

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Construction Updates

After the proposed apartment project at SR 200, near the main entry of On Top of the World, canceled its development plans, On Top of the World quickly pivoted to find a quality replacement project. There was consensus among residents who shared their opinions that the SR 200 corridor needed more quality commercial and service-oriented businesses. As it happened, there was interest in that location for a large box commercial retail opportunity for The Home Depot.

Both On Top of the World and The Home Depot have been working with Marion County to secure the required approvals to bring the world’s number one-ranked home improvement retailer in the world to On Top of the World. Home Depot will finalize its building plans and obtain permits in the last quarter of this year. We anticipate that it will finalize its planning phase and move into construction in early 2026. In conjunction with this project, On Top of the World will be implementing significant traffic improvements along SW 99th Street, including the addition of turn lanes and traffic signal upgrades.

In addition to the retail space, Fifth Third Bank will soon be open, and will be joined by a free-standing emergency services center next to Cody’s Original Roadhouse.

THE CLUB AT CANDLER HILLS: The Club at Candler Hills is currently closed for renovations while it undergoes a transformation in appearance, branding and menu. Look for the debut opening of The Whistling Duck in early November.

THE SUMMIT: Progress continues at The Summit in Longleaf Ridge, a 20,000-square-foot amenity currently nearing 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. This state of the art facility should be complete after the first of the year.

AZURA FITNESS CENTER: Construction is now going vertical at the Azura Fitness Center in Candler Hills. This state-of-the-art facility will feature top-of-the-line fitness equipment and an outdoor pool. The project is estimated to be completed by Summer 2026.

RECREATION CENTER: Planned major renovations to the front of the main building at the Recreation Center 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 in the area. Once permitted, we hope to share the new updated exterior elevations with you.

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

WOOD SHOP: Design work is ongoing for the new wood shop facility. Due to the specialized nature of this building, we have collaborated with experts to ensure it will be a top-tier amenity for the community. One key feature is an upgraded dust collection system, which has been carefully designed in coordination with club members to meet the specific needs of the space. 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: Resurfacing of the shuffleboard courts was delayed and began on Monday, Sept. 29. The courts will be closed during resurfacing for approximately three weeks (weather permitting).

CANDLER HILLS GOLF CLUB: The Candler Hills Golf Course is really starting to take shape. Now that all of the new turfgrass

Continued on Page 4A ▶

Experience Tuscany in a Glass

By Gary Pierre

Wine enthusiasts are invited to partake in a very special wine tasting focused on one of the world’s most iconic wine regions – Tuscany. Your host for the event will be Wine Guy Bob Monica, known throughout Florida for hosting exciting and educational tastings. As host, Bob serves as sommelier, showman, and educator, bringing you six luxurious Italian wines and a tasty charcuterie. And the best part is that it is entirely free of charge to resident guests, sponsored by The Accurate Advisory Group.

The event takes place on Monday, Nov. 3, at Circle Square Cultural Center, offering guests an immersive journey into the heart of Italy’s rolling hills and sun-drenched vineyards. From the noble Sangiovese-based reds of Chianti Classico and Brunello di Montalcino to the elegant whites of Vernaccia di San Gimignano and the innovative “Super Tuscans,” this curated tasting will highlight the diversity and tradition that make Tuscany a cornerstone of Italian winemaking.

“Our goal is to transport guests to Tuscany for the evening,” says Wine Guy Bob. “Circle Square Cultural Center will be converted into a charming enoteca with each glass telling a tale of heritage, craftsmanship, and the unique terroir of this region.”

In addition to an array of robust, up-scale wines, the evening will feature perfectly paired Italian bites to enhance the tasting experience. Attendees will also gain insight into Tuscany’s winemaking history, grape varietals, and modern innovations shaping the future of the region.

Moon Over Tuscany – A Tasting of Tuscan Wines takes place on Monday, Nov. 3, at 5 p.m. (doors open at 4:30 p.m.) at Circle Square Cultural Center. The event is free for On Top of the World and Stone Creek residents with a ticket and is limited to 100 guests. No table reservations.

Tickets will be available for pick up at the Circle Square Cultural Center box office on Friday, Oct. 3, at 11 a.m. Tickets are limited to two per resident couple. On Top of the World or Stone Creek resident ID must be presented at the box office.



Moon Over Tuscany – A Tasting of Tuscan Wines takes place on Monday, Nov. 3, at 5 p.m. (doors open at 4:30 p.m.) at Circle Square Cultural Center.

Dining Renovations Underway

By Ray CechWorld News Writer

Residents can look forward to exciting enhancements in dining and hospitality as Colen Built Development announces the arrival of Justin Garner, the new managing director of hospitality and restaurant operations.

Garner, who brings over 20 years of leadership experience in the hospitality industry, most recently directed hotel and dining operations at the World Equestrian Center (WEC). At WEC, he oversaw some of Ocala’s best-known venues, including Stirrups and Yellow Pony, and played a key role in shaping the guest experience across the expansive facility.

Now, Garner says he is thrilled to join Colen Built Development and carry forward its long-standing tradition of quality and innovation.

“The Colen family has built something remarkable here at On Top of the World,” Garner said. “It’s a community with history, heart, and a strong future. I’m excited to build on that legacy and invest in dining experiences that residents can enjoy for years to come.”

Dining Changes

The Club at Candler Hills is currently undergoing renovations and is expected to reopen in early November with a new look, a new chef, and a refreshed menu. Residents will also notice a new name: The Whistling Duck.

Garner described the restaurant’s direction as “upscale casual” dining, featuring high-quality comfort food with a local focus. “We want residents to feel at home while also enjoying something special,” he explained. “From fresh Florida beef to seasonal produce, everything will be rooted in quality and consistency.”

At Sid’s Coffee Shop & Deli, upgrades have already taken effect. The café has severed its partnership with Starbucks and introduced its own coffee program, sourcing beans directly from Nicaraguan farmers. This change allows complete control over flavor and freshness. The café has also expanded its pastry case and added new salads and sandwiches to the lunch menu.

Meanwhile, The Pub is fine-tuning its offerings with a commitment to consistency and quality. “Our philosophy is simple,” Garner said. “Whatever we serve must be of the highest quality, and it must be served the same way every time.”

Fresh Plates Creative Catering will continue as the preferred catering service, now with expanded menu options for both drop-off and full-service events.

A Glimpse at Calesa Township

While the spotlight remains on On Top of the World, residents may be interested in the exciting plans underway in nearby Calesa Township. Projects include The Nest, a new outdoor amphitheater for concerts, a sand volleyball court, a dog park, and food truck parking, along with a brand-new full-service restaurant scheduled to open in late summer next year.

“Calesa is growing quickly, and these amenities will help shape a vibrant community,” Garner noted. “But our focus will always include ensuring that residents continue to enjoy the best in hospitality right here at home.”

Looking Ahead

With Garner now leading hospitality efforts, residents can anticipate fresh energy, upgraded spaces, and thoughtful investment in the dining experiences that make daily life more enjoyable.

“This is about more than just restaurants,” Garner said. “It’s about creating gathering places, celebrating traditions, and making sure residents always feel proud to live On Top of the World.”



Managing Director of Hospitality and Restaurant Operations Justin Garner.

Is It Legal?

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



SCAM ALERT #1: It’s common knowledge that if you receive an unknown phone call, you shouldn’t answer. Let the caller (scammer?) leave a message.

Of course, there are exceptions. Perhaps you’re waiting for a specific call from someone or a company, only to answer and hear a foreign voice claiming you did something you never did, or that you requested, owed, or said. Maybe it’s hard to hear or understand or both. Here’s a good rule to follow: If the caller tells you that you said something or did something or ordered something, or owe something, or he/she need any personal information and you don’t know why, hang up immediately. If there is a callback, don’t answer it. Let the caller leave a message. Then you can decide what you want to do.

Folks, there are huge call centers, frequently in foreign countries, where folks who can speak English are forced into virtual slavery to make scam calls. Don’t believe me? Google “Myanmar scam centers.” Or Google “NPR scam centers.” Callers from these scam centers use sophisticated methods to trap folks into revealing personal information. Best defense is to not answer a call if you don’t know for sure who’s calling. If you answer one and can’t understand or hear the caller, just hang up. Don’t blame your hearing or your hearing aids. Just hang up.

SCAM ALERT #2: We are all targets for scams. Anyone can have their identity stolen. We are not smarter than the scammers. They are smarter than we are. We can easily divulge personal information, or have it disclosed if someone or a company with whom we’ve done business is hacked. Also, our children or grandchildren who use Facebook, X, or TikTok can be hacked without knowing it, and then expose personal information just by forwarding something they saw or read. Best defense is to not click on any link. Also, use two-factor identification as much as possible. If you don’t know how to do it, someone you know will, so ask that person for help. Two-factor identification is a royal pain, but it’s much better than losing your life’s savings.

Q. I have two children from two different relationships. I want to leave my IRA to their children, who are my grandchildren. They aren’t minors. Which is

wiser for me? Should I leave the IRAs directly to my grandchildren or create a trust and leave the IRAs to the trust, which can then control how each grandchild receives his/her share?

A. I do not have anywhere near sufficient facts to answer this question, so I won’t even try. You need to sit down with your estate planning attorney to discuss these issues, which, depending on what you do, can have potential and significant tax consequences.

So, why am I addressing any part of it now? Because without addressing any of the issues in question, there is an important point I wish to discuss. Trusts, if drafted properly, are complex documents. This is true, even if someone thinks they have a “simple estate,” and all that is wanted is to avoid probate when the future arrives. And if you add to the trust sophisticated matters, such as the trust is to be the beneficiary of an IRA (a 401(k) or other pension plan), the trust document becomes even more complex. It’s one thing to have a spouse and a couple of kids or close relatives whom you want to get everything for. But if that’s what you need, you can consider using beneficiary designations on your accounts and avoid the expense of a trust altogether.

Q. I’m pretty sure this will be a “new one” for you. It’s exotic. My wife and I are to be cremated, and we want the cremains of our now deceased dogs dug up and interred with ours, and then all together deposited in the Gulf of Mexico. Can this be accomplished?

A. First of all, over the 50-plus years of my law practice, I’ve seen and heard everything. So, this is neither new nor exotic. Contact the company that is handling your and your wife’s funerals, and then contact wherever the dogs’ cremains are, fill out whatever forms are required, and give copies to your attorney and your personal representative.

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.

GOLF CART REGISTRATION

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

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

OCTOBER 18, 2025 | 10 AM - 3 PM

CRAFT FAIR
AND MORE



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Join us for a vibrant Craft Fair featuring over 100 booths of talented, artistic vendors! Discover a delightful showcase of handmade treasures. Support local artisans, get some early holiday shopping done or find that one-of-a-kind treasure. Food trucks and entertainment are available while you browse and shop. Steven Lazarus will be performing music from 10:30 AM - 2 PM in the gazebo.

Vendors may reserve an outside table for \$55,
or an inside table or outside porch table for \$100.*

*If you are interested in participating as a vendor, registration forms will be sent out via email and accepted in person only. Registration for On Top of the World residents begins on Tuesday, August 5; open registration for all others will be starting on Tuesday, September 2.



Circle Square
Cultural Center



8395 SW 80TH STREET, OCALA, FL 34481



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Read all the good news at ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

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

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2025 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

On Top of the World NEWS

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

*Deadline at noon

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



grinsticks™
By Dave DeAngelis



Lifelong Learning

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October brings a wide variety of courses, lectures, and workshops to Master the Possibilities, with more than 230 opportunities for learning on the calendar this month. To put that into perspective, participants may choose from more than 50 different opportunities each week! With that huge variety, participants can explore everything from history and culture to the arts, science, and wellness. Among these many offerings, I want to highlight two visiting speaker presentations this month.

On Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 10 to 11:15 a.m., Curator Kyle Dunn of the Eldred World War II Museum in Eldred, Pennsylvania, will present remotely to a group of participants in Live Oak Hall. The museum, founded in 1996, honors the work of the National Munitions Corporation, which produced ordnance for the United States and its allies during the war. The museum has dedicated nearly three decades to teaching new generations about the global conflict of World War II. Dunn’s program will trace the origins of the plant, the founding of the museum, and its continuing work to preserve and interpret the history of World War II. Cost to attend is \$6 for members and \$11 for the general public.

The following day, Thursday, Oct. 16, from 11 a.m. to noon, Amy Carney will present remotely on “How Germany Has Reckoned With Its Nazi Past,” also in Live Oak Hall. Since 1949, Germans in both East and West have faced the enor-

mous task of coming to terms with the crimes and devastation of the Nazi era. Carney’s presentation will examine several approaches taken over the decades, including judicial proceedings, youth-led protests, and public exhibitions that made history visible in everyday life. This thought-provoking program offers insight into how societies confront their darkest chapters while seeking to build a more democratic future. Cost to attend is \$10 for members and \$15 for the general public.

In addition to these visiting speakers, participants are invited to a free screening of the critically acclaimed, award-winning documentary “Lives Well Lived” by filmmaker Sky Bergman on Wednesday, Oct. 8, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. The film celebrates the wit, wisdom, and experiences of people aged 75 to 100, capturing intimate memories and personal histories that together span more than 3,000 years of life experience. Forty individuals share their insights on living with purpose and meaning, offering inspiration for audiences of all ages. Following the screening, Cammy Dennis will lead a group discussion for those who wish to participate.

This presentation is generously sponsored by Justine Cancryn, who was so moved when she attended the program last year that she wanted to make it possible for others to share the same experience. Thanks to her sponsorship, the event is free and open to the public, but registration is required.

The complete schedule for October through December can be found at masterthepossibilities.org. For registration assistance or questions, visit the Education Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or call 352-861-9751.

Curbside Recycling

By Robert Colen

Premier Waste Services, our curbside garbage and recycling provider, is returning to weekly recycling pickup on Wednesdays for all neighborhoods that currently receive curbside collection – Candler Hills, Indigo East, Weybourne Landing, Longleaf Ridge, and the curbside service areas of Crescent Ridge.

This means you should place your blue (or any color) recycling bin out on Wednesday.

What Can Be Recycled?

On Top of the World Communities supports recycling, but we must all do our part to ensure materials are properly prepared. Contamination occurs when non-recyclable items or dirty containers are placed in the bin, which can cause the entire truckload to be rejected and sent to the landfill instead of being recycled. To help prevent this:

- Plastics and glass bottles/jars: Rinse thoroughly and remove any labels, paper, or food residue.
- Cardboard: Break down boxes and make sure they are free of food or grease.
- Metal cans: Rinse clean before re-

cycling and remove any labels.

Items That Cannot Go in Recycling or Regular Trash

The following items should never be placed in curbside bins:

- Appliances
- TVs and electronics
- Furniture
- Hazardous materials

Homeowners are responsible for the proper disposal of these items. Options include:

- Contacting Waste Management or Premier Waste Services directly to schedule pickup as a private contractor (fee-based service).
- Dropping items such as an old couch, microwave, or TV at the Martel Recycling Center (296 SW 67th Avenue Road, Ocala, Florida 34474, just off SR 40 in Marion County), where disposal is free of charge.

Neighborhoods that use community dumpsters and compactors remain unaffected by this recycling schedule change.

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Community News

► Continued from Page 1A

has been installed, the staff is diligently working on the detail items throughout the course. New landscaping, tree work, and cart path repairs are on the agenda as is new bunker sand. A firm date to re-open the course is yet to be determined.

The landscaping surrounding the Candler Hills Golf Shop and Community Center is also taking shape and providing for a fresh look. 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: If you have been past the roundabout at the corner of SW 80th Street and SW 92nd Court Road you may have noticed the “Coming Soon” sign for the new Irons 9 Pitch & Putt. Although the permitting process with Marion County has been a struggle as of late, you should begin to see activity resume on this project in the coming months, now that the heavy work on the Candler Hills course is winding down. Underground utilities will commence prior to any vertical construction along with the golf course taking shape simultaneously. Although delayed a bit, we are still anticipating this facility to be a nice addition to the community.

CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER: As you may have noticed, the LED sign

structure in front of the building is taking shape now and we hope to have fully operational by mid-October, which will help everyone stay better informed about all upcoming events.

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

BAY LAUREL CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT: The construction of Bay Laurel’s new office building in Calesa Township is anticipated to be completed by late September. We encourage all residents to remain informed regarding the timing of the transition to the new facility. Come October, if you choose to pay your bill in person, you will need to travel to Calesa Township to do so.

Adjacent to this site, the new Water Treatment Plant #4, a highly advanced water treatment facility, is planned for a start in 2027-28. This plant will service Calesa Township and be interconnected to the entire Bay Laurel Center CDD water transmission system.

Roadway Improvements

SW 90TH TERRACE: The Weybourne Landing multi-modal path extension is complete from the gate to SW 80th Street. Work is ongoing on the extension of SW 90th Terrace from SW 79th Street Road to SW 63rd Street Road. Residents in and around Weybourne Landing can expect increased construction traffic and activ-

ity in this area as paving is scheduled for late October. The contractor's goal is to complete this roadway before the major construction of SW 80th Avenue begins, to provide an alternate route of travel north.

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 2025. 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.

On Top of the World worked closely with a team of biologists and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to ensure every gopher tortoise was handled in full compliance with regulations. After a lengthy turtle relocation process, preliminary clearing of the eastern half of the property was begun. Great efforts are being undertaken to preserve as many existing heritage oak trees as possible.

This community is designed for connection and activity. With 233 new homesites, this neighborhood won’t be

just a place to live, but 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 major 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 be realigning the intersection for a smoother flow of traffic. We’re pleased to share that the roadway 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 an increase in traffic.

Practical Preventive Home Maintenance

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

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

stone by participating in two cultural and educational events that are sure to inspire.

The Learn-Explore-Appreciate-Focus (LEAF) Series at Sholom Park begins its fall season on Friday, Oct. 3, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the pavilion. Photographer Amanda Rantala will lead a class on capturing the beauty of nature through photography. Participants will explore how to experiment with light, perspective, and creativity to tell stories through their images. Whether you’re new to photography or simply want to see Sholom Park through a fresh lens, this class will encourage you to take a closer look at the world around you. Registration is required at sholompark.org/leaf-series or through our partner at Master the Possibilities.

Later in the month, Sholom Park invites you to enjoy an evening of music under the stars with Park After Dark. On Thursday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m., the Southern Express Big Band will take the stage. This 17-member ensemble, a staple of the Ocala music scene for more than 30 years, will bring the timeless sounds of the swing era alongside contemporary favorites. With its powerful brass, smooth rhythm section, and wide-ranging repertoire, the band delivers a concert experience that is both lively and unforgettable. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, relax with friends, and enjoy an energetic night of music in the park. Tickets are available at sholompark.org/park-after-dark or through our partner at Master the Possibilities.

As Sholom Park celebrates 21 years of providing a place where the community can gather, learn, and be inspired by nature, these October events are a wonderful way to connect with the park and with each other.

RESIDENT ID CARD
Carry it with you at all times.

We Want to Hear from You!

WHY DO YOU LOVE LIVING AT ON TOP OF THE WORLD?

Share your favorite photo or a quick comment about what makes this community feel like home — and you could be featured on our official social media pages!

Scan the QR code to make a submission! —



On Top of the World
Where the Good Really Happens

Finding Zen

Robert Colen
info@sholompark.org



This October marks the 21st anniversary of Sholom Park opening its gates to the community. Since 2004, the park has welcomed visitors to enjoy its natural beauty, walking trails, and meaningful programs. Come celebrate this mile-

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Pumpkin spice and everything nice. Fall has arrived! We have exciting updates to share with you.

Curbside Recycling Pickup Returns

Premier Waste Services, our curbside garbage and recycling provider, is returning 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 the curbside service areas of Crescent Ridge.

Safety First

Jonathan Miller



As citizens of the United States, we entrust our common defense and safety to the great leviathan called the federal government. But other factors of safety are all around us, and we don't seem to give them the recognition they deserve. In Big Lake, Minnesota, a four-year-old boy was credited with saving his mother's life by taking care of her and two younger siblings when his mom got sick. Mom was a registered nurse. She said she felt sick enough (with the flu) to go to the emergency room. The

This means you should place your blue recycling bin out on Wednesday, although any color bin you already use is acceptable. What can be recycled? On Top of the World Communities supports recycling, but we must all do our part to ensure materials are properly prepared. Contamination occurs when non-recyclable items or dirty containers are placed in the bin, which can cause the entire truckload to be rejected and sent to the landfill instead of being recycled. To help prevent this:

- Plastics and glass bottles/jars: Rinse thoroughly and remove any labels, paper, or food residue.
- Cardboard and paper: Break down boxes and make sure they are free of food or grease.
- Metal cans: Rinse clean before recycling.

The following items should never be placed in curbside bins:

- Appliances
- TVs and electronics
- Furniture
- Hazardous materials

Homeowners are responsible for proper disposal of these items. Options include contacting Waste Management or Premier Waste Services directly to schedule pickup as a private contractor (fee-based service).

Dropping items such as an old couch, microwave, or TV at the Martel Recycling Center (296 SW 67th Ave. Road, Ocala, Florida 34474, just off SR 40 in Marion County), where disposal is free of charge.

Neighborhoods that use community dumpsters and compactors remain unaffected by this recycling schedule change.

Golf Cart Use at Publix

The management company responsible for the property where Publix is located (Canopy Oak) has reached out to express concerns regarding golf cart usage in the parking area. There have been multiple reports of vehicle damage and verbal altercations related to parking. At this time, several designated golf cart parking spots are available in the Publix lot. However, the management company has stated that if complaints about golf cart behavior continue, they may be forced to remove the designated golf cart parking areas and prohibit golf carts on the property altogether. We ask all golf cart drivers and passengers to please be mindful, courteous, and respectful of parking rules and fellow shoppers to help preserve these privileges.

young nurse planned to drop the kids off at her sister's home and drive herself to the hospital. While preparing to go, she had a coughing fit. She said she felt like she was breathing through a straw and was terrified, then felt like she wasn't breathing at all. The young nurse suffered from asthma and had a nebulizer at home. She attempted to reach the nebulizer but fell to the floor before she could get there. That's when the four-year-old stepped into action. He instinctively brought the nebulizer over, plugged it in, and then filled it with all the necessary medications. The nurse explained, "He held it to my face and said, 'Just breathe, mom!'" He was practicing with me." She and her husband had never shown their son how to use the nebulizer, for he was

only four, so why would they do that? But the little guy was not done working. He then picked up the phone and pressed the side button to tell Siri to call dad. Again, they had not shown their son. The child's message to "Call daddy" prompted the nurse's phone to call the father, who alerted family members who lived in the area and called 911. A state trooper was able to get on the phone with the young lad, who explained to the officer, "Mommy needs help, she's on the floor." The trooper was able to get all the answers from the four-year-old, and mom is alive! The little man was even astute enough to rush over to the door to unlock it before the paramedics arrived. There are no age limits to saving someone from harm. We also find that

you don't even have to be a human. There have been many stories of pets "instinctively" saving family members. This child knew what to do because he had paid attention. Watching his mother daily, he knew the machine was something he should understand, even if his parents hadn't considered giving him training. The child became the first emergency responder to his mother's medical needs and came through with flying colors. Just imagine knowing, for the rest of your life, that you are alive because of your four-year-old child! Make safety a priority in your life and spread safety like the wonderful gift that it is. Be ready to present yourself as a lifesaver if needed.

Newcastle Social Committee

Nancy Monaghan



Hello fall! From September through the end of the year, Newcastle has activities galore on the calendar. On Saturday, Sept. 13, many Newcastle residents joined the Army-Marines-Navy joint 250-year celebration. They honored and celebrated the 250-year history of these three branches of military service – what a wonderful way to start the fall

season of gratitude! On Friday, Sept. 26, the Newcastle and Alendel neighborhoods joined forces for the first time to host a Polynesian luau and potluck. The Lodge at Candler Hills was turned into a Polynesian paradise with a beautiful welcome archway, pineapple centerpieces, two tropical photo areas, and a tiki beverage station. Entertainment was provided by Sala's South Seas Revue from Orlando. Pulled pork and pulled chicken entrees were included in the ticket price. Potluck contributions rounded out the evening's menu. Newcastle residents really enjoyed working on this event with our

Alendel neighbors, and both neighborhoods thank all of our neighbors who attended. A special thanks goes out to Brett and Joni Sinclair for initiating and leading this event. October activities kick off with the fourth annual Newcastle cornhole tournament and chili cook-off on Friday, Oct. 17. Last year, there were over 40 participants, including 14 cornhole teams and nine pots of chili. Competition is fierce – from the Newcastle kitchens to the cornhole courts. Who will win bragging rights this year? October wraps up with Newcastle's fifth annual Halloween progressive

walk. It is a fantastic fun event to see everyone's costume creativity and to enjoy the company of neighbors as we stop at each of the host homes. Get ready for the Candler Connection trunk sale on Saturday, Nov. 15, in the parking lot at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Newcastle will be donating a lovely basket. There will also be a bake sale, and Interfaith Emergency Services volunteers will be on the property to accept donations. End-of-year activities include "Light Up Newcastle" (date to be determined) and the fifth annual holiday party on Friday, Dec. 5. Lots of fun going forward, living our best life in Newcastle!

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My ‘80s Conundrum

By Paul DiSclafani

I used to love the ‘80s. My life was just kicking into high gear. As the 1970s ended, I graduated from college and secured my first “real” job, marking the beginning of my career in healthcare IT. Then I met a girl and got married. After years of futility, the New York Islanders won four straight Stanley Cups. My Mets not only dominated the National League, but I was at Shea Stadium when they won the World Series in 1986. I got to see New Year’s Eve concerts by Bruce Springsteen (1980) and Billy Joel (1982). We even bought our first house and welcomed our first child before the decade came to a close. But here in On Top of the World,

whenever someone mentions a street address that begins with “80,” I start to get the willies. Since arriving in our community in July, the unfamiliarity of the neighborhood has caused me to question my sense of direction. Unfortunately, I’m not a direct descendant of Magellan, so I need to follow the rising or setting sun to know where I’m headed. I haven’t wandered too far away from SR 200 yet. When residents direct me to a nice restaurant or a specific store, I ask: “Is that towards I-75 or away?” And the local TV news stations are no help, especially with reports of extreme weather. We’ve grown accustomed to

finding out it’s going to rain today (what else is new?), but when they start mentioning towns with tornado warnings, I need to get out a map to find out where they are in relation to Ocala. I have a good idea of where we are on the map, but where exactly is Pine Hills, or Apopka? If a tornado is heading towards The Villages, should I panic or remain calm? Maybe there should be a course at Master the Possibilities called, “You Are Here ...” I understand Marion County is responsible for assigning all street names, but how many “SW 80s” does one community need? New York may not be for everyone, but the streets had names, or, at the very least, numbers that increased or decreased sequentially depending on your direction. The first time we visited On Top of the World, we encountered the confus-

ing intersection of “SW 80th Road” and “SW 80th Avenue.” Since then, we’ve found “SW 80” combined with “Street,” “Lane,” “Court,” “Place,” and “Terrace.” There are five separate “SW 80th Place” monikers within a mile of our home. It’s no wonder people complain about the mail service. With the help of our fellow residents, we’re finding our way around the community. Since deciding to paint the outside of our home, we’re slowly exploring beautiful places like Weybourne Landing, On Top of the World (Central), and the other Candler Hills neighborhoods to see what color combinations residents have used. While exploring Indigo East, we encountered a “SW 80” designation that doubled down on the absurdity: SW 80th Place Road. Oh, how I used to love the ‘80s ...

Candler Connection

Debra Keirn



The monthly potluck dinner (German night) will be on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at 5:30 p.m. Last names beginning with A-H bring a side dish or salad; I-P bring a main dish, and Q-Z bring a dessert. Please prepare your dish for 12 to 15 people and label it with the ingredients to help those with food allergies. The \$1 fee at the door covers table cloths, eating utensils, plates, decaf coffee, creamers, and centerpieces. Please RSVP by phone to Deb Keirn at 352-414-5737, by text at 814-571-7908, or by email at arthurkipdeb@verizon.net to be added to the attendee list. On Friday, Oct. 31, the Halloween Fright Night will be from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Our DJ will be Z Street Band. Come dressed in costume and win a prize in

various categories (scariest, most original, or crowd pleaser), or if you’re not a costume person, come and enjoy good food and music. There will be snack, sandwich, salad, and dessert stations. Ticket sales will continue Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 2, 7, and 9, for \$25 per Candler Hills resident and \$27 per guest. The Trunk Sale will take place on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at The Lodge at Candler Hills parking lot. Spaces will be available for you to rent for \$10 for two spaces or \$13 for three spaces. Ticket sales for spaces will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, and 30. We will have a raffle of gift baskets, and the Petroskys will provide the music. There will be a bake sale, and coffee, donuts, and water will also be 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 is a great opportunity to sell your unwanted treasures. Our annual holiday party is sched-

uled for Friday, Dec. 12, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Gourmet Affair will cater, and Ross Getek will provide the music. The menu is cherry tomato basil chicken in a light garlic sauce, rosemary roasted pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon and onion, Caesar salad, and a variety of cakes for dessert. Tickets will 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 come up with events for 2026. We have booked the Flying Ivories for Feb. 14, 2026, so tentatively put that event on your calendar. This event was a huge success last year and is a great way to celebrate Valentine’s Day with good food and great entertainment. Stay tuned for more information on 2026 events. See you around the neighborhood!

OneBlood Bloodmobile

Sara Sommer



We had 17 whole blood units at our September drive. That is a decent total for our Friday drive. As essential persons, donors have great powers. The next drive is Monday, Oct. 6. The Big Red Bus® will be parked in the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The platelets mobile will be there, also. 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 amount of donations. Walk-ins are always welcome, but you can make an appointment. The schedule is online about two weeks before the drive. Simply log on to OneBlood.org/

donate and look for the On Top of the World drive. Pick your time, and you are all set. Appointments are usually taken first to try to keep on schedule. You will be sent a confirmation by email as well as a reminder when the time comes. There is no substitute for human blood. Only you can make a difference. Please give. See you on the bus.

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Williamsburg
Neighbors

Nancy Meininger



Williamsburg has something no other neighborhood has. What is it? A team of ambassadors dedicated to making Williamsburg rock!

It began with Deanne Sanders, your first contact with this great group of neighbors. She is there to help you over the move-in threshold and provide information about the enjoyable activities you can participate in to meet your new neighbors.

Following Deanne, you are assigned to ambassador street reps, the go-to people who are there for you whenever you need them, going forward as you settle in.

Then come Carmel Kessler and Gwen Fabian, the fun wizards who spend hours concocting activities for special event days like the free men’s pizza lunch and the Williamsburg trivia game party that took place in September; and the Oktoberfest potluck, coming up on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 4 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II with trivia and music by DJ Brian McDonald and craft

beer tastings by our own brewmaster, Jim Belonger.

Add to those the indoor picnic with Tina Ross, the scavenger hunts, golf cart runs, and crazy miniature golf events the two have chalked up.

Weekly bocce on Wednesdays has been ongoing for the past several years, thanks to Carmel Kessler and Brian McDonald, whose suggestion was a unanimous hit!

Brian and Linda McDonald also host the monthly dinners out with the neighbors, which recently went to Milano’s and Mimi’s.

Tina Ross, vice chairman of the group, oversees a spring and fall neighborhood tag sale for the group. These sales are fundraisers that support several local charities and help defer the costs of the annual Williamsburg holiday party, coming up in early December at Stone Creek Grille. Tickets go on sale at the Oktoberfest.

Our website is williamsburgneighborsotow.com and overseen by the webmaster, Earl Cook. Also check out our Facebook page (Welcome to Williamsburg OTOW), designed by Sandy Matlock, and a NextDoor site (Williamsburg OTOW) created by Vickie Hendricks.

For any other questions about Williamsburg, please call or text Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757.



Photo by Linda McDonald

Breaking bread together gives us a chance to really get to know our neighbors.



Photo by Susan Southworth

Enjoying game night with new and old friends.

Active
Newcomers Club

Linda Baker



Happy fall! We want to welcome all our new members! If you would like to get more involved with our club, please let us know. New ideas are welcome, and we are always looking for volunteers to help with our events.

Our members enjoyed a boxed lunch and music by R&R Trio at our Tailgate Party on Thursday, Sept. 18. Sports teams from around the country were well represented and all had a good time.

Are you ready for Halloween? We will be hosting our annual Boo Bash on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. DJ Scott Bolton will provide music. Costumes are optional, but welcome. Watch our Facebook page and your email for details and signups for this bring-your-own-beverage event.

We are busy planning our holiday party, which will be held on Friday, Dec. 19. We are excited to announce that Tim Hargis will be the entertainment for this event. Pasta Faire will serve a catered meal. More information will be available soon.

Now that the heat of summer is behind us, the hiking group will resume with leaders Barbara Katz and Suzie Lehman. There are usually two hikes scheduled on Saturdays each month from the end of September through May.

The hikes are typically three to five miles long and within a 50-minute drive

of On Top of the World. Information about the hikes is posted on our Facebook group and emailed to members who have requested updates. Descriptions of the hike will include its length and whether it is on a paved or unpaved surface. Each month, one of the hikes will be shorter and on a paved, stable walking surface to accommodate most walking abilities. All members of Active Newcomers are welcome on hikes, and an RSVP is not required.

Hiking is a great way to explore the parks and nature of central Florida. We invite you to meet new friends and enjoy the outdoors on one of our hikes. If you have any questions about the hikes, please contact Barbara Katz (barbaralkatz@yahoo.com; 484-866-0310) or Suzie Lehman (slehman1043@aol.com; 717-439-6737).

If you are interested in hiking and do not receive our emails, please send a note to activenewcomers34481@gmail.com with “hiking” in the subject line. We look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Membership applications for 2025 are available on our website. When completing your application, please be sure to read the descriptions and requirements for small groups before making your selections. Dues for the remainder of the year are only \$10! Weybourne Landing and Indigo East residents must be part of the Gateway of Services program.

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

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Indigo East
Social Committee

Janice Liberton



The Indigo East Social Committee Labor Day party held on Monday, Sept. 1. Eighty-plus residents enjoyed beef hot dogs with all the trimmings, chips, and watermelon. Lemonade and water were also available. There was enough food for those who wanted seconds. All in all, it was a fun event with food, games, and fun door prizes.

This year, Halloween falls on a Friday, and On Top of the World will hold a party during Happy Hour.

The Indigo East Social Committee has reserved Saturday, Nov. 15, for a potluck dinner, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Indigo East Community Center. The Social Committee will provide some main dishes, iced tea, and water.

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. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 27. The speaker for our September meeting was Wesley Wilcox, supervisor of elections for Marion County. He spoke about the election process, procedures, and important changes to those processes.

Our speaker for October will be our own executive director, Jim Stormer, who will speak about climate change and environmental 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, bring 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 (details to come). Please consider joining us in this celebration!

For our community outreach program, we have chosen two organizations to support. The first is Isaiah's 117 House. This organization will be building a facility soon to provide a more supportive, less traumatic environment for children in transition waiting to be placed into foster care after being removed from their homes and families. Currently, before the house is built, they need lemonade mix and cups, so please think about bringing some of those to our next meeting. Isaiah's 117 House offers lemonade to visitors at farmers' markets and other local events, as people stop by their booth to learn about this organization. Teddy bears and youth blankets for the children have already begun to be handcrafted and donated. In the future, this organization will need other things.

The Indigo East Social Committee has also reserved Saturday, Dec. 6, for the holiday party at 6 p.m. More information to follow soon.

The Indigo East Craft Show committee is planning a craft show on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with crafts from Indigo East crafters and On Top of the World crafters. Reba Pressley and Marion Brennan are hosting this event.

The Indigo East ladies luncheon committee is planning a baked potato with all the trimmings and soup luncheon on Thursday, Oct. 23. There will also be dessert and plenty of door prizes.

All of the above events can only function with the help of numerous volunteers, and volunteers who step up to host an event. As in the past and with future events, hosts never have to pay out of pocket for the necessary items for an event. All expenses are immediately reimbursed, and there is always a tremendous amount of help from members of the social committee and residents.

The second organization we have chosen supports economically depressed students and their families living near Lake Weir Middle School. This list of items requested includes girls' and boys' socks and underwear, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, body soap, toothpaste and brushes, hair combs and brushes, maxi-pads, small household appliances, linens, towels, washcloths, dishes, gently used clothing, and shoes.

There will be a table at our meetings for the collection of these donated items, and we have board members arranging for their delivery.

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

In this time of uncertainty, we need to connect and support one another. Attending and participating in our meetings offers an opportunity to be with others who share similar beliefs. Since our inception, our member roster has continued to grow with each meeting. Democrat or not, you will be welcomed the next time we meet. If you need a ride to this meeting, please let me know a few days in advance.

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

Just about every day of the month has a special holiday. The two days during October that are famously known are Oct. 12, but celebrated on Monday, Oct. 13, Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day, and Oct. 31, Halloween. However, another explorer had also claimed to discover America half a millennium before Christopher Columbus. The explorer is Leif Ericson, a Norseman. Leif was born in the Icelandic Commonwealth

sometime during 970 to Eric the Red, the founder of the Norse settlement in Greenland, and his wife Joochildur. Leif Ericson was known for discovering part of North America, probably Newfoundland, and the northernmost tip of Canada, called L'Anse aux Meadows. Leif Ericson Day is observed on Oct. 9.

Have a great October, and as usual, I'll see you around the neighborhood.

Avalon
Social Group

Laura Gavey &
Sharon Hall



The '50s were alive and well at our September get-together. Good food from Blazin' Bites Food Truck, great music from DJ Anthony, and excellent entertainment from the Poms Dance & Cheer Squad, who were fabulous! A fun night was had by all!

Our next event will be held on Monday, Nov. 10, where we will play Jukebox Squares. Come and enjoy this fun and entertaining musical event. For this event, attendees will bring beverages, snacks, appetizers, or desserts for their table. Be on the lookout for more details

via Facebook and email.

The committee is already beginning to plan events for 2026. The committee is always looking for new members and new ideas. If you would like to join the committee or have suggestions, please send an email to avalonsocialclub@gmail.com.

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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On Watch

Geoff Oldberg



While on patrol as a deputy sheriff in the mid-1990s, I was driving down CR 484 near Marion Oaks. I wasn't going anywhere in particular, I was just waiting for my next dispatched call. As I approached a narrow access road that veered off to the south, I felt a sudden urge to turn. It wasn't a voice or sound, just a deep gut feeling that I needed to turn.

I slowed down and began the turn. The road ahead looked almost abandoned. Vegetation covered the sides and tree branches arched overhead, forming a kind of tunnel. I hesitated, fearing my car would be scratched, and started to turn back onto the main road. But that feeling came back – stronger this time. So, I followed it.

Tree limbs scraped across the roof and sides of my car for nearly a mile be-

fore the road curved sharply to the left. There was an intersecting road ahead, one more frequently travelled. As I approached it, I came to another narrow road. When I looked down this road, I saw something moving in the middle of it, a strange shape wobbling from side to side.

Curious, I drove towards it. When I was about 50 feet away, I realized it was a dog with its head stuck in a jar. I got out of the car and slowly approached, trying to calm him down. The jar was tight around his neck, and each time I tried to remove it, he pulled away in fear.

As I stood there trying to think of a way to help, I heard the deep, distinctive rumble of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. I looked over my shoulder, and here was this biker pulling alongside my patrol car. He stopped, stared, and then asked, "Do you need a hand?"

I glanced at his jacket. It bore the unmistakable patches of the "Outlaws MC" and "1%er" symbol – marks of a criminal biker gang member, traditionally at odds with law enforcement. An arrest of a gang member would result in an award

for me – and for him, harming a cop, a badge of honor. And here we were, alone on a secluded road.

I looked down at the struggling dog, then back at the biker. "I sure do," I replied.

We both knelt beside the animal. I held him steady while the biker gently worked the jar free. Once the jar was off, we took a few moments to comfort the dog. I gave him some water, and he began to relax.

As the biker walked back to his motor-

cycle, he turned and asked, "Why'd you come back here?"

"Something told me to take that road," I said. "You?"

"Same thing. Just had a feeling."

Two men from opposite ends of the world, brought together by instinct – and a shared moment of compassion for a dog in need.

Pay attention to the quiet nudges and remember, decency can come from the most unexpected places.

Pay Attention to Stop Solicitation

By Robert Colen & Geoff Oldberg

While the Master Association attempts to deter solicitors, some solicitors may use subterfuge to gain entry behind the gates. However, there are ways you can protect yourself and your neighbors from the aggravation of unwanted solicitations.

Most door-to-door home solicitation sales require a county permit under F.S. 501.022, and soliciting without one is a misdemeanor under F.S. 501.055. Despite this, unscrupulous individuals may still attempt to enter communities like ours without a permit, offering services that range from yard work and palm tree trimming to laying mulch or selling products such as solar panels or irrigation systems.

On Thursday, Aug. 14, such an incident occurred in Windsor. A man was going door to door offering yard services, despite our HOA rules that strictly prohibit soliciting. After being observed by COPS volunteers and On Top of the World staff, the individual was located by Geoff Oldberg, our community safety and loss prevention manager and a retired Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) lieutenant and district commander. After approaching the solicitor, Geoff contacted MCSO due to the man's suspicious behavior. When the deputies spoke with the man, he gave a false name and was subsequently arrested for this and for an active warrant. We later learned that he had visited several houses within our community, receiving payment for the jobs, but failed to complete

them.

Please remember that any work proposed by a homeowner in the landscape areas of the home or around the exterior of the house requires prior association review and authorizations (through Resident Services). Legitimate contractors must have a state- or local-issued professional license appropriate to their trade and also carry liability insurance.

At Parkway Maintenance and Management, LLC, we take a proactive approach to keeping our residents safe. There are employees dedicated to serving as liaisons with MCSO. This unique relationship allows us to work closely with law enforcement to address solicitors, scams, and other security concerns quickly and efficiently.

Here are some key steps you can take to protect yourself:

- Know the law: Most door-to-door soliciting without a permit is illegal in Florida (F.S.S. 501.022 and 501.055).
- Ask for identification: If someone comes to your door, ask to see their permit to solicit. If they cannot provide one, firmly say "no thank you," and end the interaction. If they refuse to leave, you may wish to call 911 if you feel unsafe or directly threatened (911 should always be your first call if you feel under threat).
- Report it: Notify Resident Services for referral to the community loss prevention manager or email directly to communitysafety@otowfl.com.

Scams aren't limited to face-to-face encounters – they may come via phone, email, or text – but having a strong community network and proactive staff may just give you an added layer of deterrence. By staying vigilant and following these steps, we can all help maintain a safe, secure, and welcoming environment.

At Parkway Maintenance and Management, LLC, we are working every day to help you and your neighbors feel secure. Remember, if a solicitor comes to your door, do not hesitate to take action – your vigilance makes a difference.

- Resident Services: 352-236-6869 or otowservice@otowfl.com
- Safety and Loss Prevention Department: communitysafety@otowfl.com
- Marion County Sheriff's Office: 352-732-9111 (non-emergency)

Crescent Ridge Happenings

Carol Lewis



On Sunday, Sept. 14, the Crescent Ridge monthly Sunday afternoon social resumed after a summer break.

Our resident trivia guru, Dave Hawkins, tested our pricing skills with a rousing game of "The Price is Right" on 22 items from either Publix or Walmart. Always a good time when Dave puts a game together.

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

To stay informed about information affecting Crescent Ridge/Crescent Green residents, consider joining our Facebook page (OTOW Crescent Ridge Neighbors) or subscribing to our email list by sending an email to crneighbors@yahoo.com. 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.

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Community Emergency Response Team

Jane Belz

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members continue to train in a variety of ways, from refreshing previously learned skills to mastering new technology.

The group recently learned hands-only CPR and practiced using automatic defibrillator units. On Top of the World is very prepared with 47 AED stations installed around the community. While the units are very easy to use, the group appreciated the opportunity to become familiar with them without the pressure of being in an emergency. We strongly encourage all residents to sign up for one of Master the Possibilities’ free classes, so you can also be prepared to assist during a medical emergency.

The group purchased a new emergency app that can be downloaded to members’ phones. This allows push notifications to alert members of a possible activation and deployment when a storm is on the way, replacing a traditional phone tree. Other features include a way to track members’ locations in real time while they are out assessing the community for damage after a storm, and an easy-to-use algorithm to assist in triaging injured victims. Members received an interactive presentation to set up their individual accounts on their phones, enabling access to all features and message receipt.

Our booth at Club Fair was very successful, with people who had belonged to CERT in their hometowns stopping by, as well as many others interested in joining. We were especially touched by how many residents stopped by our booth already knowing about us from reading our World News column, and took the time to tell us how they appreciate our activities in the community. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table and followed us here each month!

CERT is a nationally recognized program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and we are trained locally by the Emergency Management Division of the Marion County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) and supported by On Top of the World. Members attend an initial five-week class on Saturdays and receive training on light



Photo by Debbie Snyder

CERT members practice their CPR skills.

search and rescue, damage assessment, basic first aid, and hazardous materials to prepare 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 meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 14. Applications for training and additional information are available at each meeting. For more information about CERT or upcoming meetings, please email ontopoftheworldcert@gmail.com

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

Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun

On Top of the World’s Recreation, Wellness, Fitness departments, along with the Veterans Club, are pleased to announce plans to host our community’s first-ever open-to-the-public inaugural Veterans Day celebration set for Tuesday, Nov. 11.

A full day of events is being planned to begin with an early morning (8 a.m.) flag-honoring ceremony and bell-ringing at the Veterans Park, immediately thereafter (8:30 a.m.), a golf cart parade and honor walk procession from the Veterans Park to the Recreation Center, where a push-up challenge and honor wall activity will take place.

Honor walk participants will be encouraged to carry a photograph and biography (template forthcoming) of their beloved family veteran to be posted in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Veterans Day and then digitally archived in Marion County’s virtual Veterans Lega-

cy Memorial web portal.

A refreshments reception will greet the participants upon their arrival as they proceed to the push-up challenge (9 a.m.), providing opportunities for gold, silver, and bronze awards for best form, most push-ups, and fastest to reach 22 push-ups. Honor walk participants will be directed to the honor kiosk for submittal of their photographs to be posted in the Recreation Center Ballroom and later digitally archived.

At the 11th hour (11 a.m.), residents and community members are invited to participate in a Veterans Day commemorative program taking place in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Activities begin with the presentation of the colors by West Port High School JROTC Honor Guard, the singing of the National Anthem, the USS Cole commemoration, a presentation by the Dancing Jewels, a dance routine by the Poms Dance & Cheer Squad, and other guest speakers (to be announced).

Read the November issue of the World News for more details. We look forward to seeing everyone there. If you have any questions, please email Charles Calhoun at charlescalhoun.cc@gmail.com.



Photo by Charles Calhoun

Flag honoring ceremony conducted by Marion County Memorial Honor Guard at On Top of the World's Veterans Memorial Park on Memorial Day.



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Republican Club

Margaret Nodine



At the September meeting, we honored and remembered Sept. 11, 2001. It is hard to believe we are 24 years into reflecting on the events of that day.

We wish to thank our club members who volunteered to host our table at the Club Fair. Many folks stopped by to chat and receive information about the Republican Club, and some of us wore our new logo shirts! These are available for members' purchase at our meetings.

As promised, here is a brief recap of Marion County Sheriff Woods' presentation from our August meeting. Traffic is always a concern for us who travel SR 200. MCSO and other officials are making strides to improve the situation, but it will take time. Crime is on the decline, though immigration and the challenges a state such as Florida faces are matters of importance for citizens. The Paramount+ show "Chopper Cops" has gained significant popularity, as it focuses on the Marion County choppers and sheriff's office personnel. With population growth comes the need for more deputies. Sheriff Woods favors property taxes as a source of revenue for his department. Sheriff Woods continues to shape and strengthen the safety and well-being of this community.

At our meeting on Friday, Sept. 12, we welcomed Florida State Senator Stan McClain, who has served in the State Senate since 2024, representing the 9th district. From 2016 to 2024, he served in the Florida House of Representatives for the 23rd and 27th districts. Once again,

Longleaf Ridge Friends

Michelle Migdal, Kathleen Taylor, Debra Vitale & Judi Walsh



"The heat of autumn is different from the heat of summer," writes poet Jane Hirschfield. "One ripens apples, the other turns them to cider." The heat will lessen here in Ocala this month as many of our winter residents return and the days become shorter. Our Longleaf Ridge residents will become even more active as the "season" begins.

Many of our neighbors are returning from time away and travel adventures. Mary and Mike Evans moved to Longleaf Ridge after retiring from their careers in New York. They recently returned from an extended back-to-back Mediterranean cruise. Mary described her surprise as many new friends and neighbors gave them an unexpected, enthusiastic welcome home. Mary said that they never had anything like this type of rousing reception from their New York neighbors because everyone was so busy with their workaday lives. The couple asserts that their neighbors are especially friendly and welcoming. After almost a year in Longleaf Ridge, they've developed many wonderful



Photo by Rocky Pizzarello

Marion County Sheriff Billy Woods and President Charles Dodge spoke on many topics concerning the safety of Marion County.

a brief recap will be mentioned in next month's column.

Our continued support of Operation Shoebox has garnered much appreciation from the troops and the board. Donations are still requested for first aid supplies, which will be packed in special red cloth bags.

We are also working to support the Marion County Honor Guard in their efforts.

Come and join us on Fridays, Oct. 10, and Nov. 14. We welcome new members as well as guests to every meeting. When we meet, we educate and entertain. Doors open at 4 p.m. Look for our banner at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. God bless America.

friendships and enjoy participating in many of the activities that our community offers.

Mike and Debra Vitale hosted the September Howling. It was a wonderful opportunity to see new faces and create lasting memories.

We're very excited to announce that Longleaf Ridge resident Bill Truby is the new chaplain of the World Equestrian Center.

On the giving front, several residents volunteered to help their neighbors through the meal train application. We applaud the generosity of everyone involved.

Longleaf Ridge ladies gathered for a luncheon at Stone Creek Grille late in August. Neighbors shared a good meal along with stories and lots of laughter.

John and Michelle Marcinek hosted their second annual Labor Day beer, brats, and burgers barbecue and street party on Monday, Sept. 1. Fabulous dishes, games, and a 50/50 raffle were enjoyed by all who attended.

As our neighborhood 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.

Democratic Club

Mark Miller



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

Our Thursday, Aug. 28, meeting featured a speaker from the League of Women Voters, Audrietta Izlar. Her presentation was "Disinformation: Spot it! Stop it!"

The Club Fair on Thursday, Sept. 11, was a success as usual. We had good conversations with prospective members and had many sign-ups as well.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 25. We will be hosting a representative of the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, which is the leading charity that our club supports. This meeting is an excellent opportunity to bring donations and support local homeless veterans!

We continue to support the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village. The veterans residing there need our support for many items we all take for granted. Priority for donations is laundry detergent. Other required items include pillowcases, twin-size sheets, twin comforters, a 1.7 cubic foot refrigerator, a small microwave, men's razors, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, shaving cream, and toilet paper. The following food items are needed: canned meat, canned chili, ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese, microwaveable rice, boxed milk, ce-

real, canned fruit, crackers, individual snacks, and coffee. They do not need clothing except for shoes. Please bring your donated items to our meeting.

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

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

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



Photo by Leslie Miller

Seth Harp, candidate for Congress, spoke at the Marion County Democratic Party in September.



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Counting Pollinators at Sholom Park

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

This year, Sholom Park participated in The Great Southeast Pollinator Census. Let me explain.

Scientists and entomologists study different insects that pollinate. It is an essential part of understanding our green world. To help in their effort, in 2019, the University of Georgia Extension undertook the task of asking everyday citizens to help identify pollinating species in their own backyard. The response was overwhelming. Word spread of their success, and soon other states like the Carolinas, Florida, and recently, Alabama, joined the counting effort. Ergo, it is now titled, The Great Southeast Pollinator Census.

On Friday, Aug. 22, and Saturday, Aug. 23, Ocala residents were invited to Sholom Park to take part and contribute to the census. Butterflies, wasps, honey bees, and moths, among other insects, were to be counted. It was a natural venue. Recently, the park initiated an edible

garden – those plants that tend to attract pollinators.

Sholom Park volunteer Carole Putnam, who coordinated the census count, expressed her satisfaction with the turnout. “I was concerned when each morning the clouds looked so threatening. But that didn’t deter more than 100 volunteers, many with their children, from wanting to be a part of this important study.”

Volunteers were given an insect identification guide and instructions on how to go about logging in their sightings. They then chose a pollinator-friendly plant. Chairs were available, inviting them to sit for 15 minutes and observe, identify, and log – and so they did.

Sholom Park is many things to many people. Visitors may come to the park to simply feel, watch, and communicate with nature, or to stretch their legs, or inhale the peace at the Zen garden, or attend one of the evening concerts. It is a place of wonder.



Photo by Ray Cech

Luka Perry is pointing out a pollinator to his mom, Chanté.

Calling All (or Not So) Green Thumbs

By Margitta Claterbos

Early Wednesday morning, Sept. 3, 14 volunteers from the Native Plant Group showed up at the SW 94th Street entrance to the Longleaf Pine Trail, across from Avalon, to spread the pine straw that Parkway Management had kindly placed there for us. The weather cooperated, and we had fun doing the task and getting to know two new residents.

In 2000, Ron Broman started the Native Plant Group and wrote this monthly column about native plants. When I joined a year later at a meeting, we thought it would be great to have a trail through the sandhill habitat adjacent to the Arbor Conference Center. Residents and their visitors could enjoy the original habitat.

In early 2002, we received permission from management to blaze a trail. Because of the longleaf pines in that area, we named the path the Longleaf Pine Trail (LPT). Every second Wednesday morning, we maintain the trail. We also created three habitats in a native plant garden next to the trailhead.

The purpose of our work was to educate residents about native plants. At the

time, however, there were no houses nearby and hardly any residents to walk the LPT. So, in 2005, we asked management for permission to maintain the traffic circle (TC) at the intersection of SW 94th Street and 89th Court Road in the Friendship neighborhood. We planted only native plants and maintain(ed) it every fourth Wednesday morning.

Soon after Master the Possibilities came into being in October 2006, people started attending all kinds of events there. The attendance at our Native Plant Group meetings was reduced to the point where I could no longer justify inviting speakers to our monthly meetings. Regardless, we still needed to take care of the projects we had created, and we have faithfully continued to do that to this day.

If you, dear reader, are interested in the environment and plants, plus would like to meet like-minded residents, please consider joining us on a Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. when we spend an hour at the LPT or TC. For further info, check the telephone directory to contact me, Margitta Claterbos.



Photo by Rosalina Norita

Guests intently watching a video of India's history and culture.

A Taste of India Cooking Demo

By Rosalina Norita

On Friday, Aug. 15, the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio I was filled with the aromas of spices, simmering tomatoes, and rich cream as more than 60 residents gathered for a lively culinary demonstration. Attendees were treated to an engaging exploration of one of India’s most beloved dishes – butter chicken – guided by Shashi Ray and Usha Vargas.

The demonstration began with a warm welcome and introduction, followed by a short video presentation highlighting the cultural and culinary diversity. Particular attention was given to bold spices, aromatic curries, and distinctive cooking styles contributing to the nation’s extraordinary food heritage.

Shashi Ray introduced the audience to the history of butter chicken, or murg makhani, a dish that originated in Delhi during the 1950s. The recipe was born almost by accident when restaurant owners sought to repurpose leftover roasted chicken. By simmering the meat in a tomato-based sauce enriched with butter and cream, they created a dish that quickly became internationally renowned. Today, butter chicken is served in restaurants and homes across the world, celebrated for its balance of heat, richness, and sweetness.

During the demonstration, Shashi Ray walked participants through each step with clarity and enthusiasm. She began with marinated chicken, soaked in ginger, garlic, white pepper, salt, and explained the importance of patience in allowing the flavors to develop. She then boiled tomatoes, onions, ginger, garlic,

and a few cashew nuts before adding tomatoes and a medley of spices, including cinnamon, clove, black pepper, and bay leaf. Boiled tomatoes were blended and strained to give a rich sauce. The sauce, slowly thickened with cream and butter, took on the vibrant orange color that makes butter chicken visually striking.

As the chicken simmered, Shashi shared stories of her own experiences cooking in India and abroad. She emphasized that while butter chicken can seem elaborate, its essence lies in simple, accessible ingredients and the joy of sharing food with others. The aroma in the Arbor Conference Center soon had the audience leaning forward in anticipation. When the dish was ready, each of the attendees received a small tasting bowl of freshly prepared butter chicken and cumin rice.

To complement the tasting, light refreshments and drinks were offered, encouraging lively conversation among neighbors who were eager to discuss both the flavors and the cultural insights they had just experienced. The event concluded with applause for Shashi Ray and Usha Vargas, who answered final questions about variations of the spices, including vegetarian alternatives. For many, the demonstration was more than just a lesson in cooking; it was a window into another culture and a reminder of how food can bridge distances and generations. As residents departed, their smiles suggested the evening had been more than successful. The butter chicken demonstration was not only a culinary treat but also a celebration of history, tradition, and community.



Photo by Rita Van Arsdale

Native Plant Group volunteers after spreading pine straw.

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World Traveler

Bill Shampine



Over the 18 years I have been writing these columns, I have written about one or two fabulous landscapes that can be found in China. Today I will visit one more location, this time in Yangshuo County, China. I recently discovered that you can even take a short river cruise on the Li River, from Guilin City to the town of Yangshuo. Having just returned from a European river cruise, I thought it might be interesting to explore a potential Chinese river cruise.

In addition to marveling at the standard tourist sites, such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Army, and many others, you might enjoy a short cruise on the Li River. It would put you in the heart of rural China, where you will find beautiful and mysterious landscapes. You would see mountains carpeted in green that seem to rise directly from the river’s waters.

The unique geology in this area is dominated by what is called Fengcong karst, which is defined as a group of individual limestone hills with almost sheer walls. The hills range in height from about 250 to 1,000 feet. They resemble a nest of termite mounds found in Africa, but on a much larger scale. The hills are



Luxury cruise boats and bamboo raft boats are found on the Li River in Yangshuo County, China.

Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



Reservations for Travel Toppers trips can be made Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the coordinators listed for each event. Reservations can be made for only two people at a time, and guests will go on a waitlist. As this is a resident club, the board would like to give our residents priority. If there is availability, guests from the waitlist will be asked if they are still interested in attending the trip.

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

Tickets for “Million Dollar Quartet” at Suncoast Dinner Theater are selling well. The performance is Saturday, Nov. 15. Call Lisa Adams at 407-325-9863 to reserve your spot.

The next Suncoast production will be “Sunkicks Home for Christmas” on Saturday, Dec. 13. Reservations begin Monday, Oct. 6 with Sharon Stetson at

207-838-3776. 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 wait list. We have booked several Suncoast Dinner Theater productions for 2026. We will let you know of them in a future column.

We are also still taking reservations for our Valentine’s Day cruise from Feb. 14 to 21, 2026, aboard Celebrity’s Apex. If interested, call Janet Wiles at 804-243-4008.

We are pleased to offer a 16-day trip “Highlights of Route 66” from Sept. 18 to Oct. 4, 2026. This tour leaves from Chicago, then travels through eight states, ending in Los Angeles. The price is \$4,719 per person and includes escorted tours, accommodations, transportation from and to Ocala, prepaid gratuities, and travel insurance. This price does not include airfare. The deposit is \$649 per person with final payment due on June 30, 2026. For more information, contact Janet Wiles 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. Any non-resident who participates must be a guest of a resident club member.

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Adjust the View: This is a key benefit! You can easily change the font size, font

style, and line spacing to make the text more comfortable to read. Just tap the top of the screen to bring up the menu and look for the “Aa” icon. You can also adjust the brightness or use a dark mode.

Look Up Words: If you come across a word you don’t know, press and hold it. A definition will appear, so you don’t have to stop reading to find a dictionary.

Highlight and Add Notes: Just like with a physical book, you can highlight passages you like or add notes for yourself.

Audiobooks: Listen to your favorite stories. Audiobooks are narrated versions of books that you can listen to on your smartphone, tablet, or other devices. They are perfect for people who have vision issues, arthritis, or simply prefer to listen to a story while multitasking.

Getting Started with Audible

Download the App: Find the Audible app in your device’s app store and download it.

Sign In: If you have an Amazon account, you can use those credentials to sign in, as Audible is an Amazon company.

Find a Book: Use the search bar or browse by category to find an audiobook you’d like to listen to. Many audiobooks are included with a membership, while others can be purchased with credits or money.

Listen and Control: Once you’ve selected a book, it will download to your library. Tap the cover to start listening. The app has simple controls to play, pause, or skip forward or back.

Adjust the Speed: A great feature of audiobooks is the ability to adjust the narration speed. You can slow it down if you find the narrator is speaking too quickly or speed it up if you want to get through the story faster.

Set a Sleep Timer: If you enjoy listening before bed, you can set a sleep timer to automatically pause the book after a certain amount of time or at the end of a chapter.

Both e-readers and audiobooks offer a convenient way to keep enjoying the world of books. They can provide a more comfortable and personalized experience, whether you’re reading a classic on a Kindle or listening to a new best-seller on Audible.

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.

Let’s take time to explore expanded possibilities. Look on the back or side of your smart TV and find the HDMI In port. Try plugging in your smartphone using a USB-C to HDMI adapter or cable. The phone screen can be mirrored onto the TV screen, showing your photos, apps, presentations, websites, and videos. Laptops, with this same cable, will automatically recognize the TV, so now you have a larger display.

Modern security systems, such as Network or Digital Video Recorders, feature HDMI output, allowing you to stream live camera feeds directly to your smart TV. Now you can view your home’s front door, backyard, and driveway all at once.

For those with modern soundbars that support HDMI ARC (Audio Return Channel) or a more advanced eARC, you’ll have fewer cables and better sound quality. Provided that you enable HDMI-CEC, your TV can send audio directly to the soundbar, and you can control the volume with your TV remote. HDMI-CEC should allow all devices to power on with the push of one button.

Connecting your portable DVD or Blu-ray player with its HDMI output to your TV input, you’ll be able to enjoy the awesome collection you purchased of all your favorite movies.

Using an HDMI capture card lets you plug in a camera, another computer, or a console to view or record the feed right into the TV, like viewing your DSLR camera images in real time on the big screen.

Streaming devices plugged into the smart TV’s HDMI bring a faster interface and a wider selection of apps. As they keep up with regular software updates for new features, you’ll find many models support 4K, HDR, including voice control, and could even cast content directly from your tablet or smartphone.

Attaching a game console to your TV unlocks the full visual potential of Xbox, PlayStation, and other gaming systems, bringing clarity and excitement to your gaming experience.

You can get a full-functioning PC running Windows or Linux (looks like an oversized USB stick) to plug into your TV’s HDMI port. Many come with built-in Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, and several USB ports, allowing you to connect a mouse, keyboard, or other devices easily. Search for “mini PC stick” to find a variety of models, sizes, and formats from different companies.

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.

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 this month will be Tina Kleiss. This will be Tina’s third time with us, and she always has an exciting message from the bible for us!

Each month, we collect donations for Interfaith Emergency Services. I always remind the ladies that while food is always needed, we also accept everyday items like cleaning supplies, personal hygiene, first aid, and pet food.

Our next potluck is Saturday, Oct. 18. 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 end by 1:30 p.m. Reservations are not required; show up with your potluck! Iced tea and water are provided. We do ask for a \$1 donation to help cover the cost of supplies. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 352-237-9073 (no texts, please).

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Silver Rainbow Club

Jeanne Bennett-Bailey

Thank you to all who participated in our music trivia event. We raised over \$1,000 for the Interfaith Emergency Services Backpack-4-Kids program. You are truly generous!

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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Active
Singles Club

Jan Lindell



September provided the members with fun events. The pool party was a perfect day, and our lunch from Panera Bread was so delicious. Talking about some good food, the anniversary picnic chefs returned and cooked up the best hot dogs and hamburgers. The dishes some brought were outstanding. No one went away hungry.

October brings fall and cooler weather, and some of our cooler-weather events and activities are starting, like the golf scramble, bocce, pickleball, and the golf cart scavenger hunt. Don't forget to enjoy these and our many other events and activities on the calendar.

It's the best time of year to enjoy walks and hikes. This month, our hikes will be at Silver Springs State Park and Rainbow Springs State Park. Lunch is always enjoyed by the hikers afterwards. Our trip to Nashville, Tennessee, is scheduled for the middle of October with great shows and tours planned. Keep checking the calendar for new travel events.

Our dining group is growing with more participants, and our conversations with friends while eating together are so lovely. Our October meals are going to be held at the following restaurants: Stone Creek Grille for breakfast, Crazy Cucumber for lunch, and Red Lobster for dinner. Our November restaurants are available starting Saturday, Nov. 1, for sign-up.

Our holiday events will be here before you know it, and you don't want to miss them, so sign up early. We will be enjoying The Messiah, A Christmas Carol, a holiday party, and a New Year's Eve party.

We have so much fun being single and part of the Active Singles Club. We smile, laugh, and enjoy each other's company. We are never alone.

At our September meeting, we had over 100 members attend. Join us for the fun at our next membership meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 15. During the meeting, we discuss upcoming events and sign-ups, and afterward, we socialize with both new and old friends. Visit otowativesinglesclub.com and discover how easy it is to join and how much fun we have. We can't wait to meet new friends and hope you join us. Hope to see you soon.



Photo by Barbara Benyaker

Active Singles Club membership meeting in September.

SWANS

Lois Nix



Many years ago, the SWANS had the reputation of just a group of single women eating out. As I write this column, I sit on my balcony, listening to the music of the waves and the song of the seagulls. Other SWANS are walking the beach, swimming in the pool, shopping, or just enjoying the company of friends.

Before we all drove over to the beach, we had our bi-annual meeting.

Welcome back to our members who have been with the SWANS for many years, and welcome to the ladies who just joined us. The next six months, many SWANS will get together to enjoy appetizers, lunch, or dinner. Our volunteers will be planning special event trips, brunches, lunches, and dinners

out. The primary mission of the SWANS is networking and making friends with women who share many of the same life experiences. We are a diverse group of single women who come together to socialize and support each other on our journey of being single.

We have been successful for over 19 years. I have been the coordinator for 17 years with the assistance of other SWANS. We maintain a well-organized approach by keeping our routine simple, and we communicate either in person or by email.

We are an informal club, with no dues, so we do not have a required board of directors. We have volunteers who maintain our master lists, send out monthly emails, and all SWANS vote on any changes. We do have some rules of behavior. Our coordinator handles all communication regarding these issues and with On Top of the World. We have made great friends and know we are not alone. SWANS are never alone; SWANS are ever forgotten.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala



Photo by Marilyn Herrick

SWANS at the beach.

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Latinos Club

Silvia C. Garcia



¡Hola Amigos! It was wonderful meeting so many of our neighbors during the Club Fair. We truly felt the warmth and friendliness of the residents – many greeted us as if we were already friends. We reminded everyone that you don’t have to be Latino to join us – our gatherings are open to all! We speak English at our get-togethers, and instead of meetings, we simply enjoy good times and fun together. To add a little extra excitement to our club’s table, we held a drawing! Recreation Program Manager Shannon Prince picked the winning ticket, and we’re excited to congratulate Marcy Miller as our lucky winner!

Our members had an amazing time during our visit to the Ocala Airport! Matthew Grow, airport director, gave us a warm welcome and shared interesting insights about the airport. Afterwards, we enjoyed dinner at Elevation 89, where Chef Jeremy’s delicious creations were complemented by terrific service – all while watching planes land and take off. It was truly a memorable experience!

Café con Leche is a warm and energizing speaker series designed exclusively for our club members. Each session pairs a warm cup of coffee with enriching conversation – featuring guest speakers who bring fresh insights, practical knowledge, and meaningful dialogue to the table. Join us on Saturday, Oct. 4 to

sip, learn, and connect with Jackie Colucci, a Medicare specialist, who will provide the latest updates and helpful information about Medicare. Seating is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot. Attendance is free for our members.

We are looking for musicians and singers. We are organizing a “Parranda Navideña” group to visit our members in December. A Parranda is a beautiful Puerto Rican Christmas tradition where a group of friends/neighbors go house to house, surprising others with festive Christmas Spanish songs and lively music. The idea is to bring joy and celebration. Sign up today.

Friendship starts at home. ¡La amistad empieza en casa! We want to introduce you to “Mi Casa Su Casa” – a friendly atmosphere of shared space and camaraderie at home. Mi Casa Su Casa is a new way for us to socialize and connect at our homes in small groups. Club members host volunteers to welcome other members into their homes, deciding how many to invite. Food, drinks, and laughter – everyone pitches in.

Save the dates! Silver Springs State Park glass bottom boat tour and brunch on Thursday, Oct. 16; and Honoring Our Troops Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park on Saturday, Nov. 1. We have monthly dinners, weekly game night, Mi Casa Su Casa, Café con Leche, plus more. Next year, we’re turning up the fun! Socials, dancing, and lots of exciting events await!

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



Photo by Deb Thompson

Joy in the Mourning members made bookmarks for the Club Fair.

Joy in the Mourning

Deb Thompson



This year, our support group sought to capitalize on an opportunity to connect with residents. One member who truly enjoys crafting suggested the group make something nice to give to those who would stop by our table at the Club Fair. This would be a sweet token in addition to handouts containing valuable information.

Ideas were shared, and the takeaway was a homemade bookmark. On one side of the bookmark was the location, time, and day the club meets. The other side contained an inspirational quote.

Members chipped in with their unique talents that produced a colorful, cheerful, practical token. This tiny gift served two purposes. One to bless the recipient who needed to know others care. To realize that there is a place where they can understand and feel they

don’t need to be alone.

The second purpose was to benefit those making the bookmarks. Dr. Lisa Shulman, a professor of neurology, found that when people engage the creative side of their brain, it promotes healing. Both the giver and receiver win!

Perhaps you have entered this unwelcome season of life and are looking for answers. Maybe you’re curious about the Joy in the Mourning Club and whether it’s a good fit for you. You won’t find out until you visit us.

We meet every Friday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Please do not isolate. Come visit us and see if it may help you.

Here’s a peek at what takes place ... from 12:30 to 1 p.m., folks visit and welcome newcomers. From 1 to 2 p.m., educational and edifying content that promotes healing is shared. From 2 to 2:30 p.m., information on living single is exchanged. There are no dues, and registration is not required. We are not a cry fest nor a dating service. If you would like additional details, contact Deb at 352-445-4860.



Photo by Silvia C. Garcia

Chef Jeremy with Glo and David King, winners of an Elevation 89 gift card.

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The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



The Jewish Club went on a trip to the Bishop Museum in Bradenton, Florida, on Thursday, Aug. 14. Board-member-at-large Mark Frankel, also the club photographer, was on the trip and summed it up thusly:

“Thursday, Aug. 14, 10 of us toured the Bishop planetarium with our guide Nick. He covered archaeology, paleontology, zoology, and geology. That was a lot of ology! The museum is also home to three rehabilitating manatees. We also watched a planetarium show on the universe,” Frankel wrote.

The trip, which some members extended into an overnight visit, was organized by social committee member Julie Krantzberg.

Thursday, Aug. 28 brought a summer pop-up trip to Ocala’s Appleton Museum of Art. A quartet of club members attended. Attendee Howard Shiner

wrote, “We were so enthralled.” Thanks to Mitch Baylis of the social committee for organizing this trip.

The annual welcome-back brunch, featuring bagels, lox, and all the trimmings, took place in September.

October looks to be busy with four events, including the break-the-fast dinner, an amazing schlep around On Top of the World; the second annual wine, fruit, and cheese under the stars; and the general meeting with what should be a stimulating and informative speaker about some specific history of Israel.

Not bad for the end of summer, the start of our club year, and the Jewish New Year.

You do not have to be Jewish to belong to the Jewish Club. The club promotes understanding and respect for Jewish people and their history, customs, and culture through social and educational activities. Annual dues are \$18 per person. The Jewish Club 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.



Jewish Club members received a docent-led tour of the Bishop Museum in August.

Michigan Club

Nancy Meininger



October is here! It’s time for the Michigan Club to gather for the first meet, greet, and eat of the 2025-26 season! This year, with an Oktoberfest potluck – by you! Gather your favorite German recipes and let’s do it up right!

If your name begins with A-M, please bring a hot side dish (example: German potato salad, baked beans, sauerkraut, or spaetzle noodles). Names starting with N-Z bring a German-based dessert (German chocolate, Black Forest cake, Krapfen, Berliners, springerle, or pfefferkuesse).

Oktoberfest will take place on Sunday, Oct. 5, at 5 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. Enjoy the sounds of live Bavarian music for the evening by a resident duo, Ray Isenberg and Janet Voyles.

As always, bring your personal set-ups for dinner and a beverage of your choice. Beer is a great choice and pairs well with the menu!

Please be prepared to tell us what part of Michigan you are from and what you liked best about your home state. That can be a place to visit, a landmark, an annual event, a special activity, a sports team, or something else.

There will be a 50/50 for the evening,

as well as a Michigan trivia game. Sharpen those pencils!

One of the delights of our Michigan heritage is the annual changing of the seasons. As we leave summer’s lush canopy of green one chilly night, we wake up to its coat of many colors the very next day! Maple, oak, and elm trees turn out a palette of red, orange, and yellow, while the ginkgo tree bursts a brilliant gold splash in the mix.

Nearly every night ends with conversation across a campfire, marshmallows roasting on sticks, with guitar notes strumming.

Cider mills are open, pressing apples for lines of folks who hunger for the autumn brew. Horse-drawn wagons transport pickers to the fields, where they fill their apple pecks or harvest pumpkins from the rows of produce grown specifically for this season. Small children clap with delight as they hold on to their big orange prize, jostling along the rutted cart path back. It is easy to see these memories being made.

Deer and wild turkeys wander the perimeter of the woods. The turkeys are getting fat. Perhaps they know their fate.

The lakes are serene as the waters chill. Docks are barren now. The boats are in tow in traffic headed downstate.

It’s sad to see these signs of summer’s end. The only things left are the memories. But indeed, they bring us back again and again.

If you have questions about the Michigan Club, call or text Nancy Meininger at 352-554-0757.

Southern Connection Club

Darlene Stevens



Welcome to fall in Ocala, where the cool kids live. We surely welcome a little cooler weather, allowing time with friends in the evenings, tailgating parties, sitting on the porch having some sweet tea, or whatever fall things you like to do.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, Oct.

12, in Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring a covered dish to share, a beverage, or enjoy the refreshments provided for you. This month, we’re hosting a trivia game with David Hawkins. Come prepared for good food, fun, and laughter. If you are a first-time visitor to Southern Connection, the first visit is free. Annual dues are \$10 per person. See you there for a fun-filled evening.

For questions, please contact Bob Czopek at 904-540-1726 or bobczopek@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you.

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Rhode Island Group

Judy Parisi



When visiting a marina, it is not uncommon to see ducks flying and milling about. It was quite a surprise, however, when visiting the Wickford Shipyard to see a 20-foot inflatable yellow rubber duck surrounded by a grouping of smaller yellow rubber ducklings. It was the father-in-law of the office manager of the Shipyard, Wes McKeen, who put the ducks out to surprise his grandchildren. So many people drive to the marina’s parking lot to take pho-

Women of the World

Lois Rowland



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

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg



The Scandinavian American Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room I from September through May. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 28. A lot happened at our September meeting. The Ukulele Club entertained us while our members enjoyed Scandinavian coffee and cookies. Guest speakers Evelyn and Natalie shared their travel experiences in Scandinavian countries, including customs and food. Members shared their experiences visiting, traveling, or immigrating from Scandinavian countries. What about you? Do you have Scandinavian heritage? Share memories of your Scandinavian past and culture. Many of our members have visited the Scandinavian countries from which they or their ancestors have immigrated and returned with pictures and exhibits. Maybe you have a story to tell or a souvenir to share? Finally, we are looking forward to our November smorgasbord meeting, where we will celebrate the customs from our Scandinavian heritage. Whether you have a Scandinavian background or not, if you feel Scandinavian, join us for the fun. For more information contact Arlene Chilcott at chilcottarlene21@gmail.com.

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tos, along with visitors who come in by boat to the marina, that they have left the ducks up. People have also started to come by in boats and kayaks, leaving small ducks to add to the flock. The shipyard is located in Wickford Village, part of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Wickford was established in 1709. It is considered the oldest preserved colonial seaside village in the United States. There is a series of historic markers designating “Wickford Walk” that can be followed on an audio tour or a written outline that you can download. Visitors can rent a kayak and paddle about the cove and well-protected harbor area, or work their way out to Rabbit Island. Renting a boat is another option. Wickford has picturesque streets

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 first meeting was on Thursday, Sept. 18. The speakers were Angela Burrows and Carmen Garcia Tirado from Habitat for Humanity. Barbara Brooks from RAMAL provided us with information about their educational and social services. The services are provided for those non-traditional students who are returning to higher education. They requested school supplies, and our members were very generous. A bunco fundraising event is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 17, from 3 to 6 p.m. Appetizers will be provided. The \$30 tickets went on sale at the first meeting. 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. We hope to see everyone at both of these events. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 16. Our speaker will be Officer Brunner from the Marion County Sheriff’s Office. He’ll be discussing Chopper Cops, which is filmed in and around Marion County. Our charity will be the Dunnellon Elementary School. They are requesting school supplies. 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.

along the waterfront with unique shops selling a wide array of items, including jewelry, housewares, and clothing. There are antique shops, restaurants, colonial homes, and more. You can have an enjoyable day meandering about the retail area and walking along the side streets to admire the colonial architecture, perhaps stopping at a restaurant along the water. Come summer, Wickford hosts an art festival in Wilson Park. Newer as well as veteran artists display in a wide variety of mediums with paintings, photography, sculpture, jewelry, block printing, and much more, along with food and beverage opportunities, including wines from Gooseneck Vineyards, a local vineyard in North Kingstown. If you have more time to explore, consider visiting the Gilbert Stuart Museum in North Kingstown, which is the birthplace of noted painter Gilbert Stuart. This museum provides insight into the life of Gilbert Stuart, whose most famous work may be George Washington’s portrait, which is on our \$1 bill. The museum has Stuart’s historic home, a snuff mill, a grist mill, a garden, and trails. Wickford and the surrounding area in North Kingston offer a plethora of interesting areas to explore and relax. 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.parsi@gmail.com so we can ensure you are on our email list. We welcome all who have lived, worked, studied, or served in Rhode Island and their family members.

Genealogical Society

Sid Levine



Summer is over, and the Genealogical Society resumed monthly meetings after a two-month hiatus. Iona Harris, the president of the Marion County Genealogical Society, spoke about the travels of her ancestors from Germany to America and how they spread out to all corners of the United States. She used some untraditional methods to track her relatives and shared those methods with our membership. It was a very interesting presentation. October will feature a speaker from the Family History Center located at the Church of the Latter-day Saints in Ocala. Connie Bornemann has presented to us before, and she will give us more insight into using FamilySearch.org and how to access the sources located at the Family History Center. We had a table at the September Club Fair, and many people came by to ask how to start their own family history. We had a couple of laptops there so we could show people how easy it is to get started. We also offered a special on membership dues. If you join now for \$20, your membership is extended to the end of 2026. The Genealogical Society meets in the Hobby Building Event Room on the third Monday of the month at 10 a.m. For more information, send an email to OTOWgens@gmail.com.

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Lions Club

Gail Morris



On Top of the World welcomed new residents at the Club Fair, helping them discover the many clubs and opportunities available in our community in just one day. Bert and Steve were our club greeters, as were Estelle and Joy. We had other members present to highlight the community needs we’ve addressed

Freethinkers

Kathy Bell



Think for yourself and let others enjoy the privilege of doing so too.” – Voltaire
People are often surprised that freethinkers don’t always share the same philosophies of life and liberty. In fact, that is what freethinking is all about – that all of us who are committed to doing due diligence in researching particular topics may come to totally different conclusions. As new information becomes available, we can utilize critical thinking skills to evaluate evidence to form reasoned opinions. And those opinions may trend together or vary widely!
On Sunday, Sept. 7, Brenda Foster provided the framework for integrating Buddhist precepts into our everyday lives. Brenda, who has studied at O-An Zendo Meditation Center in Julian, Pennsylvania, was born into a devout catholic family. From an early age, she was a questioner and seeker of her own truth. The core of Buddhism is about finding inner peace and liberation through personal transformation, not through the worship of a deity. Seventy freethinkers attended this presentation, and Brenda, in true Buddhist tradition, answered all questions with kindness and compassion.
On Sunday, Sept. 21, our presentation via video was from Dr. Daniel Britt, the Pegasus Professor of Astronomy in the Department of Physics at the University of Central Florida. His talk, “Orbits and Ice Ages: The History of Climate,” shed light on the differences between climate

in the past year and those we are committed to supporting annually. We were “taking names,” as it were, of potential members and some photos, too. We seized the opportunity to promote our inaugural Pawtastic Halloween Dog Parade.
The Lions Club Pawtastic Halloween Dog Parade will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the Recreation Center pavilion from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (rain date is Thursday, Oct. 30). Tickets may be purchased on Tuesdays at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III from 9 a.m. to noon. Spectator tickets are \$5. Entry for participants (parents and dogs) is \$10.

and weather and focused on the movement of the Earth’s tectonic plates. The video was followed by a question-and-answer session with Freethinker Glenn Cohen, a member of the Ocala Citizens’ Climate Lobby.
On Sunday, Oct. 5, freethinkers will host Jennifer Hunt Murty, owner/publisher of the Ocala Gazette, whose presentation on “The Importance of Local News Reporting” will be an inside look at the newsroom and how investigative pieces can hold individuals, government, and corporations accountable to the public. She will also discuss freedom of the press and how current challenges are affecting newsrooms across the country. A question-and-answer session will follow.
On Sunday, Oct. 19, Glenn Cohen, Professor Emeritus at Troy University, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, will compare “Darwin’s Theory of Evolution with Social Darwinism,” which is 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.

Freethinkers Club provides a safe and supportive place for discussion about important topics for non-theists on the freethinking continuum from religious skeptics to avowed atheists. We use science and reason in decision-making as opposed to faith and belief. If our club is a good fit for you, please join us for one of our meetings in the Hobby Building Event Room from 1 to 3 p.m. on the dates listed. Our freethought community will welcome you. For more information, visit FreethinkersFlorida.com or email us at FreethinkersFlorida@gmail.com.

There will be a costume judging for the dog. Parent costumes are welcome but not required; we’re judging the dogs, but if you choose to wear a costume, have a good time with it.
Any individual or club wishing to sponsor a winning costume category prize for \$25 is welcome. We have several categories, including a prize for a cheerleader or the most colorful. Sponsors select the costume category, be creative. Norma is our contact for this event and our fundraising chair, so reach out to her if you have any questions at 978-697-3839.
Leashed dogs will sashay around once for judging and then again to participate in “trick or treat” from our spectators. Doggie treat bags will be available for sale. Join the fun and cheer on your favorite dog costume.
Our service committee members are preparing for our Thanksgiving meal. We are very fortunate to have partners like Super Walmart and the Walmart Neighborhood Market, as well as other local vendors, including Sunrise Produce and O’Steen’s Market, that assist us in gathering and packaging the traditional meal. We will be distributing meals to several of our school families in three different Marion County schools, the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, and Vets Helping Vets. This year, we are expanding our donations to meet the greater need.
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 II. We meet on the second and fourth



Photo by Gail Morris
Lions Bert Perkins and Debbie Jennings at the Club Fair.
Tuesdays of each month at 5 p.m. 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.



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Can the King Keep His Crown?

By Dave DeAngelis
World News Writer

The bird saw it coming at the last minute, a bright yellow orb heading its way. The bird split just in time and the orb kicked off the branch and fell to the ground, 343 feet from its origin. The bird was spared, and potentially my living room window as well. The orb? It was a softball, a monster blast, hit by Chuck King in the farthest distance segment of last year’s Home Run Derby during the Veterans Classic Softball Tournament. The challenge was on.

Next up to the plate was Dave Emmons, who, like Chuck, has a stellar history of sending softballs into Birdville. So, when Dave spanked the ball, the crowd gasped as it took off in the same trajectory as Chuck’s. However, it landed 344 feet away, just one foot farther than Chuck’s. Jokingly, Chuck says his would have gone farther had it “not nicked the branch,” plus he “had the wind against him while the wind favored Dave.” Hey, I’m not trying to get into the middle of this – I’m just writin’ the story. So Dave won last year’s farthest distance portion of the contest by inches. However, Chuck won the Home Run Derby in 2024 hitting 15 home runs out of 20 pitches, and also won the 2023 Derby, while Dave won it in 2022.

Both guys, dare we say, have played a little bit of softball. Chuck, who was an all-conference high school football player, has been playing softball since the late ‘80s in Pittsburgh leagues and at higher traveling team levels. Dave,

having played softball now for 45 years, has always been a home run hitter in his New Jersey stomping grounds. Both guys have mutual respect for each other and have the admiration of those who play with and against them.

So, in this year’s Home Run Derby, can King Chuck ... er, uh, Chuck King keep his crown? Will Dave Emmons take it back? Or will a new “Sultan of Swat” become the home run king? And who’s gonna hit the farthest home run? It could be you, but fat chance. Just sayin’.

Any resident can enter the Home Run Derby. Residents who don’t play softball in our leagues can hit from second base with the fence being 150’ away. Batters who play in the Monday/Wednesday league hit from the pitcher’s mound, eyeballing the fence from approximately 200’ away. Sluggers (KBS - known bird scramblers), who play in the Tuesday/Thursday league hit from home plate, scoffing at the fence being a mere 250’ away.

So why not give it a shot? Embarrass yourself ... I mean, test your muscle memory. Become Walter Mitty. Who knows, you could be the next KBS. Or, just come on out to cheer on our veterans in the fourth annual Veterans Classic Softball Tournament and Home Run Derby! You might even see those pool ducks from a few stories ago wandering around.

Game day is Saturday, Nov. 8 (rain date Nov. 9) at the softball field.



Photo by Dave DeAngelis

Home Run Derby longest home run in 2024, Dave Emmons, with Rick Munsell



Photo by Dave DeAngelis

Home Run Derby most home runs in 2024, Chuck King, with Kenneth Colen.

Golden Years Kyudo: The Art of the Japanese Longbow

By Shizuka Campagna

Golden Years Kyudo is a new club dedicated to the practice of kyudo, one of Japan’s oldest martial arts. Dating back to 1 A.D., Kyudo is more than just archery; it’s a way to cultivate self-awareness and spiritual maturity through mindful practice. Influenced by Shinto, Confucian, and Buddhist philosophies, the art of the Japanese longbow provides a unique path to both physical and mental well-being.

Golden Years Kyudo is open to all residents and is part of the Archery Club. We offer free weekly instruction, utilizing a progressive teaching method that allows you to learn at your own pace. All essential equipment is provided, so you can just show up and start your journey. We meet at the archery range every

Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. Except on the fourth Wednesday, you will find us at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio IV from 4 to 7 p.m. Whether you try shooting a Japanese longbow or simply observe a class, you are always welcome.

Starting in January 2026, we will be offering a one-day course titled “Experience Kyudo, the Japanese Art of Longbow Archery” at Master the Possibilities. The course will be held on Thursday, Jan. 8, Monday, Feb. 9, Thursday, March 5, and Monday, April 13. All sessions will run from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Shooting a bow that is over seven and a half feet long is a truly unique experience. We hope you will try it once – and maybe even continue the journey of kyudo with us.



Photo by Jai Me

Shizuka Campagna at the 2025 International Kyudo Federation Seminar in Minnesota.

Bocce League Season Begins

By Kathy Nastally

How exciting! League play starts up on Tuesday, Oct. 14! We’ve been waiting all summer to catch up with league teammates for fun and healthy competition. All captains of teams that played last season should have already been contacted by their respective league representative. If you’re forming a new team, a player looking for a team, or a team looking for players, please contact Jim Wolfer right away at 732-580-4915.

League play is Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., and Thursdays at 10 a.m. We often need substitutes for league players. If league time commitment isn’t for you, subbing may be a perfect fit. If interested, your name and phone number can be added to our substitute list. This list will be posted with team information on the courtside bulletin boards. League does not play the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s.

Bocce dues remain at \$15. Cash and checks will be accepted. League players will pay dues only through their league captains. Open players and substitutes will pay dues through open play, which started on Wednesday, Oct. 1. All players must complete a hold harmless form, provide a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass, and pay dues. Dues are good through Sept. 30, 2026. Any new player to bocce must sign a Hold Harmless form and may play three times before paying dues.

Open play is on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. Please come a few minutes early to sign in. Open play is limited to 48 players. We draw cards to determine court assignments and teammates. Games are played to 16 points; the first team to 16 points wins that game. We play two games. In the second game, teams switch ball colors. During play, closed-toed shoes are required for safety. Bocce courts are located behind the Arbor Fitness Center next to the tennis courts. A water fountain is available.

Congratulations to Deb Richards for winning the point challenge late this summer. It is a difficult challenge as a player rolls the pallina to the point, without calling for it to be placed on the point for play. If it comes to rest with at least half of the pallina on the circle called the point, you win \$5. The action

is confirmed by two people on the court and a board member, if present. Kudos to Deb!

Anyone wishing to play outside of the scheduled open or league times can find crated balls under the benches. Court one has a handicap accessible wall that can be removed for players entering and exiting the court. For any questions, please contact the club president, Pam Brown, at 970-531-1890. Let the bocce balls roll!



Photo by Jim Wolfer

Point challenge winner, Deb Richards.



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With fall officially upon us, we would like to welcome back all the snowbirds. This is the time of year when the community is booming with excitement. Golf has an exciting event schedule for the remainder of the year, so please be on the lookout for our upcoming events. A big thank you goes out to all those who donated to the Folds of Honor Foundation over Labor Day weekend. The Folds of Honor Foundation provides educational scholarships and other assistance to the spouses and children of soldiers. We were able to raise \$1,833

for this great organization. I would like all golfers to familiarize themselves with the World Handicap System. It is important to understand all the proper policies and procedures for maintaining a proper handicap through the World Handicap System. On Top of the World currently has a handicap committee, which consists of roughly 10 community golfers. The purpose of the handicap committee is:

1. Establish a handicap committee.
2. Ensure the club meets the definition of a golf club.
3. Know the rules of handicapping.
4. Educate and communicate the handicap rules to members.
5. Ensure course details are accurate (type one club).
6. Make the process of converting a Handicap Index to a Course Handicap™ as easy as possible.

7. Facilitate the timely submission of scores.
 8. Maintain accurate player scoring records.
 9. Apply applicable penalty scores and adjust the Handicap Index of any member whose Handicap Index does not reflect their demonstrated ability.
 10. Perform annual handicap reviews.
- Please ensure you are posting all scores from the correct course and tee you played. This is extremely important to keep your handicap as accurate as possible. If not, you could be the next golfer audited by the On Top of the World handicap committee.

Upcoming Event

- Friday, Oct. 31: Trick or Treat Open at On Top of the World Golf

Club.

World Accolades

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Lisa Free, eagle #10.

THE LINKS: Lisa Free, eagle #3 and #10. Jeff Richardson, eagle #3 and #12. Congratulations to all for these fine accomplishments.

Golf Tip of the Month: Bump in Run

When chipping around the green, most players make the mistake of over-complicating the shot. Keep it simple, play the ball slightly back in your stance, keep your hands ahead of the clubface and ball, and use a putting-like motion. Focus on landing the ball about a third of the way to the hole and letting it roll the rest of the way. Less wrist and more body control. This will help simplify the process and result in better shots.

Men's Golf Association

John Yenne



From the tee box to the green, we're all searching for game-changing ideas. In golf, as in life, you've got choices. You can stand around the clubhouse after a rough round, griping about your game, or you can get to work fixing it. The same holds for our Men's Golf Association (MGA). Board elections for the 2026 term will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 3, during our Chicken Day luncheon. Now's the time to start thinking about improving it – with the same focus you'd bring to fixing your swing. Running the MGA isn't about being an armchair quarterback after a frustrating game. It takes honest ownership, commitment, creativity, and an approach that values solutions over complaints. We need board members who view challenges as opportunities to enhance the game for everyone. What's in it for you? Think of it as the ultimate golf-networking opportunity. You'll work directly with course management, help shape game formats, influence how funds get spent on things that matter (like food services), and yes – you'll always know what's happening behind the scenes. Bottom line: If you've ever said, "They should do this differently" or "Why don't we try that?"

– here's your chance to be the "they."

Ready to trade a complaint card for a leadership role? 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 & Norm Hayworth (food and beverage), and Philip Shaw (at-large).

We currently have 278 members. For upcoming events and a tip of the month feature, visit otowmga.com.

Put these upcoming Wednesdays in your calendar:

- Oct. 8: Individual Quota Points (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Oct. 15: Three Best Balls (The Links)
- Oct. 22: Black Tees (The Tortoise & The Hare)
- Oct. 29: Individual Net Score (The Links)

Chicken Day Sept. 3

The Links Flight: Tie at 55–James McCormack, Rino D'amico, Larry Skoch, Mike Inge; William (Bill) Truby, Bob Epps, Bruce Rothenberg, Carl Zeiler; David Vincent, Joe Aldridge, Louis Heger. 56–August Rosenberger, Paul Stoecklin, John Evans, Richard Deschenes. Tie at 57–Thomas Mansfield, Robert Jorgensen, Gregg Keidel, Robert Fuqua; Dick Emmons, Don Channell, Pete Markish, Bill Singel; 58–Kevin McGuinness, Patrick Nagy, Kevin Broderick, Michael Dwyer. The Tortoise & The Hare Flight: 53–Garfield Gray,

Guy Stiebing, Philip Petrozella, Bruce Venslavsky. 54–Irl Flanagan, Mark Parker, Dennis Kissen, Curt Bingham. 56–Tim Carlisle, Rick Deroen, Mike Erickson, Tary Bole. 57–John Yenne, Wally Wohlleber, Bigelow Robinson, Richard Foltyniewicz. Tie at 58–

Paul Derosso, David Emmons, Omer Fannin, David Bauer; Rick Plesea, Garry Gerlach, David Woitek, Mario Grosso; Greg McDowell, Howard Gluckman, Roger Sparks, David Green.

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UPCOMING TICKETS FOR SALE:

- Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025: Paradise Players "Comedy Night"
- Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025 & Monday, Dec. 15, 2025: Concert Chorus "Winter Concert"

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Candler Hills
Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



Candler Hills Golf Course is in the fifth month of the renovation. The greens are looking immaculate and our course is starting to look like the one we love to play.

The President’s Cup, an annual event for the league, is planned for Thursday, Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 7. This is a net championship. We are hoping the

Meditation Group

Domenica Genovese



Meditation is a simple but powerful practice – a pause in the middle of our

course will be ready by then.

Our general membership meeting and lunch will be on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 2 p.m. Elections will be held for the 2026 board. We will also be discussing our charity selection for the year, the financial report and other pertinent information. We hope to see everyone there.

Don’t forget the Member/Guest tournament on Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6. Dec. 5 is a practice round, if you want, followed by some fun activities. Dec. 6 is the tournament and, like in previous years, we look forward to an exciting time.

Wednesday, Dec. 10 is our joint holi-

day/awards dinner for both the Candler Hills and On Top of the World LGA-18 leagues. It will take place in The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. It is always an enjoyable soirée, so please save the date. Details forthcoming.

Mini golf is an entertaining way to play golf with some young family members or just to have a good time. It is interesting that, in the 19th century, mini golf was initially designed for women. It was considered improper for women to hold a club past their shoulders. Fortunately, that outdated attitude has not persisted to this day.

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

makes our sessions most meaningful is the discussion that follows. Sharing reflections gives us practical ways to apply mindfulness in daily life – whether that’s finding patience in conversations, handling stress with a clearer mind, or noticing small moments of gratitude during the day.

These conversations remind us that meditation isn’t only about sitting still – it’s also about learning from each other. By listening to different perspectives, we realize how much we share in common and how mindfulness can be used in very down-to-earth ways. That sense of connection strengthens our group and gives each of us ideas we can carry into our own lives, from responding more calmly in difficult situations to being more present with family and friends.

Our weekly format is simple: we begin with a short, thought-provoking reading, followed by a 20-minute silent meditation with gentle background music, and then time for group discussion. No one is required to speak – listening can be just as valuable. Members are also welcome to bring an inspirational reading to share.

Whether you’re new to meditation or have been practicing for years, you’ll find a relaxed and supportive environment in our group. We meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room. Attendance varies from about 10 to 20 men and women. For more information about our weekly meetings or to share your interest in joining, please contact Domenica Genovese at domenica@gcfonline.com, Brenda Foster at brenda@gcfonline.com, or Athena Drewes at Drathenadrewes@gmail.com.

Ladies 18-Hole
Golf Association

Jo Della Penna



Congratulations to Lori Pizzini on her hole-in-one on #6, The Tortoise & The Hare.

**Red, White & Blue Scramble
July 1/The Links**

Tie at 44–Mary Jeannotte, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Brenda Hofman, Terry Lemesh and Linda Taylor, Jill Strey, Judie Anderson, Nancy Skoch, Sandra Mansfield and Kathleen Goodwin, Eileen Gustavus, Pamela Robison. Tie at 45–Page Falconer, Debby Wilson, Christine McIntire, Donna Brunell, Lisa Free, MJ Strelec, Diane Hartman, Carol Clark, Gail Lagrange, and Mary Dawson, Liz Pruss, Joann Delmar, Va Donna Hall, Debra Dematteo, Robinn LeMaster, Donna Townsend.

**Stableford (Individual)
July 8/ The Tortoise & The Hare**

Flight 1: 41–Mary Jeannotte. 40–Lisa Free. Tie at 39–Sharon Fairclough, Linda Taylor.

Flight 2: 42–Liz Pruss. 39–Debby Wilson. 37–Jill Strey. 34–Joanne Woolery.

Flight 3: Tie at 37–Christine McIntire, Marla Bennett. 35–Brenda Hofmann. 34–Cindy Bobowski.

Flight 4: 39–Nancy Skoch. 35–Joann Delmar. 33–Peggy Shanfelt. 32–Connie Lukas.

**Out with the Bad (Individual)
July 29/The Links**

Flight 1: 56–Gail Lagrange. 57–Paige Falconer. 61–Va Donna Hall. Tie at 63–Sharon Fairclough, Diane Boston.

Flight 2: 57–Cynthia Gersten. 59 Robin LeMaster. 65–Debby Wilson. 66–Vickie Noltensmeyer.

Flight 3: 64–Terry Lemesh. 65–Pamela Robison. Tie at 70–Ronda Richley, Jana McElroy, Donna Townsend.

**Low Gross/Low Net (Individual)
Aug. 5/The Tortoise & The Hare
Gross**

Flight 1: 80–Sharon Fairclough. 87–Lori Pizzini.

Flight 2: 87–Vickie Noltensmeyer. 92–Karen Schroeckenthaler.

Flight 3: 94–Robyn Atwood. 99–Christine McInti.

Flight 4: 101–Nancy Skoch. 116–Terry Lemesh.

Net

Flight 1: 76–Laurel Staiger.78–Gail Lagrange.

Flight 2: 75–Katie Schriewer. 78–Patty Whitley.

Flight 3: 77–Barbara Vincent, 84–Cindy Bobowski.

Flight 4: 86–Pamela Robison.

**Chapman/ Partners
Aug. 12/The Links**

Flight 1: Tie at 70–Lisa Free, Marcella Nunez, Sandra Mansfield, Gayle Lagrange. 71–Va Donna Hall, Peggy Ellenberger. 72–Lori Pizzini, Page Falconer.

Flight 2: 66–Liz Pruss, Judie Anderson. 67–Connie Lukas, Joann Ropel. 71–Patty Whitley, Connie Norris. Tie at 74–Ellen Brinn, Cindy Bobowski, Vickie Noltensmeyer, Sandy Snyder. Flight 3: 70–Joann Delmar, Renee Anchors. 73–Nancy Zielinski, Renee Middleton. Tie at 75–Marla Bennett, Carol Clark, Pamela Robison, Anne Dahlen, Nancy Skoch, Terry Lemesh.

**Black Tee Best Ball Gross/Net
Aug. 19/The Links**

Tie at 115–Lynn Colomb, Liz Pruss, Diane Hartman, Laurel Staiger, Mary Jeannotte, Mary Dawson, Beth Wolinski, Connie Lukas. 116–Sharon Fairclough, Patty Whitley, May Chin, Terry Lemesh. 117–Gail Lagrange, Marcela Nunez, Robyn Atwood, Jana McElroy. Tie at 118–Christine Gizqa, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Barbara Vincent, Roxiann Dwyer, Diane Boston, Debra De Matteo, Joann Delmar, Virginia Madura.

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Photo by Domenica Genovese

Meditation Group members pause for the camera after a recent session.

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Annual eight-ball tournament winners.



Alabama tournament winners.

Billiards Club

Phil Panzera



The club held two tournaments during the break between the summer and fall leagues. Our annual eight-ball tournament drew a huge crowd, making for an exciting and enjoyable afternoon.

John Marcinek and Art Keck won through to the finals, and it was a tight, smart, and defensive battle. John prevailed, though, and took first place.

Tom Marcotte and Adam Herzog played smart and careful eight-ball to secure third and fourth place, respectively. Ralph Szelenyi and Pat Murphy also shot well, to secure fifth and sixth places in the 38-player field.

We had another strong turnout for the Alabama tournament. Alabama is an eight-ball variation in which the one-ball and the 15-ball must be made in a certain side pocket, and then the eight-ball must be made in the same pocket where the player made his last group ball.

It is a tactical and strategic game, usually won by the player who can play defense and who understands that the correct play is very often not to make the easiest shot on the table. It is an excellent game, and highly recommended to improve your safety and defensive skills.

The riveting story of the tournament was unheralded Phil Franklin prevailing over three stronger players and winning his way to the finals against Art Keck. He and Art had a close match, which could have gone either way, but Art edged out Phil to take top honors.

Third place went to Ron Oeschner, and fourth place went to Adam Herzog, both of whom went through some tough opponents to finish that highly.

Our fall league is underway, running through early December, after which we'll have our annual Winter Medley event, a combination of eight-ball and nine-ball.

I'm also considering whether to have a new tournament called Ball-in-Hand Pool. This can be played with any pool game, and its unique feature is that it is entirely offense. Whenever a player misses, the incoming player has ball-in-hand. The only additional rule is a different break procedure. After the break, no matter what happens, the shooter stays at the table with ball-in-hand.

The game is faster and more engaging. You'll shoot more and make more balls. It improves position play by getting a player to focus on running two or three balls instead of just one. It can also serve as an equalizer between two players of different skill levels. Plus, you can play many more games in the same amount of time. Try it and let me know what you think, please.

Billiard Academy classes continue every Wednesday at 6 p.m. The focus is on proper fundamentals – there are so many pool mechanics that can be out of kilter that almost every player can improve his accuracy substantially with just a few simple tweaks. Classes are free for Billiard Club members.

Call of the Wild Sports Club

Scott Bloch



Did you miss the September meeting? If so, you missed a great multimedia presentation. Ken Jagodzinski, the president of The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club, gave us an overview of his club. He told us of all the different types of trips he puts together. Many members prefer a day trip. Some like the multi-day trip. That's anywhere from a two-day to a four-day trip.

Of course, the longer the trip, the higher the cost. The longer the trip, the more species of fish are caught, and the higher the amount of weight.

Ken suggested that our clubs could

and should get together on future fishing trips.

Ken brought Charles Pryde with him. Charles is a videographer. He presented a short video of a 44-hour trip from June. For more videos, check out his many YouTube videos.

Our final speaker was Santana Morretto from Holiday Marine at the Harris Chain of Lakes. He said there will be a family day on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

Most importantly, fall fishing begins late October and runs through the end of the year.

Thanks go out to Shannon and her team for putting together another great Club Fair in September. Because of the venue, all clubs were able to comfortably talk with all who came.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

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A collage of sports-related images including a 2024 World Champions banner, a Draft25 banner, a Boston Red Sox banner, and various sports jerseys.

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POP Tennis

Beth Smith



Even in the heat of summer, the POP Tennis Club refuses to slow down. Our spirited group of players continues to meet regularly for fun, fitness, and friendship at the lower tennis courts at The Arbors. Whether you’re a seasoned player or just curious about the game, there’s a place for you here.

We play every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, adjusting our start time to beat the heat. With the “dog days” of summer fully upon us, we’ve shifted our playtime to a 7:30 a.m. start. Once the temperatures ease up, we’ll return to our usual 8 a.m. schedule. Early starts mean cooler courts, faster feet, and even more enjoyment.

For those unfamiliar with POP tennis, it’s a fast-paced, easy-to-learn paddle sport played on a shorter court. It offers all the action of traditional tennis but with a slightly softer ball and more accessible rules, making it a favorite among players of all ages and skill levels. It’s also a fantastic workout and great for improving coordination, balance, and cardio health, all while having a blast.

On Thursday, Sept. 11, we enjoyed participating in the Club Fair. We had a great turnout with many inquisitive visitors to our table. We look forward to seeing some new faces this fall!

Our club is all about camaraderie. While the rallies can get competitive, the atmosphere remains friendly and inclusive.

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



Photo by Brenda Foster

Kathy Kelly is hitting with the ball machine at the tennis courts.

Tennis Club

Brenda Foster



For anyone who has taken up tennis, you know that to truly improve, you must practice. But finding a partner willing to hit nothing but forehands or backhands for an hour can be a real challenge. They want to play points, get bored, and before you know it, your practice session is over.

Enter the ball machine – the hitting partner that never complains, never gets tired, and has only one goal: to help you get better.

My own tennis journey began on the playgrounds of Philly with the New Jersey Tennis League summer leagues. We kept score and rarely worked on individual strokes. If I wanted to practice, I’d either hit against a wall or convince my dad to rally, though he usually turned it into a match. Even playing for LaSalle College, I spent more time competing than drilling.

It wasn’t until I joined indoor and country clubs later in life that I discovered my favorite hitting partner: the ball machine. Suddenly, I could actually “practice” and work on my game. I didn’t need to find someone willing to hit a hundred forehands or backhands with me. This machine’s only purpose was to help me improve my strokes!

That’s why the Tennis Club is starting a weekly event just for you. Join us for an hour of focused drilling with the ball machine. Want to try a new topspin forehand or a slice backhand in a match? It can be nerve-wracking if you haven’t practiced it enough. Learning to play tennis well is all about building muscle memory, and the only way to produce those new shots consistently is through repetition.

This is your opportunity. Come hit a hundred forehands, backhands, and volleys to perfect your strokes.

Join us for a fun hour of drill time with me on Thursdays in October at 10 a.m. on Court 1. We can’t wait to see you there!

For more information about the Tennis Club, contact Brenda Foster at otow-tennisocala@gmail.com.



Photo by Beth Smith

POP Tennis Club members – George Parrett, Domenica Genovese, and Shizuka Campagna – at the Club Fair.

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Top Pickleball Club

Teresa J. Armstrong



It is the beginning of October, and all things pumpkin spice are here! Yum! Personally, I'll go for the pumpkin bars, they are so good!

Recently, I read an excellent article from "Pickleball Nation HQ." I was encouraged to share this with everyone. Please read "What Nobody Wants to Admit About the Elitist Culture Killing Pickleball for Others" at www.pickleballnationhq.com. In summary, a culture of elitist snobbery is taking over pickleball, ruining the game for those

who enjoy the friendship and camaraderie of an actual social game. They suck the joy right out of the game. Bullying and chasing away new or beginner players. They go running for the wallyball or putt-putt games. We are a club founded on the joy of the social game, and we'd like to keep it that way!

This past month, we saw friends and neighbors begin to return from summer adventures. The training classes kicked off on Tuesday, Sept. 9. This fall, our roster of classes is a bit different, with classes available for every skill level. Also, every Monday and the first Saturday of each month, the training team holds a 10:30 a.m. class for beginners (PB101N). No need to register; just show up to the upper courts for loads of learning and fun.

At the end of August, our local partici-

pation in the Special Olympics training came to a close, leaving behind great connections and learning for both the Olympians and our volunteers. Lauri Martynick led our participation here; she did a stupendous job of organizing and training the whole crew. Of note, the first tourney was held in Gainesville on Saturday, Sept. 13.

In the August issue of the World News, we were super excited to congratulate Joe Vargas and Melissa Kaiser on obtaining the pickleball instructor certification from the Professional Pickleball Registry. Now I have even more exciting news as we are now able to extend congratulations to Don Johnson and Doug Moffatt. Ron Edwards was already certified. It is truly a super achievement by these five top-notch instructors and raters! The Top Pickleball Club (TPC) can

boast of its achievement all the more as it makes us an even better club.

September's fun event was a rover tourney that was comprised of teams of three! What a great time for competitive and fun play, as well as a great social after.

The TPC 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

Save the dates for Battle of the Paddle, taking place from Feb. 27 through March 1, 2026.

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

Archery Club

Robin Schiltz



The Archery Club will have an exciting event on Thursday, Oct. 2, when we hold our autumn open house.

Have you ever wanted to try archery but not had the opportunity? Well, this is your chance to channel your inner Robin Hood. Beginning at 10 a.m., stop by

the Veterans Park pavilion to hear more about the club. Our members will register you for this event, then a golf cart will take you to the range at the back of the park for a tour.

Here, you'll learn a little about archery equipment (we supply all equipment) and the various archery disciplines. Most importantly, our instructors will guide you through the process of shooting several arrows, of course, always aiming to hit the bullseye.

Afterwards, you will head back to the pavilion, where the Blazin' Bites food

truck will be available to purchase lunch if you wish. Join our members for conversations about your archery experience and get answers to any questions.

The Archery Club manages the range at Veterans Park. We have members of all skill levels, from novices and those who have never picked up a bow, to competitive archers. Plenty of equipment is available for those new to archery or returning after a long hiatus. We have a well-equipped maintenance shop to keep club and personal archery equipment tuned for top performance.

Ohio Buckeyes Social Club

Amy Ingram



On Thursday, Sept. 11, On Top of the World hosted the annual Club Fair, where the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club welcomed many new members.

Now that autumn is upon us, our club holds weekly football game day watch parties. So far, the Buckeyes are off to a great start, and we look forward to cheering them on to another national championship.

In addition to the game day watch parties, on Wednesday, Sept. 17, we held our first annual chili cook-off party. We had a huge turnout where members judged their favorite chili, and the winners took home a cash prize as well as bragging rights.

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, photo booth fun, 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 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 have an interest in serving. In addition, we are always looking for new members. If you would like to join the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club, email us at buckeyefans34481@gmail.com.

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



Photo by Gwyn Pinson
Gregg Keidel, Marge Ruhlen, and Dave Ruhlen of the Ohio Buckeyes Social Club at the Club Fair.

We also offer workshops that train members on caring for personal equipment and assist with maintaining club equipment. Additionally, we have practitioners of the martial art of kyudo. If you would like to learn more about this archery discipline, please stop by the range on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. or contact Brenda Foster (brenda@gc-fonline.com).

Every 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. If you would like a quick introduction to the club, we invite you to stop by during Freestyle Friday. Membership is open to all residents with a valid ID or a Gateway of Services pass.

For more in-depth knowledge, Patty Hoppe hosts Archery Fundamentals and Shooting Workshops for our members at the range on the third Tuesday of each month. Topics vary monthly, and a fun shoot will be held following each workshop. Workshops begin at 9 a.m. and are open to all club members.

Interested in becoming a member? Visit otowarcheryclub.org > New Members and download the application form and required waivers. For additional information or the next steps to take to join the club, please contact Chuck at chuck-archery@strickland.net or 407-257-9668 or Suzanne at suzanne.shea61@gmail.com or 908-510-5714. Keep it in the yellow!

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Stay Fit Anytime

Staying active and maintaining a healthy lifestyle doesn't have to mean following a rigid schedule or attending classes at a set time. At On Top of the World, we understand that flexibility is key, especially when it comes to wellness. That's why we're proud to offer a wide variety of virtual fitness options designed to help residents stay strong, healthy, and connected on their own terms.

In recent years, virtual fitness has skyrocketed in popularity, offering people the ability to exercise anywhere, anytime. From live-streamed classes to on-demand programs, virtual fitness brings the gym to your fingertips. We have embraced this growing trend by creating convenient options that make it easier than ever for residents to keep moving, whether they prefer yoga, strength training, dance, or low-impact cardio.

One of the most popular tools available to our community is Fitness on Demand, located at the Arbor Fitness Center. Open to residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass, this platform provides access to a wide library of high-quality workout videos. Residents can choose from hundreds of programs and exercise at their own pace, creating a truly personalized fitness experience. No need to worry about class schedules, you decide when and how you want to work out.

For those living in Candler Hills or Weybourne Landing, virtual wellness is just a click away in the OTOW App. By tapping the "Fitness" button, residents can discover a calendar of virtual fitness classes each month (Wellness Offerings). This is where our exclusive WCAA (World-Class Active Aging) content shines. Developed by our own certified instructors, WCAA is designed specifically with active adults in mind, focusing on safe, effective, and enjoyable workouts that promote strength, flexibility, balance, and overall well-being. Whether it's yoga, cardio, functional strength, or low-impact aerobics, WCAA content ensures that every participant feels supported and challenged at their own level.

To further build connection, we've recently added scheduled WCAA classes at the Arbor Fitness Center at 4 p.m. on select days. While virtual fitness is all about flexibility, these scheduled sessions give residents the chance to come together, enjoy group energy, and encourage socialization, all while benefiting from our expert-led programming. It's a wonderful way to combine the convenience of virtual instruction with the camaraderie of in-person fitness.

Residents of Indigo East can also take advantage of Fitness on Demand, ensuring that no matter where you live, virtual fitness opportunities are always available. Even better, for those who prefer working out from home, the Flex app allows you to stream Fitness on Demand classes directly to your living room. This flexibility makes it easy to maintain your wellness routine, rain or shine, busy day or relaxed weekend.

Ready to explore all that virtual fitness has to offer? To learn more about getting started with the Flex app or to discover the right option for you, contact Fitness Supervisor Lillian Grajeda at lillian_grajeda@otowfl.com.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala



OCTOBER 2025 FITNESS

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	SPARC LILLIAN	Step DEBBIE	Remix Bootcamp BUDDY	Step DEBBIE	SPARC BUDDY
8:00 am	Zumba® Gold-Toning AMY		Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi ART		Dance Aerobics DEBBIE
9:00 am	S.O.S. RONA	Stretch, Flex & Balance LILLIAN	S.O.S. JOHN C.	Sculpt LILLIAN	S.O.S. DEBBIE
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 LOBI M.
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 DEBBIE		Zumba® Gold AMY		Dance Aerobics LOBI M.
12:00 pm				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 LILLIAN	
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.

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	Inferno HIIT SIB	STRONG BUDDY	Inferno HIIT RONA	STRONG LILLIAN	Core & More JOHN C.
9:00 am	Yoga SANDRA	Pilates Fusion SIB	Yoga JOE	Pilates Fusion LOBI	Yin Yoga HELANE
10:00 am	STRONG JOHN C.	Yoga SANDRA	STRONG SIB	Yoga LOBI	STRONG JOE
11:00 am	Yoga SCOTT		Yoga TISHA		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 SHERRE	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.

Weight Loss Group

Laura Gavey



Gobble, gobble, gobble. Thanksgiving is coming. Parties and events will feature all the high-calorie foods that we love to eat. It can be difficult to navigate, but we are here to provide help.

Are you looking for the best way to adapt to new foods and gatherings? Join the On Top of Weight Loss group! Over 35 of your friends and neighbors are already attending one of the two meetings and making better choices with their food and exercise, and reaching their goals! We meet weekly to share ideas on weight loss, healthy cooking, recipes, exercise, and tips for achieving 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. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m., and the

meeting begins at 10 a.m. Beth Green is the leader. Visitors are always welcome.

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

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Co-Ed Recreational Softball

Pat Wilbert



Hail, hail the gang’s all here. Co-Ed Recreational Softball is made up of men and women of all ages and experience levels, who interact with each other each week. New friends and old friends, we are all there to have fun and get some exercise.

Every Saturday at 8:30 a.m., we come to warm up before we choose teams and start the games. We play seven innings during the summer, but we will gladly play eight or nine innings come the fall



Co-Ed Recreational Softball players.

Photo by Pat Wilbert

Cornhole Club

Ray Nault



For open play, Mondays and Wednesdays are the most heavily attended, but Thursdays are gaining popularity. Start time is 5 p.m. The boards are put out at 4:30 p.m. for those who wish to have

some pre-play practice. Sign-in sheets are put out at 4:45 p.m. If more than 20 sign in to play, those after the first 20 will have the option of waiting for an available court (which does not take long) or play in the grassy area alongside the regular courts. We welcome players of all skill levels, including beginners. We offer a beginners class to learn the basic techniques and rules of cornhole. Contact Linda Nault at Lnault52@gmail.com with any questions.

Rec Softball Club

Bryan Tully



The summer season ended recently with first-time manager Dave Bauer leading the Cubs to a wire-to-wire championship. The team started strong, scuffled a bit in mid-season, then finished strong as well to secure the title, never relinquishing the first-place position in the standings.

With the fall season underway, the Cubs are looking to repeat as champi-

ons, but they know it will not be an easy task. There has been an infusion of new talent in the league, and the games are becoming more and more competitive. As summer gives way to pleasant fall temperatures, the games will be even better with more fans in the stands and fewer golf carts scattered around the premises.

If you enjoy good softball, good music, and witty banter, there aren’t many better ways to spend a Tuesday or Thursday morning than at the softball field. To paraphrase the fabulous Ernie Banks, “It’s a beautiful day for softball; let’s play two.”



Summer 2025 champions: Cubs!

Photo by Mike Soltis

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.

Friends of Bill W Group



You are not alone on this journey. We come together weekly to share our experience, strength, and hope. If you are in recovery or think you have a problem with alcohol, please join us. We meet weekly on Mondays from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Please note there will be no meeting on Monday, Oct. 20. For more information and to be notified of changes to the schedule, please email friendsbillwocala@gmail.com.

Dermatology CLINICAL TRIALS

Clinical trials are essential to advancing treatment options for medical conditions of all kinds. Renstar Medical Research is currently enrolling for dermatology trials such as:

- Acne
- Eczema
- Hair Loss
- Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS)
- Plaque Psoriasis

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- ✓ No insurance required



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Wheeling Around the World

Nick Arkon



Cycling has evolved far beyond the traditional two-wheeled road bike. Today, riders can choose from a wide variety of bicycles tailored to their needs, comfort, and lifestyle. Among the most popular options are the classic road bike, the increasingly popular e-bike, and the uniquely designed recumbent bicycle. Each type offers distinct features and advantages – whether it’s speed, accessibility, or comfort – that make cycling enjoyable for a wide range of people.

Road Bike: A road bike is designed for speed and efficiency on paved roads. It features a lightweight frame, narrow tires, and drop handlebars that allow for an aerodynamic riding position. The advantage of a road bike lies in its responsiveness and ability to cover long distances with minimal effort for a fit rider. It’s ideal for competitive cycling, group rides, and endurance training. Riders benefit from a wide range of gears, making it suitable for hilly terrain and high-speed flat riding. However, the aggressive posture may be uncomfortable for some, especially over extended periods.

E-bike (electric bike): An e-bike incorporates a battery-powered motor to assist the rider’s pedaling. It resembles a traditional bicycle but provides varying levels of pedal assistance, making it easier to ride uphill or for longer distances. The key advantage of an e-bike is accessibility – it allows older adults, individuals



Image generated by Nick Arkon

Road bike, e-bike, and recumbent bicycle.

als with limited fitness, or commuters to ride further and with less strain. E-bikes reduce physical exertion while maintaining the health benefits of cycling. They’re especially practical for urban transportation, offering a greener alternative to cars. However, they are heavier and require regular charging.

Recumbent Bicycle: A recumbent bicycle positions the rider in a reclined, seated posture with the legs extended forward to pedal. This design minimizes strain on the back, neck, and wrists, making it exceptionally comfortable. The key advantage of a recumbent bike is ergonomic support, making it ideal for individuals with joint or spine issues. Its low center of gravity also enhances stability. Although less common and bulkier to transport, recumbents offer

excellent aerodynamics and comfort on long rides. However, they may be less visible in traffic and harder to maneuver in tight urban spaces. Recumbent bicycles are also available with battery/motor assist.

Road bikes are best for speed and fitness; e-bikes offer ease and accessibility; and recumbents prioritize comfort and ergonomics. Each type serves different needs depending on the rider’s goals, physical condition, and environment.

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

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

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.

Starting the first Tuesday of October, the Horseshoe Club will start competitive pitching for the 2025/2026 season. Each member who pitches regularly will have access to all the statistics generated by their pitching during the year. This consists of the following: shoes pitched, ringer percentage, total number of games played, won/lost record, and their point average. The point average is used to even the competition when members pitch against each other.

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

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 vkmicheel214@gmail.com with any questions.

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On Top of the World

MAKE-UP DATES FOR ALL NEIGHBORHOODS

Vehicle Decal Event

Attention residents who still need the new RFID Vehicle Decal!

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

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

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

Make-up Dates for all Neighborhoods

- Tuesday, October 28, 2025
- Wednesday, October 29, 2025
- Thursday, October 30, 2025
- Friday, October 31, 2025

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

Can’t attend on your assigned day? Please reach out to otowservice@otowfl.com for rescheduling information. As a reminder, your barcode will continue to work while we integrate all communities.

*Future dates have been scheduled for other OTOW neighborhoods.



Photo by John Schnur

Dancing Jewels are getting ready to perform to “Greased Lightnin’.”

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Jazz Dance Club

Liz Elliott Lieberman



We are rehearsing our dance numbers for the latest murder mystery and will have three upcoming shows in which The Ovation Dancers will perform. On Friday, Oct. 24, we will be dancing in “The Haunting of Ashford High” at The Lodge at Candler Hills, and on Friday, Nov. 7, and Saturday, Nov. 8, we will appear in “The Haunting of Weybourne High” at The Landing. There seems to be a great deal of supernatural activity

this Halloween!
The Landing performances are a fundraiser for the SPCA of Marion County and are open to all residents. Please see their column for times and ticket information. Our dance numbers for these shows are in the spirit of the 1950s rock ‘n’ roll. I am fortunate to have an excellent assistant, Pati Bean, who has been invaluable while I was traveling. She taught the dancers their choreography, so a big shout-out and thanks to Pati!
I saw some excellent dancing in the United Kingdom in a couple of shows. In London, the epic production of “The Great Gatsby”, based on the F. Scott Fitzgerald classic, is a dark and ominous tale of flighty, callous individuals

who care very little for underprivileged working-class people. The choreography in Act I was typical of the 1920s style Charleston era, but the darker and tragic Act II choreography added much more style and substance to the foreboding and tragic finale. The lighting, sets, costumes, and special effects were outstanding, but it was the talented cast who sang, danced, and acted their hearts out that moved the audience to tears. I highly recommend this production if you are in London or New York. The show in London is at The Coliseum, home of the English National Opera, and where I, as a very young ballet dancer, danced in the ballet, “Sleeping Beauty” many years ago!
I will talk about the other show I saw

called “Top Hat” in next month’s column, as it was truly entertainment in the best sense of the word. I hope we can make a version of this show here at On Top of the World one day. We certainly have the talent to mount such a fun production, and as Gene Kelly once said, “You dance love, you dance joy, and you dance dreams.” So, everybody dance now!
I hope to welcome new people to the benefits and fun of basic jazz dance moves, so plans are being made to add a class for beginner jazz. Watch this space for news of the time and place!
For more information, please contact Liz Lieberman at 702-378-6300 or Lizzylieberman@gmail.com.

Sidekicks Western Dance

Richard Gautier



The Sidekicks Partner Dance Club proudly invites dancing couples of all levels to join the new season, offering an enriching blend of movement, community, and joy. With annual dues of \$50 per couple, now is the time to join or renew and enjoy the many benefits of partner dancing.

Dance is deeply connected to human happiness and health. It reduces stress by lowering cortisol levels, enhances balance and strength, and creates positive emotional experiences, especially when dancing with a partner. Physical synchronization during partner dances even deepens connections, making participants feel closer and more connected. Additionally, dance therapy shows promise in aiding depression, trauma, and chronic pain, and is valuable for maintaining brain health in aging and neurological conditions. Sidekicks Partner Dance Club dances pattern-based dances that are easy to learn and don’t

depend on the typical ballroom techniques, but still allow you to dance with your partner.

This season’s classes take place every Tuesday at the Recreation Center Ballroom:

- Beginners with Janet and Sean Amend (4 to 4:50 p.m.).
- Beginners Plus/Improvers with Peggy and Alex Eizans (5 to 6 p.m.).

Supportive practice sessions are also offered by Janis and Mark Kellogg on Fridays at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (starting Oct. 17) and Sundays at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios III-IV, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (starting Oct. 5).

To celebrate and connect, the club hosts monthly “all-level” dances every four weeks on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

in the Recreation Center Ballroom. The next event will be on Tuesday, Oct. 28, and will have a Halloween theme. These events welcome dancers from all classes to socialize, practice, and share the joy of dancing together in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

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).

Whether learning for the first time or returning to the floor, the Sidekicks Partner Dance Club is ready to support and inspire dancers on their journey toward health, happiness, and community. We can’t wait to see you there!

Ladies Shuffleboard

Lois Nix



Our courts are scheduled to be resurfaced. We will continue to shuffle until the resurfacing begins. The courts will be closed for at least three weeks.

Our season began in September. We play on Mondays at 5:30 p.m., and on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. We play three games and keep score.

All players have to sign a Hold Harmless agreement form. Resident IDs and Gateway of Services passes are required and checked.

If you plan to join us, please do not wear open-toed shoes. Safety is important.

We play shuffleboard with skill and technique. We are not aggressive players; everyone wants to win. We play the game to have fun with our friends. You do not need to know how to shuffle. Our ladies will not only teach you how to shuffle, but they will also show you how to talk to the discs as they glide down the courts. Hope to see you on the courts. Happy shuffling.

Shuffleboard

Walt Lamp



The resurfacing of the shuffleboard courts began on Monday, Sept. 29. Sorry for the interruption in play, but it will all be worth it!

Our free instruction class, led by Paul Hodges, our instructor, is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 8.

When able to play, our schedule remains the same. Regular shuffleboard is on Monday and Thursday at 10 a.m., and Tuesday at 1 p.m. Ten Pin is on Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m., and Thursday and Saturday at 10 a.m.

The equipment box, located outside our storage room at the courts, contains all the necessary equipment for practicing and playing the game.

For further information, call Jane Boyer at 352-509-7142 or Walt Lamp at 352-304-8711. Hope to see you on the courts soon!

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OCTOBER 2025

OTOW FAVORITES TUESDAYS	BOOTS & BEATS WEDNESDAYS	TUNES THURSDAYS	TRUCKS & TUNES FRIDAYS	TRUCKS & TUNES SATURDAYS
October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4	
October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10	October 11
October 14	October 15	October 16	October 17	October 18
October 21	October 22	October 23	October 24	October 25
October 28	October 29	October 30	October 31	

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Country
Line Dancing

Judy Sullivan



As the weather cools, I look forward to seeing more people out dancing – whether it’s at The Town Square, in the Recreation Center Ballroom, or at home to your favorite music.

Boots & Beats line dancing on Wednesday nights at The Town Square at Circle Square Commons has been a great success since it began in July. The dedicated dancers show up in all conditions, and my motto still stands: “As long as it’s not thundering or pouring, we’re dancing!” With cooler evenings ahead, I expect to see even more new faces. Dancing runs from 7 to 10 p.m. through October, with me leading the first half and Chuck and Donna Nelson leading the second.

Line dancing is lively, social, and easy to learn. Since everyone faces the same way, beginners can easily learn the steps by watching. Many newcomers are sur-

prised by how fast they improve, and nothing compares to that moment when someone who thought they couldn’t dance suddenly realizes they can. Mistakes don’t matter – we laugh, encourage each other, and have fun no matter what. That’s the true spirit of line dancing.

We’re also welcoming more students each month and it’s inspiring to see so many eager faces. Beyond the steps, what makes line dancing special is the community. Friendships form, laughter is shared, and everyone leaves feeling a little brighter. Even when the “teacher” makes a mistake, it just adds to the fun.

This season, we introduced couples pattern waltz classes. Many wives encouraged their husbands to come, and while some were unsure at first, they quickly found how enjoyable the waltz can be. Waltz is smooth and graceful, like gliding across the floor. It takes teamwork and listening to one another, which makes it more than just a dance – it’s a shared experience. For couples, it’s a chance to connect, learn together, and build confidence step by step.

Waltz dancing is close to my heart. Its elegance and flow always bring me joy, and teaching it allows me to share that joy with others. Watching couples go from nervous beginners to smiling partners is truly rewarding, and it reminds me why I love teaching.

We’ll continue adding new dances but will always revisit the ones we’ve learned. Repetition builds confidence, and reviewing ensures no one gets left behind.

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.

For more information, visit our Facebook page (OTOW Country Line Dancing with Judy). The YouTube channel is Country Line Dancing with Judy. If you are interested in dancing and have any questions on how to sign up, please email 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!



Poms Dance and Cheer Squad performing for the Avalon Social Club in September.

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Poms Dance & Cheer



Pamela Kalamaras

Poms Dance and Cheer received great reviews on our newest sock hop dance and cheer, featuring a medley of 1950s music.

We started the month with a debut performance at the Avalon Social Club. Members enthusiastically danced and sang along with us. Next, we performed at The Landing for their sock hop event. Then, Jan and Pati Bean hosted a sock hop in the Recreation Center Ballroom, where we were able to showcase our latest routine again.

It’s not too late to see our sock hop medley; we’ll be performing at The Lodge at Candler Hills car show on Saturday, Oct. 4.

If you would like the Poms Dance and Cheer to perform at your next event, we are ready to dress up and sock hop for your party.

We also feature a patriotic medley with revolving cheers and dances to fit the occasion. Past examples include our Memorial Day and Fourth of July performances to honor our country through reflection, remembrance, and celebration. We look forward to presenting this medley at the Veterans Day car show to benefit our veterans, the true heroes of Ocala. It is a joy to foster patriotism in our community.

The Club Fair, on Thursday, Sept. 11, at Circle Square Cultural Center, had a full display of the many clubs offered in our community. We enjoyed meeting friends, old and new. If you were unable to attend or still have any further questions, please contact Pam Kalamaras.

We hope the love of what we do shines through in each performance. Our group practices 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. Our newest members are motivated by our commitment to the team and to each other.

It is a joy for us to entertain communities right here in Ocala. We can tailor our performance to fit your specific time limits, music preferences, and themes. Our most popular requests are rock ‘n’ roll through the decades and our medley of patriotic songs.

We are always learning new dances and cheers to keep our performances fresh and exciting. 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. Our unique and exciting performance club is now being offered at many 55-plus communities nationwide. We invite you to visit us to learn more about what we’re all about and possibly join in the fun.

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Line Dancing

Joe Spencer



The 2025/2026 line dance season has begun! We are very excited for this upcoming season.

Line dancing offers numerous benefits, both physically, mentally, and socially! It has been proven that learning “new” line dances regularly helps the memory in so many ways! Even if we don’t remember all of them, the process of teaching our brains to learn new patterns is helpful! It’s like doing a crossword puzzle. If we do the same puzzle repeatedly with the same questions and answers, we are not using our brains. But if we do a different puzzle, it makes us think. This is how line dancing works. Line dancing is one of the most beneficial activities, especially for 55-plus dancers. We dance to all types of music!

New this season are the Intermediate level line dance classes on Tuesdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II with Weber Wen. This is the next level up after Improver. In this class, you may also learn low intermediate dances, which are almost the same level as Improver! This is an enjoyable class with no stress! Come learn some new moves to add to your line dance experience! Email yfwen@yahoo.com with any questions.

Also new is the Line Dance Workshop with world-renowned instructor and choreographer Cody Flowers. We’re thrilled to have Cody join us for a super fun afternoon on Saturday, Oct. 11, in the Recreation Center Ballroom!

Beginning in November, we will have monthly line dance socials.

November/December is the next session of classes. Tickets go on sale Tuesday, Oct. 7, through Friday, Oct. 17, 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. Email joeship1@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.

Your performance depends on several factors, including attendance at practice sessions and personal practice. I want to emphasize that if you are a new line dancer, the level to start 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. Join the fun!



Broadway 2 class performed “Friend Like Me” from “Aladdin.”

Broadway & Tap Dancing

Elaine Voorhis



Here it is October, and our last Broadway session is just a vision of steam in the rear-view mirror. On Friday, Aug. 22, the Broadway 1 class performed “Steam Heat” from the play “The Pajama Game,” and the Broadway 2 class performed “A Friend Like Me” from “Aladdin.” The genie even made a cameo appearance. Both classes joined together to strut their stuff to “Give My Regards to Broadway” by Barry Manilow. It’s a class favorite. The tap classes also showcased their talents with a tap routine to Frank Sinatra’s “The Way You Look Tonight.” We enjoyed a lovely turnout and are thankful for those of you who came to watch us. If you missed it, keep reading and mark your calendar.

The subject of brain health has come up a lot, whether it’s in a commercial trying to sell you some type of supplement or a new study in a health newsletter. Recently, the term cognitive resilience/reserve has been popping up. To put it in a very simple way, it’s like saving for a rainy day. Putting in the time and effort to keep your mind sharp may help ward off some of the issues that face us as we age. There are many beneficial activities that you can do to make a deposit in your “bank.” Think of it as

a non-monetary investment in your future. Dancing checks off a lot of boxes when it comes to brain health. Learning routines is a great way to challenge the brain. The Broadway classes learn a new routine every seven weeks, and practice older routines to keep them filed away for future performances. Sometimes it takes a little jump-starting to remember them, but wow, does it feel good when we do!

Recently, a song was playing on the radio, and the lyrics said, “Some dance to remember; some dance to forget.” Do you know who sang those lyrics and the name of the song? Keep reading and you’ll find the answer. Those words can be interpreted in many ways, but many of us dance to help our brains stay sharp and to improve our memory. Others dance to release stress ... to forget for an hour or so. Of course, dancing has physical benefits too. Have you heard of dancer’s legs?

All classes are now busy learning a new Halloween routine and reviewing our holiday dances. A departure from our Broadway hats, our next recital is going to be ghoulishly fun! We’ll be performing it on Friday, Oct. 31, at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Dance Studios I-IV. We hope you’ll watch. We love an audience!

Oh, by the way, the name of the song is “Hotel California” sung by the Eagles. Contact us at broadwayandtap@yahoo.com for more information regarding our classes or performances.

R/C Car Club

John Schoenherr



On Thursday, Sept. 11, the R/C Car Club participated in the Club Fair. The slot car team assembled a short track and offered everyone a chance to drive a car. This interactive display was a hit with the attendees.

New this year was a mini rock crawler track that again allowed participants to drive a crawler over the rough terrain. Many different cars were shown, with members available to answer questions.

Overall, this was a good opportunity for the club to inform the community of a fun activity for residents.

September was the last month of the summer outdoor racing season. On Wednesday, Oct. 1, the start time moved to 1 p.m.

As the days cool down, the rock crawler members will resume building the crawler track. Last spring, several paths were built to challenge both vehicle and driver. Members have generously donated crawler track materials, enabling the construction of more paths. A call out to members to gather and clear the course of the grass and weeds sprouting up with the summer rains, and help develop the course for the winter season, will be sent out soon.

The slot car members have been busy expanding the track and replacing worn-out parts. Membership has grown quite a bit over the summer, making the need for a larger facility more apparent. A committee has been formed to assess the needs of slot car racing and explore opportunities for expanding the track design.

Slot car drivers meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in 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.

August

Traxxas-Bob Herbst. Two-wheel buggy-Chuck Frederick. Four-wheel buggy-Sam Murphy. Pan car-Dave Johnson. Two-wheel truck-Bob Paxson. Limited-Bob Herbst. 17.5-Bob Herbst. Sportsman-Eric Bacher. NASCAR-Larry Ericksmoen.

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R/C Flyers Club

Ray Ihlenburg



Recent articles in the World News have covered flying radio-controlled models, with a focus on drones. On Top of the World has sanctioned the R/C Flyers as the operators of the flying field. A brief review of the regulations and restrictions governing our airspace could provide insight into why we are diligent on behalf of On Top of the World and our club.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has overall jurisdiction of our flight space. The R/C flying field is located very close to and between the

FAA-identified five-mile radius restricted airspace surrounding the Dunnellon and the Ocala airports. As such, the FAA considers any R/C model a drone, be it fixed wing, helicopter, or quad type drone. They are all unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Our field is an FAA recognized identification area (FRIA) flight restricted area. What this means is that our models are not required to have a remote ID device onboard or file a flight intent plan online. Many of the high-end drones on the market have such a device and specific requirements that the operator “should” follow before starting operations. The hobbyist drones are not so equipped. So, the FRIA designation signifies a location for drone flight without costly remote ID equipment.

On Top of the World and the R/C Flyer

Club require membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). AMA membership provides secondary liability insurance coverage of \$2.5 million for the flyer, plus indemnifies On Top of the World.

Next, we have The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST). It is an online test required by the FAA for all recreational drone operators in the U.S. to ensure they understand basic safety knowledge and regulations for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). There are several online providers of this test, one of which is the AMA. The test is not difficult, but it does prompt incorrect answers. Once you pass, download and save or print a digital copy of your completion certificate and have it with you when flying.

The physical restrictions to our flight box include the nature preserve to the

west and development rapidly occurring to the east. Pilots must be vigilant not to exceed our identified east and west limits.

Another government entity involved is the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The radio equipment we use is manufactured to meet the requirements necessary to use the communication airways.

So, last but not least, are the R/C Flyers Club by-laws and field rules that are enforced daily. Our biggest concern is the safety to life and limb, property, and animals. Spinning propellers, jet exhaust, moving objects can be rather dangerous but the kinetic energy these models build up will be devastating. Remain alert at all times, especially if someone hollers “duck” or “heads up.”



It's a boat, not a swan.

Photo by Kemp Howland

R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



“Hey Joe! Look at those beautiful swans gliding effortlessly across the pond!”

“No, Joe – those aren’t swans! Those are R/C sailboats!”

If you’ve been to Tusawilla Park in Ocala, you’ve probably seen them – sleek, graceful radio-controlled sailboats dancing across the water, powered only by the wind. At first glance, they look like elegant waterfowl, but in reality, it’s the skilled hands of local hobbyists guiding them.

R/C sailing is more than just a relaxing pastime – it’s a chance to add to the beauty of the park, enjoy the outdoors, and meet a great group of people. Whether you’re drawn in by the peaceful glide

of the boats or the friendly competition, there’s something for everyone.

One of the best parts? You can be as laid-back or competitive as you like. The R/C Sailing Club hosts regular races right here at Tusawilla, and newcomers are always welcome. The racing is low-impact, easy to learn, and surprisingly addictive. There’s a special kind of satisfaction in trimming your sails just right and watching your boat harness the wind to cross the finish line.

So the next time you’re at the park and see those “swans” out on the water, come a little closer. Ask a sailor about the boats, and maybe even take the controls yourself. You might just discover your next hobby – one that combines relaxation, beauty, and a touch of competitive excitement.

We race every Wednesday and Sunday at noon at Tusawilla Park. Visitors welcome – free test drives!

For more information, text Gene at 772-678-5101 or Bernie at 816-678-3817.

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The Long Neck Women of the Karen Tribe

By Rosalina Norita

The Karen tribe refers to a large and diverse ethnic group native primarily to the border regions of Myanmar and Thailand, known for their distinct languages, culture, and long history in Southeast Asia.

The Karen, also called Kayin, are estimated to make up about 6.7% of Myanmar’s population.

Karen society includes multiple subgroups, notably the S’gaw, Pwo, and other related peoples such as the Kayah or Kayan. Historically, the Karen migrated from regions likely north of Southeast Asia (Mongolia, Tibet, or the Chinese border) into what is now Myanmar over two millennia ago.

As of 2025, around 128,000 Karen refugees live in camps on the Thai side of the border. We visited Mae La Refugee to witness their living conditions. Young people struggle to continue their studies in higher education, often forced to marry at a young age.

Having a conversation with the long neck of Karen women. They traditionally wear brass neck rings that give the visual impression of an elongated neck. This elongation is an illusion caused by the heavy coils pushing down the collarbone and ribs, not by stretching the neck vertebrae themselves.

The coils are traditionally worn as a cultural symbol of beauty, wealth, and status within their community. Multiple theories explain the origin and purpose of this practice, including protection from tiger attacks, deterring slave raids by making women less attractive to other tribes, and aesthetic reasons linked

to cultural ideals of beauty and identity. Girls typically start wearing the rings around age five, and as they grow, larger sets replace the smaller ones.

Karen children and elders often greet visitors with traditional music and dance performances. These can include singing Karen folk songs or hymns and showcasing storytelling, which offer insight into Karen resilience and culture. Women are also skilled weavers using traditional back-strap looms to create distinctive clothing and textiles that carry cultural meanings.

We saw the elderly women weaving while taking care of the children. Weaving is a significant folk art among the Karen people, with women in refugee camps continuing this tradition to earn an income and stay connected to their heritage. Fabrics woven by Karen refugees often feature traditional patterns that symbolize home and identity.

Mae La Refugee Camp is the largest and most well-known Karen camp. Established in 1984 in Tha Song Yang District, Tak Province, it houses around 40,000 to 50,000 people, primarily ethnic Karen. Refugees are generally not allowed to leave the camp without official permission and cannot legally work outside, creating dependence on tourism and humanitarian aid.

Many Karen have sought refuge in Thailand and other countries such as the United States, Australia, and Canada.

The Karen are among the most culturally and linguistically diverse ethnic groups in Myanmar and Thailand, comprising approximately 20 distinct



Photo by Rosalina Norita

Traditional Karen attire is still worn, especially for special occasions, and includes elaborately embroidered tunics and woven bags.

subgroups, each with their unique languages, religions, and cultures.

Many refugees hope for eventual return to Karen State (Myanmar). Still, protracted conflict and lack of integration in Thailand leave them in indefinite limbo, with continuing psychological, social, and economic challenges.



Photo by Ray Cech

Resident author Ivan Obolensky.

Welcome Author Ivan Obolensky

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

From New York to California to Uruguay, to On Top of the World author Ivan Obolensky and his wife, Mary Jo, traveled this circuitous route to settle in our world finally. “It is a warm and friendly place, and we’re very happy to call it home,” they told us.

They had settled in Uruguay in a small town just a few hundred meters from overlooking the Atlantic. When they made that decision, Ivan tells us the influencers for Uruguay were that there would be no earthquakes or snow, and the neighborhood would be multicultural – it was all that and more.

Mary Joe ran her translating company, and Ivan settled down, continuing as a fictional mystery writer.

Without realizing it at the time, Ivan was a natural at crafting a good “thriller.” His trilogy series, starting with “Eye of the Moon” in 2018, was recognized with the Indie Reader Discovery, First-Book Award, and Readers’ Favorite International Gold medal for fiction.

Many more recognitions would follow with accolades for his ability to write mystery thrillers that would keep read-

ers on the edge of their seats, asking, “What’s next?” Each book in the trilogy takes place over a long weekend. The “Eye of the Moon” series is a captivating blend of American Gothic mystery and high society family drama set in the 1970s.

When we asked Mr. Obolensky how he conjures up the deep mysteries and suspense for his novels, he said, “First of all, we need to understand that nothing in life is what it initially seems. Secondly, my grandmother, Alice Astor (yes, those Astors), led a life filled with intrigue, glamour, and mystery. She was also, in the end, mysteriously murdered. And my grandfather would spin stories of Russian nobility – their secrets, their ghosts and, very often, their unusual demise. So, I guess, all in all, I have a pretty strong and natural foundation for writing mystery thrillers.”

We welcome mystery writer Ivan Obolensky and his entrepreneur wife, Mary Joe Smith, to On Top of the World, and look forward to turning off the television, lowering the lights, and reading a good mystery.

Holy Ship

By Dick Ritchie

The Ship Modelers of Ocala are hoping to complete our voyage to home port by the end of the year. To accommodate this goal, we have refreshed our meeting day and time.

The club now meets at the Arbor Activity Center Card Room III, on the third Tuesday of each month, from 1 to 3 p.m. We hope the new date and time are better for both our current and future members.

As a refresher, we are an informal group that shares the hobby of building ships with our skills, techniques, and knowledge. Our members range from beginners to experienced builders. Whatever your level of interest, there’s a place for you in the Ship Modelers of Ocala.

At our recent meetings, we discussed the “Twelve Rules of Successful Model Ship Building,” an article that was published recently in the Nautical Research

Journal.

Rule No. 1: Choose a model ship that is special to you. The model should be aesthetically pleasing to you. You should enjoy looking at it and be proud of your accomplishments.

The model must fit your level of ship modeling skills and abilities. If it is too difficult to build, you won’t enjoy the voyage.

Finally, and also very important, the model must fit your budget.

If you’re interested in the ship modeling hobby, these rules would give you a great “kick-start.”

We meet monthly and always welcome new members. If you are interested in the hobby, we’d be happy to share more and answer any questions you might have.

Please contact Dick Ritchie at 239-287-4868 or dcritchie37@gmail.com.



Photo by Dick Ritchie

1954 Chris-Craft 36' Commander.

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 the age of 15 are not permitted.

Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

- Oct. 3: Bootleggers
- Oct. 10: Dave and Kenny
- Oct. 17: Rear View Mirror
- Oct. 31: Halloween Party with Groove 41

The Halloween Party Happy Hour on Friday, Oct. 31, will have a costume contest with prizes. Dress for the event!

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. This is free for residents. The schedule is as follows:

- Oct. 4: Lou Gagliardi
- Oct. 18: Groove Dawgs
- Oct. 21: Billy Buchanan
- Oct. 25: Mike and Kathy Gallenberger
- Oct. 31: Kick’n Country Randy

Tropic Trivia

If you would like to try your hand at Tropic Trivia, November tables will be on sale Tuesday, Oct. 7, through Friday, Oct. 17. A team representative can buy a table for the whole team every month. Tables sell for \$40 on the OTOW App. After the purchase is made, 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, Oct. 14, 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, Oct. 16, 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.

Rags to Riches

This very popular community sale takes place Friday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center. Be sure to stop by and grab yourself a deal! If you would like to rent a table for this event and sell your things, the cost of the table is \$15. You can purchase your table through the OTOW App and then come in to the Recreation Center to select your table location. Mark this giant sale down on your calendar!

Annual Craft Fair and More! (Free)

Come on out and see what’s new at the Craft Fair and More on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. Do some holiday shopping or find unique, one-of-a-kind treasures. Steven Lazarus will be playing music in the gazebo at The Town Square. Food trucks available on site for lunch or snacks. Don’t miss it! This event is open to the public.

Document Shredding

It’s that time again. Clean out your filing cabinet, collect those old bills, and

bring any paper documents you choose to be shredded for \$6 per cubic foot on Friday, Oct. 17, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Recreation Center parking lot.

Ballroom Dance Class

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

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)

Get fit with weekly fitness classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom. Check out the fitness schedule on the OTOW App to find out what to bring for each class.

Chair Volleyball (Free)

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

From the Top Line Dance Class (Free)

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

Open Game/Card Play (Free)

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

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.

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, Oct. 2, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Charlie and Kathy Petrosky. Bring beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies.

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 beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies.

The entertainment schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, Oct. 4: Hwy 94
- Saturday, Oct. 18: Tim Hargis

Safety Training Class (Free)

The Colen Built Development safety team conducts safety classes. Hands-Only CPR will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend. Registration is required; please call 352-387-9508 to reserve your spot.

Girls Night Out! (Free)

Come on girls, let’s dance! Join us on Thursday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. with Randy Eaton. Bring your own beverage and table snacks and have some fun. \$5 guest fee applies.

Welcome Home Snowbirds Pizza Party

Join us for a pizza party sing along to welcome back our snowbirds on Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. A playlist of treasured golden oldies will be provided to each table. Select your favorite and sing along. Please bring your beverage of choice and join us for a community celebration! Tickets cost \$10 per resident and \$15 per guest.

Musical Game Night

Enjoy this musical fun night on Thursday, Oct. 30, 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:

- Oct. 3: Pure Magic
- Oct. 10: Hwy 94
- Oct. 24: 4 For the Road
- Oct. 31: Halloween Party with Area 81

Trivia

Get in on some friendly and fun competition with your neighbors and friends at trivia night on Monday, Oct. 6, 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.

Line Dance Party (Free)

Invite your friends and neighbors for a fun night with DJ Frank on Wednesday, Oct.15, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring some snacks to share with your table. \$5 guest fee applies.

Karaoke (Free)

Do you sing? Choose your song and share your voice at karaoke on Thursday, Oct.16, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring beverages and snacks. Feel free to sing solo or in a group. \$5 guest fee applies.

Jukebox Squares

Don’t miss the new Jukebox Squares game on Wednesday, Oct. 29, from 3 to 5 p.m. hosted by Doug and Allison. The cost of the card game is \$5. The card will feature words related to songs, musicians, and more. Allison will announce a question or Doug will play a piece of music and the matching square will be marked off. The first player to complete a predetermined pattern wins! Three games will be played on each card, and there will be two rounds, so there is a total of six chances to win a special prize.

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

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

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

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

Enjoy a hauntingly fun Halloween event at the Boo Bash on Sunday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Soak up the spooky vibes while Bill Billotti brings the beats to keep the party alive.

Please note that bead-filled floats are not allowed in the pool. Glass containers are prohibited inside the pool gates.

Halloween Party (Free)

Get ready for a spooktacular night of lighthearted frights and spirited fun at the Ghosts, Ghouls & Good Vibes Halloween Party on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 6 to 9 p.m. Groove 41 will be playing their high-energy dance hits, so dance like no one is watching – except the ghosts! Costumes are encouraged but not required. This is one party you don’t want to ghost! Space is limited – a reservation on the OTOW App is required.

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	Gateway Plaza

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

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

AFTERNOON ROUTE

PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES

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

#9801 - 2/24

For information, call 352-789-5666.

Bay Laurel Center

CDD

IRREGULAR WATER USAGE*

- **Toilets:** A failing flapper (valve seal) can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day.
- **Leaky Faucets/Showerheads:** Dripping can range from several gallons to hundreds of gallons of water per day.
- **Water Hose:** When left on with leaks at the spigot or nozzle.
- **Irrigation System:** Automatic irrigation solenoid valves not closing properly or excessive run times including multiple program cycles.
- **Water Softeners:** Excessively backwashing or the backwash valve failing.

* Water loss is estimated and varies depending on severity of leak.

Fun with
Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson



In September, we had hoped for cooler weather, but it remained hotter than ever. So, our members decorated their carts for “The Dog Days of Summer.” Designated charities for the Saturday, Sept. 20 parade included Operation Shoebox, Chuck’s Piggy Bank, Dunnellon Elementary School, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Veterans Helping Veterans. Thank you to all the folks who made generous donations to these causes.

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

- Oct. 25: Halloween
- Nov. 8: Veterans Day

- Dec. 6: Holiday Golf Cart Parade
- Dec. 20: Holiday Season

Membership in our Facebook group (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts) 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.



Photo by Margaret Ruhlen

“The Dog Days of Summer” golf cart.



Photo by Janet O’Neil

Gowns created by Cheryl Gerrish.

Angels Above
Baby Gowns

Janet O’Neil



This past month, our organization was introduced to On Top of the World. In this issue, we would like to spotlight two outstanding volunteers who have exemplified dedication and skill in crafting beautiful infant gowns for families in need. Through their commitment, they ensure each donation reflects care and attention to detail.

Cheryl Gerrish and Pat Watts have played vital roles since the founding of our group in Ocala in January 2024. Their expertise as seamstresses shines as they repurpose donated wedding gowns, skillfully transforming silk, linings, and embellishments into elegant gowns.

Every gown is thoughtfully made to be gender neutral, as we are unaware of the recipients at the time of donation. Families are offered a variety of sizes, with special creations for boys and girls. Soft pastels, velvet, and unique materials are used to make charming vests for boys, while lace overlays, beads, ribbons, and charms adorn many of the gowns for girls.

When donations are delivered, recipients and observers alike express how precious and beautiful these gowns are. Families often share their joy and gratitude for the unknown hands that crafted them. A recent delivery, made in August to Winnie Palmer Hospital in Orlando, Florida, was met with admiration from the nursing staff, who were deeply impressed by the time and care devoted by Cheryl and Pat to each exquisite piece.

We are honored to work with Cheryl and Pat, and we look forward to many more of their personal creations!

In the News

Petra Schmidt
otownews@otowfl.com

On Top of the World NEWS

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 avail-

able at newspaper racks in:

- All postal centers
- Resident Services
- New Home Sales Center
- Recreation Center & Arbor Fitness Center
- The Club at Candler Hills & Candler Hills Community Center
- The Lodge at Candler Hills
- Circle Square Commons: The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa, Master the Possibilities, OTOW Real Estate of Marion
- The Landing
- Indigo East Community & Fitness Centers

Read online or see the schedule at ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala.

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CARDS & GAMES

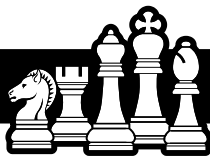


Photo by Linda Taylor

Donnie Taylor.

Bingo

Nancy Grabowski



Welcome to bingo! We are amazed by our growth, but there’s still room for you to join us for a fun-filled night in the Recreation Center Ballroom.

The overall format for bingo is a constant: volunteers begin about 3 p.m. to haul out the equipment and supplies every Wednesday. Near 4 p.m., you can begin purchasing 70/30 raffle tickets. The prices are minimal: three for \$1 or 10 for \$3! Lucky tickets are pulled, starting at 5:30 p.m., to award the \$20 prizes. Lately, there have been between 30 and 40 winning tickets!

Each game card costs \$1, and you play it for all 20 games. The cards are equipped with sliders, so no dabbers or tokens are needed to play. The 10th game is always played for \$75, and the 20th game jackpot grows in \$10 increments from \$110 up to \$250, determined by a set number of balls for each amount.

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

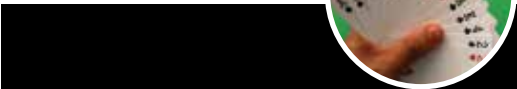
Another part of the statute prohibits alcohol in the Ballroom. It includes beer, wine, and other alcoholic beverages. They can be purchased in The Pub, finished there, or on the patio.

Donnie Taylor, who is a regular at bingo, was born and raised in Indiana. His career, based on working with his hands, led him from his own woodworking station to the woodworking shop. Both locations have seen him create amazing items, including an American flag inspired by one he saw flying in the breeze.

Donnie generously donated one to the August auction for pets and vets and another one to bingo! On Wednesday, Nov. 12, the day after Veterans Day, this special item will be a featured part of our celebration at bingo. Donnie said, “This is America! A way for me to show my love of country, so it’s very special to me! God bless America!”

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

Bridge



Monday Afternoon
By Carol Johnson

- Aug. 4**
1: Barb Heller & Jean Krueger; 2: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 3: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac; 4: Bev Meirick & Marlene Floeckher
- Aug. 11**
1: Diane Robinson & Carol Johnson; 2: Rad D & Dennis Wallace; 3: Phyllis Silverman & Judy Mackowiak; 4: Steve Sekac & Jack Heller; Grand Slam: Rad D. & Dennis Wallace.

- Aug. 18**
1: Carol Johnson & Diane Robinson; 2: Marlene Floeckher & Kurt Baumgartner; 3: Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman; 4: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett.
- Aug. 25**
1: Mike Meirick & Craig Ford; 2: Diane Robinson & Trudy Baumgartner; 3: Debbie & Pat Quinn; 4: Bruce Gillett & Mar Valchin.

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.

- Aug. 12 North/South**
1: Brian Lomasky & Carrie Kanosky; 2: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 3: Bob Kraus & Dean Samuel.
- East/West**
1: Diane Turkin & Virginia Collins; 2: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller; 3: Darlene Fiel & Ron Fulton.
- Aug. 19 North/South**
1: Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman; 2: Brian Lomasky & Carrie Kanosky; 3: Darlene Fiel & Ron Fulton; 4: Dan Lack & Paul Agarwal; 5: Diane Turkin & Virginia Collins.
- Aug. 26 North/South**
1: Bob Kraus & Virginia Collins; 2: C J Dust & Dean Samuel; 3: Jean Krueger & Sophie Redman.
- East/West**
1: Bill Ryan & Linda Ryan; 2: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 3: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller.
- Sept. 2 North/South**
1: Jean Krueger & Brent Powell; 2: Linda Ryan & Bill Ryan; 3: Matt Oram & Sylvia Zelkin.
- East/West**
1: Gary Moses & Diane Turkin; 2: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller; 3: Dennis Wallace & Judi Wallace.
- Sept. 9**
1: Diane Turkin & Gary Moses; 2: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 3: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller; 4: Brian Lomasky & Carrie Kanosky.

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

Wednesday Afternoon
By Dianne Robinson

- Aug. 6**
1: Ron Smith; 2: Phyllis Silverman; 3: Dianne Robinson; Cons: Mike Meirick.
- Aug. 13**
1: Steve Sekac; 2: Dianne Robinson; 3: Bruce Gillett; 4: Pat Quinn; Cons: Bev Meirick.
- Aug. 20**
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Steve Sekac; Cons: Bob Knowles.
- Aug. 27**
1: Billie Andersen; 2: Ram Ray; 3: Trudy Baumgartner; 4: Craig Ford; Cons: Mary Bloch.

Thursday Afternoon
By Marlene Floeckher

- Aug. 7**
1: Dianne Robinson; 2: Caroline Higgins; 3: Trudy Baumgartner; 4: Mike Meirick; Cons: Billie Andersen.
- Aug. 14**
1: Beverly Meirick; 2: Pat Quinn; 3: Bruce Gillett; 4: Ram Janaki; Cons: Trudy Baumgartner.
- Aug. 21**
1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Billie Andersen; 3: Trudy Baumgartner; 4: Beverly Meirick; Cons: Ram Janaki.
- Aug. 28**
1: Craig Ford; 2: Dianne Robinson; 3: Steve Sekac; 4: Beverly Meirick; Cons: Trudy Baumgartner.

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.
- July 17**
1: Brent Powell; 2: Jeff Young; 3: Raymond Bachik.
- July 24**
1: Jean Krueger; 2: Chris Wachter; 3: Al Whitford; Cons: Lianne Anthony.
- July 31**
1: Vera Mangold; 2: Betty Schaff; 3: Jeff Bell.
- Aug. 7**
1: Brent Powell; 2: Betty Schaff; 3: Vickie Lenz; Cons: Diane Roxborgh; 2 prize: Jeff Young.
- Aug. 14**
1: Chris Wachter; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Raymond Bachik; Cons: John Hughes; 2 prize: John Hughes.
- Aug. 21**
1: Patsy Claremont; 2: Paul Claremont; 3: Ram Janaki; Cons: Penny Wagener; 2 prize: Chris Wachter.
- Aug. 28**
1: Vera Mangold; 2: Paul Claremont; 3: Paul Agarwahl; Cons: Ram Janaki; 2 prize: Chris Wachter.
- Sept. 4**
1: Paul Claremont; 2: Patsy Claremont; 3: Al Whitford; Cons: Jean Krueger; 2 prize: Pam Bell.

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, Oct. 28.

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

RESIDENT ID CARD
Carry it with you at all times.

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



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

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

If you have a cribbage board and deck of cards, please bring them; however, we have extras on hand.

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

Euchre



Friday Night
By Mary Bloch

- Keep your brain sharp! Play euchre every Friday at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room. Bring some dimes for the kitty. For more information, please call 614-806-6737.
- Aug. 8**
1: Phyllis Jarskey; Tie at 2: Kurt Baumgartner & Dan Brady; Tie at 3: Lloyd Beitel & Bob Kraus.
- Aug. 15**
1: Bob Moravec; Tied at 2: Jean Gillette & Linda Brown; Tie at 3: Danny Dean & Pam Brown.
- Aug. 22**
1: Pete Jacob; 2: Judy Lynch; Tie at 3: Danny Dean & Phyllis Jarskey
- Aug. 29**
1: Phyllis Jarskey; 2: Vicki Mattingly; 3: Karen Jacob.

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

- Aug. 5**
1: Mike Romano; 2: Ilene Casper; 3: James Tomaszek.
- Aug. 12**
1: Bud Alderman; 2: Jae Kallai; 3: Andy Nuccio.
- Aug. 19**
1: Michelle Pritchard; 2: Jim Magoon; 3: Robert Moravec.
- Aug. 26**
1: Mike Romano; 2: Michelle Pritchard; 3: Andy Nuccio.

Friday Morning
By Mary Hannon

- Aug. 15**
1: Marlene Floeckher; 2: Andy Nuccio; 3: Herb Katz.
- Aug. 22**
1: Herb Katz; 2: Stu Shaub; 3: Ilene Casper.
- Aug. 29**
1: Gayle Argano; 2: Angela Brady; 3: Al Whitford.
- Sept. 5**
1: Walter Hickenlooper; 2: Angela Brady; Tie at 3: Michelle Pritchard & Ilene Casper.

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Intrigue

Poetry



Co-Pilot

By Barbara A. Scales

Finding my co-pilot was a challenge
Realizing my co-pilot was ever present was a surprise
Never alone
Never abandoned
I always had a home

Today I work independent
Or so I like to think
In truth into my mind, he replenishes
The words he likes to speak

The time for searching is over
He never left my side
He was ever present
Since my birth was nigh

The cockpit is never empty
My space is constantly shared
With my co-pilot standing beside me
There is nothing that I fear

If my head is weary
And my heart too heavy to plod
I lean upon my co-pilot
As he sails this tiny vessel
Surrounded by his love

After Thought

By Bruce Tredinnick

After the hard rain
The Carolina wren announces her song
Strong, clear, fresh poetry

My Soul Walks Free

By Janice M. Puta

Inside, outside, downstairs, upstairs
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

Down town, up town, all towns, no town,
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

Under the bridge, in the water,
over the trees, in the air
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

Deep in fear, down in pain,
lost in the night, found in the light
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

In my head, out of my mind,
in my bed, out of my body
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

Tell the story, keep the secret,
ignore the ending, write it my way
it doesn't matter. My soul walks free.

A Joke in Terse Verse

By Jim Kimes

At first this joke might sound bizarre:
Two vampires walk into a bar.
The barman asked, "What will it be?"
"Blood for my friend, plasma for me."
The bartender smiled and said, "Alright!
Coming up: one blood and one blood light."

Connections

By Linda Toner

I visited the village
where you grew up, and connected
with your relatives,
you were so respected
for your words
and your deeds,
and I fulfilled
my needs
to connect with you
on another level
from the man I know,
you were such a devil.
I heard about you
in your former days,
the life you lived
and the different ways
you conducted yourself,
my heart soared.
I asked for more stories,
I wasn't bored
to find out about you
in that different life,
before ever
I was your wife.
I came back from that trip
so elated
to know more about you
that my soul was sated.

ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

Art Group



Marianne Hoffman

Nairda Medina’s creativity began as a child. “My mom inspired me to become an artist,” she explains. “She was always providing me with pencils and crayons.” Today, along with acrylics, watercolors, and charcoal, Nairda still favors colored pencils as a medium. “Pencils are easy to carry around and are flexible whenever I want to be creative,” she says. Nairda joined the Art Group “to learn more about art and be around talented artists.” She says she remains part of the group because the members are very welcoming and helpful. Art provides Nairda with peace and enjoyment. “It gives me immense joy to take a blank white canvas and bring it to life with color. Art simply makes me happy!”

Want to find creative happiness? Grab your pencils, pastels, brushes, pens, canvases, and art paper, and join the Art Group. You’ll find us in the Hobby Building Art Room two days a week: Wednesday, from 1 to 4 p.m., and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to noon.

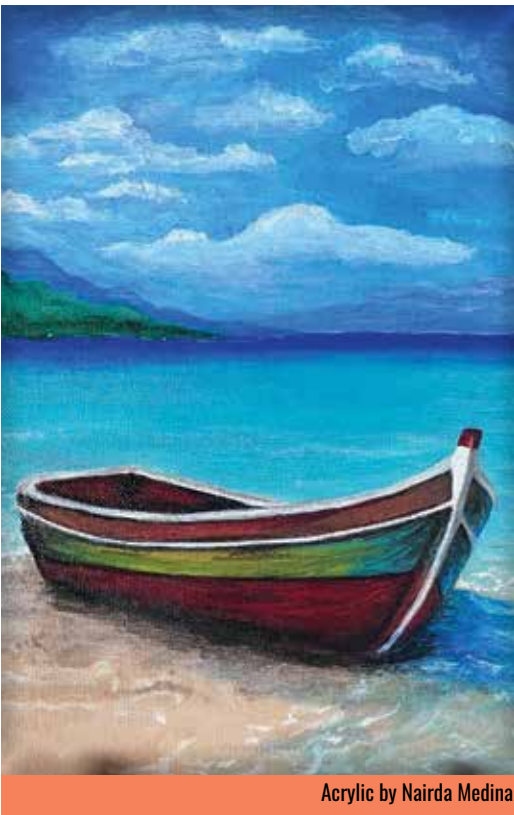
For more information about the Art Group, contact Freda Klump, director, at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com.

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Acrylic by Nairda Medina

Dreamboat.



Charcoal by Nairda Medina

Betty Davis eyes.

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Woodcarving Club

Linda Toner



The Woodcarving Club members are busy creating beautiful carvings from a plain piece of wood. This month, we feature David Levins. He came to the club one and a half years ago and took lessons from our main teacher, David Bride, and never looked back. He bought a carving knife and started to create his own pieces. He is especially proud of the chess set he made. He prefers to carve with basswood. He carves in the round, three-

dimensional pieces. He says he strives for excellence. He uses the same knife he bought as a beginner carver. Lately, he has taken to carving lighthouses. He says he enjoys the meditative aspect of carving and likes the aspect of creating something good with his own two hands. The Woodcarving Club meets every Thursday in the Hobby Building Art Room from 3 to 5 p.m. We offer free lessons to anyone who comes by, along with loans of tools and wood to get you started. If you already know how to carve or are interested in learning, call Tom at 352-586-1171 for more information, or just stop by to see what we are all about. We have carvers from beginners to advanced to help you get started on creating a piece of your own.



David Levins is displaying his chess set.

Photo by Linda Toner

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.

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. The banjo is a unique and fascinating instrument with a unique, folksy sound. Anyone can learn to play a banjo who is willing to devote the time to learn and practice. To start with, you need a banjo, hopefully one that is easy to play. Some of our members have started with a banjo they already had from their past or from their family. One also needs accessories like a tuner, picks, and a strap. After all, we want our banjos in tune, and it is easier to play if we brace the banjo with a strap. Most new banjo players start with a simple downstroke, the simple claw-hammer stroke. The goal is to establish a strong rhythm so characteristic of banjo playing. The classic five-string

banjo is a good place to start and is very popular. There are four-string banjos, which are often tuned like a ukulele, and six-string banjos tuned like a guitar for those string musicians who just want to cross over. 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 udeddie2@gmail.com or David Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com.

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Ukelele Club

Janet Voyles



The Ukulele Club is a welcoming music club with members from all over On Top of the World. We'd like to highlight a couple of those members this month, Karen Lowe and Richard Hadden.

Karen moved from Miami to On Top of the World with her husband in 2021 and has been an active member of the Ukulele Club for four years. During the pandemic, Karen says she decided that learning to play an instrument would be a good way to pass the time. Having never played a musical instrument before, she utilized one of the popular on-line ukulele training sites to start her adventure. The site, "Bernadette Teaches Music," encouraged its followers to join a local club. Karen says she was happily surprised to find one at On Top of the World!

Since joining, she has rarely missed a session, enjoying the opportunity to gain more music theory knowledge and

the "safety" of playing with others in the large Strum and Sing sessions under the tutelage of Janet Voyles, club director. Not stopping there, Karen has continued her ukulele education with the Intermediuke sessions led by Mike Gerbo, who encourages the group to step out of their comfort zone and "jazz up" their playing.

Richard Hadden and his wife, originally from Westchester County and Long Island, New York, moved to On Top of the World a little over three years ago. He first learned of the Ukulele Club at the Club Fair and joined soon after. Richard had not played ukulele before joining the club, and says it is easy to find instructional playing videos on YouTube, but adds that "I don't think I would have started or continued playing the ukulele without the Ukulele Club and our leader Janet Voyles, along with the more experienced players who help out." Richard is also an active participant in Mike Gerbo's Intermediuke sessions. Not only that, Richard has expanded his musical instrument prowess to include the dulcimer, banjo, baritone ukulele, and a bit of guitar and harmonica!



Karen Lowe and Richard Hadden.

There is something for everyone in the Ukulele Club. Beginning sessions are at 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room, followed by Strum and Sing at 3 p.m. and Intermediuke at 4 p.m. The club is free

to join and open to residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. For more information, contact Janet Voyles at 812-319-7761 or artemisclarinet@gmail.com.

Dulcimer Club

Sharon Bruno



It's almost holiday season, and this club is gigging hard! We are looking to round out our sound and invite all fid-

dlers who have been fiddling around alone or with a friend to come and play with us.

Another member, Sharon Bruno, this columnist, has been playing instruments since I was a child. I started with piano lessons at home, then moved on to clarinet, flute, and piccolo during middle and high school.

I attended the Club Fair a few years

ago, where I was drawn to the beautiful music coming from the Dulcimer Club table. There, I found Rich Furlong, our current club president, strumming away on his dulcimer. I was thrilled to find the source of this music, so I signed up and started attending meetings the very next week.

At that first meeting, I was given one of the club's loaner dulcimers and sheet music. It was an excellent incentive to have an instrument in hand immediately. I was able to use the club's loaner dulcimer for several months. Eventually, I bought my own Appalachian Mountain dulcimer from another club member, Ed Smith. The handmade Walter Messick Cabin Creek dulcimer features the traditional hourglass shape, with top and back made of western red cedar and sides made of cherry.

That was four years and two dulcimers ago. My current dulcimer is a beautiful and melodious New Harmony in exotic woods and a new whale-tail design. It

also has two pick-ups (internal mics) so it can be used with an amplifier just like an electric guitar. This electrifying is the newest trend in dulcimer craft. It just increases the sound level, no distortion or reverb. Just plain old smooth tones, but a little louder.

I think anyone can play a dulcimer and get that "peaceful, easy feeling." The club members are invaluable to all the beginners, providing a stress-free environment to enjoy connecting with peaceful music and kind people.

To schedule the Dulcimer Club to play at one of your meetings or events, contact Patricia Gift at 717-798-4085 or pamgift@earthlink.net. If you would like to join us, contact Rich Furlong at 352-237-8734 or richieretired@gmail.com.

Have a listen! The Dulcimer Club meets Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. And the Beginners meet for additional help immediately after, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the same room, with Karie Dawkins.



Sharon Bruno with her newest dulcimer.

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BE READY
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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 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.

Concert Chorus

Joanne Houston



“You better watch out
You better not cry
You better not pout
I’m telling you why
Santa Claus is coming to town.”

That’s right, in just 75 days, the incredible Concert Chorus will dazzle you with their spectacular holiday concert.

The concert will feature over 90 outstanding singers on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center. General admission tickets are \$10 per person. They will go on sale beginning Tuesday, Oct. 7. Members will be selling tickets, and tickets will also be sold every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III.

We will once again be collecting food items at the door to donate to the Interfaith Emergency Services to help families in Marion County over the holidays.

Last year, at our concerts, we collected the largest amount of food donated in two years, and this year our goal is to top our record. Please bring non-perishable food items (pasta, canned soup, macaroni and cheese, fruit roll-ups, canned fruit and vegetables, applesauce, peanut butter and jelly, Pop-Tarts, bread, cookies, candy, chips, rice, baked beans, tuna, chili, and/or Gatorade).

If you love music and the holidays, you will thoroughly enjoy our holiday concert. Don’t miss out on seeing your friends and neighbors singing their hearts out with popular songs like “All I Want for Christmas is You,” “North Pole Rock ‘n’ Roll” and holiday favorites to celebrate the season with “Sweet Silent Night” and “A Hanukkah Wish” as well as a rollicking rendition of “Jingle Bells!”

We are looking forward to celebrating the season in song and are excited to showcase the talents of the Concert Chorus singers.

For more information, please email joanne.houston57@gmail.com or deboraasmith@gmail.com or call 603-674-7293.



Photo by Joanne Houston

When Santa Claus gets your letter.

Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



October is here, and Halloween is a fun holiday this month. The name Halloween is a shorter version of All Hallows’ Eve or the night before All Saints Day. It is widely believed that many traditions originated from ancient Celtic harvest feasts. We associate trick or treating, costumes, jack o’ lanterns, and bobbing for apples with this day.

It is not too early to make some plans to celebrate the occasion. No matter what day Halloween falls on that week, the whole month can have Halloween-type songs. Why not make some ghoulishly good cookies for the occasion?

Here are some suggestions for songs for Halloween: “Thriller” by Michael Jackson, “Ghostbusters” by Ray Parker Jr., “Monster Mash” by Bobby “Boris” Pickett, “(Don’t Fear) The Reaper” by Blue Öyster Cult, “Highway to Hell” by AC/DC, or “This Is Halloween” by The Citizens of Halloween.

You can also think of what you might like for a Halloween costume. You can find a song to go along with that. Don’t forget all the silly songs like “The Purple People Eater” and songs from Alvin and the Chipmunks.

To find these songs on YouTube, just type Halloween karaoke or Halloween songs in the search box. I was amazed at how many there are. You can type the title of the song. Make sure to type karaoke after the title. You can practice at home. They used to say Halloween is for kids. We are all kids at heart.

Margaret Orlando has joined us as a clapper. She says, “I love to sing along. Music makes me happy. All the singers are so good and they sing songs that I know, so I can sing along.” Mar-



Photo by Steve Warren

Margaret Orlando.

garet enters the room with a big smile. That smile stays all evening. She really got into it when she made a song request for “It’s Me Again Margaret.” Donnie, our long-time country singer, obliged Margaret. She really loved that.

So if you would like to join our happy group, here is how to find us. On the first and third Monday, we meet in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The second Thursday of the month, we are in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. We would love to have you join the fun.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

BULKY TRASH?

For bulky trash, schedule pickup by calling 866-684-3142.

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack



Here are some of the topics discussed at our September club meeting.

Tesla started Robotaxi service in Austin, Texas. Riders summon a driverless Tesla through a downloaded phone app.

Recent research concluded that Tesla superchargers have the highest reliability compared to all other charging stations.

In addition to the superchargers that have existed for years at Market Street at Heath Brook and Wawa on Silver Springs

Boulevard, new and more powerful Tesla superchargers were recently installed near Target on SR 200.

We generally charge our cars at home. Living in a villa with my washer and dryer in my garage, I plug my Tesla into the dryer outlet. Other Tesla owners, who live in single-family homes, install an outlet in their garages.

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 of your questions about these amazing vehicles.



NEWS

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE?

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

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



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SORRY WE'RE CLOSED

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SMASH BURGER - \$15





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We look forward to seeing you on your assigned day!

Weybourne Landing	Location	Date	Time
Last name A - E	The Landing	Monday, October 6, 2025	10 am - noon
Last name F - K	The Landing	Monday, October 6, 2025	1 - 3 pm
Last name L - Q	The Landing	Tuesday, October 7, 2025	10 am - noon
Last name R - Z	The Landing	Tuesday, October 7, 2025	1 - 3 pm

Indigo East	Location	Date	Time
Last name A - K	Indigo East Community Center	Friday, October 10, 2025	10 am - noon
Last name L - Z	Indigo East Community Center	Friday, October 10, 2025	1 - 3 pm



#154181-10-25

Broadway Playhouse

Elaine Morrison



If you didn't take the challenge to audition for our spring production, "Oklahoma, Youth Edition", you missed a unique and exciting opportunity. Directors Cheryl Richardson and Joanne Houston listened to hopefuls for the seven lead roles for three consecutive days in early September. Eager thespians were assigned specific lines, songs, and times to demonstrate their ability to handle them. They were allotted 20 minutes in which they could accomplish this. In an effort to keep each performer's efforts from being overheard by the next in line, early arrivals were held in a separate area to await their big moment.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR
Pick up after your pet.

For anyone who has experienced this professional procedure, it is both exhilarating and terrifying.

Ultimately, decisions were made just in time for the first rehearsal on Sunday, Sept. 7. Rehearsals will continue each Sunday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom until showtime. Performances will be on two consecutive weekends, Saturday, Feb. 28 and Sunday, March 1, 2026, and Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8. All the shows begin at 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Tickets are \$10.

We are very excited about our upcoming entertainment trivia game on Sunday, Nov. 2, in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are on sale now. Teams of eight will test their knowledge of all areas of entertainment, including movies, television, dance, music, and theater. New questioning styles are being employed for additional player enjoyment. Don't miss your chance at greatness by boasting about your knowledge of the arts.

For all ticket information, please email otowbroadwayplayhouse@gmail.com.

Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel



Retreats come in various shapes and sizes. There are wellness retreats (like yoga, meditation, spa, fitness, etc.), spiritual retreats (religious, mindfulness, etc.), and special interest retreats (couples, culinary, etc.).

We've had members attend a quilting retreat in the past. Retreats can last from a day to a week.

In early September, two members went on their first one-day yarn retreat, held in Leesburg, Florida. A yarn retreat is a gathering for fiber enthusiasts like knitters, crocheters, spinners, and weavers to socialize, learn new skills, and work on personal projects in a relaxing, immersive environment. They enjoyed a day with knitters and crocheters and saw a tatting demonstration. 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, needlepoint, 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 at 352-873-4328. We always appreciate donations of yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, crochet hooks, or other crafting tools. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting, or contact Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 to arrange pickup.

Paradise Players

Linda Yanss



Are you interested in getting involved in theatre - acting, singing, dancing? Or, you might prefer to work behind the scenes, focusing on set construction, prop making/control, prompting, and other stage-related tasks. If any of these areas align with your interests, we encourage you to explore the various opportunities available within our organization.

Paradise Players is a dedicated ensemble of individuals committed to the art of entertainment. Our activities encompass more than just stage performances; we undertake a variety of roles essential to the success of our productions. You may have seen the "Platinum Gals Cruise Adventure," which was well-received by audiences and provided diverse participation opportunities for members.

Currently, we are in rehearsals for our upcoming production scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 22, entitled "Comedy Tonight." With two performances: 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. This show will feature a series of short plays and sketches designed to entertain a broad audience.

Tickets for "Comedy Tonight" will be sold every Tuesday in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III from 9 to 11 a.m. Tickets may also be purchased from members of Paradise Players and at the door (if not sold out). The ticket price is \$10. Don't miss out on this production of short comedy sketches, songs, and dance.

We meet every Wednesday at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio III. The social gathering begins at 3 p.m. If interested, please email otowparadiseplayers@gmail.com.

The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski



The New Pretenders are hard at work perfecting their new show - "Tonight's Gonna Be a Good Night!" Our goal is always to astound our audience. You can check us out in 2026 to determine if we've achieved this goal in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Friday, Feb. 6, or Saturday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m., or Sunday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. Looking at Sunday's date, don't worry! We'll have you (and us) home in plenty of time for the Super Bowl.

Tickets for each of our performances go on sale Monday, Jan. 5, 2026. You may choose reserved seating for \$12 or general admission for \$10. Reserved seating guarantees you a specific seat that you pre-select. General admission tickets have an open selection in four different sections. There are no bad seats unless you are behind Shaquille O'Neal! No tickets are sold at the door.

Our ushers will guide you to your reserved seats to make it quite easy. Jeanne Wise heads the ushers. They are easy to spot with the corsages and boutonnieres hand-crafted by Miss Jeanne! However, since it requires a bit of patience, plan to arrive about 15 minutes or more before the start time because you won't want to miss our pre-show.

Like headliners in Vegas or Branson, the opening act is preceded by someone to get the crowd involved. The New Pretenders are planning something different, and it's not what you're used to seeing. Intrigued? We hope you'll be in your seats ready to sing, laugh, clap, and enjoy some truly amazing performances!

Do you need more information about The New Pretenders? Speak with any current member or director, Nancy Grabowski at 352-209-4699.



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Poetry Club

Bill Burton



Poetry is truly word artistry, commemorating times, events, persons, or even ideas to share in an engaging and entertaining way. Poets create texture and context the way painters use oils, colors, and shading to create and tantalize emotionally. Every first and third Tuesday, the Poetry Club comes together from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Recreation Center Lounge. We meet to pay homage to poetry.

Many bring poems they’ve written, striving to capture something inside that begs to be released. Others recite poems by poets they admire, seeking to share them in much the same way friends share the knowledge of a great book or movie. When something touches us emotionally, we usually want others to know about it.

Poetic words bind us socially even when we don’t recognize them as poetry. Many of the songs we listen to are poems in their own right. Take the Beatles’ “Yesterday” for example. Remove the music entirely, and you still have a powerful and poetic message remaining. Our National Anthem, the “Star Spangled Banner,” initially written by Francis Scott Key as a poem, was inspired when he saw the flag still waving at dawn after a night of bombardment at Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. At the National Armory in Springfield, Massachusetts, I discovered a very dramatic poem penned by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, written in 1844, hanging on a wall in front of a row of muskets. He was compelled to write about it poetically. For anyone so inspired to write about an experience, from a thank you note to a love sonnet, well, welcome to the club.

Poetry is not necessarily esoteric, exclusive, or elitist by nature. It reaches across all cultural lines with equal appeal. If you’ve read Dr. Seuss to your children, you’ve read them poetry. Every commercial message with a jingle is seeking to poetically tickle your senses. Even a stagecoach robber known as Black Bart, real name Charles Earl Bowes, also enjoyed poetic license. He robbed 28 stagecoaches from 1875 to 1883 in California to Oregon. He never robbed the individuals riding inside, nor, as they found out when he was ultimately arrested, was the gun he displayed ever loaded. Often, he would leave notes in the money boxes that were thrown down to him. Here is an example of one that was authenticated.

Here I lay me down to sleep - to wait the coming
tomorrow
Perhaps success, perhaps defeat, and everlasting
sorrow
Let come what will, I'll try it on - my condition can't
be worse
And if there's money in that box - tis money in my
purse.

We don’t endorse such an extreme to reach an audience, but we strongly encourage one and all to dig out those old sonnets, dust off those old notes of verse, join us, and scratch that poetic itch. We’d love to hear them.

Author Support Group

Paul DiSclafani



The Author Support Group will be holding a “Meet the Authors” event at The Lodge at Candler Hills Meeting Room 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 8. This event is open to all residents. It is an excellent opportunity to meet some of our authors in a relaxed atmosphere.

At this event, we are encouraging all residents to stop by and say hello to members of the Author Support Group. You can sample some of their published works and ask questions about the writing process or publishing. The following authors are scheduled to appear: Filomena Abys-Smith, Lori Szepelek, Paul DiSclafani, Mark Holmes, Iris Diaz, Barbara Scales, and Ivan Obolensky.

In addition, we are hoping to secure

table space in November and December at the weekly Craft Fair in the Recreation Center Ballroom, where residents can purchase signed books from our authors. They make great holiday gifts! The fair is open to all residents every Tuesday (September through May) from 9 a.m. to noon.

The Author Support Group welcomed some new members in September: Mark Holmes (remarkability@comcast.net) has published several books, including a 2015 memoir of his experiences as a Coast Guard radioman, “Always Ready,” which was just rereleased. He has also written a novel chronicling his father’s missions as a B-24 pilot in World War II, “Artifact,” as well as a fiction book. “Herb Lundy and the Magic Milk Truck.”

Iris M. Diaz (IrisMDiaz1945@gmail.com) released “Cuba – Another Side of the Story” in 2010, a book of memories as a child growing up in Cuba. She is currently in the process of following that up with “My Many Lives,” which continues

the story of her life experiences in the United States.

Barbara Scales (barbarascales58@hotmail.com), a retired registered nurse from the Syracuse area in New York, has published several books, including two children’s books – “Max and Jack and the Haunted Pumpkin Patch” and “Wally the Whale with the Crazy, Wavy Hair” – and a romantic comedy, “All Kilts Are Off.” She also wrote “Ada of the Angels,” which is the true story.

Don’t forget! Author Lori Szepelek is conducting a class on Tuesday, Nov. 18, from 9 to 10 a.m. at Master the Possibilities, titled “So ... You Want to be an Author?” Make sure you sign up before it fills up!

The Author Support Group meets on the first Thursday of every month in Arbor Activity Center Event Room 1, beginning at 11 a.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 2.

If you are a published author, a resident, and are interested in joining the Author Support Group, please contact Filomena via email at fabys2@aol.com.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Liz Elliott Lieberman & Dexter Vance



The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Club is rehearsing for its fall productions, and it is a very busy time for us. We are so proud to announce that we are performing in not just one, but three shows. “The Haunting of Ashford High” will be performed at The Lodge at Candler Hills on Friday, Oct. 24, and will be primarily for the Ashford neighborhood. Please check with the Ashford planning committee for information.

Our second and third shows will be at The Landing on Friday, Nov. 7, and Saturday, Nov. 8, titled “The Haunting of Weybourne High.” Both of these shows are fundraising events with all proceeds going to the SPCA of Marion County. The shows at The Landing are open to residents. To obtain tickets, please refer to the SPCA column in this month’s issue of the World News.

All three of the shows are brand new scripts written especially for On Top of the World and immerse the audience into a 1950s atmosphere, complete with costumes, music, and dance. We don’t

want to give too much away, but join us at your 1950s senior prom, where you’ll have to solve a murder that has just occurred.

No murder mystery is complete without heroes and villains, and the On Top of the World cast gives you both, in a hilarious “who dunnit” that you help solve. What distinguishes murder mystery plays from other events is that the host organizes a catered meal. At the same time, we offer you a wide range of entertainment options.

Our group is comprised of very talented On Top of the World actors, dancers, and singers, but this genre of entertainment is open to many different types of talent. Can you perform improv? Can you think on your feet if things don’t go as planned?

Liz has some hilarious stories that actually happened in professional shows that she performed in as a dancer. Imagine a singer (I will not mention her name) forgetting her lyrics and singing “Somewhere Under the Rainbow?” She was desperately trying to regain her composure as the cast all fell about in the wings, laughing.

Then there was the male singer who could not remember his lyrics at all, but was very adept at singing jazz, made up, boop poop de doops! Great theatrical di-

sasters are the legendary stories of “the show must go on” philosophy, and yet somehow, we always muddle through.

We thank you for your interest and future participation. Please do not hesitate to call if you have an interest as an actor/performer, script writer, singer, dancer, or musician. If you are a club and want to book a murder mystery for your group, please contact us.

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

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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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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 very 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 with their virtual presence, offering unique and 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 hosting a Halloween craft show party on Tuesday, Oct. 28. We invite you to join in the festivities, as our primary mission is to celebrate you, our wonderful community! Our crafters will be decked out in whatever fashion, prominent character, or costume that suits their creative mind. We would love to have you come in costume if you want, but it is not required.

Upon entering the show, you’ll receive a trick-or-treat bag. Then, write your name and phone number on a ticket, which gets placed in the large pumpkin. As you visit our outfitted crafters throughout the auditorium, you’ll find



Photo by Darroll Maul

The Artistic Crafts & Gifts craft show kickstarts the holiday season and celebrates our community residents.

some tasty treats on each table, including their quality handcrafted and specially designed items for sale.

At the end of the show, several names will be drawn for the beautiful baskets filled with our crafters’ items. Winners will be called and their basket will be delivered, unless they are still there.

Since Halloween seems to usher in the festive season, we will be having

more celebrations throughout the year, such as Thanksgiving, the December holidays, Valentine’s Day, and many more customer appreciation events, to keep your spirits up through May.

Our crafters offer a wide variety of gifts, cards, apparel, jewelry, and home items, including canvas, wood, and mixed media artwork. Many design products and place them for sale, but feel free to ask if they can design another with your favorite colors, or any personal specifications to fit your home,

style, or to make it the perfect gift for someone special. That’s the beauty of having such creative talent just around the corner, or showcased online and easily contacted. We hope you’ll join us every week, especially on Oct. 28, to enjoy the fun and enthusiasm of our show!

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.

ShutterBugs
Photography

Mark Holmes



Who is Steve Sasson and why should you care? Mr. Sasson, an engineer with Eastman Kodak, developed the first digital camera technology 50 years ago, in 1975. This camera captured black and white images on cassette tape and displayed them on a screen as proof of concept. Kodak did not patent the process; however, it was Sony in 1981 that developed Mavica, the first electronic camera. Although not digital, it formed the bridge between film and digital cameras. It wasn’t until 1996 that the first true digital camera, the Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F1, was introduced, capturing images at a then stunning but now minuscule .3 megapixels. While bulky and with limited capability, Steve Sasson’s work nonetheless inspired the industry and paved the way for the digital camera you own today.

Which digital camera today costs as much as a new Tesla Model 3 Long Range AWD? The Hasselblad H6D-400c MS features multi-shot technology and 100 megapixels, priced at \$48,000. Of course, you don’t need to spend a lot to capture great pictures. In fact, your smartphone can do a pretty good job, but if you’d like to step up to a digital SLR camera, or upgrade the one you have, ShutterBugs can help you not only decide which one to get but help you learn how to use it.

New members are always welcome. Come to one of our weekly meetings or field trips to learn more, or visit otow-spc.org for fresh, modern content, a monthly event schedule, a membership form, and access to educational articles and videos. The site also provides links to a wealth of places in and near Central Florida where you can take some great photos. As a member, you will have the ability to load up to 12 photos into your own online gallery and participate in our annual photo contest. Contest entries and ribbon winners will be on display in the Recreation Center later this year.

You do not need to be a member to join our Facebook group (ShutterBugs OTOW Photography Club), where you can view the latest member photos and get useful information to help you grow your skills. You can also post your favorite images there. Check out some of our members’ photographs on display in the Master the Possibilities lobby. Exhibitions change monthly, and our exhibitor for October is Brian Lomasky with up to 20 selected photos on display.

Always remember this – photography in any form is about seeing the world with intention. Whether through a smartphone, a digital camera, or a vintage rangefinder, the image reflects the photographer’s inner lens. It’s an incredible journey – let us help you enjoy it to the fullest.

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

For more information, contact Harry Boyajian at 239-336-4804.

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Delivery of 55 quilts to ECS4Kids.

Sewing Bees

Ann Gallo



As we start to welcome back our snowbirds, we are gearing up for fall and Christmas distributions. We made our first fall distribution of 55 quilts (three pre-K classes) to EC-S4Kids – Head Start. These children from low-income families receive a jump start on their education. The children were so surprised and thrilled to receive such a gift. 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. Did you know that quilting has a rich history dating back thousands of years? It has been used as currency and as a form of resistance during the Underground Railroad, showcasing its enduring significance and versatility. 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 see how you

can assist us. 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



Our presenter for September was Sherry Lovelass, a long-time card maker and crafter. Her card was a “pulley” card. By varying the embellishments and sentiments, this card can be used for any occasion. We thank Sherry for her instructions and for demonstrating this clever card for our class! 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. Until our next meeting, keep on stampin’!



“Pulley” card.

Photo by Sherry Lovelass

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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.

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Appliance: Electric grill. 352-300-3492.

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Furniture: Fold-up coffee table. 7' Victorian dresser with 8 drawers. 352-300-3492.

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Golf Cart Accessory: 48-volt Club Car battery charger. 352-512-1787.

Golf Cart: Completely refurbished Club Car with new top, Sunbrella curtains, hurricane-resistant windshield, seat cover, fan, and custom dashboard. Serviced regularly and batteries 2 years old. Best offer. 352-854-8713.

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, \$75 for all. 610-721-1424.

Golf Equipment: TaylorMade senior flex Qi10 driver, Qi10 3&5 woods, Qi10 3,4 & 5 hybrids, stealth 3&5 woods, and red, white & blue HIMAL golf cart bag. \$75 or best offer. 352-895-5312.

Holiday Décor: LumaBase (#34510) electric luminaria kit with Lumabases, snowflake design, 30 count, \$40. 845-467-7238.

Home Décor: Antique wash stand, late 1800s. 352-854-5713.

Home Décor: Large flower pic-

tures, 4' x4'. Ocean oil paintings, 20"x16". 352-300-3492.

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. Item: Electric scooter. Will consider trading for a used golf cart. 352-238-4842.

Misc. Item: Desktop magnifier for visually impaired/low-vision individuals, 22-inch screen with roller tray for reading material. Text/call 352-573-9164.

Misc. Item: Gas grill with four burners with a small side "saute" burner, wheels on two legs, beige cover & propane tank. Asking \$75, cash & carry. 443-875-9963 or 240-277-9133.

Misc. Items: Gladiator garage workshop metal cabinets, power tools and machines, and workbench. patomtul1939@gmail.com.

Misc. Item: Hard-sided suitcase, blue, TSA combo lock, 28" x 18" x 11", \$25. 352-789-4937.

Misc. Items: Louis Vuitton suitcase, purses, wallet, and notebook from Paris. 50 books on history, military, Clive Cussler, art, painting, drawing, metaphysical, murals, faux painting, mosaic, and health. Tony Lama cowboy boots, size 9. Black Stetson cowboy hat, size medium to large. Designer clothes with tags. 352-300-3492.

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.

Yard Equipment: 48-volt EGO battery charger. 352-512-1787.

Yard Equipment: Kobalt edger, string trimmer, brushless power head, lithium 40-volt battery & charger, \$200 cash. Call/text 561-445-1922.

Tag Sales

Thursday, Oct. 2 & Friday, Oct. 3: 8437-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Oct. 3 & Saturday, Oct. 4: 9651-A SW 85th Terrace (Friendship Village), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4: 9047 SW 102nd Circle (Avalon), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 5: 8594 SW 83rd Loop (Candler Hills), noon to 4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 6: 8594 SW 83rd Loop (Candler Hills), 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 9: 9330 SW 93rd Circle (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 10 & Saturday, Oct. 11: 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon · 9638-C, 9668-C, 9669-B SW 94th Avenue (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to noon · 8998 SW 99th Court Road (Avalon), 8 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, Oct. 11: 9330 SW 93rd Circle (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9694 SW 89th Loop (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 17: 10430 SW 90th Street Road (Avalon), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Oct. 17 & Saturday, Oct. 18: 9118 SW 102nd Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 8851-C SW 97th Street (Friendship Village), 8 a.m.

to 3 p.m. · 9117, 9121 SW 91st Circle (Williamsburg), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18: 9694 SW 89th Loop (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24 & Saturday, Oct. 25: 9709 SW 97th Street (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 25: 10063 SW 88th Street (Avalon), 8 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.

Services

American Junk Removal & Demo: One call, we haul – one item, room, or total clean-out. Total kitchen & bath demolition. Lawn/landscape clean-up. Dumpster rental. Call/text Garfield 561-306-6969. Quality work, competitive prices, licensed & insured.

Andy Dahms Interior Painting: Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or andygooddeats1@gmail.com.

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.

Caregiver: Compassionate care with 8 years' experience. Help with errands, appointments, and light cleaning. Rosa De Jesus 352-804-8841 (resident).

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.

Estate Sale Services: Ready to sell the contents of your home? Community resident providing estate sale services for all neighbors. I'm here to help. SW Ocala Estate Sales 352-219-6799.

Geller Lawn: Mowing, irrigation, bushes, mulch & much more! Starting at \$50 per month (no contracts). Insured. 352-390-7454.

Handyman: Insured. JAO Home Improvement & Repair – all your home's needs – carpentry, built-ins, roll-out shelves, moldings, faux painting, tile, and furniture touch ups. Visit JAO Home's page at www.ashiarts.us 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.

Painting & Drywall: Interior painting & drywall repair. Experienced, affordable & professional. Insured. Free estimates. References available. Visit josephdonofriodrywallandpainting.com or call 352-857-8367.

Paint Time LLC: Interior & exterior painting. Quality is our goal! Also offering power washing. Let's spruce up your home inside & out. Call/text Matt at 352-640-6467.

Rikki's Cleaning Service: For all your domestic needs, from cleaning to errands and more. Call Rikki 352-509-4488.

Transportation & Pet Services: Pet sitting, dog walking, rides to appointments with assistance getting in and out of the vehicle, shopping & odd jobs. Rob 954-557-4178 (resident).

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.

Transportation: Professional ride-share driver since 2014. Airports & recurring trips to varied destinations are welcome! Call/text Larry 352-509-5211 (resident).

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

Bocce Players: 420 liberal or progressive residents wanted to play bocce. 707-280-3823.

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.

Poker Players: Liberal in-house poker game with music and snacks. 707-280-3823.

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