprise yourself.

Summer sessions are held in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, July 15, July 29, Aug. 5 and Aug. 26.

Whether you are looking for a new hobby, a fun evening out, or just a reason to get moving, Sidekicks is the place to be. Come for the dancing, stay for the friendships, and leave with a smile – and maybe a few new moves.

Ready to play, learn and dance? Email [partnerdancesidekicks@gmail.com](mailto:partnerdancesidekicks@gmail.com) or drop in at any session. At Sidekicks, the fun and the learning never stop.

GOING OUT OF TOWN?

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of the World News at  
[ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala).

Country  
Line Dancing

Judy Sullivan



The weather is surely letting us know that the summer is here! Many of our snowbird dancers have flown the coop and are now back up north, enjoying the cooler temperatures. This heat hasn’t stopped the rest of us from continuing to dance. Our Thursday and Sunday classes are going strong, and we are having a lot of fun.

The Absolute Beginners class has learned six dances in the last two months: Cupid Shuffle, Electric Slide, I Sold My Soul, Ah Si!, Kevin’s Waltz, and Buttons. They did a fantastic job! They deserve a pat on the back. Many of them are brand new to dancing.

The Beginners I class has learned seven dances: Uptown Funky, I Got a Woman, Blue Rose Is, Waltz Across Texas, Dive Bar (level one), Kevin’s Waltz, and Dolly Would (level one).

The Beginners II/Improver class has learned eight dances: Tush Push, Wild Wild West, Lonely Drum, Waltz Across Texas, Dive Bar (level 2), Kevin’s Waltz, Silver Wings and Dolly Would (level two).

For our July and August sessions, we will learn anywhere from three to five new dances and continue to review the older dances even as we learn new ones so that we don’t forget them.

In May, we had a social dance with a great turnout. Everybody brought yummy food to share, and we danced close to 30 dances! You can find some videos of us dancing on our Facebook page. Great friends, lots of laughter, good food, much dancing, and great music were had by all. What more can we ask for?

I will also be organizing a line dance group on Wednesdays at The Town Square starting on July 9, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This is open to the public. I will bring my equipment and music. I know the weather is hot, but I hope you can still come to dance. If you’re not dancing, come watch and treat yourself to some ice cream. Be sure to bring plenty of fluids to replenish what you sweat out.

If you are interested in joining any of our classes, please check out the OTOW App. For more information, visit our Facebook page (OTOW Country Line Dancing with Judy). The YouTube channel is Country Line Dancing with Judy.

If you are interested in dancing and have any questions on how to sign up, please email me at [CountryLineDancingWithJudy@yahoo.com](mailto:CountryLineDancingWithJudy@yahoo.com).

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Photo by Judy Sullivan

May social dance.

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## Colors and Chaos

By Elaine Morrison  
World News Writer

Sure, we all have problems. However, we usually resolve them and move on with things. However, audiences attending the recent Broadway Playhouse production, “Once Upon a Time,” were made aware of insurmountable problems not only with their favorite colors but also with those of their beloved fairytale characters.

After the cast’s opening song, “True Colors,” a narrator steps forward to tell the audience that they will be hearing from the assembled crayons, who are visible in their large crayon box. Based on the children’s book “The Day the Crayons Quit” by Drew Daywalt, each color complains to the child owner of a coloring book. Grievances by gray and blue have to do with their feelings of overuse. Gray is almost always used to color large animals, such as elephants and whales, while blue is the primary choice for the ocean and sky. Beige feels it is always in competition with tan and brown, while white feels empty, and black is disappointed at only being used to make outlines. An actual physical feud is ongoing between yellow and orange as to the true color of the sun, while red and purple are bored, always being used for hearts, Santa Claus, grapes, and dragons.

However, most of the audience’s sympathy went to peach, who was unable to emerge from the box at all, because as she told the audience, “I am naked.”

As the audience was left to ponder these slights, Carolyn Hoffman enthralled them with a stirring rendition

of “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” which was followed by a spirited dance routine by Pamela and Walter Galas as they “Eased on Down the Road” both songs from well-known productions of “The Wizard of Oz” and “The Wiz.”

With the stage now set as a deep, dark forest, characters appear from backstage to take their places for the featured presentation “Snow ... sort of ... White” by Ken Bradbury. We see Snow White, a mirror, some dwarves, an elegant queen, a prince, ugly stepsisters, and

other characters that seemingly do not have a place in the story.

A narrator steps forward to begin reading “Once Upon a Time” when she is immediately interrupted by a taunting queen. “Is this too precious or what?” The tone is now set; the narrator is never able to return to the story she wishes to read, as she is constantly being interrupted by Snow White, the four dwarves, the queen, who is also the wicked witch, the ugly stepsisters, Prince Charming, and at times, the mirror.

Tossed into the mayhem is a psychiatrist who thinks the narrator may have been abused as a child and some person who is just sitting in a chair, hoping to get a part to play. He becomes the narra-

tor’s hero as he spouts some ridiculous lines cobbled from the Gettysburg Address, the Declaration of Independence, and several other familiar writings. He tells the narrator to stand up and “be someone,” leading her to offer a rendition of “Climb Every Mountain.” The show continues with the woodsman, a pig’s heart, and a strange dwarf, Weirdly, all leaving the audience chuckling as they scratched their collective heads.

A lively medley of Disney songs, sung by the cast, provided a happy ending to the entertainment, which was directed by Cheryl Richardson and Joanne Houston. As a lyric from one of the songs exclaims, “a time for laughter and a time for tears.” That it was.



Photo by Gail Schultz

Broadway Playhouse's production of "Once Upon a Time."

## Calling All Car Enthusiasts

By Lyn Yanss

Do you hear the rumble of a classic engine and feel a thrill? Do you enjoy the shine of polished chrome and the camaraderie of fellow car enthusiasts? Then look no further than the On Top of the Wheels Car Club, right here in our vibrant community!

On Top of the Wheels Car Club is a thriving group for anyone who loves cars, enjoys getting together for cruises, and participates in fun events. Whether your passion is for sleek Corvettes, powerful Mustangs, iconic GTOs, or cherished older models, you’ll find a welcoming home among fellow aficionados. The club meets at least once a month for a breakfast gathering at Mama B’s, located on SR 200. These meetings provide an opportunity to socialize, share stories, and, most importantly, plan exciting future cruise adventures that take

members to scenic destinations and interesting locales.

Mark your calendar! The On Top of the Wheels Car Club is gearing up for its highly anticipated annual car show this October at The Lodge at Candler Hills. This free event promises a fantastic day for all, featuring live entertainment, a variety of delicious food trucks, and, of course, a dazzling display of classic and modern cars that are sure to impress. It’s an opportunity to admire beautiful vehicles, connect with club members, and enjoy a lively community atmosphere. For more information on how to join the On Top of the Wheels Car Club or to inquire about upcoming events, please contact George Hill at ghilljr.500@gmail.com. Come and experience the joy of the open road and the warmth of a shared passion!



Photo by Lyn Yanss

On Top of the Wheels car show at The Lodge at Candler Hills.

## Sewing Bees Receive Award

By Ann Gallo

Happy 249th birthday, America!

We were surprised to be nominated by ACCOLADE Celebrations, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charity organization, as the Marion County charity for May. We are grateful to all who believed in us and voted for us, and we are honored to receive this award. Thank you to all the Sewing Bee members who helped us achieve our goals.

As posted on their Facebook page: “We’re thrilled to announce that the Sewing Bees Club Inc. is the winner of an Ovations Award for May. Their dedication to helping improve the well-being of the homeless and those in need has significantly impacted the community. A huge congratulations to the Sewing Bees, Inc. on this well-deserved recognition!”

Did you know that some military quilts are composed of 25,000 different pieces, as fabric was scarce on the front lines?

Stop by and see our program in action. We meet every Thursday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. and the second and third Saturdays of the month from noon to 3 p.m. in the

Hobby Building Art Room.

This is a very generous group of men and women who share their talents by offering warmth and comfort to the

homeless, foster care, and disadvantaged children in Marion County. Consider joining this group that is making a difference in Marion County. Last year, we made and distributed 1,003 quilts.

There are lots of things to do. If you do sew, you don’t have to complete every phase in the quilt making. Many hands are involved in the final quilt. We have sewing machines available for your use. Dues are \$15 for the year.

We are always in need of children’s-

themed cotton, solid-colored cotton, or flannel fabric. Gift cards, especially from Hobby Lobby and Michaels, are always welcome.

Join our page on Facebook (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive. Stay up-to-date on our current projects and ongoing needs.

Questions? Call or text Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 or Susie Clauson at 904-422-5135.



Sewing Bees winner of the May Ovations Award.



Photo by Ann Gallo



Recreation

Shannon Prince

352-854-8707 ext. 7530

shannon\_prince@otowfl.com



Stay in the Know

Event and trip details are available in several locations for your convenience. You can find this information on the OTOW App, OTOWInfo.com, and the Life in Motion Wellness Connections publication. Please be aware that this will be the last month the activity calendar will be inserted in the World News. Recreation events in OTOW Central are free to residents with a valid resident ID. Anyone without a resident ID is considered a guest. Guest fees apply to these events at \$5 per person.

OTOW App

The OTOW App is available for download through the Apple Store or Google Play. If you haven't already done so, download it today. Account approval can take up to 72 hours to verify resident status. With the OTOW App, you can easily purchase tickets, request room bookings, and pay for trips and classes. All of this can be done at your convenience from your phone, tablet, or computer. Online registration for Recreation activities and events is live, so sign up soon. The OTOW App is the only way to register for Recreation activities and events. If you experience any login issues, please contact Resident Services for assistance after the initial 72 hours. If you don't have the technology to access the OTOW App, please visit the Recreation Center to check out the new OTOW App kiosks. Don't miss out on all the excitement On Top of the World has for you; register today!

Activity Calendars

Beginning Friday, Aug. 1, we are taking a big step forward. All event listings previously displayed on the monthly activity calendars will be transitioned to a digital format. We are discontinuing the printed, monthly calendars you are accustomed to seeing in the World News. The printed calendar is being discontinued, but your Recreation events will remain! To stay informed, please refer to the OTOW App, OTOWInfo.com, the Life in Motion Wellness Connections catalog, TVs located throughout the amenities, and flyers posted at the amenities.

We are inspired by the way our community has embraced this digital transition. Your support has made it possible, and we are excited to continue growing together. Thank you!

Social Committee

The Social Committee meets monthly and welcomes volunteer residents to contribute ideas, provide constructive feedback, and assist with planning, organizing, and decorating events. We greatly appreciate your suggestions for enhancing recreational activities. If you are interested in joining the committee, meetings are held on the last Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Recreation Center Lounge. RSVP by either

calling 352-387-7530 or emailing shannon\_prince@otowfl.com. We'll see you there!

Recreation Center

Happy Hour

Join us for Happy Hour every Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A cash bar is always standing by for your beverage needs. Enjoy music, dancing, and The Pub. This event is free to residents. Resident IDs will be required to attend Happy Hour. Children under the age of 15 will not be permitted into Happy Hour.

- The entertainment lineup for July:
- July 11: Billy Buchanan
  - July 18: 4 For the Road
  - July 25: R & R Trio

Music at the Pool Pavilion

Enjoy some great music at the pool and pavilion area at the Recreation Center from 1 to 4 p.m. This is free for residents. The schedule is as follows:

- Friday, July 4: Steve Lazarus
- Saturday, July 19: Cherokee
- Sunday, July 27: Bill Billotti

Tropic Trivia

Tropic Trivia tickets will go on sale starting Tuesday, July 8, for September. A trivia team representative may purchase a table for the entire team. Tables sell for \$40 each. Please purchase a Tropic Trivia table through the OTOW App. After purchasing the table, please visit the Recreation Department to select your table. Table selection is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Karaoke

Karaoke is always fun! Sing your heart out or just come and enjoy the music. Karaoke is the second Thursday of the month at the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m.

Ladies Night

Ladies, you are invited to join us on Tuesday, July 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Lou Gagliardi is the musical guest for this night. Bring your beverages and snacks. See you there!

Get Acquainted Coffee

Welcome new residents! Please join us on Thursday, July 10, at 9:30 a.m. for a brief presentation of On Top of the World's amenities and services. A short walking tour will follow the presentation. Light refreshments are available while they last. Please be sure to RSVP to your invitation.

Shred Express LLC

Document shredding services will be onsite on Friday, July 11, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Recreation Center parking lot. The cost for this service is \$6 per cubic foot (or one standard storage-sized box).

Movie Night

Join us for a cinematic night out on Thursday, July 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom! This month's movie is "The Ballad of Wallis Island" (PG-13, comedy, one hour 40 minutes). There will be free popcorn, and The Pub will also be open. Feel free to bring your snacks and drinks.

The Ballroom will not be accessible as a cut-through to and from the pool

or The Pub during these times. Please make your way around the building to avoid disrupting the movie. The movie license we have covers only the Recreation Center Ballroom; therefore, we are unable to transfer to other buildings.

Hands-Only CPR

Colen Built Development's Senior Health and Safety Manager, Jonathan Miller, will be conducting a Hands-Only CPR class on Thursday, July 24, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Registration is required; please call 352-387-7533.

Margaritaville Dance Night

Dress in cargo or Bermuda shorts, hats, flip flops, or whatever says Margaritaville to you! Music by Gerry Coe for pattern, ballroom, and freestyle dancing. It's sure to be an island blast! Kona Ice will be here serving up shaved ice refreshments. This event takes place on Thursday, July 31, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Ballroom Dance Class

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

Annual Crafts & More Fair

The annual Craft Fair at Circle Square Cultural Center is now called the Crafts & More Fair. This open-to-the-public event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents can register for this year's Crafts & More Fair beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You may select your table when you register in person at the Recreation Center office. Please bring your resident ID. The cost for tables inside and directly outside Circle Square Cultural Center is \$100, and for tables outside on The Town Square, it is \$55.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

Kocktails & Karaoke

Take the stage and sing your heart out at a fun-filled night where the spotlight is on you! Enjoy the fun on Thursday, July 3, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Charlie & Kathy Petrosky. Bring your beverages and snacks. This event is free for residents and \$5 per guest.

World-Class Active Aging Fitness

Join us for weekly fitness classes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Bring a mat if you have one, and let's get moving!

Open Game/Card Play

Join your neighbors and friends every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Card Room for open game day. Bring your games and have a great time. Remember, only water is allowed.

Safety Training Class

The Colen Built Development safety team conducts safety classes. Defensive Driving will take place on Wednesday, July 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend; registration is required. Please call 352-873-0848.

Happy Hour

Happy Hour will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your own beverages and table snacks. Free for residents and \$5 per guest. Entertainer lineup for July:

- Saturday, July 5: Groove Dawgs
- Friday, July 11: Kathleen Kane
- Saturday, July 19: Crystal Vision

Poolside Entertainment

Join us poolside under the pavilion for live music with Ron Harvey on Sunday, July 13, from 1 to 4 p.m. Relax, swim, and socialize with great music. Free for residents and their guests. Blazin' Bites food truck will be onsite. Reminder: no glass containers are allowed in the pool, on deck, or under the pavilion.

From the Top – Line Dance Class

Join us each Tuesday for our weekly line dance class from 10 a.m. to noon. This is a complimentary instructional class hosted by Chuck and Donna Nelson.

Musical Game Night

Enjoy an evening of musical fun on Thursday, July 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. Come try the new Prize-O game added last month. Match your card with the song and artist and yell "Prize-O" to win. Tickets cost \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.



Indigo East Community Center

Music Trivia

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

Trivia

Join in some friendly competition with your neighbors and friends at trivia night on Monday, July 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite snacks and beverages to share with your team. Tickets cost \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Safety Training Classes

The Colen Built Development safety team conducts safety classes. Golf Cart Safety class will be held on Tuesday, July 15, from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend; however registration is required by calling 352-387-9060 or 352-854-8707, ext. 7372

Karaoke

Take the stage and sing your heart out at karaoke on Thursday, July 17, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring beverages and snacks. Feel free to sing solo or in group. Free for residents and \$5 per guest.

Wine & Cheese

We will be hosting a Wine & Cheese Party on Wednesday, July 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. Ben Simmons will provide entertainment. Fruit and cheese will be offered while supplies last. This event is free for residents and \$5 per guest when accompanied by a resident.

Happy Hour

Celebrate community at Friday Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your favorite cocktails and snacks. Dance, socialize, relax and enjoy! This event is free for residents and \$5 per guest. The entertainment for July is as follows:

- July 11: Donna Carrier
- July 25: Groove Dawgs

The Landing

Poolside Entertainment

Join us and celebrate the Fourth of July early on Thursday, July 3, at 1 p.m. This poolside party will feature live entertainment by Tim Hargis. It's the perfect way to kick off the holiday weekend with music, sunshine, and good company.

The fun continues poolside with the sounds of Paul DeRitter on Sunday, July 6, at 1 p.m. Bring a towel and sunscreen; it's going to be an excellent afternoon for fun in the sun.

Free for residents and \$5 per guest.

Monthly Music Series

DJ Donna Carrier will bring endless summer jams on Wednesday, July 16, at 5 p.m. Throw on your tropical attire for great tunes and sunny-season vibes. Free for residents and \$5 per guest.

Christmas in July Happy Hour

It's Christmas in the middle of summer! Join us on Thursday, July 24, at 5 p.m. for this fun and festive evening. Entertainment by Pure Magic. Snap a pic at our tropical Christmas selfie station and enjoy the magic of the season. Shorts and sandals are welcome! Free for residents and \$5 per guest.

*\*Registration to attend and/or purchase event tickets can now be done via the OTOW app or by visiting the Recreation Center, The Lodge at Candler Hills, Indigo East Fitness Center, or The Landing offices. Be sure to download the app today! No refunds will be issued 14 days or fewer before the registered event.*

# BUS SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday

## MORNING ROUTE

## PICK-UP LOCATIONS

## TIME

The Lodge at Candler Hills	The Lodge Parking Lot - 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	97th Lane - Post Office - 99th Ave. - 96th St.	9:01 a.m.
Recreation Center	At Bus Stop Sign in Parking Lot	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 in Parking Lot	9:31 a.m.
Indigo East Community Center	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Weybourne Landing	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Longleaf Ridge Model Center	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Exit Community		9:36 a.m.

## MORNING DESTINATIONS

Freedom Library (Tues/Thurs only)	Ollie's
Jasmine Square	Paddock Mall
VA Hospital	Walmart
Dillard's/Kohl's	Target
Sam's Club	Hobby Lobby/Shady Oaks Shopping Center
Home Depot	Gateway Plaza

Arrival and pick-up times for morning destinations will vary according to the number of passengers. The bus driver will announce the pick-up time at each destination for that day.

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

## AFTERNOON ROUTE

## PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES

The Lodge at Candler Hills	1:15 p.m.	Candler Hills Community Center	1:20 p.m.
Friendship Colony Post Office	1:25 p.m.	Providence Post Office	1:28 p.m.
Avalon Post Office	1:33 p.m.	Crescent Ridge Post Office	1:38 p.m.
Recreation Center	1:43 p.m.	Americana Post Office	1:48 p.m.
Friendship Post Office	1:54 p.m.		

## AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS

Friendship Center	Bravo Supermarket
Publix	Big Lots
Walmart Neighborhood Market	Bealls & Dollar Tree
ALDI/Lowe's	Walmart

Arrival and pick-up times for afternoon destinations will vary according to the number of passengers. The bus driver will announce the pick-up time at each destination for that day.

*\*Please arrive about 5-10 minutes earlier, as all times are approximate.*

#9601 - 3/23A

For information, call 352-789-5666.

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.



ShutterBugs Photography

Mark Holmes

There is an exciting new development within the ShutterBugs Photography Club! We are happy to introduce you to our new Facebook group (ShutterBugs OTOW Photography Club), which is open to all residents. Select “Join Group” to get access to all we have to offer, and please feel free to participate.

It’s a place to view some great photographs offered by group members and perhaps learn something about how to improve your efforts, whether it’s with your smartphone or an advanced digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) camera.

What is a megapixel? According to the Oxford Dictionary, a megapixel (MP) is a unit of graphic resolution equivalent to one million pixels. If you think back to the fuzzy quality of an old tube-type television, the 480 lines displayed on the screen each had 780 pixels, and these pixels added up to about 345,000 pixels, or 0.3 MP for the visible screen. Not much!

Today, you can purchase the latest iPhone with a 48 MP camera, and with

Poetry

Barbara A. Scales

### Ponderings Upon the Golden Throne

Once upon the brink of fate with wild abandonment  
across my face  
Sat me down upon a throne, where I thought I  
would be alone.  
And there to my great surprise, came a light tap  
upon my thigh.

My heart plunged to racing, my palms set to sweat.  
For I had sat too quickly, to my great regret.  
It seemed I was not alone in sitting upon the golden  
throne.  
For there upon my inner thigh, had hopped up a  
little toad from the waters inside.

Neither of us made another move.  
Shear fright nailed me to the throne's oveled roof.  
Silent I rest upon the throne, now with a great  
dilemma, what to do?

To stand would surely remove the toad from my  
thigh to the floor below.  
But, to stand assuredly my yellow waters would  
empty down my legs and hit my toes.  
So there I sat, definitely not reposed, to gain under-  
standing of my next move.

And suddenly it occurred to me, I could not be the  
first to want to seek retreat.  
Then I did wonder there, who else might have had  
similar to this affair.

Did The Thinker's pose take so long that a four  
footed creature made a hairy home as Auguste  
Rodin sculpted the likeness of Lorenzo de  
Medici pondering there in total nakedness?  
Perhaps Lady Godiva had a hitchhiker snuggled  
within her frocks as she rode barebacked upon  
her horse, to save the villagers from higher  
taxes demanded by her foxy husband with the  
heart of blackness.  
If we re-reeled the stadium's football footage when  
The Streaker dashed by in total starkness, per-  
haps instead of pointing fingers we should be  
asking what was in his pants as he disrobed and  
did not linger.  
Did David's posture remain so long that a small  
creature climbed aboard his mighty sword,  
and though he be seventeen feet tall by  
Michelangelo it was totally ignored?  
And what of tiny Cupid wearing nothing but his bow  
as he shoots mankind in the heart with love,  
without apparel and with his buttocks shining  
bright, did he endure a passenger on his wee  
butt naked hide?

It seemed the toad had musings too, for he  
remained motionless whilst I ruminated upon  
the stool.  
Perhaps he wondered why I had darkened his sky,  
but without warning he winked at me with his  
eye.  
I jerked my thigh, I screeched in fright, and quickly  
jumped up to retrieve my clothing, at my ankles  
unfortunately now damp and dripping.

The toad, unsettled, laughed and hopped to the oval  
pre-warmed porcelain where he finally stopped.  
The contest won, he leapt inside, smugly confident  
that he had won the prodigious pool prize.

Not to be bested, I rest my hand upon the sturdy  
throttle.  
When the swirling waves began, I waved goodbye  
with my hand.  
And I asked of him before he departed, “What say  
you now toad? Who won this battle?”

the included software and techniques, create amazing photos and videos. Newer DSLR cameras offer incredible options along with 30 MP or more, and while impressive, all the pixels in the world aren’t worth the expense unless the device has the right sensor to capture all that data. And don’t forget, the more megapixels you use, the more expensive it is to store the photos somewhere, whether on your computer hard drive, memory cards, phone, or the cloud.

Do you need a 48 MP phone or a 32 MP camera? Quite frankly, many people

Poetry

Linda Toner

### Snuggling

When you wake in the morning  
you jump out of bed  
Why don't you stay awhile  
and snuggle instead?

We have an automatic coffee pot,  
you don't have to make it,  
coffee's ready whatever time you get up,  
you just have to take it.

I would love to have you  
stay awhile.  
I guess that's just  
not your style.

But you could just  
stay and play,  
I know you'll enjoy  
it anyway.

So come snuggle with me,  
what's the big rush?  
No more excuses now,  
hush darling, hush.

On Top of the World NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

are completely happy with their older phones or cameras, which typically have 16 MP or higher resolutions, up to 24 MP or so. These devices produce stunning images suitable for enlargement.

Confused? Don’t worry. Come to a ShutterBugs meeting to learn more.

Remember this – the most expensive camera or phone, with the maximum megapixels, is only as good as the person taking the photos. We want you to be the best photographer you can be! Visit us soon at one of our upcoming meetings, held on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. in

Poetry

Janice M. Puta

### Feel With Your Soul

Feel with your feet and they  
say you are grounded.

the Hobby Building Event Room, or visit [otowspc.com](http://otowspc.com). The first Tuesday of every month is typically a morning field trip, not a meeting.

See some of our members’ photographs on display in the Master the Possibilities lobby. Exhibitions change monthly.

The ShutterBugs’ motto: “Those who don’t know should ask; those who do know should show and tell.”

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

Feel with your eyes and they  
say you are observant.

Feel with your head and they  
say you are aware.

Feel with your heart and they  
say you are mystical.

Feel with your soul and  
they are speechless!

THIS IS 71

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MUSIC TUNES		TRUCKS & TUNES	
THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS	
<b>July 3</b> <b>NO BAND</b>	<b>July 4</b>  4:30 - 9:30 PM * LIVE MUSIC * DANCING * * FOOD TRUCKS * FIREWORKS * <small>OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. RESERVATIONS            CANNOT BE MADE FOR THE FULL DAY. THE TOWN SQUARE COMMONS            CANNOT BE MADE FOR THE FULL DAY. THE TOWN SQUARE COMMONS</small>	<b>July 5</b> <b>NO FOOD TRUCK</b> <b>NO BAND</b>	
<b>July 10</b>  <b>MARK RAISCH</b> 7 - 10 PM	<b>July 11</b> <b>Fat Tiki</b> 6 PM 	<b>July 12</b> <b>Steak Shack Bistro</b> 5 PM 	
<b>July 17</b>  <b>TIM HARGIS</b> 7 - 10 PM	<b>July 18</b> <b>Brick City Hot Dogs</b> 6 PM 	<b>July 19</b> <b>Curbside Cuisine</b> 6 PM 	
<b>July 24</b>  <b>BILLY BUCHANAN</b> 7 - 10 PM	<b>July 25</b> <b>Manilla House</b> 6 PM 	<b>July 26</b> <b>Blazin' Bites</b> 6 PM 	
<b>July 31</b>  <b>JIFFY FEET</b> 7 - 10 PM	<b>Amplifires</b> 7 - 10 PM 	<b>ULTIMATE SANTANA TRIBUTE BAND</b> 7 - 10 PM 	



Poetry

Iris M. Diaz



Life Is a Dream

How dark the night,  
how lonely the road  
When there is no one  
to share my thoughts

I welcome the sun,  
as an old friend of mine,  
who knows when to smile,  
and allows me to frown.

Sunrise brings  
my dreams to life.  
As the day lingers,  
my dreams die.

What is, is not.  
Illusions, delusions.  
Life, a dream.

Broadway Playhouse

Elaine Morrison



If you attended the club’s recent performance of “Once Upon a Time,” you experienced the fun and excitement firsthand. Now is your opportunity to become a member and participate in the upcoming production of “Oklahoma, Jr.,” the club’s spring production.

An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, Aug. 3, at 5:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Audition materials will be distributed at that time. The main male roles of Curly, Will Parker, Judd, and Hakim the Peddler, and the female roles of Aunt Eller, Laurie, and Ado Annie are all available. Auditions will be held on Sept. 3, 4, and 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A \$10 membership fee is required.

Rehearsals begin on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and will continue every Sunday (September through February). The 2026 performances are Saturday, Feb. 28, Sunday, March 1, Saturday, March 7, and Sunday, March 8. The directors, Joanne Houston and Cheryl Richardson, along with club president Carole Beauchamp, are anticipating a historic theatrical experience for the club and its audiences. Please consider joining us.

For additional information, please contact [otowbroadwayplayhouse@gmail.com](mailto:otowbroadwayplayhouse@gmail.com).

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

Paradise Players

Linda Yanss



Thank you to everyone who enjoyed our recent production, “Platinum Gals Cruise Adventure!” We’re already looking forward to our next show in November, “Comedy Tonight.” This collection of comedy skits promises an evening of non-stop laughter for everyone! This is your chance to get involved! We’re seeking talented and enthusiastic individuals for various roles, including performers (actors, singers); tech (lighting, music, set construction, props); and backstage support (costumes, stage hands, prompting).

The Paradise Players are a fantastic group of people who genuinely enjoy bringing entertainment to On Top of the World, and we warmly invite you to become a part of our team. Beyond “Comedy Tonight,” we’re excited to announce that we’ll be producing a full play in April 2026, and our creative team is currently brainstorming ideas.

If you’re interested in learning more or joining our ranks, the Paradise Players hold meetings every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III or IV. We’d be thrilled to welcome you!

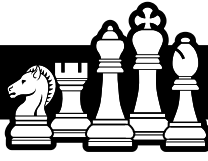
Please reach out to Lee Smith at [otowparadiseplayers@gmail.com](mailto:otowparadiseplayers@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

LEASH LAW

Dogs must be on a leash at all times.



CARDS & GAMES



Pinochle



Tuesday Night  
By Herb Katz

May 6  
1: Marlene Floeckher; 2: Abe Toubal; 3: Paul Jenkins.  
May 13  
1: Andy Nuccio; 2: Vicki Mattingly; 3: Phyllis Jarsky.  
May 20

1: Paul Jenkins; 2: Herb Katz; 3: Bud Alderman.  
May 27  
1: Bruce Gillett; 3: Dave Speer; 3: Andy Nuccio.

Friday Morning  
By Mary Hannon

May 16  
Tie at 1: Edna Frye & Stephen Mintz; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Gary Moses.

May 23  
1: Judy Fries; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Bruce Gillett.

May 30  
1: Marlene Floeckher; 2: Judy Fries; 3: Jim Magoon.  
June 6  
1: Ilene Casper; 2: Herb Katz; 3: Linda Speer.

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The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski



While it is July, it is hot, humid, and rainy! It means The New Pretenders are on a mini-summer vacation. It also means that our show is growing closer! When those new 2026 calendars start pouring in, pick out a favorite and get ready to fill it in.

Begin with January and add a reminder to the notes that ticket sales will start with no price increase: \$12 for reserved seating and \$10 for general admission. Leave space for the time and date when

Model Railroaders

Jim Lynam



The Model Railroaders Club is celebrating the Fourth of July by holding an open house for residents, guests, and children of all ages. The room will be open for visitation on both Friday, July 4, and Saturday, July 5, from 2 to 4 p.m.

In 1870, the United States Congress declared the Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day, a federal holiday. In 1941, a provision was expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal em-

ployees.

But the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later, delegates from 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.

From 1776 to present day, July 4 has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

The tradition of setting off fireworks began in Philadelphia on July 4, 1777.

Barbara Feigenbaum is originally from Manhattan but has lived in Ocala for the past 21 years. She is currently taking piano lessons at Master the Possibilities to add to her love of music and dancing. She includes swimming and bowling in her list of fun activities.

Another newcomer is Byron Bartlett, who hails originally from Phoenix, Arizona. He is multi-talented; he plays a variety of instruments, he dances, and he sings! As a university student, he played at Radio City Music Hall, accompanying the Rockettes. His professional career is as varied as his talents: among his achievements, he led the campaign to prevent tampering with products after Tylenol was discovered laced with cyanide!

Judy Gunson was born and raised in Nebraska before moving to Denver and Colorado Springs. Eventually, she discovered On Top of the World when she relocated to be closer to her son and daughter-in-law. She has worked in the broadcast and healthcare industries, serving for 20 years in each. Judy enjoys hiking, reading, attending concerts, watching movies, and going to the theater. She is no stranger to volunteerism and will serve as a prime dresser during our performances.

Notice the wide breadth of opportunities within The New Pretenders? Perhaps one of those roles calls out to you. To answer that call, contact any current member or Nancy Grabowski at 352-209-4699.



Photo by Robert Lieberman

Weybourne Landing residents Michelle Daigle & Janet Dickerson as Maybelle & Lulabelle O'Hara in "The Golf Father."

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Liz Elliott Lieberman



The first meeting of the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Club was held on Monday, May 12, with over 40 people in attendance. I can only surmise that many people here at On Top of the World have been watching a lot of Britbox mysteries or too many "Murder, She Wrote" re-runs! The meeting was primarily held to introduce ourselves and let everyone know about us and who the individuals are who will be taking on production roles for the shows scheduled for October and November: President/Director Liz Lieberman, Vice President/Production Assistant Pati Bean, Director and

Treasurer Dexter Vance, and Dialogue & Acting Coach Bruce Wissner.

We also explained how the club operates for the various communities here at On Top of the World and our goal of providing unique entertainment and a fabulous experience for all who want an evening out with dinner, music, laughter, singing, dancing, acting, and perhaps some nefarious goings-on! All in the name of outrageous, over-the-top, and harmless fun.

We are still in the process of writing our newest murder mystery for the fall, and I believe our concept will just add to the many entertainment options here for residents. We do not compete with the excellent theater groups here as we are designed for smaller and more intimate venues, performing original shows written especially for us. This leads me to the idea of forming a sub-group with-

in the Murder Mystery Club, as several people have approached me regarding script writing. Please call or email me if comedic script writing is in your wheelhouse.

We thank you for your interest and look forward to your future participation. Please do not hesitate to call if you are interested in acting, performing, scriptwriting, singing, dancing, or music.

For more information and bookings, please contact Lizzylieberman@gmail.com or 702-378-6300.

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Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel



Happy Fourth of July to all! The weather is hot, but we hope that does not stop you from celebrating our nation’s birth. Wear red, white and blue!

The Hookers are staying indoors, keeping cool, and continuing to grow our garden of flowers for Empath Hospice of Marion County. Our deepest thanks to those of you who are not members but have created not only flowers but also hats and scarves. The donations of yarn are greatly appreciated. I

In June, members of our group enjoyed lunch at Gator’s Dockside.

Happy Hookers is open to all residents. We meet on Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agendas, or penalties for missing a meeting, arriving late, or leaving early. Life can and does sometimes interfere, and we would hate for that to hold you back.

We have a talented group of ladies busy with crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, card crafting, embroidering, and handcrafting. They are never too busy to help someone with a complicated pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they are currently working on.

If you have questions about our club, call Naomi Berman at 352-873-4328. We always appreciate donations of yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, crochet hooks, or other crafting tools. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting or contact Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 to arrange pickup.



Photo by Ann Gallo

Lunch at Gator’s Dockside.



Photo by Linda Toner

The Warrior by Gary Dormanen.

Woodcarving Club

Linda Toner



The Woodcarving Club is in full swing. Each month, we will feature one of our carvers.

This month, we will feature Gary Dormanen. He has been carving for about seven years. He has perfected the techniques of carving faces, figures, and caricatures. His preferred wood is butternut, although he states that it is harder to find butternut wood lately. He prefers carving in the round, a three-dimensional carving. He says he loves to carve because he finds it a peaceful activity. He gets his inspiration from other carvers on the internet or from pictures he has seen in books or magazines. Right now, he is working on a bust of a Native American warrior.

We have many members whose skills range from beginner to advanced. Like Gary, they share their techniques and tricks so that we can create a carving we are proud of.

If you’re interested in learning this peaceful craft, you can visit the Hobby Building Art Room on Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. or contact Rich at 404-558-3855 or Tom at 352-586-1171 for more information.

Fun with Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson



On Saturday, June 14, our members decorated their carts in honor of Old Glory. Designated charities included Operation Shoebox, Chuck’s Piggy Bank, Dunnellon Elementary School, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Veterans Helping Veterans. Many folks turned out to admire the flag-waving carts and to make generous donations to these causes. Thank you!

Mark your calendar for the following Saturdays so you won’t miss the parade:

- July 4: Independence Day
- Aug. 30: Labor Day
- Sept. 20: Dog Days of Summer
- Oct. 25: Halloween
- Nov. 8: Veterans Day
- Dec. 6: Holiday Golf Cart Parade
- Dec. 20: Holiday Season

Membership in our Facebook group (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts) is now over 600! If you have a golf cart, please consider jazzing it up (or not) and joining in as we “parade for a cause.” Each parade benefits one or more local charities. For more information and to receive emails about this club, please email otowfun-withgolfcarts@gmail.com. We all have much fun cruising around in our “mini-floats.”

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



Photo by Susan Pulling Robinson

Flag-decorated golf cart.



Photo by Anne Merrick

Artwork by Anne Merrick.

Art Group

Anne Merrick



July is often a quiet month for the Art Group, but pictures are being painted for the August art show at Master the Possibilities. The group loves to show the art they have created during the year and has several shows: two in the living room at Master the Possibilities, one in January and the other in August, and one in April in the Art Room. Many of the group would like to sell their work, so if you see anything you love, contact Freda Klump, our director, at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com, and she will put you in touch with the artist.

Getting involved in your work is a type of meditation. You can get lost and be unaware of what is going on around you. A feeling of peace as well as accomplishment is there, and when you look up, there is a moment when you wonder where you are.

There are so many talented artists in this community. Why don’t you come to the Hobby Building Art Room on a Wednesday, from 1 to 4 p.m., or Saturday, from 9 a.m. to noon? Bring your supplies and paint away. There is plenty of inspiration within the group.





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Toppers Banjo

David Wesenberg



Toppers Banjo Band meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. An instrumental practice subgroup meets at 12:15 p.m. on Mondays. There are plenty of opportunities to join us and explore the banjo as an instrument to entertain. We have added several new members, which gives us a bigger sound. We are experimenting with harmonies and trying to grow our skills and presentation. We welcome new members and look forward to presenting a more comprehensive music program. In May, we played at the gazebo at 9950 SW 88th Court Road. We played 15 tunes, including favorites (St. Louis

blues, Tishomingo blues, and Mobile). Judging from the comments after the concert, the audience was delighted and hoped to hear us again, a very gratifying result. We always hope to please our wonderful audience. We have also been welcoming visitors to listen to the band, which increases our joy in playing and their joy in listening. Wonderful musical moments are taking place. We welcome active or aspiring banjo and acoustic guitar players to join us in playing and singing banjo music. If you like to play, come and join us. If you have any ideas to improve performance values and presentation, we would appreciate hearing them. If you'd like to simply listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Eddie Martin at [ueddie2@gmail.com](mailto:ueddie2@gmail.com) or David Wesenberg at [dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com](mailto:dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com).



Photo by Herbert Young

Toppers Banjo Band gazebo concert.



Photo by Gordon Daniels

Marion County Memorial Honor Guard and Concert Chorus.

Concert Chorus

Joanne Houston



Welcome all singers! This summer, we are rehearsing and inviting all interested singers to meet other members and preview the music we have chosen for our holiday concerts on Sunday, Dec. 14, and Monday, Dec. 15. We will meet on Tuesday, Aug. 5, in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room from 9 to 11 a.m. New and returning members are welcome to join on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at 8:30 a.m. Please bring your \$20 membership fee, which offsets the cost of music and concert expenses. Rehearsals will be held each Tuesday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Reading music is helpful, as well as prior singing experience, but all enthusiastic singers are welcome to join. It's going to be an exciting concert season and we'll have recordings to help you learn your part, whether you're a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass. Last year, we had over 90 singers, and this year, we are excited to continue the tradition of excellent singing and outstanding and entertaining concerts at Circle Square Cultural Center. If you'd like to get more information about the Concert Chorus, email us at [deboraasmith@gmail.com](mailto:deboraasmith@gmail.com) or [joanne.houston57@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.houston57@gmail.com). If you love to sing, we'd love to meet you!

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack



We are all familiar with windshield sunshades that many of us use during the hot months to keep the interiors of our parked cars less hot. But did you know that there are sunroof sunshades? I didn't until a recent meeting of our club. Teslas are famous for their tinted glass roofs, which look great, but they can cause the interior temperature to be higher than in cars with metal roofs. One of our club members informed us that we could install a reasonably priced sunshade for the roof that easily fits underneath. It can be removed in the cooler months and then reinstalled as summer approaches. I bought one, and it looks great. The Tesla Owners and Enthusiasts Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II. You do not have to be a Tesla owner to attend. There are no dues. There are speakers at some meetings. Most meetings are spent discussing our vehicles. Come and join us.

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Poetry Club

Barbara A. Scales & Bruce Tredinnick



Most of us have heard that as we age, it is recommended to maintain muscular flexibility; however, brain flexibility is equally important. The brain’s ability to be flexible is called neuroplasticity. According to Psychology Today, “Neuroplasticity is the brain’s capacity to continue growing and evolving in response to life experiences.” The ability of our minds to function properly does not necessarily need to dwindle as the years pass. There is hope.

Research on the brain once thought to stop growing after childhood, has revealed that the hippocampus continues growing. Like a mailbox, it takes in and sends out short-term to long-term memories and emotional responses. It also guides our spatial navigation. By reducing stress and exercising our thought processes, we can impact and slow the aging of our brains.

The Poetry Club takes brain maintenance seriously. Reading and writing poetry is a creative process that exercises the right hemisphere of the brain. Thus, our ability to be imaginative, have visual perception, have good spatial per-

View from the Library

Walt Lamp



The well-known stories of George Washington, leading the American army to victory and being elected unanimously as our first president are widely known.

But now, little-known stories of his character, by his fellow citizens, and his moral obligation to his country are detailed in more depth by Stanley Weintraub in “General Washington’s Christmas Farewell.”

With the signing of the treaty, officially ending the American Revolution in 1783, George Washington began his trip south to resign his commission. From West Point to his home in Mt. Vernon by Christmas, he visited with friends, fellow officers, and citizens.

The cry of many to him was to appoint George Washington as dictator! He blushed but was adamant about dissolving that idea of a dictator. Washington sought only personal expenses during the war but received no salary or pension.

In Fraunces Tavern in lower Manhattan, on December 4, 1783, a collection of leaders of the American Revolution gathered to bid farewell to their leader. Generals of all ranks – lieutenants, majors, and captains – and those who fought alongside Washington share a moment of victory. Lewis Nicola remarked, “That he be king to run the fractured government.” Washington responded, “I must view this idea with abhorrence and severity.”

But Washington knew that this collection of officers would never meet like this again. It brought tears to his eyes. It ended with these words by the host, “I cannot come to each of you, but shall feel obliged if each of you will come and take me by the hand.” And come forward, they did.

A victorious collection of patriots, with tears in their eyes to the general, not a dictator. In Philadelphia, the words of Governor John Dickinson wished Washington, “The best and greatest being in his good times to bestow upon you felicities to come and love of his fellow citizens.”

Speaker of the General Assembly George Gray closed with, “May your excellency be longed, spared, etc. this country and among the sweets of domestic life, may you have the happiness of beholding a growing empire, wise, just and united.”

Washington was humbled by all such expressions, except those that referred to him as a dictator. Upon his arrival in Annapolis, the city was set with celebration. He then gave his speech to Congress as he promised and resigned from the commission. “The great events on which my resignation depended have at length taken place. I resign with satisfaction, the appointment I accepted with diffidence; I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last solemn act of my official life, by co-general arrived home after eight years commanding to the protection of almighty God.”

The general bowed to Congress members, rose silently, and removed hats with respect. On December 24, 1783, the former general arrived home after eight years.

ception, and understand the emotions of others through non-verbal cues and their tone of voice is steadied.

Several of our club members have developed their left-brain skills through careers in computer science, electronics, chemistry, biological science, aeronautical engineering, and astrophysics. They are analytical, fact-finding individuals. For some, reading or crafting poetry is a leap into areas they have not ventured.

For example, Poetry Club member Glenn Cohen was the professor of biological science-division chair of Troy University, Troy, Alabama. He was also a professor at the Florida Institute of Technology. As a neuroscientist Cohen studied the brain-senses-language connection. He says, “The use of language is an important component of maintaining neural function and emotional health. Poetry is an enjoyable way to stimulate those centers of the brain.” He appreciates poetry by Robert Frost, which he describes as “having a rhythm and a song enhanced by a melody.”

You are cordially invited to the Poetry Club meetings, where you can expand your mind and exercise your hippocampus on our campus.

The Poetry Club gathers at the Recreation Center, in the room behind the Ballroom, on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Bring a poem if you have one written. Or just come to listen. We will have a seat available for you.

If you have questions, please contact Barbara Scales at 315-440-0142.

**A Time to Talk**

By Robert Frost

When a friend calls to me from the road  
And slows his horse to a meaning walk,  
I don’t stand still and look around  
On all the hills I haven’t hoed,  
And shout from where I am, What is it?  
No, not as there is a time to talk.  
I thrust my hoe in the mellow ground,  
Blade-end up and five feet tall,  
And plod: I go up to the stone wall  
For a friendly visit.

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

Drum Circle

J. Ashi Olshan



Drum what you feel. You don’t have to be an experienced (hand) drummer to drum out whatever energy wants to be discharged in some creative, productive way – while enjoying the natural highs of drumming in a circle of 15 to 20-plus new friends.

When we lifted the ban on interior gatherings back in 2021, Ruth Greenfield, like many of us, had pent up stress just dying to be expelled in some positive, relaxing way. So, she started her coed Drum Circle Club, still going strong after three years, with surprisingly more women than men.

If you have not drummed before, then start out by playing along softly – letting your volume build as the contagious syncopated rhythm in the room fills

your bones and transports that energy to your fingers. Everyone has rhythm inherently embedded in their DNA, just needing a little push to let it confidently flow out – naturally. In fact, drumming was the original music, dating back to the beginning of mankind, and still joyfully practiced for fun and relaxation – and as rituals in many tribes – around the world.

One hand or two, it’s up to you, no one is keeping score. And if you don’t yet own a pair of bongos, a djembe, a conga drum, tambourine, or maraca – to keep the beat, we have all kinds of extra drums and percussion instruments to give you a taste and get you started.

The Drum Circle Club is still being offered for free - no club dues - on the second Thursday of each month, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Come check it out, you might just be surprised by your inner drummer, as you turn off your mind for an hour of relaxing drumming meditation. Ruth Greenfield can be contacted at 201-887-5547.

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# Annual Quality Water Report

**PWS ID#642619**  
352-414-5454



The Bay Laurel Center Community Development District (the District) is very pleased to provide you with this year's annual water quality report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Our seven-groundwater wells draw their water from the pristine Floridan Aquifer. We simply add chlorine to the water for disinfection purposes and are pleased to report that our drinking water has met all federal and state requirements.

The District routinely monitors contaminants in your drinking water by federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Complete sampling data for all parameters monitored by the District, including lead, is available at our customer service office located at 8470 SW 79th Street Road, Suite 3, Ocala, Florida 34481, or by calling 352-414-5454.

Additionally, the District conducted a lead service line inventory as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It determined the District does not have any lead service lines within its service area. The lead service line inventory is available at our customer service office located at 8470 SW 79th Street Road, Suite 3, Ocala, Florida 34481, or by calling 352-414-5454.

Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2024. Data obtained before Jan. 1, 2024, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In 2024, the Department of Environmental Protection reviewed a Source Water Assessment on our system, and a search of the data sources revealed no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment showed no contamination at this time in the source of the seven wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it naturally dissolves minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile

organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same level of protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, please call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects associated with many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of experiencing the described health effects.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These individuals should consult their healthcare providers for advice on drinking water. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to reduce the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In the table, you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

**ACTION LEVEL (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**CDC:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**N/A:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**PARTS PER BILLION (PPB) OR MICROGRAMS PER LITER (UG/L):** One part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**PARTS PER MILLION (PPM) OR MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (MG/L):** One part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Results in the Level Detected column for radiological contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.							
Contaminant & Unit of Measurement	Date of sampling (month/year)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	01/24	N	3.09	2.41 - 3.09	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	02/23	N	8.8	5.8 - 8.8	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.
Arsenic (ppb)	02/23	N	0.28	ND - 0.28	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.
Fluoride (ppm)	02/23	N	0.1	ND - 0.1	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm.
Barium (ppm)	02/23	N	0.0092	0.0058 - 0.0092	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes and from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant & Unit of Measurement	Date of sampling (month/year)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Uranium (pCi/L)	02/23	N	1.2	0.6 - 1.2	0	4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	02/23	N	3.1	1.9 - 3.1	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.

STAGE 2 DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
For chlorine, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations.							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (month/year)	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
HAAs Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	07/24	N	14.03	1.94 - 14.03	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	07/24	N	8.96	5.09 - 8.96	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine (ppm)	01/24-12/24	N	1.80	1.02 - 1.80	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes.

### LEAD & COPPER

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Bay Laurel Center CDD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Bay Laurel Center CDD at 352-414-5454. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (month/year)	AL Violation (Yes/No)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	Range of Tap Sample Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	07/23	N	1.1	2	ND - 1.6	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (ppb)	07/23	N	ND	0	ND - 0.0014	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting buildings to water mains. Erosion of natural deposits.

the water sample.

**PICOCURIE PER LITER (PCI/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in water.

**TREATMENT TECHNIQUE:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

We at Bay Laurel Center Community Development District are proud of the efforts we take to continually protect our water resources and our commitment to ensuring the quality of your water. The standards that serve as the District's

guidelines are efficiency, accuracy, and to serve our customers with unwavering dedication.

If you have any questions about this report or concerns regarding your water quality, please contact Bryan Schmalzer at 352-414-5454, ext. 4105. Our business hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. We encourage our valued customers to be informed!

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FOR SALE, WANTED AND LOST/FOUND

**ADS:** There is no charge to residents as long as it is not of a business nature. There is a \$500 limit on FOR SALE items. Items valued at more than \$500 (i.e. golf carts) may be listed, but price will not accompany the ad. Auto, apartment, financial service, home, legal, real estate, and timeshare ads WILL NOT be accepted. Ads may be emailed to otownnews@otowfl.com.

**ESTATE/TAG SALE ADS:** There is no charge to residents, however, residents must register their estate/tag sale with Resident Services at Friendship Commons. Visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala) and click on "Resident Info" to download the appropriate form for your community and submit it to Resident Services by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

**SERVICE ADS:** Will be accepted from residents and non-residents and may be emailed to otownnews@otowfl.com. For advertising rates, visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala) and click on "Advertising Rates."

**AD DEADLINE:** Noon on the 12th of the month. If the deadline falls on a weekend, then it's noon on the Friday before. For more information, call 352-387-7466, email [otownnews@otowfl.com](mailto:otownnews@otowfl.com) or visit [ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala)

*The publisher reserves the right to reject any ad which, in his judgment, would not be in the best interest of the residents of On Top of the World Communities.*

For Sale

**Electronics:** Technics speakers (2), 9"x12"x35" (2), turntable (record), woofer (cube-shaped), Denon amplifier, \$50 each or take all for \$240. 352-390-3407.

**Fitness Equipment:** Serene Life treadmill (SLFTRD26BT), \$50. Will deliver within the community. 850-527-2377.

**Furniture:** Ashley theater-style electric zero gravity recliners (2), love seat style, grey. Solid wood coffee table. Amish-made swivel bar stools (3), two-tone maple. Email [rfkf@comcast.net](mailto:rfkf@comcast.net).

**Furniture:** RST Brands outdoor set with Sunbrella cushions and covers, ginkgo green, bronze aluminum – dining table, dining chairs (4), coffee table, chaise lounges (2), end table, chairs (2), ottoman, loveseat, and accent pillows (4). Polywood patio furniture, green – glider chair, fixed chair, ottomans (2), and double chair with table unit. 610-721-1424.

**Golf Cart:** 2010 Club Car, 2-year-old batteries, curtains, sand bucket, and cooler. 409-658-7023.

**Golf Cart:** 2023 Star Sirius, 2-in-1 combo golf cart, holds 4 people or holds 2 people plus 2 golf bags, lithium battery, includes canopy top and sunbrella curtain, seat belts, light package with turn signals. 610-721-1424.

**Golf Cart:** Club Car, completely refurbished with new top, Sunbrella curtains, hurricane-resistant windshield, seat cover, fan, and custom dashboard. Serviced every 4 months and batteries are 2 years old. 352-854-8713.

**Golf Equipment:** TeeLess driver, 13°, right-handed, Lamkin Crossline 360 grip, Fujikura R2 (reg soft) shaft, headcover, and sleeve of new PROv1 balls, \$99. 201-317-7488.

**Home Décor:** Framed and décor pictures. Email [rfkf@comcast.net](mailto:rfkf@comcast.net).

**Misc. Item:** Arlo wireless home security camera systems (3) with solar panel and gutter bracket. \$95 per set. 610-721-1424.

**Misc. Item:** CharBroil grill with 3 burners, 2 full propane tanks, and cover, \$175 (cash only). 609-206-0582.

**Misc. Item:** Generator, small-storm cat (800 rated watt/900 max. watt), \$75. 352-390-3407.

**Misc. Item:** Heavy moving blankets, free. Email [rfkf@comcast.net](mailto:rfkf@comcast.net).

**Misc. Item:** Shark rotator pet plus upright vacuum (NV255) with owner's guide, \$75. 610-721-1424.

**Mobility Scooter:** Heartway RV Easy Rider, 4 wheel, foldable with remote, weight up to 250 lbs. 516-316-4447.

**Pet Supplies:** Pet Gear stroller, \$150. 631-609-1121 or 352-414-0225.

**Sports Equipment:** ZuGo e-bike, step-through, 48-volt, 750-watt, LCD display, Kenda 20" 4.0 tires, 20" frame, 4-6 hours to charge, 40-60 km range, max speed 31 mph. 610-721-1424.

**Tools:** 17' Franklin folding ladder, \$60. 352-390-3407.

**Tools:** Lifetime collection of hand tools – hammers, screwdrivers, wrenches, vise-grips, drill bits, clamps, painting, tapes, etc. Wood-turning tools and equipment. Some garden tools. 352-854-5713.

**Tools:** Werner Saf-T-Master (D1124-2) 24' extension ladder, rated 200 pounds, \$30. Will deliver within the community. 850-527-2377.

**Window Treatments:** Rollup shades (3) for Tamar lanai. 574-527-6203.

Tag Sales

**Friday, July 4 & Saturday, July 5:** 9878 SW 97th Lane (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Friday, July 11 & Saturday, July 12:** 9690 SW 90th Street, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Friday, July 18:** 8362-E SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon.

**Saturday, July 26:** 8711-A SW 91st Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Services

**American Junk Removal & Demo:** One call, we haul – one item, room, or total clean-out. Total kitchen & bath demolition. Lawn/landscape clean-up. Dumpster rental. Call/text Garfield 561-306-6969. Quality work, competitive prices, licensed & insured.

**Andy Dahms Interior Painting:** Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or [andygooddeats1@gmail.com](mailto:andygooddeats1@gmail.com).

**Bates Lawn Services LLC:** Family owned & operated. Mowing, weeding, pruning, mulch, stone & plants. All landscape needs. Fully insured. Senior discounts. Mike or Daisy 352-207-7221.

**Bathroom & Flooring:** Tile and LVP installation. Five stars on Google. Many satisfied customers in On Top of the World. Free quotes. Insured. Innovate - Home Renovation (L20000157682), Gabriel 352-216-2202.

**Cleaning by Evelyn Lee:** House & deep cleaning, move-outs. Licensed, bonded & insured. Sunshine Cleaning Service of Ocala, LLC. 352-286-6055.

**Computer Help:** Arthur Burditt, 352-875-7878. House calls, \$60/hour. Tutoring, setups, installations, Windows upgrades, PC cleanups, security software, internet connections, email access, printers, wireless devices.

**Estate Sale Services:** Ready to sell the contents of your home? Community resident providing estate sale services for all neighbors. I'm here to help. SW Ocala Estate Sales 352-219-6799.

**Geller Lawn:** Mowing, irrigation, bushes, mulch & much more! Starting at \$50 per month (no contracts). Insured. 352-390-7454.

**Handyman:** Insured. JAO Home Improvement & Repair – all your home's needs – carpentry, built-ins, roll-out shelves, moldings, faux painting, tile, and furniture touch ups. Visit JAO Home's page at [www.ashiarts.us](http://www.ashiarts.us) or call 707-280-3823 (resident).

**Handyman:** Repairing sliding glass door rollers/tracks, sliding garage screen doors, window balances, sliding shower doors/guides, doors & locksets, door seals. Installing handicap grab bars. One call does it all! Steve, S&T Quality Services 352-207-8682.

**Home Cleaning by Valeria:** Houses, deep cleaning, move outs. Over 20 years caring for homes. Licensed & insured. Free quote 352-361-6850.

**Jordan's Golf Cart Batteries:** 6-6v installed \$780. 6-8v installed \$860. 4-12v installed \$900. Free battery check. Call 352-789-2812 with any questions.

**Maid in America by Ann:** Quality cleaning services. Pet sitting available. Insured & reliable. 609-276-1099.

**Miles & Miles Cleaning Service** by Wendy: We will give you an old fashioned cleaning! Hourly rate. Licensed & insured. 352-895-0940 or [www.milesandmilescleaning-services.com](http://www.milesandmilescleaning-services.com).

**Music Recordings:** A former professional Nashville songwriter will set your lyric or poem to music and deliver a mastered recording suitable for CD or streaming for \$175. Stu 615-260-8617.

**RESIDENT SERVICES**  
Friendship Commons  
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[otowservice@otowfl.com](mailto:otowservice@otowfl.com)  
352-236-OTOW (236-6869)

**Paint Time LLC:** Interior/exterior painting. Let's freshen up inside & out. Experienced & conscientious. For free consultation & estimate, call Matt at 352-640-6467. Quality is our goal!

**Power Wash:** From grime to shine – patio, driveway, outdoor furniture, house exterior, or just trim and gutters. Call Matt 352-640-6467. Quality is our goal!

**Transportation:** Doctor's appointments, shopping, hair, surgery center, hospital, etc. Diane 352-854-9999 (resident). Please leave message (no texts).

**Transportation:** Excellent, safe, friendly service to Tampa, Orlando, Sanford, and Gainesville airports and Port Canaveral. Drop-off/pick-up. Sue's Transportation 352-446-7425 (resident).

**We Buy Golf Carts:** Fast, friendly, fair. Will beat competitors' offers. Cash paid. Same day pick up. 352-812-5630.

Wanted

**Donations:** Dog or cat food [SPCA of Marion County 352-362-0985] · Electric golf carts in full working condition for use by volunteers for local park. [Barbara [btsprigg@gmail.com](mailto:btsprigg@gmail.com)] · Non-perishable food for food bank, and cards for veterans [Anne 843-504-0032] · Personal hygiene, school/craft supplies & small appliances for homeless; pet food/supplies for animal shelters; used cell phones, computers & musical instruments for troops/veterans; theatrical costumes & props; socks, underwear & men's clothing [Donna 352-237-3062] · Yarn for VA hospitals, children, and newborns [352-843-6519].

**Ham Radio Operators:** Support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Please email [brucetwiss@yahoo.com](mailto:brucetwiss@yahoo.com).

**Line Dancers:** New class starting Tuesdays, at 10 a.m. No experience is necessary. 207-632-0252.

**Pet Foster Parents:** Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call SPCA of Marion County at 352-362-0985.

**NEWS**

**MISSED DELIVERY?**  
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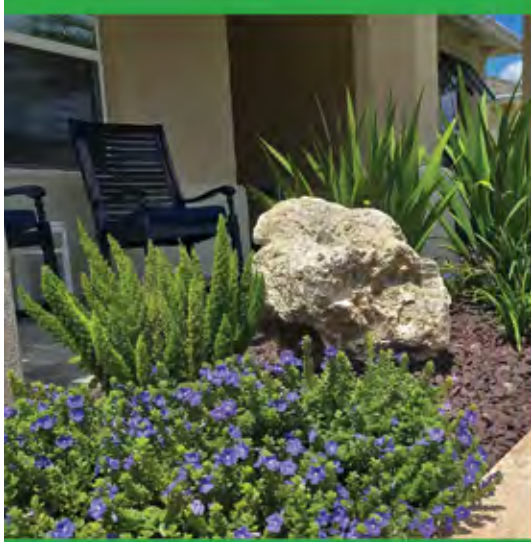
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