

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Association Meetings

December marks the start of a cycle of annual meetings for various associations. The schedule and location for the respective meetings are:

- Master Association Annual Meeting & Budget Adoption: Wednesday, Dec. 3, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 3 p.m.
- Weybourne Landing Annual Meeting & Budget Adoption: Monday, Dec. 8, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 10 a.m.
- Candler Hills Annual Meeting & Budget Adoption: Monday, Dec. 8, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 2 p.m.
- Indigo East Annual Meeting & Budget Adoption: Thursday, Dec. 11, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 10 a.m.
- On Top of the World (Central) Owners Annual Meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 17, in Circle Square Cultural Center at 10 a.m.

Matters of general interest to your community, an update on recreation and meeting facilities, a review of the projected budgets for the coming year, and any legislative changes affecting your community will be among the topics discussed at each annual meeting.

Construction Updates

THE SUMMIT: Progress continues at Longleaf Ridge as this 20,000-square-foot amenity nears completion. Exterior work is wrapping up, while interior finishes are now underway. Both pools are actively under construction, including what will be On Top of the World’s first-ever resistance pool. The grand opening is tentatively scheduled for January 2026.

AZURA FITNESS CENTER: Construction is now going vertical at this state-of-the-art facility that will feature top-of-the-line fitness equipment and a 5,000-square-foot pool. The project is estimated to be completed by Summer 2026.

RECREATION CENTER: Planned major renovations to the front of the main building are in the works. The plans are currently in review for permitting, and we are optimistic about starting the project before the end of the year. The work will be completed in phases and will also include landscaping improvements. Once permitted, we hope to display elevation plans in the work area.

NEW WOOD SHOP: Design work is ongoing for this new facility. Due to the specialized nature of this building, we have collaborated with experts and with the club leadership to ensure it will be a top-tier amenity for the community. One key feature is an upgraded dust-collection system, carefully designed in coordination with club members to meet the space’s specific needs. The facility will be a 7,200-square-foot amenity building that will also serve as a home for additional activities such as table tennis, ballet, and more.

SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS: The new surfaces are complete and look fantastic. These new courts will provide better control of discs and improved play. Let the games begin!

SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT: Construction of the new sand volleyball court is underway. Currently, we are working on the excavation and drainage phase. We’ll be installing an all-new adjustable netting system and boundary markers. Projected completion is approximately 60 days, weather permitting.

CANDLER HILLS GOLF CLUB: The golf course renovation is nearing completion, and a grand re-opening has been scheduled for Monday, Nov. 10. We look forward to welcoming back our members and residents. Until then, the Golf Shop will continue to have reduced hours but will still be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

IRONS 9 PITCH & PUTT: We finally received the permits for the construction of the Irons 9 Pitch & Putt located at the roundabout at SW 80th Street and SW

Celebrate Veterans Day Together

By Charles Calhoun

On Top of the World invites local communities to join us on Tuesday, Nov. 11, to commemorate Veterans Day. Originally known as Armistice Day, it was a celebration held each year to mark the armistice that ended World War I hostilities, which took effect on the “eleventh hour, of the eleventh day of the eleventh month” of 1918. Now known as Veterans Day in the United States, we come together as a nation to honor those who served. We hope you will join us on this special occasion.

Hosted by Veterans Club President Charles Calhoun and On Top of the World’s Recreation Department Fitness Director Leslee Stephens, commemorations begin at 7:45 a.m. with a Flag Honors Ceremony at Veterans Park Memorial followed by an 8:30 a.m. honor walk. Non-resident guests are asked to park their cars by 7 a.m. at the Recreation Center parking lot (9030 SW 99th Street Road, Ocala, Florida 34481), allowing ample time to ride the shuttle service to the event. Residents may park their golf carts on the park’s grassy surrounds by 7:45 a.m. or park them at the Recreation Center and use the shuttle bus.

Flag honors will be presented by the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard (a volunteer wartime veterans authorized to wear original military dress uniforms).

The honor walk (0.75 mile) kicks off at 8:30 a.m., heading to the Recreation Center. Participants may create an 8-inch-by-10-inch storyboard of their beloved veteran to be displayed as they trek to the Recreation Center (an event flyer available in the Recreation Center Lobby provides an interactive storyboard template).

After the honor walk, the Fun With Golf Carts Club will host a patriotic Veterans Day golf cart parade. Residents are invited to decorate their golf carts and join the parade staging in front of the dog park adjacent to the Veterans Park. A reception will be held to greet

everyone as they arrive, offering refreshments, support, and guidance on how to participate in other ongoing activities.

Storyboards are to be displayed in the Recreation Center Ballroom during the event and later archived on the Marion County Virtual Veterans Legacy Memorial website.

At 8:45 a.m., On Top of the World’s Fitness Department invites everyone to

show solidarity with our active-duty soldiers, sailors, airmen, coast guardsmen, and space guardians by participating in a 22-count push-up challenge. Awards for fastest individual to complete 22 push-ups, most push-ups beyond 22, and most senior competitor to complete the challenge will be given out.

At 11 a.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom, join us for presentations by a keynote speaker, Poms Dance & Cheer Squad, Dancing Divas, and Presentation of the Colors by our local West Port High School Junior ROTC cadets. We look forward to seeing everyone at these exciting and memorable Veterans Day events.

If you have any questions, please email petefeliciano352@gmail.com.



2024 Colors presentation by West Port High School Junior ROTC cadets in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

Annual Food & Toys for Tots Drive

By Mayte Paz

This holiday season, Colen Built Development is not only partnering with the local not-for-profit organization, Interfaith Emergency Services (IES), but also with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

Colen Built Development is IES’s designated “Bring the Harvest All Year Long” food drive champion for November. Residents and employees have always been very generous in donating large amounts of non-perishable food items and various sundries during the annual food drive. A donation of 14,342 pounds of food was given in 2024. With this in mind, we are again asking for any help you can lend. This year, we have set a goal to collect 15,000 pounds of food.

As you can see by the following message, the need has never been greater:

“While for the past few years, IES has consistently served between 12,000 and 13,000 individuals with grocery assistance each year, the number this past 12 months has jumped to 16,753! Many of the new clients we see are senior citizens whose retirement income just isn’t keeping up with the increased cost of food. It’s truly heartbreaking to see people who worked hard their entire lives and thought they would be okay in retirement, have to come here and ask for assistance. With the increased number of clients in need, every can, box, or bag of food matters. If you don’t have to rely on a food pantry to make ends meet, count your blessings! If you can share without putting yourself at risk, please donate a can or two. Thank you for all of the years On Top of the World and Calesa Township have supported IES and the people in need in Marion County. May God bless you all this holiday season.”

Thank you,
Karla Grimsley

Executive Director
Interfaith Emergency Services

The following staple food and hygiene items are needed:

Food Items

- Canned Vegetables and Fruit
- Peanut Butter (plastic)
- Jelly or Jam (plastic)
- Canned Meats (tuna, chicken)
- Canned Soup
- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Cereal and Oatmeal
- Canned Beans
- Pasta and Rice
- Coffee or Tea
- Hamburger Helper
- Fruit Cups (lunch box size)
- Instant Oatmeal (single serve)
- Pop-Tarts
- Ramen Dry Noodle Soup
- Pudding Cups (lunch box size)

Hygiene Items

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Feminine Products (pads)
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Toothpaste
- Razors & Shaving Cream
- Bar Soap
- Toilet Paper
- Combs
- Baby Wipes
- Tooth Brush
- Cloth Bags
- Used Plastic Bags

The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys each year and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts

to less fortunate children in the local area.

The 2025 Food and Toys for Tots Drive will take place from Monday, Nov. 17, through Monday, Dec. 1. Your donation of any of the items listed above would be greatly appreciated. Please place your item(s) in one of the collection boxes listed below.

Let us all join in making this effort a success and reflecting how caring On Top of the World is, especially for those in need!

Food Drop Off Locations

- Arbor Fitness Center
- Calesa Township New Homes Sales Center
- Candler Hills Golf Shop
- Colen Built Development Accounting
- Indigo East Community Center
- Indigo East Fitness Center
- Master the Possibilities
- On Top of the World New Home Sales Center
- On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion, LLC
- The Landing
- The Lodge at Candler Hills
- The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa
- Recreation Center (upstairs and downstairs)
- Resident Services

Toy Drop Off Locations

- Arbor Fitness Center
- Calesa Township New Homes Sales Center
- Candler Hills Golf Shop
- Colen Built Development Accounting
- Indigo East Community Center
- Master the Possibilities
- On Top of the World New Home Sales Center
- On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion, LLC
- Resident Services
- The Lodge at Candler Hills
- The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa

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Is It Legal?

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



I would like to take a moment to discuss “over-55” communities and condominium and homeowner associations, regardless of their location within the United States.

First, the concept of an “over-55” community originates from the federal Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA). Before Congress passed HOPA, condominium and homeowner associations could exclude occupancy of their units to persons below a certain age, usually to prevent minors or other folks, perhaps too young, or pregnant, from residing in the community. There are different types of housing for older persons, but I will only discuss “over-55” communities.

Essentially, in this type of community, HOPA requires that, to maintain the over-55 status, at least 80% of the units must be occupied by at least one person aged 55 years or older. Notice that I’ve emphasized “occupied,” not own. If the over-55 status is lost, then federal law prohibits discrimination in housing based on age, race, sex, etc. Therefore, maintaining that status is crucial for associations that cater to older individuals who prefer to live in an adult environment.

What does this all mean for folks who live in, and who occupy a dwelling in, On Top of the World? Example: A 60-year-old person occupies a unit with his/her 50-year-old spouse. This complies with HOPA. Suppose the 60-year-old passes on. Can a 50-year-old individual remain in occupancy with all the privileges afforded to anyone in occupancy? Yes. Why? Remember that 20% part? Well, at On Top of the World that 20% is available for persons who survive the one who is 55 or older.

Now, what about someone who inherits a dwelling at On Top of the World? Can the child who inherits the property move in and occupy it? The child must be over 14 (I believe), but aside from that, yes, the beneficiary can occupy. Why? Same reason.

At On Top of the World, that 20% figure is kept available for just these purposes. Ownership? Well, remember what I said about occupancy? It’s occupancy that matters, not ownership. Therefore, people under 55 can own property regardless of whether they also occupy it.

Okay, so what about the person over 55 who lives with their 10-year-old grandchild? If the over-55 passes on, can the 10-year-old continue to occupy? Thank heavens it hasn’t happened at On Top of the World, but if it did, the answer

would be no. Some age restrictions can be legally maintained. It might be 14 or younger, but I am not sure on that one.

Can someone “get away” with violating the over-55 rules? I suppose so. There are many other types of examples, but I’ve just outlined the basics.

Q. How do you see artificial intelligence (AI) affecting the practice of law?

A. Neat question. Thanks. I’m sure it will impact how lawyers utilize information gathered from their clients to draft documents. Good lawyers will use it as a tool to assist with drafting. Lazy lawyers will use it to draft forms they can then use for any document into which the form can be made to fit, regardless of the nuances and complexity of a client’s problem.

Additionally, the various bar associations around the country will need to educate their attorney-members on valid and professional methods for utilizing AI to benefit their clients. The Florida Bar Association is already doing that with seminars designed to help lawyers adapt to the changing landscape of the legal profession.

As for clients, if they haven’t already, they will soon adopt AI as a method of educating themselves on the legal issues that concern them. That means lawyers will meet with clients who’ve already educated themselves on their legal concerns. Clients are going to have smart questions for their lawyer.

Personally, I love that. The more my clients know about the issue they are facing, the wiser they are about what needs to be done to accomplish their goals. That’s great for good lawyers who care about their clients. The lazy ones will simply have to set aside their printed forms and listen to what the clients have to say. Nothing better than looking and listening, if you ask me.

Bottom line on AI and the practice of law: Some good. Some bad. Some we’ll have-to-wait-and-see. I suspect I will have more AI questions, and I’ll print some if I can.

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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2025 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE



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
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Lifelong Learning

Michelle Shideler
352-387-7571
michelle_shideler@masterthepossibilities.org



Wow, what a fantastic month at Master the Possibilities. November is filled with opportunities to engage in history, reflection, and celebration. We are right in the middle of honoring one of the most significant times in world history through our current classes and presentations on World War II, while also preparing to unveil something truly special – our January through June 2026 curriculum, “Exploring 250 Years of America.”

As part of our ongoing focus on the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, we are highlighting two extraordinary visiting speaker presentations this month. On Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 2 p.m. in Live Oak Hall, Carolyn Edy will present “World War II Women in Journalism.”

Edy is a media historian and professor at Appalachian State University, recognized as the College of Fine and Applied Arts’ Outstanding Professor of 2015-2016. Her groundbreaking research on women war correspondents has received numerous awards and fellowships, including support from Harvard University’s Schlesinger Library.

This remote presentation will uncover the untold stories of women in journalism during World War II, exploring their challenges and the ways the press and military both advanced and limited their access to the frontlines. The cost to attend is \$10 for members and \$15 for the general public.

On Thursday, Nov. 13, at 1 p.m. in Live Oak Hall, Lisa Keith-Lucas, a volunteer at the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum in Carrabelle, will present “Camp Gordon Johnston and Its Role in World War II”. Lisa brings a wealth of insight into the vital contributions of this military

camp during the war. Attendees will learn how this training ground played a significant role in preparing troops and shaping the outcome of the conflict. This in-person event offers a chance to explore regional history that had both national and global impact. The cost to attend is \$10 for members and \$15 for the public.

Later in the month, on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center, Master the Possibilities will host its Curriculum Kick-Off for the January through June 2026 catalog. This upcoming catalog is truly one “for the history books.” We have gone above and beyond to bring you expert voices and engaging topics that reflect the most pivotal moments in our nation’s 250 years.

Guest presenters in our visiting speaker series will include distinguished names such as Geoffrey Wawro, Edward Lengel, Peter Onuf, Fredrik Logevall, and Paul Sparrow. Our special events will transport participants through virtual docent tours of institutions such as the National Constitution Center, The Bradford House, and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. To cap it all off, in mid-June, Master the Possibilities will host a grand celebration to mark the culmination of this historic curriculum, creating a powerful finale to the “Exploring 250 Years of America” series.

The Curriculum Kick-Off is free and open to the public, and no registration is required. Guests will have the opportunity to pre-register for class favorites as well as theme-focused offerings. To add to the celebration, anyone who registers for five or more classes during the Curriculum Kick-Off will receive a commemorative T-shirt to wear throughout the January through June semester, helping mark and celebrate this significant time in history all six months long.

For additional information or to register for current classes, visit masterthepossibilities.org or call our main office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 352-861-9751.

Top 25 Senior Living Communities

By Kinley Rogers

On Top of the World Communities has been honored with the prestigious 2025 International Council of Active Aging (ICAA) NuStep Beacon Award, earning recognition as one of North America’s Top 25 Senior Living Communities where wellness is a way of life. This is the second time our community has received this award, having been recognized in 2023.

Since 2019, the ICAA NuStep Beacon Award has honored the top 25 senior living communities across North America who exemplify innovations and commitments to wellness and active-aging. The mission of the ICAA NuStep is to honor excellence in wellness and craft meaningful opportunities that empower and inspire individuals to live better and longer.

This award speaks to the deep commitment to making wellness the center of our community’s culture. “This

achievement reflects the dedication, collaboration, and passion of our entire team. Together, we’ve built a culture where wellness truly is a way of life. From daily engagement and creative programming to our commitment to purposeful living, this recognition is a testament to what we accomplish when we work together toward a shared vision,” states Leslee Stephens, fitness director.

Our Wellness Department remains committed to cultivating a wellness-focused lifestyle for all our residents. From building relationships through social clubs, to sharpening minds with education classes, maintaining physical health through fitness programs, and enjoying trips outside the community through exciting excursions – there’s something for every resident! Stay up to date with all resident information at OTOWInfo.com.

CIRCLE SQUARE Commons

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Community News

Continued from Page 1A

92nd Court Road. Crews have begun installing the underground components of the sewer and stormwater facilities, as well as an extension of the reclaimed water system used to irrigate the golf course. Construction of the golf course itself, along with a small golf shop, will begin shortly thereafter. This will be a Master Association amenity open to all residents. Permits in hand, our development team has commenced underground activities at the site.

CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER: The LED sign is live! This is a great way to learn about scheduled events. Landscaping will follow shortly.

SW 92ND COURT GATEHOUSE: A new, automated gatehouse will be erected along SW 92nd Court Road to replace the temporary gate at SW 80th Street. Construction is expected to begin in early 2026.

Safety First

Jonathan Miller



Yes, your safety is at stake with your diet. Okay, I am not going to sit here and tell you what you should eat. You have been eating for a while now, so we figure you have a good idea of what goes into your mouth. What I will attempt to do is provide you with information that can help you understand what to eat to nourish your body and give you the energy to keep you going strong.

Diet

For example, I will use a bear’s diet as an example. Bears instinctively know what they need. If you watch a bear eat, they will show you a thing or two about eating healthy. They have mastered the fruits and vegetables available, which are not only good for you but also high in energy.

Bears like to eat many of the foods you eat. Fruit, nuts, honey, plants, fish, and other meats, if the opportunity present-

There may be periodic lane closures while this work is completed.

BAY LAUREL CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT: We are pleased to announce the completion of the construction of the District’s new customer service office, located at 5575 SW 67th Avenue Road, Calesa Township, Ocala, Florida 34474. Accordingly, the previous customer service office has been officially closed, and all team members have been relocated to the new facility. Their team is fully prepared to assist you at this new location and looks forward to continuing to serve your needs Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or to schedule an appointment at 352-414-5454 or bayinfo@blccdd.com.

Roadway Improvements

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

Work is ongoing on the extension of SW 90th Terrace from SW 79th Street Road to SW 63rd Street Road. The contractor’s goal is to complete this road-

ed itself, but most of their foods come from plants. Why? Plants obtain their energy from the sun, which is converted into energy through photosynthesis.

What do you and the bear have in common? You both are part of the food chain. Food chains provide the energy you need to function. Humans do have a food chain, but we don’t always adhere to it. The bear would stick with the healthy foods it is instinctively drawn to eat. Believe it or not, you are not on the bear’s menu. Yes, it does pose the question: Is the bear smarter than us when it comes to diet? Answer: Yes!

Many people are allergic to nuts; we get that, but if you are not allergic, eat more of them. They are very high in protein. I will give you one more tidbit about the bear. A bear’s diet consists of more than 85% plant matter. Any doctor would tell you to eat more vegetables. So, with that being said ...

Here are 16 foods that will give you energy: oatmeal, bananas, Greek yogurt, sweet potatoes, eggs, beets, almonds, chia seeds, spinach, quinoa, blueberries, hummus, lentils, beans, and dates. If you do not have any allergies to these foods, add them to your diet.

way before major construction of SW 80th Avenue begins, providing an alternate northbound route. Construction of this road is scheduled for completion in late December.

SW 92ND COURT ROAD: All utilities and the initial phase of roadway work have been completed. Landscaping of the corridor is currently underway, and we expect the roadway to be approved and open by late November. This will take a great deal of construction traffic off of SW 90th Street.

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

MELODY PRESERVE: This new housing development north of Indigo East has officially begun. This project is located on the northeast corner of SW 80th Street and SW 80th Avenue.

I was asked if being allergic to natural foods is a disability. When I researched this question, science suggests that it substantially limits one or more life functions, thereby hindering the natural ability to eat foods that are good for you. Yes, it is a disability. Does this mean that you are disabled? No. Humans reject

On Top of the World worked closely with a team of biologists and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to ensure every gopher tortoise was handled in full compliance with regulations. After a lengthy tortoise relocation process, preliminary clearing of the eastern half of the property has begun. The goal is to preserve as many heritage oaks as possible.

This community is designed for connection and activity. With 233 new homesites, this neighborhood won’t be just a place to live; it will be a place to thrive – complete with a covered pavilion for pickleball and other uses, a dedicated dog park, and a tranquil walking trail for daily strolls. As part of the new Melody Preserve community, a significant upgrade is coming to the area’s roads. Residents can finally say goodbye to the awkward four-way stop at SW 77th Court and SW 80th Street, as we’ll realign the intersection to improve traffic flow. We’re pleased to share that construction is on schedule to be finished by the third quarter of 2026. During this phase, we ask for your patience and extra caution when navigating the area, as you may notice increased traffic.

natural foods for a complex mix of evolutionary, psychological, and cultural reasons. Bears don’t have this situation.

The point is to eat more natural food that is designed for the human body to thrive. Know what is good for your body, and give your body a treat by feeding it the right stuff!

Community Emergency Response Team

Debbie Snyder



Over the past two months, many Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members have taken a proactive step in emergency preparedness by securing their General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) licenses. Regulated by the Federal Communications Commission, GMRS allows for two-way communication over greater distances than Family Radio Service (FRS), making it an ideal tool for CERT operations. In times when cell towers may be down, GMRS keeps our team connected, enables coordination across our neighborhoods, and ensures legal protection during non-emergency transmissions.

We extend our sincere thanks to all members who have navigated the application process and completed their licensing. A special shoutout to Bruce Twiss and the radio team for sharing their expertise and guiding us through the process. With licenses in hand, our members are now better equipped to maintain vital communication during disaster scenarios.

In 2024, CERT members contributed over 3,000 volunteer hours, which is a testament to the dedication behind this program. But CERT is about more than responding to emergencies. It’s about building trust, fostering teamwork, and creating a culture of readiness that strengthens our entire community. Whether you’re ready to train or sim-

ply want to learn how to safeguard your household, there’s a place for you in CERT.

CERT is a nationally recognized program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and we are trained locally by the Emergency Management Division of the Marion County Sheriff’s Office. We are supported by On Top of the World. Members attend an initial five-week class on Saturdays and receive training in light search and rescue, damage assessment, basic first aid, and hazardous materials, preparing them to assist our community during a disaster. Ongoing education and drills are conducted through our monthly meetings. The next training class, starting in January, is forming now.

Attend one of our meetings on the second Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio IV. Our next meetings are Tues, Nov. 11 and Tues, Jan. 13, 2026 (no meeting in December). Applications for training and additional information are available at each meeting. For more information about CERT or upcoming meetings, please email ontoptoftheworldcert@gmail.com

Community ham radio operators can assist us from home by tuning into Simplex frequency 146.565. When deployed during a disaster event, we need neighborhood reports on building damage, blocked roads, medical emergencies, and other vital information. Our ham radio operators meet at our designated command center and establish contact with Marion County Emergency Management. For information regarding ham radio operations, contact Bruce Twiss at brucetwiss@yahoo.com.

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Resident Services

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



Community Meet & Greets

Thank you to all who attended the community meet and greets hosted by your homeowner’s association management company, Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, LLC. We truly appreciate all the attendance, support, and feedback! We have been working hard to address requests and concerns that were brought to our attention during these events. For those who were unable to attend and for those questions we were unable to answer, we have provided a follow-up email, which you should have already received, on some of the changes implemented, along with the most common questions, suggestions, and concerns. If you have any additional feedback, please reach out to rsdirec-tor@otowfl.com.

Holiday Decorations

The holidays are among us, and with holidays come decorations! Please be on the lookout for an email from the compliance and modifications team regarding holiday décor. If you have any questions, please reach out to the team at modifications@colenbuilt.net or call 352-854-3615.

Curbside Recycling Pickup Returns to Wednesdays

Friendly reminder that Premier Waste Services, our curbside garbage and recycling provider, has returned to weekly recycling pickup on Wednesdays for all neighborhoods that currently receive curbside collection. This includes Candler Hills, Indigo East, Weybourne Landing, Longleaf Ridge, and Crescent Ridge’s curbside service areas.

Golf Cart Rule Changes

Golf cart rules have changed for On Top of the World (Central) and will be changing for Candler Hills, Indigo East, and Weybourne Landing. Resident Services will no longer conduct golf cart inspections or issue golf cart decals. Please

note that if you own a golf cart or a low-speed vehicle, you will need to complete a Waiver and Release of Liability form. These forms can be sent out via email, or you may stop by Resident Services.

Work Order Satisfaction Surveys

We have implemented work order satisfaction surveys. Homeowners will now receive a survey upon completion of a work order and will be able to provide feedback on whether the work order was completed properly and in a timely manner.

Self Storage & RV Parking

Self storage and RV parking no longer require a Gateway of Services pass and can be reserved at OTOWInfo.com > Resident Information > Self Storage and RV Parking.

AppFolio

We are requesting that all residents please activate their AppFolio owner’s portal. You can access AppFolio via an app on your phone or desktop. Resident Services will need to send you an activation link. Please reach out to request. All HOA payments need to be made via AppFolio. You may sign up for ACH or pay

with a credit/debit card via AppFolio. If you need any assistance, please reach out to Residents Services at otowservice@otowfl.com.

Estate/Tag Sales

Estate or tag sales must be registered and approved by Resident Services. Residents may download the estate/tag sale form at OnTopOfTheWorldNews.com/Ocala > Resident Info and then clicking on your community: On Top of the World (Central), Candler Hills, Indigo East or Weybourne Landing. Print, complete and submit the form to Resident Services, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To advertise the estate/tag sale in the World News, a copy of the form must be submitted by the 10th of the month prior to publication to Resident Services.

Holiday Office Hours

Please see the following hours of operation for Resident Services:

- Wednesday, Nov 12: 8 to 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 26: 8 a.m. to noon.
- Thursday, Nov. 27: Closed.
- Friday, Nov. 28: Closed.

Longleaf Ridge Learned Ladies

By Sandra Ritchie

Calling all Longleaf Ridge ladies! A new group has been formed to share new ideas and explore various topics. We are the Learned Ladies of Longleaf Ridge, and our goal is to help keep our minds active, growing, and always learning while in a casual setting.

Conceived by resident Nan Hittmeier, the idea is to gather once a month to learn about a new topic or interest. Members can share their interests with the group, providing a learning opportunity and getting to know their neighbors in a fun and relaxing atmosphere.

The idea behind this group is to foster social connections and get to know your neighbors, while also learning something new and expanding our horizons. No matter where you are in your life’s journey, staying engaged and learning new things is exciting!

If you have an educational topic you would be willing to share with the group or have an idea of a topic you would like

to learn more about (you don’t need to be a presenter or host), please call or text Nan Hittmeier at 352-999-3821 or email her at nhittmeier4@gmail.com. Future presentations suggested were music, flower arranging, and the use of essential oils. Art, travel, literature, history, science, culture ... the sky is the limit!

The next Learned Ladies meeting is Monday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. at the home of Sandy Ritchie (10070 SW 107th Terrace). Author and resident Leah Busboom will present an inside look at self-publishing and what it takes to bring a book to market. Leah has published over 50 books, several of which have reached #1 on Amazon’s new release lists in their respective categories. One lucky lady will also walk away with one of Leah’s paperback books!

If you would like to attend November’s Learned Ladies meeting, RSVP to Nan and include your contact information. Happy learning!

Balfour Buzz

Kurt Larson



Balfour is really growing, and with that so has our neighborhood spirit. We are just over a year old, with new homes emerging every week. So many new friendships have formed, with many more to come. What started as a small group gathering for dinner once a week has grown so big that we have moved to a monthly themed event at the beautiful The Lodge at Candler Hills pavilion.

August was a potluck, which confirmed this move was a great idea. September’s Oktoberfest was a huge success with bratwurst, sauerkraut, rotkohl, pretzels with beer cheese and German

potato salad. Nobody left hungry. October’s event was a tailgate theme.

November will be a Friendsgiving. We all have family back “home” and we now have family here. It’s a great feeling.

Moving to The Lodge at Candler Hills gives us room to move, mingle, and meet our newest neighbors.

Many of us are very active in various exercise classes. If you are interested in golfing, we have a large group that plays most Sundays in the afternoon. All are welcome, regardless of skill level. We are all about having fun.

There is a growing interest in mah-jong, with weekly games played at various locations. All are welcome to join and learn.

Do you have an idea for a new activity/experience? Throw it out on our Facebook page (Balfour in Candler Hills in OTOW). See you soon!

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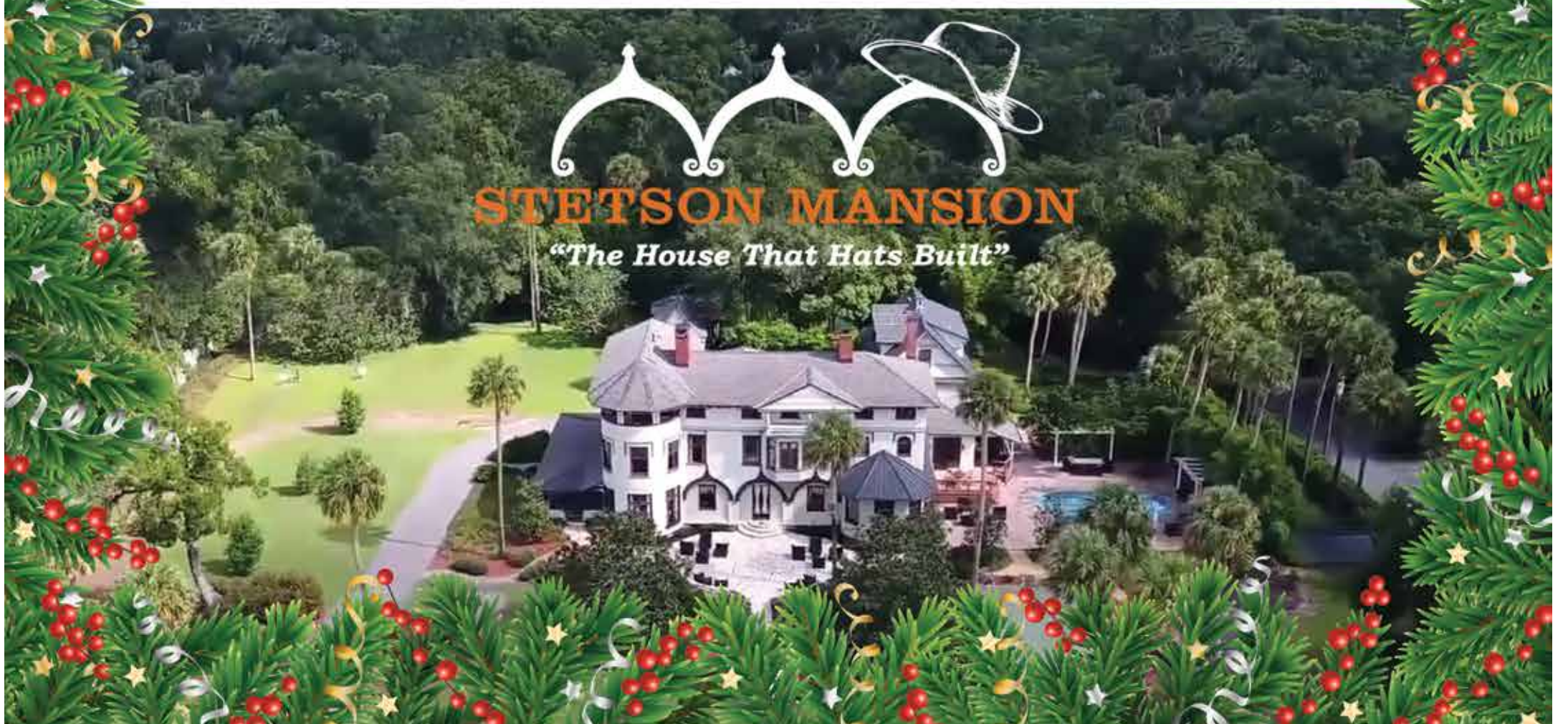
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Candler Connection

Debra Keirn



The Candler Connection Halloween Fright Night was a huge success. The Z Street Band kept things moving with their great selection of music, and those who dressed in costume outdid themselves. Even if dressing in costume was not your choice, everyone had fun. There will not be a potluck dinner

in November or December – a special thank-you to all the volunteers who helped with the dinners this year. You made the potlucks successful and enjoyable. We look forward to the potlucks in 2026 (on the last Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., January through October). The Trunk Sale will take place on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at The Lodge at Candler Hills parking lot. Ticket sales were in October. We will have a raffle of gift baskets, and the Petroskys will provide the music. There will be a bake sale, with coffee, donuts, and water also available for purchase.

We will be donating a portion of the proceeds from the bake sale, as well as the sales of coffee, donuts, and water, to a charity. This should be a great opportunity to sell your unwanted treasures. Our annual holiday party is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 12, from 5:30 to 9 pm. Gourmet Affair will cater, and Ross Getek will provide the music. The menu includes cherry tomato basil chicken in a light garlic sauce, rosemary-roasted pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon and onion, Caesar salad, and a variety of cakes for dessert. Tickets will be sold on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, and 20 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. until 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, the Candler Hills Facebook page, and the OTOW App.

The Candler Connection Social Committee is working hard to plan events for 2026. Our dates have been approved for the following events (mark them on your calendar):

- Feb. 14: Flying Ivories (dueling pianos), bring your own table snacks, and we provide the delicious desserts.
- March 28: Craft and Trunk Sale.
- May 25: Memorial Day Ceremony.
- June 21: Ice Cream Social.
- July 4: To be announced.
- Sept. 18: Cheeseburger in Our Paradise (Jimmy Buffett-themed event).
- Oct. 31: Halloween Party.
- Dec. 12: Holiday Party.

It has been a great year in Candler Hills. We are looking forward to the events in 2026. We are always looking for volunteers to join the social committee. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. in Meeting Room 1. This is a special time of year when we visit with family and friends. We wish you all a happy Thanksgiving and safe travels. See you around the neighborhood!



Photo by John Schnur

Dancing Jewels practicing "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree" for Veterans Day.



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Indigo East
Social Committee

Janice Liberton



The Indigo East Social Committee will host a potluck dinner on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Residents who are planning to attend are asked to bring a main dish, side, salad, appetizer, or dessert to serve 10 people. The social committee will provide some main dishes, iced tea, and water. There will be door prizes and a tremendous amount of fun.

The Indigo East Social Committee will hold a holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be appetizers, desserts, and dancing. Indigo East's own D.J. Frank will provide music. Ticket sales will begin on Monday, Nov. 3, 4 to 5 p.m., followed by Thursday, Nov. 6, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 12, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 19, 4 to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Indigo East Craft Show committee sponsored a successful craft show in October. There were 28 tables with crafts from both Indigo East and On Top of the World crafters. There were a variety of crafts, including wreaths, ceramics, paintings, stained glass, jewelry, handmade purses, various crocheted items, and various stitchery items. The next craft show will be Sunday, Dec. 14,

just in time for holiday shopping. The Indigo East ladies luncheon committee held a great baked potato, with all the trimmings, and cheese soup luncheon in October. There were desserts and many door prizes. They are also planning a luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 18, entitled 'Tis the Season. The meal will include ham, sides, and dessert. There will be plenty of holiday spirit, fun, and door prizes. Tickets will be sold in November.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2026, the Indigo East Social Committee will change its leadership. Beth Griner, the current chairwoman, will hand the baton to Teresa Davis, who will serve as the new chairwoman. Beth and John Griner will remain as board members. Congratulations, Teresa, and best of luck in your new endeavor.

A multitude of thanks are for Beth and John Griner for all the events they sponsored during their tenure. Volunteers are always welcome to join the board and to take the initiative to host an event for the community. Volunteer workers at an event are appreciated.

Significant holidays this month are Veterans Day on Tuesday, Nov. 11, and Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 27. The social committee is reminding everyone in our community to thank our veterans on Veterans Day. In May, we commemorate the fallen during various wars and battles. November is our chance to thank the men and women who fought for our rights and freedoms.

To all our veterans, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your service. Have a great Thanksgiving, and as usual, I'll see you around the neighborhood.

Blue Indigo East
Democratic Club

Lydia Kuust



The Blue Indigo East Democratic Club meets on the fourth Monday of every month in the Indigo East Community Center Ballroom at 2 p.m. The speaker for our October meeting was our own executive director, Jim Stormer, who shared valued information about climate change and environmental issues. Thank you, Jim!

On Saturday, Nov. 8, at 7 a.m. (yes, that is very early in the morning!), Marion County Democrats are sponsoring a miniature golf get-together at our golf course. The cost is \$30, since this is a fundraising event, and can be paid through ActBlue or by check. Continental breakfast is included. If you wish to pay before the event, please contact me, and I will ensure your check reaches the right place.

We are continuing our community outreach programs for Isaiah's 117 House and Lake Weir Middle School. Contributions are welcome at our meetings.

Our next meeting on Monday, Nov. 24, will be a round-table discussion about

current issues. On Monday, Dec. 22, we plan to host a potluck holiday celebration. Everyone is invited! You do not need to be a democrat to attend. We would like to gather with all our neighbors, have some great homemade food, and be entertained by Jim Stormer and Friends. There will be a 50/50 drawing and a silent auction with an assortment of donated items (more information in next month's column). Please consider joining us in this celebration!

If you are a registered democrat in Marion County and a resident of Indigo East, you can become a dues-paying member. We will collect dues of \$20 annually (January through December 2026) over the next few meetings, with those dues due by Jan. 15, 2026.

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 on Monday, Nov. 24. If you need a ride to this meeting, please let me know a few days in advance.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 802-345-0669 (leave a message) or ldrincal@yahoo.com. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Avalon
Social Group

Laura Gavey & Sharon Hall



Do you love music? Want to hear some blasts from the past? Ready to sing along and test your musical knowledge? On Monday, Nov. 10 we're bringing back Jukebox Squares (same game as previous years, just a different name)! The fun starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios. Doors will open at 5:20 p.m. Bring a shareable (i.e., snack, appetizer, or dessert) for your table of eight. We will provide paper goods and cutlery; bring serving utensils, if

needed. Bring your own beverage. Tickets are \$5 per person. RSVP by Monday, Nov. 3. Contact Sharon Hall at 270-855-1354 for tickets or more information.

Are you new to Avalon or our social events? For up-to-date Avalon news and upcoming events, we also encourage you to join our Facebook group (Avalon Social Club). This is a private group, and you will be asked to provide your address to verify that you are an Avalon resident. If you have trouble finding the group or getting in, please email avalon-socialclub@gmail.com, and we'll send you the link to the group. If you would like to be notified of future events by email, please send your request to the email address above.

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Active Newcomers Club

Linda Baker



Can you believe 2025 is almost over? The Active Newcomers Club is busy with year-end activities and planning for 2026. We hope our current members will join us for all the fun events we have in store for next year. We are always looking for people who want to plan or help with events. Please let us know if you want to jump in. New ideas are welcome!

The hiking club is enjoying the cooler weather. They explored the Holly Hammock Trail, the Blue Run Trail in Dunnellon, and the Withlacoochee Trail from Liberty Park in October. Watch your email and our Facebook page for information about future adventures.

Members enjoyed a frightfully good evening at our annual “Boo Bash” held on Saturday, Oct. 25, at The Lodge at Candler Hills. All the ghosts and goblins danced to the music provided by DJ Scott Bolton. We enjoyed all the scary (and not-so-scary) costumes. All had a fun time.

We are busy planning our holiday party, which will be held on Friday, Dec. 19, in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Pasta Faire will be the caterer for this

fun event. The meal will consist of garden salad and rolls, chicken Francese, eggplant rollatini, pasta, and vegetables. We will have cookie trays for dessert. We are excited to announce that Tim Hargis will be the entertainment for this event. Watch the Active Newcomers Facebook page and your email for details and sign-ups for this bring-your-own-beverage event.

Our foodies group is on hiatus until 2026. Lunch and dinner groups will take a break in December and January. New groups will be formed early next year, allowing our members to meet new friends and explore the Ocala restaurant scene.

Wine groups will also take a break. All 2025 wine group members will be invited to a gathering in January at The Lodge at Candler Hills.

All members of these groups are required to host an event at least once during the year. Please keep this in mind when signing up for groups. Wine and foodies groups are hosted in members’ homes, while lunch and dinner hosts select restaurants and coordinate attendance.

We will kick off 2026 events with our annual meeting in January. We are busy planning other events and will share the details soon. Members are also organizing informal gatherings such as bocce instruction, Pictionary, and private



Photo by Suzie Lehman

Hiking group at the Holly Hammock Trail.

events at local craft stores. As always, check our Facebook page for more info.

Membership applications for 2026 will be available on our website starting Monday, Dec. 1. To participate, you must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

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

Crescent Ridge Happenings

Carol Lewis



Our October social brought several new couples and some returning snowbirds together for fellowship. Conversations were non-stop and carried past our expected timeframe. It was great to meet new Crescent Ridge residents and reconnect with others.

For our November gathering, let’s think about a Thanksgiving menu theme. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share. Maybe bring the recipe as well, so others can take a picture of it, that is, if you are willing to give it up! Also, how about a note with what you are most thankful for, and we’ll lay them out on a table. You don’t have to sign if you don’t want to.

For our new Crescent Ridge neighbors just moving in this summer, our monthly socials are held on the second Sunday of each month at the Arbor Activity Center Event Room II from 3 to 5 p.m. Bring a beverage of your choice and a dish to share if you choose, or just come for the fellowship.

To get faster knowledge of information affecting Crescent Ridge/Crescent Green residents, you may join our Facebook page (OTOW Crescent Ridge Neighbors) or send an email to crneighbors@yahoo.com to be added to our email list. You will only receive emails regarding Crescent Ridge information.

We look forward to welcoming many of our summer travelers back at one of our upcoming socials.



Photo courtesy of Carol Lewis

Crescent Ridge in October.

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Williamsburg
Neighbors

Nancy Meininger



Williamsburg neighbors work hard to have fun, and their busy schedules prove it! Over 34 neighbors who gathered for the monthly dinner at Mimi’s Café have already signed up for Friday, Oct. 30, at Live Fire Chefs. The events, hosted by Linda and Brian McDonald, have brought the group closer by allowing them to meet new friends and share common interests while simply breaking bread.

Another popular monthly event is the reworked game night, which the Williamsburg wizards of fun, Carmel Kesler and Gwen Fabian, have massaged into an eagerly anticipated trivia night,

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well attended by the group, on the second Thursday of each month at Arbor Activity Center Card Room III at 6:30 p.m.

Bocce on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. at The Arbors is ongoing. Crazy golf and golf cart scavenger hunts are in the wings.

New and ongoing is a “for men only lunch” at the Arbor Conference Center Event Room II at noon on the second Thursday of each month. Starting with a pizza lunch, the event quickly gained popularity with the guys.

During Oktoberfest, tickets for the Williamsburg annual holiday party at Stone Creek Grille on Saturday, Dec. 6, became available. Expected to be a sell-out, neighbors are encouraged to buy tickets early – \$25 each (brought down by fundraising). Arrangements have been made to provide transportation for those who need it. A silent auction at the event will support the group’s chosen charities.

Find out why folks are asking to move to Williamsburg! Visit williamsburg-neighborstow.com, Facebook (Welcome to Williamsburg OTOW), or Next-Door (Williamsburg OTOW).



Photo by Gloria Emmons

Arlene Loepp with Don Wright and Shirley Austin expresses astonishment for winning the best poker hand at the Longleaf Ridge poker run.

Longleaf Ridge
Friends

Michelle Migdal, Sandra Ritchie,
Kathleen Taylor, & Debra Vitale



Author Sarah Addison Allen wrote that November “looked like the world was covered in a cobbler crust of brown sugar and cinnamon.” We may not receive those beautiful fall colors here in On Top of the World, but we surely will notice the change in season and the sweet smells of November dishes.

Neighbors love getting together for exciting challenges. The Longleaf Ridge golf cart poker run began with a line of golf carts picking up their first poker cards. The fun included several stops as participants built their poker hands by rolling the dice. The adventure culminated in the Veterans Park where neighbors enjoyed a delicious chicken dinner. Congratulations to the winners, Arlene Loepp, Jack Prather, Don Wright, Pat Portegys, and Dick Emmons. By the end of the night, one thing was clear – this might just have been our best event yet, with neighbors already begging for a repeat! Many thanks to Donna and Roy Siegfried for organizing the event.

Neighbors look forward to game nights. This past month, Don and Susan DeNatales hosted “Going to the Races” while participants sampled a variety of appetizers. Everyone had an enjoyable evening.

Nan Hittmeier hosted the first “Learned Ladies of Longleaf” educational talk. This group was formed to share new ideas and learn about a variety of topics. The goal is to help keep our minds active, growing, and always learning while in a casual setting. At the October meeting, Nan gave a delightful presentation on carousel horses, including their history, how the horses were made, who the master “carvers” were, and the state of carousels in our modern age. The next meeting is Monday, Nov. 10, and Leah Busboom will be presenting an inside look at self-publishing. If you’d like more information, please contact Nan at 352-999-3821 or nhittmeier4@gmail.com. Future presentation suggestions include music, flower arranging, the use of essential oils, art, travel, literature, history, science, culture... the sky is the limit!

Director of Golf Matt Hibbs gave a presentation to the men’s group at their monthly luncheon. He spoke about the history of golf at On Top of the World, recent changes, and the events/leagues available to residents. Many thanks to Joe Ferris and his team for organizing this monthly meeting.

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

Kestrel Knowings

Lyn Yanss



The holidays are quickly approaching. Are you preparing ahead of time? Or are you last-minute, and enjoying the holiday crush? The Kestrel Social Committee ladies have a lot coming up, so be sure to mark these dates on your calendar.

Ah, the smell of holiday cookies! The fun we all had exchanging recipes and nibbling on them. So, mark your calendar for the third annual cookie swap on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. in The Lodge at Candler Hills Meeting Rooms 1 and 2. Each attendee should bring one and a half dozen cookies – six to share that day and 12 for others to take home. Take-home containers will be provided as well as punch. Feel free to bring your drink of choice as well. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in The Lodge at Candler Hills Lobby.

Just like music bingo, but much better – Holiday Music “Singo” will take place on Thursday, Dec. 18, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Please bring your own beverages and snacks. Cookies will be provided. Wear an ugly holiday sweater or T-shirt. There will be a contest! There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$15 per person and will be on sale Wednesday, Nov. 12 and 19, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in The Lodge at Candler Hills Lobby.

During the holiday season, it’s nice to remember those who are less fortunate, so Kestrel is holding its third annual food drive to benefit Interfaith Emergency Services from Sunday, Nov. 2 through Sunday, Nov. 16. Non-perishable food items may be dropped off at the homes of Meg and Vincent Nocera (8346 SW 92nd Circle) and Anna Marie Medeiros (8472 93rd Circle). Buckets will be out front to accept your donations.

And that’s it. The frost is off the pumpkin, and the holidays approach! There’s lots to do in Kestrel, so get moving!

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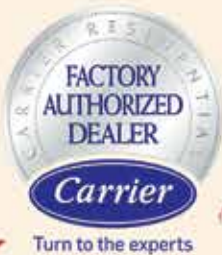


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Photo by Nancy Monaghan

Mike Bianchi, Janet Cairo, and Brett Sinclair.

Newcastle Social Committee

Nancy Monaghan

The Alendel and Newcastle luau and potluck was a huge success. The event was created and led by Newcastle residents, Brett and Joni Sinclair. Volunteers from both neighborhoods served on the potluck, decorating, and marketing sub-committees and did a wonderful job. There was a tropical totem archway guiding guests into the Polynesian paradise, and everyone received a lei at the door. There was a tiki beverage station and two photo op areas, complete with themed props.

The evening was kicked off as four neighbors dressed in pareos, leaf neckwear, long, wild black hair, and tattoos carried ceremonial (blowup) pigs as they marched into the room to the unmistak-

able sound of a conch shell. Sala’s South Seas Revue from Orlando provided fabulous entertainment, featuring dances from various Polynesian islands. They got the whole crowd involved by inviting attendees to participate in a dance-off. Kudos, especially to the men, who provided great entertainment!

Everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck featuring pulled pork and chicken, along with many Polynesian-themed side dishes and desserts.

Alendel and Newcastle wish to thank the volunteers who made the evening a success, the staff at The Lodge at Candler Hills, and all of the neighbors who attended. We hope you had a great time.

The official theme for Veterans Day is “Service to Our Nation,” according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Newcastle veterans have nearly 170 years of combined service. We thank and honor you and your families for answering the call to serve our nation.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ashford Happenings

Debbie Troise

As we head into cooler temperatures, fall is an excellent time of year to get out and enjoy all the festivities in Ashford. Oktoberfest, which doubled as our meet-and-greet, was held at The Lodge at Candler Hills at the end of September. Approximately 163 of our neighbors mingled while dining on German specialties such as bratwurst and spaetzle, and of course, German beer. Thanks to Ashford’s own Brad Fowler for supplying his delicious home-brewed Oktoberfest and Hefeweizen beer. Thanks to all who made this event a success.

Friday, Oct. 24, was a night to die for! Ashford neighbors pressed their very best poodle skirts, shone their saddle

shoes, and dusted off their varsity jackets to attend the “Haunting of Ashford High,” a 1950s-themed prom that was overshadowed by a murder. Promgoers worked together to uncover the mystery, then rocked around the clock to 1950s tunes. Thank you to all who made this a fun and unforgettable evening.

As we head into the holiday season, let us not forget the brave men and women who made the sacrifice to serve in our military. On Monday, Nov. 10, join in for a golf cart parade to honor Ashford’s own Vietnam veteran, Don Ropel, who selflessly served to keep our nation safe. We will continue to the Veterans Park Memorial for the annual service honoring all our local heroes.

As we say goodbye to 2025, Ashford will host its annual holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 13, at The Lodge at Candler Hills. More information to follow will be posted on our Facebook page.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.



Photo by Donna D’Giff

Oktoberfest volunteers from Ashford.

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Keep Looking Up

By Cammie Fairburn

Where does an astronaut dock his spacecraft? At a parking meteor. Sunday, Nov. 2, is the 25th anniversary of the International Space Station. Its construction was a joint venture of

the United States, Canada, Japan, and Europe. More than 280 astronauts from various countries have been stationed there. The International Space Station orbits the Earth 16 times a day at an av-

erage speed of 17,500 miles per hour. Its trajectory passes over more than 90% of the Earth’s population. The free Spot the Station app, available only on mobile devices, is the official NASA app that helps users track the station and receive notifications for viewing the station as it passes overhead. The International Space Station is visible because it reflects sunlight, and

the best times to view it are at dawn and dusk. We have the Leonid meteor shower to look forward to in November. The Leonids are associated with Comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, and are active Thursday, Nov. 6, through Sunday, Nov. 30, with the peak on Monday, Nov. 17. The peak should be good viewing because of a crescent moon. Look southeast to see the shower radiating from the Leo constellation. Early morning, before sunrise, is the best time to view.

At our club meeting in October, Larry Isenberg gave a light-hearted Sun Segment presentation by playing the Beatles’ song “Here Comes the Sun” on a ukulele. He also pointed out how many words have “sun” in them, including sunlight, sunbelt, sunrise, sunset, sunburn, and sunflower.

Cammie Fairburn shared photos from her recent trip to the Grand Canyon, where the night sky is very dark. Seeing so many stars and the Milky Way was amazing, as was the private telescope viewing at the Lowell Observatory.

Doug George introduced us to The Sky Live app, which displays the current positions of the planets in our solar system in three dimensions, the current moon phase, the positions of other planetary moons, and current comet, asteroid, and meteor shower activity. This app is available for free for both computers and mobile devices.

Regular meetings of the Moonstruck Astronomy Club are on the first Thursday of every month from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. All residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass can join the club, and new members are welcome! Club dues are only \$20 per year, and they include a subscription to the quarterly Reflector Magazine.

For information or club registration, please contact club President Jim Di Paolo at moonastroclub@gmail.com. More information is always available at moonstruckastronomyclub.org.

Keep looking up.



Photo by Cammie Fairburn

Milky Way over the Grand Canyon.

Little State, Big Friends

By Judy Parisi

The Rhode Island Group met for lunch at Stone Creek Grille following the summer months of travel. As always, it was enjoyable to catch up, share experiences, and savor a delicious meal. The birthplace of the First American Industrial Revolution was Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and its system of mills and villages spread through the Blackstone River Valley to Woonsocket, a city with a unique cultural heritage. Woonsocket attracted French-Canadians known as Quebecois. They came from rural areas in Canada, leaving an agrarian economy for an industrial one, drawn by job opportunities in the textile industry. As the population in Quebec increased in the 1800s, the division of farms among families led to lower yields and lower profits, making job opportunities in industrial areas more attractive. Some 900,000 people from Quebec resettled in New England between 1840 and 1900. In the late 1880s, Belgian and French wool and worsted manufacturers had developed a superior technique

for woolen textiles. They were convinced by Aram Pothier, then mayor, to relocate to Woonsocket, in part because the workforce spoke a compatible language and shared a culture. Pothier himself was born in Quebec and, after moving to Woonsocket, became involved in business and politics, serving as mayor and later as Rhode Island’s governor. The mill owners encouraged workers to relocate from Canada and the immigrants brought their culture with them. There were French language newspapers, movies, and radio stations, and most conversations were conducted in French. Woonsocket also drew immigrants from Belgium and France. The Great Depression of 1929 hit Woonsocket hard, particularly the textile industry, leading to widespread unemployment. While the need for goods during World War II spurred manufacturing in Woonsocket, with some recovery post-war, the city never fully recovered. The textile industry further declined due to competition from enti-

ties with lower labor costs and the problem of aging mill structures that had hazardous materials. A fascinating place to visit in Woonsocket is the Museum of Work and Culture. Located in Market Square on Main Street in a restored former mill, you will learn the story of immigrants through exhibits, a recreation of a mill work floor, interactive and immersive exhibits, and much more. And after touring around, you might want to venture a slight distance from Woonsocket to neighboring Harrisville to Wrights Farm for the famous family-style all-you-can-eat dinner, with endless chicken, pasta in its signature marinara sauce, salad, and fries. A fun fact about Woonsocket is that it is home to the corporate headquarters of a pharmacy chain you undoubtedly know – CVS! Our Rhode Island Group meets periodically to share stories and remembrances. If you have not attended prior lunches and would like to join us, please email judith.parisi@gmail.com so we can add you to our email list. We welcome all who have lived, worked, studied, or served in Rhode Island and their family members.



Annual Holiday Fest

By Linda Meyer

Get your holidays off to a great start! The 23rd annual Holiday Fest will be held in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Wednesday, Dec. 10. We start at 6 p.m. with homemade cookies provided by our generous residents. The cookies go well with the hot chocolate with marshmallows and coffee which is provided by On Top of the World. This is a free event! It’s always a fun-filled evening! So, come and enjoy an evening with your friends while munching on homemade cookies, drinking hot chocolate and coffee, and enjoying some fantastic entertainment. We start the evening off with everyone getting into the spirit by singing a boisterous rendition of the “12 Days of Christmas – Southern style,” a competition between the tables for bragging rights until next Christmas. The entertainment comes from the many talented residents living in our community. It changes from year to year and has included the Dulcimer Club, Dancing Jewels, a singing quartet, to name a few, and The New Pretenders. The Jewish Club provides us with a story about Hannukah.

Please drop off your cookie donations at the Recreation Center Ballroom from 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

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



Photo by Judy Parisi

Rhode Island Group.

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Michigan Club

Nancy Meininger



Michigan Club definitely had its Polka on for the grand Bavarian Oktoberfest opening of the club’s 2025 fall season. Snowbirds who missed this happy event will never know how cute Janet Voyles looked in her authentic embroidered German dirndl as she paraded around the room to the sound of the magic accordion played by her partner, Ray Ihlenburg. The duo played upbeat German renditions throughout the meal, which was a potluck smorgasbord of German dishes, including sausage and kraut, hot sauerbraten, schnitzel, red cabbage, potato salad, spaetzle, kugel, German chocolate cake, and cookies. One could almost close one’s eyes and visualize cruising down the Rhine on this day! Following dinner was a round of German and Michigan trivia provided by DJ

Brian McDonald. Happy winners walked away with a bottle of Michigan wine and a pound jar of Michigan honey. Sunday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m., is Michigan Club Pie Day – our meet-and-greet-and-eat potluck with all things pie. For example: Shepherd’s pie, chicken pot pie, pizza pie, veggie pie, cheeseburger pie, cherry pie, mud pie – if it’s round and grandma made it, it qualifies! Entertaining us while we dine will be snowbird musician, Carolyn Abramovich, and her club of expert dulcimers. The melodic sounds of the Dulcimer lap harps could be heard all over the early Appalachian hillsides. It is a truly unique part of our American heritage. Bring your own set-ups, beverages, and some type of pie. Also, your Michigan memories, campfire stories, or tales of places you wish you could go back to. Bring them all to share. Michigan Club welcomes all who love the Great Lake State, whether you support the green and white, the blue and gold, or some other color combination. For more information about the club, contact Nancy Meininger via text or phone at 352-554-0757.



Photo by Nancy Meininger

Janet Voyles and Ray Ihlenburg brought the sounds of Bavaria.

World Traveler

Bill Shampine



Monemvasia, Greece, is a small town on a small island located on the southeast coast of the Peloponnese, about 100 miles southwest of Athens (as the crow flies; assuming a crow can fly that far). The island is linked to the mainland by a short causeway about 400 yards in length. The island is about 330 feet above sea level and is about 0.2 miles wide and 0.6 miles long. Founded in the sixth century, Monemvasia was home to a powerful medieval fortress that became one of the most important commercial centers in the Eastern Mediterranean. It was sometimes called “The Gibraltar of the East.” The seaward side of the island rises slowly from the water surface for a few hundred yards until it reaches a sudden, sheer rock wall. This wall features a narrow cleft, with steps built to allow access from the sea to the top of the plateau. This geologic phenomenon forced the town to be divided into two distinct parts, the Upper

Town and the Lower Town. The Lower Town, adjacent to the sea, then built a high wall around itself, stretching from the sheer rock wall on one side, down to the sea, and around to the sheer rock wall on the other side of the town. This was done to protect the townspeople from pirates or other enemy raids. The wall they built had only a single opening in it to provide access from the sea into the Lower Town. The Greek word for “single entrance” is, wait for it, Monemvasia! The original fortress was built on the plateau but was abandoned in the late 17th century. So, the Upper Town is mostly ruins today. The Lower Town, however, features well-preserved Byzantine, Venetian, and Ottoman architecture, cobblestone streets, many historic churches, and panoramic views of the Aegean Sea. A few people still live in Monemvasia, although the ancient castle town’s permanent winter population is fewer than 20 people. Nevertheless, many houses in the Lower Town are rented as accommodations for tourists or as weekend retreats for wealthy Athenians. Cars are not allowed in the town because, frankly, there is no way to get a car into the town. Consequently, the

only way a visitor can get around is by walking. Walking is not a burden; however, as the town is so small, you can walk from one end to the other in only a few minutes. The beauty of Monemvasia lies in its historical churches and other well-preserved buildings. You can see how history changed the town—from its Byzantine origins in the 6th century through

Venetian and Ottoman rule to the Greeks finally capturing the island in 1821. You can also hike the region’s footpaths that lead to secluded beaches, chapels, and scenic viewpoints. There are several beaches within reach where you can soak up some rays or swim in the cool waters. Finally, you can enjoy the food and sip some local Malvasia wines – always a pleasure.



Photo by Katsikas Pantelis

The town of Monemvasia, Greece.

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Tech Tips from Bridgenet Communications

Shane Bobson
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Digital Photography

These days, your most powerful camera is likely the one you already have in your pocket. Whether you use a smartphone or a digital camera, capturing and sharing life’s precious moments has never been simpler. Here’s a straightforward guide to taking, editing, and sharing your photos with confidence.

Taking the Shot

First, focus on your subject and your light. The golden rule? Have the sun or a bright light behind you, not your subject. This prevents squinting and dark, hard-to-see faces.

For smartphones, the key is stability. Hold your phone with both hands and gently rest your elbows on your chest or a steady surface to avoid blurry pictures.

Tap the screen on your subject’s face to ensure the camera focuses correctly. Don’t forget to clean your lens with a soft cloth – it makes a world of difference!

For digital camera users, try using the “Auto” or “Scene” modes, often symbolized by a little camera icon. These modes do the technical thinking for you. If you’re feeling adventurous, the “P” (Program) mode offers a bit more control while still being automatic.

Easy Editing

You don’t need to be a tech expert to make your photos stand out. Your phone or computer likely has built-in tools that are perfect for quick fixes.

On your smartphone, open a photo and tap “Edit.” Play with the sliders for “Light” (to brighten a dark photo), “Color” (to make colors richer), and “Straighten” (to fix a crooked horizon). A small adjustment can make a big difference.

The most powerful tip is to “Crop.” Removing distracting elements from the edges of your photo instantly makes your main subject the star.

Sharing Your Memories

Sharing your photos is the final, rewarding step. For sharing with a select group, email remains a reliable and private option. You can attach several photos to a single message.

For sharing many photos at once, consider creating a shared album.

On an iPhone, you can create a “Shared Album” that invited family members can view. Android and Google Photos users can create a similar “Partner Sharing” album or a shared folder in Google Drive. This creates a private, collaborative space for everyone to enjoy the pictures without clogging their inbox.

Finally, if you’re on Facebook, posting a photo to your timeline or a family group is a wonderful way to keep everyone in the loop. It’s as simple as clicking “Photo/Video” and selecting your favorite shot.

Remember, the goal is to capture the moment, not to achieve perfection. With these simple steps, you can confidently preserve and share your stories for years to come.

Technology Club

Chris Kilbride



Every Saturday at 9 a.m., the Ocala Tech Club meets for an hour through our weekly online Zoom meeting. 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.

There are a few things to consider regarding your email. Each email has a username and password – fortunately, the username is the email address itself. The tough part is writing down or typing your password in a special database or note in a secure location. Without the password, you can say goodbye to that email account, which you might have had for years. Usernames are not recycled, so if it can’t be recovered or is disabled, you’ve lost it permanently.

There might be hope, but you need to act now. Open your email account (Apple iCloud, Google Gmail, etc.) and add a cell number and a second email, which could even be a family member’s. This will be your key to recovery! Save the date, full name on your account, email, password, cell number, and recovery email.

If starting a new email, using these letters or numbers might get confusing, like: 1l1! 0oOQ gq ft hb ij uvy HN hn - — = \$\$2, especially if your handwriting is bad, you might save it incorrectly. Take a screenshot or grab the password as text and place it securely somewhere.

Check with your email provider, and sign up to get backup codes now as a security measure, before you are locked out or disabled on one device, and need one of these backup codes to get back in. You might be given ten sets of random numbers, which you need to save securely. Be sure these backup codes are accessible to all your devices, and in your cloud storage too. As each of these eight or ten-digit backup codes can be used only once, mark the code with today’s date when it has been used. Yes, you can get more when all those are used.

When you forget your email password, you might see “Forgot Password” as a choice to reset it right then. This will take you to a page where you have to prove that you are you. Hence, have you previously set up your cell phone and a different recovery email for security reasons? It works for this reason, too. So don’t wait, secure your email account today.

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 other Saturdays.

Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



Travel Toppers Tours and its volunteers practice safety procedures for the residents of On Top of the World when participating in our tours. All residents (in golf carts as well as cars) are required to follow the direction volunteers when entering and exiting the parking lot off 81st Loop. Anyone who does not follow the 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 wants to give the opportunity to attend first to our own residents, and if there is availability, guests from the wait list will be asked if they are still interested in attending the trip.

The following is current information regarding the Suncoast Dinner Theater productions for which we have purchased tickets. Sharon Stetson is taking reservations for “Million Dollar Quartet” to be seen Saturday, Nov. 15. Call her at 207-838-3776 if interested. She is also taking reservations for “Sunkicks Home for Christmas” to be seen Saturday, Dec. 13. Linda Uhley will start taking reservations Monday, Nov. 3, for “Come From Away” to be seen Jan. 24, 2026. This tells the story of the welcome the residents of Newfoundland gave the airplane flyers who were not allowed to fly further and were forced to land there after Sept. 11, 2001. If interested in attending, call Linda at 352-854-8536. Tickets are \$100 per person and include the performance, dinner and dessert, transportation, and

tips for the driver and servers. Like all our trips, payment must be made by check only and is non-refundable unless there is a waitlist.

A trip to Tampa Bay Downs has been booked for March 21, 2026. It is their 100th anniversary and our trip will include bus transportation, racetrack admission, a buffet meal in the Skye Terrace, gratuities, and taxes. The cost is \$80 per person. The trip will depart at 9 a.m. and return at 6:30 p.m. If interested, call Linda Hein at 352-861-9880 beginning Jan. 12, 2026.

Janet Wiles is still the contact for two other trips. The first is our Valentine’s Day cruise from Feb. 14 to 21, 2026, aboard Celebrity’s Apex. The second is our “Route 66” tour, traveling through eight states, from Sept. 18 to Oct. 4, 2026. Call her at 804-243-4008.

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

On Top of the World

NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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On Top of the World

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Birders' Beat

Linda Monaco



On Wednesday, Nov. 5, the Birding Group will travel to Sweetwater Wetlands in Gainesville.

This city recharge park is a 125-acre habitat consisting of wetlands and ponds, created to improve water quality in the Floridan Aquifer and Paynes Prairie. In the park, there are 3.5 miles of crushed-gravel trails, as well as concrete sidewalks, wooden boardwalks, and wildlife-viewing platforms, all handicap accessible.

This park is a thriving ecosystem with a wide variety of plant, animal, and insect species. It's a great place to view birds such as red-winged blackbirds, kites, hawks, limpkins, herons, ducks, grackles, coots, and gallinules. When walking through the park, visitors usually see plenty of alligators and are sometimes treated to an up-close view of the wild Florida cracker horses, which sometimes munch on the grass while

blocking the trail. It is important to stay a safe distance from these animals.

If you would like to join the group for this trip to Sweetwater Wetlands Park on Wednesday, Nov. 5, please email Margitta Claterbos at mclaterbos@gmail.com. We will meet in the parking lot of Friendship Center just outside the SW 99th Street gate for On Top of the World at 7:15 a.m. We will carpool and park the remaining vehicles near Bank OZK, but not in front of the bank.

The park and restaurant are approximately a 45-minute drive from On Top of the World.

There are restrooms, but very little shade in this park. The wetland park is located at 325 SW Williston Rd. Gainesville, Florida, is open from 7 a.m. to sunset daily. There is a \$5 self-pay entry fee per car.

Our lunch restaurant will be Ford's Garage.

Plan to wear comfortable shoes and bring your hat, binoculars, sunscreen, water, camera, and bug spray. Name tags are always appreciated, so we can get to know each other more easily. We hope you can join us on this adventure to a favorite area birding hotspot.



American kestrel. Photo by Nancy Stephens

Freethinkers

Kathy Bell



"I would rather have questions that can't be answered than answers that can't be questioned." – Richard Feynman

If there's one thing that freethinkers like to do, it is to question! Our members demonstrate intellectual curiosity about contemporary and controversial topics, which, when combined with reasoned decision-making, lead to a deeper understanding of our world and our place within it.

For example, on Sunday, Oct. 5, Jennifer Hunt Murty, the owner/publisher of the Ocala Gazette, discussed the importance of local news in our community. She focused on some of the investigative reporting that she and her staff have done regarding conflicts of interest and lack of adherence to policies in Marion County government agencies. When Jennifer asked questions, she did not receive complete answers, so she diligently pursued other avenues of inquiry. She stated that freedom of the press allows news organizations to act as watchdogs over government accountability, ensuring transparency and enabling citizens to access information as enshrined in the Florida Sunshine Laws. She spent over an hour answering our questions after her presentation.

On Sunday, Oct. 19, Freethinker Glenn Cohen, Professor Emeritus at Troy University, spoke about "Evolution and Social Darwinism." This presentation contrasted Darwin's theory with social Darwinism, a social and political ideology not endorsed by Darwin. It suggests that societies can justify inequality, imperialism, or lack of aid to the poor because "survival of the fittest" allows the human race to evolve. Social Darwinism has experienced a recent resurgence, and understanding the differences between its various theories is crucial. A lively question and answer followed.

The Freethinkers Florida book club met in October to discuss "Catch-22" by Joseph Heller, exploring the absurdities and bureaucracy that the main character, Captain Yossarian, must contend with during World War II.

On Sunday, Nov. 2, Freethinkers Florida will host Roberta Cincotti, the Marion County Continuum of Care Manager. Roberta will discuss the scope of homelessness in our community, as well as prevention, outreach, emergency shelters, and rehousing efforts. Roberta was formerly the executive director of the Atlantic County, New Jersey, Agency on Aging, where she expanded services for older adults and vulnerable populations. In her position in Marion County, she works to support collaborative efforts that assist individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. She is committed to blending compassion with structure to create lasting, positive impacts for our community.

Freethinkers Florida is open to anyone on the continuum from religious skeptic to avowed atheist. If we are a good fit for you, please join us on Sunday, Nov. 2, in the Hobby Building Event Room from 1 to 3 p.m. Our community will welcome you. We will celebrate Friendsgiving on Sunday, Nov. 16, which is open to registered members.

For more information, visit FreethinkersFlorida.com or email questions/comments to freethinkersflorida@gmail.com.

OneBlood Bloodmobile

Sara Sommer



The Big Red Buses were here on Monday, Oct. 6. It was a truly fantastic drive. We had 27 whole-blood units and 14 double-red units. As essential persons, donors have great power. I want to thank you for taking the chance of dodging the raindrops to save a human life.

The Big Red Buses will be here again on Monday, Dec. 1. They will be parked in the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to eat a good meal and drink lots of water before and after donating. Please bring a picture ID. Mark your calendar. Let's see if we can top the previous drive.

See you on the bus.

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Latinos Club

Silvia C. Garcia



¡Hola Amigos! Happy anniversary to our Latinos Club! ¡Feliz aniversario a nuestro Latinos Club! It's hard to believe that just one year ago, in September 2024, I was sitting at home feeling lonely and missing my family and friends in South Florida. Instead of giving in to a self-pity party, I reminded myself that I lived in On Top of the World – an incredible community with countless amenities and nearly 200 clubs. I decided to take action. When I couldn't find any contact information for a Hispanic/Latino club, I visited Resident Services, only to learn that there was no such club. I picked up the phone and reached out to 14 friends, inviting them to help create something new – the Latinos Club, where everyone is welcome and you don't have to be Latino to join! Today, we proudly have nearly 175 members – and we continue to grow!

The founding Latinos Club board of directors was comprised of the executive committee: Silvia C. Garcia, founder and president; Ivan Vazquez, vice president; Jesus Alvarez, vice president elect; Doris Najarro, treasurer; Gloria Bell, secretary (English); Ivy Cortes, secretary (Spanish). Board members at large: Luz Alvarez; Bruce Bell; Abelardo Burgos; Jackie Colucci; Beatriz Kelemen; Rey Najarro; Ana Rodriguez; Jose Torres; Nilva Torres.

At the end of 2024, we celebrated the successful launch of our club. Additional founding members joined our mission and believed in our vision: Yvette

Aguiar, Dave and Vicky Bell, Humberto and Iliana Cobo, Steven and Yamila Code, Suzette Garcia, Eduardo and Betty Gomez, Nancy Gugliano, Manny and Gail Juame, Jose and Linda Malave, Ceci Marsh, Ramon and Blanche Miranda, Barbara Montoya, Fernando and Dalia Pallares, Anabel Parra, Liliana Rico Kennedy, Mari Soler, Jose and Kathy Torres, Jose Vizcaino, and Warner Whitfield.

We had lots of fun during our first Hispanic Heritage celebration! The ballroom looked stunning, the food was delicious, and the music was phenomenal. Many guests wore cultural attire, danced to lively rhythms, and played maracas, tambourines, and more.

Our inaugural Café con Leche – a speaker series offering valuable information to our members at no cost – was a great success. Jackie Colucci, Medicare specialist, was our first speaker and sponsor, helping members better understand Medicare. Ms. Colucci generously provided coffee, Danishes, and more.

We just started “Mi Casa Su Casa” – a way for us to socialize and connect in small groups in our homes.

We are looking for musicians and singers. We are organizing a “Parranda Navideña” group to visit our members in December. A parranda is where a group of friends go house to house with festive Christmas Spanish songs and lively music.

Want to have fun? Our future events include social activities, dancing, monthly dinners, weekly game nights, group outings, Café con Leche, Mi Casa Su Casa, and much more!

Be sure to visit our Facebook page (OTOW Latinos Club Ocala). Join us! For more information, call Silvia C. Garcia at 561-801-8188, Ivan Vazquez at 727-403-9629, or Micky Crawford at 352-207-7153.

SPCA of Marion County

Heather Tahan



As Thanksgiving approaches, the SPCA of Marion County would like to thank our community for the extraordinary support we've received this year. We are blessed to live in such a pet-friendly county. Your support allows us to provide significant funding to many shelters, such as the Humane Society of Marion County and Sheltering Hands, to support spays/neuters and emergency vet care. We also help seniors with pets by providing pet food and supplies to the county Meals on Wheels program.

In November, we present the (now sold-out) Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre and hold our annual elections at the monthly meeting. In December, we will be the featured charity for Women of the World (thank you!) and will sponsor “giving trees” at the Arbor Fitness Center, Recreation Center, The Landing, and Indigo East Fitness Center.

If you love animals, please consider joining the SPCA of Marion County, a 501(c)(3) organization that helps Marion County pets in need. Drop by our table at the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market on Thursdays, or feel free to attend our monthly meeting on the third Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Friendship Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 9510 SW 105th Street, Ocala, FL 34481. To learn more, please visit SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com, follow us on Facebook (Marion County FL SPCA), or email spca.marion.county@gmail.com. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Nov. 20.

Donations of pet food and supplies will be accepted at the porch of Evelyn Sarns Holiday, 8880-C SW 94th St, Ocala, Florida 34481. To avoid accidental ingestion by a pet, please do not use staples to close open bags.

Every November, animal shelters and rescue organizations across the country shine a light on one of their most overlooked populations: senior pets. Often passed over in favor of puppies or kittens, older animals are full of love, loyalty, and personality – and adopting one can be one of the most rewarding decisions you'll ever make.

Senior pets often have a calm, settled



Photo by Dawn Case
Meet Flame, an orphaned kitten, fostered by Dawn Case for Sheltering Hands.

demeanor. Unlike young animals that require constant training, socialization, and supervision, many older pets are already house-trained and understand basic commands. This makes the transition into a new home smoother and less stressful for both the pet and the adopter. Senior pets' personalities are well-developed, so what you see is what you get. When you adopt a senior animal, you already know their size, energy level, temperament, and health needs. There are fewer surprises – and more opportunities to find a perfect match.

Health concerns can be a worry, but many senior pets remain active and healthy. Many shelters and rescues offer discounted medical care or adoption fees to help senior animals find loving homes. In a world that often values youth, adopting a senior pet is a powerful act of compassion. It's a reminder that love knows no age – and that every animal, no matter how old, deserves a warm bed, gentle hands, and a place to call home.

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



Photo by Silvia C. Garcia
Drawing and 50/50 winners during the Hispanic Heritage celebration.

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Anniversary picnic. Photo by Mike Meyer

Active
Singles Club

Jan Lindell

Welcome to our five new members who were at our last membership meeting. Hope we see you at our many activities. There are plenty of activities in which to participate. Also, at our previous membership meeting, our members came through. They made personal donations to help Dunnellon Elementary School purchase a new refrigerator, which was not covered in the school budget.

Our dining committee has been busy providing all types of restaurants for our members to enjoy with others. Our November outings are breakfast at The Farmhouse, lunch at Cedar River, and dinner at Elevation 89. Be sure to sign up early so you aren't disappointed and end up on the waiting list.

We have added a new, very active travel committee with day trips and overnight trips. Check the calendar for a trip that is perfect for you. Fun, fun, fun!

The Interfaith Emergency Services breakfast was a big success. Our volunteers prepared and served meals to the homeless. There were happy faces seen on all. Speaking of smiling faces, we saw plenty at our anniversary picnic. The food, cooked by our experienced grillers, was excellent; the games were enjoyed by everyone; and even the sun was

smiling.

Another fun event for everyone was the golf cart scavenger hunt. Thanks to our committee, we couldn't have enjoyed it without your hard work. There are so many activities to choose from each month, like pickleball, card games, bocce, darts, bowling, mini golf, and a golf scramble.

If hiking and walking are your thing, this is the group to join. There are always great places to hike, and after walking, participants treat themselves to lunch. The hikes in November are at the Santos Trail and the Baseline Road Trailhead.

Don't forget our Sunday lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cody's. They have three specials each Sunday, very reasonably priced, and of course, you can order off the menu.

Join us for a visit to the Lakeridge Winery. Bring your lawn chair and have a relaxing afternoon with friends. There will be music, food, and maybe a glass of wine.

Two new day trips this month are a visit to Stetson Mansion and Johnny Rogers' Legends of Country. Stetson Mansion is sold out with a waitlist. If you like country music, there is still availability for Johnny Rogers' Legends of Country, which includes a buffet dinner.

We would love to see you at our membership meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 7:15 p.m. Come enjoy our meeting and the social hour that follows.

Check out our holiday events on the calendar and sign up early.

We wish you a happy Thanksgiving!

Silver Rainbow
Club

Jeanne Bennett-Bailey

We had a ghoulishly good time carving and painting pumpkins at our annual Halloween gathering! Our final gathering of the year will be our annual holiday/Friendsgiving potluck on Wednesday, Dec. 3. Please check our website for details.

The Silver Rainbow Club is a welcoming and affirming social group open to all. We are LGBTQ+ allies providing a space to gather, socialize, and enjoy each other's company. We host various activities throughout the year, including coffee gatherings, luncheons, cookouts, dances, and other social gatherings. To get the latest information about all our events, visit SilverRainbowClub.com and our Facebook page (Silver Rainbow Club). Our annual club fee is \$10 per person.

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SWANS

Lois Nix

Women of the World

Lois Rowland

Can you imagine how many breakfast and dinner outings SWANS have participated in? We have been a very active single women's group for 19 years: 228 breakfasts, 228 dinners, 228 appetizers, and 228 special events. The list goes on.

When the SWANS (Single Women Active Networking System) was formed, it marked the beginning of a new generation of single women moving into On Top of the World. The original Singles Club consisted of men and women who were actively attending many events. Due to a lack of volunteers, it was disbanded. The Active Singles Club was eventually formed and is a club of single men and women who also enjoy many events.

When the SWANS were formed, we had a reputation for just eating out. Now it appears that many clubs eat out. Our latest outing was eating at KPOT Korean BBQ & Hot Pot. That was a treat!

We will begin planning our 20-year celebration. It has been my joy to be a SWANS member for 20 years and to serve as the coordinator for 17 years. Many SWANS have been members for years, committed to our mission of supporting each other on our journey as singles. Our motto is "SWANS are never alone. SWANS are never forgotten."

SWANS are known to establish friendships through our networking system. Hundreds of women joined the SWANS over our 20 years, and many moved on for various reasons. We still have over 100 members. SWANS is open to all women residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

We continue to play samba every Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room. If you would like to learn how to play samba, sign up at Master the Possibilities.

We will continue to enjoy and support each other, hopefully for many more years. If you are a single woman and might be interested in joining us, call Lois at 352 854-0558.

Women of the World is a social and charitable organization. Our mission is to entertain, inform, educate, and inspire our members through our monthly meetings and 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 Ballroom. The board members include Michele Croud, Dolores Burke, Marcia Meloni, Anita Martinetto, Lois Rowland, Patricia Pratt, Laura Rubert, Jan Spielvogel, and Ellie Richards.

Our last meeting was held on Thursday, Oct. 16. Our speaker was Officer Brunner from the Marion County Sheriff's Office. He discussed "Chopper Cops," which is filmed in and around Marion County. Our charity was Dunnellon Elementary School. They requested clothing, school supplies, and small items for prizes. Our members were very charitable with their donations.

The next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 19, will feature Peggy Carey, a ventriloquist from "Willie & Company," and our charity will be The Help Agency. They will be requesting donations of teen items. Operation Shoebox will also need donations of breakfast bars, instant oatmeal, individually wrapped crackers, fruit gummies, peanuts, beef jerky, candy, travel-size hygiene products, writing paper, envelopes, pens, puzzles, and batteries of all sizes.

A bunco fundraising event is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 17, from 3 to 6 p.m. Appetizers will be provided. The \$30 tickets are on sale now. The members were reminded that we will need baskets to be donated for the raffle. The 23rd annual Fashion Show will be held on March 18, 2026. Planning has already begun.

The club is open to all women residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. If you are interested in joining us, please call Michele Croud, club president, at 586-872-1966.

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The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



The guests of honor were in the house. More appropriately, the bagels, lox and almost 120 members were at The Lodge at Candler Hills for the Jewish Club’s welcome back brunch on Sunday, Sept. 21.

First Vice President Lois Trepper, Hospitality Co-Chair Sue Miller, and their team of volunteers put out a great spread. Following a short business meeting, members waited patiently for Lois to call their table to the buffet line, where they selected their bagel and added to their plate from an assortment of cucumber, tomato, lettuce, onion, and Caesar salad. Individual portions of fresh lox were stacked on the buffet as a way to avoid the always messy and nearly impossible task of trying to cut the lox, and you end up pulling a shred of a slice onto the plate. (Smile if you’ve

had that experience.) There were tubs of cream cheese on each table. Desserts included cookies and a special cake.

For the moment in time, member Robin Scheraga delivered a touching personal explanation of the concept of Shalom Bayit, which means peace in the house. In these troubling times around us, Robin’s words rang true. Be kind to people, greet strangers, and stay connected with family. She quoted Maya Angelou, “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did – but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Similarly, we should also reflect on the programming year. We have confirmed speakers, including informative talks on important dates in modern Israeli history, practical home maintenance tips that anyone can use today, a battalion chief from Marion County Fire Rescue on how to stay safe, and a doctor speaking on conditions he sees and for which we should be aware. The club will again host our celebration of Chanukah, a popular barbecue in the spring, a talent show, and an upcoming game called

“Who Wants to be a Mensch?”

Some of the events and activities planned by the social committee include: the “Amazing Schlep” around On Top of the World, a Jewish short film and nosh festival, trips to the Ocala Civic Theatre and Weeki Wachee to see the mermaids, and a visit with TV’s real Chopper Cops.

We have witnessed numerous new members who chose to join the Jewish Club, thanks in part to their friends and neighbors who helped spread the word about the exciting events and activities taking place at the club.

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.



In September, Michelle Migdal prepares to enjoy the Jewish Club's annual Welcome Back brunch with bagels and lox.

What’s Cookin’?

Nancy Grabowski



Here’s a tasty recipe for those cooler, autumnal days that utilizes the last of the summer tomatoes.

Bacon Onion Tomato Pie

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

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Cook the bacon until crispy, then set it aside. Sauté onions until golden in the same pan. Prepare your favorite pie crust or use a purchased one. Then, layer onions, tomatoes, and bacon in the pie crust.

Next, in a separate bowl, mix the cheese, mayonnaise, and sour cream; spread this mixture on top of the bacon/tomato/onions.

Bake 30-35 mins or until golden and bubbly. Cool slightly before slicing.

Southern Connection Club

Darlene Stevens



Join us for a Southern-style Thanksgiving celebration at Southern Connection Social Club’s next meeting on Sunday, Nov. 9. Turkey will be provided, but please bring a dish to share. Side dish ideas might include cornbread dressing or stuffing, ambrosia salad or another salad, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, deviled eggs, mashed potatoes, gravy, macaroni and cheese, rolls, pumpkin pie, or whatever you would like to bring. Sweet tea, lemonade, and water are provided, or you’re welcome to bring your own.

The first meeting is free for newcomers. After that, annual dues are \$10 per person per year. The meeting is Sunday, Nov. 9, at 5:30 p.m. at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. For additional information, contact Bob Czopek at bob-czopek@gmail.com or 904-540-1726. See you there!

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with alcohol, please join us. We meet weekly on Mondays from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Please note there will be no meeting on Nov. 17. For more information and to be notified of changes to the schedule, please email friendsofbillwocala@gmail.com.

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Looking forward, the Global Diversity Asian Social Club has planned an engaging calendar of events. On Saturday, Dec. 6, residents can enjoy a Festive

We also had elections for the coming year, and not much has changed. Sid Levine will remain as president. Doug George will remain as treasurer, and Peggy Taylor will continue as recording secretary. Linda Bell and Deb Baker

Every meeting involves a meal, a presentation, and a chance to share stories and observations with your fellow Scandinavian Americans. Join us. We love to have the fun. For more information, contact Arlene Chilcott at 352-304-8779.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

The Genealogical Society meets on the third Monday of every month in the Hobby Building Event Room at 10 a.m. They are also available via Zoom. If you think you might want to share your family research with a friendly bunch, email us at otowgens@gmail.com.



Photo by Rosalina Norita

At the Club Fair, Laura Snyder stopped by to sign up for the Indonesian dance class and posed with a mannequin dressed in a full Gong dance costume.

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Nov. 15	Light Up! St. Augustine	\$61
Nov. 16	The Play That Goes Wrong	\$89
Nov. 27	The Barbara Lee Thanksgiving	\$145
Dec. 5	Christmas Tree Walk Disney Springs	\$59
Dec. 6	SunKicks Holiday Spectacular	\$135
Dec. 18	Mystery Christmas Light Tour	\$66
Dec. 21	A Christmas Carol	\$89

MULTI-DAY ADVENTURES

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Dec. 10-11, 2025
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Lions Club

Gail Morris



Our fundraising activities from last year provided our club with the opportunity to donate twice the amount to Isaiah 117 House Marion County through the Give 4 Marion campaign in September. Our \$1,000 was doubled, helping the Isaiah 117 House get closer to breaking ground for their facility. This organization exists to reduce the stress for children while awaiting foster placement.

On Tuesday, Oct. 14, our club, as a supporter of Veterans Helping Veterans, invited Director Todd Belknap from the organization to share with our members the needs and services provided to the Marion County veteran community. They are a stand-alone, donation-driven, non-profit organization.

As of this writing, our Pawtastic Halloween dog parade is over, and our members will be evaluating the possibilities of hosting the event again next year. Our fundraising chair, Lion Norma, has been busy developing new , fun, and engaging ways to introduce residents to our club, and this was a good one.

Our club intends to sell tickets for our Casino Night, to be held on March 22, 2026, on Ticket Tuesday – more informa-

Christian Women’s Club

Sandi Kemp



We are a group of ladies who meet on the third Saturday of every month for a delicious potluck and wonderful fellowship. Most months, we have a speaker who brings us an inspiring message. Our speaker last month was Tina Kleiss. Tina and her husband have written books on bible prophecy, and she always has an exciting message from the bible for us!

Each month, we collect donations for Interfaith Emergency Services, and I always remind the ladies that food is always needed, but also items that we use every day, such as cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products, first aid

tion to come.

Our services committee, led by Lion Eileen, is preparing for our Thanksgiving meals. Our club members help complete the meal packages with fresh produce and then deliver them. We can always use more hands to complete the task.

We will be distributing meals to several families at three different Marion County schools, Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, and Veterans Helping Veterans. This year, we are expanding our donations to meet the greater need. We are currently preparing more than 100 meals with all the fixings. They will be delivered on Wednesday, Nov. 19.

We are very fortunate to have partners, such as Super Walmart and the Neighborhood Walmart, as well as Sunrise Produce and O’ Steen’s Market, that assist us in gathering and packaging the traditional meal.

Our next event will be preparing for our annual Toys for Tots Christmas tree, which is usually in the Recreation Center Lobby, right after Thanksgiving – details to follow in the December column.

We are looking forward to seeing some of the residents we met at the Club Fair. If you are interested, come to the Arbor Conference Center Event Room at 5 p.m. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, enjoy our company, and learn about our club. If you would like further information, you may contact Bert Perkins, our membership chair, at 909-262-8407.

items, and pet food!

Our next potluck is scheduled for Saturday, November 15. I hope you will join us; we love meeting new people! We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. We start at 11:45 a.m., but we kindly ask that you arrive by 11:30 a.m. so that we can start on time. We conclude by 1:30 p.m. Reservations are not required; simply show up with your potluck dish. Iced tea and water are provided. We kindly request a \$1 donation to help cover the cost of supplies. If you have any questions, please call me at 352-237-9073 (no texts, please).

Joy in the Mourning

Deb Thompson



Our October luncheon consisted of a cornucopia of delicious foods, sure to delight and nourish our physical bodies. A booklet was donated to our bereavement group by the Monarch Center for Hope and Healing. As a group, we will comb through this needful advice that will inevitably nourish our souls and aid us along our own personal journies. Having practical guidance and proper support will help advance the healing process. This is the purpose and goal of Joy in the Mourning.

To confirm, the following is a quote by O. Hobart Mowrer: “You alone can do it, but you cannot do it alone!” That statement may seem contradictory, but it is full of truth. People need the help and support of others. However, they need to be courageous enough to face the many challenging facets. If left unattended, it could lead to prolonged complications.

If that occurs, professional help should be sought out.

Last month, several people shared how they are recognizing the progress they have made on this winding path. The heavy weight is slowly being lifted. Their testimonies have brought joy to themselves and to all who listened. These real-life accounts are an encouragement, especially for those just entering this time of life. A common question often arises: Will this ever get better?

As we work together, we can reply with a resounding “Yes!” Yes, change will happen. Hope for the future becomes brighter. Instead of being a victim of the circumstances, a strength is developed that enables victory.

Joy in the Mourning invites any person who has lost a loved one. Advice from expert counselors, along with understanding supportive friends, is all available for you if you choose to attend our meetings. You can find us every Friday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. No prior registration or fee is required. For additional information, contact Deb at 352-445-4860.



Photo by Deb Thompson

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Veterans Day Classic Softball Tournament

By Rick Munsell

Since 2022, On Top of the World’s military veterans community has gathered together in the spirit of friendly competition and camaraderie to commemorate our country’s Veterans Day traditions and celebrations.

On Saturday, Nov. 8, veterans will take to the field and participate in our fourth annual Veterans Day Classic Softball Tournament. A full day of activities is planned to include the 8 a.m. viewing of the Veterans Day golf cart parade hosted by the Fun with Carts Club. Then there is the player’s uniform inspection formation along the fields base paths at 8:20 a.m. At 8:30 a.m. there will be the playing of the National Anthem with military flag honors presented by the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard (a volunteer group of military veterans dressed in full original military dress uniforms).

A single round-robin tournament consisting of three seven-inning softball games commences at 9 a.m. starting with the Army versus Navy in game one. Game two starts at 10:30 a.m. with the Air Force hosting the Warriors (a team consisting of Marines and Coast Guard members plus volunteers to fill out the roster). After lunch, at 1 p.m. the advancing winners of the earlier games face off in a “winner takes all” championship slugfest for the coveted captain’s trophy to be presented by Mr. Kenneth D. Colen.

The Poms Dance & Cheer Squad will perform after the second game and before the home run derby.

Blazin’ Bites Food Truck will be on-site, where spectators and the troops can chow down on hamburgers, hot

dogs, French fries, and more. At the same time, Mr. B’s Big Scoop will serve up free ice cream to the first 150 spectators (charitable donations will be gladly accepted). Carlos’ Cafe coffee bistro service will close out the lunch break, offering hot and cold beverages, along with some baked snacks.

Over lunch, it’s time to cheer on all comers (open to any resident) as the softball “hit parade” home run derby gets underway. Marvel as reigning champion Chuck King defends his title for the third straight year. Award trophies will be given for the most home runs hit and the longest distance homer.

Since its humble beginnings, the Veterans Day Classic Softball Tournament would not be possible without the continued dedication and faithful support of its legacy sponsors and longtime community supporters – so thanks to all of you!

So, if you’re not participating this year as a player, know that even as a spectator, you can make a big difference, cheering on your favorite branch of military service. All teams will be gunning to beat last year’s tournament champions, Team Air Force (now winner of three championship trophies in a row).

So put on your favorite military service ball cap and T-shirt and join us for this special community event and tradition. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held at the same time but on Sunday, Nov. 9. If you have any questions, please email Rick Munsell, captain, U.S. Navy (retired) at vcstsoftball@gmail.com.

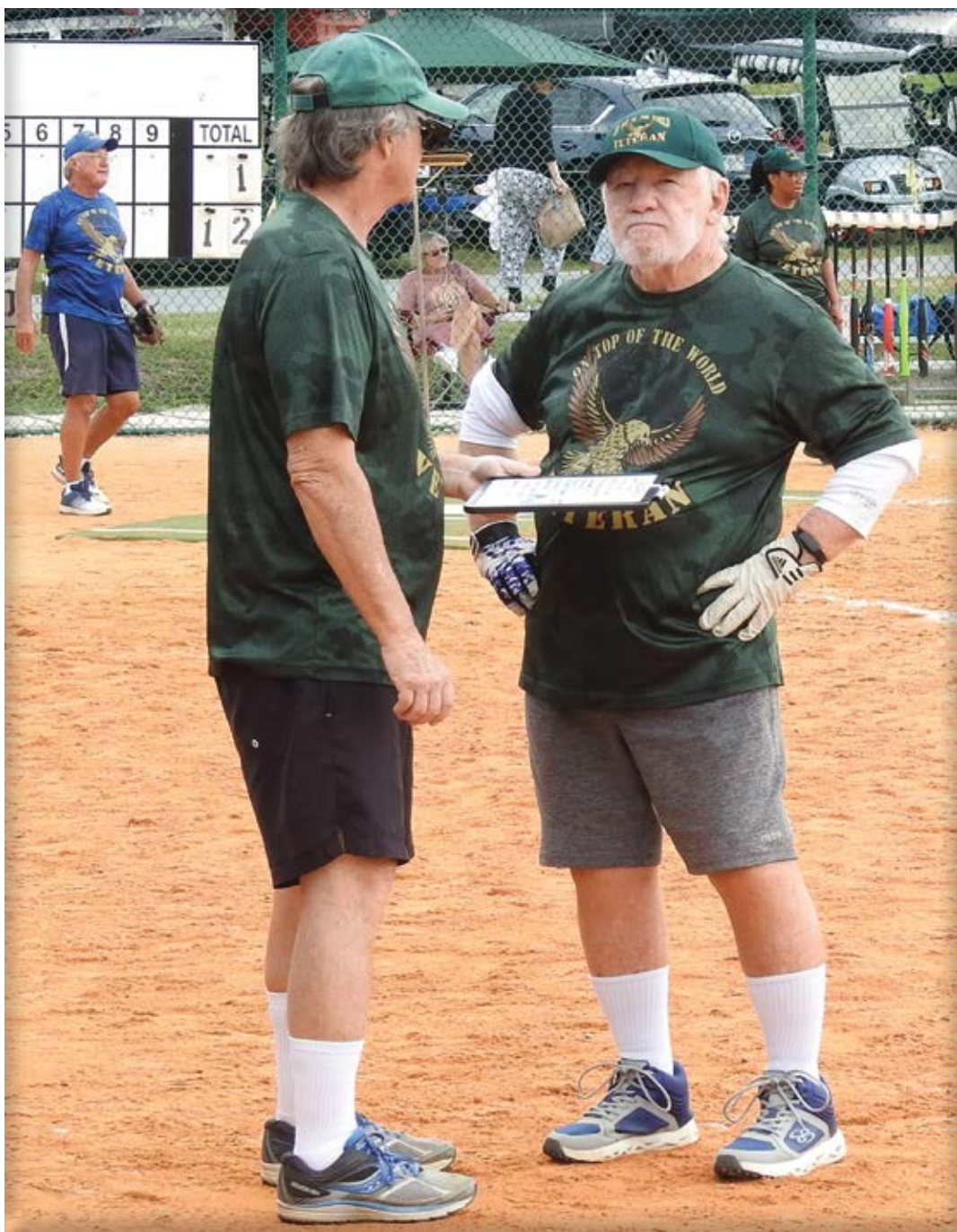


Photo by Jerry Weage

Wayne Dodson and Larry Burke, U.S. Army veterans.

Bringing Home the Gold

By Athena Drewes

Thirteen Table Tennis Club members traveled to Gainesville, Florida, on Sunday, Sept. 21, in quest of gold, as well as silver and bronze! The 24th annual Senior Games had nine different sports: archery, cycling, golf, petanque (like bocce), pickleball, running, swimming, table tennis, and volleyball. Put on by the Gainesville Sports Commission and sponsored by HCA Florida Healthcare, the event featured athletes aged 50-plus competing in multiple sports.

The Senior Olympic Games began in St. Louis in 1985, organized by the U.S. National Senior Sports Organization. It promotes healthy lifestyles for seniors through education, fitness, and sport. Its name changed to National Senior Games Association (NSGA) in 1990 due to objections from the U.S. Olympic Committee to the word Olympic.

NSGA remains a non-profit dedicated to motivating active adults to lead healthy lifestyles through senior games.

Florida Senior Games began in 1992 with local competitions and a state-appointed task force. They served as a state championship, with many qualifying events held locally throughout Florida. The task force consolidated state games, standardizing a clear path to the state championship. The first Florida Senior Games state championships were held in Bradenton in 1992, with Gainesville’s own senior games in 2002, continuing to serve as qualifiers for the Florida Senior Games.

This year’s members did not disappoint and upheld the winning tradition! Table tennis categories were men’s singles, men’s doubles, mixed doubles, women’s singles, and women’s doubles. Participants competed in one, two, or three categories based on age group. Club members returned not only with gold, but also silver and bronze!

Congratulations Vijay Jain (gold, men’s singles), Jim Swift (gold, men’s doubles, silver, mixed doubles, bronze, men’s singles); Michael Lowe (gold, men’s doubles, silver, men’s singles, bronze, mixed doubles); Mary Jeannotte (silver, mixed doubles, silver, women’s singles); Keith Seibert (silver, mixed doubles), Rose Carreno (silver, women’s doubles, bronze, mixed doubles) and Athena Drewes (silver, mixed doubles, silver, women’s singles).

Special thanks to Paulette Rossi-Dunnick, Joe Dunnick, Maddy Berry and Michael Berry, Sharon Weber, and Jeff Brown. They were up against a tough crowd of players. Nick Arkon, Karen Lowe, and Alex Nagy cheered on our players.

Members networked with participants from The Villages, Jacksonville, and other parts of Florida. We are thinking ahead to 2026, On Top of the World Senior Games being planned by the Recreation Department for pickleball, tennis, table tennis, and other community

sports. However, this won’t be the first Senior Games held here. Our club has a rich history of playing and winning in the Senior Games since 2003, when On Top of the World Communities hosted it, and in 2004.

The Table Tennis Club came into existence 28 years ago, in 1997, with four tournament tables purchased and a fifth contributed by Kenneth D. Colen for the 2003 Senior Games. The On Top of the World Communities hosted the Table Tennis Senior Games at the Recreation Center Ballroom for two consecutive years, 2003 and 2004. Inter-community tournaments have also been held with other clubs and communities over the years, such as Silver Spring Shores, Ocala Table Tennis, Del Webb Country Club, Oak Run, Palm Cay, and Cherrywood.

The club continues to plan on inter-community tournaments for 2026.

The club has grown to 150 members, a testament to surging interest and the recognition of the sport’s physical, psychological, and social benefits! Membership dues have remained consistent at \$10 (with a \$5 prorated membership fee from July to December)! Playtimes have grown substantially, with beginner, intermediate, and advanced ladies’ play, as well as singles and doubles slots, throughout the week and into the evenings.

We look forward to 2026 to the new building, with more tables. For further information, contact President Paul Stadterman at ptstadterman@yahoo.com.



Photo by Nick Arkon

Senior Games table tennis medal winners.

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Golf

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Fall is officially upon us, bringing cooler temperatures and some of the most enjoyable golf weather of the year. With the holiday season right around the corner, it's a perfect time to slow down, reflect, and spend quality time with family and friends both on and off the course. Thanksgiving is just weeks away, reminding us to appreciate all the good things this wonderful world has to offer. Whether it's the joy of a well-struck shot, a relaxing round with friends, or sharing a meal with loved ones, there's always something to be grateful for. I know I'm especially thankful for my family and friends. How about you?

We are excited to announce that Candler Hills Golf Club will officially reopen on Monday, Nov. 10! Our team is putting the finishing touches on the course, including adding new bunker sand and continuing to groom all playing surfaces to ensure the best possible conditions for your return.

With the reopening date now confirmed, we have made a few adjustments to the November tournament schedule.

- Monday, Nov. 10: Candler Hills member appreciation and grand opening.
- Monday, Nov. 17: On Top of the World member appreciation.

The World Member/Member is canceled for now, with plans to reschedule at a later date. All other tournaments will remain unchanged at this time.

We're incredibly proud of the renovation work completed at Candler Hills and can't wait for you to experience the updated course. Thank you for your patience and continued support throughout this project. We look forward to celebrating the reopening with you soon.

World Accolades
THE LINKS: Jeff Richardson, eagle #3 (twice) & #7 (three times)., Rick Pettit, hole-in-one #6. Mike Mackowiak shot 73, three strokes under his age. Jill Strey, hole-in-one #14.

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Steve Czachor, eagle #14. Steve Gersten, eagle #5. Tony Morris, eagle #14. Congratulations!

Golf Tip of the Month

How many of you swing out of your shoes, fall backward, and watch the ball sail to the right and out of bounds? If this sounds like your golf swing, then balance is the key to improvement.

Here are a few tips to maintain proper balance throughout your swing.

- Widen your stance. By widening your stance, you give yourself a larger base, which helps you return the clubface to a square position at impact.
- Do not over-swing. If you tend to try to swing as hard as you can each time, then more than likely you will lose your balance. A good, balanced swing looks graceful and effortless.
- Maintain a good finish. Try to hold your finish after every swing. I like to teach my students to hold the finish long enough for someone to snap a photo. Holding your finish longer will improve your balance and ball striking.

Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



Our beautiful Candler Hills Golf Course is starting to resemble itself again after six months of renovation. It will be exciting to play on the course when it reopens.

Karen Demaree has joined the league. Welcome, Karen. We look forward to playing with you.

The On Top of the World/Candler Hills Member/Guest is alive and well and will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6, with a practice round and some frolics on Friday, Dec. 5. It's always enjoyable, so find a guest to participate in this fun event.

Please note that there has been a change in the President's Cup tournament this year. It will only be held on Thursday, Nov. 6. We're not sure if the course will be open by then, and one day is easier to reschedule than two. Next year, it will return to our two-day format.

Don't forget that the general membership meeting will take place on Thursday, Nov. 13. Lunch will be served before the meeting. The agenda will be what it normally is at this time of year: elections, financial report, and a few changes to the by-laws. You will receive an email describing the by-law changes.

Every golfer is familiar with golf lingo, from breakfast ball to mulligan to army golf. Some golf vocabulary is rather unusual and amusing. For example, a chicken stick is the one club in your bag that you can always rely on. Another interesting term is Lorena Bobbitt, which is a really bad slice. Whatever word is expressed can bring a smile to your face, which is something we really need in this game.

Our league has been on hold since the course closed in May. It will begin again soon. If you wish to play golf and meet some new ladies, you may join our league by contacting our president, Janette Sheil, at sheiljanette@gmail.com.

Finally, believe, achieve, and enjoy the game of golf. As always, be careful out there.

On Top of the World NEWS

UPCOMING PUBLICATION

December Issue – Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025. See page 2 for publication schedule.

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Men’s Golf Association

John Yenne



The 2025 Men’s Golf Association (MGA) Club Championship is a one-day tournament scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 19. To be eligible to play, you must have played in a minimum of seven MGA events during the year. Use the white envelope in the player’s lounge in the Golf Shop to submit your \$20 entry fee by Friday, Nov. 7.

To continue participating in our weekly events in 2026, please submit your \$25 membership dues by year-end.

While you’re in the player’s lounge, look for ballots for the 2026 MGA board election that will be held on Chicken Day in December. If you’re interested in taking a leadership role and running for one of the open board positions, talk to any current board member about running: Kevin McGuinness (president), Tom Neville (vice president), Robert Kuhl (treasurer), Anthony Morris (secretary), Joe Polizzotti (membership), Jim McCormack

(tournaments), Doyce Mathis and Norm Hayworth (food and beverage), and Philip Shaw (at-large).

For upcoming events and a tip of the month feature, visit otowmga.com.

Please note the following forthcoming Wednesdays in your calendar:

- Nov. 5: Chicken Day Scramble (The Links)
- Nov. 12: Team Quota Points (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Nov. 19: Club Championship (The Links)
- Nov. 26: Modified Scramble (The Tortoise & The Hare)

Chicken Day
Oct. 1

The Links Flight: 51–Ron Pratt, Kenneth Gove, Bob Lieberman, Walter Knautz. 53–Greg McDowell, Tony Vastano, Terry Thomas, Marvin Jendro. Tie at 55–Norm Hayworth, Doug Buckler, Larry Corder, Mike Lane; William (Bill) Truby, Ray Christ, Joseph Dunnack, David Green. Tie at 56–Jay Bouton, Guy Stiebing, Mike Erickson, Richard Foltyniewicz; Garfield Gray, Mark Beauchamp, John Snyder, Bill Kenyon; Tom Neville, Denis Bricker, Dennis Kerkhoff, Gary Kohls.

The Tortoise & The Hare Flight: Tie at 56–Jerry Williams, Jim Thomson, Mike Benes, Bruce Venslavsky; James McCormack, Percy Millet, Larry Manion, Bill

Dobbins. 57–Rick Ferris, Larry Turner, Dennis Kissen, Donald Wheeler. Tie at 58–Ray Kallai, Rick Deroven, Mike Carver, Michael Dwyer; Philip Shaw, Paul Stoecklin, David Bauer.

Quota Points (Individual)
Oct. 8/The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: -1–Bryan McCleave. Tie at -3–Ray Parlato, James Gourlay. -5–Paul Derosso.

Flight 2: -1–Rich Sievers. Tie at -2–Philip Shaw, Anthony Morris. Tie at -5–Bill Gurbisz, Rick Schriewer, Doug Buckler.

Flight 3: -3–Kevin McGuinness. Tie at -4–Rusty Zarrell, Sam Feola. Tie at -9–Jay Bouton, Ruben Alvarez, Robert Kuhl.

Flight 4: -2–Norm Hayworth. -3–Kenneth Gove. Tie at -5–Pat Cioffi, John Bojanac.

Flight 5: Tie at -5–Jim Lefaver, Don Channell. -6–Larry Turner. -7–Wally Wohlleber.

Flight 6: Tie at -3–David Hannasch, Pete Markish. -5–Ralph Norton. Tie at -7–Dennis Kissen, Paul Stoecklin.

Flight 7: -2–Dennis Kerkhoff. Tie at -5–Terry Rizer, Philip Petrozella. -6–Bob Lieberman.

Flight 8: -3–Bruce Rothenberg. -4–Thomas Kujawa. Tie at -7–Bob LeMaster, Richard Ross.

Flight 9: 0–Brian O’Connor. Tie at -2–Michael Dwyer, Tom Neville. Tie at -5–Leonard Ruble, David Green.

R/C Car Club

John Schoenherr



The R/C Car Club is all about racing smaller-scale vehicles. Our members race everything from slot cars to huge four-wheel drive trucks. The outdoor racetrack is the most popular racing venue. Three days a week, you will find members racing trucks and cars on the track. Wednesdays and Saturdays are set aside for 1/10- and 1/12-scale vehicles.

There are 12 racing classes where drivers compete for race points. The first set of races is called a qualifier, in which racers compete against the clock. The

seasons, with a special certificate awarded to the driver who accumulated the most points during each season. Slot car drivers meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I- II. R/C electric car racing is every Wednesday and Saturday at 1 p.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, contact John at 608 477-3420.

The second race is for points. The drivers line up and begin racing each other. The driver who crosses the finish line at the end of the race is awarded seven points for winning. The second driver is awarded six points.

At the monthly meeting, the points are totaled for each driver, and the winner of each class is awarded a certificate.

The racing year is divided into three

seasons, with a special certificate awarded to the driver who accumulated the most points during each season.

Slot car drivers meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I- II. R/C electric car racing is every Wednesday and Saturday at 1 p.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, contact John at 608 477-3420.

September

Traxxas–Brian Allard & Larry Clark. Two-wheel buggy–Ron Kaulfersch. Pan car–Gene Mangold. Two-wheel truck–Ron Kaulfersch. Limited–Mike Main. 17.5–Ron Kaulfersch. Sportsman–Dave Ackroyd. Truggy–Wolfgang Langer. NASCAR–Brian Allard & Larry Clark.

Summer Season

Traxxas–Larry Ericksmoen. Two-wheel buggy–Chuck Frederick. Four-wheel buggy–Jim Siltman. Pan car–Bob Paxson. Touring–Terry Altman. Two-wheel truck–Bob Melzer. Four-wheel truck–Mob Melzer. Limited–Terry Altman. 17.5–Mike Main. Sportsman–Larry Ericksmoen. Truggy–Rean Morse. NASCAR–Dave Ackroyd.

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Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association

Jo Della Penna



Experience Match Play/Partners
Aug. 26/The Links

Ellen Brinn, Debra DeMatteo 4 & 3 Over Gayla Aldridge, Pamela Robison. MJ Strelec, Joann Delmar 1 Up Over Sharon Fairclough, Connie Lukas. Debbie Wilson, Kathleen Goodwin 2 Up Over Lisa Free, Beth Wolinsky. Mary Dawson, Judie Anderson 1 Up Over Mary Jeannotte, Patty Whitley. LuLu Kerkhoff, Renee Anchors 3 & 2 Over Diane Boston, Nancy Skoch. Gail Lagrange, Becky Bivins 2 & 1 Over Virginia Coombs, Donna Townsend. Vickie Noltsenmeyer, Peggy Shanfelt 2 & 1 Over Connie Norris, Eileen Gustavus. Marcella Nunez, Vickie Foster 3 & 2 Over Karen Schroeckenthaler, Renee Middleton. Shelly Karsnitz, Marla Bennett 2 & 1 Over Janette Shiel, Katie Schriever. Laurel Staiger, Diane Hartman 7 & 5 Over Judie McGuinness, Cynthia Gersten. Sandy Snyder, Terry Lemesh 1 Up Over Brenda Hoffman, Liz Pruss.

Eclectic Two Parts

Sept. 2 & 9/ The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: -2–Laurel Staiger. Tie at -1–Va Donna Hall, Lisa Free. Tie at +3–Sandra Mansfield, Shelly Karsnitz.

Flight 2: -3–Judi McGuinness. -2–Joanne Woolery. +2–Peggy Ellenberger. +3–Becky Bivins.

Flight 3: -4–Kathleen Goodwin. E–Vickie Noltsenmeyer. +1–Jill Strey. Tie at +2–MJ Strelec, Ellen Brinn.

Flight 4: Tie at -3–Liz Pruss, Robyn Atwood. E–Judie Anderson. +1–Susan Mullineaux.

Flight 5: Tie at +2–Joann Delmar, Marla Bennett, Virginia Madura. +4–Diane Hartman.

Flight 6: Tie at +3–Terry Lemesh, Karen Demaree, Joann Ropel. +4–Renee Anchors.

Fall Member/Member
Sept. 16/The Links
Gross

Flight 1: 70–Sandy Snyder, Lisa Free. 77–Cindy Channell, Sharon Fairclough.

Flight 2: 78–Ellen Brinn, Peggy Ellenberger. Tie at 86–Virginia Coombs, Vickie Foster, Peggy Wiechmann, Vickie Noltsenmeyer, Christine Giza, Connie Norris.

Flight 3: Tie at 88–MJ Strelec, Nancy Skoch, Susanne Mullineaux, Jill Strey.

Flight 4: 90–Beth Wolinsky, Anne Dahlen. 94–Diane Hartman, Donna Townsend.

Net

Flight 1: 66–Debby Wilson, Sandra Mansfield. 71–Beverly Ovrebo, Mary Jeannotte.

Flight 2: Tie at 69–Liz Pruss, Katie Schriewer, Judi McGuinness, Christine McIntire.

Flight 3: 71–Joyce Jones, Donna Brunell. 72–Robin Le Master, Judie Anderson.

Flight 4: 72–Joann Ropel, Terry Lemesh. 73–Renee Anchors, Brenda Hofmann.

Scramble/Shamble

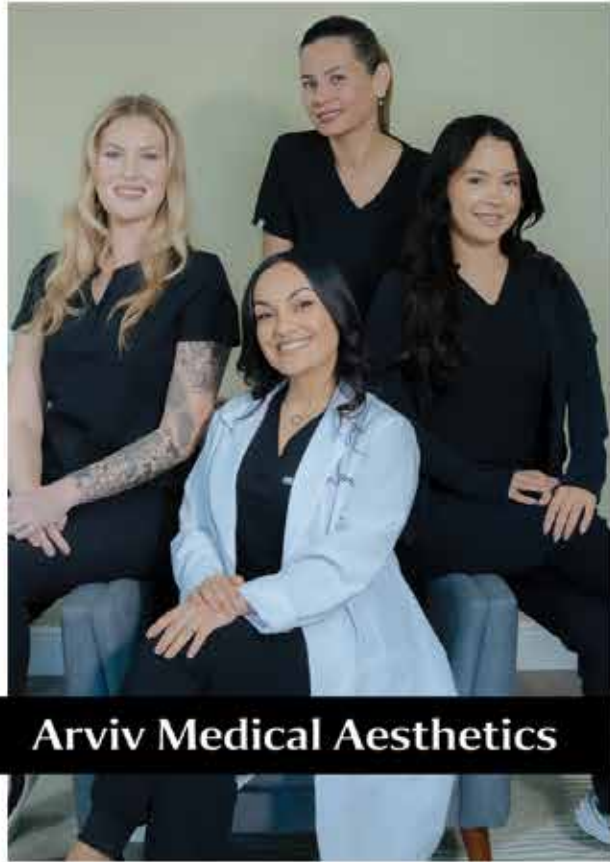
Sept. 23/The Tortoise & The Hare

-46–Sharon Fairclough, Peggy Ellenberger, Donna Townsend + 1 blind. -45–Sandy Snyder, Katie Schriewer, Jane Hall, Roxiann Dwyer. -43–Gayle Lagrange, Beverly Ovrebo, Robin LeMaster, Karen Demaree. -42–Judi McGuinness, Jill Strey, Barbara Vincent, Terry Lemesh. 40–Lisa Free, Debra DeMatteo, Connie Norris, Jana McElroy.

Two Best Ball Net
Sept. 30/The Links

Tie at -9–Linda Taylor, Janette Sheil, Barbara Vincent, Nancy Zielinski, Lori Pizzini, Joyce Jones, Robin Le Master, Margie Williams. -8–Lisa Free, Judi McGuinness, Robyn Atwood, Marla Bennett. -7–Gayla Aldridge, MJ Strelec, Christine McIntire, Ronda Richley. Tie at -6–Sharon Fairclough, Connie Sohl, Beth Wolinsky, Diane Hartman, Diane Boston, Debby Wilson, Brenda Hoffmann, Susanne Mullineaux. -5–Va Donna Hall, Peggy Ellenberger, Virginia Madura, Jana McElroy.

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BEFORE



AFTER

R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



Ahoy, and welcome, sailor!

If you stroll through Ocala’s Tus-cawilla Park around noon on Sunday, you may notice a fleet of sleek white sails gliding gracefully across the west pond. Look again – those “swans” on the water are actually radio-controlled model sail-boats, crewed by local skippers who love the thrill of wind, water, and friendly competition.

About a dozen active sailors regularly race one-meter R/C sailboats, supported by a few R/C tugboats. On many days, other local enthusiasts join in and it’s not unusual to see 10 or more boats on the pond at once. The group now totals about 25 members, with no dues, no of-ficers, and no by-laws – just the shared joy of sailing together.

The races circle four permanent

buoys, maintained by Bernie and Gene, who are often the first to arrive and the first to greet new visitors. The fleet in-cludes Solings, Sea Winds, DF95 Drag-ons (our largest class), Focus, and other designs. There are no separate classes or complicated rules – just one start and simple, informal racing. On a good day, the sailors complete up to 15 short races, totaling about 90 minutes of fun and friendly rivalry.

Between races, the skippers relax beneath the palm trees, chatting about wind shifts, sail trim, and life in gen-eral. The setting couldn’t be better: two ponds, fountains, walkways, and shaded benches make Tuscawilla Park a beau-tiful place for families and spectators, too.

Join us every Sunday at noon and bring a chair – and if you don’t yet have a boat, someone will likely hand you a transmitter and invite you to take the helm.

Fair winds and friendly faces await! For more information, contact Gene via text at 772-678-5101 or Bernie at 816-678-3817. Visitors welcome. Free test drives!



Photo by Kemp Howland

Before the start.



Photo courtesy of R/C Flyers Club

Members Chuck Allard, Doug Juhl, Bob Lathrop, Mike Betz, Ray Ihlenburg, and Jerry DeLuyck at the Club Fair.

R/C Flyers Club

Ray Ihlenburg



This month’s good news is that we had a really successful Club Fair in Sep-tember. Circle Square Cultural Center is a great venue for clubs and visitors alike, offering plenty of space for parking and walking between tables. This time, we featured models made from high-dens-ity foam. This method of manufacturing the airframes reduces the building time to a minimum, enabling the new pilot to be ready for flight lessons in hours rather than months, unlike building a kit.

The size and complexity of these models can be amazing. As are the de-tails molded into the foam and the col-or schemes. The simplest foam models make great, inexpensive trainers that most of our members have flown solo. We also showed several helicopters and a first-person view (FPV) model. The sky is the limit ... so to speak.

What is FPV? In simple terms, there is a camera in the cockpit that transmits to the pilot’s headset so the wearer “sees” what a pilot would see from the cock-pit. Takeoff and landing are performed from the cockpit. The view is extremely realistic and can induce airsickness un-til the pilot becomes accustomed to it. Any pilot attempting this form of flying must have a spotter to relay any issues that may arise due to the lack of visual contact with the model. There seems to be no end to the fun R/C pilots can have.

On a less happy note, the club had to cancel the Fall Fun Fly-In in October due to weather forecasts predicting strong winds and rain. For a while, it looked like the Ocala “bubble” would spare us, but by mid-morning, the wind was 10 mph on its way to 14 mph, and the rain started shortly thereafter. But one great result of our planning was the number of volunteers who showed up to mow and set up the field the day before. What a great bunch of flyers in our club. We were ready to go, but the weather just did not cooperate.

Our last column discussed the various regulations that affect flying R/C mod-els. Since that column was written, new Florida drone laws have kicked in. In a nutshell, flying over critical infrastruc-ture is a third-degree felony, and a slew of other infractions, including peeping on neighbors and dropping contraband, can also get a drone flyer in trouble. One prudent law might be that citizens do not have the right to shoot down a drone hovering over their backyards.

In On Top of the World, the only place to try out a new drone is at the drone

field. Come out and meet one of our pi-lots who flies drones or helicopters, and ask for some help. The help is free and just might help the potential pilot’s new drone fly again.

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Top Pickleball Club

Teresa J. Armstrong



Here we are, closing out October and already welcoming in November. Wow, time flies when you’re having fun! Especially when you’re having fun playing pickleball with your friends and neighbors.

As we get into the last two months of the year, I am reminded to vote. In October, we had the pleasure of voting for court allocations, and in December, we will have the chance to vote for board members. Our annual meeting will be on Saturday, Dec. 13. At the meeting, we will vote for three of the board positions. These positions are opening because the two-year terms of the vice president, the secretary, and one of the directors are ending.

You may be asking yourself, “How do I nominate someone who would make a great board member, or even how do I nominate myself?” It isn’t as complicated as it may seem at first. The nominee must be a year-round resident, a club member in good standing, and willing to commit the time and heart to fulfilling the position.

Descriptions of the positions can be found in the club by-laws Article VI, on the club website under the documents tab. Once the person agrees to run for the position, their contact information should be forwarded to the board president.

If you are not already a member of the Top Pickleball Club, you may be wondering how you can get more information on joining and on learning to play pickleball. That is something else that is easy as pumpkin pie with a big dollop of whipped cream. Every Monday and the first Saturday of each month, the training team holds a 10:30 a.m. beginner class (PB101). No need to register, show up to the upper courts for loads of learning and fun.

While we are on the subject of learning, let’s not forget that the ratings team hosts a rules class on the first Tuesday of each month. Sign up for this class on the events tab of our website. Also, the training team has classes for each level of play; those registrations are also accessible through the website’s events tab.

The Top Pickleball Club will host a special event on Saturday, Nov. 8, to honor our veterans and active-duty troops serving overseas. There will be a presentation of colors, a military branch pickleball match, and lunch. For any questions, please contact Mary Kay at 612-817-1924.

Remember to save the dates for the Battle of the Paddle, coming Feb. 27 through March 1, 2026.

Events will also be posted on www.toppickleballclub.com and on our Facebook page.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving! I am thankful for the opportunity to belong to a social club that offers fun, friendly, and healthy recreation through pickleball. Have a great November!

POP Tennis

Beth Smith



Welcome back, snowbirds and year-round pop tennis enthusiasts!

We’re back to our regularly scheduled hours, so come out and play! We meet every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 a.m. at The Arbors lower tennis courts. All levels are welcome – whether you’re just starting or a seasoned player, there’s a place for you on the court.

POP Tennis is an easy-to-learn paddle sport played on a shorter court. It offers the action of traditional tennis but with a slightly softer ball, making it a favorite among players of all skill levels and ages.

Coaching sessions have resumed. It’s the perfect time to improve your game or get started with the basics. To schedule a lesson or learn more about our clinics, contact Brenda Foster at brenda@gcfonline.com.

We wrapped up a fantastic Funky Fall Tournament in October – and the keyword was fun! Players were paired at random for fast-paced, one-serve-per-player matches, switching partners after each game. From beginners to experienced players, everyone had a blast.

Who earned the titles of king and queen of the court? Stay tuned for the big reveal!

The votes are in on our new logo. Thank you to all who submitted designs for our new club logo! The creativity was incredible. After counting all the votes, we’re excited to announce that design #1 is the winner!

We’re in the early planning stages for new POP Tennis Club t-shirts. These will feature our brand-new logo and be made with dry-tech material for peak comfort and performance on the court. More information coming soon!

For general inquiries or more information, contact Shizuka Campagna at shizukacampagna@gmail.com

See you on the court!

Weight Loss Group

Laura Gavey



Holidays are coming! Why does it seem like every event that you attend revolves around food? Parties and events will feature all the high-calorie foods we love. It can be difficult to navigate, but we are here to provide help.

Want to find out the best way to pivot to new foods and different gatherings? Join the On Top of Weight Loss Group. Many of your friends and neighbors are already attending one of the groups, making better food and exercise choices, and reaching their goals! We get together once a week to share ideas on weight loss, healthy cooking, recipes, exercise, and tips for meeting our personal 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 I. 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.

Wellness Cancer Support Group

Robin Storch Scheraga



This group casually meets 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 on Saturday, Nov. 1. Look for the “Wellness Group” table sign.

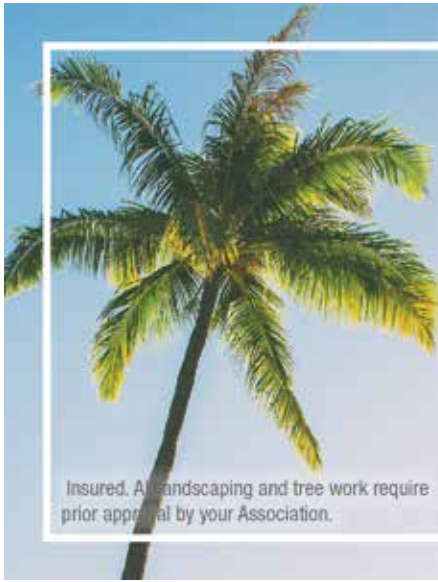
Please contact me directly if you need information about local or Zoom cancer support groups or general information about treatment support. My contact information is listed in the telephone directory.

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Archery Club

Robin Schiltz



The Archery Club held an exciting open house for prospective members on Thursday, Oct. 2, and had a nice turnout despite the weather. Member volunteers gave tours of our facilities and provided on-the-spot shooting instruction, enabling our guests to shoot their arrows and successfully hit their targets. If you missed the open house or have been considering joining the club, now is the perfect time to do so – the current dues cover the rest of this year and all of 2026.

Please note that you must be a club member to use the range. Membership is open to all residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

To become a member, visit otowarcheryclub.org > New Members to download the application form and required waivers. Or, for additional information, please contact Chuck at chuck-archery@strickland.net or 407-257-9668 or Suzanne at suzanne.shea61@gmail.com or 908-510-5714.

In member news, congratulations to Patty Hoppe, who took first place at the NFAA Target Nationals in the Master Freestyle Women’s division. She set the national record for a single day and the combined days competition.

All of our 16 wooden target carriages have now been replaced with aluminum for better longevity and stability. We want to thank On Top of the World for planting trees on the east and west sides of the range. Eventually, they will provide shade for archers during the early mornings and evenings when the sun is low in the sky.

The Archery Club manages the range at Veterans Park and welcomes archers of all skill levels, from novices to competitive. Plenty of equipment is available for those new to archery or returning after a long hiatus. We also have a well-equipped maintenance shop to keep club and personal archery equipment in top shape.

In addition, we have practitioners of the traditional martial art of kyudo, which emphasizes the spiritual and mental development of the archer. Kyudo’s slow, deliberate movements help practitioners achieve mental focus and inner harmony. To learn more about this meditative archery discipline, stop by the range on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. or contact Brenda Foster (brenda@gcfonline.com).

Each Friday, we host “Freestyle Friday” from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Club mentors are at the range and available to assist our novice archers with skill improvement. If you are considering joining the club, this is a great opportunity to meet members, learn more about Archery, and have fun. For a quick introduction to the club, we invite you to stop by during Freestyle Friday.

For more in-depth knowledge, we hold workshops for members on various aspects of the sport. In addition, Patty Hoppe hosts Archery Fundamentals and Shooting workshops at the range on the third Tuesday of each month. Topics vary monthly, and a fun shoot is held after each workshop. Workshops begin at 9 a.m. and are open to all club members.

As always, keep it in the yellow!

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Tennis Club

Al Contarino



Tennis is a sport known for its elegance, athleticism, and global popularity, played by millions worldwide. Its origins trace back centuries, from its ancient roots to the modern Grand Slam era.

The earliest form of tennis originated in France during the 12th century, played by monks as a handball game called Jeu de Paume (“game of the palm”). Players initially hit a ball with their hands; gradually, gloves, paddle-like implements, and eventually strung rackets were introduced. By the 16th century, tennis was a favorite pastime of European nobility, including King Henry VIII, who had an indoor court built at Hampton Court Palace in the 1530s.

The modern game of lawn tennis began in late 19th-century England. This was made possible by the invention of

vulcanized rubber, which enabled a ball to bounce consistently on grass, and by the rise of leisure sports among the Victorian middle class.

In 1873, British army officer Major Walter Clopton Wingfield patented a version of the game called Sphairistikè, though the name didn’t stick. The All-England Croquet Club held the first Wimbledon Championship in 1877, making it the world’s oldest tennis tournament. That year also marked the standardization of rules, including rectangular courts and scoring systems that closely resemble those used today.

Over the next few decades, the other three major tournaments were established: the U.S. National Championships (1881), the French Championships (1891), and the Australian Open (1905). These four events eventually became known as the Grand Slam tournaments – the most prestigious in the sport.

Until the late 1960s, tennis was divided between amateurs and professionals, with the latter excluded from major tournaments. This changed with the advent of the Open Era in 1968, allow-

ing all players to compete together. This shift opened the door to lucrative sponsorships, dramatically raised the sport’s popularity, and led to the rise of global stars. Tennis was included in the first modern Olympics in 1896 but was removed after 1924 due to disputes; it was reinstated as a full medal sport in 1988.

Today, tennis continues to evolve, influenced by technologies such as electronic line-calling (Hawk-Eye), advanced rackets, and video review. Modern players are stronger, faster, and more tactically sophisticated than ever. The last two decades saw the rise of the men’s “big three” – Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, and Novak Djokovic – and women’s champions like Serena and Venus Williams.

From its humble monastic roots to packed stadiums and billion-dollar tournaments, tennis blends tradition and innovation, athleticism and artistry, continuing to inspire new generations.

Contact Brenda Foster for more information on how to join the Tennis Club at brenda@gcfonline.com. Join us for a round robin on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7:45 a.m.



Photo courtesy of Library of Congress

Lawn tennis players were probably in the Boston area from 1890 to 1910.

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Becky Green and Sherry Truby are the winners of the annual chili cook-off.

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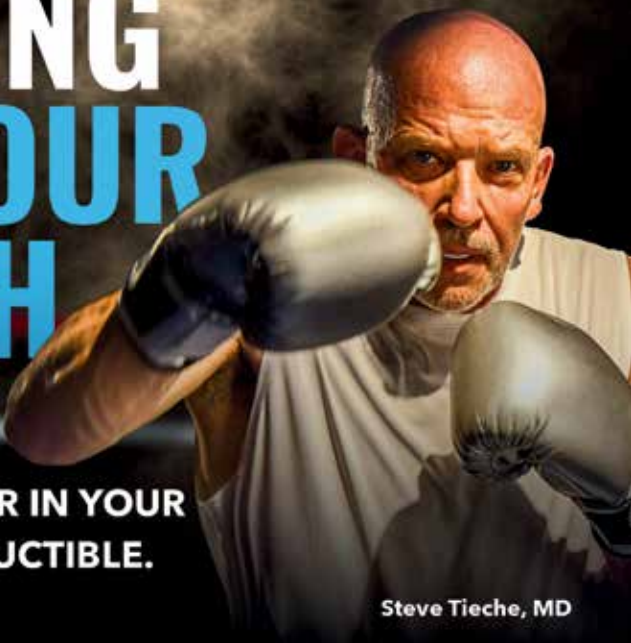
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Ohio Buckeyes
Social Club



Amy Ingram

On Wednesday, Sept. 17, the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club held our first annual chili cook-off party. Members had a great time sampling seven different types of chili as well as feasting on ice cream for dessert. The first-place winner was Becky Green, and Sherry Truby came in second place. Thank you to all the chili cooks.

On Friday, Oct. 31, we will hold our annual Halloween party from 5 to 9 p.m. at Candler Hills Community Center. There will be food, a photo booth, dancing to a DJ, games, and, of course, a costume contest. To finish out the year, we will be holding our annual Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Candler Hills Community Center.

The club continues to enjoy weekly football game watch parties in The Derby Room or at members’ homes. So far, the Buckeyes are off to a great season, and we are hoping to cheer them on to a National Championship victory.

The current board’s term limit is up in January. We are looking for members to step up and volunteer for board and social committee positions. Please reach out to a board member if you are interested in serving. Additionally, we are always seeking new members. If you would like to join the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club, email us at buckeye-fans34481@gmail.com.

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

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Cycling Club



Nick Arkon

Join us for the “Cranksgiving” bike ride and food drive for Veterans Helping Veterans on Saturday, Nov. 22! This exciting community event combines cycling, giving back, and fun for a great cause.

Participants will ride a six-mile route, stopping at Aldi and Publix to buy food for the veteran’s Thanksgiving dinner.

Riders will gather at The Whistling Duck, 8139 SW 90 Terrace (formerly The Club at Candler Hills). Registration begins at 7 a.m., and the ride rolls out at 8 a.m. sharp. Your \$20 registration not only supports local veterans but also includes an event T-shirt. Plus, participants will enjoy raffles and prizes throughout the morning.

All proceeds and collected food donations will benefit Veterans Helping Veterans, making a direct impact on the lives of those who served our country. Whether you’re an experienced cyclist or just enjoy a casual ride, this event is the perfect way to support a meaningful cause while enjoying camaraderie and fresh air.

Don’t miss your chance to ride for a purpose! For advanced registration or additional details, please contact Dean Fesette at 561.542.1930 or email at fesette@aol.com. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Bicycle Safety

Cycling is one of the healthiest and most enjoyable forms of exercise and transportation, but it also comes with risks. By wearing proper equipment and staying alert, riders can greatly reduce the chance of serious harm. Cycling is fun and healthy, but it’s important to protect yourself every time you ride. Follow these simple safety tips:

- Wear a Helmet: A properly fitted helmet greatly reduces the risk of serious head injury. Always wear one, even on short trips.
- Be Visible: Use a flashing red tail light and, if possible, a white front light. Bright or reflective clothing makes you easier to see, especially at night or in bad weather.
- Check Traffic with a Mirror: A rearview mirror on your handlebars or helmet lets you see vehicles approaching from behind without losing focus on the road ahead.
- Obey Traffic Laws: Ride with traffic, stop at signs and signals, and signal turns clearly. Predictable riding keeps you and others safe.
- Watch the Road: Scan ahead for potholes, gravel, and opening car doors. Staying alert helps prevent accidents. Stay visible, stay alert, and ride safely!

Wheeling Around the World Club members meet on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8 a.m. at the Power Park (intersection of SW 90 Terrace Road and SW 90 Street). Contact Dan Oakes at 401-663-7085 or Dennis Cicotte at 561-339-3588 for specific details about membership, group rides, and destinations, etc.

If you have questions or need additional information, email nickarkon1247@gmail.com.

Call of the Wild
Sports Club



Scott Bloch

October’s meeting covered the club’s many highlights.

Soon, the sportsman/woman will begin to make a wish list of “stuff” wanted for next year. Catalogs will show up where they will be poured over. Items will be checked and marked. For example, the deep-sea enthusiast must have an automatic reel to bring up a fish from the depths. And then there are the shootists who want a membership to a range, or the newest weapon.

Instead of a regular meeting, the club will have its holiday picnic. There will be good food and a three-piece band playing holiday music. In between the music, there will be stories. These stories will be club-themed. Like the time L.B. fought off the Kraken during his latest deep-sea trip. Or, on a recent charter where all caught over-slot red drum at the same time, J.L. said his was the biggest. And the deer hunter, C.H., who swore a large, foul-smelling creature was stalking him.

Last meeting of the year is Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information, visit cotw.springly.org.

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Fitness Happenings

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



Diabetes Awareness Month

Each November, communities across the nation recognize Diabetes Awareness Month, a time to focus on prevention and the power of healthy living. Diabetes affects more than 38 million Americans, but there’s good news: research shows that regular exercise and simple lifestyle changes can dramatically lower the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes and help those already living with it take control of their health.

Exercise is one of the most effective natural “medicines” for diabetes. When you move your body, your muscles draw glucose from the bloodstream and use it for energy. This process improves the body’s ability to respond to insulin, the hormone that helps control blood sugar. Studies show that even one session of moderate physical activity, such as brisk walking or swimming, can improve insulin sensitivity for up to two days afterward. Over time, regular exercise helps stabilize blood sugar, lower A1C levels, and improve overall energy.

Health experts recommend aiming for about 150 minutes of moderate activity each week. That’s just 30 minutes a day, five days a week. It doesn’t need to happen all at once; even three 10-minute walks after meals can help keep blood sugar steady. Adding strength training a few times a week is especially beneficial, since building lean muscle helps the body burn more glucose, even at rest.

One of the most encouraging findings in diabetes research came from a long-term national study that showed adults who began exercising regularly and made modest diet changes were able to reduce their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by nearly 60%. For adults over 60, that number jumped to more than 70%, a powerful reminder that it’s never too late to start moving.

The benefits go far beyond blood sugar. Exercise improves heart health, strengthens bones, enhances flexibility, boosts immunity, and lifts mood. It’s also one of the most effective ways to manage stress, a key factor since high stress levels can lead to spikes in blood glucose. Activities like yoga, Pilates, and meditation not only help the body stay strong but also calm the mind and promote balance from the inside out.

If you’re new to exercise, start with something you enjoy. Take a daily walk, try a water aerobics or group fitness class, or use light resistance bands at home. The key is consistency, not perfection. Even small steps add up over time. Always consult with your health-

Cornhole Club

Ray Nault



The men’s league is scheduled to begin on Friday, Jan. 2, 2026. Currently we have enough players signed up to make up seven teams. We have courts available for six more players. If you are interested, please email Rnault85@gmail.com.

Open play is still going strong with play on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Equipment is set up at 4:30 p.m. for practice. Sign-up sheets are distributed at 4:45 p.m., and play begins at 5 p.m. If more than 20 people sign in to play, then those after the first 20 will have the option of waiting for the first available court (which doesn’t take very long) or play in the grassy area adjacent to the regular courts. We welcome players of all skill levels, including beginners and those new to the game. We offer a beginner’s class to learn the techniques and rules of cornhole. Contact Linda Nault at Lnault52@gmail.com with any questions.

NOVEMBER 2025 FITNESS

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	SPARC LILLIAN	Step DERRIE	Remix Bootcamp BUZZY	Step DERRIE	SPARC BUZZY
8:00 am	Zumba® Gold-Toning AMY		Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi ART		Dance Cardio AMY
9:00 am	S.O.S. RONA	Stretch, Flex & Balance LILLIAN	S.O.S. JOHN C.	Sculpt LILLIAN	S.O.S. DERRIE
9:00 am	Chair Pilates LILLIAN		BEAT LOBI M.		Stretch, Flex & Balance LILLIAN
10:00 am	Balanced Body LARRY	Chair Yoga LILLIAN	Balanced Body LILLIAN	Chair Yoga LILLIAN	Balanced Body LILLIAN
10:00 am	Chair Yoga SANDRA		Chair Yoga SCOTT		Chair Yoga SCOTT
11:00 am	Chair Dance AMY	Brain Power SP TEAM	Get Fit While You Sit JOE	Move to Improve Parkinson's SUE	Chair Dance AMY
11:00 am	Dance Aerobics LOBI M.		Zumba® Gold AMY		Dance Aerobics LOBI M.
12:00 pm		Parkinson's B.A.S.E CINDY		Beginner/Intermediate Tai Chi NANCY	
1:00 pm		Chair Chi ART			
3:00 pm	VYP Chair Yoga JOE	Balanced Body LOBI E.	Chair Yoga FRED	Balanced Body CINDY	
5:00 pm		Candlelight Yoga FRED		Candlelight Yoga SANDRA	

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

*Fitness Orientations 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.

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ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Inferno HIIT GB	STRONG BUZZY	Inferno HIIT RONA	STRONG LILLIAN	Core & More JOHN C.
9:00 am	Yoga SANDRA	Pilates Fusion GB	Yoga JOE	Pilates Fusion LOBI	Yin Yoga HELANE
10:00 am	STRONG JOHN C.	STRONG DERRIE	STRONG GB	STRONG BUZZY	STRONG JOE
11:00 am	Yoga SCOTT	Yoga SANDRA	Yoga TISHA	Yoga LOBI M.	ABC Yoga TISHA
4:00 pm	Muscle Fit WCAA	Strong and Steady WCAA		Interval Training WCAA	Dance Fit WCAA

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 on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. These are free but 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 LARRY	**Shallow Water Aerobics SUE	**Deep Water Aerobics TISHA	**Shallow Water Aerobics BABB	**Deep Water Aerobics SUE
10:00 am	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics SUE	Open Swim	**Shallow Water Aerobics BABB	Open Swim
11:00 am	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming	Lap Swimming
12:30 pm	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics DIANE	Aqua Aerobics Club	**Shallow Water Aerobics DERRIE	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.

care provider before starting a new exercise routine, especially if you have pre-existing health conditions.

As we recognize Diabetes Awareness Month, let’s celebrate movement as medicine. Every walk, stretch, and workout brings us closer to better health and a stronger community. By staying

active, eating well, and supporting one another, we can turn awareness into action and prevention into power.

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Billiards Club

Phil Panzera



The club’s fall league is in full swing, running through early December. We have 84 rostered players, and almost one-fifth of those are ladies. The percentage of ladies in the club and in the league is growing each season, a trend we consider a good thing.

If you’re new to the community and would like to join the league, we cannot add players mid-season, but we can add you to the substitutes list. Subs are often needed when rostered players are unavailable. There is no commitment required, and you can always decline if

it’s not convenient. If you are available, it will give you some insights into the experience and a fun afternoon. Our next league will start in January.

All tables were re-covered this month with new premium-quality Simonis cloth. The cloth on most of our tables had been damaged by children spearing their cue at a sharp downward angle into the table. This caused dozens of little cuts and abrasions in the cloth.

Please be aware that this behavior causes permanent damage to the cloth. If you see any children with elevated cues stabbing the tables, please politely say something to the parent (or just call me; my number is on the bulletin board).

Billiard Academy classes continue every Wednesday at 6 p.m. Classes are free for Billiard Club members.

Beyond the Gates

By Geoff Oldberg

With so many wonderful amenities inside On Top of the World, it’s easy to forget that adventure also lies just beyond our gates. For me, nothing compares to a day spent on the Gulf waters, rod in hand and salt air in my face. From Homosassa to Cedar Key, the opportunities for saltwater fishing are endless.

I’ve always preferred inshore fishing for speckled trout, redfish, and snook. Just a few miles farther out, you’ll find grouper, red snapper, and countless other varieties waiting to test your line.

The Homosassa River and Crystal River are two of my favorite launching points. Both are spring-fed and lined with beautiful homes near their heads, but as you head toward the Gulf, the scenery transforms into lush mangroves and quiet islands. Along the way, you may spot manatees, alligators, and an impressive array of wildlife before you reach the flats. Boat ramps here can be crowded – especially on weekends – so a little patience is required. Still, the fishing and the ride downriver make it worthwhile.

Cedar Key offers a different experience. There’s no leisurely ride down a spring-fed river – you can be fishing within ten minutes of launching your boat. And when you return, quaint lo-

cal restaurants stand ready to serve you, some even willing to cook your fresh catch. The ramps here are usually less busy than Homosassa or Crystal River, making Cedar Key my go-to spot.

As a light tackle enthusiast, I prefer artificial lures. Nothing gets the heart racing like a big redfish or snook exploding on a topwater plug. Even a missed strike adds to the thrill. One of my favorite techniques is to edge the boat close to the mangroves, cast tight to the shoreline, and let the plug rest before “walking the dog” back in a zig-zag pattern. The anticipation builds when you see a swirl beneath the surface, then suddenly – swoosh – a massive fish rockets out of the water with your lure in its mouth. This isn’t bass fishing. These fighters will test every bit of your skill.

For those new to saltwater fishing or without access to a boat, hiring a local guide is a fantastic option. The best guides have years of experience, provide all the tackle and bait, and even clean your catch at day’s end. More importantly, they know the waters and the fish, saving you from wasting time hunting.

If you’re looking for adventure outside of On Top of the World, consider a trip to Florida’s Gulf Coast. From the rivers to the open waters, it’s an experience you won’t soon forget.

Tight lines, friends!



Photo by Domenica Genovese

Skies above On Top of the World inspire us to enjoy the present moment.

Meditation Group

Domenica Genovese



What is meditation, really? If you ask 10 people what meditation is, you might get 10 different answers. Some picture a monk on a mountaintop. Others imagine sitting cross-legged in silence, trying not to think. For our Meditation Group, meditation is simply the practice of paying attention to this moment, to our breath, to the world around us.

Why should we care about that? Because life, even in a beautiful place like On Top of the World, moves fast. We all have our routines and small frustrations. Meditation gives us a way to pause and reconnect with what’s actually happening, not what already happened or what might happen next. It’s a reminder that our thoughts can rest right where we are.

Sometimes that awareness shows up in the simplest ways. But in that quiet moment, there can be a sense of wonder that’s easy to overlook when we’re caught up in our daily worries. Meditation helps open that door a little wider. It

helps us notice beauty, calm, and clarity that are always present, just waiting for us to notice.

Our Meditation Group is a small, friendly gathering of people who come together to share ideas and experiences about this ancient practice. We don’t follow one single tradition or require any special background. Some of us meditate daily, others are just beginning to explore. What we share is a simple desire to understand ourselves better and live a little more peacefully.

We meet regularly for 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by 40 minutes of conversation. The topics of our discussion vary, but each session helps us handle stress, health issues, or the ups and downs of everyday life. We always leave feeling a bit lighter.

So, what is meditation? It’s a practice, a pause, and maybe even a way of seeing the world – one that reminds us that there’s more to life than our to-do lists. And that’s something worth sitting for.

We meet every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Arbor Activity Center Event Room I. For more information about our weekly meetings, please contact Domenica Genovese at domenica@gcfonline.com, Brenda Foster at brenda@gcfonline.com, or Athena Drewes at Drathenadrewes@gmail.com.

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Bocce Club

Kathy Nastally



Can you believe it? The snowbirds have returned. Did you see any of the fascinating bird migration? It’s nature at its best, hearing the honking geese and cranes. Yes, ground and flapping air traffic is on the rise. We welcome back our family and friends from their extended time away from our beautiful Florida.

The autumnal equinox and Halloween are past us, and don’t you love daylight saving time? I understand how you feel. Can you find your cooler weather clothing hiding in your closet? Cooler temps may be around the corner. You cannot beat the seasonal aroma of pumpkin spice and everything nice. But, best of all, the new bocce season has begun!

We are more than excited to see our players. In league play, which started Tuesday, Oct. 14, we have some new teams and returning teams with old and new members alike.

Open play continues on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:30 a.m. In open, you can play at your convenience with no commitment. Please arrive early and sign in. We are limited to 48 players. We use a luck-of-the-draw format for play. Players draw cards to determine opponents, teammates, and courts. For example, drawing a green six card means you play on court six on the green team. The first team to 16 points wins, and we play two games.

League play is on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. In league play, you are committed to your team and time. Teams are composed of four players, and a team may list one permanent substitute. If you wish to be a substitute for league play, please contact a league representative/president. Contact information is posted on the court-side bulletin board. All players must fill out a Hold Harmless form, pay dues of \$15, and show their valid resident ID or Gateway Services pass. Dues are valid through Sept. 20, 2026.

Want to try out bocce before becoming a member? You can play three times before joining the Bocce Club. You must complete a Hold Harmless form and show your resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. Dues are collected after the three-play trial period. The bocce courts are located behind the Arbor Fitness Center. Anyone may play outside of posted league and open times, and bocce balls are located under the benches. Bocce rules are posted on the courtside bulletin board. Court 1 is a handicap accessible court with a removable wall for court access.

For questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact our president, Pam Brown, at 970-531-1890. Come on up and check out the Bocce Club. It’s the perfect chance to make new friends, catch up with old acquaintances, and have great fun learning something new. See you at the courts! Let the bocce balls roll!

LEASH LAW

Dogs must be on a leash at all times.

Horseshoes Club

Vern Kessler



Horseshoes is the most fun you can have with two and a half pounds of steel – and it’s free! The club has a donation jar where members can drop in whatever they want. The funds are used to purchase paint and other items that the club needs, as well as to help with the cost of the annual year-end party.

The Horseshoe Club’s competitive pitching for the 2025/2026 season started. Tuesdays pitch pitted Betty DeLong against Cliff Dallas in what was an epic battle of pitching horseshoes. Both threw many ringers with Cliff winning over Betty in the end. On the other pit, Vern Kessler was going up against a feisty Paul Lariviere. Paul threw 10 ringers, and Vern threw 12, with the final scores being Paul 48 to Vern’s 47 points. On the first day of the competitive year, the club pitched 184 ringers, a 25.56% ringer rate.

The club pitches horseshoes on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the Veterans Park pits. Practices on Thursdays start at 9 a.m.

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

Contact Vern Kessler at 321-268-3179 or vkmicheal214@gmail.com with any questions.

Ladies Shuffleboard

Lois Nix



We were able to shuffle the month of September. On Monday, Sept. 29, the courts’ resurfacing began.

Our shuffling schedule remains the same: Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m., and Wednesdays, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., and again from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Ladies’ Shuffleboard Club has reserved these shuffling times for nine years. With the new system in place, we have officially reserved the courts for 2026.

We play shuffleboard with skill, technique, and strategy. Our shuffleboard club is open to all women residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. You need not know how to play. Join us on any day. All new members will be required to register and sign the Hold Harmless Agreement form. Hope to see you on the courts.

September
9–Barbara Russell. 8–Cindy Engler, Darlene Clark, Sally Herrick, Sandy Welch. 7–Helen Finizo, Lois Nix. Happy shuffling.

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Shuffleboard

Walt Lamp



The renovation of the courts started on Monday, Sept. 29, and should be completed as you read this column. To verify, call either Jane Boyer at 352-509-7142 or Walt Lamp at 352-304-8711. But we have managed to play in September.

September
Monday a.m.: Ray Nault.
Tuesday p.m.: Nancy Chatham, Lynn Nelson, and Lou Fisher.
Thursday a.m.: Rick Vogel.

Players scoring over 30 points in a single frame are as follows: Tom Getts, Andrea Bryan, Robert Sapiro, Jim Vail, Ben Travis, Jane Boyer, Charlie Lentz, Gib Mattson, Linda Nault, Suzy Eleazer, Pam Anderson, Lynn Nelson, and Bill Weir.

We had our annual pizza party on Saturday, Oct. 18. A great event where all the members get together for pizza and laughs.

We are planning our fall skills challenge on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 10 a.m. at the courts. Rick Vogel will organize it. There will be cash prizes awarded to 24 challengers, and the format will be fun to watch.

On Saturday, Nov. 8, at 11 a.m., we resume our free Introduction to Shuffleboard, with Paul Hodges as the instructor. He will highlight the rules, scoring, safety, and the basics of shooting the disc. Open-toed shoes are not permitted. Come on down, get some pointers, and maybe join the club on our new courts.

Co-Ed Recreational Softball

Pat Wilbert



Fall is in the air, and what better time to join a wonderful bunch of people for some fun and exercise at the same time? Yes, that’s right. Saturday mornings at the softball field playing Coed Recreational Softball with friends of all ages and experience. We start at 8:30 a.m. for warm-up, and games usually start by 8:45 a.m., depending on how fast the teams are chosen. This starting time will change as we get into the later months, but everyone will be advised ahead of time. Usually, in the fall and winter, we start at 9 a.m. and play eight or more innings until 11:30 a.m. Right now, we will stick to the 8:30 a.m. schedule with seven innings.

We do have some equipment, including bats, but if you have your own glove and bat, please bring them. Jeff Thomas is usually available to assist with any equipment issues or questions you may have.

Coed Recreational Softball is open to men and women; we always need more women of all ages and experience. We welcome all and strive to accommodate as many requests for field positions as possible. We play seven innings, three outs, and four balls. No sliding; we take pride in ensuring everyone plays safely. The next time you wake up on a beautiful Saturday morning and want to try this great sport, please join us at 8:30 a.m. We look forward to seeing you.

Food for thought: Every day is a good day when you’re playing softball.

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Photo by Shizuka Campagna

Mike Lowe, Salian Gray, and Nick Arkon are representing the Table Tennis Club at the Club Fair.

Table Tennis

Nick Arkon



When someone asks, “Wanna play ping pong?” they are inviting you into much more than a simple game. Ping pong, the name for casual recreational play, is also known as table tennis, the official name for clubs, competitive, and tournament play. The sport has grown from a casual pastime into one of the most widely played sports in the world. It is fast, fun, and full of benefits for both body and mind.

Table tennis is truly a sport for everyone. Children can start young and quickly develop hand-eye coordination, while adults of all ages enjoy its low-impact activity, which keeps them moving and sharpens their reflexes. Unlike many sports demanding heavy training or expensive gear, table tennis is simple to learn and easy to play. Individuals with handicaps can also find pleasure in playing since the game can be adapted to many levels of mobility and ability, making it one of the most inclusive activities available.

Health rewards go beyond what you see. Every rally sharpens reflexes, improves agility, and builds balance. Quick exchanges require bursts of energy, giving you a solid cardio workout without the pounding of running or high-impact exercise. The game also engages the brain, as players must focus, anticipate, and think strategically about placement and spin. Studies even link table tennis to improved memory, concentration, and overall brain health, making it a

lifelong sport with lasting benefits.

Table tennis is also a social magnet. It brings families together in basements, friends together in garages, and strangers together in community centers or clubs. With simple rules, new players can jump in right away, while experienced players can enjoy high-speed, competitive rallies. This flexibility makes table tennis both approachable and endlessly challenging, depending on how far you want to take it.

For those who get hooked, opportunities to improve are everywhere. Our club offers lessons for beginners, teaching the fundamentals of grip, stance, and serving. Watching professional matches online can spark new ideas and motivate players to refine their skills and improve their advanced skills, such as spin and footwork. With practice, a casual hobby can quickly grow into a passion.

Pick up a paddle, say yes, and discover just how much this little game can give you. Come and meet our friendly players and join the Table Tennis Club. We have play times for every level of ability. We meet in the Arbor Conference Center.

Intermediate singles/doubles, Tuesday 1 to 3 p.m., and singles, Friday 3 to 5 pm. Ladies doubles/singles, Monday, 1 to 3 p.m.; doubles, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon; and singles, Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. All levels doubles, Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 5:30 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. All levels 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 additional information, contact President Paul Stadterman at ptstadterman@yahoo.com.

Jazz Dance Club

Liz Elliott Lieberman



By the time you read this column, the Ovation Dancers from the Jazz Dance Club will have performed in the murder mystery “The Haunting of Ashford High.” They will be preparing and rehearsing for the next murder mystery at The Landing in November, where the ghost of Dizzy Astaire will have moved! We hope to help raise funds for the SPCA of Marion County, led by the indomitable Marlene Hatch.

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, we will perform our “Favorite Son” number from the Broadway show Will Rogers Follies at the Recreation Center for Veterans Day and remembrance of the end of World War I. I’m sure many of you have fam-

ily members who served in this conflict. Both of my grandfathers fought in that war, so I am happy to honor their memories. Thank you for having us, Charlie Calhoun and the Veterans Club.

Then it will be on to the holiday period when the Ovation Dancers will perform at the Recreation Center’s holiday show on Friday, Dec. 19. Hope to see you there when Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer will be running amok the premises.

Then perhaps we will take a few days off to celebrate the holidays and forget about watching our waistlines! Plans are exciting for next year. If you are interested in dancing with us, please come and check out our classes and rehearsals. Every Monday at the Arbor Conference Center Studio D from 10 a.m. to noon. You are welcome to come and watch a class with an appointment.

For any additional information, please contact Liz Lieberman at Lizzy-lieberman@gmail.com or 702-378-6300.



Photo by Cheryl Sloan

The Ovation Dancers in “Favorite Son” from Will Rogers Follies

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Country
Line Dancing

Judy Sullivan



There’s something special about the rhythm of music filling the air and the sound of boots sliding across the floor. Whether it’s the quick steps of a lively line dance, the graceful turns of a couple’s waltz, or simply the laughter shared between friends, every dance class feels like a celebration.

Line dancing is where most of us begin – no partner required, just a good attitude and a little rhythm. The energy in the room is contagious as rows of dancers move together to the beat. You can always spot the newcomers in the back, smiling nervously at first, then relaxing as the steps start to click. Before long, they’re spinning and tapping right along with the rest of us, proud that their “two left feet” found their way.

Then there’s the couples’ waltz – smooth, elegant, and timeless. There’s a quiet beauty in how two people move across the floor, counting softly under their breath, trusting each other’s lead. Some have been dancing together for years; others are just learning side by

side, discovering that the waltz is less about perfection and more about connection. Each turn, each sway, feels like a wordless conversation between partners.

And of course, every week brings us back to The Town Square – our little corner of joy. It’s more than a dance floor; it’s a gathering place where friendships form and memories linger. The nights are warm, the music inviting, and the crowd always ready to dance the night away. Some folks come to dance, others just to watch and tap along, but everyone leaves with a lighter heart. It’s a place that reminds us it’s never too late to learn, laugh, and move to the music.

Our September social dance was one to remember – an evening filled with laughter, good food, and even better company. The music played on while the dance floor stayed full from the very first song to the last. Between the potluck dishes, toe-tapping tunes, and sea of smiling faces, it was clear what makes our dance community so special – the people.

If you are interested in joining any of our classes, please check out the OTOW App. It opens on the first Tuesday of each month and runs for 10 days, closing on the second Friday of the month.

For more information, visit our Face-



Photo by Judy Sullivan

Social line dance.

book 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 CountryLineDancingWithJudy@

yahoo.com.

Line dancing and waltz both bring laughter, exercise, and joy. Whether you come for the music, the movement, or the friendships, there’s a place for you on the dance floor. I hope to see you there!



Photo by Joe Spencer

Line dancing in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

Line Dancing

Joe Spencer



Line dancing is one of the most beneficial activities, especially for 55-plus dancers. We dance to all types of music! We recently had an official line dance workshop in the Recreation Center Ballroom with choreographer/instructor Cody Flowers! It was so much fun! The floor was packed with dancers laughing and having fun!

New this year are the fun Intermediate line dance classes on Tuesdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. Weber Wen is the instructor. This is the next level up after Improver. Email yfwen@yahoo.comwith any questions.

Also new this season are more fun line dance socials in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Sunday, Nov. 16, and Sun-

day, Dec. 21 (holiday theme) from 5 to 7 p.m. On Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, the line dance social will be in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV from 1 to 4 p.m. Free of charge! Dance the dances you learn on Mondays and Tuesdays for all levels!

January/February is the next session of classes (no class on Dec. 8). Tickets go on sale Tuesday, Dec. 2, through Friday, Dec. 12, on the OTOW App. Each session is eight weeks of classes and takes place on Mondays in the Recreation Center Ballroom:

- Improver (noon to 1 p.m.)
- Beginner (1:15 to 2:15 p.m.)
- Absolute Beginner (2:30 to 3:30 p.m.)

Joe Spencer is the instructor for these classes. We also have helpers who are there to help you whenever possible and to “guide” the dance floor. We also have a group of Absolute Beginner dancers who help the new dancers on Saturdays. So, if you are new to line dancing, you can practice three days a week if you want! Once you sign up, you will get more details. Email joeshipl1@yahoo.com with any questions.

You may purchase as many classes as you wish. Many dancers take more than one class. When you buy your tickets for the session, you may try different levels if you want. Please keep in mind that if you join a new level mid-year, you will want to focus on learning the new dance(s) taught and move forward. Some of the dances reviewed may be from previous classes, but you will catch up eventually.

If you are a new line dancer, the starting level is Absolute Beginner. Practice sessions are on Wednesdays at the Arbor Conference Center. Each class is \$25 per person (one-hour class) for eight weeks. Intermediate level (Tuesdays at the Arbor Conference Center) is \$50 per person (two-hour class) for eight weeks. Come join the fun! You may also join our Facebook page (OTOW Line Dancers) for more information on events.

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Broadway & Tap
Dancing

Elaine Voorhis



Don't you love autumn? It's a beautiful time of year. Hopefully, the weather will cool down so we can really enjoy the festivities in and around our community.

As I'm sure many of you already know, Halloween can be fun for adults too. Some of us enjoy dressing up in costumes and acting silly, not unlike Broadway and tap dancers. It makes us feel like kids again!

Speaking of the dancers, this has been a hectic time for the tap and Broadway classes. Both tap classes have spent much of the summer practicing a special routine to Frank Sinatra's "The Way You Look Tonight," choreographed by our instructor, Penny Berton.

Sidekicks
Western Dance

Richard Gautier



The Sidekicks Partner Dance Club welcomes both new and returning dancers to another exciting season of friendship, fitness, and fun. Whether someone is stepping onto the dance floor for the first time or looking to polish their moves, Sidekicks offers a warm, relaxed setting for couples to enjoy learning dance patterns that anyone can memorize and dance to without having to learn to lead, follow, or improvise.

Dancing has long been known to boost happiness and improve well-being. Moving to music lifts the spirit, refreshes the mind, and adds energy to everyday life. Studies have shown that dancing helps reduce stress, enhances memory, and strengthens balance and posture. More importantly, dancing with a partner fosters cooperation, trust, and connection. The rhythm of shared movement builds friendships and creates a sense of belonging that keeps dancers coming back week after week.

Classes are held every Tuesday in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Beginners with Janet and Sean Amend meet from 4 to 4:50 p.m. Beginner Plus/Improvers



Photo by Steve Warren

Tap dancers from On Top of the World and Master the Possibilities.

More recently, we have been learning new Broadway and tap routines for Halloween to add to our growing list of dances. We love these routines and think you will too. All four classes, both with Peggy and Alex Eizans meet from 5 to 6 p.m. Each class focuses on teamwork and enjoyment as students learn the various partner dances.

For those who want more floor time, there are practice sessions on Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom, and a Sunday practice from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV.

The club also hosts monthly all-level dances every four weeks on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. This month's event will be on Nov. 25. These lively gatherings bring everyone together to share the joy of dancing, meet new people, and celebrate progress in a friendly atmosphere.

A general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 4, from 4 to 5 p.m., in the Hobby Building Art Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

Sidekicks is all about connection, movement, and community. New dancers are always welcome; no experience is needed, just a partner and a desire to have fun.

For details, questions, and registration information, email Sidekicks Partner Dance Club at partnerdancesidekicks@gmail.com. You may also visit partnerdancesidekick.wixsite.com/otow or our Facebook page (Sidekicks Partner Dance). We can't wait to see you there!

tap classes and both Broadway classes, will be joining forces on Friday, Oct. 31, in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV at 1 p.m. They'll be putting on a howling good time. There will be all sorts of creatures who will dazzle you with their magical powers, or rather their fancy footwork, and entertain you with their newest routines and maybe some familiar ones too. You don't want to miss it. Their menacing movements and downright monstrous spookiness will entertain all who dare to enter. Are you in? We hope so. It's free! Bring a friend or a friendly fiend. Maybe even two or three.

Continuing with our busy streak, we have our yearly Halloween performance for Bridgewater and Brookdale on Saturday, Nov. 1. We'll be back there on Saturday, Dec. 13 to perform our holiday show. It's so much fun to bring our en-

tertainment to them. There are always lots of smiles, clapping, and some residents even sing along!

Speaking of the holidays, we'll be practicing our routines in preparation for our special holiday recital edition. If you've attended in the past, you know that the white bearded man in the red suit makes an appearance, but only if we're good. So far, so good. He hasn't missed us yet! It's always a jolly good time!

Keep in mind, we are available for performances. If you would like to make your club meeting or neighborhood get-together a little more special, or if you have questions about our classes, contact us, Broadway Moves with Penny, at broadwayandtap@yahoo.com for more information. We'd love to hear from you and answer any questions you may have.

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Poms Dance & Cheer

Pamela Kalamaras



Poms Dance and Cheer are having the best fall ever. We have been busy performing our new medley of 1950s music for our friends and neighbors, and we enjoy every minute of it.

You may have seen us at the sock hop hosted by Pati and Jan Bean in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The audience was one of our liveliest crowds yet; they had fun swaying and singing in their seats or dancing along.

We also performed at a car show at The Lodge at Candler Hills in October, and the rain cleared just in time for us to perform. We ended October with the Lions Club pet costume parade, which was quite adorable, and our club sponsored a winning cheerleading costume.

November is here, and we kick off with the Veterans Classic Softball Tournament. We will be performing on the field with our patriotic medley, so please come and support us and enjoy the rivaling veterans playing ball!

For Veterans Day, we always present a special performance in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Please arrive early to

Ballet

Eugenie Martin



The Ballet Club was thrilled to participate in the semi-annual Club Fair in September. We attracted some new dancers and enjoyed seeing all of the other club tables. Everyone was very friendly, and the larger space was wonderful. Kudos to the Recreation Department!

Our classes are picking up now, and we are looking forward to the holidays, which are right around the corner. Pam Kalamaras, one of our dancers who also runs Poms Dance & Cheer, will be arranging our fabulous holiday party at Mimi's Cafe in December. You know what they say about "busy people" – they are the ones who get the most done! That is Pam, whom we are lucky to have in our membership.

In 2026, our schedule of classes will



Poms Dance and Cheer Squad at the sock hop in the Recreation Center Ballroom in September.

grab a seat at this crowd-pleasing, honored event.

Sunday, Nov. 16, we will be supporting the Ocala community as we perform at the second annual Veterans Day car show hosted by the Ocala Blue Star Mothers. We kick off the event at 11 a.m. at the Marion County Veterans Park on Silver Springs Boulevard.

If you would like Poms Dance and

change slightly, but for the rest of 2025, the schedule will remain the same as usual:

- Introductory: Thursdays, 1 to 2:25 p.m.
- Advanced Beginner: Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Technique: Wednesdays, 1:15 to 3:30 p.m.
- Intermediate: Fridays, noon to 1:15 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

We suggest that newcomers start with the Introductory classes, so that you can get accustomed to the way we do our classes. To start, you do not need a complete set of ballet clothes. Stretchy exercise clothes, socks for your feet, and a bottle of water are all you need – plus a one-time charge of \$5 to get you set up in our system. Otherwise, all of our classes are free!

If you are interested in learning more about our classes or would like to join us, please contact me, Eugenie Martin, at 352-854-8589. Happy dancing!

Cheer to perform at your next event, we are ready to dress up and sock hop for your party. We will be available for future winter and spring dates. We also feature a patriotic medley with revolving cheers and dances to fit the occasion, any time of the year. It is a joy to foster patriotism in our community. We hope the love we have for what we do shines through in each performance. Our motivated group is committed to practicing many hours each week, working up a sweat, as we build new skills and stamina. Teamwork is at the root of our accomplishments as we focus on communication, active listening, adaptability, and conviction. Go Pommies!

Please contact Pam Kalamaras at pammykal@aol.com to book our club for your next event. We can bring on the entertainment for you as you dance and sing along. Please email our club for more detailed information, videos, pictures, or to view our rehearsals; you won't be sorry.

If you're interested in joining our team, I'd be happy to offer further guidance, information, and support. Entering this new world of dance and cheer is like no other dance in the community. We invite you to come and visit us to see what we are all about, and maybe even join in the fun.

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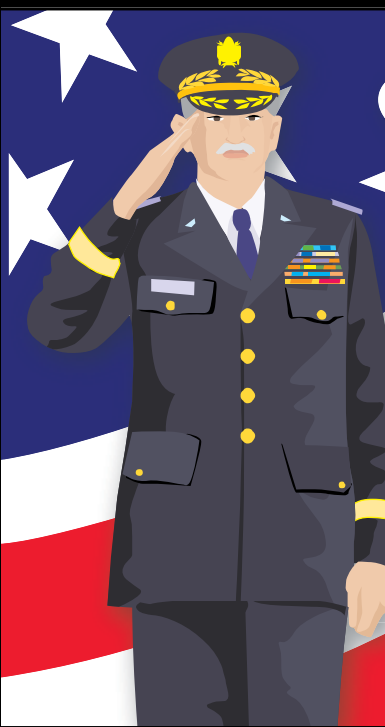
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Discount Valid On Food Only - Alcohol Excluded From This Offer



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AVAILABLE ALL DAY ON THANKSGIVING

Roasted Young Tom Turkey

Brown Sugar Cured Ham

\$22

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Feeling Extra Hungry?
No Problem, Get A Hearty Combo Of Turkey & Ham!

\$18

YOUR CHOICE!

8oz Hand-Cut NY Strip Steak & A Skewer of Grilled Gulf Shrimp - \$25⁰⁰

Limited Reservations Are Available - Above Specials Available While They Last



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Speak To A Member Of Our Management Team & Place Your Order NOW While They Last!

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1-Pound Roasted Tom Turkey

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Homemade Garlic Mashed Potatoes - Cody's Stuffing Turkey Gravy - Mixed Vegetables - Cranberry Sauce Pineapple Sauce - Cody's Famous Roadhouse Salad Fresh Baked Sweet Yeast Rolls - Cinnamon Butter & Pumpkin Pie For Dessert (1 Slice Per Person)

\$65

COMES WITH

Add 1-Pound Brown Sugar Cured Ham - \$15⁰⁰

Add 1-Pound Roasted Tom Turkey - \$18⁰⁰

Orders Must Be Placed By: 4 PM - Wednesday, November 26th And Be Picked Up Between: 10 AM & 2 PM On Thanksgiving Day

OTOW Residents Receive 15% OFF Their Food!*

Must Present Valid OTOW Resident ID - Cannot Be Combined With Any Other Offers, Promotions Or Discounts

8169 SW Highway 200 - (352) 877-2393

Foodies Unite

By Dave DeAngelis
World News Writer

Hey everyone! It's back! The Food Fight Festival is back! er, uh, Truck, yeah that's it. The Food Truck Festival is back! If

you've satisfied your palate at past food truck events, you know that this festival leaves no one disappointed and no one

leaves hungry. In fact, some people just don't wanna leave at all and probably won't want to again on Saturday, Nov. 8, from noon to 4 p.m.

It's quite understandable, given the seemingly endless and diverse selections of food from which to choose. It really is a feast to behold. This year, over 15 food trucks are expected to swiftly serve up as many calories as your stomach com-

mands your brain to order. No problem at all for the vendors. They really serve up a cornucopia of delectables.

Swiftly dance away those calories to the music of mobile DJ WJBj Cruisin' with the Classics, and Ravon Steely Rhoden. Ravon Rhoden has established himself as one of the most innovative and vital voices in modern reggae. Born and raised in Montego Bay, Jamaica, his music pays tribute to legends like Bob Marley and Dennis Brown while pushing the genre into bold new territory.

Oh yes, the kiosk will be joining in on the fun, serving beer, wine, soda, and bottled water, and the ever-popular selfie station will be ready to swiftly capture your good side. Catch some shade while you eat under the food tent. The Food Truck Festival is ... wait for it ... open to the public! Saturday, Nov. 8, from noon to 4 p.m. at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons.

Now let's back up a day to Friday, Nov. 7, to another event that is free and open to the public from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at The Town Square. The Pre-Show Party for Blank Space: The Unofficial Taylor Swift Tribute! (Aha! The subliminal Swift mentions above). For 90 minutes, karaoke your favorite Taylor Swift songs. Shake it off on the dance floor. Hit up the face and hair glitter station. Dress in your favorite Era. Exchange friendship bracelets and enjoy ... yep, food from the food trucks! And if you don't already have tickets for Blank Space: The Unofficial Taylor Swift Tribute at Circle Square Cultural Center after the pre-show party, get 'em while you can. For general admission tickets, visit CSCulturalCenter.com.

For more information, visit Circle Square Commons and Circle Square Cultural Center on Facebook and Instagram.

Wait, There's a Club for That?

By Paul DiSclafani

Did you get a chance to stop by the Club Fair at Circle Square Cultural Center in September?

Anyone who feels bored or can't find anything to do here in On Top of the World is just not trying. The venue was packed to the brim with people browsing the various clubs and activities available to residents. It was like shopping online at Amazon - no matter what you are interested in, they've got it. They even had clubs you didn't know you'd be interested in.

Adventurous? There were numerous activity-based clubs, including pickle-

ball, tennis, sand volleyball, and hiking.

Want to stay active without hurting yourself? How about shuffleboard, cornhole, table tennis, or archery? Well, maybe archery was a bad example.

Interested in the arts? You can join groups that enjoy singing, dancing, playing instruments, photography, painting, or performing on stage.

Some clubs specialize in game playing (cards, chess, dice games, Scrabble, mah jong) or hobbies (model railroad-ing, R/C airplanes, astronomy).

Feeling homesick? There's the New York/New Jersey Club, the Southern

Connection, the Pennsylvania Club, and the Ohio State Buckeyes Social Club.

There are religious and numerous ethnic clubs.

There were so many clubs and activities, I didn't know where to turn. The Republican Club was located (where else?) to the right of the main door, while the Democratic Club was to their left (I kid you not). I stopped at the Italian Club table (they had pastries) and took flyers from the Moonstruck Astronomy Club and the Archery Club.

But now what do I do? I can't commit to everything, can I? Now I've got monthly dinners and lunches lined up with the Active Newcomers Club, not to mention game nights. The members of the New York/New Jersey Club all talk just like me! I've never played competitive bocce, but I've excelled at it every family picnic.

Sometimes, when I was busy at work, I used to think there weren't enough

hours in a day to get everything done. Since I moved to On Top of the World, it seems there aren't enough days in a month to do everything I want. I had to go to Staples to get a calendar for my fridge. I tried putting everything into my iPhone calendar, but that's way too small to read. First Thursday, last Wednesday, every Monday afternoon, every second Tuesday - I just can't keep track of it all. At this rate, I'll need a better golf cart with longer-range batteries.

I'm supposed to be retired. I should be lounging at the pool or enjoying drinks with umbrellas. Instead of working on my next novel, I can't wait to find out what bunco is.

Do you know what I'd really like to find? I want to find a group of cigar smokers who just want to sit around every now and then and enjoy an afternoon smoke. Now that's a club I'd make sure gets on my new refrigerator calendar.

A Spooktacular Open House

By Jim Lynam

You are invited! The Model Railroaders Club is hosting a Halloween open house on Friday, Oct. 31, and Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Hobby Building Model Train Room from 2 to 4 p.m.

Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on Oct. 31. The tradition originated over 2,000 years ago with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Their new year started on Nov. 1. This day marked the end of summer, the harvest, and the beginning of the dark, cold winter.

By 43 AD, the Roman Empire had conquered the Celtic territory. They incorporated two Roman festivals into the celebration of Samhain. The first was Feralia. The second was to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. This might explain the tradition of bobbing for apples on Halloween.

In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated Nov. 1 as All Saints Day, a time to honor all the saints and martyrs. In 1,000 AD, the church made Nov. 2 All Souls' Day. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve and later renamed Halloween.

During colonial times in America, the celebration of Halloween was severely restricted due to rigid Protestant be-

liefs. As other European ethnic groups meshed, a distinctly American version of Halloween began to emerge.

Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes, and eating treats. Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's second-largest commercial holiday after Christmas.

The Model Railroaders invite you to our Halloween open house to view our celebration of Halloween. A diorama of a haunted house with lights and sounds, thunder, and lightning, complete with flying monkeys, ghosts, and goblins, will cast a spell on your imagination. The haunting sounds of the passing steam engine's whistle will add to the spooky sounds of Halloween.

The club encourages you to visit the Hobby Building Model Train Room on any Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. The Model Railroaders Club is always looking for new members, and you are welcome to join us. Our next club meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the Hobby Building Event Room. If you have any questions, please text Jim Lynam on 352-861-2822.

Happy Halloween to all!



Haunted house.

Photo by Jim Lynam

Recreation

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



There’s always something happening at On Top of the World – and now it’s easier than ever to stay informed! Find trip, event, and class details on the OTOW App, OTOWInfo.com, and in the Life in Motion Wellness Connections catalog. Most Recreation events in On Top of the World (Central) are free for residents with a valid ID; guests are welcome for \$5 per person.

The new OTOW App (available in the App Store and Google Play) lets you register for events, book rooms, and pay for trips or classes from any device. After approval (up to 72 hours), you’ll have 24/7 access. No smart device? Visit the Recreation Center to use our new OTOW App kiosks.

As of Aug. 1, printed monthly event calendars in World News have been replaced with digital listings available in the OTOW App, at OTOWInfo.com, on community TVs, and on posted flyers.

We appreciate your support in this digital transition – it helps us bring you even more opportunities to stay active, social, and involved. Download the OTOW App and start exploring today!

Social Committee

Looking to get involved and make a difference in your community? The On Top of the World (Central) Social Committee is always looking for enthusiastic resident volunteers to help shape the fun! The committee meets monthly to share ideas, offer feedback, and assist in planning, organizing, and decorating for upcoming Recreation events. Your input is a valuable part of creating activities that our community truly enjoys. Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Recreation Center Lounge. If you’d like to join us, RSVP by calling 352-387-7530 or emailing shannon_prince@otowfl.com. We’d love to have you on board. See you there.

Recreation Center

Happy Hour (Free)

Join us for Happy Hour Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A cash bar is always standing by for your beverage needs. Enjoy music, dancing, and The Pub. This event is free to residents. Resident IDs will be required to attend Happy Hour. Anyone without a resident ID is considered a guest. Guest fees apply at \$5 per person. Children under 15 are not permitted. Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

- Nov. 7: Billy Buchanan
- Nov. 14: William & Linda Sisco
- Nov. 21: Bootlegger

STAY IN THE KNOW!
DOWNLOAD THE APP!

The OTOW app is available in the Google Play and Apple Store (resident account required).

Music at the Pool Pavilion (Free)

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

- Nov. 2: Steel Drum Randy
- Nov. 14: Gerry Coe
- Nov. 22: Tony Machicote

Tropic Trivia

If you would like to try your hand at Tropic Trivia, December tables will be on sale Tuesday, Nov. 4, through Friday, Nov. 14. A team representative can buy a table for the whole team every month. Tables of eight sell for \$40 on the OTOW App. After your purchase, please come to the Recreation Department to select your table. First-come, first-served.

Karaoke (Free)

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

Ladies Night (Free)

Ladies, you are invited to join us on Tuesday, Nov.11, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Linda and Bill Sisco are the musical guests for this night. Bring your beverages and snacks. See you there!

Movie Night (Free)

Join us for a cinematic night out featuring, when possible, a newly released movie! The movie license covers only the Recreation Center Ballroom; therefore, we are unable to transfer its use to other buildings. Join us on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. Movie title to be announced. Free popcorn and The Pub will be open. Feel free to bring snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

The Ballroom will not be accessible as a cut-through to and from the pool or The Pub during this time. Please make your way around the building so that the darkness of the “theater” can be preserved.

OTOW App Classes

Get all the information you need to understand and navigate the OTOW App. The app is your connection to trips, classes, special events, and room booking requests. Two more classes will be offered on Thursday, Nov. 6, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., and on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

Ballroom Dance Class

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

Safety

Safety is a top priority for everyone living and working on the property. As a reminder to all residents booking rooms, moving tables and furniture is not permitted. The Arbors storage area is designated solely for club locker usage. Furniture stored there is not to be used or relocated under any circumstances. If you require additional tables or chairs

for your event or meeting, please ensure they are included in your setup request during the booking process. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment for all.

For events requiring registration, payment is due at sign-up. No refunds within 14 days of an event or trip.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

World-Class Active-Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

Have fun, and get fit every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Check the fitness schedule on the OTOW App to see what to bring for each class.

Chair Volleyball (Free)

Have a blast in chair volleyball on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the Ballroom! Rules and teams will be determined on the day of the event. Come on out and participate in this exciting, new active aging sport.

From the Top Line Dance Class (Free)

You’re invited each Tuesday for our weekly line dance class at 10 a.m. in the Ballroom. Chuck and Donna Nelson host this instructional class.

Open Game/Card Play (Free)

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

Water Aerobics (Free)

Gather poolside on Thursdays at 10 a.m. to participate in water aerobics. Bring a pair of aqua dumbbells and a noodle.

Happy Hour (Free)

Cheers to a fantastic community! Join us for Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. Feel free to bring your own beverage and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies. The entertainment schedule is as follows:

- Nov. 1: Cherokee
- Nov. 14: Area 81

Kocktails & Karaoke (Free)

Sing your heart out! You’ll feel right at home singing with your neighbors to cheer you on. Enjoy the fun on Thursday, Nov. 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Charlie and Kathy Petrosky. Bring beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies.

Safety Training Class (Free)

The Colen Built Development safety team conducts safety classes. First aid is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend. Registration is required; please call 352-387-9508 to reserve your spot.

Musical Game Night

Enjoy this musical fun night on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. Come and enjoy the game “PRIZEO” along with trivia and “Name That Tune.” Tickets cost \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

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

Indigo East Community Center

Happy Hour (Free)

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

- Nov. 7: Tim Hargis
- Nov. 14: Stragglers

Trivia

Get in on some friendly and fun competition with your neighbors and friends at trivia on Monday, Nov. 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite snacks and beverages to share with your team. The cost is \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.



Music Trivia

Challenge your mind by playing rounds of music trivia and “Name That Tune” on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 3 to 5 p.m. First, second, and third-place prizes will be awarded. The cost is \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Karaoke (Free)

Do you sing? Choose your song and share your voice at karaoke on Thursday, Nov. 20, 5 to 7 p.m. Bring beverages and snacks. Feel free to sing solo or in a group. \$5 guest fee applies.

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

The Landing

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

Join us for a relaxing afternoon by the pool with live music from the talented Dan Flok on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. Soak up the sunshine, enjoy great tunes, and unwind with friends. Don’t forget your sunglasses and good vibes-see you there!

Bead-filled floats are not allowed in the pool. Glass containers are prohibited inside the pool gates.

Happy Hour (Free)

Get ready to groove as Billy Buchanan brings his fantastic energy and kicks off the season in style on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 5 to 8 pm. This is a bring-your-own-beverage-and-snack event.

Karaoke (Free)

Warm up those vocal cords and sing your heart out! Cheryl Jensen will host a night of karaoke on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Friendsgiving Potluck

Spend a memorable afternoon filled with laughter, conversation, and plenty of good food. We will be serving turkey, stuffing, and gravy. This is a potluck event. To make the meal complete, we invite you to bring your favorite dish. Tickets are \$10 per resident and \$15 per guest. Space is limited. After reserving your spot, stop by The Landing Lounge and sign up for the dish you will be sharing. Together, we’ll make this Friendsgiving one to remember!

World-Class Active-Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

Get fit with weekly fitness classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Visit the OTOW App for the fitness schedule and equipment needed for each class.

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

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	Gaitway 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	1:49 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 - 2/24

For information, call 352-789-5666.

HANDICAP EQUIPMENT

Handicap equipment is loaned free to residents during their convalescent term – walkers, crutches, canes or wheelchairs.

For more information, call the Recreation Center at 352-854-8707 x7534.

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Know What's Below.
Whether you're planning a home improvement job, planting a tree or installing a fence or deck, Click Before You Dig to safely identify buried utility lines. **It's the law!**

#16289 - 03/2025

Author's Support Group

Paul DiSclafani



The Author's Support Group will be hosting a “Meet the Authors” event on Saturday, Nov. 8, at The Lodge at Candler Hills beginning at 1 p.m. All residents are welcome. The authors will be available until 3 p.m.

If you are a published author or have always wanted to get your work published, come on down! We will be available to answer your questions about different types of writing styles, how to get your work published, and just about anything you want to talk about.

In this relaxed, conversational atmo-

Poetry Club

Bill Burton



The late summer and early fall season has been fulfilling for Poetry Club members as we continue to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Lounge. Member attendance has been

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Liz Elliott Lieberman



The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Club is excited to announce that our next three murder mysteries have sold out! The cast is very busy rehearsing their roles and bringing to life some very unusual characters. A few of them are the diabolical Dizzie Astaire, the ghost of a former dance teacher, slimy Mayor Ponzi Scheem, the devoted ballroom dancing couple Cynthia and Sidney Snoop, and the delicious asides and bantering of Dee Struction and Stella Phire. The new rock ‘n’ roll star of the 1950s Elvice Parsley will be singing along with an up and coming country star, Clatsy Qwine.

The fabulous Ovation Dancers will also be entertaining, along with salon

sphere, our authors can help you navigate the confusing and often daunting task of getting your work published, whether through traditional publishers or self-publishing.

The following resident authors are scheduled to be available:

Lori Szepelek is a former newspaper reporter in Massachusetts and an author of three non-fiction, spiritual encounter novels: “An Angel on My Shoulder,” “Floors of the Forest,” and “Visits With Mom: A Journey Through Time and Beyond.” If you would like to contact her, drop her an email at lori.szepelek@icloud.com.

Mark Holmes has written several novels across various genres. If you enjoy fiction, he can tell you about “Herb Lundy and the Magic Milk Truck.” If you are a World War II buff, his book, “Artifact,”

consistent, and sharing poems and poetic styles has been an enriching experience for all.

As a group, we tend to grow and mature in knowledge as various individual styles are presented. One of the great aspects of human nature is that we tend to get better at what we practice. That, in fact, is what we do. We practice writing, reciting, and listening.

In the seventh century BC, the blind poet Homer wrote the Greek Epic poem “The Odyssey,” comprising 12,109 lines

owner, Miss Anabel Frizzo! We know the hauntings of The Lodge at Candler Hills and The Landing are sure to be a couple of events to remember this fall season at On Top of the World. There will be more to report after the shows in the December issue of the World News, along with our upcoming plans and performances for 2026.

My goodness, 2026. Where did the time go this year? Tempus sure does Fugit!

Our performances at The Landing are fundraising shows for the SPCA of Marion County, and if you have a favorite charity that you would like to support next year, please contact me at the number and email below so we can devise some murder, mystery, and mayhem especially for your enjoyment and at the same time raise much-needed funds for those in need.

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

is filled with stories from his father’s experiences as a B-24 pilot. Mark also penned a memoir of his Coast Guard experiences, “Always Ready.”

Filomena Abys-Smith (fabys2@aol.com) has authored two memoirs, “A Bit of Myself” and “A Bit of Herself.” She also wrote a historical fiction, “At the Lord’s Table.” Come and meet Filomena, and she’ll tell you about her current project, a sequel to “At the Lord’s Table.”

Paul DiSclafani is a weekly columnist for the Marion County Citizen. His column, “Apples and Oranges,” is a humorous look at Florida life through the eyes of a transplanted New Yorker. He has authored two hysterical memoirs about his life as a young adult and his crazy friends in the late ‘70s. “Burning Through the West Coast” chronicles

divided into 24 books. That is a massive piece of poetry, and while one can admire and even aspire to that volume, few can quite identify with it.

The good news is, we don’t have to. Poetry is not a challenge of length, but rather an art form of expression. Brevity can and does produce high drama and impact. Several of our members, for example, are proficient in Haiku, a Japanese poetic form that uses three lines to convey a single idea in a single breath of reading. We re all learning what each other is doing, maturing in the process, and most importantly, enjoying it.

Is poetry for everyone? Well, actually it is. At some level, we all write it, or speak it, or receive it. Seldom can anyone settle for “hello” or “goodbye,” and

an alcohol-fueled trip to California and Arizona in 1978, while his most recent memoir, “Meeting Bruce Springsteen and Other Tales of Debauchery,” is a series of six individual short stories and adventures from that same period. After a successful career as a columnist for the Massapequa Observer, Paul put together his favorite columns in a compilation called “Long Island Living.”

Ivan Obolensky wrote a three-part gothic mystery series: “Eye of the Moon,” “Shadow of the Son,” and “Dark of the Earth.” For more information about this series, please send him an email at ivan@smithobolenskymedia.com.

Don’t forget to check out the weekly Craft Fair in the Recreation Center Ballroom (Tuesdays at 9 a.m.). Keep an eye out for a table with our authors, who will be selling their books when available.

whether we add “Great to see you” or “don’t be a stranger,” we want the exchange to be more emotionally satisfying. We’re dabbling in poetry. We just don’t call it that. It’s the same reason we speak baby gibberish to babies. We want that infant to smile or giggle. Just plain hello doesn’t cut it, even with a nine-month-old. A college course in gibberish isn’t required to be an effective speaker of it, nor for the baby to enjoy it. Nonetheless, it is poetry.

If you want more satisfaction from dialogue beyond an unemotional “hello,” we can’t toss you up in the air, but we can save a seat for you at the table. Join us or text or call Bill at 352-492-8626 for more information.



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Remove and Replace Front Brake Pads , Install Ceramic Pads, Turn Rotors If Needed , Inspect All Hardware and Components:

\$159.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.

Tire Rotation

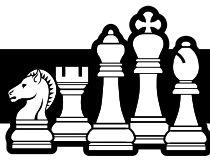
Rotate Tires, Inspect for Abnormal Wear, Reset T.P.M.S systems.

\$9.99*

Must present coupon at time of write up. Not valid with any other coupons or discounts see facility for details. Most cars and light trucks.



CARDS & GAMES



Bingo

Nancy Grabowski



Bingo in November has some same-ness, as well as twists and turns. Here are the key points!
Same: Bingo will be in the Recreation Center Ballroom every Wednesday.
Twist: There is no bingo on Wednesday, Nov. 26 – the day before Thanksgiving – or throughout December.
Same: Raffle tickets are sold from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Prices are three for \$1 or 10 for \$3. Each winning ticket receives \$20.
Twist #1: There will be a special, second raffle for veterans only, on Wednesday, Nov. 12. Veterans should see Kathy Folkers for their free ticket.
Twist #2: The American flag, crafted by Donnie Taylor, will be offered in a third raffle, also on Wednesday, Nov. 12. Each ticket will cost \$1, with all the proceeds going to Veterans Helping Veterans.
Same: Cards will be sold from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Prices remain \$1 per card. You must present your valid resident ID card. Guests are welcome when accompanied by a resident player.
Twist: Super bingo is on Wednesday, Nov. 19. Cards are sold in increments of three for \$5; your valid resident ID is still required, but no guests are allowed to play.
Same: 18 winning bingo pots are based on the number of cards sold. There is a cover-all minus one game for \$75 and a cover-all for a win between \$110 and \$250.
Twist: Super bingo winnings are \$75 for each of 17 games and \$250 for each of three jackpot games.
Same: Per Florida regulations, no alcohol, wine, or beer is allowed. It can be purchased and consumed in The Pub or on the patio.
Twist: Mary Beth Bell will hold her semi-annual bake sale on Wednesday, Nov. 19, with proceeds benefitting Chuck’s Piggy Bank and the Marion County Honor Guard. An additional twist is that homemade chili will be available at the bake sale, too!
Same: You may save one seat in addition to your own. For safety, please do not tip the chairs to save them. Please respect the volunteer signs while they work to make bingo happen.
Twist: Super bingo will be more crowded than usual; consider coming early to get a seat. If you choose to have food delivered, please wait in the entry near the elevators to meet the delivery person.
Same: Contact Carl Folkers or Nancy Grabowski for any questions you might have.

Bridge



Monday Afternoon
By Carol Johnson

Sept. 1
1: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett; 2: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 3: Dennis Wallace & Al Kremer 4: Judi Wallace & Donna Peters.
Sept. 8

1: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett; 2: Debbie and Pat Quinn; 3: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac; 4: Diane Robinson & Carol Johnson.
Sept. 15
1: Debbie and Pat Quinn; 2: Darlene Clark & Pam Bell; 3: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett; 4: Mike Meirick & Craig Ford.
Sept. 22
1: Mar Valchin & Steve Sekac; 2: Debbie and Pat Quinn; 3: Rad D & Judi Wallace; 4: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; Grand slam: Mar Valchin & Steve Sekac.
Sept. 29
1: Steve Sekac & Jack Heller; 2: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 3: C.J. & Dennis Dust; 4: Judy Mackowiak & Phyllis Silverman.
Tuesday Night Duplicate
By Bob Kraus

We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II, and play begins at 6 p.m. Please arrive by 5:50 p.m. so we can set up the best game, Mitchell or Howell, appropriate for the number of players. We can accommodate up to nine tables. Bring your partner and \$0.50 per person.
The boards are scored after the game, and the results are emailed to the group within a few days.
You can also play occasionally as a substitute. Contact us and we’ll put you on our list. For more information, contact Bob Kraus at 352-492-8525.
Sept. 16
1: Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp; Tie at 2: Carolyn Higgins and V J Hentz; and Dennis Wallace & Judi Wallace; 4: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 5: Brian Lomasky & Carrie Kanosky.
Sept. 23
Tie at 1: Betty Schaff & Jeff Young; and Brian Lomasky & Carrie Kanosky; 3: Bob Kraus & Virginia Collins; 4: Sam Feola & Connie Feola; 5: Dennis Wallace & Judi Wallace.
Oct. 7
North/South
1: Chris Wachter & Jeff Young; 2: Bob Kraus & Virginia Collins; Tie at 3: Gary Moses & Diane Turkin; and Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 5: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen.

Wednesday Afternoon
By Debbie Quinn

Sept. 3
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Mary Bloch; 3: Debbie Quinn; Cons: Billie Andersen.
Sept. 10
1: Phyllis Silverman; 2: Mike Meirick; Cons: Bruce Gillett.
Sept. 17
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Billie Andersen; 3: Debbie Quinn; 4: Bev Meirick; 5: Bruce Gillett; Cons: Pat Quinn.
Sept. 24
1: Ron Smith; 2: Debbie Quinn; 3: Phylis Silverman; 4: Kurt Baumgartner; Cons: Bob Knowles.
Thursday Afternoon
By Marlene Floeckher

Sept. 4
1: Pat Quinn; 2: Steve Sekac; 3: Bruce Gillett; 4: Craig Ford; Cons: Bob Knowles.
Sept. 11
1: Billie Andersen; 2: Bill Searight; 3: Craig Ford; Cons: Marlene Floeckher.
Sept. 18
1: Ram; 2: Al Kremer; 3: Marlene Floeckher; 4: Carolyn Higgins; Cons: Dianne Robinson.

Sept. 25
1: Trudy Baumgartner; 2: Debbie Quinn; 3: Steve Sekac; 4: Marlene Floeckher.

Thursday Night
By Penny Wagener

Join our friendly bridge group at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II. All skill levels are welcome – whether you’re fresh from lessons, returning after years away, or an experienced player. No partner is needed; we pair and rotate throughout the night. Bring 25 cents, a smile, and a good attitude. We play three rounds of seven hands, finishing by 9 p.m. Join us for fun and friendship, and you might even win the “2 prize” – a prize awarded for taking a trick with the two of trump that can be passed around throughout the evening.
Sept. 11
1: Bill; 2: Jeff Bell; 3: Chris Wachter; Cons: Chip Auger and Ram Janaki; 2 prize: Jeff Young.
Sept. 18
1: Jeff Bell; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Vera Mangold; Cons: Penny Wagener; 2 prize: Vera Mangold.
Sept. 25
1: Al Whitford; 2: Patsy Claremont; 3: Dave Protsik; Cons: Penny Wagener.
Oct. 2
1: Paul Clarement; 2: Penny Wagener; 3: Al Whitford; Cons: Vickie Lenz; 2 prize: Penny Wagener.
Oct. 9
1: Jeff Bell; 2: Malcolm; 3: Vera Mangold; Cons: Betty Schaff; 2 prize: Chris Wachter.

Bunco Babes Social Group

Michelle Malsch



We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Nov. 25.
Registration is at 6:45 p.m., and games begin at 7 p.m. You do not need to call to register; simply show up with your resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. The room is set up for 48 players. Please ensure you arrive on time to secure your spot. It will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Always check the World News for the latest updates on our group.
Although the name of our group is “Bunco Babes,” we also have a few husbands who attend. If you enjoy the game, don’t be afraid to be a “bunco dude.”
If you have never played, see what fun we have rolling the dice in this game of luck (no skill required)! The game is easy and only requires rolling three dice and moving to the next table at the end of gameplay. New players are always welcome. The rules are simple and will be explained before the start of play.
The cost is \$3 per person (please have exact change), and all collected funds will be returned to the category winners at the end of the game. There are also two door prize drawings for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your beverage and a small snack if you wish. After the first three sets have been played, there will be a short intermission.
Join in the fun and make new friends! For more information, please call Micki Malsch at 352-615-2790. Stay healthy and be safe until we meet again!

Cribbage

Judy Parisi



We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 3 to 5 p.m.
We welcome new players to join us. We’re a non-competitive group of all experience levels. We help each other out and do not do “muggins.” Wins are for bragging rights only, and we are still waiting for one of the group to get that perfect 29 hand.
If you have a cribbage board and a deck of cards, please bring them; however, we have extras available.
If you would like more information or would like to join us, please email judith.parisi@gmail.com or drop in during play.

Euchre



Friday Night
By Mary Bloch

Sept. 5
1: John O’Brien; 2: Kurt Baumgartner; 3: Karen Jacob.
Sept. 12
1: Scott Bloch; 2: Phyllis Jarskey; 3: Lloyd Beitel.
Sept. 19
1: Linda Brown; Tie at 2: Pam Brown & John O’Brien; 3: Lou Pine.
Sept. 26
1: Pam Brown; 2: Sande Caton; Tie at 3: Linda Brown & Jean Gillett.

Mah Jongg

Angela Brady



This weekly game of American mah jongg is open to all eligible residents. All skill levels are welcome. While the game will not be taught during this time, players are willing to help beginners. The games begin at 1 p.m. every Thursday in Arbor Activity Center Card Room III. Please arrive a few minutes early as we will draw chips for table assignments. After three or four games, we will switch tables to make new friends and change the gameplay. Join us for a couple of hours of fun.
For more information, please contact Angela Brady at 407-403-0861 or agbrady@peoplepc.com. Jokers to ya!

Pinochle



Tuesday Night
By Herb Katz

Sept. 2
1: Al Whitford; 2: Jim Magoon; 3: JamesTomaszek.
Sept. 9
1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Marlene Floeckher; Paul Jenkins.
Sept. 16
1: Andy Nuccio; 2: Michelle Pritchard; 3: Beverly Meirick.
Sept. 23
1: Abe Toubail; 2: Robert Moravec; 3: Al Whitford.
Sept. 30
1: Al Whitford; 2: Doug Hines; 3: Marilyn Whitford.

Friday Morning
By Mary Hannon

Sept. 5
1: Walter Hickenlooper; 2: Angela Brady; Tie at 3: Michelle Pritchard and Ilene Casper.
Sept. 12
1: Phyllis Jarskey; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Edna Frye.
Sept. 19
1: Ilene Casper; 2: Phyllis Jarskey; 3: Abe Toubail.
Sept. 26
1: Walter Hickenlooper; 2: Marlene Floeckher; 3: Gayle Argano.
Oct. 3
1: Cheryl Adams; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Marilyn Whitford.
Oct. 10
1: Gary Moses; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Al Whitford.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR
Pick up after your pet.

On Top of the World 2025 HOLIDAY HOURS							
	Day Before Thanksgiving (Wednesday, Nov. 26)	Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 27)	Day After Thanksgiving (Friday, Nov. 28)	Christmas Eve (Wednesday, Dec. 24)	Christmas Day (Thursday, Dec. 25)	New Year's Eve (Wednesday, Dec. 31)	New Year's Day (Thursday, Jan. 1)
Accounting	8 AM - 5 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 AM - 3 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 3 PM	CLOSED
Arbor Fitness Center	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED	5 AM - 5 PM Morning Classes	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED
Bridgenet Communications	8 AM - 3 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 AM - 3 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 3 PM	CLOSED
Candler Hills Golf	7 AM - 5 PM Normal hours	7 AM - Noon	7 AM - 5 PM Normal hours	7 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	7 AM - 3 PM	8 AM - 2 PM
Circle Square Cultural Center	11 AM - 2 PM Normal hours	CLOSED	11 AM - 2 PM Normal hours	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Circle Square Commons	6 PM - 9 PM	CLOSED	6 PM - 9 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
The Whistling Duck	11 AM - 5 PM Normal hours	11 AM - 5 PM	11 AM - 5 PM Normal hours	10 AM - 7 PM	CLOSED	11 AM - 7 PM	CLOSED
Resident Services	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM Normal hours	CLOSED
Indigo East Fitness Center	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED
The Lodge at Candler Hills	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM Normal hours	CLOSED
The Landing at Weybourne Landing	8 AM - Noon	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	8 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED
Master the Possibilities	9 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	9 AM - Noon	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 AM - Noon	CLOSED
On Top of the World Golf	7 AM - 5 PM Morning Classes	7 AM - Noon	7 AM - 5 PM Morning Classes	7 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	7 AM - 4 PM	8 AM - 2 PM
On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion (Re/Max)	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED
The Pub	11 AM - 7 PM Normal hours	CLOSED	11 AM - 7 PM Normal hours	11 AM - 6 PM	CLOSED	11 AM - 7 PM Normal hours	CLOSED
The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes Spa/Salon 8 AM - 2 PM	CLOSED	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes Spa/Salon 8 AM - 2 PM	5:30 AM - 4 PM Spa/Salon 8 AM - 12 PM	CLOSED	5:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes Spa/Salon 8 AM - 12 PM	CLOSED
Recreation Center	Office 8 AM - 4 PM Fitness 9:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED	Office Closed Fitness 9 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	Office 8 AM - 4 PM Fitness 9:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED	Office 8 AM - Noon Fitness 9:30 AM - 4 PM Morning Classes	CLOSED
Sales Center	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED	9 AM - 4 PM	CLOSED
Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli	CLOSED	CLOSED	7:30 AM - 3 PM Normal hours	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski



The New Pretenders will take the stage with an exciting new show! We are currently practicing, tweaking, and perfecting the wide variety of entertainment you’ve come to expect and enjoy. The show is entitled “Tonight’s Going to Be a Good Night!”

The performances will take place in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026, at 7 p.m. and a final performance on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026, at 2 p.m. Sunday’s show coincides with the Super Bowl; however, there is no time conflict and we’ll all be home in plenty of time to party!

The Recreation Department has developed a new concept for ticket sales.

Poetry



The Hairdresser

By Linda Toner

Your hairdresser takes you under her wing, and there is not anything she can’t do to fix your hair, so sit right down in her chair. She is like a magician with the touch of a talented technician. She’s bright, she’s bubbly all the while she listens to your secrets with a knowing smile. When you arrived with hair that was horrific, you never thought you could look so terrific. She’s created a look that is unique to you and sent you home with a new hairdo.

Word World

By Jim Kimes

’Tis a laudable quest to learn lots of words. Such inquisitive folks are scholars, not nerds. Words lead to knowledge, and we know that’s true. Words that you remember, like Kathmandu. Home of Mount Everest, standing tall. Also, it’s the capital of Nepal. Like people, words on other words, depend. They yearn to be useful, spoken or penned. Words are catalysts that make ideas soar. Learn a few words and you want to learn more. Strung together, words can become a team. Vocabulary boosts self-esteem. Words are cogent so they must be respected. They’ll serve you well when discreetly selected.

Where is My Heart

By Janice M. Puta

I looked into the eyes of my neighbors, into the hugs of my friends, around the shoulders of my family, between the prayers of my mentors, asking, searching, reaching out ... where is my heart?

I walked among the trees, waited beside the river, whispered to the flowers, listened to the butterflies, asking, searching, reaching out ... where is my heart?

I met the sun setting on the horizon, lifted the full moon up into the dark sky, tiptoed among the stars far and wide, slept on the restless clouds asking, searching, reaching out ... where is my heart?

I awoke with a small voice speaking ... inside, go deeper inside. I am here waiting for you.

Seeking the Profound

By Barbara A. Scales

Once upon the precipice, I dared to look down And I breathed inward deeply, then slowly exhaled it out Teetering there awaiting a message I hoped would be profound None came Unanswered, I simply turned around

It is called “Ticket Tuesday,” and tickets for any club event will be sold in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III. Those clubs selling tickets can choose times from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to handle their individual sales.

Therefore, The New Pretenders will be there, beginning Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026, from 8 to 11 a.m. We will also adhere to those times throughout every Tuesday in January. Reserved tickets are \$12, and general admission tickets are \$10 each. We will also have tickets available for purchase before bingo each Wednesday in January, beginning on the 5th. The times for Wednesday sales are 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. and during intermission for those attending bingo.

The New Pretenders have long been known for their creativity and love of surprising their audience. Next year will be no exception! We are taking a page out of the entertainment industry, venues like Las Vegas, putting a twist on the pre-show entertainment. There will be additional clues in the next two columns, which should engage our loyal fans. Stay tuned, as they say.

A long-time friend (and avid fan) asked if a song could be suggested, even one that had been previously performed. At nearly the same time, the Statler Brothers’ “Do You Remember When?” aired on the car radio. Those random coincidences had me pause and recall some of my favorite moments from the past, like the elastic waistband incident in “Tijuana Jail” and the blizzard of tiny bananas shared with the audience in “The Banana Boat Song”! Do you have a favorite memory?

We’ve come so far and still hope to inspire new memories in you with our body of work. There was a time when a single line of singers would stand on stage, step out for a number, and return to the line; this was before a band existed! Look at us now! Musicians with multiple instruments, singers who dance, and comics who can deliver a punchline delightfully! If you’re inspired to find out more, please contact any current member or Nancy Grabowski, the director, at 352-209-4699.

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Photo by Lennie Rodoff

Bob Schmitt.

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Woodcarving Club

Linda Toner



The club thanks Diana Moore for donating carving tools. The Club Fair generated some interest in our club. We welcomed two new students whom David Bride, our primary teacher, is teaching to carve an owl.

Our featured carver this month is Jim Carmack. Jim has been carving for about five years. He prefers carving in the round, a three-dimensional piece, although he has done a relief carving, a two-dimensional piece, on the back of his wife’s cutting board.

He was introduced to carving by a gentleman named Ping Chen. He met him while playing ping-pong in Georgia, but when he learned that Mr. Chen was a woodcarver, Jim expressed interest in

learning the craft. Mr. Chen took him under his wing, and Jim has become an accomplished woodcarver ever since.

His red-tailed hawk is an excellent example of what carving, woodburning, and painting can produce. It took almost a year of carving off and on to finish it. Jim’s preferred wood is basswood, as it is a soft wood and easier to carve than mahogany, which is a hard wood. He originally got his inspiration from Mr. Chen, but now gets it from fellow carvers and online sources.

His favorite pieces to carve are spoons and caricatures because he says, “You can go into as little or as much detail as you want, including painting them.” He is currently working on a Frankenstein caricature.

If you know how to carve, whittle, or want to learn, call Tom at 352-586-1171 or Rich at 404-558-3855. We meet every Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. So please stop by, we have wood and tools to loan to get you started on a project of your own.



Photo by Linda Toner

Jim Carmack displaying his red-tailed hawk.



Watercolor by Stella Sheng

Masquerade.

Art Group

Marianne Hoffman



“Art expresses my thoughts, emotions, and feelings,” says Stella Sheng. “It represents my inner soul.”

Stella started drawing and sketching 13 years ago at community college. “That’s when I seriously began to explore my potential as an artist. My art instructor was a true inspiration to me,” she explains.

Today, Stella exclusively uses watercolor paints. “I enjoy mixing colors with water, allowing them to flow smoothly, gently, and softly on watercolor-specific paper. The colors then become vibrant, beautiful, and vivid.”

Stella says she has her own personal style of painting, which she uses to express her creative ideas. “Normally, I choose colors first and then background. Next, I experiment with water flow to see how mixed colors work on my paintings.” Stella says the process makes her

feel creative and allows her to express her innermost feelings.

As a world traveler, Stella has experienced the art, culture, use of color, architecture, and natural landscapes of different countries. “I find inspiration in the beauty of the world around us and in my personal desire for self-expression.”

Stella’s favorite artist is the impressionist Claude Monet. “A close second is the abstract artist, Jackson Pollock,” she says, adding, “I enjoy studying their painting styles and artistic methods.”

According to Stella, she joined the Art Group because the other members love sharing their knowledge, expertise, and techniques in painting. “They help me to develop my artistic skills and talent. I really appreciate their support.”

Are you looking to express yourself, but need inspiration and support? Grab your pencils, pastels, brushes, and pens, canvases, art paper, and join the Art Group. Members meet in the Hobby Building Art Room two days a week: Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information about the Art Group, contact Freda Klump, director, at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com.

Dermatology CLINICAL TRIALS

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AcaBella

DeAnne Blueter



Founded in 2024, AcaBella is an a cappella group, known for its intricate harmonies, bold arrangements, and fun personality. But beyond their impressive performances, the group has carved out a reputation as a tight-knit, passionately driven musical community.

“We’re more than just a singing group,” says Carol Webster, chorus manager. “We’re a family.”

From weekly rehearsals filled with laughter and harmonies to vocal warmups and pep talks, AcaBella brings their whole selves to every note. The

group performs a wide range of music – from Top 40 pop hits and classic doo-wop to inspirational and original arrangements – all done without a single instrument.

“The human voice is our entire toolkit,” explains Director Holly Mastro. “So, we have to be super intentional about rhythm, pitch, emotion – everything has to come from us.”

The group recently performed at a friends and family event where they received a standing ovation for their moving rendition of “Hallelujah.” They are currently rehearsing their Christmas program to be performed at local communities and nursing homes, further cementing their growing reputation in the vocal music scene.

But despite their growing accolades, what matters most to the group is the connection they share – both with each

other and their audiences.

“There’s nothing like locking eyes with your singing sisters and just feeling it – like you’re all breathing the same moment,” says Janet Amend, baritone section leader.

AcaBella is ready to hit new highs – literally and figuratively. Whether you’re a music lover, trained vocalist, or someone who enjoys singing in the shower, AcaBella just might be exactly what you need to bring singing into your life. We meet on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Music Room.

Mark your calendar! All voice parts are welcome to join our vocal ensemble for the spring 2026 session, which starts on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026 and runs through April 8, 2026. For more information, please contact our director, Holly St. John, at agreatsound@gmail.com.

Shutterbugs Photography

Mark Holmes



Shutterbugs members are always learning. Recently, we enjoyed learning about the “exposure triangle.” The exposure triangle is a foundational concept in photography that explains how three key camera settings – aperture, shutter speed, and ISO – work together to control an image’s exposure. Adjusting one side of the triangle affects the others, and mastering this relationship gives you full creative control over your photos.

Aperture is the size of the lens opening through which light enters the camera, measured in f-stops (e.g., f/1.8, f/5.6, f/16). A wider aperture (lower f-stop) lets in more light; a narrower aperture (higher f-stop) lets in less. Wider apertures create a shallow depth of field (blurry background), while narrower apertures increase depth of field (more of the scene in focus).

Shutter speed is the amount of time the camera’s sensor is exposed to light and is measured in seconds or fractions of a second (e.g., 1/1000, 1/60, 2”). Longer shutter speeds let in more light; shorter ones let in less. Fast shutter speeds freeze action; slow speeds create motion blur (great for waterfalls or light trails).

ISO refers to the camera sensor’s sensitivity to light and is measured in ISO values (e.g., 100, 400, 1600). Digital cameras may allow super-high speeds in the thousands. A higher ISO makes the sensor more sensitive, useful in low light, and some say it may introduce noise or grain to the image, but for practical purposes, the effect may be negligible.

Each setting affects exposure and image characteristics. For example, shooting in low light? You might widen the aperture, slow the shutter speed, or raise the ISO. If you want a crisp landscape? Use a narrow aperture, slower shutter speed (with a tripod), and low ISO.

Changing one setting often requires adjusting the others to maintain proper exposure. That’s the essence of the triangle – balance. With practice, you’ll become adept at mastering the capabilities of your digital camera.

For November, our Shutterbugs member photo display at Master the Possibilities features the creativity of John Rosignol. Also in November, Shutterbugs photo contest entries and results will be posted in the Recreation Center Ballroom for viewing. Our club meetings are weekly on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building. Come join us!

You do not need to be a member to join our Facebook group (Shutterbugs OTOW Photography Club). On the Facebook group page, you can view the latest photos from residents and get useful information to help you grow your skills. You can also post your favorite images there. Learn more and get our membership form at otowspc.org.

The Shutterbugs motto, “Those who don’t know should ask, those who do know should show and tell.”

For more information, visit otowspc.org or contact Harry Boyajian at 239-336-4804.



AcaBella’s new members Karen Ramos, AJ Sasnett, Holly St. John (director), and Concetta Alpers.

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View from the Library

David Wesenberg



“Alert in Full Sail” is a memoir by Richard H. Dana. On Aug. 14, 1834, Richard Dana withdrew from Harvard University. He became a common seaman on board the sailing brig “Pilgrim” bound from Boston, Massachusetts, around the Cape of Good Hope to San Diego, California, and beyond.

Dana kept a personal notebook and log of the entire two-year journey, returning to Boston Sept. 18, 1836, on the brig “Alert.” He remained forever after a defender of the common seaman, often defending them in court with little or no compensation.

There was an extremely dangerous passage through the Cape of Good Hope in 1834, with 3,000 ships sunk amid terrible weather, ice flows, storms, and other dangers. Dana witnessed the loss of a seaman. He witnessed the unfair flogging of two fellow seamen by an out-of-control captain. He experienced the incessant labor, on call all the time, through freezing weather, in the best of times, four hours on and four hours off for each watch until no one could sleep longer than four hours, even if they tried.

There are many technical terms associated with rigging and its deployment, which might confuse the reader. The book includes diagrams and pictures for the curious, but its core is human relationships and experiences, not sailing specifics.

California in the 1830s was a remote part of Mexico with virtually no port facilities, a minimal population, and very few Americans. The chief business was hides, which required long, and sometimes uncompensated hours of punishing labor processing hides, carrying the boats into the water, hauling the hides on their heads without wetting them, and later piling them up in primitive storage buildings until 40,000 of them were collected.

What was interesting to the modern reader was the emptiness of small towns like San Diego, Los Angeles, and, at the northern end, San Francisco. For example, San Francisco had one building made of wood from storage boxes and nothing else except a remote deteriorating presidio and a distant monastery.

When Dana visited San Francisco just 24 years later, San Francisco had a population of 100,000. When his son visited in 1879, San Francisco’s population was 400,000. Some towns, like San Diego, did not grow much during that period and remained primarily agricultural.

I found this book to be absolutely fascinating, both as history and as a human story. It was a seminal book in its time, giving the average reader a real and direct look at the exhausting life of a seaman, which resulted in many legal and other changes concerning men of the sea. It is written in a concise, direct way that brings the reader in. Try it for yourself and check it out at our library.



Photo by Chris Kilbride

Intriguing, stylized ink art by Mitch Baylis.

Artistic Crafts & Gifts

Chris Kilbride



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

ArtisticCrafts.org will give you a glimpse of our exceptionally talented crafters and artisans. The group started back in the early 1990s, and the show has grown to over 50 tables on Tuesdays. Over 100 crafters are online, offering unique, custom designs. All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday show.

This month, we’re featuring Mitchell Baylis, whose artistic mission is to challenge viewers to see beyond the surface and embrace the fluidity of experience. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he attended various art schools, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Peter Max Studios, before attending the University of Wisconsin School of Psychology. His art has been displayed in New York City, San Francisco, Miami, Honolulu, London, Seville, and Bangkok.

As an ink artist who transcends traditional representation, Mitch uses patterns and distortions to create a deeply engaging, emotionally resonant experience. His work invites viewers to confront their own perceptions and explore

the complexities of human emotions. The combination of his art and psychology studies makes his work unique.

One of his artwork endeavors features a man and a woman titled “Fruit of the Poisonous Tree.” It depicts a couple symbolizing a modern Adam and Eve, serving as a “psychological mirror” that explores the interplay of contrasting emotions, such as fear and joy, anxiety and calm. Shapes are intentionally distorted and interwoven, creating dynamic and shifting forms. As you see a mouth, a nose, and an eye, you begin to witness not a face but a shimmering mosaic of emotional parts, all incongruous yet harmonic. Similar to human behavior, you see the artistic expression of what lies beneath the surface.

Shapes are easily discernible yet distorted and interwoven into amalgams that shift form at every distance and angle from which they are viewed. When focusing on the details, then stepping back to view the entire work, your eyes adjust, and so does your own complicated nature. Like in life, the common changes with time and view, always reforming into something new to be discovered.

Both Mitch and his wife, Suzie, are currently retired and often participate in area arts and crafts shows. Stop by Mitch’s table any Tuesday, or view his listing on the Canvas page of our website, to get an up-close view and appreciation of his intricate art.

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

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Barry Ripple playing banjo. Photo by Herbert Young

Toppers Banjo

David Wesenberg



Toppers Banjo Band meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. An instrumental practice subgroup meets at 12:15 p.m. on Mondays. This provides plenty of opportunities to join us and explore the banjo as a means of entertainment.

I want to introduce Barry Ripple, our lead banjo player. Barry developed his interest in instrumental music in second grade when he began playing the saxophone. From there, he began playing the clarinet. He played in municipal bands with his father, culminating in playing Carnegie Hall with his college band.

After college, Barry and his wife, Sandi, moved to New Orleans, where he bought his first banjo in 1966. After a few lessons, Barry put the banjo aside while he began family life.

In 2000, he joined the New Orleans Banjo Club and the Banjokers Band. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2007, Barry relocated to Ocala and joined the Mid-

Florida Banjo Band and the 2nd Time Around Band. Barry participated in banjo events in Pennsylvania, Oregon, Michigan, and Florida.

In On Top of the World, Barry joined Eddie Martin to start the Toppers Banjo Band, where he has been our lead banjo player. Barry digitizes old jazz tunes and shares the results with our banjo band. Most of the hundreds of songs we play are the result of Barry’s efforts.

Some of our banjo players have been playing for a long time and can advise you on banjos and accessories. They would be delighted to show you how to hold your banjo, how to tune your banjo, and ultimately how to play your banjo. Your part in all this is to start.

This is a great time to join us if you have an interest in banjos and banjo music. We welcome new active or aspiring banjo, acoustic guitar, and other musicians 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’d love to hear them. If you like to listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Eddie Martin at ueddie2@gmail.com or David Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com.

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.

In the News

Petra Schmidt
otownews@otowfl.com



Each On Top of the World household receives a complimentary monthly World News delivered by 1 p.m. on publication day (see schedule, page 2).

If you don’t receive your copy or wish to stop delivery, email otownews@otowfl.com with your neighborhood, house

number, and street name.

After delivery day, copies are available at newspaper racks in:

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Read online or see the schedule at on-top-of-the-worldnews.com/ocala.

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NOVEMBER 2025

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November 11	November 12	November 13	November 14	November 15
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Fun with Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson



October’s wonderful, cool weather brought out our spooky best when it came to cart décor for the annual Halloween parade. It was a joy to cruise through the Brookdale and Bridgewater Assisted Living facilities, tossing treats to the delighted residents. Designated charities for the October parade were Operation Shoebox, Chuck’s Piggy Bank, Dunnellon Elementary School, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Veterans Helping Veterans. Thank you to the many folks who turned out to make generous donations to these causes. Mark your calendar for the following Saturdays so you won’t miss the parade:

- Nov. 8: Veterans Day
 - Dec. 6: Holiday Golf Cart Parade
 - Dec. 20: Holiday Season
- Membership in our Facebook group (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts) has now surpassed 600 members! 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 otowfunwithgolfcarts@gmail.com. We all have a lot of 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 to your house, please meet us at the Recreation Center as we leave.



Skeleton crew.

Photo by George Ostrom

Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel



While looking at a crochet pattern in the hope of starting a new project, the thought crossed my mind regarding how are the standards for patterns for knitting and crocheting determined? Is there an organization that serves as a resource for crafters on their “yarn” journey? Further research revealed that such an organization exists – the Craft Yarn Council (CYC).

Located in Carrollton, Texas, this group is the yarn industry’s one-stop resource and represents the leading yarn companies, accessory manufacturers, magazines, book publishers, and consultants. People of all ages – more than 50 million – know how to knit, crochet, and craft with yarn because it’s fun, relaxing, and you can make great things.

If you want to learn to knit or crochet, CYC has information to help you get started. At craftyarncouncil.com you will find everything you need. There’s an explanation of the differences between knitting and crocheting, illustrations, and instructions for making the basic stitches, FAQs, a list of helpful resources, and tips for reading project patterns.

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack



Here are some of the discussions at our October club meeting.

The latest Tesla computer update allows full self-drive to be used in parking garages, which are difficult environments for computers to navigate.

Tesla is offering lower-priced Model 3 and Model Y vehicles to offset the loss of the \$7,500 electric vehicle tax credit. They will have manual mirror and man-

If you want to teach others to knit or crochet, you can become a CYC-certified instructor. If you are a designer or are interested in becoming one, visit the Yarn Standards pages. There are helpful sizing charts and pattern symbols, along with industry guidelines for designers. All enthusiasts will also find references in Yarn Standards on pattern abbreviations, needle and hook sizing, and yarn weight standards helpful.

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 don’t want that to hold you back.

We have a talented group of ladies busy with crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering, and various other handicrafts. They are never too busy to help someone with a complicated pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring their current projects or work.

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

ual seat adjustments, a smaller trunk (front trunk), fewer stereo speakers, and no autopilot. Model 3 Standard and Model Y Standard vehicles both provide a 321-mile range on a full battery charge.

The Model 2 is supposed to be introduced in November. More details should be available in next month’s column.

The Tesla Owners and Enthusiasts Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II. You do not have to be a Tesla owner to attend. There are no dues. There are speakers at some meetings. Most meetings are spent discussing our vehicles. Come and join us. We are happy to answer any questions you have about these amazing vehicles.

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Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



November is here, and I remember when I was younger, it was time to start thinking about the holidays. Back then, we could not wait for Thanksgiving. It was a time for families and friends to get together and share a meal. We could hear and maybe sang, “Over the River and Through the Woods” by Hit Crew. It told of the excitement of families gathering. No presents were handed out. There were parades and football games. There was the anticipation of Christmas in the air. Back then, the Friday after Thanksgiving was the start of the Christmas shopping.

Did you know that “Jingle Bells” was originally named “The One Horse Open Sleigh?” James Lord Pierpont composed the song in 1850 for his Thanksgiving Sunday school class.

In 2008, Mary Chapin Carpenter released “Thanksgiving Song.” I just discovered that as I was writing this column. You can find it on YouTube. If you listen to it, it brings back the day’s meaning.

If you are a Celine Dion fan, you can find her song “Thankful” on YouTube. She sings about all the ways she’s thankful in life, particularly for a special person who lights up her world. This was released in 2013.

Music is a big part of holiday celebrations. It lifts your spirit and can bring back good memories. The traditional songs are inter-generational. We all can sing them together.

We are thankful for all the singers who join in the fun. We want you to meet



Photo by Steve Warren

Heather Russell.

Heather Russell. Here is what she has to say, “I’ve been around music from a young age. I took piano lessons when I was young. I’ve been singing as far back as I can remember. My mother was a choir director, so I began in junior choir when I was little and worked my way up to senior choir. I was also in the choir in high school. However, I was always afraid to sing solo. As long as I was in a group, I was fine. I didn’t start singing karaoke until we moved down here. So I began about a year ago. The karaoke bunch is so encouraging and supportive that it only took me a couple of times singing to overcome my nervousness. Or at least my nervousness isn’t nearly as bad as it used to be. Now it’s just fun! My next goal is to learn how to play the guitar so that I can sing songs around the campfire when we are camping.” We meet on the first and third Monday of the Month. You can find us in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room from 5 to 8 p.m. Come any time in between.

Concert Chorus

Joanne Houston



We are counting down the days! Hurry and get your tickets now.

We are excited to showcase the extraordinary talents of 92 incredible singers from the Concert Chorus. On Sunday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center, we promise you an amazing concert packed with treasured songs and holiday traditions that are guaranteed to make you smile, laugh out loud, and dance in your seats.

The music will energize you with a rockin’ holiday revue featuring favorites such as “Let It Go” from Frozen, “Swingin’ St. Nick” with our special guest Santa, and holiday music reflecting the traditions of Hanukkah and Christmas, including “Joy to the World” and “Silent

Night.”

Tickets are on sale during Ticket Tuesday in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III and on Wednesday and Thursday at the Recreation Center Lobby from 9 a.m. to noon. All tickets will be sold for \$10 general admission. We have set a goal of collecting over 2,000 food donations to top our record-breaking donation to Interfaith Emergency Services last year. Please plan to bring non-perishable food items such as pasta, canned soup, macaroni and cheese, fruit roll-ups, canned fruit and vegetables, peanut butter and jelly, oatmeal, Pop-Tarts, bread, rice, chips, candy, cookies, baked beans, tuna, chili, or Gatorade. These donations will provide meals for children in Marion County during the holiday break.

For more information, please email joanne.houston57@gmail.com or deboraasmith@gmail.com or call 603-674-7293. We can’t wait to see you at the concerts!

Broadway Playhouse

Elaine Morrison



Let the game begin. You notice, I did not say games. That is correct because there is only one game. And that will be on Sunday, Nov. 2, which is just around the corner. It will also be the second edition of our club’s highly anticipated entertainment trivia game.

The committee’s new ideas have sparked questions about every facet of the entertainment world, including music, dance, theater, television, and movies. Tickets were sold during Ticket Tuesday at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III in October. The event will be at the Recreation Center Ballroom at 2:30 p.m. We are almost sold out, so if you have not already purchased tickets, please email otowbroadwayplayhouse@gmail.com to see if there are any avail-

able. Tickets are \$10. Do it now. Teams of eight will compete for the chance to showcase their knowledge of “showbiz” and be rewarded for it.

Rehearsals are in full swing for our spring production, “Oklahoma, Jr.” Cast members have been hard at work learning the beautiful music written so many decades ago by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The production, under the direction of Joanne Houston and Cheryl Richardson, is a groundbreaking one for us.

We have not attempted a whole show to date. So, you can imagine the great excitement surrounding the rehearsals. As one cast member told me, “We love being shown how to block and stage the various numbers in such a professional manner. It is beyond exciting.”

All the shows will be at 2:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Saturday, Feb. 28, Sunday, March 1, Saturday, March 7, and Sunday, March 8, 2026. Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale during Ticket Tuesday. Please contact us at otowbroadwayplayhouse@gmail.com for additional information.



Photo by Joanne Houston

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Worship Times

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Sunday School

Sunday · 9 am

We are a Bible teaching, Christ affirming independent Baptist church.
We believe that the Bible is the truth, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Rob Fletcher
Associate Pastor Don Williams



Friendship Baptist Church
Ocala, FL
Meet the Savior, Make a Friend

9510 SW 105th Street, Ocala, FL 34481 (located about ¾ mile off SR 200)
352-237-2640 | fbcocala9510@gmail.com | www.friendshipbaptistocalafl.org

LOST OR FOUND A PET?

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

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November 17, 2025 - December 1, 2025

Drop Boxes For New, Unwrapped
Toys Will Be Located At:

- Arbor Fitness Center
- Candler Hills Golf Shop
- Colen Built Development Accounting
- Indigo East Community Center
- Master the Possibilities
- On Top of the World Real Estate of Marion, LLC
- Resident Services
- On Top of the World Sales Center
- The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa
- The Lodge at Candler Hills
- Calesa Welcome Center

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OFFICE LOCATIONS

910 SW 1st Ave, Suite 201, Ocala, FL 34471
8399 SW 80th St, Suite 17, Ocala, FL 34481

Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pm



**The
Baldwin
Group**
Health Insurance

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program to get information on all of your options. The Baldwin Group is not affiliated with or endorsed by Medicare or any government agency. The Baldwin Group does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Calling this number will direct you to a licensed agent. No obligation to enroll. All health insurance services are the responsibility of The Baldwin Group Health Insurance, LLC, NPN 17880298 and The Baldwin Group Health Insurance II, LLC, NPN 17320005.

Sewing Bees

Ann Gallo



Happy Thanksgiving! Is it really November?

September was a hectic month with the distribution of 215 quilts to five agencies. Head Start received 55 quilts, Isaiah House received 50 quilts, Marion County Children’s Alliance received 75, Hands of Mercy Everywhere received 15 quilts, and Shepherd’s Lighthouse received 20 quilts. Many more quilts will be delivered in the next few weeks.

A very limited number of our quilts are available for a donation. Please message if you see anything on Facebook that you might be interested in.

One of our very talented quilters and vice president, Susie Clauson, entered her picnic quilt in QuiltFest Jacksonville 2025. The judge’s remarks were “Excellent attention to detail in every area. Your ghost quilting of the crabs, lobsters, and shell designs is a great choice and adds great interest.” Congrats Susie!

We anticipate filling 150 Christmas stockings for children aged five through teen. If you would like to help fill our stockings, please email us at Sewing-

BeesClub@gmail.com to learn how you can assist.

Not sure if this is a club for you? Stop by and watch the magic happen. We meet every Thursday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. We also meet on the second and third Saturdays of the month from noon to 3 p.m.

This is a very generous and talented group of men and women who share their talents by offering warmth and comfort to homeless, foster care, and disadvantaged children in Marion County.

There are lots of things to do. We especially need people who can sew and tie a quilt. If you do sew, you don’t have to complete every phase of the quilt-making process. Many hands are a part of 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, and flannel fabric. Gift cards, especially from Hobby Lobby and Michaels, are always welcome.

Join our Facebook page (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive.

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

Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr



On Thursday, Oct. 2, Marcie Miller presented several cards that can be used for any occasion. We thank Marcie for her presentation and for supplying the yarn and circle pattern necessary to complete the cards.

Our group is open to all crafters, whether you’re a beginner or more experienced. Each month, one or two people will present. The group meets on the first and third Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

Anyone can be a presenter; the cards do not have to be fancy or complicated. Our group is built on friendship, socializing, and mutual support.

Contact Connie Press using the email below for any class or general information. Basic supplies, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and card stock, are required. Everyone in the group shares their supplies, and everyone brings new ideas to the table. You are only limited by your imagination!

If you feel this might be a class you would enjoy, or if you have any questions, please contact Connie Press at connie.rubberstampclub@gmail.com.

You can also find the information for each class on our Facebook page.

Our next presentation class is expected to be on Thursday, Nov. 6. The next technique class is likely to be on Thursday, Nov. 20.

Until our next meeting, keep on stampin’!



Photo by Connie Press

Cards presented by Marcie Miller.



Photo by Rolanda Jacobovitz

Susie Clauson entered her picnic quilt at the QuiltFest Jacksonville.

Welcome to...
CIRCLE SQUARE
Commons

8413 SW 80th Street, Suite 1, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 873-4817 | MyBridgeNet.com
Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

8405 SW 80th Street, Suite 11, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 387-7647
Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 5 pm

8415 SW 80th Street, Suite 2, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 387-7402
Monday - Saturday, 7:30 am - 3 pm
Sunday, 8 am - 1 pm
Serving Breakfast, Lunch and Coffee!

8395 SW 80th Street, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 854-3670 | CSCulturalCenter.com
Monday - Saturday, 11 am - 2 pm

8415 SW 80th Street, Suite 2, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 861-9751 | MasterthePossibilities.org
Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm

8399 SW 80th Street, Suite 17, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 401-5611 | Baldwin.com/Medicare/
Monday - Friday, 9 am - 5 pm

Anthony Montemore, CFP®, CRPC
8399 SW 80th Street, Suite 15, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 237-2008
Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 6:30 pm

8413 SW 80th Street, Suite 2, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 351-0500
Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4 pm; Friday, 8:30 am - noon

8385 SW 80th Street, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 861-8180 | RanchOcala.com
Monday - Thursday, 5:30 am - 8 pm; Friday 5:30 am - 7 pm;
Saturday, 7 am - 5 pm; Sunday, 8 am - 4 pm

8409 SW 80th Street, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 306-4904 | FamilyDentalOcala.com
Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm

8399 SW 80th Street, Suite 16, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 237-4777
Ice cream, healthy smoothies, lunch and much more!

8405 SW 80th Street, Suite 14, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 620-8484 | VisitingAngels.com
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8413 SW 80th Street, Suite 4, Ocala, FL 34481
(352) 554-9449 | FFB.com
Bank: Wednesday & Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm
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Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm
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Dr. Lynnette Santoro, & Catherine Ciccone, APRN
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8405 SW 80th Street, Ocala, FL 34481
CIRCLESQUARECOMMONS.COM

#15970 - 9/25

VETERANS DAY EVENTS

7:00-7:30 AM - Arrival & Parking
Park at the Recreation Center (9030 SW 99th Street Road). Shuttle service will be provided to the Veterans Park Memorial. Golf carts may park near the Veterans Park by 7:45 am.

7:45 AM - Flag Honors Ceremony
A solemn tribute by the Veterans Club and Marion County Memorial Honor Guard.

8:30 AM - Honor Walk & Golf Cart Parade
Walk from the Veterans Park to the Recreation Center (0.75 mi). Carry a "storyboard" honoring a veteran. Decorate your cart and join the parade following the Honor Walk.

8:45 AM - Push-Up Challenge
Push-up challenge in the Recreation Center Ballroom — all welcome to participate!

All Day - Honor Wall Display
View and submit veteran storyboards inside the Recreation Center Ballroom.

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM - Commemoration Ceremony
Keynote speakers, performances, and Presentation of the Colors.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
DOWNLOAD THE STORYBOARD
FORMS FOR OUR HONOR WALK!

This event is free and open to the public.

#2071 - 11/25

BE READY
BEFORE
THE STORM!

Florida’s hurricane season runs through November 30. It is important to plan ahead so you are safe in an emergency.

Get ready now for the risks associated with stormy weather so you are prepared to act when alerted by emergency officials.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR HURRICANE SEASON:

- Build a disaster supply kit (first aid kit, water, canned food supply, etc.)
- Compile a list of medications, including dosage and frequency. Have a 7-day supply on hand, particularly special needs items like oxygen tanks
- Those with special needs should register with the Marion County Special Needs Program to receive assistance during a disaster (marionso.com/special-needs-program or (352) 369-8100)
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn ornaments, patio furniture, etc.)
- Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters*
- Fill your vehicle’s gas tank and any gas cans you may have
- Obey evacuation orders
- Pet owners should have plans to care for their animals
- Register for emergency alerts at alertmarion.com

Visit www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php and www.ready.gov/hurricane for additional information.

*Please refer to the Association Rules as to when hurricane shutters may be closed.

#10703 - 7/23



#CCC1332469 | #CGC1528777



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Simonton Multi-Slider MaxView™ Patio Doors

Our new MaxView multi-slide vinyl patio doors make it simple to expand your horizons and completely transform your home.

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EXTERIOR COEXTRUDED FINISH

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WINDOWS & DOORS

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SHOWER REMODEL

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INCLUDES:

✓ Removal of Existing Tub or Shower

✓ Moisture Resistant Gypsum Water Board

✓ 30"x60" WHITE Shower Base

✓ 3-Panels of Standard WHITE Wall Enclosure

✓ 1 WHITE Corner Shelf

✓ 1 Moen™ Mixing Valve

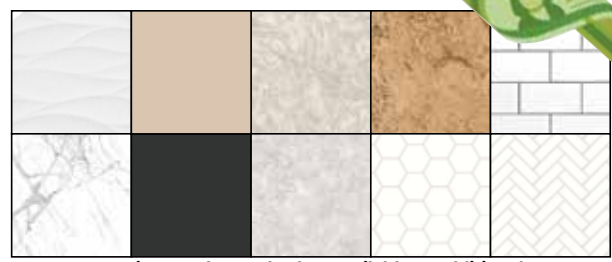
✓ 1 Moen™ Chrome Shower Head

✓ All installed products are infused with Microban® to resist mold and mildew.

\$7,875*

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*CASH PRICE



Numerous options, styles, and colors available at additional costs!



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INCLUDES:

✓ Removal of Existing Windows

✓ White Vinyl Frames

✓ 36"W x 50" or less

✓ Insulated, Argon-Filled

✓ Low-E Glass

✓ Fiberglass Screens

✓ 7 Double-Hung Windows

✓ All Labor & Materials

\$8,875*

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*All offers are subject to available options and may require other purchases to be valid. Please consult with your design specialist about any offers during your FREE in-home estimate.

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FIND IT IN THE ... CLASSIFIEDS!



FOR SALE, WANTED AND LOST/FOUND

ADS: There is no charge to residents as long as it is not of a business nature. There is a \$500 limit on FOR SALE items. Items valued at more than \$500 (i.e. golf carts) may be listed, but price will not accompany the ad. Auto, apartment, financial service, home, legal, real estate, and timeshare ads WILL NOT be accepted. Ads may be emailed to 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 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 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 or visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

The publisher reserves the right to reject any ad which, in his judgment, would not be in the best interest of the residents of On Top of the World Communities.

For Sale

Furniture: Polywood patio furniture, green – glider chair, fixed chair, ottomans (2), and double chair with table unit. 610-721-1424.

Golf Cart: 2022 Evolution D3, white, 4-seater. 321-268-3179 or 321-412-7818.

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 Equipment: Ladies golf clubs (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, PW, SW, putter) and bag, \$50 for all. 610-721-1424.

Golf Equipment: TeeLess Driver, right-handed, 13°, Fujikura R2 (Senior) Flex, Lamkin 360 Crossline STRD Grip, includes head cover, \$79. 201-317-7488.

Home Décor: 6” wood squares wall decoration (4), \$20. Bronze finish wall sconces (2), \$20. Pewter chess set (war between North and South). 407-687-6709.

Medical Equipment: Fold + Go Mag-SHOCK battery-powered wheelchair, charcoal gray, up to 350 pounds, folds for travel, multi-terrain wheels, and travels up to 6% incline. Includes accessories and rapid car charger. Airline approved. 760-985-6020.

Misc. Items: Arlo wireless home security camera systems (3) with solar panel and gutter bracket. \$95 per set. 21.5-quart water bath canner with jar rack and lid canning preserving pot, \$25. 610-721-1424.

Misc. Items: VHS tapes (105), \$50. VCRs (2), \$20 each. Little Joseph Wheeler book set, \$250. 407-687-6709

Musical Instrument: Yamaha (PSR-E273) 61 keyboard, \$60. 608-630-2729.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

Sports Equipment: Rip Curl wet suit and hood, men’s XL, \$40. 941-661-2988.

Sports Equipment: Roll 27” bicycle, 7-speed with helmet and lock, \$250. 353-299-3247.

Sports Equipment: ZuGo e-bike, step-through, 48-volt, 750-watt, LCD display, Kenda 20” 4.0 tires, 20” frame, 4-6 hours to charge, 15-38 mile range, max speed 31 mph. Electra ladies Cruiser 1 bicycle with steel frame, single speed with coaster brake, and 24” alloy rims with classic knobby tires. 610-721-1424.

Tag Sales

Friday, Oct. 31 & Saturday, Nov. 1: 9200 SW 93rd Circle (Providence), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 1: 8711-A SW 91st Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9750 SW 97th Place (Crescent Ridge), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9689, 9692, 9693 SW 89th Loop, 9697 SW 90th Street (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 5 & Thursday, Nov. 6: 8437-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon · 9759 SW 97th Lane (Crescent Ridge), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 7 & Saturday, Nov. 8: 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon · 8969-D SW 95th Street (Friendship Park), 8 a.m. to noon · 8617 SW 95th Court (Stonebridge), 8 a.m. to noon · 9668 SW 93rd Loop (Providence), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. · 8923 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 8: 8108 SW 92nd Circle (Kestrel), 8 a.m. to noon · 9176, 9192, 9194, 9197 SW 97th Circle (Providence), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. · 9327 SW 91st Court Road (Renaissance Park), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. · 8514 SW 93rd Circle (Kestrel), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 14 & Saturday, Nov. 15: 8821 SW 83rd Circle (Candler Hills), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 8966-B SW 94th Lane (Friendship Park), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15: 9749 SW 97th Street (Crescent Ridge), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. · 9727-A SW 94th Court (Crescent Ridge), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15: The Lodge at Candler Hills, 9 a.m. to noon with a basket raffle, bake sale, coffee, donuts, and water.

Thursday, Nov. 20: 9322, 9329, 9347, 9406, 9419 SW 94th Loop (Windsor), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 20 & Friday, Nov. 21: 9551 SW 92nd Terrace (Windsor), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 21: 9322, 9329, 9347, 9406, 9419 SW 94th Loop (Windsor), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Nov. 21 & Saturday, Nov. 22: 9511 SW 95th Avenue (Windsor), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 8833-A SW 98th Street Road (Americana Village), 9 a.m. to 4 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.

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Andy Dahms Interior Painting: Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or andygoodeats1@gmail.com.

Bates Lawn Services LLC: Family owned & operated. Mowing, weeding, pruning, mulch, stone & plants. All landscape needs. Fully insured. Senior discounts. Mike or Daisy 352-207-7221.

Bathroom & Flooring: Tile and LVP installation. Five stars on Google. Many satisfied customers in On Top of the World. Free quotes. Insured. Innovate - Home Renovation (L20000157682), Gabriel 352-216-2202.

Cat Sitting: Provided by loving experienced Cat Nanny (resident) 352-854-8589.

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.

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 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.

Miles & Miles Cleaning Service by Wendy: Kitchen & 2 bath holiday cleaning special (through 12/31/25) – only \$60! Licensed & insured. 352-895-0940 or www.milesandmilescleaningservices.com.

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.

Mobile Notary: Stop hunting for a notary! Same day service by appointment. I come to you. Call/text Larry 352-509-5211 (resident).

Music Lessons: Piano, cello, organ, composition, and conducting. Contact Johnathan Couch at 352-425-9148 or johnathan.couch@aol.com. Accepting students aged 7 to adult. Discounts available for families enrolling multiple students.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR
Pick up after your pet.

Paint Time LLC: Interior & exterior painting. Quality is our goal! Also offering power washing. Let’s spruce up your home inside & out. Call/text Matt at 352-640-6467.

Rikki's Cleaning Service: For all your domestic needs, from cleaning to errands and more. Call Rikki 352-509-4488.

Transportation: Doctor’s appointments, shopping, hair, surgery center, hospital, etc. Diane 352-854-9999 (resident). Please leave message (no texts).

Transportation: Excellent, safe, and friendly service to Tampa, Orlando, Sanford, and Gainesville airports, as well as Port Canaveral. Drop-off/pick-up. Sue’s Transportation 352-446-7425 (resident).

Transportation: Local doctors’ appointments, shopping, etc. Anna 352-873-4151 (resident). Leave message.

We Buy Golf Carts: Fast, friendly, fair. Will beat competitors’ offers. Cash paid. Same day pick up. 352-812-5630.

Weed Pulling: Yard work, mowing, topsoil for lawn/garden and haul away. Offering organic weed/grass killer. Insured. 352-454-2009.

Wanted

Donations: Dog or cat food [SPCA of Marion County 352-362-0985] · Electric golf carts in full working condition for use by volunteers for local park. [Barbara btspriigg@gmail.com] · Men’s and women’s bicycles for local church homeless ministry [Carol 419-601-1322]. · Non-perishable food for food bank, and cards for veterans [Anne 843-504-0032] · Personal hygiene, & school/craft supplies for homeless; pet food/supplies for animal shelters; musical instruments for troops/veterans; socks, underwear & men’s clothing [Donna 352-237-3062] · Yarn for VA hospitals, children, and newborns [352-843-6519].

Ham Radio Operators: Support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Please email brucetwiss@yahoo.com.

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call SPCA of Marion County at 352-362-0985.

Lost

Personal Golf Launch Monitor: Swing Caddie (SC300) voice personal monitor at the golf range. Serial number SC30ib2108423. If found, please call Mike Daniel at 618-263-8234.

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