

Community News

Kenneth D. Coleen

Patriotic Celebration

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

Community Updates

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Continued on Page 4A ▶



Photo courtesy of Coleen Built Development

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

The Town Square is Rockin'

By **Dave DeAngelis**
World News Writer

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

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

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

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

- Falltoberfest: Saturday, Sept. 27, 5 to 9 p.m.

- Swiftie Pre-Show Party: Friday, Nov. 7, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
- Food Truck Festival: Saturday, Nov. 8, noon to 4 p.m.
- Holiday Celebration: Saturday, Dec. 6, 4 to 8 p.m.

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

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

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

summer at Sholom Park.

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

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

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

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

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

After all, peace isn't a destination – it's a practice. And at Sholom Park, it begins the moment you step inside.

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

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

Peace Awaits

By **Misty Frye**

As the Florida sun stretches across long summer afternoons, there's a place

where time slows and peace flows like a breeze through the trees – welcome to



Rediscover the simple joy of doing less at Sholom Park.

INDEX

Is It Legal?

Colen & Wagoner, P.A.



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

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

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

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

Q. I know I'm an enabler. My son hasn't worked for quite some time. I've been supporting him. Now, he's asked me to support his live-in girlfriend. She claims that legally, I have to support her because she takes care of him. Your thoughts?

A. I don't have any thoughts for you, and even if I did, you would do what you wanted, whether you agreed with me or not. The most I can tell you is that, from a legal perspective, you have no obligation to support your son, and certainly no obligation to support his girlfriend, simply because she claims to take care of him.

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.

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Q. I've been quite sick lately, but my doctor says he sees good signs of improvement. Yet, who knows what could happen? My daughter suggested that I deed my apartment to her so that when I recover, she will have it for me; if I don't recover, she won't have to go through probate to obtain the title. I'm confused.

A. Yeah, well, I'm confused too. Perhaps you aren't stating precisely what she means. But, if you are stating what she means, my obvious question is, why do you need to deed her your apartment now, so she can have it for you, since you already have it? The second part about her not having to go through probate could make sense, but you can do that by means of a ladybird deed, which is where you keep control of the property as long as you live, and only when you pass will she get it. However, since I am concerned about your daughter's true motives, I strongly suggest that you contact an attorney and have a conference with them.

Q. My boyfriend and I are in our 80s. We were on a cruise in a far-from-the-U.S. foreign country, where he bought some erectile dysfunction (ED) medication. A neighbor said it's illegal. My boyfriend doesn't know what he should do. Your thoughts?

A. I'm confused. Are you saying he bought some ED medicine, but he doesn't know what to do with it? When all else fails, maybe read the directions? I don't know what the medication was, but if, when you came back, the medicine was not hidden, and U.S. Customs did not stop you, it probably isn't illegal to have it. To be clear, though, I think it's always risky to purchase drugs in a foreign country, especially when you could just as well ask your doctor for a prescription for what you need, and it won't for sure be illegal.

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

On Top of the World NEWS

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2025 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

On Top of the World NEWS

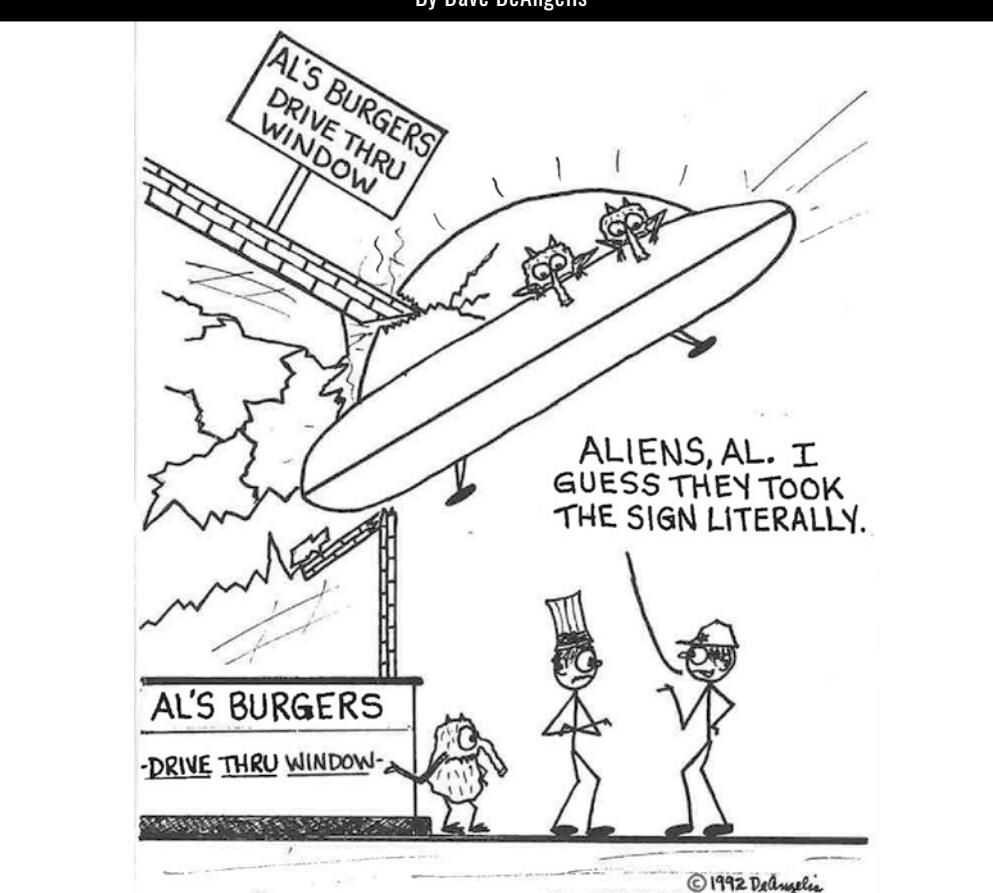
Issue	Ad/Payment/Column Deadline*	Printed Inserts**	Home Delivery
January	12/10/24	12/19/24	12/26/24
February	01/13/25	01/23/25	01/30/25
March	02/12/25	02/20/25	02/27/25
April	03/12/25	03/20/25	03/27/25
May	04/11/25	04/24/25	05/01/25
June	05/12/25	05/22/25	05/29/25
July	06/12/25	06/26/25	07/03/25
August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



Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun



Everyone loves an auction. The Veterans Club is sponsoring an auction to benefit Vets Helping Vets and Chuck's Piggy Bank on Sunday, Aug. 24, at 2 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II.

We will have over 70 baskets and items available for bidding. Most baskets contain gift cards from local businesses. One basket is full of lottery tickets and scratch-off tickets. Some have travel packages and jewelry. There is a basket for everyone to enjoy. Find one for you or a friend.

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

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

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

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

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

Also, please put Saturday, Sept. 13, on your calendar for the birthday party dinner and dance at The Lodge at Candler Hills, starting at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25.



Photo by Fran Calhoun

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

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Community News

► Continued from Page 1A

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

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

BAY LAUREL CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The construction of Bay Laurel's new office building in Calusa Township is anticipated to be completed by late August. We encourage all residents to remain informed regarding the timing of the transition to the new facility.

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

Roadway Improvements

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

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

REPLACEMENT CAR DECALS

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

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

construction of SW 80th Avenue begins, to provide an alternate route of travel 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 Marion County by Nov. 1.

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

Landscape Update

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

Practical Preventive Home Maintenance

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

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

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

Resident Services

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



com
The associationinfo@otowfl.net email will remain active.

Modifications

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

Envera

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

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

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

Community Meet & Greet

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

We look forward to seeing you there!

Association Emails

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

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

Lifelong Learning

Michelle Shideler
352-387-7571
michelle.shideler@masterthe possibilities.org



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Active Newcomers Club

Linda Baker



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

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

Avalon Social Group

Laura Gavey & Sharon Hall



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

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

Are you new to Avalon or our social 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.

turing chicken tenders, two sides, and a biscuit, accompanied by cookies for dessert. R&R Trio will provide the music. There will be door prizes and a raffle. Two lucky winners will split the raffle proceeds. Watch our Facebook page and your email for information about signing up for this event. Tickets will be \$10, and they are expected to sell out quickly!

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

Do you love to read? The Active Newcomers Club currently has two book groups. The books to be read in future

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

If you are interested in joining a book group, please send an email to activenewcomers34481@gmail.com for more information.

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

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

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



Another fun Active Newcomers Club wine group gathering.

Photo by Carmine Draude

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Safety First

Jonathan Miller



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

with the rise of cigarettes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

On Watch

Geoff Oldberg



we make. For many of you, this will be your "forever home."

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

higher property values.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Keep fixing your "broken windows."

Citizens on Patrol

Rocky Pizzarello



ing a "retired" Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) car. Citizens on Patrol (COPS) merged community patrols from other southwest district communities with the MCSO's southwest COPS.

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

to On Top of the World to be visible to their neighbors and friends.

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

At our June meeting, leader Allison Cranmer provided updates from Lt. Clint Smith. There is still concern about

elder fraud, and he encouraged all citizens to be aware that it is on the rise. In May, the county reported losses of \$2.5 million due to fraud. Other areas of the state and county fared much worse.

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

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

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Newcastle Social Committee

Anne McCauley



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

Candler Connection

Debra Keirn



An ice cream social will take place on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets will be \$6.50 per Candler Hills resident and \$7.50 per guest. There will be vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, butter pecan, salted caramel, and no-sugar-added moose tracks. We also will have root beer and orange floats. You can even go back for seconds. Contact Karen Gemberling at 352-789-8259 or Deb Keirn 352-414-5737 to purchase tickets.

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

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

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

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

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

See you around the neighborhood and at future events!

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Birthdays – Weddings – Anniversaries



Douglas & Michelle Hansen
50th Anniversary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Photo by Anne McCauley

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

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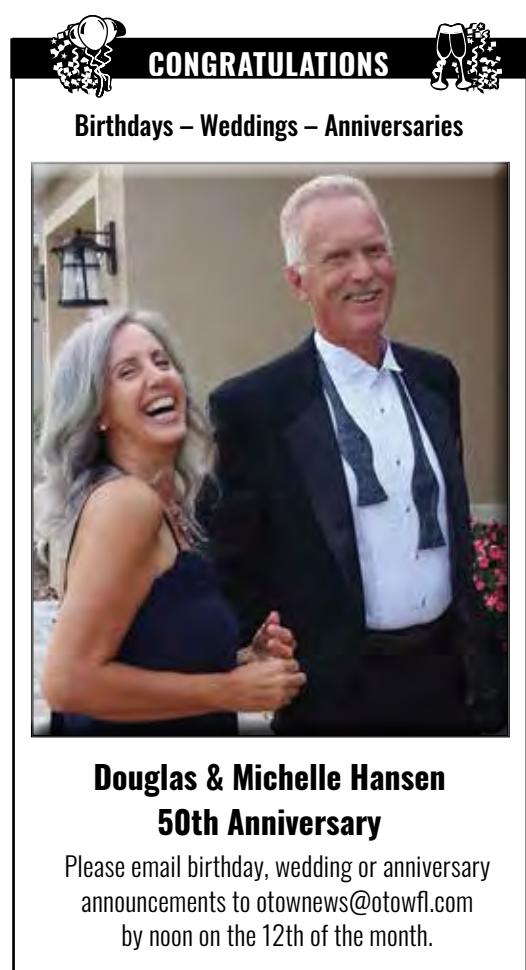
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Longleaf Ridge Friends

Michelle Migdal, Kathleen Taylor, Debra Vitale & Judi Walsh



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

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

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

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

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

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

As our community continues to grow, we look forward to welcoming all the many new neighbors to the 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.



Photo by Mary Evans

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

Friendship Connection

Ellen Lee



The Friendship Connection committee would like to extend its gratitude to the friends and neighbors who have supported our events and efforts over the past several years. It is with great sadness that we must announce the end of this committee and the cancellation of future events.

Due to various circumstances and unsuccessful recruitment attempts to bring additional members to the team, the difficult decision was made to close this committee. All funds remaining in the treasury will be donated to charity, and any remaining supplies belonging to the committee will be transferred to other active groups.

The Friendship Connection Facebook page will remain active and open to all residents of Friendship Colony, Friendship Park, and Friendship Village.

Crescent Ridge Happenings

Carol Lewis



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

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

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

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

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Photo by Linda McDonald

Monthly dinners with the neighbors are a popular night out.

Williamsburg Neighbors

Nancy Meininger



The Williamsburg wizards are at it again ... brewing up more fun for neighbors at an indoor Summerfest!

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

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

The Williamsburg monthly neighborhood dinners went Italian style in June to

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

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

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

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

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

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Indigo East Social Committee

Janice Liberton



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

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

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

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

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

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Community Emergency Response Team

Debbie Snyder



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

Cyber criminals frequently target elderly individuals due to their perceived unfamiliarity with modern technology. The criminals exploit their trust, vulner-

ability, and loneliness through various scams, such as phishing emails, fraudulent phone calls, romance scams, and fake online offers, tricking them into giving away personal information or money. The presentation outlined how to define and identify the problem, explained the magnitude and our vulnerability, the tricks utilized by the "bad actors," and ways to counteract and protect ourselves. Thanks to Rocky for the eye-opening, comprehensive, and informative presentation!

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

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

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

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

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



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

Photo by Jon Fiedler



Photo by Jane Belz

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

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Republican Club



Margaret Nodine

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by Leslie Miller

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

Democratic Club



Mark Miller

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

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

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

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

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

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Cooking Demonstration - Butter Chicken Curry

By Rosalina Norita

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

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

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

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

meat with a depth of flavor that's both grounding and uplifting.

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

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

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

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



Creamy butter chicken curry with roti (whole wheat) and vegetable pakoras.

Shielding Your Tech

By Shane Bobson

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

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

Here's how to safeguard your gadgets:

1. Unplug, Unplug, Unplug! The simplest and most effective defense is to unplug electronics from the wall outlets. This cuts off the path for any damaging surges. Don't forget to unplug cable lines and phone lines too, as surges can travel through these. This applies to everything from your TV and computer to smaller appliances, such as coffee makers.
2. Invest in Surge Protectors: For devices that can't be easily unplugged (or if you want an extra layer of protection), good-quality surge protectors are essential. These devices divert excess electricity away from your electron-
3. Consider a Whole-Home Solution: If your community or home offers it, a whole-house surge protector installed at your electrical panel provides comprehensive protection for all appliances and devices connected to your home's electrical system, even hardwired ones. This offers a significant peace of mind.
4. The Role of a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply): For crucial electronics like your computer, a UPS offers both surge protection and a battery backup. This allows you to safely shut down your computer during a power outage, preventing data loss and potential damage to your hardware. While more expensive than a simple surge protector, a UPS is a smart investment for devices containing important information.
5. Data Backup is Key: Even with

ics. Look for surge protectors with a high "joule" rating, which indicates how much energy they can absorb before failing. Remember, not all power strips are surge protectors, so be sure to check the labeling carefully.

3. Consider a Whole-Home Solution: If your community or home offers it, a whole-house surge protector installed at your electrical panel provides comprehensive protection for all appliances and devices connected to your home's electrical system, even hardwired ones. This offers a significant peace of mind.
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5. Data Backup is Key: Even with



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

Photo by Kristi Hilton

Quilt of Valor Recipient

By Phil Panzera
World News Writer

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

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

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

He subsequently served as the secu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





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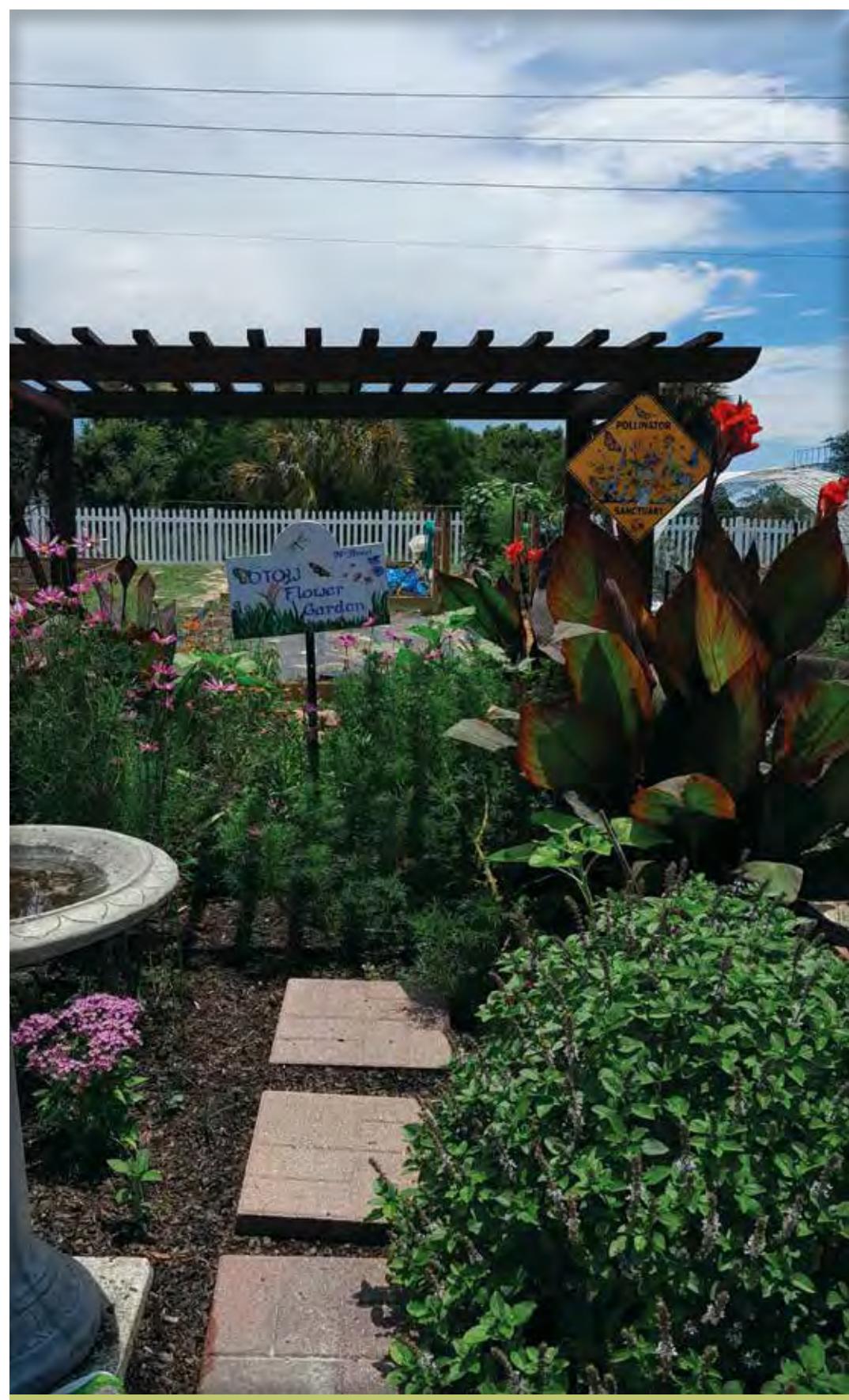
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Eco Gardeners

Phil Karcheski



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

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

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

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

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

summer squash, eggplant, peppers, and tomatoes from transplants for better success. Cool-season vegetables later in September: As temperatures begin to moderate, plant carrots, radishes, and beets. Start growing brassicas indoors for transplanting, such as broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower.

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

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

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

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

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

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

On Top of the World NEWS

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Friends of Bill W Group



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

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Tire Rotation

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

\$9.99*

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

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.

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

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

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

LOST OR FOUND A PET?

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by Bruce Kanner

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

The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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BE READY BEFORE THE STORM!

Florida's hurricane season runs through November 30. It is important to plan ahead so you are safe in an emergency.

Get ready now for the risks associated with stormy weather so you are prepared to act when alerted by emergency officials.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR HURRICANE SEASON:

- Build a disaster supply kit (first aid kit, water, canned food supply, etc.)
- Compile a list of medications, including dosage and frequency. Have a 7-day supply on hand, particularly special needs items like oxygen tanks
- Those with special needs should register with the Marion County Special Needs Program to receive assistance during a disaster (marionso.com/special-needs-program or (352) 369-8100)
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn ornaments, patio furniture, etc.)
- Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters*
- Fill your vehicle's gas tank and any gas cans you may have
- Obey evacuation orders
- Pet owners should have plans to care for their animals
- Register for emergency alerts at alertmarion.com

Visit www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php and www.ready.gov/hurricane for additional information.

**On Top of
the World**



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

SPCA of Marion County

Heather Tahan



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

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

Donations of pet food and supplies will be accepted at the porch of Evelyn Sarnes Holiday, located at 8880-C SW 94th St, Ocala, Florida 34481. To prevent accidental ingestion by pets, please refrain from using staples to close open bags.

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

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

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

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

Nina, a sweet, little 1.5-year-old, 12-pound dog is available for adoption. Contact Dawn at dcindc3@verizon.net if interested.

Photo by Dawn Case

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg



The Scandinavian American Club meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room from September through May. The Scandinavian American Club does not meet during the summer months (June through August). Our first fall meeting is on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

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

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

They built an entire community in northwestern Illinois, including a church, hospital, schools, shops, and other town buildings. They built an industry manufacturing brooms, buggies, and woven rugs. They were an economic powerhouse and religious center managed by a group of trustees. The community dissolved in the 1880s, with every member being issued shares of the

economic entity. Thousands of Swedes settled in the Midwest, from Galva to Galesburg, Minnesota, to North Dakota, forming communities like Bishop Hill for many reasons beyond religion.

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

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

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

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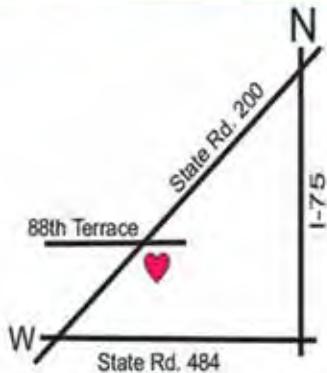
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Rhode Island Group

Judy Parisi



When the heat and humidity are at an all-time high in Washington, D.C., Presidents have historically sought out areas with cooler temperatures, with many choosing New England.

Dwight Eisenhower first summered as president on Coasters Harbor Island at the Naval War College in Newport. He later moved to the property originally known as Commandant's Residence or Quarters Number One at Fort Adams. This latter property was built in 1873 for General Henry Jackson Hunt, a Civil War officer. The property, situated on a 10-acre estate, offers spectacular views of Narragansett Bay and Newport Harbor.

It was not the view, however, that motivated President Eisenhower to change locations; instead, he wanted to be closer to the Newport Country Club. Eisenhower was a golf enthusiast who reportedly shot in the mid-80s and whose passion for the sport inspired many in the nation to take up golf.

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

The clubhouse was designed in 1895 by Whitney Warren and extensively renovated by Kirby Perkins in 2005 in anticipation of the United States Women's Open. It is architecturally breathtaking and offers stunning views, as is befitting its Newport location.

In 2006, the club hosted the United States Women's Open, which Annika Sorenstam won after an 18-hole playoff.



The Eisenhower House.

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

When your travels take you to Rhode Island, plan to visit the Eisenhower House, which is part of the Rhode Island Parks System, and drive toward the Newport Country Club to admire the exceptionally beautiful clubhouse. There are areas near Eisenhower House where you can park and enjoy the waterfront vistas.

As we enter fall, it's time for our Rhode Island Group to get together for lunch to share stories and reminisce. If you have not attended previous lunches and would like to join us, please email

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

Photo by Judy Parisi

Silver Rainbow Club

Jeanne Bennett-Bailey



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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SWANS

Lois Nix



Lions Club

Gail Morris



Active Singles Club

Jan Lindell



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

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

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

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

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

SWANS are never alone. SWANS are never forgotten.

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LEASH LAW
Dogs must be on a leash at all times.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by Linda Budd

Active Singles Club Sunday bowling group.

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Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



World Traveler

Bill Shampine



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What's Cookin'?

Nancy Grabowski



Bacon Onion Tomato Pie

1 deep-dish pie crust (homemade or purchased)
6 to 8 slices thick-cut bacon, cooked & crumbled
1 large yellow onion, thinly sliced
2 to 3 medium tomatoes, sliced and drained
1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup sour cream
Salt & pepper, to taste
Preheat oven to 375°F.
Cook the bacon until crispy, then set it aside.
Sauté onions until golden.
Layer onions, tomatoes, and bacon in pie crust.
Mix the cheese, mayonnaise, and sour cream; spread them on top.
Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until golden and bubbly.
Cool slightly before slicing.

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World Traveler

Bill Shampine



I suspect that most of us have heard of the Seven Wonders of the World, which I think is an intriguing concept. Multiple lists of wondrous places have been compiled, dating back as far as one prepared by the great historian Herodotus (484 BCE to approximately 425 BCE). Although described as a worldwide ranking of fabulous sites, all of these lists of ancient places are geographically limited to the Mediterranean rim. That's because the Mediterranean rim was the extent of the explored world at the time.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by kallerna

The Great Pyramid of Giza.



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Breathtaking beauty across the crisp, cool bay of Charlevoix.

Michigan Club**Nancy Meininger**

Think back to Michigan summers past. Did weekends find you heading to the ballpark to root for the Detroit Tigers?

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

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

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

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

Then, there is sweet corn, fresh-

picked from the field and steamed on the grill. Or cherries, peaches, pears, or apples – Michigan has an abundance of them all to share.

If you're from the Motor City or anywhere close, you are a Dream Cruiser for sure. To get out there and show off your vintage wheels to thousands of worshippers lining the sidewalks along Woodward Avenue is such a rush!

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

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

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

Ohio Buckeyes Social Club**Amy Ingram**

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

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by Marge Ruhlen

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

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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, Aug. 25.

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

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

Latinos Club

Silvia C. Garcia

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

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

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

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

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

For our community outreach program, we have selected two organizations to support.

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

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

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

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

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

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

In this time of uncertainty, we need to connect and support one another. Attending and participating in our meetings offers an opportunity to be with others who share similar beliefs. Since our inception, our member roster has continued to grow with each meeting. Democrat or not, you will be welcomed the next time we meet on Monday, Aug. 25.

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

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

with grape stomping, winery tours, wine tasting and bar, live music, food court; Dominoes tournament on Sunday, Aug. 17, for fun and friendly competition; Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 13; Silver Springs State Park glass bottom boat tour and brunch on

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

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



Photo by Silvia C. Garcia

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

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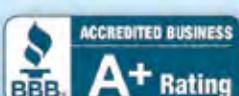
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Flying a Drone in On Top of the World

By Phil Panzera
World News Writer

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

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

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

The most commonly seen drones are a simple looking box with four rotors. These quadcopters also come in versions with six or eight rotors. There are fixed wing drones, single-rotor drones, camera drones, and many other types. The Predator, famously flown by or military, with its 49' wingspan, is also a drone – as is every remotely controlled

plane, jet or helicopter flown by the R/C Flyers Club at our flying field.

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

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

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



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

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

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

1. Join the Academy of Model Aero-nautics (AMA). It costs \$85 per year, but the AMA provides \$2.5

million of liability and other coverages (that you want and need).

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

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

Ageless Adventures

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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



Robotics class with Jim Di Paolo.

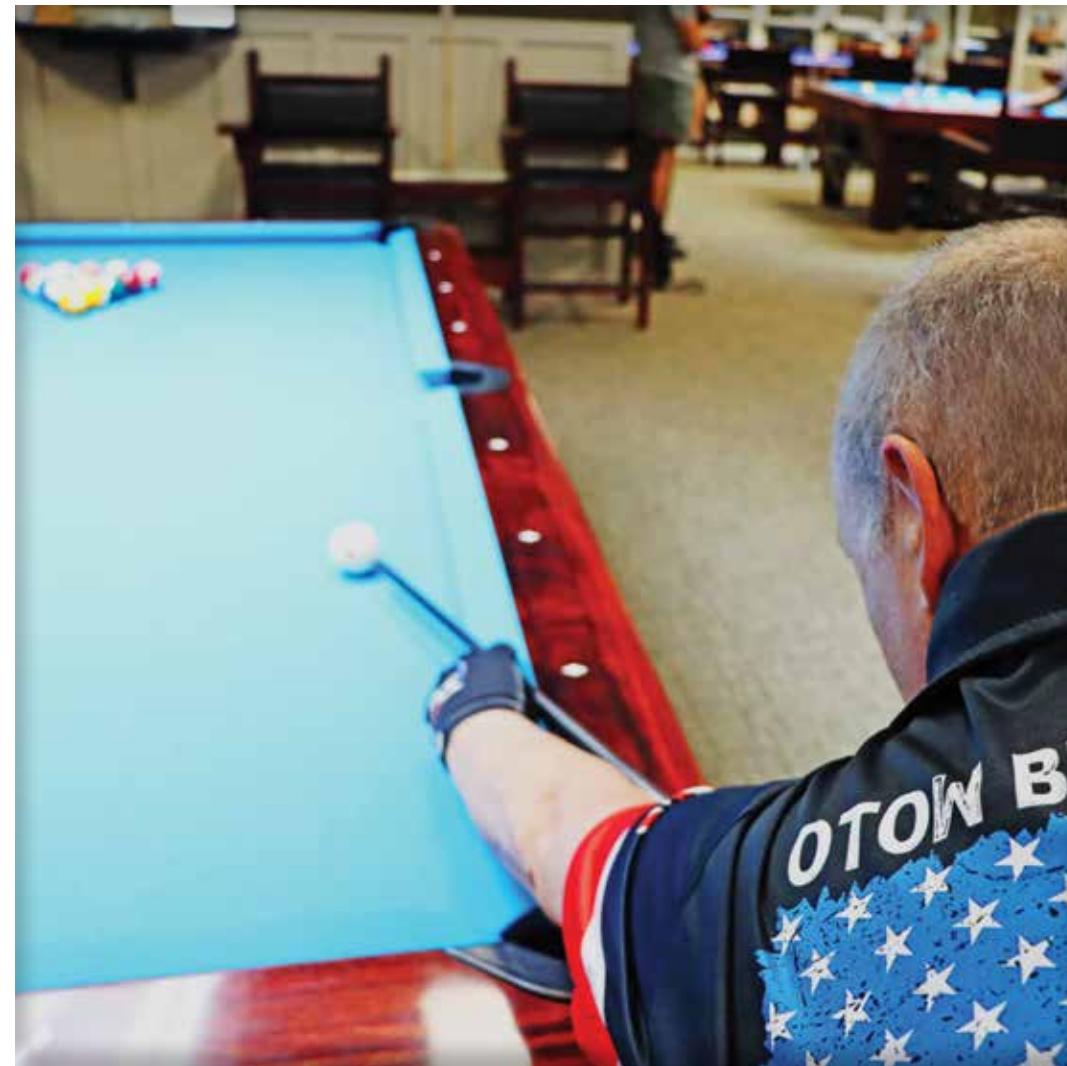


Photo courtesy of Colen Built Development

New Billiard Academy.

Billiard Academy

By Phil Panzera
World News Writer

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

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

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

learn, grow, and have a good time.

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

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

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

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



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SUNDAY & MONDAY - LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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ROTISSERIE CHICKEN**

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FRESH BAKED SWEET YEAST ROLLS

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Golf



Matt Hibbs

352-854-2765

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

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

R/C Sailing Club



Gene Mangold

There's a quiet thrill in watching the wind take hold of a sail, even more so when that sail is no larger than your forearm and guided by a hand-held transmitter. R/C (radio-controlled) sailboat racing is a blend of elegance, precision, and the elemental joy of wind-driven motion that captivates hobbyists, engineers, and nature lovers alike.

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

- Skippers adjust sail trim and rudder angles remotely to coax the most speed from shifting winds.
- Tactics matter – reading gusts, playing the angles, and cutting tight corners around buoys.
- It's not just button-mashing. It's strategy, instinct, and finesse.

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

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

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

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

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

Some models allow customization of keels, sails, and rigging to fit their racing style.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Congratulations to all!

Golf Tip of the Month

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

1. Check your grip. Each hand

should form a V with your index finger and thumb. Each of the Vs formed should then point to your right shoulder (right-handed golfer).

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

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

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

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

MidState Skin Institute

Gene Mangold

MidState Skin Institute is a comprehensive dermatology care center located in Ocala, Florida. We offer a wide range of services, including medical, surgical, and cosmetic dermatology. Our team of board-certified dermatologists and advanced practice providers are dedicated to providing compassionate care and personalized treatment plans for our patients.

At MidState Skin Institute, we believe in the power of prevention. That's why we offer a variety of services to help you maintain healthy skin, including skin cancer screening, acne treatment, and anti-aging therapies. We also provide medical and surgical treatments for a range of skin conditions, from acne and rosacea to psoriasis and eczema.

Our team is committed to staying up-to-date with the latest medical research and treatment options. We offer clinical trials with Dr. Ashley Cauthen, a leading dermatologist in the field. By participating in clinical trials, you can gain access to new treatments and therapies before they are available to the general public.

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

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

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

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



Photo by Gene Mangold

Flying Scott racing.



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Dr. Ashley Cauthen

Dr. Ashley Cauthen partners with Renstar Medical Research to provide you with the opportunity to participate in new care options through clinical trials.

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Talk to Dr. Cauthen or her staff during your appointment or contact us at:



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Clinical trials may provide many benefits to you, including:

Access to study medications before they are available to the general public.

Contribution to the wellbeing of society, and the advancement of medical research.

Study-related care.

Study-related diagnostic exams and lab work.



Compensation for your time and travel.



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Eczema

Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS)

Plaque Psoriasis

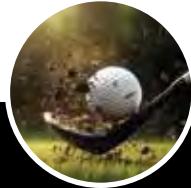
& More!



RENSTAR
MEDICAL RESEARCH

Men's Golf Association

John Yenne

**Archery Club**

Suzanne Shea



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

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

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

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

Membership has increased to 270.

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

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

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

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

GOLF CART REGISTRATION

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

Resident Services

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

Horseshoes Club

Vern Kessler



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

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

The Horseshoe Club thanks the ladies who work at the Recreation Center for the purchase of all new brooms and dustpans for the club's use.

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

During the summer months, the club

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Candler Hills Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



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

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

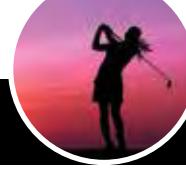
As amateurs, it might be a little harder to develop that mindset. One thing we can do when we get upset with our shot is just let it go. It's not easy, but if we can learn from that mistake, it makes for a more positive round. There are days when nothing works, but those are usually the exception rather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

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

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

Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association

Jo Della Penna

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

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

Scramble**June 17/The Links**

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

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

Flight 1: 61-Sharon Fairclough. 71-Karen Schrockenthaler. Flight 2: 71-Joanne Woolery. 72-Jill Strey. Flight 3: 75-Jane Hall. 77-Eileen Gustavus. Flight 4: 73-Robyn Atwood. 77-Nancy Zielinski. Flight 5: 75-Connie Lukas. 81-Carol Clark.

Net

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

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

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Photo by Domenica Genovese

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

Meditation Group

Domenica Genovese



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

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

Prize-winning poet Mary Oliver, among others.

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

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

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

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

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

The Joy of Adult Golf Carting

By Paul DiSclafani

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Then again, Batman never needed a

GPS in Gotham City, but I think I'll need one here. There are too many roads that start with 80 ...

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Billiards Club

Phil Panzera

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

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

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

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

Wellness Cancer Support Group

Robin Storch Scheraga

We meet casually on the first of every month at 10 a.m. Please join us at the tables in the hallway next to Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli at Circle Square Commons. Look for the "Wellness Group" table sign.

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

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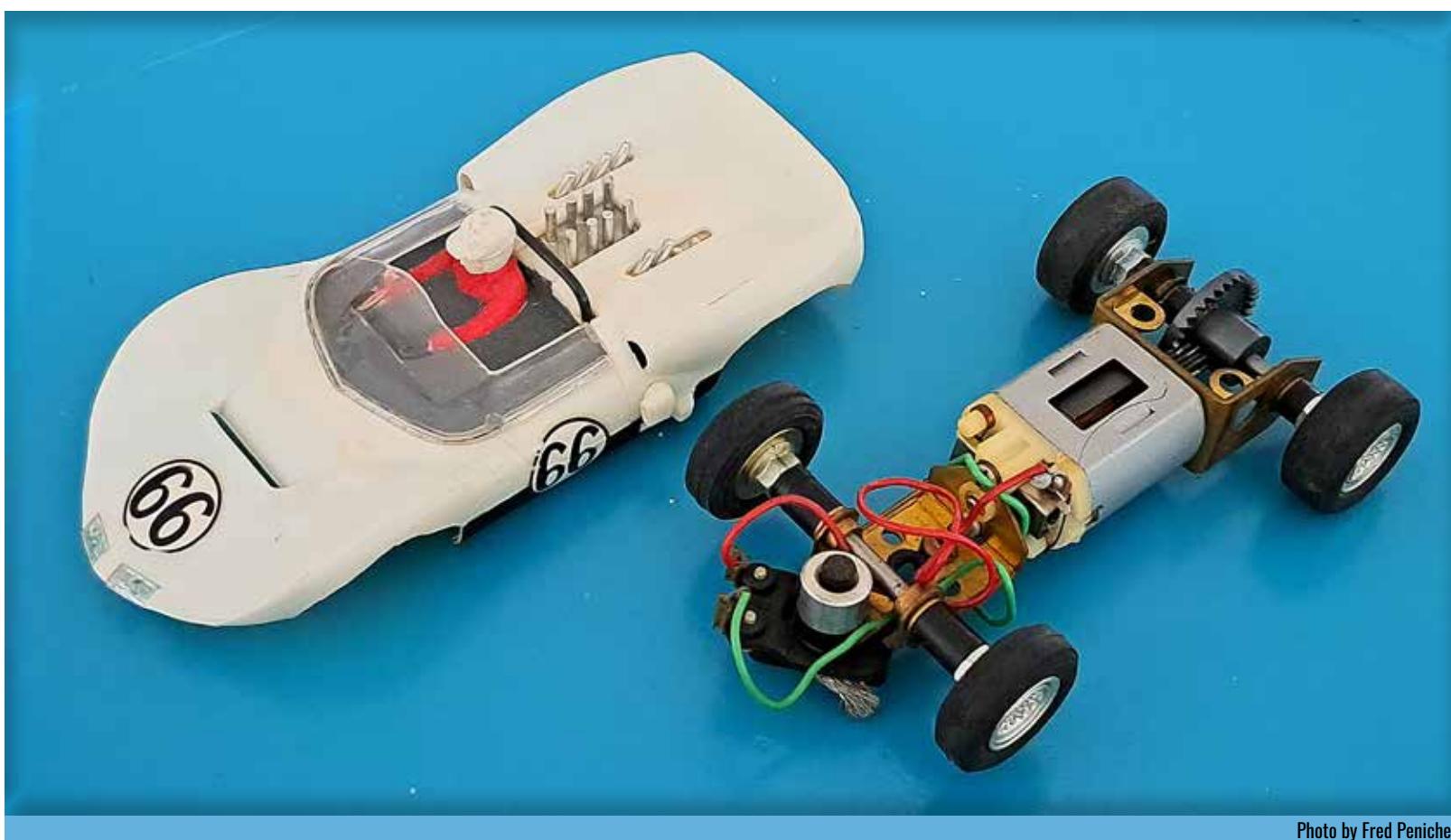


Photo by Fred Penichet

Vintage 55-year-old analog slot car racer.

R/C Car Club

Fred Penichet

The slot car division of the R/C Car Club posted a milestone in the club's history, not by any new process or invention, nor any upgrade in equipment, nor a change in personnel, or other such pedestrian options. No, the milestone was achieved by, of all things, going back in time.

Taking a step back in the evolutionary process of the hobby and revisiting the days of analog racing. What's that, you ask? Until recently, slot car racing utilized outdated yet still functional technology, reminiscent of the days of rheostats, transformers, and rectifiers, among other components (consider the rotary phone versus cellular phone offerings). While the fascinating history of the hobby is too expansive to review here, the culmination is the marvel that is today's digital slot car. However, the

allure of racing vintage cars is also alive (and affordable) in the 1/32 scale hobby.

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

Simplicity is another draw. Just two cars, with a simple power source, and electro-mechanical controllers. Suddenly, you are eight or nine years old

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

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

June

Traxxas-Jim Printer. Two-wheel buggy-Jim Printer. Four-wheel buggy-Paul Beyer. Pan car-Mike Main. Touring-Ron Kaufersch and Terry Altman. Two-wheel truck-George Queen. Four-wheel truck-Bob Melzer. Limited-Terry Altman. 17.5-Terry Altman and Mike Main. Sportsman-Larry Erickson. Trugy-Rene Morse. NASCAR-Dave Ackroyd.

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Top Pickleball Club

Teresa Armstrong

**POP Tennis**

Domenica Genovese

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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POP Tennis

Domenica Genovese

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

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

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

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

Ballet

Eugenie Martin

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

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



Photo by Joe Campagna

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

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

POP tennis takes place at the Arbor Activity Center lower courts every Mon-

day, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 to 10 a.m. in the summer and from 8 to 10 a.m. when it starts getting cooler.

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

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

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

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Table Tennis

Paul Stadterman



Recently, Fitness Supervisor Lillian Grajeda from On Top of the World Communities gave an insightful demonstration at our club, showcasing the importance of stretching exercises for table tennis players. Lillian, who also conducts fitness classes for residents, demonstrated how proper stretching can enhance performance and reduce the risk of injury. Her session highlighted stretches that improve flexibility, mobility, and body control – key elements for excelling at table tennis.

Leg Stretches

- Hip Flexor: Kneel on one knee, lunge forward, and rotate your hips and trunk toward the back leg. Perform three sets of eight to 16 repetitions.
- Hamstring: Sit with one knee bent inward, reaching for the toes while keeping your back straight. Repeat three times with eight to 16 repetitions.
- Standing Knee Hugs: While standing, hug one knee to your chest to improve balance and blood flow, which aids in squatting movements.
- Groin: Sit with the soles of your feet together, gently pressing your knees down. Do three sets of eight to 16 repetitions.

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Shoulder Stretches

- Shoulder Rotation: Place your hands on a wall, pushing your shoulders downward, or interlock your hands behind one shoulder to gently pull it. This improves shoulder mobility.
- Cross-Body Shoulder: Bring one arm across your chest and gently pull it with the opposite hand to reduce shoulder tension.

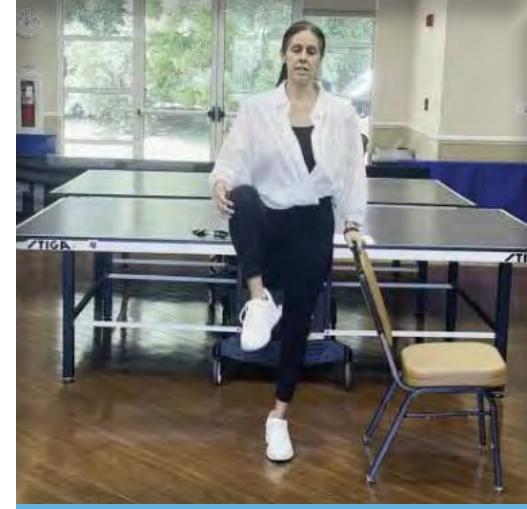
Back Stretches

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

Stretching Benefits

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

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



Photos by Paul Stadterman

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

vention and improved performance. Incorporating these stretches into your routine will help you play longer and at a higher level. For more information on Lillian's fitness programs, visit the Recreation Center!

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

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

Contact President Paul Stadterman at ptstadterman@yahoo.com.

Tennis

Jorge Privat

352-387-7539



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

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

The Drop Shot

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

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

The best opportunities to execute the drop shot:

- To test your opponent's mobility. Players who don't move very well often struggle to reach even mediocre or poor shots.
- To change the pace and nature of a point. Throw in a drop shot, and the entire nature of an ordinary rally changes (as well as your positions on the court).
- To draw your opponent to the net. Many players avoid the net. The drop shot makes them come up and play from it. Thus, you are taking them out of their comfort zone, making them very uncomfortable.

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

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

Hitting the Drop Shot

Follow these steps:

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

See you on the courts!

Weight Loss Group



Laura Gavey

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

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

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

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

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

You can join the Bocce Club through

open play or league, and you can play both if you desire. Dues are \$15, good for participation October through September the following year.

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

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

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

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



Photo by Ray Ihlenburg

Talented instructors help young eagles take flight.

R/C Flyers Club**Ray Ihlenburg**

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

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

was your turn to fly.

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

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

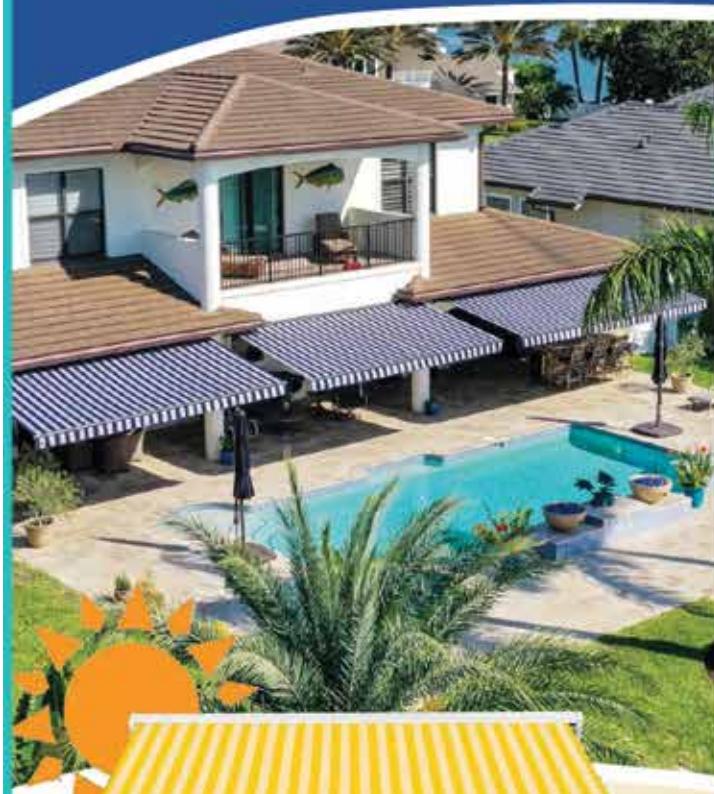
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Rich Gautier



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- Feel the progress: Each new move mastered is a mini-victory.
- Boost your skills: Repeating patterns helps you get smoother, sharper, and more confident.
- Celebrate milestones: Nailing a tricky routine feels great, and the group will cheer you on.

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

- Non-verbal skills: You get better at reading people, not just on the dance floor.
- Trust and support: You and your partner rely on each other to build a genuine connection.
- Group energy: Everyone is learning together, so there is always someone to share a high-five with.

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

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

- Stay sharp: It is like a puzzle for your brain, but more fun.
- Build good habits: Showing up to practice helps with time management and discipline.
- Set and reach goals: Each new dance is a goal to work toward, and you will feel great when you get there.

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

- Shared goals: Everyone is working on the same routines, building teamwork.
- Make new friends: The club is a great place to meet friendly faces and enjoy a supportive atmosphere.

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

- Move your body: Dancing works muscles you did not even know you had.
- Forget your worries: Focusing on the steps helps you leave stress at the door.
- Build resilience: Sticking with it, even when you mess up, makes you stronger inside and out.

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

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

Email partnerdancesidekicks@gmail.com or drop in at any session.



Photo by Steve Warren

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

Broadway & Tap Dancing

Elaine Voorhis



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

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

Our generation is still moving and grooving. There are so many opportunities to dance, whether it's freestyle or choreographed. Our tap and Broadway classes offer excellent exercise for both our bodies and brains. Learning steps require focus and concentration, which helps keep the brain healthy. To quote Livestrong.com, "A small July 2018 study in 'PLOS One' found that aging

adults who participated in a six-month-long dance program that involved learning choreography developed not only physical fitness, but increased the volume of their grey matter as well, which is one way to measure brain health and activity."

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

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

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

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

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

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Poms Dance & Cheer

Pamela Kalamaras



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

Jazz Dance Club

Liz Elliott Lieberman



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

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

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



Photo by Robert Lieberman

The Ovation Dancers.

Line Dancing

Tamara Stanford



Line dancing, taught by instructor Joe Spencer, will begin on Monday, Sept. 8, in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Tickets for September and October dance instruction can be purchased through the OTOW App from Tuesday, Aug. 5, through Friday, Aug. 15. All dancers must display their paper dance ticket. A lanyard is a good way to do this. Tickets are distributed from the staff office on the first floor of the Recreation Center beginning the day after purchase. The staff office is not open on Monday, and the office closes at 3:30 p.m.

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

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

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

We look forward to the next dance socials.

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

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

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

entertainment.

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

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

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



Photo by Fran Calhoun

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

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Fiction Writer's Workshop

By Ray Cech
World News Writer

The Fiction Writer's Workshop meets monthly at Master the Possibilities. The class is filled with writers and wannabe writers. Writing techniques are discussed, and short stories are written and critiqued.

The Squatter

By June Weiner

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

of the opposite sex, but I will leave it at that.

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

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

"What the hell," I say out loud.

I stomp back to the front door and barge in.

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

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

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

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

"What the hell are you doing here?" My loud, angry voice echoes in my ear.

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

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

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

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

"Please, can I stay until morning?" Hector stares up at me with his large, soulful eyes. I have photographed peasants living in squalor but I blocked feelings of compassion; they were mere objects for me to capture on film. Now, I find myself with a tinge of emotion for this poor woman and her child.

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

"Gracias, señor, gracias."

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

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

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

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

I spent a long month there, on the ground and in a helicopter, dodging grenades to catch a newsworthy photo. For the first time, I found myself longing to sleep in my own bed, away from

the world's madness. Thankfully, the assignment ended the first week into the New Year. As the plane approached LAX, I noticed a thick bank of smoke off in the distance. It wasn't long before all of us passengers learned about the treacherous fires spreading through Los Angeles.

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

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

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

"Oh, my God," I moaned. "What about you? Do you have a place to stay?"

"Yes, I found an apartment," she said.

"The fires have not spread there."

"That's good," I said. "I am not so lucky."

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

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

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

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Upcoming Art Exhibit

By Marianne Hoffman

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

related paintings and/or drawings.

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

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

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

Meet with other resident artists in the

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

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



Watercolor by Freda Klump

Puddle hopping.



Acrylic by Maria Adrian

Rain dance.

Vaticano Museum, Sistine Chapel, and Basilica St. Peter

By Rosalina Norita

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

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

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

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

The decoration of the chapel commenced in 1482, transforming the austere, nearly barren space into a priceless gallery showcasing 15th and 16th century Italian Renaissance paintings by esteemed artists, including Pietro Perugino, Sandro Botticelli, Domenico Ghir-

landaio, and Cosimo Rossellini, which served to illustrate the parallel narratives of the Old and New Testaments, facing one another on the central strip of both walls.

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

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

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



Photo by Rosalina Norita

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

Recreation



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

There's always something happening at On Top of the World, and we want to make sure you never miss a moment! Whether it's upcoming trips, social events, or exciting new classes, all the details are now easier than ever to find.

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

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

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

- In the OTOW App
- At OTOWInfo.com
- On TVs throughout the amenities
- On flyers posted around the community

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

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

Social Committee

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

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

Recreation Center

Happy Hour (Free)

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

Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

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

Music at the Pool Pavilion (Free)

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

Upcoming entertainment is as follows:

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

Karaoke (Free)

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

Ladies Night (Free)

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

Movie Night (Free)

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

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

Golf Cart Safety Training (Free)

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

Tropic Trivia

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

Ballroom Dance Class

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

Club Fair

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

Annual Craft Fair and More

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

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

The Lodge at Candler Hills

World Class Active Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

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

Chair Volleyball (Free)

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

From the Top Line Dance Class (Free)

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

Open Game/Card Play (Free)

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

Happy Hour (Free)

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

The entertainment schedule is as follows:

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

Kocktails & Karaoke (Free)

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

Safety Training Class (Free)

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

Girls Night Out (Free)

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



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

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

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

Musical Game Night

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

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

Indigo East Community Center

Happy Hour (Free)

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

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

Trivia

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

Music Trivia

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

Karaoke (Free)

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

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

The Landing

Poolside Entertainment (Free)

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

Monthly Music Series (Free)

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

Happy Hour (Free)

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

World Class Active Aging Virtual Fitness Classes (Free)

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

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

BUS SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday

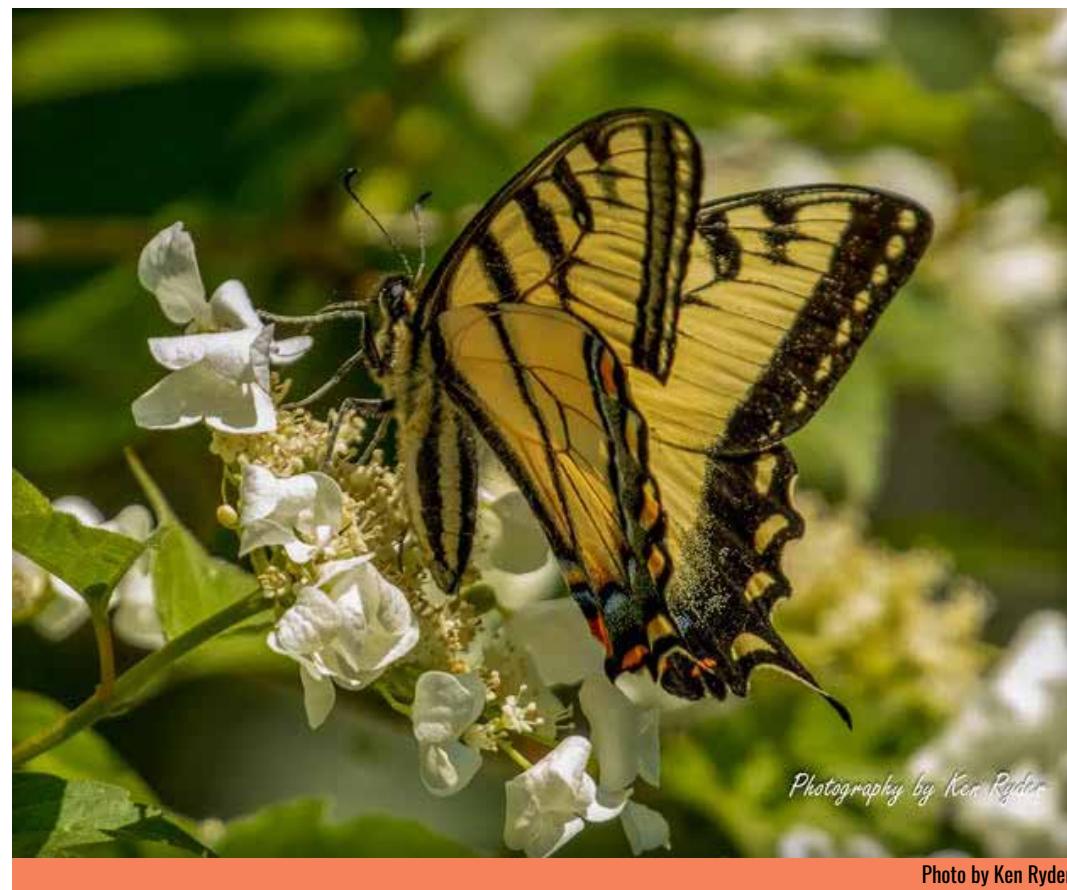
MORNING ROUTE

	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	Al 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.

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.
Friendship Colony Post Office	1:25 p.m.
Avalon Post Office	1:33 p.m.
Recreation Center	1:43 p.m.
Friendship Post Office	1



Eastern tiger swallowtail at Sholom Park.

**ShutterBugs
Photography**

Mark Holmes



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

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

If you want to get into digital photography, for most needs, a mirrorless camera or a point-and-shoot with a simple interface is perfect if you're just starting out. Some models even have larger

buttons and touchscreens designed with accessibility in mind. To take things up another notch, a true DSLR allows you to utilize numerous built-in features and capabilities, and you can add various lenses for specific needs, such as landscape, portrait, and telephoto. As a result, you might even look like a pro while you're at it.

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

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

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

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

**Woodcarving
Club**

Linda Toner



We welcome our new members, Jim Bergensen and Jim Sullivan.

This month, we feature David Bride. David is one of our primary teachers in the club. He does an excellent job of teaching you how to make a carving of your own, complete with lessons, carving material, and tools. At the end of the lessons, you have a completed

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

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



Photo by Linda Toner

David Bride is teaching Jim Bergensen to carve an owl.

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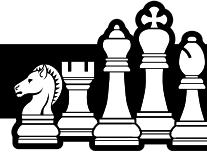
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CARDS & GAMES



Bingo



Nancy Grabowski

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bridge



Monday Afternoon

By Carol Johnson

June 2

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

June 9

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

June 16

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

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June 23
1: Craig Ford & Mike Meirick; 2: Donna Peters & Rad D; 3: Jean Krueger & Barb Heller; 4: C.J. & Dennis Dust.

June 30

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

Tuesday Night Duplicate

By Bob Kraus

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

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

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

June 24

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

July 1

North/South

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

East/West

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

July 8

North/South

1: Bob Kraus & Arlene Loepp; 2: Dan Lack & Paul Agarwal; 3: Chris Wachter & Jeff Young.

East/West

1: Connie Campbell & Billie Andersen; 2: Barbara Heller & Jack Heller; 3: Matt Oram & Sylvia Zelkin.

Wednesday Afternoon

By Dianne Robinson

June 4

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

June 11

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

June 18

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

June 25

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

Thursday Afternoon

By Marlene Floeckher

June 5

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

June 12

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

June 19

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

June 26

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

Thursday Night
By Penny Wagener

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

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

June 12

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

June 19

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

June 26

1: Chris Wachter; 2: Jeff Bell; 3: Brent Powell; Cons: Jeff Young; 2 prize: Ram Janaki.

July 3

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

July 10

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

Bunco Babes Social Group

Michelle Malsch



We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Aug. 26.

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

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

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

The cost is \$3 per person (please have exact change), and all collected funds will be returned to the category winners at the end of the game. There are also two door prize drawings for those who did not win any of the cash prizes. Please bring your beverage and a small snack if you wish. After the first three sets have been played, there will be a short intermission.

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

Cribbage

Judy Parisi



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

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

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

we have extras on hand.

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

Euchre



Friday Night
By Mary Bloch

May 9

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

May 16

1: Scott Bloch; 2: Edith Kolb; Tie at 3: Lloyd Beitel & Jim Brogan.

May 23

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

May 30

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

June 6

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

June 13

1: Ken Knapp; Tie at 2: Edith Kolb & Kurt Baumgartner; Tie at 3: Jean Gillette & Bob Moravec.

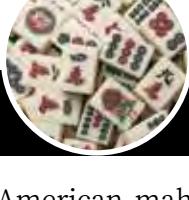
June 20

1: Pam Brown; 2: Mary Bloch; Tie at 3: Sande Caton & C.J. Dust.

June 27

1: Bruce Tredinnick; 2: Mary Bloch; 3: Robert Moravec.

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 ag-brady@peoplepc.com. Jokers to ya!

Pinocchio



Poetry Club

Janice Puta, Barbara Scales, & Bruce Tredinnick

Talent abounds within the Poetry Club. On Tuesday, July 1, members read original poetry. Glenn Cohen took a which-came-first, the chicken or the egg, philosophical look at life with "Questions and Answers." Bruce Tredinnick recited "Forever Dance," a poignant memory about meeting a woman. Bill Burton lightened the atmosphere with "Wrong," a satirically humorous poem about telling someone else they were grammatically, phonetically, and just plain wrong.

Shirley Thomas shared three limericks, one of which was especially near and dear to us regarding golf carts at Publix. H. Dean Barks recommended that we read John Drury's guidebook, "Creating Poetry." Tim Reisdorf, a visitor, joined our session. He shared "Solitude" by Ella Weaver Wilcox. Janice Puta recited "Start Your Day" reminding us that we are a soul, and encourages us to open our heart daily to be one with the all-that-is.

Pete Seeger wrote, "To everything, turn, turn, turn. There is a time for every purpose under heaven." The Poetry Club, which began in May 2024, is taking an unexpected yet welcome direction. The group is moving beyond the boundaries of On Top of the World. That's right, readers. The group is forging into uncharted territory, expanding our horizons to engage the world beyond the gates at local, and not-so-local, venues.

For example, a couple of our members recited poetry at the Hiatus Brewing Company on Thursday, July 3. They will attend the April 2026 Jacksonville Southeast Haiku Association event, dedicated to the 5-7-5 syllable format of Japanese poetry, highlighting nature.

On Thursday, July 17, the group met at Sid's Coffee Shop & Deli to plan other future events. This new presentation format will be simultaneously challenging and rewarding. Let's face it. Many of us have not stood in front of a room full of people since giving our grade school book reports. We support each other in presenting our best written work.

A few of our group have other irons in the fire. Bill Burton continues to write songs. Glenn Cohen is discovering that he is truly a gifted poet. Lloyd Howell is busy reading excerpts from his chapbooks to audiences. Shirley Thomas's strong creativity is producing combinations of artwork and poetry worthy of the finest art studios. Janice Puta is publishing "Your Journey to Wholeness," a guidebook and journal focused on healing through purposeful living connected to higher consciousness. Bruce Tredinnick is completing his poetry collection for publishing. Barbara Scales has an Irish romantic comedy, "The Shillelagh Express," under consideration with a Florida literary agency.

In closing, dear readers, we invite you to watch the newspaper and the online announcements page of On Top of the World. We would love for you to join us at one of the venues. Until then, take care.

For questions, contact Bruce Tredinnick at 352-857-7938.

Poetry

Janice M. Puta

Run With Me

Run with me deeper into becoming.

Run with me farther into the boldest dreams.

Run with me higher into the brightest light.

Run with me, the journey opens wide.

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Poetry

Linda Toner

**Leadership**

What is leadership?
As a matter of fact
it is one who influences
others to act.
Let's say you see someone
who is fit and trim,
You ask, "How did you get that way?"
He says, "I go to the gym."
So you start going because
you want to be like him.
He's a born leader,
people may say,
but a leader is someone
who is made.
They learn through life,
by trial and error,
what to say and do
and they never
give up trying
until they get it right,
they work on themselves
both day and night.
Leadership, for some,
does not come naturally
but through hard work
they become a leader and actually
they take the reins
and do the deeds,
they step up to the plate
and they do what needs
to be done
to accomplish a task,
"So follow me."
is all they ask.
A leader is someone
you look up to,
someone you want
to emulate too.
Their knowledge is vast,
their experience is ample
and they show leadership
by example.

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View from the Library

David Wesenberg



If you were to drive through Northeast Indiana between I-70 and Fort Wayne, you would see more Indiana farms and crops and never know that once 20 square miles of this area was Limberlost Swamp, stuffed with high-value timber and unique flora and fauna rarely seen or experienced elsewhere. Between 1890 and 1910, this beautiful area was drained and destroyed by a steam-powered dredge, and all of the timber was cut, leaving just routine farmland.

Gene Stratton-Porter, a naturalist, built two residences in the area. She wrote books about the area and its preservation, with sales of 50 million books by 1924. Among them was "Freckles," a book about an orphan delivered to a Chicago orphanage as an infant. I learned of the book from my mother, who gave me a battered old copy she had loved as a young woman. It was published in 1904.

Freckles begins the story by asking for a job with the Grand Rapids Lumber Company, which Mr. McLean owns. McLean is confronted by a homely, redheaded, freckled teenage boy with no right hand and no name other than Freckles, dressed in the roughest of clothing. Impressed with Freckles' attitude but not with his resume, McLean offers Freckles the dangerous job of guarding the Limberlost Swamp timber and maintaining the fence around it, re-

quiring him to circle the swamp twice a day, walking seven miles each time.

Freckles grows into a man of character, toughening up and facing the difficult and dangerous job, and earning an honest dollar. He builds a cadre of friends and supporters who love him, including the Duncans with whom he stays and his boss, Mr. McLean, who essentially adopts him as a son.

He meets the Angel, a beautiful and outspoken girl who assists the Bird Woman, a naturalist who photographs the unique birds rampant in the swamp. It appears that the Bird Woman is author Gene Stratton-Porter, though this is never explicitly stated. He falls in love but feels he is not her social equal.

We are introduced to Black Jack, who knows the Limberlost backward and forward and is trying to steal the valuable timber despite Freckles' guardianship of the Limberlost. This sets up the premise and primary conflict of the story. To divulge the detailed elements of the story would deprive the reader of a good yarn with the elements of surprise and delight that reward any dedicated reader.

This is a book about character, values, good and evil, lofty aspirations, simple pleasures, and love. It is well-plotted and does not hide the deep feelings and conflicts that we all experience in our lives.

I highly recommend this book as a snapshot of culture in 1904 and its insights into our lives today. Read the book! You will be glad you did.

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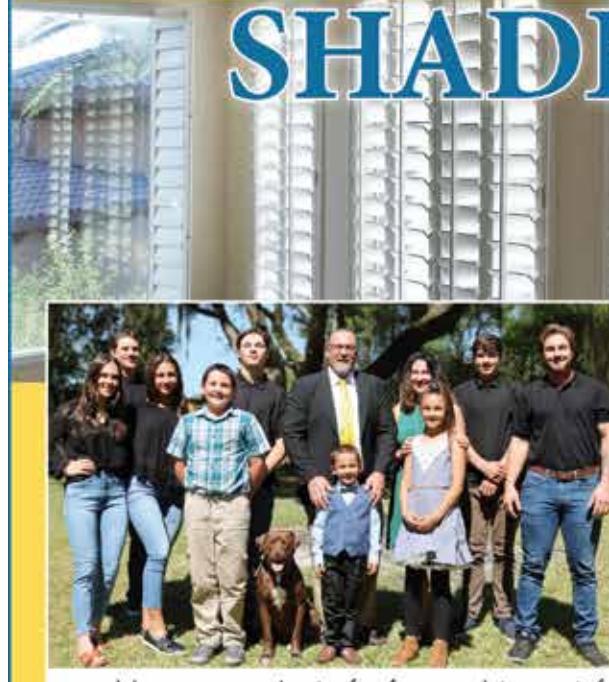
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Photo by Jim Lynam

Manual rail construction.

Model Railroaders

Jim Lynam



How did they construct railroad tracks in the early years?

In the United States, canals were constructed to pull barges using horses walking a path to the side of the canal. Later, tracks were laid on these paths. The first tracks were made of wooden rails spiked to wooden cross ties. As developed in Europe, carriages with flanged wooden wheels would ride on the rails and were pulled by horses. As expected, the wood became subject to rot. The first attempt to replace wooden rails was to use cast iron. However, cast iron would become brittle and would break under load. Wrought iron was then used, but it was expensive to produce and difficult to manufacture in large quantities.

The earliest rails were laid directly on the ground. It didn't take long to realize that rain and water would wash out the ground under the tracks, making them unusable. The solution was to raise the track-bed above the surrounding area so that the water would drain away by gravity. The next step was to add ballast, in the form of crushed rock, between the ties for added stability.

As the weight of the locomotives and loaded freight cars increased, the rails would sink into the ties, destroying the level. Furthermore, the iron rails would rust, as would the iron spikes, and the rails would collapse. The first tracks

Paradise Players

Linda Yanss



As the 2025 season concludes, preparations and auditions are underway for the upcoming play "A Comedy Tonight," scheduled for two performances on Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Recreation Center. We invite individuals interested in developing acting skills, creating props,

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The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski



disappears!

Ina, who was born in New York and raised in Miami, spent much of her adult life in Maryland. She met and married Shelley and finally retired to relocate here. Ina loves to travel, ballroom dance, and join in the fun with several of the clubs. Shelley, mostly the strong, silent type, says, "Me, too!" Shelley is a trained musician, featuring the trumpet in his accomplishments.

Christi Lucas is well traveled; born in California, raised in Missouri, and lived in various parts of Florida before settling here. Christi loves travel and diamond art almost as much as dancing! She's also a member of The Dancing Jewels.

Lois Smith-Weiss is a Jersey girl who has enjoyed other states as well, including much of Florida. Lois has a talent for sewing but willingly puts it aside to play Scrabble or Mexican train. «There's so much to do here! I never dreamed I'd be this busy in retirement.»

The New Pretenders hope to meet many of you at the Club Fair in September. Perhaps, you'll be the next gal or guy to join us!

For more information, contact any current member or Nancy Grabowski, director, at 352-209-4699.

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Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel

**Sewing Bees**

Ann Gallo



Welcome to August! As the song goes, "Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer." It's hot and sometimes hazy. Our talented group is not lazy; we continue to create hats, scarves, blankets, and bears, as well as other items, regularly. While what our group does is not "crazy," this writer researched a few fun facts about crocheting and knitting.

Crochet comes from the French word "croche," meaning "hook." Crochet played a vital role during the Irish Potato Famine (1845-1850), helping people earn a livelihood by creating intricate pieces and lace.

Crochet's popularity spans various cultures and communities, with a global community of crocheters creating a wide range of items, from clothing to art.

Knitting came first. Evidence of knitting dates back to the 11th century, while the modern form of crochet emerged in the early 19th century. Knitting was once a male-dominated occupation in some parts of Europe, with men forming knitting guilds. It takes 32 muscles to knit.

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

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

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

LEASH LAW

Dogs must be on a leash at all times.

Have you had enough of this heat yet? Although it may be in the 90s, the Sewing Bees are in full swing, preparing Christmas quilts for distribution.

Our latest agency is SoZo Kids. These children live in the Ocala National Forest with their families, experiencing tremendous poverty. SoZo Kids picked up 90 quilts and a large quantity of summer clothes. At Christmas, they provide toys to over 3,500 children. We hope to be able to assist them this Christmas.

We are gearing up for the fall and winter distributions, our busiest time

of year. In addition to distributing hundreds of quilts, we anticipate filling 150 Christmas stockings for children aged five to teenagers. If you would like to help fill our stockings, please email SewingBeesClub@gmail.com to learn how.

Did you know that in some societies, quilts held such high value that they were used as a form of currency? They were often traded or given as gifts to mark important occasions or seal agreements between families or tribes. This practice highlights the significance and cherished nature of quilts throughout history.

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

You will find a very generous group of men and women who share their tal-

ents by offering warmth and comfort to the homeless, foster care, and disadvantaged children in Marion County. Last year, we made and distributed 1,003 quilts.

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

We are always in need of children's-themed cotton, solid-colored cotton, or flannel fabric. Gift cards, especially from Hobby Lobby and Michaels, are always welcome.

Join our page on Facebook (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive.

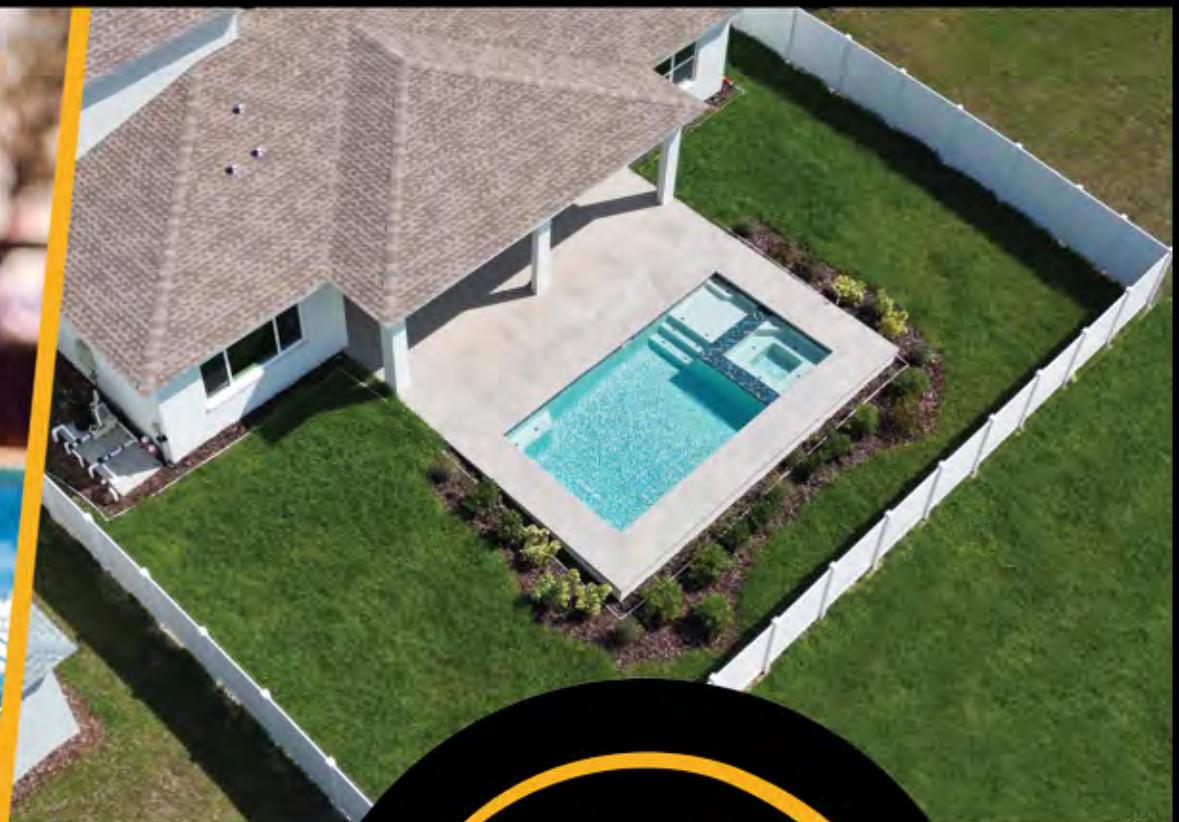
Questions? Call or text Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 or Susie Clauson at 904-422-5135.



Photo by Ann Gallo

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Ukelele Club



Carol Himes

Many of us immediately associate the ukulele with Arthur Godfrey, undisputed king of early television, or with Tiny Tim and his incredible falsetto crooning "Tip Toe Through the Tulips" later in the 1960s. However, these iconic entertainment giants are not the only famous music legends who have found enjoyment in playing the ukulele.

Beatles' guitarist George Harrison loved the ukulele and often played "Here Comes the Sun." While the song was originally written and performed on guitar, Harrison's fondness for the ukulele led him to adapt it for the smaller instrument. Harrison wasn't the only Beatle who fell in love with the ukulele. John Lennon reportedly loved the instrument and played it both during recording sessions and during his spare time.

Many contemporary artists have also adopted the ukulele into their repertoire, including Taylor Swift, who is often seen playing the ukulele during her famous concert tours. Other ukulele-playing icons include Aerosmith's Steven Tyler, Cyndi Lauper, Pete Townshend of The Who, Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder, Elvis Presley, and the boss himself, Bruce Springsteen.

These famous names in music join the list of the great ukulele players from right here in On Top of the World! If you want to see what the magic and fun of the ukulele is all about, come join us every Wednesday in the Arbor Activity

On Top of the Wheels Car Group



Lyn Yanss

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The Ukelele Club playing at Ocala Senior Living.

Center Music Room. The learning begins at 2:30 p.m. with Uke 101, followed by strumming, singing, and fellowship during Song Circle at 3 p.m. At 4 p.m. the more adventurous of us continue with intermediauke, a more challenging learning experience. For questions and more information, contact Janet Voyles at 812-319-7761 or artemisclarinet@gmail.com.

Club. Our meetings are held monthly at Mama B's Diner at 8 a.m., providing an opportunity for members to enjoy breakfast with fellow enthusiasts and coordinate upcoming events. Our activities include car shows, cruise-ins, and social gatherings where members can discuss engine modifications and appreciate parked vehicles. To join, please contact George Hill at ghilljr.500@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack



One of our club members is transitioning from Tesla enthusiast to Tesla owner. He ordered a Model Y, now known as the Juniper, and plans to pick it up in about one month.

A Texan became the first person to have his car delivered by itself. A driverless Tesla travelled directly from the factory to the buyer's home about thirty minutes away. Here's a link to the video > cnbc.com/2025/06/28/tesla-first-driverless-delivery-new-car-to-customer.html.

A new enthusiast joined the club at our last meeting. He is waiting for the new Model 2.

The Tesla Owners and Enthusiasts Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II. You do not have to be a Tesla owner to attend. There are no dues. There are speakers at some meetings. Most meetings are spent discussing our vehicles. Come and join us. We are happy to answer any questions you may have about these amazing vehicles.

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TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS	SUNDAYS	SUNDAYS	
August 1	August 2	August 3	August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7	
Mr. Z's Woodfired Pizza 6 PM	Liliana's Flavor Fusion 6 PM	Billy Buchanan & His Rockin' Soul Revue 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	Second Slice 7-10 PM	Corbside Caliente 6 PM	Florida Hit Machine 7-10 PM	
PENTA 7-10 PM	FENTA 7-10 PM	Big Lee's 6 PM	Big Lee's 6 PM	Big Lee's 6 PM	Lucky's Kitchen 6 PM	Anthony's 7-10 PM	
August 8	August 9	August 10	August 11	August 12	August 13	August 14	
Fat Tiki 6 PM	Second Slice 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
Corbside Caliente 6 PM	Florida Hit Machine 7-10 PM	Big Lee's 6 PM	Big Lee's 6 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
August 15	August 16	August 17	August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	
Big Lee's 6 PM	Lucky's Kitchen 6 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
Big Lee's 6 PM	Lucky's Kitchen 6 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
August 22	August 23	August 24	August 25	August 26	August 27	August 28	
VenRosa's Rollin' Bistro 6 PM	Steak Shack Bistro 6 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
Nancy and the Painkillers 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
August 29	August 30	August 31	September 1	August 30	September 1	September 2	
Papa Joe's 6 PM	Tallarico's Pizza 6 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	
The Cat. 4 Band 7-10 PM	The Cat. 4 Band 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	OTOW FAVORITES 7-10 PM	TC & SASS 7-10 PM	

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Concert Chorus

Joanne Houston



Hear ye, hear ye. Come one, come all. "Santa Claus is coming to town" in just five months, and we have started singing through our awesome holiday concert music. We officially begin rehearsals on Tuesday, Sept. 2, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. We meet each Tuesday morning and have a great time together.

Last year, the Concert Chorus had over 90 singers participating. Reading music is helpful but not required.



Photo by Gordon Daniels

Holiday concert.

Drum Circle

J. Ashi Olshan



Drum what you feel. You don't have to be an experienced (hand) drummer to drum out whatever energy wants to be discharged in some creative, productive way – while enjoying the natural highs of drumming in a circle of 15 to 20-plus new friends.

When we lifted the ban on interior gatherings back in 2021, Ruth Greenfield, like many of us, had pent up stress just dying to be expelled in some positive, relaxing way. So, she started her coed Drum Circle Club, still going strong after three years, with surprisingly more women than men.

If you have not drummed before, then start out by playing along softly – letting your volume build as the contagious syncopated rhythm in the room fills

your bones and transports that energy to your fingers. Everyone has rhythm inherently embedded in their DNA, just needing a little push to let it confidently flow out – naturally. In fact, drumming was the original music, dating back to the beginning of mankind, and still joyfully practiced for fun and relaxation – and as rituals in many tribes – around the world.

One hand or two, it's up to you, no one is keeping score. And if you don't yet own a pair of bongos, a djembe, a conga drum, tambourine, or maraca – to keep the beat, we have all kinds of extra drums and percussion instruments to give you a taste and get you started.

The Drum Circle Club is still being offered for free - no club dues - on the second Thursday of each month, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. Come check it out, you might just be surprised by your inner drummer, as you turn off your mind for an hour of relaxing drumming meditation. Ruth Greenfield can be contacted at 201-887-5547.

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Our holiday concerts are scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center.

To join, a \$20 membership fee applies, and all are welcome. Music is provided.

The last summer rehearsal is scheduled on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 9 a.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room, where you will be able to meet other members, preview the holiday concert music, and become a member at that time.

If you love to sing, you'll enjoy meeting other talented and friendly singers. Consider becoming part of the Concert Chorus! For more information, please contact Joanne.houston57@gmail.com or Deboraasmith@gmail.com.

Toppers Banjo

David Wessenberg



bass. Vocals are added to share familiar tunes and lyrics. Our goal is to deliver quality musicianship and genuine entertainment.

We have also been welcoming visitors to listen to the band when we practice, which increases our joy in playing and their joy in listening. Wonderful musical moments occur. Listener feedback is a key element in improving our sound.

This is a great time to join us if you have an interest in banjos and banjo music. We welcome new, active, or aspiring banjo and acoustic guitar players and other musicians to join us in playing and singing banjo music. If you like to play, come and join us. If you have some ideas to improve performance values and presentation, we want to hear them. If you'd like to simply listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Eddie Martin at udeddie2@gmail.com or David Wessenberg at dpw@mastersoftware-inc.com.

OTOWInfo.com**On Top of the World****FRIENDSHIP COLONY Vehicle Decal Event****Attention Friendship Colony Residents!**

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

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

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

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 - Last names: A-H**Wednesday, August 27, 2025 - Last Names: I-Q****Thursday, August 28, 2025 - Last Names: R-Z**

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

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

*Future dates have been scheduled for other OTOW neighborhoods.


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Dancing Jewels performed hula dances for Brookdale Senior Living and Joe Spencer's line dance class.

Photo by John Schnur

Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



One Christmas in the 1990s, Charlie bought me a karaoke machine. He knew I liked singing because I came from a singing family. That machine was a single box with a screen and a built-in cassette player. Back then, the songs were all on cassette tapes. He gave me a Patsy Cline tape and a tape of Irish American songs. Charlie never sang. He just listened. In 2006, we moved to On Top of the World and were introduced to karaoke. At this time, CDs were being used. Charlie got a karaoke player for home. I found a woman in Kentucky who made karaoke disks. I started singing at home. Charlie was still just listening. We went to karaoke for a while and we remained clappers, still listening. One evening, I decided to sing "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden," and that was my start. Charlie was still listening.

Charlie was playing the music for Vivian, the woman who started Karaoke Friends. She had a disk-playing system. After a while, he bought his setup, which did digital music. He began using that system at Karaoke Friends to get used to it. After a couple of years, he said, "I think I want to try a song." He sings country and has recently taken a liking to Rod Stewart's remake of oldies. After practicing at home, he is now a karaoke singer. He fell in love with the Bose system and enjoys using it at karaoke.

This opened his world to mixers. To this day, he continues to watch videos on how to use different effects on the mixer. It has become his primary hobby. A favorite pastime of his is learning a new song. His repertoire of songs has dramatically increased. Music has become an essential part of his life. Now, finally, Charlie enters the singing scene.

You can easily get involved with karaoke. We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room on the first and third Mondays of each month. Singing starts at 5:30 p.m. This month, we meet on Aug. 4 and 18. The second Thursday of the month is karaoke in the Recreation Center Ballroom at 5 p.m. Candler Hills has karaoke on the first Thursday of the month in The Lodge at Candler Hills at 5 p.m. Remember, you do not have to be a singer to come.



Photo by Steve Warren

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Fun with Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson



Photo by Susan Pulling Robinson

Celebrating our nation's 249th birthday was a popular day for both our parade participants and the many spectators who lined the route. This parade included stops at the Brookdale and Bridgewater assisted living facilities, where residents enjoyed the many patriotic carts and classic cars on display. Designated charities included Operation Shoebox, Chuck's Piggy Bank, Dunnellon Elementary School, Interfaith Emergency Services, and Veterans Helping Veterans. Thank you to the many folks who turned out to make generous donations to these causes.

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

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

Membership in our Facebook group (OTOW Fun with Golf Carts) is now over 600! If you have a golf cart, please consider jazzing it up (or not) and joining in as we "parade for a cause." Each parade

Uncle Sam golf cart.

benefits one or more local charities. For more information and to receive emails about this club, please email otowfunwithgolfcarts@gmail.com. We all have a lot of fun cruising around in our "minifloats."

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.

do not have to be fancy or complicated. Our group is based on friendship, socializing, and helping each other.

Contact Connie Press using the email below for any class or general information. Basic supplies, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and card stock, are required. Everyone in the group shares their supplies, and everyone brings new ideas to the table. You are only limited by your imagination!

If you feel this might be a class you would enjoy, or if you have any questions, please contact Connie Press at connie.rubberstampclub@gmail.com. You can also find the information for each class on our Facebook page. Our next presentation class is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 7. The next technique class is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 21.

Until our next meeting, keep on stampin'!

Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr



On Thursday, July 3, Sandy Cordill presented several cards using medallion dies. All the cards had a color theme and came out great! They can be used for any occasion.

We thank Sandy for her presentation and for supplying all the dies and materials necessary to complete the cards.

Our group is open to all crafters, whether you're a beginner or more experienced. Each month, one or two people will present. The group meets on the first and third Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

Anyone can be a presenter; the cards



Photo by Sandy Cordill

Cards presented by Sandy Cordill.

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**FOR SALE, WANTED AND LOST/FOUND**

ADS: There is no charge to residents as long as it is not of a business nature. There is a \$500 limit on FOR SALE items. Items valued at more than \$500 (i.e. golf carts) may be listed, but price will not accompany the ad. Auto, apartment, financial service, home, legal, real estate, and timeshare ads WILL NOT be accepted. Ads may be emailed to otownnews@otowfl.com.

ESTATE/TAG SALE ADS: There is no charge to residents, however, residents must register their estate/tag sale with Resident Services at Friendship Commons. Visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala and click on "Resident Info" to download the appropriate form for your community and submit it to Resident Services by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

SERVICE ADS: Will be accepted from residents and non-residents and may be emailed to otownnews@otowfl.com. For advertising rates, visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala and click on "Advertising Rates."

AD DEADLINE: Noon on the 12th of the month. If the deadline falls on a weekend, then it's noon on the Friday before. For more information, call 352-387-7466, email otownnews@otowfl.com or visit ontopoftheworldnews.com/ocala

The publisher reserves the right to reject any ad which, in his judgment, would not be in the best interest of the residents of On Top of the World Communities.

For Sale

Furniture: Cypress table. Solid wood armoire, \$200. Email serinapedano@gmail.com.

Furniture: Early 18th-century Austrian chairs (4) in need of repair. Free! 352-414-8066.

Furniture: RST Brands outdoor set with Sunbrella cushions and covers, ginkgo green, bronze aluminum - dining table, dining chairs (4), coffee table, chaise lounges (2), end table, chairs (2), ottoman, loveseat, and accent pillows (4). Polywood patio furniture, green - glider chair, fixed chair, ottomans (2), and double chair with table unit. 610-721-1424.

Golf Cart: 2023 Star Sirius, 2-in-1 combo golf cart, holds 4 people or holds 2 people plus 2 golf bags, lithium battery, includes canopy top and sunbrella curtain, seat belts, light package with turn signals. 610-721-1424.

Golf Cart Equipment: Club Car 48-volt charger and E-Z-GO 48-volt charger. 352-512-1787.

Home Décor: Grandfather clock. Email serinapedano@gmail.com.

Misc. Items: Shark rotator pet plus upright vacuum (NV255) with owner's guide, \$75. Arlo wireless home security camera systems (3) with solar panel and gutter bracket. \$95 per set. 610-721-1424.

Misc. Item: Teeter inversion table, \$100. 317-443-2955.

Pet Supplies: Pet Gear stroller, \$150. 631-609-1121 or 352-414-0225.

Sports Equipment: ZuGo e-bike, step-through, 48-volt, 750-watt, LCD display, Kenda 20" 4.0 tires, 20" frame, 4-6 hours to charge, 15-38 mile range, max speed 31 mph. 610-721-1424.

**RECYCLE OFTEN.
RECYCLE RIGHT.**

Visit OTOWInfo.com for a list of acceptable items to recycle.

Tag Sales

Friday, Aug. 1 & Saturday, Aug. 2: 8437-B SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 9: 7728 SW 85th Circle (Weybourne Landing), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 22: 8882 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 8951 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23: 7930, 7946 SW 88th Street (Indigo East), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 29 & Saturday, Aug. 30: 9143-F SW 83rd Avenue (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Services

American Junk Removal & Demo: One call, we haul - one item, room, or total clean-out. Total kitchen & bath demolition. Lawn/landscape clean-up. Dumpster rental. Call/text Garfield 561-306-6969. Quality work, competitive prices, licensed & insured.

Andy Dahms Interior Painting: Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or andygoodeats1@gmail.com.

Bates Lawn Services LLC: Family owned & operated. Mowing, weeding, pruning, mulch, stone & plants. All landscape needs. Fully insured. Senior discounts. Mike or Daisy 352-207-7221.

Bathroom & Flooring: Tile and LVP installation. Five stars on Google. Many satisfied customers in On Top of the World. Free quotes. Insured. Innovate - Home Renovation (L20000157682), Gabriel 352-216-2202.

Cleaning by Evelyn Lee: House & deep cleaning, move-outs. Licensed, bonded & insured. Sunshine Cleaning Service of Ocala, LLC. 352-286-6055.

Computer Help: Arthur Burditt, 352-875-7878. House calls, \$60/hour. Tutoring, setups, installations, Windows upgrades, PC cleanups, security software, internet connections, email access, printers, wireless devices.

Estate Sale Services: Ready to sell the contents of your home? Community resident providing estate sale services for all neighbors. I'm here to help. SW Ocala Estate Sales 352-219-6799.

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.

Jordan's Golf Cart Batteries: 6-6v installed \$780. 6-8v installed \$860. 4-12v installed \$900. Free battery check. Call 352-789-2812 with any questions.

Maid in America by Ann: Quality cleaning services. Pet sitting available. Insured & reliable. 609-276-1099.

Music Lessons: Piano, cello, organ, composition, and conducting. Contact Johnathan Couch at 352-425-9148 or johnathan.couch@aol.com. Accepting students aged 7 to adult. Discounts available for families enrolling multiple students.

Music Recordings: A former professional Nashville songwriter will set your lyrics or poem to music and deliver a mastered recording suitable for CD or streaming for \$175. Stu 615-260-8617.

Painting & Drywall: Interior painting & drywall repair. Experienced, affordable & professional. Insured. Free estimates. References available. Visit josephdonofriodrywallandpainting.com or call 352-857-8367.

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Transportation: Local doctors' appointments, shopping, etc. Anna 352-873-4151 (resident). Leave message.

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Wanted

Donations: Dog or cat food [SPCA of Marion County 352-362-0985]

Electric golf carts in full working condition for use by volunteers for local park. [Barbara btsprigg@gmail.com]

Non-perishable food for food bank, and cards for veterans [Anne 843-504-0032]

Personal hygiene, school/craft supplies & small appliances for homeless; pet food/supplies for animal shelters; used cell phones, computers & musical instruments for troops/veterans; theatrical costumes & props; socks, underwear & men's clothing [Donna 352-237-3062]

Yarn for VA hospitals, children, and newborns [352-843-6519].

Ham Radio Operators: Support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Please email brucetwiss@yahoo.com.

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call SPCA of Marion County at 352-362-0985.

Shipmates: Ahoy there! Are you interested in R/C scale model boating? Contact CJ at cjh2frank@gmail.com.

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