

Community News

Kenneth D. Colen

Falling Into a Season of Community

October brings cooler mornings and even more opportunities to enjoy the active lifestyle that makes On Top of the World such a special place to call home. From clubs and fitness activities to live entertainment and friendly gatherings, there are countless ways to connect with neighbors and make the most of the season.

As more residents head outdoors, please remain mindful of pedestrians, bicyclists, and golf carts while traveling throughout the community. Residents are also encouraged to review community rules and regulations before displaying seasonal decorations.

Whether you attend a fall event, try a new activity, welcome a new neighbor, or simply enjoy a walk through our beautiful community, October is the perfect time to celebrate the people, amenities, and experiences that make On Top of the World feel like home.

Community Updates

HOME DEPOT & SW 99TH STREET: Plans remain in place for roadway improvements associated with the new Home Depot development. The project will include improvements to the internal access roadway, additional turning lanes and traffic signals along SR 200, and intersection improvements at SW 99th Street. These improvements are expected to help relieve congestion for traffic exiting On Top of the World.

Additionally, a new multi-modal path will be constructed along the access road between Home Depot and SR 200. Beginning at SW 99th Street and extending to the TownePlace Suites, the path will give residents a safer way to access nearby commercial properties while remaining separated from vehicular traffic.

Final permit approval from the Florida Department of Transportation is still pending. Once approved, construction is expected to take about 60 days. Preliminary sitework will occur during the day, while most paving and striping will be completed at night when traffic volumes are lower. Residents should anticipate temporary congestion and avoid the intersection when workers and equipment are present, whenever possible.

During construction, residents are encouraged to use the community's alternate gated entrances to avoid congestion near SW 99th Street. Construction of the SW 46th Street connector, which will provide another route between SW 67th Avenue Road and SW 60th Avenue, is also expected to begin soon. Updates will be provided as these projects progress.

RECREATION CENTER: Work continues on the Recreation Center renovation, with the primary focus remaining on the main entrance facing SW 99th Street Road. By the time this column is published, crews should be wrapping up the stucco work associated with the entrance modification. Once completed, the project will move into its final stages, including significant landscaping improvements around the building's ground-level entrance.

Completion remains projected for late October. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding during these improvements.

PICKLEBALL COURTS: The Recreation Center pickleball courts are scheduled to undergo resurfacing and other improvements from Monday, Oct. 19 through Friday, Nov. 13, weather permitting.

To minimize disruptions, the project will be completed in phases, beginning with upper courts 1-6, followed by middle courts 7-12 and concluding with the three-sided courts. Each group of courts will be completed and reopened before work begins on the next group.

Improvements will include new playing surfaces, court lines, nets, and windscreens. Courts will be available for play immediately after each phase is completed. Regular leagues, lessons, tournaments, and open-play schedules are expected to continue with minimal disruption.

Continued on Page 4A ▶

Citizens Community Patrol

By Dave DeAngelis
World News Writer

You've seen them driving through our neighborhoods, keeping a watchful eye on our surroundings, sharing a friendly smile and wave. No sirens blaring, no dramatic scenes akin to "Law & Order." They are committed to their volunteer duties, identifying and recording anything that seems out of the ordinary. As serene as it sounds, their work is an integral part of On Top of the World's mission to maintain the highest possible level of safety for residents. This is our Citizens Community Patrol.

The Community Patrol was founded in 2003 by a group of volunteers concerned about community safety. The group partnered with the Marion County

Sheriff's Office and became a volunteer group under its direction. The office provided a patrol car complete with identification markings, as well as training for 12 original members of the group.

Today's new, independent organization consists of 42 members, with more volunteers stepping up to offer their time and dedication to the group.

The inaugural kickoff meeting was held on Monday, Aug. 24, unveiling the Colen Built Development repurposed patrol vehicle outfitted with safety equipment, with everyone sporting their new uniform polo shirts. Allison Gysen, president of the Community Patrol, chaired the meeting, with the enthusiastic group

hearing from speakers: Colen Built Development's President Kenneth D. Colen; Vice President of People, Safety and Talent Matthew Waggoner; Director of Community Safety and Risk Management Jonathan Miller; and Geoff Oldberg, safety liaison. Mr. Colen lauded the efforts of our Citizens Community Patrol and spoke of his commitment to residential safety here in On Top of the World.

With dawn-to-dusk, two-person patrols (volunteers can drive individually or with a partner), the teams visit all On Top of the World neighborhoods, including Circle Square Commons, Sholom Park, and construction areas, seven days a week. When you see them, give your fellow residents a smile and a wave. The Citizens Community Patrol. They play a major role in keeping On Top of the World safe.

Email OTOWCommunityPatrol@gmail.com for more information.



Photo by Dave DeAngelis

Citizens Community Patrol.

Annual Craft Fair Returns

By Mykenzie Hager

Get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting talented local artisans at the upcoming Craft Fair, taking place Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free event is open to the public and promises a fun day filled with shopping, food, and live entertainment.

Hosted by On Top of the World, the Craft Fair will bring together more than 100 booths featuring a wide variety of handmade goods and unique creations. Whether you are searching for a special gift, seasonal décor, or something one-of-a-kind for yourself, you'll find plenty to discover. Shoppers can browse handcrafted jewelry, artwork, home décor, accessories, and other artisan-made treasures while meeting the creative individuals behind them.

With the holiday season just around the corner, the Craft Fair is also a great opportunity to get an early start on your gift list. Shopping from local makers not only makes finding a memorable present more fun but also gives you a chance to support the talented artisans and small businesses in our community.

Come hungry, because food trucks will be available throughout the event, offering convenient options to enjoy while you shop. Guests can also relax and enjoy live music at the gazebo from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring Steven Lazarus. With shopping, food, and entertainment all in one place, the Craft Fair offers an enjoyable way to spend a Saturday with friends and family.

The event will be held at Circle Square Cultural Center and The Town Square, located at 8395 SW 80th Street in Ocala.

On Top of the World residents who would like to participate as vendors can reserve an outside table for \$55, or an inside table or outside porch table for \$100. Vendor registration continues

through Friday, Oct. 2. Residents should reserve their table through the OTOW App and then visit the Recreation Center to select their table location. For additional vendor information, contact the Recreation Department at 352-854-8707, ext. 7533.

Mark your calendar and invite your

friends and family to join you. With more than 100 booths to explore, delicious food, and live music, the Craft Fair is the perfect opportunity to shop local, support artisans, and discover something truly unique.

For the latest information, please follow socials: Circle Square Commons (@csctownsquare/@cscommonsfl) or Circle Square Cultural Center (@circlesquareculturalcenter/@csculturalcenterfl).

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On Top of the World

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Read all the good news at OnTopoftheWorldNews.com/ocala

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

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Is It Legal?



Colen & Wagoner, P.A.

SCAM ALERT: A resident recently received an official-looking notice claiming her home warranty “may be expiring or may have already expired” and urging her to take action.

The company that sent the notice is not affiliated with On Top of the World

Communities, Inc., its entities, subcontractors, or vendors.

Be cautious of unsolicited letters, emails, or texts regarding warranties – especially those labeled “time sensitive” or pressuring you to act quickly. These notices may use your name and property address to appear legitimate.

If you receive a questionable notice claiming to be associated with On Top of the World, do not respond or provide payment or personal information. Contact Resident Services to verify it.

If you have independently purchased

CALL FOR ARTISTS

City of Ocala, in partnership with Fine Arts For Ocala, presents 2026 Student and Emerging Artist Exhibition: **FOUNDATION**

Theme: Foundation explores the essential building blocks of art and creativity, from color, line, shape, texture, value and form to the skills, influences, experiences and environments that shape artists' creative journeys and artistic voices.

JURIED ARTIST DIVISIONS:

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High School – for current Marion County high school students

1-3 Years Active Experience – for artists early in their creative journey

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ocalafl.gov/seaexhibit

Applications due:

Friday, Nov. 13 at 11:59 p.m.

Exhibition dates:

Dec. 3 – March 9, 2027

A square QR code located in the bottom left corner of the poster, used for quick access to the online application page.

Scan the QR code or visit ocalafl.gov/seaexhibit for more information and to apply!

For more information, contact the City of Ocala Cultural Arts Division at 352-629-8447 or email artinfo@ocalafl.gov.

The logo for the City of Ocala, featuring the word "OCALA" in a stylized font with a blue circle around the letter "O".

The logo for Fine Arts for Ocala, featuring the words "FINE ARTS FOR OCALA" in a bold, sans-serif font.

A small logo with the word "ART" in a green box above a stylized illustration of a building.

2026 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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

* Deadline at noon.

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

Red indicates variation in schedule.

aftermarket or extended warranty, review your original documents carefully before responding to any renewal notice.

When in doubt, verify before you act — and share this warning with your friends and neighbors.

Q. I understand that under some federal statute called the SECURE Act, I have to re-plan the distributions from my husband's IRA if he passes before me. True?

A. As per our law partner, John Beck, the SECURE Act is very complex, and in a column like this, it's difficult to provide you with much information on its many provisions.

Here's what can be said: As before, if the owner leaves his/her IRA to a surviving spouse, the spouse can continue to roll the IRA over into a surviving spouse's IRA. Then the surviving spouse can withdraw his or her required minimum distributions as before. That has not changed. Should you name someone other than a surviving spouse as a beneficiary, then you need to discuss that with your attorney or with someone with very significant knowledge of how the SECURE Act might impact a circumstance like that.

Q. It's just my husband and me. We were very young when we married, but we've now been married 53 years. We don't have wills, and I believe we don't need them. We have living wills and powers of attorney, and we've only named each other as the beneficiaries. We do have children but have had no contact with them for many years. We are totally disaffected from them, and they will receive nothing from either of us when we pass on. Everything we have

is titled in both of our names so that if one of us passes, the other will have everything. There's no probate there, as you said in one of your lectures we attended. We refuse to add anyone's name to our assets as a joint owner or beneficiary. When both of us are gone, let the State of Florida take everything. So, why do we need wills, or, for sure, why do we need a trust?

A. Well, for one thing, if your premise is that since neither you nor your husband have wills, when both of you pass, the State of Florida will get everything, then, in your situation, that is incorrect. The most likely scenario is that if you both pass on without a will or a trust that provides for whom the assets of your estate will pass, and without having accounts listed with pay-on-death beneficiaries, then everything you have (after payment to any creditors) will wind up with the very children with whom you are disaffected. So, your plan for the State of Florida to get everything will fail, since unless you do something, it'll be people you don't want who will get what you have. I think you and your wife ought to sit down with an attorney.

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

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Board members Liz Allen, Andrea Wallet, and Deb Haddad staffing our table at the Club Fair.

Active Newcomers Club

Linda Baker

Happy fall y’ all! It’s hard to believe it is October already! It’s also hard to believe we have just over 400 members!

We enjoyed meeting residents at the Club Fair in September. We signed up more members who can take advantage of all our club has to offer. Our small groups and large events are a great way to meet other new residents from all On Top of the World neighborhoods.

Are you ready for Halloween? We will be hosting “Scary Nights,” our annual Halloween party, on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills Ballroom. Mission Barbeque will serve brisket, pulled chicken, mac and cheese, baked beans, and cornbread. The club will supply dessert, lemonade, and iced tea. DJ Scott Bolton will provide music. Costumes are optional, but welcome. Check our Facebook page or website for more information, as this event may be sold out.

Did you know October is Fire Prevention Month? The club is proud to host Marion County Fire Battalion Chief Pamela Driggers, who will be giving a talk on “Fire Safety” on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom. A community paramedicine PA will also talk about the services the county provides. Do not miss this important presentation.

We are busy planning our holiday party, which will be held on Thursday, Dec. 17. Pasta Faire will serve a catered meal. DJ Scott Bolton will be spinning the tunes. Watch for more information about this event.

Now that the heat of summer is behind us, the hiking group will resume. We usually schedule two hikes on Saturdays each month from the end of September to May. Bocce also resumed in September after a summer break.

Membership applications for 2026 are available on our website. When completing your application, please read the descriptions and requirements for small groups before making your selections. Dues for the remainder of the year are only \$8! To join, residents must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

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

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Community News

► Continued from Page 1A

Signs will be posted at the facility to identify which courts are available during construction. For additional information, residents may contact the Recreation Center administration.

IRONS 9 PITCH & PUTT: The Irons 9 is days away from opening. The staff has done an excellent job putting together this unique facility complete with its own merchandise line. Irons 9 is a great facility for first-timers learning the game of golf and a great way to get the visiting grandchildren out of the house for some exercise. Tee times may be made by calling the Golf Shop at 352-854-2237 or by visiting www.irons9.com.

AZURA FITNESS CENTER: Construction of this new amenity in Candler Hills continues to progress toward completion. The pool deck is now complete, and crews are working to finish the remaining exterior improvements while interior preparations continue for installing the new fitness equipment.

The temporary construction fence will be coming down soon; however, residents are asked to refrain from driving into the amenity area until the facility is officially open. The project remains on track to open in late November. We appreciate your patience as we complete the finishing touches on this exclusive

new Candler Hills amenity.

NEW CANDLER HILLS ENTRY: The new gate system on SW 92nd Court Road is now operational, providing an additional access point to Candler Hills and areas to the south. With this gate in service, the temporary gatehouse and gate system at the SW 80th Street construction entrance are no longer needed and are being removed and relocated. In addition, a new gate has been installed along the northwest leg of the roundabout at SW 80th Street and SW 92nd Court Road.

ARBOR STRUCTURE: A small enhancement project is planned along SW 80th Street, between the intersection at SW 90th Terrace and the roundabout at the new Irons 9 facility. The project will include several arbor structures spaced along the multi-modal path, along with additional landscaping, designed to add visual interest, height, and character to the roadway while creating a more attractive and welcoming approach into the community.

MELODY PRESERVE: Momentum continues to build at Melody Preserve, our newest 55-plus neighborhood, with sales now closing in on sixty homes since opening. Located just north of Indigo East, the community is quickly taking shape, with new homes under construction and the first residents expected to move in later this year.

Melody Preserve offers a fresh approach to active adult living, combining the quality and thoughtful design Colen Built is known for with a smaller, independent neighborhood and simplified

lifestyle. Its attractive price point and low monthly HOA fee continue to resonate with buyers-including a growing number of current On Top of the World residents looking for a brand-new home in a more intimate setting.

CANDLER HILLS: Exciting changes are also underway in Candler Hills, with a redesigned home offering in the Balfour neighborhood. The new collection introduces Executive and Prestige Series homes, featuring enhanced architectural details and upgraded elevations designed to make a striking impression.

Among the most notable features are higher roof pitches, 10' 8" interior ceiling heights, and, for the first time at On Top of the World, beautiful concrete tile roofs. The refreshed offering brings a new level of architectural distinction to Balfour while continuing to deliver the quality, design, and lifestyle that buyers have come to expect from Colen Built Development.

FLYING FIELD, R/C TRACK & DRONE FIELD: This project is officially underway. We have received all required regulatory permits, and site grading has begun.

Construction is anticipated to take approximately two to three months to complete.

We look forward to seeing these new facilities take shape and will continue to provide updates as work progresses.

Landscape Update

Despite a wet August and September, drought conditions and water restrictions remain in effect. Data shows that the Ocala/Marion County region remains in a rainfall deficit for the past 12 months. That is why it is important to plant material that can withstand dry periods and tolerate the area's climate. With cooler weather, fall is a great time to rejuvenate the landscape around your home. For newcomers, the UF/IFAS Extension Marion County is a great resource that can guide residents who may not be familiar with plant material accustomed to our area. They can also help diagnose and address plant issues and concerns. They can be reached at 352-671-8400 or visit <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/marion/>. Please remember to acquire landscape modification approval from Resident Services prior to work commencing.



Steve Sutton, retired deputy, and Marion County Sheriff's Office Station Commander Lt. Thomas Tingue.

STAY IN THE KNOW! DOWNLOAD THE APP!

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

Veterans Club

Charles Calhoun



The Veterans Club has a strong connection with law enforcement, active and retired, whether they are veterans or not. Many of our veterans, after separation from duty, felt the need to continue to serve their fellow Americans by joining law enforcement in their hometown or a big city.

This month, we partnered up with Steve Sutton, an advisor to our club members and American Legion members. Steve has helped spearhead our efforts to supply the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) with healthy snacks and beverages to keep in their patrol vehicles. Most deputies can't always stop and have a great meal. We want to keep them supplied with healthy items that they can keep in their vehicle so they at least have something to eat and drink.

Lt. Thomas Tingue of MCSO works with us daily to make sure we can keep his deputies supplied.

We will also be recognizing his staff and deputies who go above and beyond the call of duty. Stay tuned to learn more about how we can show our appreciation for them keeping us safe.

The Veterans Club meets the third Thursday of the month at 3 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Coffee and Fran's cookies are always available.



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Resident Services

Heather Ray
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Candler Hills

Candler Hills will have a town hall board meeting on Friday, Oct. 2, at 1 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Candler Hills residents will be receiving a survey poll from Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, LLC at the end of September. All Candler Hills residents are encouraged to participate and provide their feedback.

On Top of the World (Central)

The On Top of the World (Central) board will meet Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 1 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center, where the board is expected to decide on the community’s management company. Last month, Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, LLC paid for a survey to be sent to all On Top of the World (Central) residents. The survey asked residents for their opinions on their experience living in the community, amenities, management services, and areas for improvement. We thank everyone who took the time to participate and provide feedback. The information from the survey is valuable and helps us identify where we excel, as well as opportunities for improvement. A full summary of the survey results can be found on your AppFolio Owner’s Portal > Shared Documents. The recent survey found that the vast majority of residents are satisfied with life in the community, citing the community’s lifestyle, amenities, and social opportunities as its greatest strengths. Overall, 85% of survey respondents described their experience living at On Top of the World (Central) as positive, while only 2% reported a poor experience. In addition, 74% said they would recommend On Top of the World (Central) to someone considering moving to the area. Social amenities and community gathering spaces received some of the highest ratings. Overall, 89% of respondents said they were happy with the quality of amenities available at On Top of the World (Central).

Residents placed a high value on having management staff available on-site, with 92% agreeing that on-site staff is important to supporting the community, including 74% who strongly agreed. Overall, 71% said they were satisfied with Parkway Maintenance & Management Marion, LLC as the community’s management company. Resident Services and recreational amenities management were among the most positively viewed aspects of Parkway’s and SCA’s operations. While most areas of community operations received positive ratings, lawn care stood out as the primary area of opportunity. Lawn care was the only element of Parkway’s work to receive a net-negative rating, with 30% of respondents rating it poor and another 30% rating it fair. 27% rated lawn care as good and 13% as excellent. Lawn care was also the most common response when residents were asked what they would most like to see improved, with 700 responses (38% of all responses to the open-ended question). Satisfaction varied significantly by neighborhood. In areas where Parkway directly provides lawn care, 54% of respondents were satisfied. In neighborhoods where a subcontractor provides lawn care, satisfaction dropped to 26%. The survey identified subcontracted lawn care as the single largest negative issue reported by residents, suggesting that addressing the service could significantly improve overall satisfaction. Overall, the survey paints a positive picture of On Top of the World (Central), while providing clear direction on where improvements could have the greatest impact. Addressing lawn care concerns, particularly in areas served by subcontractors, and developing more proactive ways to communicate directly with residents were identified as key opportunities to further strengthen the community experience. Thank you again to everyone who took the time to participate in the survey and share your thoughts. Your feedback provides valuable insight into what residents appreciate most about On Top of the World (Central), as well as opportunities to improve. We appreciate your time, participation, and continued involvement in helping make On Top of the World (Central) a great place to call home.

Safety First

Jonathan Miller
safetydepartment@otowfl.com



October weather typically brings a transition from summer heat to cooler autumn conditions across the Northern Hemisphere, with the official astronomical start to fall arriving on Tuesday, Sept. 22. Temperatures drop noticeably by late month. However, southern regions still experience late-season warmth or lingering heatwaves. This would be Ocala, Florida. This is the time of year when we have gotten used to the heat, but there are significant differences, and our body system may not have adjusted. This is also the time when you will start to see ads about getting that flu shot. Adjusting to weather changes can be tricky because we really don’t know what the temperature will be the next morning, even with the best meteorology science has to offer in weather forecasting. If you are an early riser and like to be out, this could mean two sets of clothing. Cover up with warm clothing in the early morning, then peel off into breathable clothing to let sweat cool you down. If you are a newcomer to this region, you will experience fog accompanying the change in weather, as heated earth meets cooler morning dew. Yes, we know this sounds wacky to folks arriving from other parts of the country, but this is who we are, and we adjust to this yearly change by making sure we dress properly for what nature throws at us. Making clothing adjustments can help prevent getting sick. You know what they say about “when in Rome, do as the Romans do.” This period doesn’t last long for us in Ocala, but it does last long enough to get sick if you are not prepared for hot and cold

at the same time. We want you to stay healthy while with us, so this precautionary dress code we Floridians abide by, again, due to nature, can be a successful seasonal transformation without catching a flu bug. So, dress warmly in the morning when it’s cooler, but be able to peel off layers in the afternoon if you are away from home and cannot make a change. And it’s okay to express yourself to the locals. Sometimes we get a kick out of seeing that slap-jaw-bug-eyed look and listening to folks tell us how wacky our weather can be. As we watch you peel and start to mumble to yourself, we will know we have an inspiring guest amongst us. That is when we will say, “Welcome to our glorious Ocala, Florida.” We are happy to have you with us. We want you to stay healthy and enjoy all the wonderful things Ocala has to offer. If you can find the time, write me and tell me what kind of wacky weather your part of the world offers. I will look forward to mumbling about how wacky your weather can be. For any questions, please email safetydepartment@colenbuilt.net.



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Indigo East
Social Committee

Teresa Davis



The Indigo East care committee recently met to finalize volunteer commitments and put a plan in place to get information to every neighbor. By the time you read this, residents should have received a flyer outlining available services, along with contact information for helpful people, places, and local resources.

The committee has established guidelines to protect both our volunteers and the neighbors receiving assistance. Our goal is to ensure residents know help is available when they need it.

Volunteers can help by picking up or delivering items, making check-in calls to homebound neighbors, and connecting residents with information about local services and agencies. We plan to continue expanding these services as needs arise. If you or a neighbor could

use assistance, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Athena Drewes, care committee chairperson, at 845-283-8760 or drathenadrewes@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Linda Carlson, our October Indigo East spirit award recipient! Linda is one of those neighbors who helps keep everyone informed and connected. Whether it's a turtle in the road, a tree down on the trail, association information, or something happening in the neighborhood we should know about, Linda shares factual, helpful information with the community. She shares her thoughts, gets us thinking, and genuinely cares about what's happening around Indigo East.

Linda also facilitated last year's Golf Cart Parade and is already helping spread the word about this year's parade. She is a wonderful example of an involved, caring neighbor. If you don't know Linda, you should! And if you do, the next time you see her, say hello and congratulate her on a well-deserved Indigo East spirit award!

October events:
· Saturday, Oct. 3 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.):

Come support our local artisans and shop handmade, homemade, one-of-a-kind items just in time for the holidays at the Craft Fair.

- Wednesday, Oct. 7 (3 to 5 p.m.): Trailer Taco will have chili bowls available for purchase, with Randy bringing the island vibes on steel drums.
- Wednesday, Oct. 14 (8 a.m. to 1 p.m.): Contact Carmen at 813-385-8006 if you'd like to have a table at the indoor yard sale. Be sure to stop by and see what treasures you can find!
- Friday, Oct. 16 (5 to 7 p.m.): Join us at the Indigo East Fitness Center for a porch party with entertainment by Stu Montgomery.
- Wednesday, Oct. 21 (3 to 5 p.m.): Rocco will provide the entertainment at the Indigo East Fitness Center, with Mobile Munchies on site for Oktoberfest.
- Friday, Oct. 30: Join us at the Indigo East Community Center for a Halloween party! Start planning those costumes because we'll have a costume contest, treats,



Photo courtesy of Athena Drewes

Care committee chairwoman Athena Drewes.

and plenty of fun. October's going to be busy. We look forward to seeing you around Indigo East!

Williamsburg
Neighbors

Deanne Sanders-Below



At the Williamsburg pizza party, neighbors shared plenty of laughter, lively conversation, and the chance to learn more about one another. Residents talked about their passions, hometowns, and favorite parts of starting this

new chapter at Top of the World. We are grateful to the volunteers who made the event both memorable and enjoyable. It truly takes dedicated residents to bring gatherings like this to life!

I believe the events here in Williamsburg are truly special. Sharing laughter and stories can be wonderful medicine, and research shows that laughter offers many health benefits. That joy and connection are part of what makes Williamsburg so meaningful to me – like a refreshing cup of happiness shared with wonderful neighbors.

Each month, our wonderful neighbors volunteer to make Williamsburg events special. From Monday evenings at The Summit pool and Wednesday bocce to the monthly men's luncheon, ladies buncos, monthly neighborhood dinner out, and end-of-summer grill-out at the Veterans Park, there is always something to enjoy in Williamsburg.

Our next event, the meet-and-greet chili luncheon, will welcome the fall season. Join your neighbors for delicious chili on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming holidays! Celebrate Thanksgiving dinner with your neighbors on Wednesday, Nov. 25, at 1 p.m. Turkey will be served, and everyone is asked to bring a side dish.

Our annual holiday party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5, in The Summit Ballroom. Join us for a festive holiday meal, music, dancing, and door prizes.

We will welcome 2027 with a New Year's Eve party. We'll share additional details, including RSVP information, soon.

Our neighbors volunteer for these events and add special touches that help make each one memorable. Some events require an RSVP, and we share details through our Facebook announcements and neighborhood email distribution list. Please RSVP whenever requested.

To stay informed, join our email list by sending your full name, address, and email to Ghina Siddiqui at gsiddiqui@gmail.com. Find us on our Facebook pages (Welcome to Williamsburg – OTOW and OTOW Central HOA).

We hope you will join one of our upcoming events, learn something new, stay active, and enjoy laughter and conversation with your Williamsburg neighbors.



Photo by Deanne Sanders-Below

Williamsburg celebrates with a festive pizza party, joyful fellowship, and community spirit.

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Candler Connection

Debra Keirn



What a great evening in September for the “Cheeseburger in Our Paradise” event. 225 attendees enjoyed burgers, salads, and desserts and socialized while listening to music by the Caribbean Chillers.

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, our Facebook page (Candler Connection), and on the OTOW App.

The next potluck dinner will be on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Come in costume or not to the “Boo-Luck” dinner. Please prepare your festive Halloween dish for 12 to 15 people.

Residents with last names beginning with A-H should bring dessert; I-P a main dish; and Q-Z a side dish or salad. The cost is \$1 per person at the door, which covers tableware, decaf coffee, coffee creamers, and centerpieces. Please contact Deb Keirn at 352-414-5737, text 814-571-7908, or email arthurkipde@verizon.net to be added to the attendee list. Please label your dish with its ingredients to help those with food allergies.

Our Halloween party will be Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 9 p.m., with MPiRE Duo providing the music. We will have prizes for the best costume and the best pre-carved pumpkin (carve at home before the event). Please bring snacks or appetizers for your table, and we will provide the desserts. Ticket sales will be on Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Thursday, Oct. 8 for \$15 per Candler Hills resident and \$17 per guest. Let’s celebrate Halloween together and dance the night away.

Saturday, Dec. 12, will be the bring-your-own-beverage holiday party, catered by Pasta Faire, with music and entertainment by Kathleen Kane. The menu will include a traditional garden salad, focaccia rolls, lemon-roasted

salmon, chicken parmigiana, cheese-stuffed shells with basil marinara, rosemary-roasted potatoes, Italian-style green beans, and a variety of desserts. Tickets will be on sale every Tuesday and Thursday from Tuesday, Nov. 3, through Tuesday, Nov. 24 for \$45 per Candler Hills resident and \$47 per guest.

Candler Connection is hosting the New Year’s Eve party. This will be a casual evening with Palomino Blonde providing the music. Bring appetizers or snacks for your table of 10, and we will provide desserts. The price will be \$15 per Candler Hills resident and \$17

per guest. Tickets will go on sale starting Tuesday, Nov. 10 through Thursday, Dec. 3. Let’s ring in the New Year from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. with a traditional New Year’s Eve toast.

2027 events being planned are Valentine’s Day sock hop, trunk and craft sale (March), combined Cinco De Mayo and picnic (May), Flag Day celebration (June), ice cream social (August), chili cook-off and hoedown (October), holiday party, New Year’s Eve party, and potlucks the last Tuesday of each month.

See you around the neighborhood!



Donna Abel just missed a spare at Parkview Lanes.

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Longleaf Ridge Friends

Debra Vitale

The best thing about On Top of the World, and especially in Longleaf Ridge, is that a lot of your friends live within a few blocks. Who doesn’t like that?

Gloria Emmons reported and organized a bowling and dinner outing that was right up our alley – literally! They started at Parkview Lanes, where strikes were celebrated, spares were appreciated, and gutter balls were politely ignored. Lynn Paxson gave us something to aim for with an impressive score of 172.

Five lucky guys took home Publix gift card door prizes. Congratulations to Les Money, Jack Prather, Larry Huffman, Ron Thrash, and Bob Paxson. Hopefully, they gave their gift cards to their wives. Afterward, the fun rolled on to Mimi’s Cafe for dinner. Thanks to Nancy Kiziu, Linda Money, Jim Lovejoy, and actually the whole social committee for helping to make this outing a big success.

Gloria also reported on the “Howling” organized by Nancy Kiziu, where Mother Nature briefly RSVPed with rain at Pat and Paul MacMelville’s pool cage. Once the skies cleared, a wonderful crowd appeared, including new neighbors Cookie and Steve Colon and Linda and Doug Banfield. Joanne Lovejoy was happy to get out and see everyone, and even a hidden moon could not stop Longleaf Ridge from having a good time.

Penny Lagattolla made her reporting debut with two terrific events. At the chili cook-off, 53 residents sampled 13 crockpots of chili while meeting new neighbors. A lively potluck followed, drawing 57 residents and filling tables with appetizers, main dishes, sides, and desserts. The Summit building proved to be a fantastic venue for both gatherings. Welcome to our new residents and a special thank-you to Shannon, Mary, and Carolina for reserving and setting up the rooms.

Kathleen Taylor reported that the ladies’ lunch at Elevation 89 was a big hit, thanks to organizers Kathy Schoenherr and Sherry Ott. The awesome book club discussed “The Nature of Fragile Things” by Susan Meissner, a story with mystery, bold choices, and one very inconvenient San Francisco earthquake. The historical novel follows an Irish immigrant who accepts a marriage proposal from a stranger in 1906, proving that a book club selection can deliver romance, suspense, and a natural disaster, all in one setting. Thanks to Jan Ruder for hosting and leading the discussion.

And last but not least, Judi Walsh reported that John and Michele Marcinek captured first place in the Jack and Jill Pool Tournament and proudly hold the title of this year’s king and queen.

From bowling balls to a book club, chili cook-off, a potluck, a king and queen, and howling at the moon, Longleaf Ridge continues to prove that the best memories are made close to home and shared with great neighbors.

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Newcastle Social Committee

Nancy Monaghan



As we approach the end of the year, like a snowball rolling downhill, Newcastle is a busy place!

October activities kick off with the fifth annual Newcastle cornhole tournament and chili cookoff. The event will be held on Thursday, Oct. 15, in The Lodge at Candler Hills from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cornhole competition will begin at 10 a.m. and the cookoff will be around noon. Last year, we had over 40 participants, including 12 cornhole teams and nine pots of chili. The wonderful bakers of Newcastle provided desserts and cornbread to round out the chili-fest.

Watch for an email from the event coordinators, Jeff and Cindy VanDyke, with more details and sign-up information. Newcastle residents are welcome to attend and enjoy the day, or sign up to help, play cornhole, enter the chili cook-off, or bring a baked good.

The competition will be fierce – from the Newcastle kitchens to the cornhole courts. Who will win bragging rights this year?

October wraps up with Newcastle’s sixth annual Halloween progressive walk. It is a fantastic, fun event to see everyone’s costume creativity and enjoy the company of neighbors as we stop at each host home. Special thanks to this year’s hosts, the Bingham, the Carles and the Kajewskis.

It’s time to untangle the lights and get the luminarias ready in preparation for “Light Up Newcastle” on Saturday, Nov. 28. A celebration will take place at The Lodge at Candler Hills entrance, hosted by the Monaghans. More details to come via email and Facebook.

Friday, Dec. 4 is the date of Newcastle’s sixth annual holiday party at The Lodge at Candler Hills. This year’s party will feature a live band, and a more casual vibe than prior years. 2026’s party will bring exciting changes to the Newcastle tradition! Ticket sale dates and more details coming soon.

Meeting reminder – please attend the Newcastle social meeting on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 6 p.m. at the Candler Hills Community Center. New volunteer officers are needed!

Balfour Buzz

Kurt Larson



Our neighborhood continues to enjoy gathering together. The tiki hut remains very popular, and many of us look forward to Saturday nights there. Follow the tiki hut on Facebook for weekly updates and locations.

On Wednesday, Aug. 26, the Balfour social committee hosted a “back to school” Stuff the Bus event at The Lodge at Candler Hills. Stuff the Bus is an all-volunteer, veteran-run charity dedicated to providing essential school supplies to students in need in the Ocala area. Balfour residents generously donated both supplies and funds. Colonel Craig Ham, CEO and president of the organization, spoke to the 54 residents in attendance about their mission to help kids start the school year with confidence. Every-

one enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by Fresh Plates. Thank you to everyone who made this event a success.

Neighbors gathered on Saturday, Sept. 5, to celebrate opening day with a tailgate party. With many different teams represented, it was another fun event that makes our neighborhood so special.

Think your chili is the best? Check our Facebook page (OTOW Balfour Chat) for details and join us for our second annual chili cook-off.

Balfour resident Gregg Mireau is starting a new club. The Balfour Bullets are currently meeting as the Ocala Dart Club for practice on Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Game Room. Gregg is working to acquire more boards and make more space, as this group will most certainly grow. All skill levels and guests from other neighborhoods are welcome. Gregg envisions teams competing across communities. Stop by to check it out or visit the club’s Facebook page (Ocala Dart Club – ODC).



Balfour residents donated to Stuff the Bus.

Photo by Jim Jobe

OneBlood Bloodmobile

Sara Sommer



The Big Red Bus® was here on Friday, Sept. 4. We had 21 whole blood units and two double red units. That is pretty decent for our Friday drive. As essential persons, donors save lives.

The next drive will be Monday, Oct. 5, in the Recreation Center parking lot from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The platelet mobile will be there as well. Be sure to eat a good meal and drink lots of water before and after donating. Please bring a picture ID. Mark your calendar. Let’s see if we can top the previous donation total.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but you can make an appointment. The schedule is online about two weeks before the drive. Simply log on to OneBlood.org/donate and look for the On Top of the World drive. Pick your time, and you are all set. Appointments are usually taken first to stay on schedule. You will receive confirmation by email, as well as a reminder when the time comes.

There is no substitute for human blood. Only you can make a difference. Please give.

I hope you took the time to attend the Club Fair. OneBlood had a table. As always, we are glad to say hello. See you on the bus.

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The Fairway Friends

Lori Matuson

September brought connection, laughter, and plenty of opportunities for neighbors to come together. From our first Friday loop gathering to an evening of charcuterie building at The Summit, Fairway Friends enjoyed good food, great conversation, and an entertaining wine tasting along the way.

As October brings cooler days and crisp evenings, we’re ready to embrace the season with our Fairway Friends chili cook-off. At this fun-filled gathering, friendly competition meets deli-

Crescent Ridge Happenings

Carol Lewis

I hope many of you were able to attend the Club Fair in September. More clubs participated this year than last year, and I believe the crowd was larger as well. I hope all attendees found new interests to enjoy. We met several new couples and individuals who have moved into Crescent Ridge over the past

Lifelong Learning

Michelle Shideler

352-861-9751
michelle_shideler@masterthepossibilities.org

Living in Ocala means living in a place unlike anywhere else. Rolling pastures, magnificent horses, and world-class equestrian facilities are part of our everyday landscape, but how much do we really know about the industry and traditions surrounding us? With an incredible lineup of equine classes, tours, and special experiences, October is not a month to miss at Master the Possibilities.

This fall, Master the Possibilities chose Horse Capital of the World® as its curriculum theme to look beyond the pasture fences and explore the people, places, history, and economic impact that have made Marion County an internationally recognized equestrian destination. I have done my best to highlight as many October opportunities as possible in this column, but there are still more to discover in the catalog.

The equine experiences begin Saturday, Oct. 3, at 10 a.m. with “Behind the Scenes at the Florida Horse Park,” featuring a facility tour and live horse show for \$5 for members and \$10 for the general public. On Monday, Oct. 5, at 9:30 a.m., “Tour Tamarian Farm” offers a look inside a premier equestrian facility, including a jumping show and dressage demonstration, for \$5 for members and \$10 for the general public.

Next, “Storied Stallions and Mythic Mares” begins Friday, Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. This three-week course led by Jason Lundock explores horses in European myth and folklore, from semi-historical accounts to fantastical tales, for \$22 for members and \$27 for the general public.

Mid-month brings even more variety. “Equine Behavior & Welfare” meets Thursday, Oct. 15, at 10:30 a.m. to explore how horses communicate, think, and respond to their environment, free for members and \$5 for the general public. That afternoon at 1 p.m., “Latin American Gaited Horses” begins a two-session exploration of Peruvian Horses, Paso Finos and Mangalargas for \$5 for members and \$10 for the general public.

On Saturday, Oct. 17, at 2:50 p.m., “Discover the Sport of Kings: Polo in Ocala” offers a presentation on polo, hands-on activities and a demonstration at the Florida Horse Park. Students will meet a polo pony before enjoying a sunset polo match, all for \$17 for members and \$22 for the general public.

Learning continues Monday, Oct. 19, at 2 p.m. with “The Barnyard Politics

cious comfort food.

Our ladies bunko group continues to bring plenty of laughter, friendship, and a little bit of luck. Meeting on the third Sunday of each month at the Candler Hills Community Center, the group has quickly become a favorite way to spend an afternoon with friends and neighbors. A special shout-out goes to Cari Mathis, our dedicated bunko organizer, for keeping the fun going month after month.

There’s always something happening with Fairway Friends, and that’s exactly how we like it! Whether gathering around a table, sharing a meal, trying something new, or simply enjoying one another’s company, our goal is always the same: bringing neighbors together and building friendships along the way.

few months, and we look forward to seeing them at our upcoming monthly socials.

Our socials are held at the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room, from 3 to 5 p.m. Just bring a dish to share and a beverage of your choice.

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

Behind the Equine Industry,” which examines laws and regulations affecting horse businesses for \$5 for members and \$10 for the general public.

Finally, Valuing the Horse Industry on Monday, Oct. 26, at noon explores horses’ contributions to jobs, tourism, agriculture, and community life, free for members and \$5 for the general public.

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 9 a.m., The Foundation of Equine Rehabilitation examines recovery and conditioning for the equine athlete for \$10 for members and \$15 for the general public. At 4 p.m., “Explore Things to Do & See in the Horse Capital of the World®” highlights local history, thoroughbreds, and the industry’s economic impact for \$10 for members and \$15 for the general public.

Registration is available 24/7 at MasterthePossibilities.org. For assistance, call 352-861-9751 or visit the office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Photo by Lori Matuson

Ladies bunko at the Candler Hills Community Center.

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On Saturday, Oct. 17, “Discover the Sport of Kings: Polo in Ocala.”

Golf Cart Safety

By Jonathan Miller

Residents call the safety department every week, asking what we can do about golf cart drivers running stop signs, failing to yield, or speeding. Many report almost being hit or witnessing a near miss.

The roads within On Top of the World Communities are just like public roads outside the gates. We have everything in place that will keep our streets as safe as any street in America. We have separat-

ed golf carts from cars throughout the community.

What we can't control is human behavior -when they decide not to follow the rules and laws. Everyone, just like you, knows the rules and laws of Florida. Many drivers do not even recognize golf carts as motor vehicles, even though the rules are the same and they are on the same streets as cars. They just don't realize that golf carts must follow the same Florida laws as cars.

Golf carts may not be driven on SR 200. Are there any differences between street regulations on SR 200 and SW 99th Street? The rules and regulations for SR 200 and SW 99th Street are identical. There is nothing that states you can go through a stop sign, don't have to yield, or don't have to follow speed limits within the community.

So, what makes residents think golf carts are exempt from Florida state law? Nothing.

The real question to ask here is, what can we do about human behavior? Well, the State of Florida has established driving rules and regulations; residents just aren't following them. Everything you

need to keep you safe on our community streets is in place. Now for the five-billion-dollar question. Has anyone been able to control unpredictable human behavior?

When you find that definitive solution, give me a holler, but I ask that you start looking first in the mirror.

Keep your community safe! Residents are encouraged to attend free golf cart safety classes with Colen Built Development's Senior Health and Safety Manager Jonathan Miller. Register on the OTOW App.

For any questions, please email safetydepartment@colenbuilt.net.

Community Emergency Response Team

Debbie Snyder



Congratulations to our new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) instructors! We were well represented at the recent statewide CERT instructor class. We're proud to recognize Yvette Aguiar, Paul Carr, Steve Minafri, Anthony Pressley, Terry Strey, and Amy Waller for completing this intensive three-day class in Citrus County, and we look forward to supporting them as they step into their new roles.

Anthony Pressley and Amy Waller described the class as a valuable, engaging, and team-building learning experience, noting that it also allowed them to meet and learn alongside CERT members from across the state.

At last month's meeting, Marion County CERT instructor Jim Dirks joined us as a guest speaker to discuss the psychological and physiological effects disasters can have. His presentation offered helpful insight into the signs and symptoms of disaster-related trauma, along with practical ways we can prepare ourselves and better support others after an emergency. He reminded us that preparation is not only about supplies, radios, and response procedures; it is also about understanding stress, recognizing when someone may need help, and knowing how to offer calm, compassionate support.

These lessons matter for every CERT member who may be called upon to serve in difficult circumstances. Jim

clearly explained what we may experience and how to respond in a healthy, effective way. Thank you, Jim, for an informative and meaningful presentation.

CERT is a nationally recognized program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Locally, the Emergency Management Division of the Marion County Sheriff's Office trains us, and On Top of the World supports us. Members attend an initial five-week class on Saturdays and receive training in light search and rescue, damage assessment, basic first aid, and hazardous materials awareness so they can assist our community during a disaster. We provide ongoing education and drills through our monthly meetings.

Prospective members are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings before, during, and after their training class. Join us to learn more on the second Wednesday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 14. Applications for training and additional information are available at each meeting. For more information about CERT or upcoming meetings, email ontopoftheworldcert@gmail.com.

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

Please note that a "Fire Extinguisher Safety and Certification" class will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Arbor Fitness Center parking lot. The class is free to at-

tend. For a fee, participants may also have a fire extinguisher certified or recharged, or purchase a new one. You can register through the OTOW App.



Photo by Debbie Snyder

Anthony Pressley, Steve Minafri, Amy Waller, and Terry Strey.

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A Journey Through Balinese Dance & Music

By Rosalina Norita

Gamelan Dharma Swara is a 31-member ensemble comprising musicians, dancers, and composers who showcase Balinese performing arts infused with an American perspective. Committed to preserving tradition while fostering innovation through new and commissioned pieces, our repertoire showcases works by Bali's prominent artists, including I Dewa Ketut Alit and I Gusti Nyoman Darta, as well as collaborations with American composers Vivian Fung, Matthew Welch, and Joel Mellin.

Since its establishment in 1989, they have solidified its position as the leading Balinese gamelan ensemble in New York, with performances at renowned venues such as Lincoln Center and Asia Society, as well as by invitation of esteemed presenters like Carnegie Hall and World Music Institute. In response to a historic invitation to participate in

the prestigious gong kebyar competition at the Bali Arts Festival, the group embarked on a tour of Bali in 2010.

Dharma Swara is set to undertake a three-week expedition to Bali, marking its inaugural formal return to the island since its illustrious visit in 2010. This follows a 15-year hiatus since its last appearance at the Bali Art Festival (PKB). The ensemble has refined its mission to prioritize the development of new gamelan compositions, further fueled by the acquisition of a contemporary semara dana instrument set in 2017. Under the guidance of Dharma Swara's esteemed Artist-in-Residence and Music Director, I Gusti Nyoman Darta.

Dharma Swara was in Bali from June 25 through July 14, and they performed at the Bali World Culture Celebration, which facilitates dialogue with other ensembles and enables them to showcase



Photo by Rosalina Norita

Gamelan Dharma Swara had a spectacular performance at the Bali World Culture Celebration on the Fourth of July.

the diverse repertoire, primarily developed for Dharma Swara gamelan, featuring dance, puppetry, and multimedia elements. Such will include: Mebarung Cudamani Anak Anak, Mebarung Sanggar. You can come and see the performances at no cost. Feel free to participate without obligation.

The tour program meticulously documents a fascinating chapter in exploration and artistic vision, celebrating our identity as a distinguished New York ensemble. The program showcases commissioned works, including Pagar Ayu, skillfully composed by Gusti Komin and

choreographed by Shoko Yamamuro; and Nor'easter, a modern reinterpretation of traditional Balinese wayang kulit shadow puppetry, featuring art direction and original music by Joel Mellin, alongside dance choreography by Ilona Bito and Ndaru Kartikaningsih.

Victoria Lo Mellin, the president and executive director of Dharma Swara, said, "We are delighted to be joined by the esteemed New York-based Foreshadow Puppetry, who will present a captivating retelling of a timeless Hindu epic through diverse puppetry styles, set to a live gamelan score composed by Joel Mellin."

The End of Summer? I Don't Think So.

By Paul DiSclafani
World News Writer

Another summer has come and gone, or at least that's what the calendar says. Although technically not the end of summer, when Labor Day hits, it's the two-minute warning for summer activities. Kids are heading back to school, and it's time to start thinking about putting the winter cover on your pool.

You made it through another summer of vacations, occasional heat waves, and the ritual of crossing your fingers each time you turned on the A/C. The sun is setting much earlier, and I bet you wish you had gone fishing more often or to the ballpark a few more times. They say summer is for kids, but it's a respite for adults, too.

Hopefully, the unofficial last barbecue of the summer doesn't get rained out. It's your last shot to crack open a few cold ones with your buddies while you're outside in T-shirts.

Soon, the leaves will turn brown and fall from the trees. You've still got a few weeks left to enjoy your patio furniture, especially if you have a fire table. Although you're a few months away from wearing hats, gloves, and boots, you'd better start locating them. And don't forget to check your ice-melt inventory (we used to call it "salt") and make sure your snow shovels are in good working order.

Forget about saving that premium cigar for later. Fire that baby up this weekend before you find yourself shivering in the backyard like a bum on Madison Avenue.

Wait a minute.

I don't have to worry about any of that anymore. I'm retired and living at On Top of the World!

Take in the patio furniture? Are you kidding? I don't even have any patio furniture. Who sits outside in the summer? Once October rolls around, it may be time to take out the patio furniture and enjoy the cooler evenings. Put the cover on the pool? Not my job anymore. I have my choice of five heated pools every day.

Of course, the biggest trade-off down here is the daily 3:37 p.m. downpour. It lasts only about 15 minutes, and you can set your watch by it.

But the end of summer? I'm not so sure about that.

Kids from the Northeast look forward to summer vacation and going outside every day. I'm not sure what Florida kids think about summer vacation, but I'm sure it involves spending a lot more time indoors, with air conditioning.

I went swimming over the Thanksgiving and Presidents' Day weekends last year and had to wear sunblock. And I wasn't even on vacation!

Labor Day, Shma-ber Day, who cares? Everyone I know is retired now, so gathering for a weekend barbecue doesn't require a specific holiday on the calendar.

Unless you need propane, maybe you should check that. The rest of the outside world still celebrates holidays, and the stores are closed.



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Republican Club

Margaret Nodine



Our September meeting took place on Friday, Sept. 11. The club remembered the 25th anniversary of this tragic day with a brief prayer service. Each member held the names of two victims as a remembrance was offered.

We invited the winning candidates from the primary election and those who face a runoff to meet once again with our members in preparation for the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Mike Crimi, who won District 2, and Jeff Bairstow, who won District 4, attended.

These winners received “three envelopes.” This is a leadership parable about accountability. A new executive takes over and is given three sealed envelopes by the departing executive, with instructions to open them when facing serious troubles. The first says, “Blame your predecessor.” The second says, “re-organize,” and the third, “prepare three envelopes.” The lesson is that they can temporarily survive by blaming others or by changing the organization. Still, eventually they must accept responsibility, or they, too, will be held accountable for the results they produce.

For the school board seats, Sarah James (incumbent) and Donny Barber will face a runoff in November for the District 5 seat, and Mike Mills and Brigitte Smith will advance to a runoff for the District 4 seat. These four candidates also attended our meeting. Once the school board elections are decided, they too will receive the three envelopes.

Please don’t forget to vote in the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sheriff Billy Woods also addressed the meeting and discussed the property tax issue and its effect on the essential services budgets.

Dr. Danielle Brewer, superintendent of Marion County Public Schools, presented “State of Marion County Schools: past, present, and future.” She also took questions from the members.

Thank you to our club officers and volunteers who assisted at the Club Fair. Many interested residents stopped by and signed up as new members!

The club is still in the planning stages

to participate in Wreaths Across America. With a presentation at Master the Possibilities on Tuesday, Oct. 13, we will have the steps needed to participate. We are very excited about this opportunity, because we will be able to honor our military on a personal level.

We happily continue to support Operation Shoebox and the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard. Both organizations give their time and are dedicated to helping our military.

Our remaining 2026 meeting schedule is Fridays, Oct. 9 and Nov. 13. We continue to meet on the second Friday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Doors open at 4 p.m.; meetings begin promptly at 4:30 p.m. Please look for our banner, and we hope to see you.

New members can register at any meeting. Any resident with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass is welcome to attend up to two meetings as a guest before deciding to join. Enjoy the upcoming fall season.



Ellie Zalak, president of the TPUSA Ft. McCoy's Activism Club (home school program) daughter of County Commissioner Carl Zalak,

Democratic Club

Mark Miller



The Democratic Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV at 6 p.m.

The Tuesday, Nov. 3 General Election is coming up. Make it your business to vote, whether by mail, early voting, or in person. The voter registration/party change deadline is Monday, Oct. 5. Early voting runs from Thursday, Oct. 22, through Saturday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mail ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Our Thursday, Sept. 24 meeting featured Seth Harp, the Democratic candidate for Congress in Florida District 3. His campaign has come a long way, and we’re optimistic about his success!

Our Thursday, Oct. 22 meeting will be longer than usual. Bert Perkins, representing the League of Women Voters, will speak to us about three amendments that will appear on the ballot in November. Amendment 3 is of primary importance to many of our members. Also, Meghan Bowman from Your Florida will interview members about issues that matter to our club. You will not want to miss it!

We continue to support the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village. The veterans residing there need our support for many items we all take for granted. The priority for donations is laundry detergent. Other required items include pillowcases, twin-size sheets, twin comforters, a 1.7-cubic-foot refrigerator, a small microwave, men’s razors, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, shaving cream, and toilet paper. Needed food items include canned meat, canned chili, ramen noo-



Photo by Leslie Miller

Seth Harp, candidate for Congress, spoke at our September meeting.

dles, macaroni and cheese, microwaveable rice, boxed milk, cereal, canned fruit, crackers, individual snacks, and coffee. They do not require clothing other than shoes. Please bring your donated items to our meeting.

If you can’t attend any meetings, please let us know, and we’ll do our best to deliver your donations to the Ritz. Alternatively, you can drop them off before the meeting starts. If you’d like, you can go online and have the items delivered directly to the Ritz. Please email us to obtain the shipping address and other details.

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

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

We look forward to seeing you at our meeting on Thursday, Oct. 22.

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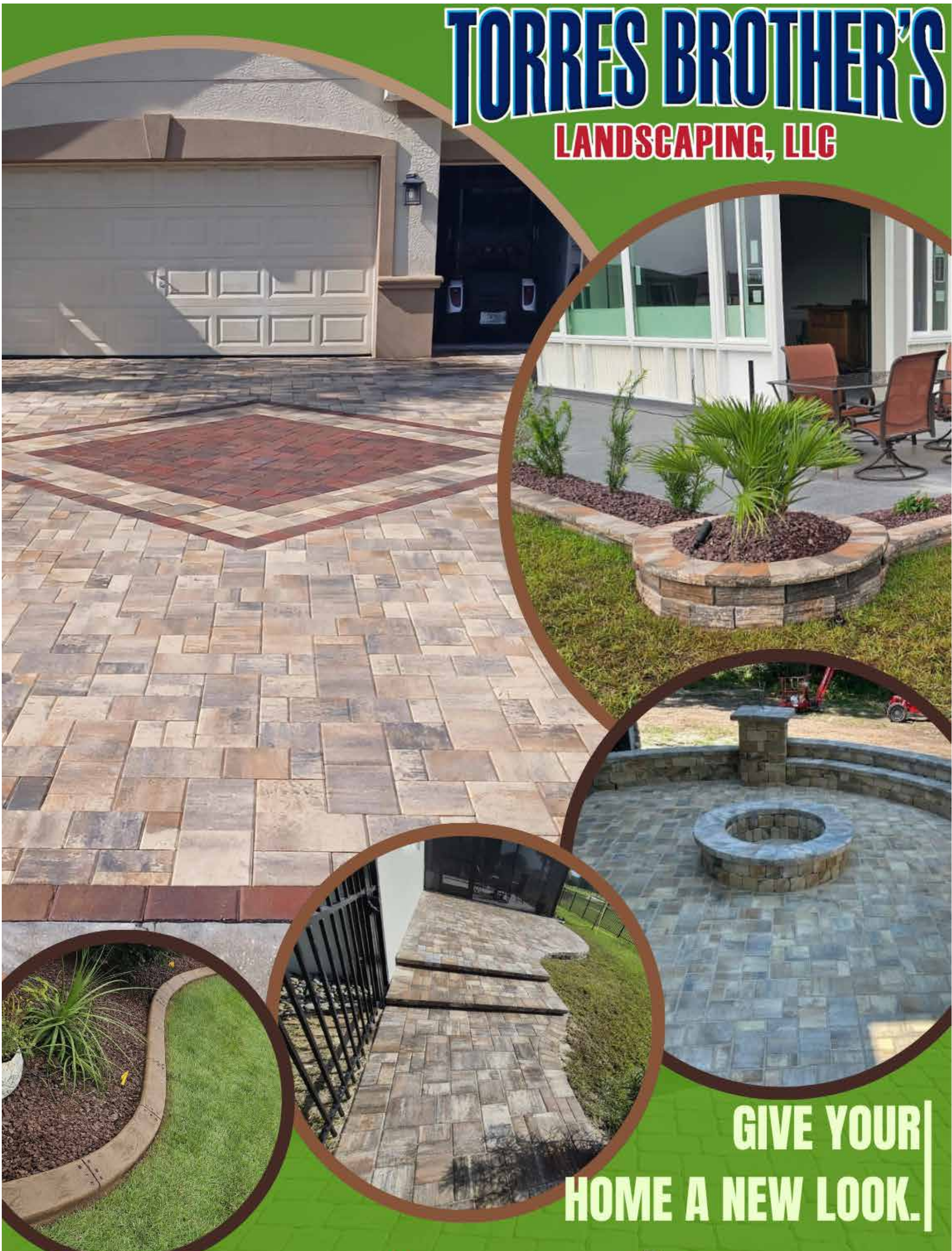
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Helping Pets Through Rising Costs

By Heather Tahan

Veterinary costs are not immune to recent price increases. Unfortunately, higher vet costs cause strain on both owners and animal rescues. Although pets with medical issues can cost thousands of dollars per visit, even routine costs such as vaccines, blood tests, and flea control can take a large chunk out of any family budget. Animal rescues are impacted not only by absorbing higher medical expenses, but also by increased medical surrenders from those unable or unwilling to pay for their pets. In most cases, donations to small, local rescues rarely keep pace with the growing financial burden, and Friends of SPCA is no exception.

These financial pressures also affect long-term sustainability. Overextended rescues risk burnout and closure, leaving fewer safety nets for vulnerable pets. In communities where shelters are already full, high veterinary costs create a ripple effect – more animals remain homeless, more are surrendered, and more face euthanasia. Although rescues continue to fight for every life they can, without affordable veterinary care, their mission becomes harder to sustain. Things you can do before adopting a pet to minimize financial exposure are:

1. Make sure you can cover the annual routine vet cost of \$500 for 15 to 20 years.
2. Spay or neuter your pet to prevent

future health issues (and unwanted litters).

3. Research the various pet insurance options to cover serious conditions.

Feel free to stop by our table at the Circle Square Commons Farmers Market. Another way to support Friends of SPCA is to visit our coffee and donuts table at the upcoming Craft Fair on Saturday, Oct. 17. Membership materials and information on Friends of SPCA will be available as well. The second annual Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre fundraiser will be held on Nov. 20, 21, and 22. Due to the overwhelming success of last year’s event, tickets will likely be sold out before the printing of this column. Please check our Facebook page for any available tickets.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at The Summit Meeting Rooms 1 & 2. Doors open at 12:45 p.m. and meetings start promptly at 1 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Our next meeting is on Thursday, Oct. 15. To attend, you must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

For information on our programs and membership, please call our SPCA help line at 352-3620985 or visit SPCAofMarionCounty.weebly.com, follow us on Facebook (Marion County FL SPCA), or email spca.marion.county@gmail.com.



Photo by Jill Yamamoto

Zuzu and Zella, fostered by Friends of SPCA members, were strays that a good Samaritan found. This brother-sister duo has been fixed and vetted by Sheltering Hands and now awaits their forever home.

If you have non-expired pet food that your animal won’t eat or was shipped in error, please consider donating it. Donations may be left on the porch of Evelyn Sarns Holiday (8880-C SW 94th Street, Ocala, Florida 34481). We also accept blankets, sheets, and other pet supplies.

We distribute all porch donations to local shelters and pets in need. To prevent accidental ingestion, please avoid using staples to close open bags. Your generosity truly makes a difference.

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

A Night of Indonesian Culture & Connection

By Rosalina Norita

The Global Diversity Asian Social Club recently hosted a vibrant Indonesian Extravaganza Night at The Summit Ballroom on Saturday, Aug. 29. The evening offered audiences a comprehensive educational introduction to Indonesia’s cultural diversity, moving well beyond the familiar images associated with Bali. Guests began their journey with an Indonesian culinary experience prepared by Tuti’s Kitchen. Aromatic nasi kuning, rich beef rendang, flavorful chicken woku, refreshing urap, and traditional sweets demonstrated the variety of Indonesian cuisine. Each dish reflected the country’s geography, history, and distinctive regional traditions, allowing attendees to experience Indonesia through its food.

The wonderful evening continued with captivating cultural performances.

The Putri Mandalika Indonesian Dance Club presented traditional dances that gracefully conveyed stories, customs, and cultural heritage. Pinkan Kolintang introduced the sounds of the kolintang, a traditional musical instrument from North Sulawesi. A dynamic gong dance representing Kalimantan added another dimension to the program. Together, the performances showcased the regional diversity across the Indonesian archipelago.

Visual presentations further enriched the experience. Projected videos and photographs transported guests across Indonesia, showcasing landscapes, vibrant communities, traditions, and the country’s natural beauty. These presentations helped transform the evening from a cultural performance into an enlightening exploration of a nation

that remains unfamiliar to Americans. The event presented Indonesia as a dynamic modern country of more than 280 million people and one of Southeast Asia’s largest economies. Guests learned that Indonesia is successfully balancing profound cultural traditions with modernization and development. Rather than portraying the nation simply as a repository of ancient customs, the program emphasized Indonesia as a living, evolving society with a compelling future.

Building on the Global Diversity Asian Social Club’s previous cultural programming, the evening expanded its focus from Balinese traditions to the broader diversity of Java, Sumatra, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, Papua, and other regions. This wider perspective highlighted the rich cultural landscape beyond Indonesia’s best-known tourist destinations.

The educational impact was especially meaningful for Florida residents. By sharing approachable traditions, music, food, history, and stories, the program encouraged attendees to view Indonesia with greater understanding and curiosity. It also demonstrated the

value of cultural programs within retirement communities, where residents can turn curiosity into global engagement. The evening also carried an important philanthropic mission. Proceeds supported the Sewing Bees and Yayasan Anak Unik in Bali, which assists disabled youth. The Global Diversity Asian Social Club sincerely thanks all residents who attended and supported these causes, helping those most in need improve their lives.

In appreciation of the event’s promotional and cultural impact, the club received complimentary dining and hotel vouchers from Merusaka Bali, Mercure Bali, Plagoo Holiday, and Novotel Bali in Nusa Dua. Ultimately, Indonesian Extravaganza Night was a resounding success, combining entertainment, education, cultural understanding, and charitable giving. The event challenged assumptions, sparked genuine curiosity, and encouraged deeper international engagement, demonstrating how communities can foster goodwill and meaningful connections with the wider world.



Photographed by Cliff Tumetel

Indonesian Extravaganza Night performers and supporters.

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Travel Toppers

Mary Lamp



Travel Toppers Tours and its volunteers follow safety procedures for On Top of the World residents during our tours. All residents (in golf carts and cars) must follow volunteers’ directions when entering and exiting the parking lot off SW 81st Loop. Anyone who does not follow the safety procedures will

be denied a reservation for future trips with Travel Toppers Tours. Reservations for Travel Toppers trips may be made Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the coordinators listed for each event. Reservations may be made for only two people at one time; guests will be placed on a waitlist. As this is a resident club, the board wants to give our own residents the first opportunity to attend. If space becomes available, guests on the waitlist will be asked whether they remain interested in attending the trip. Linda Uhley began taking reserva-

tions for the Suncoast Dinner Theater production of “A Christmas Carol, The Musical,” to be seen Sunday, Dec. 13. Call her at 352-854-8536 to make your reservation. The production “Pretty Woman,” to be seen Saturday, Oct. 17, is waitlisted. To be added, call Diane Knox at 352-390-2386. Club members are currently on our “Highlights of Route 66” trip from Chicago to Los Angeles. We look forward to hearing about their good times upon their return. Our Celebrity Apex cruise from Saturday, Feb. 13 through Saturday, Feb.

20, 2027, is also waitlisted. Ports of call include Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic; St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; and Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis. Call Janet Wiles at 804-243-4008 to join our waitlist. Traveltopperstours.com offers more details and up-to-date information about our trips. Trips sponsored by Travel Toppers Tours are open only to residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. Copies of Gateway of Services passes must be submitted with the resident’s check to prove the resident is current. Any non-resident who participates must be a guest of a resident club member.

World Traveler

Bill Shampine



The next selection from the New Seven Wonders of the World is Machu Picchu, Peru. Located about 43 miles northeast of Cuzco, the old Incan capital, it was “discovered” in 1911 by Hiram Bingham, an American historian employed by Yale University. Most historians believe the Inca Emperor Pachacuti (1438-1472) built it as an estate. Because it was never found by the Spanish, who would have destroyed it, the city looks much like it did the day it was abandoned.

The complex sits at about 8,000 feet on a mountain ridge in the Andes. To get there, you can take a train to the village of Aguas Calientes (6,700 feet elevation). From there, you can take a bus, or you can walk 1,300 feet uphill. Believe me, a \$25 bus ticket is the way to go!

Machu Picchu is unique because it is such a well-preserved example of Incan culture during its heyday. At its zenith, the city supported about 500 people and was completely self-sufficient. The Incas were highly skilled stone masons. They built their buildings with huge blocks of stone that fit together so well that they needed no mortar. Details like trapezoidal doors and windows, strategically tilted walls, and periodic use of “L-shaped” blocks to tie walls together helped make the construction highly earthquake-resistant.

The Incans also terraced enough of the mountainous land surrounding the city to meet their agricultural needs. Natural springs met their water needs,



Photo by Bill Shampine

Machu Picchu, Peru.

and a complex canal system moved water where it was needed for crops, fountains, and home use. At its peak, the Inca Empire was vast, covering a landmass larger than the entire southeastern United States. Since cell phone technology was still a few years away, Inca rulers built a “paved” trail to facilitate communication within the empire, kind of like our old Pony Express system. Known as the Inca Trail, this trail consisted of almost 25,000 miles of pathway built with stone blocks. The big difference between their “pony ex-

press” system and ours, however, is that they had people running along the trail instead of using horses to carry the communications; truly an impressive feat! Another interesting observation concerns the incredible amount of labor needed to build things like the Inca Trail and places like Machu Picchu. These were all built with local labor, not slave labor! The Inca Emperors did not levy a monetary tax on their citizens. Instead, every citizen was required to provide a defined amount of labor to the government every year in lieu of money. Isn’t

that an interesting concept? It is easy to understand why Machu Picchu is considered one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. You should consider adding a visit there to your bucket list. However, you should be aware that the park is neither wheelchair accessible nor friendly for people who have difficulty walking. One problem is that the height of the (many) steps around the park is inconsistent, varying from six to about 18 inches per step, so our muscle memory doesn’t work well.

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Latinos Club

Silvia C. Garcia



¡Hola amigos! Get ready to have fun during our “Bailaween Fiesta Latina” on Saturday, Oct. 24, at Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios II-IV. Come make new friends, enjoy time with members you already know, and don’t forget your dancing shoes. Halloween costumes are encouraged. Admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Bring your own beverages, light bites will be provided. Please pay in advance; there will be no sales at the door.

You do not have to be Latino to join us, so mark your calendar for upcoming events:

- Saturday, Oct. 24: Bailaween Fiesta Latina, social and dancing with costumes.
- Saturday, Nov. 7: Honoring Our Troops & Veterans Ceremony and celebration.
- December: Parranderos (Latin caroling) with home visits, singing, and playing instruments.

Don’t forget our monthly dinners and weekly Tuesday game nights.

It’s hard to believe that our club’s second anniversary is Saturday, Oct. 31. Our membership now exceeds 225 members. We received many new membership applications at the Club Fair, and most residents told us they were motivated to join after reading our monthly

Scandinavian American Club

David Wesenberg



The Scandinavian American Club gets together to fellowship, converse, and learn about our Scandinavian American brothers and sisters. Our club meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Event Room II.

Our September meeting included discussions about the club’s future and planning for our eight meetings this year.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 1 to 3 p.m., with the theme “Origins of Halloween.” The meeting will include a talk on “Equine Tourism in Marion County” by Industry and Community Relations Specialist Candace Shelton from the Ocala/Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau. Among other things, Candace will talk about the World Equestrian Center (WEC).

At our upcoming meetings, we will discuss food habits, Scandinavian celebrations, and Norwegian artistry, and will wrap it up with a special spring picnic meeting.

Members bring Scandinavian dishes for us to sample and discuss. The Scandinavian American Club is a great place to enjoy fun, fellowship, and unusually good Scandinavian food.

We also talk about our experiences, hopes, origins, successes, and failures. Are you at least part Scandinavian? Or are you just interested in the Scandinavian contributions to American society? What a great opportunity to hear and see from those who have experienced immigration. Join us.

Every meeting is an opportunity to learn more about our Scandinavian heritage and to share a meal and fellowship. For more information, contact Arlene Paul Knoll at 484-627-3151 or 23paint23@gmail.com.



Latinos Club members at the Club Fair.

columns.

The greatest moment for me during the fair was when a couple of new residents shared that they chose our community after seeing a Latinos Club video. Their words touched my heart and brought tears to my eyes. What started as a small idea has grown into a club that is attracting new residents – cool kids who want to have fun.

Since not everyone can attend our Tuesday game nights, Karen Ramos and Doug Slattery led our first Saturday game night, and it was a huge success. It was so much fun that many of us didn’t want to go home. I was practically carried away.

We look forward to more periodic game nights. Thank you, Karen and Doug.

Ivan Vazquez has taken the lead in establishing an “Amigos / Caballeros / Chicos” group. If you are interested in getting together with other guys from our club, please contact Ivan at 727-403-9629 for details.

Next month I’ll announce which organizations our members selected to receive our \$1,000 donation – \$250 each to four local nonprofits.

Our club is providing complimentary nametags for our members. Please respond to the email sent to members with

how you would like your name listed on your nametag.

Volunteers are needed. We encourage you to share ideas, make suggestions, promote events, help with set-up and tear-down ... Your enthusiasm and involvement, big or small, helps make our club the special, fun group it is.

Visit our Facebook page (OTOW Latinos Club Ocala). For more information, call Silvia C. Garcia at 561-801-8188 or Mary Moosman at 352-322-6248.

Illinois Group

Harriet Pinchauck



The group is beginning to solidify, with many members returning to see what we’re up to and join in. On Monday, Sept. 7, we held our very first game night. Out of the games that showed up, we had four tables of learning and laughing. I was thrilled to be a beginner at Mexican train. Now I see what everyone likes about it! Members were introduced to one of my favorites ... desktop cornhole. It’s more fun than you think!

Next month is what everyone has been waiting for ... our first ice cream social. Plans are set; ice cream is ordered. Now we just wait for the date and the ice cream to arrive! Yum!

Again, whether you’re from Chicago, the suburbs, central Illinois, southern Illinois, or anywhere in between, we’d love to have you join us. We haven’t yet debated who has the best beef sandwiches, but there’s a great and friendly Cubs/Sox rivalry happening! Of course, we’ll be watching the Bears to see how they do this season. If this will be your first time joining us, please email me at mompin@att.net to let me know you’ll be there and who may be coming with you.

Looking forward to meeting everyone and keeping this new group going.

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Indigo East
Common Ground

Vicki Chandler



This group provides a platform for speakers and activities that help residents explore their goals and interests as Floridian and American citizens in today’s world. All Indigo East residents are welcome to attend and help plan future meetings. If you have ideas to share or would like to volunteer your time, the group encourages you to get involved. Plan to join us at the next planning session on Tuesday, Oct. 13, at 4 p.m. in the Indigo East Community Center Meeting Room 2.

Our recent hot dog party in August was a tremendous success and a lot of fun for everyone. In September, we took an informative tour of Marion County Fire Rescue Station 21. Mark your calendar for Monday, Oct. 26, as we finalize plans for our “Harvest Fest,” where we will be proudly collecting non-perishable goods to support the Second Harvest Food Bank.

The group remains committed to connecting and supporting one another. Attending these meetings offers an opportunity to engage with others who share common concerns, without bias or prejudice. This group believes in mutual respect and the appreciation of our differences; we support efforts to help provide food, shelter, and healthcare for those in need; we care about preserving our environment; and we desire a more peaceful world through a return to our country’s moral compass.

Residents who wish to RSVP or require a ride are asked to reach out to Lydia Kuust via text or phone call a few days in advance at 802-345-0669. Please leave a message if no one answers. If you would like to be included on our email list for information regarding meeting times and topics, please send your name, address, phone number, and email address to Lydia Kuust at ldrincal@yahoo.com. Look for us on Facebook and welcome to the neighborhood conversation.

SWANS

Lois Nix



September was very busy; we had our biannual membership meeting. At this meeting, SWANS signed up for their choice of appetizer, lunch, or dinner, where six women meet once a month for six months. Social networking helps create long-term friendships. For 20 years, our groups, events, and trips have benefited our members.

Five SWANS have reservations to ride in a race car with a driver going around the track at close to 120 miles per hour. In October, we will have a barbecue, and some members are visiting the Ark Encounter in Kentucky.

Other September events included brunch at The Whistling Duck, with 25 SWANS in attendance; lunch at Akita Sushi; and dinner at Braised Onion. SWANS participated in the Club Fair. Many single women did stop by.

The most exciting event of all in September was our celebration of 20 years of supporting and encouraging single women, giving them a sense of belonging and assuring them they are not alone in their journey.

Being single is not always easy. SWANS are here to join you on your journey. Moving forward together.

SWANS are never alone. SWANS are never forgotten.

Lions Club

Gail Morris



How was the Club Fair? Did you find a club that you are willing to spend your time with? I hope so, and I hope those of you who showed interest in our club and signed up as interested will take the time to come visit all our other members at our first meeting in October. We will save you a seat on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

When you join our club, you’ll be joining a club that reaches out to our community. Marion Oaks Elementary is the largest elementary school in the county with over 1,000 students. We will continue to support them and our other schools throughout the year with supplies needed to encourage students and support learning. It’s our “Shoe Box Express” fund, named when we were asked to help with shoes for students who came to school with ill-fitting or no shoes.

Did you see us at the Fall Festival at

Circle Square Commons on Saturday, Sept. 26? Our club assisted with the pie-eating contest.

Some of our members volunteered at the end of September with the Special Olympics swim competition at FAST.

Thursday, Oct. 8 through Sunday, Oct. 18 is the Lions Clubs International Foundation Vision Days of Service. Our older Lions Club members also know it as “White Cane” days. Helen Keller, in 1925, was instrumental in providing a goal for Lions Clubs International; in her speech, she asked, “Help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness.” Our club helps community members with eye exams, eyeglasses, and other sight-improving treatments as we continue to meet that goal. Diabetes is a leading cause of blindness; because of that, our members also participate in diabetes training and are willing to provide screenings.

Lions Club meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio IV at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Lion Bert Perkins, membership chair, at 909-262-8407.



Photo by Ms. Ewart

School supply delivery with Lion Duane, Ms. Brazill, Lion Gail, Ms. Dreher.

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So, if you would like to join a fun-loving group with that infamous vocal dialect – “How you doin’?” and you just don’t want to “Fuhgeddaboudit!” then come on down and check out our club. You will find us engaging and entertaining just by our mannerisms and interac-

The first boat ride will occur on Thursday, Oct. 15, with lunch at The Front Porch Restaurant and Pie Shop (12039 North Florida Avenue, Dunnellon). The second ride is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 20, with lunch at Swampy's (19373 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Dunnellon). If you would like to join the group for either boat ride on the Rainbow and Withlacoochee Rivers, please contact Margitta Claterbos at mclaterbos@gmail.com and let her know which date you prefer and whether you will also participate in lunch afterward. You will have a choice of two parking areas close to the boat ramp. The first parking lot is directly in front of the Dunnellon City Hall and costs \$5 per vehicle. The second parking lot is free and is the nearby

A photograph of a Reddish Egret standing in shallow water. The bird's head is turned slightly to the right, and its long, dark beak is pointed downwards. Its most striking feature is its head feathers, which are raised and spiky, creating a 'fluff' display. The feathers are a mix of reddish-brown and dark brown. The bird's long, thin legs are visible, and it appears to be standing in clear, shallow water. The background is a blurred expanse of water, suggesting a natural habitat. In the bottom right corner, there is a small, faint signature that reads 'Nancy Stephens'.

Photo by Nancy Stephens

The boat and dock are handicap accessible and are located about 30 minutes from On Top of the World. Wear comfortable shoes and bring your hat, binoculars, sunscreen, water, and camera. It's often chillier on the water, so a warm jacket or blanket will help you better enjoy the excursion on a cold morning. Public restrooms are located near the boat dock. We hope to see you on this birding adventure.

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PHOTO: KYLE



Photo by David Fleischmann

Jewish Club members eating lunch before boarding a sponge boat during a recent trip to Tarpon Springs, Florida.

The Jewish Club

Bruce Kanner



What was Edward R. Murrow’s middle name? That was the final question in the community trivia event hosted by the Jewish Club in August. About 100 residents played the game, led by our own quizmaster, Dan Lack. None of the 14 tables had the correct answer to the final question, so instead of cash prizes for the first- and second-place tables, the cash prize all went to the winning table. The club was hosting trivia for the community as the usual monthly Tropic Trivia took its customary month off in August. By the way, the answer was Roscoe.

The Ocala presidential library is not a place, nor is it on any map, and it does not come up in any search engine. Rather, it is a collection of signatures, pictures, and artifacts from every U.S. president from George Washington to Donald Trump. Club member Wayne Ellis has personally assembled the collection over 31 years and has opened his door to the club for viewing.

During a two-hour walk-and-talk, Ellis provided facts and commentary on the items, starting with authenticated signatures from each of the presidents. It was not just paper on display; there were plenty of artifacts as well. Some of the collection includes: Confederate currency and a Confederate bond,

a 120-year-old 46 starred U.S. flag from the time period of the Theodore Roosevelt administration, the original deed for what is now Cincinnati, Ohio signed by James Madison, the fourth president, and James Monroe, who later became the fifth president, and an actual presidential seal which had been affixed to the podium when Ronald Reagan spoke in October 1981.

About two dozen club members got to experience sponge diving up close and personal when they visited Tarpon Springs in August. Tarpon Springs bills itself as the “Sponge Capital of the World” and has the largest population of Greeks and Greek-Americans in the U.S. The club travelers started with lunch at Dimitri’s on the Water, a Greek restaurant. Following lunch, everyone boarded the St. Nicholas VII, helmed by a member of the Billiris family, whose ancestor started the company in 1924. While cruising into the Gulf, everyone heard about the sponge industry and its history, and saw a real sponge diver go underwater to retrieve sponges. Thanks to Susan Daniels of the social committee for arranging this excursion.

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

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

Freethinkers

Kathy Bell



“Caring for our fellow human beings is our highest calling.” – Jerry DeWitt, American author, public speaker, and atheist.

Freethinkers is pleased to welcome Tony Ray, executive director of Compassionate Options, on Sunday, Sept. 13. Tony is a fifth-generation Floridian who, in retirement, has transformed his experience as a business owner into building a nonprofit, grassroots movement dedicated to advancing legislation that gives terminally ill Floridians greater autonomy, dignity, and control over their personal healthcare decisions. Tony will discuss the current state of legislative efforts in Florida. While Oregon passed such legislation in 1997 and 12 states have followed suit, including New York in 2026, our own state representatives have not considered the bills introduced over the past three years. Additionally, Tony will provide insight into education, advocacy, and awareness of this very important issue.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, our friend Dr. Rod Broker will be back to present “Protest Music of the ‘50s and ‘60s,” an informative and entertaining look at how protest music shaped our formative years. During the 1950s, the United States was marked by the early Civil Rights Movement, the Cold War, and concerns about nuclear weapons. Folk music became

the primary genre for protest songs because its simple melodies made it easy for audiences to join in. The 1960s saw protest music become much more widespread as movements grew around civil rights, the Vietnam War, women’s rights, and social change. Overall, protest music showed how songs could become a powerful form of expression and activism, helping shape public opinion and support major social movements.

Freethinkers is an educational and social group designed specifically for non-religious residents on the freethinkers continuum from religious skeptics to avowed atheists. In addition to presentations, our freethought community offers opportunities for dining out together, in-depth discussions of philosophical topics at the Socrates Café, and our book club and open forum. Through our Doing Good for Good’s Sake program, we support Freedom Library by collecting brown mailing paper and used bubble wrap to help with their eBay book sales, which fund children’s programs. We help the homeless population in the forest and downtown Ocala by collecting used camping gear, clothing, shoes, towels, and blankets. Donations are accepted at each Sunday meeting.

If you have been looking for a secular community, join us at any of our Sunday meetings, which are held from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For questions and a copy of our current newsletter, please email us at FreethinkersFlorida@gmail.com.

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Tech Club

Chris Kilbride



Every Saturday at 9 a.m., the Ocala Tech Club convenes for an hour-long weekly meeting. We try to help members learn about the ever-changing technology that surrounds us through discussions of Android, Windows, and

Moonstruck Astronomy Club

Cammie Fairburn



Why don't aliens visit our solar system? Because they read the reviews and saw we only have one star! We have the Orionid meteor shower to look forward to in October. The Orionids, remnants of Halley's Comet, are active Friday, Oct. 2 through Saturday, Nov. 7, with the peak the night of Wednesday, Oct. 21 through Thursday, Oct. 22. A bright moon may interfere with the viewing. Look south to see the shower radiating from the Orion constellation. Early morning before sunrise is the best viewing time. To learn more about the meteor shower and other happenings in

Tech Tips

Shane Bobson
info@mybridgenet.com



Navigating the Digital Age

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing how we live, manage our homes, and connect with loved ones. From smart thermostats that adjust to your schedule to voice assistants that check the weather, AI makes daily routines more convenient. However, the same technology that brings helpful tools to our fingertips is also being used by scammers to trick unsuspecting individuals.

Understanding how to spot these digital traps is one of the best ways to protect your privacy, finances, and peace of mind.

Cybercriminals now use advanced AI software to mimic human behavior, creating scams that look and sound remarkably convincing.

- Voice Cloning: Scammers can take a short clip of a family member's voice from social media and use AI to generate a fake phone call. They might pretend your loved one is in an emergency and urgently needs money wired to them.
- Deceptive Emails and Texts: Automated writing tools allow criminals to send phishing messages free of spelling and grammar errors, making them look like official alerts from your bank, utility company, or Medicare.
- Fake Customer Support: Internet searches can sometimes lead you to fraudulent customer service numbers generated by AI to trick you into downloading remote access software or sharing credit card details.

You do not need to be a computer expert to stay safe. Implementing a few reliable habits drastically reduces your risk:

- Establish a Family Code Word: If you receive a frantic call from a family member asking for money, pause and ask them for a pre-established secret code word that only your immediate family knows.
- Verify Through Official Channels: Never click links in unexpected text messages or emails regarding your accounts. Instead, look up the official phone number on your billing statement or bank card to verify the request.
- Keep Personal Information Private: Avoid posting details like your pet's name, your hometown, or vacation dates on public social media profiles, as scammers use these details to guess passwords or impersonate you.
- Slow Down: Scammers rely on creating panic and urgency. Take a deep breath, hang up the phone, or step away from the computer before reacting to any unexpected financial demand.

Safely embracing modern technology means staying aware without losing the convenience it provides. By verifying unexpected communications and keeping family safety protocols in place, you can enjoy the benefits of today's digital tools with complete confidence.

Apple devices, including current issues. OcalaTechClub.org will give lots of great information about our group.

In years past, the local weekly newspaper would carry a full section of brightly colored ads from a variety of department and grocery stores, filled with coupons and specials. It is not a thing of the past; instead, they have now gone high-tech.

For those tech-savvy shoppers, the bargains and price comparisons are as lively as ever! By downloading a variety of apps to your smartphone or devices,

the October sky, search "NASA what's up" online to view a three-minute video. There is a new "What's Up" video every month.

At one of our meetings, Jim Di Paolo gave a presentation on the Voyager 1 and 2 spacecraft. They launched in 1977 to fly by and study Jupiter and Saturn. Then the mission was changed to fly by and study all the outermost planets, and it was later extended into interstellar space. Nearly 50 years later, the spacecraft are still sending data, which takes nearly 24 hours to reach Earth, and the mission should continue until 2036. Both spacecraft carry a golden record, a time capsule that could introduce us to a possible alien civilization.

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, Voyager 1 will be 16 billion miles from Earth. That is also the distance light travels in 24 hours, which is also known as one light-day. Voyager 1 is the first spacecraft to travel that far from Earth. Also, both Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 are the only spacecraft to have flown beyond the heliosphere, or the region influenced by our Sun.

Regular meetings of the Moonstruck Astronomy Club are on the second Thursday of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. Our next meeting is Thursday, Oct. 8. All residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass can join the club, and new members are welcome! Club dues are \$20 per year, and they include a subscription to the quarterly Reflector Magazine. For information or club registration, please contact club President Jim Di Paolo at moonastroclub@gmail.com. More information is always available at moonstruckastronomyclub.org.

Keep looking up!

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for example: Flipp, ShopSavvy, Google Shopping, PriceGrabber, Slickdeals, Rakuten, RetailMeNot, and others, you would be able to chart out your savings plan. Most major retailers offer their apps on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store; just search for the word "shopping" or the retailer's name.

Many apps compare a certain item among several retailers in your local vicinity after you type in your zip code. Some apps suggest you create an account with them so they can offer features like storing your favorites and sending you alerts about new sales. One feature might offer a barcode scanner, so that an exact product can be compared online with multiple retailers. While in a certain store, the company's app will let you research items.

Comparison shopping includes information about price, seller rating, shipping costs, scans of local ads, available coupons, and sale alerts, and it lists multiple stores in your search. Taking the time to chart your grocery list and check in with your favorite apps could save you significant dollars each year. Apps are also available for big purchases, like

finding deals on appliances.

Is all this work worth your time and effort? Prices change daily and are advertised online by the retailer. To keep current, you'll need online access to find today's bargains, hence an app. When shopping among a few stores in your vicinity, it's easy to chart out your driving and shopping plan. Stores offering limited-time deals will pop up as alerts, saving you money so you can plan your spending. Some stores will also price-match if asked now that you have the real-time scoop on other stores' pricing.

Residents are welcome to join our club for \$10 per individual per year or \$15 per couple. The "Contact" page on OcalaTechClub.org will connect you with us.

Each Thursday, members enjoy an in-person help session to discuss issues with their Windows or Apple computers, smartphones, or tablets. In-person classes are held on the first Friday and first Saturday each month, with online Zoom meetings held on additional Saturdays. Other than the Zoom meetings, everything we do is held in the Hobby Building.

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Thursday, November 26, 2026
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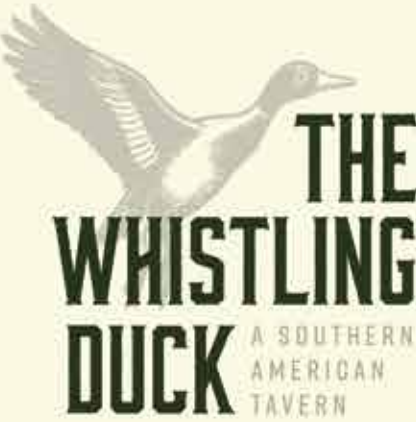
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Thursday, December 24, 2026
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

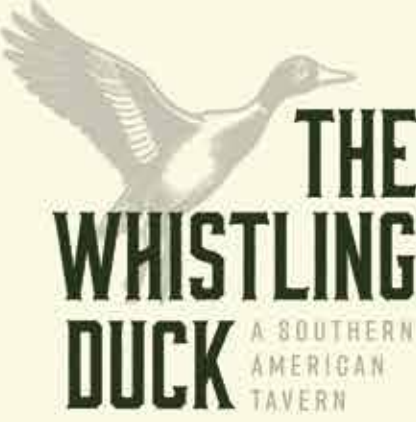
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Women of the World

Lois Rowland



Women of the World is a social and charitable organization. Our mission is to entertain, inform, educate, and inspire our members through our monthly meetings and to contribute to the local community by providing much-needed goods to those in Marion County.

Our monthly meetings are the second Thursday of each month at noon in the Recreation Center.

Many women visited our table at the Club Fair and expressed interest in our club. Since our first monthly meeting was held that day, we hope many will plan to attend the next meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8. Broadway Moves with Penny will provide a dance presentation. Our charity will be the Marion Therapeutic Riding Association.

In September, our speaker was Director of Wellness Cammy Dennis from On Top of the World. Cammy engaged the group with an interactive discussion of wellness. She guided the group in defin-

ing the seven dimensions of wellness: social, physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, environmental, and vocational. She spoke about the importance of an individual’s mindset and how the work of the Women of the World reflects and exemplifies several dimensions of wellness. She encouraged members to try the new Brain Gym located in the Recreation Center. Every resident is entitled to their own card, which helps individualize activities. Cammy’s presentation was informative and inspiring.

Our charity was Transitions Life Center (TLC) of Ocala. Kylie Leeward presented, and her commitment and enthusiasm for her work were outstanding. TLC provides a safe, caring, and enriching environment for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Many services are available to help meet this goal.

Special thanks to Dolores Burke who provided the minutes of the September meeting.

A bunco fundraising event is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 12, from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-IV. Light refreshments will be served, including sandwich wraps, fruit trays, and chips. Water will

be provided or you can bring your own beverage. There will be prizes, basket raffles, and prizes for a trivia game. The \$30 tickets are now on sale during Ticket Tuesday in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II from 9 a.m. to noon or at the October meeting.

The 23rd annual Fashion Show will be on Wednesday, March 10, 2027. We will provide additional details closer to the

event. Tickets will go on sale in January at Ticket Tuesday, Women of the World meetings in January and February, and at the Farmers Market beginning in January.

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

Genealogical Society

Sid Levine



Fall has arrived, and the Genealogical Society has started up after a summer break. Our September meeting featured staff from the Family History Center in Ocala. They discussed the upgrades and changes in the FamilySearch website, including how AI can affect our family history research.

We also had many prospective members attend after they visited our booth at the September Club Fair.

Our October meeting will include officer elections. Most officers will remain in their positions. Sid Levine will

be stepping down as president after two years at the helm. Deb Baker, our current education chairperson, will be stepping up to fill that position, and the education chairperson will be filled by one of several people who have expressed interest. Congratulations to the new board.

The Genealogical Society is dedicated to helping its members in their family history research and ancestry. We hold monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month in the Hobby Building Event Room. October’s meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. due to the extended program. The program will be about what you can find in the US Census. Members can also join the meetings via Zoom.

For more information about our club, email otowgens@gmail.com.

Joy in the Mourning

Deb Thompson



Joy in the Mourning is a bereavement support group. Experienced counselors offer invaluable suggestions and practical information for everyone. The goal is to bring hope and healing.

With great courage, people visit this group not knowing what to expect, except that they don’t know each other before attending. Over time, relatability is obvious; then compatibility comes into view. Common ground is now established. A twofold measure of understanding and compassion permeates. Before long, guards are dropped as folks sense they have stepped into a safe environment.

Is it an oxymoron that our deepest human connection is no longer, yet many human connections arise from complex situations? Joy in the Mourning provides a place where folks want to discover

their new identity as suddenly single. It won’t replace the loved one.

Goal-oriented research has proven it can mend and nourish the soul if one desires it. An olive branch of hope, so to speak, is extended to all. Some reach for it; others have not. Still the olive branch remains accessible.

Let the following poem, “Do Not Quit” by John Greenleaf Whittier, inspire you.

Currently, the group is discussing a book titled “Finding Hope and Healing.” Powerful quotes lace these pages. Earl Grollman states grief is universal. At the same time, it is extremely personal.

A joy in your mourning is possible if you choose. Intentionally deciding to grow through what you are going through will bring refreshment and positive results. Reader, have you entered this unwelcome season of life? Would you like encouragement and comfort in your forecast? Then you need to meet with us. Joy in the Mourning runs from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. every Friday in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room. My name is Deb, and you can reach me at 352-445-4860. Take good care of yourself!

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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 includes writers and wannabe writers. The class discusses writing techniques, and writes and critiques short stories.

This short story, “Finding Mr. Right,” was written by resident June Weiner. June is a published author whose work has appeared in two “Chicken Soup for the Soul” books. She has written three books, including “Over the Edge,” a short story collection with twist endings.

Finding Mr. Right

By June Weiner

In my chosen profession, the chances of meeting a man are zilch to zero. I work at the Happy Sunflower Nursery School where I teach little ones the art of stacking blocks, swinging on swings, napping, and the necessity of having graham crackers with your milk.

My friends have tried to fix me up, always with a nerdy crony of their husband’s. Apparently, they think those particular men are the ones I deserve. Sometimes, when I look in the mirror at my facial scars, I feel they are right. The last blind date was with Franklin, an engineer who showed up at my door wearing high-waisted shorts, white tube socks, and brown loafers. We dined on hamburgers and fries at the Big Bun Cafe, where Franklin dripped catsup on his white shirt, nested food in his mustache, and asked me to pay half the check.

In desperation, I have decided to join a dating site. My profile reads:

I am a 35-year-old nursery school teacher who spends her spare time reading and watching old movies on TCM; my favorite is “The Wizard of Oz.” I have a cat named Claws, who has scratched my couch to shreds, but I love her just the same. An ideal date for me would be browsing the library, birdwatching, or thrift-store shopping.

What I don’t include is that, as a child, I was in a car accident that left me with lesions on half of my face. I add a

photo of myself, a candid shot taken at an angle that conceals the scarred half of me. I do not hide the fact that I am a big girl, full-figured, and stand 5’8” tall.

I have swiped through endless amounts of photos of men, sort of like choosing a stray dog from the pound, with no way to know if they are biters or barkers (or both) until you bring them home. So far, I have been hesitant to reach out to anyone; I’ve had so much disappointment in the dating department and need to gear myself up for more of the same. Tonight, as I am perusing the site, I notice that someone has put a “like” on my profile. From his photo, he appears to be tall and muscular. His name is Joe, and he has a kind face topped with a head of wavy, dark hair. I scan his bio and find that he is my age and has also never been married. I read further to discover that he stocks shelves at a local market. What excites me is that he likes to read and birdwatch.

I message him, and he messages back with an invitation to meet up. I hesitate because I would rather we get to know each other first. A two-week correspondence ensues, a polite series of conversations about places we’ve lived and details about our families. After a week, our exchanges become flirty.

(Joe) “Good morning! I’m counting the minutes till you say we can meet up.”

(Me) “Soon, Joe, soon!”

(Joe) “I hope you spend your day thinking of me as much as I think of you.”

Joe always answers me immediately, a sure sign that he is glued to his phone, waiting for my answer. It’s the first time in my life that a man has paid this much attention to me, leaving me as giddy as a schoolgirl.

We also share opinions about the books we’ve read. And when Joe mentions that he loves my mind, that is the moment I decide it is the right time for us to meet up. We make plans for a Saturday afternoon at the park. I will bring along a picnic basket with cheese, crackers, and fruit. Joe will supply lemonade

and binoculars for birdwatching. I can’t wait to spend time with him and see if we have, as they say, chemistry. At the same time, I dread his possible reaction to my scarring. I still have a full week of school ahead of me to get through.

Finally, Saturday arrives. What to wear? I decided on jeans, a brown T-shirt, and my Birkenstock sandals. I grab my purse and keys and settle into my trusty, old Toyota. My palms are sweaty, and my stomach lurches with anxiety. I can only hope that Joe is not like all the other guys I have met up with, visibly turned off as soon as they lay eyes on me.

I take a deep breath before exiting the car. The beautiful day has brought out the crowds. Children are running around, teens are gathered in groups, and adults are relaxing in the shade of trees. Joe told me he would be wearing a red shirt so I could easily spot him. Sure enough, I notice him sitting on a blanket under a large oak.

“Hello, Joe,” I hold my breath, waiting to see his reaction to me.

“Nice to m-meet you, Alice.”

Joe stutters as he stands up. A smile lights up his face.

I stare in disbelief as he takes in all of me without a critical eye. For a moment I am speechless. Abruptly, Joe backs away and frowns, his lips quivering. I’ve seen this reaction before; the look of someone squirming to get out of a situation.

“Look, I get it.” I run a hand over my scars.

“Why should you be different from all the other guys? Just go if you want to.”

“I d-don’t understand,” Joe stammers.

“When y-you stood there in silence, I thought y-you were the one that wanted to l-leave.”

“Why would I want to do that?” I ask.

“Th-the way I speak. M-most women don’t g-give-me a chance.”

“I am not like most women, Joe.”

“And I am not like most g-guys.”

Joe takes my hand and looks into my eyes.

“Y-you are b-beautiful.”

I look back at him, and somehow, I know I’ve found Mr. Right.

Christian Women's Club

Fran Acoba



Our diverse community of Christian women continues to grow and experience the spirit of the living and living God. At our August luncheon, Karen Carlson presented the biblical proposition that the human’s soul, the “inner person,” finds peace, wisdom, and joy (impossible to find elsewhere) when communing with God through prayer. The book of Psalms is nuanced and not shy of the reality. Some Psalms are descriptive – what happened in history; most are prescriptive, e.g., King David, beset with overpowering distress, “instructs” his soul to praise God, which “refreshes [his] soul.” Yahweh is “from everlasting to everlasting” and relentlessly pursues us with his love.

We learned about the intersection of neuroscience and faith in our September luncheon. God empowers us to transform our lives so that we may flourish and affect positive change in the world as “salt and light.”

Thank you to Mary Keip, who repre-

sented us at the Club Fair in September.

We have a new monthly game day for all to enjoy on the third Tuesday in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room I from 1 to 3 p.m.

If you hunger for a deeper relationship with God, are interested in finding purpose and meaning, and/or want encouragement, we welcome you.

Join us for our monthly potluck luncheon (bring a favorite dish and friends) on Saturday, Oct. 17 (every third Saturday), from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room I. At this meeting, we look forward to hearing about what the Lord is doing around the world with a presentation by Rosalina Norita.

Please contact Joanne Luu at joanneluu@yahoo.com or 808-542-8430 for questions and prayer requests.

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Photo by Dave Laliberte

Horseshoe Club members – Dave Laliberte, Vern Kessler and Paul Lariviere – at the Club Fair.

Horseshoes Hit the Mark

By Vern Kessler

The club wants to thank Dave Laliberte for all the hard work he did to get the Horseshoe Club ready for the Club Fair. Also, thanks to the members who came out to help: Dave Ackroyd and Paul Lariviere. We had a very good turnout. The Horseshoe Club met with many interested residents and explained the secrets of throwing horseshoes.

The club will continue to meet on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the Veterans Park pits to pitch horseshoes. This is a great time to come out and try pitching shoes with club members. The club also pitches horseshoes for practice at the pits in Veterans Park on Thursdays at 9 a.m.

The club wants to recognize Dave Ackroyd for pitching his very first six-point

double ringers at last Tuesday's event.

The horseshoe pits are available to residents most days. Shoes, brooms, and dustpans are available at the pits. Please remove the white PVC pipe covering the steel stake before pitching any shoes. Replace the PVC pipe when you're done, sweep up around the pits, and put away all equipment used.

The Horseshoe Club is free to join. No monthly dues or expensive equipment to buy. On Top of the World has provided everything you need to pitch shoes.

Always remember, this is the most fun you can have with two and a half pounds of steel.

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

Summer League Wrap-Up

By Phil Panzera

Congratulations to the Billiards Club summer league champions, Edi Piasiecki's Team 11, which had the highest winning percentage of any team in the entire league. Edi's team included: Co-captain Dave Piasiecki, Woody Clay, Donna Gilmore, Paul Kannapel, Frank Milles, Dave Smith and Tim Williams.

Kathy Chmela's Team 9 was very close behind, neck and neck until the last week. Dwight Weirich's Team 8 also performed well to take third place in the Wolves.

In the Lions division, we had a similar down-to-the-wire finish. Lulu Kerkhoff's Team 4 won the highest percentage of matches and prevailed as the division champions. Lulu's team included: Co-Captain Bob Papirner, Rich Deschenes, Mark Gatchell, Carl Spotts, Phil Panzera and Bill Weir.

Mike Lawson's Team 2 was a hair's breadth behind, winning second place in the Lions. Ralph Szelenyi's Team 3 won just as many games as the top two finishers, and captured third place.

A reminder to all that our current music policy in the room is "temporary." Personal music and speakers are allowed for now, but only until the planned piped-in music system is installed.

If any resident finds the music genre or volume offensive or uncomfortable, community management's only solu-

tion is to politely say something and request a change. It is your amenity too, and your right; if your enjoyment of the amenity is affected, don't be bashful.

Tip of the Month: "Draw for show, fol-

low for the dough." Or, "Draw for flash, follow for the cash." If you haven't heard either of these common pool sayings, they are wise words. In a recent Wednesday evening class, we spent a valuable hour on "where is the cue going?" We had several people shoot follow, stun and draw shots, and marked on the table many varied results.

The visual markings made it obvious. The follow shots hit the rail in a very tight band, an inch or two across. The stun (sideways) shots followed the tangent line to hit within a range of 5 or 6

inches. And the draw shots had a completely different range of 18 to 24 inches!

The lesson here is crystal clear. Follow is very predictable, tracking down a narrow path over a wide range of common ball hits. Stun is a bit more sensitive. And draw is substantially harder to control, with huge variances based on the "quality" of the draw stroke.

So whenever you have an equal or similar choice between either draw or follow for position, just remember the conventional wisdom: "Draw for show, follow for the dough."



Photo by Phil Panzera

2026 summer league champions.

Double Elimination, One Champion

By Gerry Meier

The summer Rec League Softball season playoffs are now complete, and a champion has been crowned. For the first time in history, a double-elimination tournament determined the champion. This format created a strong incentive to win: teams could play just one game per day, while losing meant endur-

ing a second game in the summer heat.

Here is a recap of the tournament:

- Day 1 (Aug. 13): G1 (8:30 a.m.) Braves vs Hot Wheels (winner); G2 (9:45 a.m.) Ball Busters vs Sultan of Swing (winner); G3 (11 a.m.) Braves vs Ball Busters (winner).
- Day 2 (Aug. 18): G4 (8:30 a.m.)

Sultans of Swing (winner) vs Hot Wheels; G5 (9:45 a.m.) Ball Busters (winner) vs Hot Wheels.

Day 3 (Aug. 20): G6 (8:30 a.m.) Ball Busters (winner) vs Sultans of Swing; G7 (9:45 a.m.) Ball Busters (winner) vs Sultans of Swing.

Day 1: The games were highly competitive, with every team in a position to win in the final innings. As expected, the third game became a true test of endurance in the heat.

Day 2: The matchups remained close, and the teams that executed best down the stretch emerged victorious. Ball Busters held Hot Wheels scoreless in the last inning for the win.

Day 3: The championship game came down to Matty's Sultans of Swing, featuring some of the league's most feared home-run hitters, against Ernie's Ball Busters, who fought their way through the losers' bracket with determination and grit. In the first game Ball Busters came out hitting, scoring five runs in the first before the Sultans had a chance to Swing. There were some great catches and plays made, but the Ball Busters just hit their way to a 16 to nine victory. This set up a winner-take-all game. Who will be the champs? Will the Sultans of Swing get their Swat back, or will first time manager Ernie Sersen pull off the upset? In a well played 14 to 13 game going into the last at bat for the Sultans of Swing, the Ball Busters held them to zero runs in the last inning to preserve the victory. Only one team can have fewer than two losses.

Congratulations to the Ball Busters; they are the 2026 summer season champions.

The fall season started Tuesday, Sept. 8, games are scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Shade umbrellas are available for spectators. We encourage you to come out and support the athletes.

Fall Season
(Draft day Aug. 26)
Standings as of Sept. 10

1: Bo's Bombers managed by John Bojanac (2-0). 2: Hitmen managed by Leon Egozi (2-1). 3: GoodFellows managed by Mike Hoenie (1-1). 4: Jerry's Kids managed by Gerry Meier (1-2). 5: Lumber Company managed by Joe Matriccino (0-2).

If you are interested in playing, please come by and see us. Email us at therecsoftballclub@gmail.com. To follow the league, visit www.recsoftball.org.



Photo by Corky Gaskell

Summer season champion.

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¹BJ's Easy Renewal enrollment requires you authorize BJ's to charge any payment method on record an annual recurring charge in the amount of the then-current membership fee for all memberships on your account, plus applicable tax, starting the first day of the month your membership expires ("Start Date"), without notice, unless regulated by law. Visit your Bjs.com account, a member services desk, or call 800-BJ's CLUB to manage or cancel BJ's Easy Renewal; cancel before the Start Date to avoid being charged. Not combinable or redeemable for cash. Sales tax may apply. In order to renew at the Corporate Partnership Program discounted membership offer, you must renew via your BJ's Membership Sales Representative. Expires: 10/31/2026.

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Golf

Matt Hibbs
352-854-2765
matt_hibbs@otowfl.com



With fall officially upon us, we would like to welcome back all the snowbirds. This is the time of year when the community is booming with excitement. Golf has an exciting event schedule for the rest of the year, so please watch for our upcoming events.

A big thank you to everyone who donated to the Folds of Honor Foundation over Labor Day weekend. The Folds of Honor Foundation provides educational scholarships and other assistance to the spouses and children of soldiers. We raised \$1,573 for this great organization.

I would like all golfers to familiarize yourselves with the World Handicap System. It is important to understand

all the proper policies and procedures for maintaining a proper handicap through the World Handicap System. On Top of the World currently has a handicap committee consisting of roughly 10 community golfers. The purpose of the handicap committee is:

1. Establish a handicap committee.
2. Ensure the club meets the definition of a golf club.
3. Know the Rules of Handicapping.
4. Educate and communicate the Rules of Handicapping to members.
5. Ensure course details are accurate (Type 1 Club).
6. Make the process of converting a Handicap Index to a Course Handicap™ as easy as possible.
7. Facilitate the timely submission of scores.
8. Maintain accurate player scoring records.
9. Apply applicable penalty scores and adjust the Handicap Index of

any member whose Handicap Index does not reflect their demonstrated ability.

10. Perform annual handicap reviews.

Please ensure you are posting all scores and from the correct course and tee you played. This is extremely important to keep your handicap as accurate as possible. If not, you could be the next golfer audited by the handicap committee.

Upcoming Events

- Monday, Oct. 12: Candler Hills Member Appreciation.
- Thursday, Oct. 15: Michelle-O-Gram, Candler Hills.
- Monday, Oct. 19: On Top of the World Member Appreciation.
- Saturday, Oct. 31: On Top of the World Trick-or-Treat Open.

World Accolades

THE TORTOISE & THE HARE: Steve Bassett, eagle #9. Bob Mondore, shot 72, ten

strokes under his age.

THE LINKS: Tom Weiss, shot 73, one stroke under his age.

CANDLER HILLS: Karen Campbell, eagle #7. Robert Meyer, eagle #7. Brian Bennett, eagle #11 & #12. Donna McCombs, eagle #7. Chuck Simon, eagle #14. Dennis Bricker, hole-in-one #5. Mark Gumm, eagle #7.

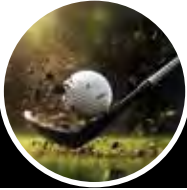
Congratulations to all for these fine accomplishments.

Golf Tip of the Month

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

Candler Hills Men's Golf

Kevin Hermida



Fishing and golf are more alike than you think. At first glance, fishing and golf seem like completely different activities. One takes place on the water, while the other takes place on a golf course. Both require patience, skill, strategy, concentration, and an appreciation for the outdoors.

Patience is one of the biggest similarities. A golfer can hit a great shot one minute and make a poor one the next. A fisherman can make the perfect cast and still wait hours for a bite. Neither sport guarantees success. Learning to stay patient and positive when things do not go as planned is important for both.

Both sports also require strategy. Golfers consider distance, wind, course conditions, and which club to use. Fishermen must consider weather, tides, water depth, structure, bait, and the type of fish they are targeting. Experience helps players in both sports make better decisions as conditions change.

Skill and practice are equally important. Golfers work on their swing and putting, while fishermen practice casting, learn techniques, and understand

how to use their equipment. Improvement comes with time, experience, and learning from mistakes.

Fishing and golf are also great social activities. Golfers spend several hours together talking and enjoying friendly competition. Fishing offers the same opportunity, whether on a boat, at a dock, or on the shoreline. The friendships and memories created can be just as rewarding as catching a fish or shooting a good score.

Perhaps most importantly, both sports teach mental toughness. Golfers must recover from a bad shot, while fishermen must remain patient when the fish are not biting. Both teach people to stay focused, adapt, and enjoy the experience.

Both sports demand patience, preparation, strategy, skill, and perseverance. They challenge people to respond calmly to uncertainty, learn from mistakes, and appreciate the journey as much as the result. In the end, perhaps the real measure of success is not the fish caught or the score recorded, but the character developed while waiting for the next opportunity. Join us; visit chmga.com for details.

Luncheon Scramble

Paul Siders, John Hill, Randy Keller, Loren Magsam. Tie-Jeffery Holmes, Rick Schriewer, Denis Briker, Tom Lonigrow, and Rich Campbell; Rusty Zarell, Dale Szymanski, Walter Kurtz.

Two-Man Best Ball

Flight 1: Paul Siders, John Parnau. Larry Skechers, Travis Karlin. Brian Bennett, Joe Jingco.

Flight 2: Tim Carlisle, Guy Steiger. Peter Mezuk, Pat Cioffi. Jack Sneddon, Dale Szymanski.

B/D

Flight 1: Rusty Zarell, Bruce Rothenberg. Steve Wrazen, Omer Fannin. Charles Simon, Rick Deroven.

Flight 2: Michael Cunningham, Richard Foltyniewicz. Bob Hanley, Bob LeMaster. Rich Seivers, John Evans

Two Best Balls of Four

Rusty Zarell, Ken Acos, Mike Inge, James McCormick. Jeffery Holmes, Larry Smallwood, John McMahon, Curt Bingham. Tie-John Herman, Rick Ferris, Bruce Weaver, John Devito, Randy Kajewski, Rick Scheiver, Ray Christ, Richard Foltyniewicz, Larry Skoch, Rich Seivers, Terry Thomas, Bill Kenyon, Anthony Morris, Rick Pettit, Bruce Rothenberg, James McCormick, Dale Szymanski, Mike Bernhardt, Kevin McGuinness, Joe Pruss.

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Candler Hills
Ladies 18-Hole

Beth Wolinsky



Knowing the rules of golf is important. An excellent seminar was held to review the rules and a big thank you goes to Brenda Hofmann and Denise Mullen for organizing this. An informative handout was given to help explain these sometimes very complicated rules. A good guideline is to call the golf pros if you're confused about a rule. This would prevent a disqualification for inadvertently doing the wrong thing.

A golf course is only as good as its staff, whether out on the links or in the Golf Shop. We are grateful for all the hard work that is being done on Candler Hills regularly. We held an appreciation luncheon for these valuable people. Thanks for all you do.

Mark your calendar. The Michelle-O-Gram will take place on Thursday, Oct. 15. We are looking forward to this worthwhile event. The fall membership meeting and elections are Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Candler Hills Community Center after golf. Further details about both events will follow.

The Candler Hills LGA-18 is open to any woman resident. If you'd like to

join, contact our president, Sandy Snyder, at freesand@icloud.com. It's a great way to meet some new ladies and play golf.

Finally, believe, achieve and enjoy golf. As always, stay hydrated and be careful out there.

Red/White/Blue Scramble (Team)
Aug. 13

45–Christine Giza, Beverly Ovrebo, MJ Strelec, Kate Beaty. 49–Lori Pizzini, Diane Boston, Mary A. Cunningham, Renee Middleton. 49–Mary Jeannotte, Sandra Mansfield, Beth Wolinsky, Carol Clark. 50–Cindy Pursel, Donna Cosenza, Peggy Mathis. 50–Linda Taylor, Brenda Hofmann, JoAnn Delmar, Vickie Foster.

Cha Cha (Team)
Aug. 27

102–Shelly Karsnitz, MJ Strelec, Liz Pruss. 104–Lynn Colomb, Kathleen Goodwin, JoAnn Delmar. Tie at 106–Lisa Free, Roxiann Dwyer, Diane Boston. Cindy Pursel, Paula Lilly, Terry Lemesh. Page Falconer, Connie Norris, Nancy Olson. Sandy Snyder, Debby Wilson, Carol Clark.

Low Gross/Net Red/Green Challenge
(Individual)
Sept. 3

Flight 1: 78–Gayla Aldridge. 78–Lisa Free. Flight 2: 84–Karen Campbell. 90–Kathleen Goodwin. Flight 3: 92–Marla Bennett. 96–Paula Lilly. Flight 4: 86–MJ Strelec. 95–Robin LeMaster. Flight 5: 102–Carol Clark. 108–Roxiann Dwyer.

Net
Flight 1: 72–Lynn Colomb. Flight 2: 75–Katie Schriewer.

Ladies 18-Hole
Golf Association

Pamela Robison



Did you know that in this month in 1963, LPGA great Mickey Wright secured her fourth LPGA championship title at Stardust Country Club in Las Vegas, Nevada with a final score of 294 (+10)?

Disc Golf Scramble
July 14/The Links

48–Sharon Fairclough, Virginia Combs, Liz Pruss, Kathy Sisti. Tie at 49–Sandy Snyder, Marcela Nunez, Connie Norris, Renee Anchors, Renee Cook-Garcia, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Ellen Brin, Renee Middleton, Page Falconer, Diane Boston, Marla Bennett, Robin LeMaster, Gayla Aldridge, Jill Strey, Patty Whitley, Donna Brunell. Tie at 50–Vadonna Hall, Karen Campbell, Christine McIntire, Connie Lukas, Sandra Mansfield, Debby Wilson, Debra DeMatteo, May Chin.

Alternate Shot Black Tees
July 21/The Tortoise & The Hare

A&D Flight: 55–Lisa Free, Nancy Olsen. 56–Page Falconer, Virginia Madura. Tie at 59–Gayla Aldridge, Renee Middleton, Sharon Fairclough, Joy1 Gerardi. B&C Flight: Tie at 56–Janette Sheil, Connie Sohl, Karen Campbell, Diane Hartman. Tie at 57–Jill Strey, Tracey1 Rouw, Marcela Nunez, Christine McIntire.

Random Nine
July 28/The Links

Flight 1: 37–Christine Giza. 38–Connie Edelen. Tie at 39–Sandy Snyder, Renee Cook-Garcia. Flight 2: 36–Cindy Pursel. 37–Diane Boston. Tie at 39–Karen Schroeckenthaler, Virginia Combs. Flight 3: 35–Cynthia Gersten. 37–Barbara Vincent. Tie at 38–Joann Delmar, Joann Dellapenna. Flight 5: 32–Nancy Olsen. 33–Joy Gerardi. 39–Joan MacEachern. 40–Terry Lemesh.

Four Person Scramble
Aug. 4/The Tortoise & The Hare

Flight 1: 59–Gayla Aldridge, Renee Garcia-Cook, Connie Edelen. 60–Sharon Fairclough, Lori Pizzini,

Flight 3: 73–Suzanne Mullineaux. Flight 4: 70–Connie Norris. Flight 5: 81–Donna Cosenza.

Christine Giza, Sandra Mansfield. Flight 2: Tie at 62–Diane Boston, Karen Campbell, Jill Storey, Judie Anderson, Virginia Combs, Patty Whitley, Janette Sheil.

Flight 3: 62–Maria Bennett, Connie Norris, Cindy Goggin. 69–Tracey Rouw, Liz Pruss, Robyn Atwood. Flight 4: 60–Renee Anchors, Nancy Olson, Donna Brunell, Barbara Vincent. 68–May Chin, Kathy Sisti, Renne Middleton.

One Gross/One Net Best Ball
Aug. 11/ The Links

Flight 1: 139–Gayla Aldridge, Christine Giza, Karen Campbell, Debby Wilson. 141–Sandy Snyder, Sandra Mansfield, Diane Boston, Paula Lilly. Tie at 142–Vadonna Hall, Mary Jeannotte, Beverly Ovrebo, Lisa Free, Gail LaGrange, Marcela Nunez, Katie Schriewer. Flight 2: 154–Connie Sohl, Christine McIntire, Joy Gerardi, Barbara Vincent. 155–Robin LeMaster, Susanne Mullineaux, Renee Middleton, Tracey Rouw. 157–Roxiann Dwyer, Diane Hartman, Tammy Seutter.

Vegas Scramble
Aug. 25/The Links

60–Gayla Aldridge, Connie Norris, Robyn Atwood, Gerry McKenzie. 61–Tracey Rouw, Barbara Vincent, Grace Turato, 62–Marcela Nunez, Bobbie Wiener, Patti Szymanski, Joy Gerardi. Tie at 64–Mary Jeannotte, Karen Schroeckenthaler, Karen Anchors, Paula Wadsworth, Gail LeGrange, MJ Strelec, Donna McCombs, Renee Middleton.

Shuffleboard



Walt Lamp

In October, our schedule is changing. Regular shuffleboard on Mondays now starts at 10 a.m. Ten-Pin shuffleboard on Thursdays and Saturdays starts at 10 a.m. Call Jane Boyer at 908-256-2537 or Walt Lamp at 352-304-8711 with any questions.

And don't forget about our free Introduction for Shuffleboard class which takes place on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. at the courts. Paul Hodges will host again.

There are practice sticks and discs on the side of our clubhouse at the Veterans Park. You don't have to be a club member to enjoy shuffleboard!



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Ballroom Dancing Practice Club

Walter Galas



Looking for a fun, welcoming way to spend your Wednesday afternoon? Join the Ballroom Dancing Practice Club every Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II.

Residents are invited, regardless of experience. Our club offers free beginner dance lessons designed to help you feel comfortable, build confidence, and enjoy learning at your own pace. Whether you arrive on your own or bring a partner, you'll find a friendly group ready to welcome you to the dance floor.

No previous experience is needed – just bring your enthusiasm and a willingness to have fun! Our supportive atmosphere makes it easy to meet new people, learn exciting steps, and enjoy the many benefits of ballroom dancing.

Experienced dancers are also encouraged to join us. Your guidance, encouragement, and friendly assistance can make a meaningful difference for those who are just getting started. Together, we can create a positive and inclusive community where everyone feels welcome.

Come visit us any Wednesday or email us at ballroomdancingpracticeclub@gmail.com. We can't wait to dance with you!

Line Dancing

Joe Spencer



Come join our fun family of line dance friends and learn the newest mainstream dances performed around the world, as well as popular classics. This will enable you to join your friends on the dance floor at almost any social event or workshop. We use all types of music.

There are three levels available: Absolute Beginner (AB), from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., then Beginner, from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., and Improver, from noon to 1 p.m., on Mondays in the Recreation Center Ballroom. We also have practice sessions on Wednesdays.

There is a new line dance class in The Landing Ballroom for Weybourne Landing residents on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon. Weybourne Landing residents may also join the Monday classes and socials with a Gateway of Services pass.

Many dancers purchase tickets for multiple levels to get more exercise and learn more dances. Practice is the key. The more practice, the better. There are also line dance socials, where dancers can dance the dances they have learned in the Monday classes.

The October social will have a Halloween theme.

We just had an amazing line dance workshop with three top instructors/choreographers known worldwide: Michele Burton, Michael Barr, and Larry Bass. We are already looking forward to another one in 2027.

If you would like to join the classes, the next session will be for November/December. Tickets go on sale on the OTOW App from Tuesday, Oct. 6 through Friday, Oct. 16. AB, Beginner, and Improver classes are one hour on Mondays, plus practice on Wednesday. Each session is \$25 per level for that two-month session. You will also receive links to the dance step sheets and videos usually two days before each class by email. If you are just starting or trying a new level, please keep in mind that many others have been dancing for a while, so there may be some dances you may not know or need to catch up on. We always suggest that you focus on the new dances being taught, and you will pick up the others eventually.

Line dancing has so many tremendous physical and mental health benefits. It keeps us moving. Line dancing is also one of the few activities that helps with Alzheimer's and dementia because we memorize and repeat patterns. Many dancers say that it helps their joints or flexibility.

Keep in mind, line dancing takes time to learn at first. On average, a new line dancer may take months to understand the basics. We laugh a lot and make "variations." This is a great way to meet new friends. If you have any questions, email joeship1@yahoo.com. Join us on Facebook (Line Dance Ocala or OTOW Line Dancers).

Poms Cheer & Dance

Pamela Kalamaras



Poms Dance and Cheer Squad had a productive summer developing exciting new choreography for our newest rock 'n' roll medley. We have also fine-tuned both our sock hop and patriotic medleys to include challenging moves, formations, precision pom-pom moves, and kick lines.

Speaking of kick lines, we are polishing them up and plan to feature them in some of our performances. Of course, we can't compare ourselves to the Radio City Rockettes, but we can still offer what has proven to be a crowd-pleaser. Along with footwork and precision, we also focus on core strength and flexibility.

With fall here, we have started to revise our holiday medley. Our goal is to make our dance and cheer even more exciting. We always strive to add more challenging moves to the routines and share these accomplishments with our audiences.

If you are planning an event with a patriotic, holiday, rock 'n' roll, or '50s theme, we have a great repertoire of medleys to choose from. We are ready to take your reservation for 2027.

In September, we attended the Club Fair and were thrilled to present our dance and cheers for the SWANS' 20th anniversary.

On Friday, Oct. 3, we have the honor of performing at The Landing dedication of their flag. On Monday, Oct. 19, we will be part of the opening ceremony for the first annual On Top of the World Games. Then, in November, one of our favorite events is taking place: the Veterans Day celebration, where we will honor resident veterans with dance and cheer.

If you would like Poms Dance and Cheer Squad to perform at your next event, we are available for future dates. We hope the love we have for what we do shines through in each performance. Go pommies! Please contact Pam Kalamaras at pammykal@aol.com for more information.

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Photo by Rick Munsell

In August, Poms Dance and Cheer Squad performed a sock hop medley at Aviata at Arbor Springs.



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All of our classes are held in the Arbor Conference Center Studio D. You don't need ballet clothes to start class. All you need are exercise clothes, socks, and a bottle of water. Any questions? Call Eugenie Martin at 352-854-8589. Happy dancing!



Photo by Laura Schnur

Dancing Jewels ready to “thrill” you.

Birthday, wedding or anniversary announcements may be emailed to news@colenbuilt.net by the 12th of the month.

Laura Schnur



Dancing Jewels would love to perform at your next club meeting. Call Linda or Laura at 973-809-3338 or 352-817-7405. We perform hula, jazz, "Thriller," and marches.



Photo by **Domenica Genovese**

We say farewell to Ying Bailey, center, who will be away for several months traveling in China and Thailand

Domenica Genovese

If you have ever wondered what happens in our Meditation Group, take a moment to read on. Every Tuesday our group gathers for 20 minutes of silence followed by 40 minutes of conversation. We begin with a short reading – sometimes it's a line from a poem, at other times a saying from Rumi, Thich Nhat Hanh, or Georgia O'Keeffe. The readings are a springboard to conversations about our lives, our relationships, or our sense of place in the world. The tone of our discussions varies. Sometimes we laugh. At other times we listen carefully. Often, we leave with a better understanding of a simple problem that many of us face.

The research on meditation keeps catching up to what people who sit regularly already know. A well-known review published in *JAMA Internal Medicine* found mindfulness meditation eased anxiety in adults. Researchers at Vanderbilt recently found that meditation may help the brain clear waste in a way that resembles what happens during sleep. The science behind meditation is com-

selling, but that's not why most of us practice. Many of us are lifelong meditators; others come because a friend mentioned it, or because it's a way to find a quiet hour in a busy day.

What keeps people coming back is the experience we share in that room once a week. No one claims to have all the right answers. Instead, we enjoy pulling ideas apart together and sometimes arrive at a deeper insight into a problem.

Last week we wished “bon voyage” to our friend Ying Bailey, a Chinese Buddhist who has been a fixture in our Tuesday meetings. Ying is heading back to her hometown of Chengdu for several months. When Ying first joined us, she spoke so softly we sometimes had to lean in to hear her. Over time, and by her own account, the group helped her grow more comfortable with her English. These days she speaks up regularly and adds real depth to our discussions. Watching that kind of confidence grow has been one of the pleasures of this group.

If any of this sounds like something you would enjoy, come join us! We meet every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room I. For more information, email Athena at dr.athena.drewes@gmail.com, Brenda at brenda@gcfonline.com, or Domenica at domenica@gcfonline.com.



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Archery Club

Robin Schiltz



Now is your chance to channel your inner Robin Hood! Come on out and give archery a try in a fun environment at the Archery Club’s fall open house on Thursday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Veterans Park pavilion. Please bring your valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass for registration.

Start your visit at the pavilion, where our members will greet you and register you. Then hop on a golf cart ride to the range at the back of the park for a short, guided tour. The highlight of the day? You’ll get to shoot a few arrows yourself (all equipment provided) with our experienced instructors by your side to help you aim for that satisfying bullseye.

Afterward, we’ll bring you back to the pavilion where you can ask questions and chat with club members about your experience. This event is the perfect way to see what archery is all about – no experience or equipment needed, just enthusiasm!

The Archery Club manages the archery range and welcomes archers of all skill levels, from beginners to competitive shooters. Equipment is available for newcomers and those returning after a break. Our on-site maintenance shop keeps club and personal equipment in top condition.

The club is also home to practitioners of kyudo, a traditional martial art emphasizing spiritual and mental development. Its slow, deliberate movements promote focus and inner harmony. To learn more, visit us on Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. or contact Brenda Foster at brenda@gcfonline.com.

Each Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, “Freestyle Friday” gives novice archers access to club mentors who can help improve their skills. Members are also invited to attend monthly workshops covering various aspects of archery.

Range use is for members only. As noted above, club membership is open to residents who hold a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

To join, visit otowarcheryclub.org > New Members, complete the application and waivers, and bring them to your mandatory safety training session. For information, contact Chuck at chuck.archery@strickland.net or 407-257-9668, or Suzi at suzanne.shea61@gmail.com or 908-510-5714.

Call of the Wild Sports Club

Steve Sekac



September in Florida’s Big Bend offered some of the most productive and diverse saltwater fishing on the Gulf Coast, with cooler water, fewer crowds, and a mix of inshore and offshore action.

For offshore action, gag grouper season is open until Oct. 1, with limits of two fish 24” or larger to keep. They are found in water as shallow as eight feet and are often found on points and structure. Mangrove snapper are also active, especially near river mouths and drop-offs, and are caught on live shrimp. Snook season opened Sept. 1 with a slot limit of 28” to 33”; targeted around creek mouths on high outgoing tides. Inshore catches include spotted seatrout, redfish, and flounder.

Shooting Director Paul Jorgensen reported the following results, including 10 shooters submitting a total of 85 scores.

Handicap Competition
August

109–Ray Baker. 104–Chip Futch. 102–Mark Uttermark.

Year-to-Date

111–Ray Baker. 110–Paul Jorgensen. 105–Mark Uttermark.

Year-to-Date Scratch High Score

85–Mark Uttermark.

Complete month/year-to-date score

OCTOBER 2026 FITNESS

RECREATION FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	SPARC JOE	Step DEBBIE	Remix Bootcamp DEBBIE	Step DEBBIE	SPARC NADINE
8:00 am BODY CONT.	Cardio Boxing NADINE		Tai Chi ART		Dance Aerobics JOAN
9:00 am	S.O.S. NADINE	Stretch, Flex & Balance DEBBIE	S.O.S. JOAN C.	Stretch, Flex & Balance DEBBIE	S.O.S. DEBBIE
9:00 am BODY CONT.	Chair Pilates SELIAN		BEAT LOBBIE		Chair Pilates SELIAN
10:00 am	Balanced Body LARRY	Chair Yoga DEBBIE	Balanced Body LOBBIE	Chair Yoga NICKI	Balanced Body DEBBIE
10:00 am BODY CONT.	Chair Yoga SANDRA		Chair Yoga SCOTT		Chair Yoga SCOTT
11:00 am	Cardio Drumming NADINE	Brain Power BO TEAM	Get Fit While You Sit JOE	Sculpt VICKI	
11:00 am BODY CONT.	Dance Aerobics LOBBIE		Zumba® NADINE		Zumba® NADINE
12:00 pm		Parkinson's B.A.S.E.** CHERYL		Move to Improve Parkinson's** SUE	SATURDAY CLASSES: S.O.S. 9 am Chair Yoga 10 am
1:00 pm		Chair Chi** ART		Beginner/Intermediate Tai Chi** NANCY	
3:00 pm	VYP Chair Yoga JOE	Balanced Body CHERYL	Chair Yoga TREHA	Balanced Body LOBBIE	
5:00 pm		Candlelight Yoga MARY		Candlelight Yoga SANDRA	

Recreation Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 AM – 7 PM; Saturday 7 AM – 7 PM; Sunday 9 AM – 5 PM
Fitness Orientations are on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm, and Balance Assessments are on Thursdays at 2:00 pm.
These are free but space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7534.
*Seasonal classes run from October-October.
**Temporarily located at the Arbor Fitness Center.

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 am	STRONG DEBBIE	STRONG SELIAN	Super Circuit VICKI	STRONG LARS	STRONG VICKI
9:00 am	Yoga SANDRA	Pilates Fusion ROCKY/SELIAN	Yoga JOE	Pilates Fusion LOBBIE	Yin Yoga HELEANE
10:00 am	STRONG JOHN C.	Yoga SANDRA	STRONG JOE	Yoga LOBBIE	STRONG JOHN C.
11:00 am	Sculpt DEBBIE		Yoga TREHA		
4:00 pm	Muscle Fit WOMEN VIRTUAL CLASS	Strong and Steady WOMEN VIRTUAL CLASS		Interval Training WOMEN VIRTUAL CLASS	Dance Fit WOMEN VIRTUAL CLASS

Arbor Fitness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 5:30 AM – 8:30 PM; Saturday 7 AM – 8:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM – 7 PM
Fitness Orientations are on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. These are free but space is limited. To schedule an appointment, please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7658.
*Seasonal classes run from October-October.

ARBOR FITNESS CENTER INDOOR POOL CLASSES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00 am	Deep Water Aerobics LARRY	Shallow Water Aerobics SUE	Deep Water Aerobics TREHA	Shallow Water Aerobics SAIRA	Deep Water Aerobics JOAN
10:00 am		Shallow Water Aerobics SHERRIE		Shallow Water Aerobics SAIRA	
12:30 pm		Shallow Water Aerobics SANDRA		Shallow Water Aerobics SHERRIE	

Open Swim: Saturdays 7 AM – 8:15 PM; Sundays 9 AM – 6:45 PM
All Water Aerobics classes are an additional fee. Fitness Pass purchase required. Please call (352) 854-8707 Ext. 7659.

tables are listed at <https://cotw.springly.org/page/2893531-home-page>. Anyone who wants to get in on the fun and competition should contact any club member for details on how to join.

The Call of the Wild Sports Club consists of hunting, shooting, and fishing enthusiasts. Our members regularly

participate in trap, skeet, sporting clays, and pistol shooting, along with fresh and saltwater fishing outings. If this is your calling, please join us as we meet the first Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Hobby Building Event Room. For more information, contact Wayne Phillips at 571-237-0520.

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Photo by Shizuka Campagna

POP tennis at the Club Fair.

POP Tennis

Beth Smith



Fall is finally making its way to Florida, and with cooler temperatures on the horizon, we’re changing up our play time!

Beginning this fall, POP tennis will be played from 8 to 10 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at The Arbors lower tennis courts.

And remember – you don’t have to wait for the regular schedule to get your POP fix! Members are always welcome to organize a pick-up game. Just check the club’s GroupMe app to see who’s ready to get together for some “POP!” Grab your paddle, find some friends, and let the fun begin!

We are also fortunate to have an active women’s POP tennis group that meets on Saturday mornings under the leadership of Sharon Daniel. If you are interested in joining this growing group, please contact Sharon at sidusps8163@gmail.com.

We had a great showing at the annual Club Fair, where several of our members represented POP tennis and helped

introduce our club to the community.

Many people stopped by our display to learn what POP tennis is all about. For anyone who still hasn’t tried it, think of it as tennis and pickleball had a child ... it’s POP!

We love welcoming new players, so if you’ve been curious, come on out and give it a try. Newcomers can borrow paddles, and our members will be happy to show you how to play.

Members who want to improve their skills with one-on-one instruction can arrange lessons by contacting Brenda Foster at Brenda@gcfonline.com.

Members, save the date! Join us for our Halloween pizza party on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 5:30 p.m. at the Candler Hills Community Center. It will be a fun, casual evening filled with pizza, games, and friends as we welcome back our returning snowbird members. Costumes are certainly encouraged, but optional!

Come ready to relax, have some laughs, reconnect with old friends, and welcome everyone back for another great season of POP! For more information, please email Shizuka Campagna at Shizukacampagna@gmail.com.

So grab your paddle, enjoy the cooler mornings, and come join us for some fun, friendship, and a little friendly competition!

See you on the courts! POP on!

Top Pickleball Club

Barry Barnhart



Remember the song, “Spooky Little Girl Like You?” It’s that time of year when the spooky pickleball players dress up as advanced players, beginners, and intermediate players. Isn’t it great to be anybody you want to be for just one night?

Halloween is a mysterious holiday. It means “night of the living dead.” It was originally called “All-Hallows Eve,” eventually shortened to Halloween.

How does this relate to pickleball? Our players dress up in creative T-shirts and fancy, color-coordinated outfits, and have so much fun that it seems unreal. Our players unite like the “Thriller” video, and the club provides treats without asking for tricks.

We are once again the official training

team for the 2026 Special Olympics pickleball athletes. This is our fourth year participating. A big thank you to all the club volunteers for making this a great success for the participating athletes, and we wish them the best of luck.

Did you know that our award-winning training team provides free newcomer sessions every Monday at 10:30 a.m. on the upper courts? How about coming to our “meet and greet” every other Wednesday? It is designed for players (new and experienced) to gather and play with members who want to meet new friends, starting at 10:30 a.m. on the back courts.

All you need to start your pickleball experience is court shoes, eyewear (sunglasses work), and a “ready to have fun” attitude. Members should check the events calendar on our website.

The Top Pickleball Club, Inc. is a social, non-profit organization formed to provide fun, friendly, and healthy recreational activities through the sport of pickleball. Come join the fun.

Beach Tennis

Ray Nault



This new sport has gotten off to a great start with 20 people participating in the first month. Beach tennis is a low-

impact, body-friendly game played on sand at the Veterans Park. Each side has four players and uses a paddle and soft tennis balls. Play times are Tuesday and Friday at 8 a.m., and again on Friday at 5 p.m. Equipment is available for training sessions, and experienced instructors will be on-site. You can contact us at 864-784-7507 or text 352-299-8766 if you are interested in trying this great pastime.

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Nick Arkon



Cycling is an excellent form of exercise, but an improperly adjusted bicycle can cause unnecessary discomfort and

reduce performance. Proper bicycle fit is especially important for riders who cycle frequently or for extended periods. Saddle height is one of the most important bicycle adjustments. A saddle that is too low keeps the knees excessively bent and may increase knee stress. A saddle that is too high can cause the hips to rock while pedaling and strain the hamstrings, calves, and lower back.

R/C Sailing Club

Gene Mangold



Every Wednesday at noon, the waters at Tuscaawilla Park in Ocala come alive with the silent, swift competition of remote-controlled (R/C) sailboat racing. While Sunday races are strictly dedicated to the popular DF95 class, Wednesdays feature “open racing” – a casual, welcoming format where a variety of boat types can hit the water together.

Because most boats measure right around one meter (39”) in length, their top speeds are remarkably similar. That means winning isn’t about buying the most expensive boat; it comes down to skipper skill and reading the shifty local winds.

If you’re planning to join the fleet or just curious about how race day comes together, here is how local captains prepare for a smooth afternoon on the water.

Pick Your Vessel: Wednesday morning starts with a decision: which boat to bring? With open racing rules, any boat is welcome. Since most entries hover around the one-meter mark, you can count on tight, competitive racing where tactics and wind-reading make all the difference.

Top Off the Batteries: Before heading out, double-check your power sources. Each sailboat relies on a tiny rechargeable battery to power the small servo motors that trim the sails and turn the rudder. Don’t forget to check the R/C transmitter battery, too – you need a reliable signal to command the boat from the shore.

Load Up – No Knots Required: One of the biggest perks of model yachting is convenience. With a 42” mast and a 39” hull, these boats fit comfortably in the back of a standard car or SUV fully

rigged. There’s no tedious assembly, knot-tying, or rigging required at the pond – just set it in the vehicle and go.

Perform a Direction Check: Before leaving the driveway, turn on the transmitter and receiver to verify that everything moves correctly. Since many modern transmitters can store settings for multiple boat models, make sure you have the right profile selected and that steering left actually turns the rudder left!

Pack the Comforts and Head to the Pond: Finally, pack up the boat, transmitter, a comfortable folding chair, and a wide-brimmed sun hat. With races kicking off promptly at noon, having the morning to prep ensures a stress-free trip to the pond’s edge for an afternoon of friendly competition and fresh air.

Interested in joining or watching? Head down to Tuscaawilla Park in Ocala or text Gene at 772-678-5101 or Bernie at 816-678-3817. Visitors welcome.



Preparing.

Photo by Gene Mangold



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When the pedal is at its lowest position, the knee should have a slight bend, rather than being completely straight or excessively bent. Saddle position, both forward and backward, is also important because it affects pedaling efficiency and the amount of weight placed on the handlebars.

Your sit bones, medically known as the ischial tuberosities, are the two bony points at the bottom of your pelvis that support your weight when sitting. A properly fitted bicycle saddle should support the sit bones rather than placing excessive pressure on the soft tissue of the buttocks or perineal area. Saddle width is important: it should be wide enough to support the sit bones without interfering with leg movement.

Some soreness when beginning or increasing cycling is normal. However, persistent pain, numbness, or excessive pressure may indicate that the saddle or bicycle fit needs adjustment.

Arm, shoulder, and neck pain can result from placing too much weight on the handlebars or maintaining an uncomfortable riding position. Hand numbness, sore shoulders, and neck stiffness can become more noticeable during longer rides.

Keep your shoulders relaxed and elbows slightly bent to help absorb road vibration. Changing hand positions periodically can also reduce pressure on

the hands and arms.

If discomfort persists, the handlebars may be too low or too far forward. A professional bicycle fitting can help identify and correct these problems.

Cyclists may experience sudden cramps in the calves, hamstrings, or thighs during or after exercise. Common contributing factors include muscle fatigue, dehydration, excessive exertion, inadequate recovery, and heavy sweating.

Gradually increasing riding distance and intensity, staying adequately hydrated, replacing electrolytes during prolonged or strenuous exercise, and allowing sufficient recovery may help reduce cramping. If a cramp occurs, stop exercising and gently stretch the affected muscle.

A properly fitted bicycle should allow you to ride comfortably, efficiently, and safely. Correct saddle height and position, proper support of the sit bones, relaxed upper-body posture, and attention to hydration and muscle fatigue can make cycling more enjoyable while reducing unnecessary aches and discomfort.

Riders interested in the beginner or intermediate groups may contact Dan Oaks at 401-663-7085 or Dennis Cicotte at 561-339-3588. For information about the advanced group, contact Nick Arkon at 864-336-3399.

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Ocala Dart Club

Gregg Mireau



A new club is taking shape, and everyone from experienced league players to people who have never held a dart is invited to join.

The Ocala Dart Club was created with one primary purpose: bringing neighbors together via the dartboard and having a good time.

Darts give residents an enjoyable reason to leave the house, meet new people, share conversations, and build friendships while playing a game you can enjoy at any skill level.

Most importantly, you do not need any previous experience. If you have

never thrown darts before, you are exactly the kind of person we want to welcome. Club members will help newcomers learn the basic throwing technique, become familiar with the dartboard, and understand several popular games.

Darts is easy to learn but challenging to master. Beginners can learn quickly and start playing right away. We teach newcomers a version of cricket with no points involved. You aim for the bullseye, and when you miss, you may hit one of the six numbers you need to hit. Improvement comes through practice, repetition, and encouragement from other players.

The club's main emphasis will be social and recreational play. While throwing, you get to interact with others and develop friendships.

Many of our current games involve spouses, friends and neighbors partnering in doubles. With four people sharing

a board, doubles provide plenty of playing time along with conversation and friendly interaction.

Players encourage their teammates, celebrate a well-thrown dart, and enjoy a little good-natured competition.

Members can participate based on their interests and availability. There is currently no membership fee to join, and no one will be expected to attend every scheduled dart gathering. Our goal is to provide several opportunities to play so that residents can participate when their schedules permit.

As members gain experience, some will naturally want more competitive play. We can also develop mixed teams and male and female teams. Team play and single play are what the game of darts comes down to, after all. The club may eventually offer friendly tournaments, skill-level games, organized teams, and competitions with other

groups or communities. These activities can provide an additional challenge—and perhaps a few community bragging rights!

Competition, however, will never replace the club's principal mission. Having fun throwing darts comes first.

Anyone interested should visit our Facebook page (Ocala Dart Club) and complete the club membership information forms and the required hold harmless agreement.

Whether you once played in a dart league, occasionally threw darts with friends, or have never touched a dart in your life, there is a place for you in this club.

Meet your neighbors, learn a great game, and discover how three little darts can create some very big friendships.

Good darts. Great people. Strong community.

Ohio Buckeyes Social Club

Tami Rossignol



It's great to be back in football season! There was an enthusiastic group in the Derby Room for the first Ohio State University Buckeyes football watch party! The Buckeye fans were thrilled with the win 56 to three over Ball State! Thanks to Danielle, our new server, for doing a terrific job handling all the Buckeye craziness, and thanks to Marge, Dave, and Ron for helping coordinate everything

for the football season.

This year's watch parties will be held either at the Derby Room or private homes. Members must watch for official invitations to all watch parties and other fun events by email or on the members-only Facebook page. Please remember to RSVP by the email link that's provided. Seating is limited to 32 in the Derby Room and varies when held at private homes, so RSVP.

The club welcomes anyone who wants to connect with fellow Ohio Buckeyes fans in a relaxed atmosphere. Contact us at buckeyefans34481@gmail.com for more information.

Until then ... O-H! Go Bucks!

Table Tennis

Mary Jeannotte



Domenica Genovese arrived here about five years ago, bringing with her a lifetime of international experiences. Because of her father's work, her family lived in several countries including the United States, Japan, Ethiopia, Germany, and Italy. She attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Perugia, Italy. After graduating, she worked as a graphic designer and eventually co-founded a design firm in Baltimore, Maryland. The business kept her busy, and when she had free time, she enjoyed travel, photography, and birding. Engaging in a sport was not on the timetable. Five years ago, she moved, closed the business, and retired in Ocala.

Once settled in On Top of the World, Domenica found no shortage of activities to explore; and why not a sport now? She considered several, including wallyball, tennis, POP tennis, and pickleball, before discovering table tennis. This sport surprised her. Table tennis was faster-paced and more demanding than she expected, requiring energy, focus, and quick reflexes. It also provided a better workout than she had imagined. And the idea of playing doubles was completely intimidating. However, she jumped into it and now enjoys the added complexity of playing with a partner.

At first, Domenica played casually with other beginners, attending beginner sessions where everyone improved together. As her confidence grew, she began taking individual lessons and participating in more drill sessions to strengthen her skills. She has now moved into the intermediate level and enjoys more than just the game itself.

Through the Table Tennis Club, she is meeting new people, sharing lunches, and taking part in other club activities. For Domenica, table tennis has become an activity worth continuing. She plans to keep practicing, keep building her skills, and eventually join the advanced-level sessions and perhaps a trip to the Florida Senior Games in Gainesville.

Anyone interested in joining the Table Tennis Club can find membership applications and the current play session schedule posted in the Arbor Conference Center Table Tennis Room.



Photo courtesy of Domenica Genovese
Domenica Genovese finding a new sport.

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Bocce Club

Kathy Nastally



Are you excited for the fourth quarter? You might say, which one? There is the fourth quarter of life, and the definition of that is for you to describe. In

Co-Ed Recreational Softball

Pat Wilbert

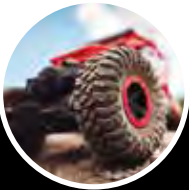


Co-ed softball has become one of the most popular recreational activities for people who want to stay active while enjoying time outdoors. Mixedgender teams offer a unique opportunity for men and women to play side by side, communicate, and build genuine connections on the field. Many players find that teamwork helps men better understand their female teammates, while women gain confidence competing on equal footing. Studies even show that co-ed recreational sports can improve mental well-being by boosting physical activity and self-esteem – no matter which team wins.

At On Top of the World, Co-Ed Recreational Softball League embraces all of these benefits and more. Every Saturday

R/C Car Club

Brian Allard



The R/C Car Club has two specialties, and all members are part of both. The first specialty is R/C (radio-controlled) cars that race on an outdoor paved track. There are many different racing classes for these cars and trucks. Currently, the club is waiting for the new track to be built in a new location so R/C car racing can resume. Once the track is built and racing resumes, R/C car racing is on Wednesdays and Saturdays. There is also a class for legend car racing on Thursdays and crawlers racing on Mondays.

Get Healthy Club

Tammy Cope



Take the first step toward a healthier you! Looking to shed a few pounds, boost your energy, and make new friends? Our supportive club meets weekly to help you achieve your goals in a fun, welcoming, no-judgment environment!

Our meetings are every Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. in The Landing Card Room and are open to all Weybourne Landing residents. Meetings consist of member weigh-ins (optional), nutrition tips, exercise ideas, informational presentations, healthy outings, monthly challenges, and motivation!

The cost is \$5 per member per month. For more information, please contact Tammy Cope at 352-396-7327 or tl-brnc1@gmail.com.

Weight Loss Group

Lori Beth Green



If you are ready to make changes to become a healthier you and need support from others on the same journey, our club might be a great fit. Whether you have 10 or 100 pounds to lose, having a supportive group of friends and the accountability of weekly meetings and weigh-ins can really help you reach your weight-loss goals. Join the On Top of Weight Loss Group to find motivation and support alongside fellow members. You are welcome to use any food plan or exercise routine you choose while receiving tips, suggestions, and positive reinforcement from the group.

We meet twice 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 leader is Lois Trepper. On Tuesdays, we meet in the Arbor Activity Center Event Room I. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m., and the meeting begins at 10 a.m. Beth Reynolds is the leader. Visitors are always welcome. For questions and additional information about joining our group, please email Lois at ltrepper@att.net or Beth at doctroi@sbcglobal.net.

business, it is fiscal, and in sports, how many of you thought of football? Yes, it is that time of year. That fourth quarter can be a time of comeback, exasperation, desperation, planning, or the nail-biting final play in any sport or life. The calendar’s fourth quarter comes alive with opportunities to experience vibrant foods, festivals, traditions, and holidays. Our club’s tradition is to start league play on Tuesday, Oct. 13. We’ve

at 8:30 a.m., players gather for greetings, warmups, and team selection before heading onto the field. We provide some equipment, though players are welcome to bring their own gloves or bats. Volunteers are always available to run for anyone who needs assistance, ensuring that everyone can participate comfortably.

With summer nearly behind us, the fall and winter seasons bring cooler temperatures and even more enjoyable playing conditions. During the summer months, we typically play six innings, but once the weather turns pleasant, we extend our games to eight. The change of seasons makes the field a refreshing place to be – full of fresh air, friendly faces, and plenty of laughter.

Whether you’re looking for a fun way to stay active, hoping to meet new people, or simply wanting to enjoy a relaxed Saturday morning outdoors, CoEd Recreational Softball welcomes you. Come see what makes this group feel more like family than a team. You’ll find encouragement, camaraderie, and a whole lot of fun waiting for you.

Another specialty of the R/C Car Club is slot car racing. Because this racing is done on an indoor track (which is set up and taken down each time), this racing still occurs weekly. These cars are 1/32 scale slot cars. Slots has four race classes: touring, NASCAR, open wheel, and muscle car. There is digital racing every Tuesday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II. Digital racing allows up to six cars to race at the same time. Analog racing is on the third Monday and last Friday of the month from 3 to 6 p.m. in Arbor Conference Center Dance Studio I. Analog racing features only two cars racing at a time, head-to-head.

For information on R/C car racing, contact John Schoenherr at 608-477-3420. For information on slot car racing, contact Brian Allard at 603-252-7766.

been waiting all summer to catch up with league teammates for fun and competition!

We also have snowbirds who will be arriving late to league play, and some arrive as late as December. If you are interested in being a league substitute in any time slot, please contact Jim Wolfer at 732-580-4915. You may be a substitute in a league other than where you are committed to your team, and open players may be substitutes as well. If a team commitment isn’t your thing, subbing may be a perfect fit. If interested, your name and phone number can be added to our substitute list. This list will be posted with team information on the courtside bulletin boards. The league does not play the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year.

Bocce dues remain at \$15 and are valid through Sept. 30, 2027. Cash and checks will be accepted. League players will pay dues only through their league captains. All players will complete a hold-harmless form, must have a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass, and must pay dues. Any player who is

new to bocce must sign a Hold Harmless form and may play up to three times before paying dues to the club.

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

For anyone wishing to play outside of the scheduled open or league times, please use the crated balls found under the benches. Court one is also handicap accessible with a wall that can be removed for players entering and exiting the court. For any questions, please contact the club president, Pam Brown, at 970-531-1890. Come on by and check us out. We will see you soon and let the bocce balls roll!

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Weekly Craft Show Returns in November

By Chris Kilbride

The Artistic Crafts & Gifts Tuesday craft show returns in the Recreation Center Ballroom on Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to noon, and will continue through May.

In previous years, customers knew we opened the craft show on the Tuesday after Labor Day. Due to the extended construction at the Recreation Center, please visit ArtisticCrafts.org! Our website offers a glimpse of our very talented crafters and artisans. There is a vast array of items, and searching is done easily by category. Don't miss out on Halloween treats for you or your home by viewing our Holidays page! Crafters who list their contact information or a message option would be thrilled to chat about their products and meet you for the sale.

All resident crafters are welcome to sell virtually on our website and inquire about a table at our Tuesday shows.

We have already built momentum for the craft show by highlighting eight different people each week on two Facebook groups (OTOW Residents Chat Room (Ocala) and OTOW Creative Connection). Any resident is welcome to join these groups and get the weekly scoop and photos of our crafts available for sale.

Our crafters and artisans are extremely diverse, offering a wide variety of gifts, cards, apparel, jewelry, local authors, and home items, including canvas, wood, and mixed-media artwork. Because of their creative talent, feel free to inspire them to design something that

fits your personal decor or make a gift for that special person in mind. Whether you shop in the Recreation Center or explore the additional talent on our website, it's easy to contact anyone and

purchase the unique item you want!

We hope you'll join us every week, starting on Nov. 3, to enjoy the fun and enthusiasm of celebrating our resident talent! With all the special fall holidays approaching, you can get your shopping done right around the corner! Each week, our crafters and their varied wares will fill the room, sparking your imagination as those must-have gifts and home decor catch your eye. Nationally known authors are also living here and are available to sign their books on

site!

The talent both in the room and on-line is fabulous! Feel the thrill of ringing the bell when your purchase is made – and filling the crafter's heart with joy! You don't get that connection anywhere else – see you there!

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



Photo by Darroll Maul

Artistic Crafts & Gifts Tuesday craft show starts Nov. 3, in time for the holiday festivities.



Photo by Joanne Houston

A typical Tuesday rehearsal.

Gearing Up for the Holidays

By Joanne Houston

We are up and running and excited to have nearly 100 singers when all of our snowbirds have returned to sing with us. Many things are happening with the Concert Chorus, including our annual family and friends picnic with Curbside Cuisine and music singo at The Summit on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 1 p.m. Tickets are available from any member for \$10, and there are usually many tables of eight people. You can reserve a full table for friends and family. The event will feature lots of great prizes and many songs to sing along to. Join your favorite member and be ready to sing along.

We are busy preparing for our holiday concert at Circle Square Cultural Center on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from members and will go on sale during the last week of October and will include the option of general admission for \$12 or reserved seating

for \$15. The "Home for the Holidays" concert will be an outstanding blend of musically talented singers and old-fashioned Christmas carols, new and upbeat popular holiday songs, and traditional songs from our childhood days when we visited Santa Claus and shared our Christmas wish list.

There is still time to join the Concert Chorus, as we are still learning our music, if you are interested in singing with us. Reading music helps but isn't required. Membership dues are \$20, and we provide music. For more information, please email joanne.houston57@gmail.com or deboraasmith@gmail.com. All residents are welcome, and you're guaranteed a fun, productive rehearsal each week at the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m.

See you all at the concert! It will be a blast!

A Spooktacular Open House

By Jim Lynam

You are invited! The Model Railroaders Club is hosting a Halloween open house on Friday, Oct. 30, and Saturday, Oct. 31 in the Hobby Building Model Train Room from 2 to 4 p.m. each day.

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

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

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

During colonial times in America, rigid Protestant beliefs severely restricted Halloween celebrations. As other European ethnic groups meshed, a distinctly

American version of Halloween began to emerge.

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

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

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

Happy Halloween to all!



Photo by Jim Lynam

Haunted house.

Recreation

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



Recreation Center

Please be aware that due to exterior renovations, residents will not be able to enter the Recreation Center via the main ground-floor entrance or the ramp. Please plan to enter and exit the building via the veranda doors at the back of the Ballroom. This renovation project is expected to be completed by the end of October.

Music at the Pool Pavilion (Free)

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

- Sunday, Oct. 4: Lou Gagliardi
- Monday, Oct. 12: Mark Raisch
- Wednesday, Oct. 14: Gerry Coe

5 O’Clock Social (Free)

Enjoy an evening of great music, conversation, and community at the 5 O’Clock Social. Relax, mingle with friends and neighbors, dance to your favorite tunes, and make new memories in a fun and welcoming atmosphere. Every first Thursday of the month, in the Recreation Center Ballroom from 5 to 7 p.m. Dance, talk, grab a bite from The Pub, and have a great night enjoying music by Dan Flok!

Line Dance Night (Free)

Line dancing takes center stage! Select Friday evenings are reserved just for line dancing. Join us for an energetic dance floor focused on steps, rhythm, and fun. The evening’s playlist is specially selected for line dancing enthusiasts. Whether you’re experienced or new to the basics, bring your boots and enjoy a night dedicated solely to line dancing. Check it out on Friday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. with music by Fred Campbell.

Movie Night (Free)

Join us for a spooky cinematic night out on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Recreation Center Ballroom for the movie “Signs.” Additionally, on Oct. 22, there will be a special Halloween double feature of “Hocus Pocus” at 4 p.m. and “Sleepy Hollow” at 6:30 p.m. Movie information is listed in the Recreation Center lobby, on OTOWInfo.com, and the OTOW App. The Pub will be open, and free popcorn is served. You are welcome to bring snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

Vinyl and Vibes (Free)

Friday, Oct. 16, from 5 to 8 p.m. Chips Vinyl Cafe will present a lively mix of rock ‘n’ roll, Motown, soul, disco, yacht rock, classic pop, and more! Sing along or hit the dance floor, you’ll enjoy a fun and engaging experience from start to finish.

Annual Craft Fair (Free)

The Craft Fair takes place on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center and The Town Square at Circle Square Commons.

Featuring over 100 booths of talented artistic vendors. Food trucks and entertainment are available while you shop. Steve Lazarus will perform music in the gazebo from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is free and open to the public.

Halloween Party

Get ready for a spooktacular Halloween party with Pure Magic on Friday, Oct. 30 from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring snacks and purchase drinks from The Pub. Dress up, bring your Halloween spirit, and join us for a night filled with music, dancing, fun, and great company. Don’t miss out on the Halloween festivities!

The Summit

Friday Beats Happy Hour (Free)

Friday Beats Happy Hour takes place from 5 to 8 p.m. This is a bring-your-own-drinks-and-snacks venue. Enjoy music, dancing, and celebrate your community. All residents who hold a valid resident ID are welcome. Anyone without an ID is considered a guest. A \$5 guest fee applies to non-residents and must be paid on the OTOW App. Children under the age of 15 are not permitted. Upcoming entertainment includes:

- Oct. 2: Pure Magic
- Oct. 9: MPire
- Oct. 16: Crystal Vison
- Oct. 23: Dan Flok
- Oct. 30: Halloween Party with Groove 41

On Friday, Oct. 30, dress up, bring your Halloween spirit, and join us for a night filled with music, dancing, fun, and great company. Don’t miss out on the Halloween festivities!

Oktoberfest

On Wednesday, Oct. 21, join us for a night of music and dance featuring Northern Sounds and K-Dog Red Hots food truck. Let’s bring in the fall season with music and dance. See you there.

Tropic Trivia

If you would like to try your hand at Tropic Trivia, tables for November will be on sale in October. A team representative may purchase a table for the entire team each month. Tables of eight sell for \$40 on the OTOW App. After the purchase is made, it is preferable that the person buying the table come to The Summit office to select the table. First come, first served. See the OTOW App for details.

Karaoke (Free)

Karaoke is always fun! Sing your heart out or just come and enjoy the music. Karaoke is held the second Thursday of each month in the Ballroom from 5 to 8 p.m. \$5 guest fee applies and must be paid on the OTOW App.

Ladies Night (Free)

Ladies, you are invited to join us on Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Ballroom. Rocco Step up D.J is the entertainer for this night. Bring your beverages and snacks. See you there! A \$5 guest fee applies to non-residents and must be paid on the OTOW App.

Fitness Classes (Free)

- Mondays (9 a.m.): Zumba® (live instructor).
- Mondays (10 a.m.): Total Body Strength (live instructor).

- Tuesday (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics (audio-led).
- Wednesday (10 a.m.): Total Body Strength (live instructor).
- Tuesday (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics (audio-led).

Visit the OTOW App for the schedule.

The Lodge at Candler Hills

Chair Volleyball (Free)

Have a blast in chair volleyball on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Ballroom. Teams will be determined on the day of the event, and rules will be reviewed. Come share the fun in this exciting, new active aging sport.

From the Top Line Dance Class (Free)

All residents are welcome! Join experienced line dance instructors Chuck and Donna on select Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. This progressive class will teach you line dancing and give you practice for the dances you love. Come move, laugh, and connect in a welcoming atmosphere; all dance levels are welcome! Please be sure to bring your resident ID.

Open Game & Card Play (Free)

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

Happy Hour (Free)

Join your neighbors for Happy Hour fun from 5 to 8 p.m. filled with conversation, laughter, and community spirit. \$5 guest fee applies for non-residents; please be prepared to pay on the OTOW App. The entertainment schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, Oct. 3: Sound Waves
- Saturday, Oct. 17: Bootleggers

Karaoke & Cocktails (Free)

Whether you’re a shower singer or a stage star, everyone is welcome to grab the mic and shine. Our own Charlie and Kathy Petrosky will be here for you Thursday, Oct. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring beverages and table snacks. \$5 guest fee applies for non-residents; please be prepared to pay on the OTOW App.

The Social Spark (Free)

Ready to spark something new and exciting? Join your friends and neighbors for an engaging evening filled with great music, interactive games, prizes, and plenty of laughter from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks and enjoy a fun, welcoming atmosphere while enjoying the sounds of 4 For the Road on Thursday, Oct. 8.

Musical Game Night

Music, games, fun and prizes await on Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. Come and enjoy the game “PRIZEO” along with trivia and “Name That Tune.” Reservations on the OTOW App are required. \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Golf Cart Safety and Rules (Free)

Come for an engaging learning experience on golf cart rules and safety with Colen Built Development’s Senior Health & Safety Manager Jonathan Miller on Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Fitness Classes (Free)

- Mondays (9 a.m.): Walk Fit (virtual).
- Mondays (10 a.m.): Chair Fitness: Yoga/Strength/Pilates (virtual).
- Tuesday (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics (audio-led). Bring a pool noodle.
- Wednesdays (9 a.m.): Total Body Strength with bands (live instructor).
- Thursday (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics (audio-led). Bring a pool noodle.
- Fridays (9 a.m.): Mat Yoga (live instructor). Bring your own mat.

Visit the OTOW App for the wellness schedule.

Indigo East Community Center

Happy Hour (Free)

Plan for a great time out with your friends and neighbors on Fridays from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring your favorite cocktails and snacks. Dance, socialize, relax, and enjoy! Entertainment schedule is as follows:

- Oct. 2: Hwy 94
- Oct. 9: Gerry Coe
- Oct. 16: Stu Montgomery
- Oct. 30: Halloween Party with Area 81

Trivia

Get in on some friendly competition



with your neighbors and friends at trivia on Monday, Oct. 5 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.

Chili Day

Celebrate Chili Day on Wednesday, Oct. 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. with friends and neighbors with an afternoon of live music and great company. The Taco Trailer food truck will be serving delicious chili and other flavorful menu items, all available for purchase. Enjoy live entertainment by The Steel Drum, gather with friends, and enjoy an afternoon filled with great conversation and community spirit.

Karaoke (Free)

Grab the mic and take center stage, or cheer on neighbors for sing along fun! Feel free to sing solo or in a group with DJ Frank on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. Bring beverages and snacks.

Oktoberfest (Free)

Oktoberfest celebration by the pool on Tuesday, Oct. 20, from 3 to 5 p.m. Enjoy live music from DJ Rocco, grab delicious bites from the Mobile Munchies food truck, with food available for purchase throughout the event. Bring your appetite, festive spirit, and best Oktoberfest vibes.

The Landing

Happy Hour (Free)

Kick off the weekend at Happy Hour on Friday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your favorite cocktail and snack, enjoy great music from The Bootleggers and spend the evening mingling with neighbors and friends. A \$5 guest fee applies to non-residents and must be paid on the OTOW App.

Halloween Party (Free)

A spooktacular evening of Halloween fun on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 8 p.m. Come dressed in your favorite costume, bring your favorite drinks and snacks and join us for an evening filled with Halloween spirit. Live music from Tim Hargis. Ghoulish games, and a spooky costume contest. Join us if you dare! A \$5 guest fee applies to non-residents and must be paid on the OTOW App.

Trivia

Get in on some friendly competition with your neighbors and friends at trivia on Tuesday, October 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. Bring your favorite snacks and beverages to share with your team. The cost is \$5 per resident and \$10 per guest.

Poolside Live Music (Free)

Make a splash on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 1 to 4 p.m. Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon by the pool featuring music by Steel Drum Randy. A food truck will be on site serving up delicious lunch favorites.

Game On (Free)

Ready to get your game on? Bring your favorite board game or challenge a neighbor to a round of ping pong for a night of laughter, friendly competition, and community fun on Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 5 to 8 p.m. A \$5 guest fee applies to non-residents and must be paid on the OTOW App.

Fitness Classes (Free)

- Mondays (9 a.m.): Sit & Get Fit (virtual).
- Mondays (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics.
- Tuesdays (10 a.m.): Walk Fit (virtual).
- Wednesdays (9:30 a.m.): Water Aerobics.
- Wednesdays (11 a.m.): Line Dancing.
- Thursdays (10 a.m.): Walk Fit (virtual).
- Fridays (10 a.m.): Total Body Strength (live instructor); bring your bands.

Visit the OTOW App for the wellness schedule.

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 excursion.

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.
Avalon Post Office	Parking Lot	8:51 a.m.
Crescent Ridge	97th Lane - Post Office - 99th Ave. - 98th St.	9:01 a.m.
Recreation Center	At Bus Stop Sign in Parking Lot	9:04 a.m.
Americana Village	88th 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	63rd Ter - 90th Pl - 87th Ave - 97th St.	9:16 a.m.
Friendship Park	97th St - 94th Lane	9:20 a.m.
Friendship Village	88th 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
Waybourne Landing	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
The Summit	Parking Lot	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Windsor East	94th Pl - 94th Lp	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Windsor West	95th St - 95th Lp	Call one day in advance for pick-up
Exit Community		9:36 a.m.

MORNING DESTINATIONS

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

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

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

AFTERNOON ROUTE

PICK-UP LOCATIONS AND TIMES

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

AFTERNOON DESTINATIONS

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

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

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

8/2021 - 8/2021

For information, call 352-789-5666.

On Top of the World

EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

Events and activities that take place behind the gates of On Top of the World are for residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass.

Shutterbugs Photography

Mark Holmes



The annual Shutterbugs-judged print contest is underway, with members competing for blue, red, and white ribbons across multiple categories. Look for some spectacular winning entries in the Recreation Center Ballroom during November. In the meantime, the club frequently runs digital contests on our Facebook page (Shutterbugs OTOW Photography Club).

Shutterbugs members take part in monthly field trips to a variety of scenic and exciting locations in Central Florida. Members can shoot images of everything from wildlife roaming golden pastures to the graceful architecture of old Florida towns, plus awesome equestrian events at the World Equestrian Center and much more.

This month, we're delighted to continue our Master the Possibilities (MTP) photo feature with more than 20 images of friends and neighbors enjoying On Top of the World's many amenities. Be sure to check out the Shutterbugs photographic display in the MTP lobby all month long.

The very first "selfie" was taken by Robert Cornelius, who created a self-portrait in 1839 by uncovering his camera lens and running into the frame to sit still for 15 minutes.

Pocket-sized digital cameras are making a major comeback as people seek to step back from the digital overload and complicated features of smartphones and bulky DSLRs. A quality used Sony, Canon, Nikon, Fuji, or Panasonic com-

pact digital camera can take excellent photos without a lot of fuss while offering features such as Wi-Fi, on-camera modifications, stabilization, and 4K video capabilities. An excellent compact digital camera can be found for well under \$100 from leading retailers and private sellers. Look for at least 16 megapixels and a one-inch sensor.

Mark Holmes, the club's secretary, has been a member for two years. In addition to enjoying photography, Mark is the author of numerous books and stories and frequently contributes to the Marion Citizen. As secretary, Mark keeps the member database up to date, plus other membership tasks, writes club articles, and helps guide the club as a board member.

Susan Herron, our new treasurer, has an extensive background in accounting and recreational photography, having enjoyed multiple extended trips to places such as Alaska, Panama, and Ecuador, documenting these and other adventures through photographs. Susan moved here in late 2025 and was delighted to find and join Shutterbugs, rekindling her love of photography.

The club meets every Tuesday, starting with a morning field trip on the first Tuesday, then weekly sessions of education, show-and-tell, and camera or post-production instruction. See us soon at the Hobby Building Event Room on the second, third, and fourth Tuesdays beginning at 3 p.m.

Remember, "Those who don't know should ask, those who do know should show and tell."

For more information, visit otowspc.org, Facebook (Shutterbugs OTOW Photography Club), or contact Garry Voith at garry.voith@gmail.com or at 410-241-5079.

Art Group

Mitch Baylis



For resident Pam Grinder, art has never been a mere hobby – it has been a lifelong calling that continuously finds its way back into the light. Her artistic journey began in early childhood, sparked by the simple magic of a fresh box of crayons. When a gifted paint-by-number set introduced her to the feel of a brush, Pam was instantly hooked. Even then, her creative spirit rejected rigid boundaries; she quickly began saving her own money for paints, using the boards to paint her own original visions rather than following the prescribed lines.

As is so often the case, the demands of adult life eventually pushed art to the background. Pam's focus shifted toward raising her children and building a career that spanned the foundry industry, automotive work, and engineering studies. For decades, straight lines, precise calculations, statistics, and probabilities replaced the fluid world of color and canvas. Yet her underlying passion never truly dimmed.

A brief, vibrant spark returned in 1983 when Pam spent several months studying under a high school art mentor, mastering the fundamentals of oil painting. That encouragement led her to enter a prestigious, juried tri-state art show evaluated by judges from Disney and the Art Institute of Chicago. Requiring completely original work accompanied by a written legend, the competition proved to be a milestone moment: Pam's piece earned second place. Though offered an incredible opportunity to study in Chicago, her responsibilities as a single mother in a small rural town meant setting that dream aside to care for her family.

It was not until Pam retired and moved to Florida that she finally found the time and freedom to pick up her brushes again. Reconnecting with her creative drive, she initially joined her church's art group, where a mentor introduced her to colored oil pencils. Captivated by the medium's precision – a perfect fit for her self-described nature as a "detail freak" – she joined the Color Pencil Painters Guild, diving deep into



Photo by Mitchell Baylis

Pam Grinder.

technical realism. Her restored momentum soon expanded into new territory, including illustrating two children's storybooks, with a third currently in progress, while exploring watercolors, acrylics, and classic oils.

Pam made her home here and immediately sought out the Art Group. Joining the community transformed her retirement into a chapter defined by vibrant artistic growth and profound daily joy. Pam frequently expresses how deeply blessed she feels to be part of such a welcoming, talented, and supportive environment – a place where artists of every skill level are encouraged to challenge themselves and learn together.

Today, Pam fills her days drawing inspiration from nature, taking her own reference photography, writing, and embracing every lesson the creative process offers, even the frustrating ones.

If you're looking to add some inspiration to your life, join us Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Director Freda Klump at 615-336-6863 or fredaklump@gmail.com.



Photo by Mark Holmes

Mahjong at The Lodge at Candler Hills.



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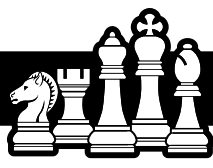
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CARDS & GAMES



Bingo

Nancy Grabowski



The Recreation Center remains under renovation. The rain has been a bit contentious but has not prevented our play! However, access remains through the back doors only. Park in the side lots; golf cart parking is behind the pool. Sidewalks and paved walkways keep our participants safe.

While it seems early, mark your calendar for Wednesday, Nov. 18. It’s the date for our semi-annual super bingo. It is open to residents only with a valid resident ID. Pricing is a bit different: cards are sold in increments of three for \$5, and raffle tickets are three for \$1 or 10 for \$3. Super bingo marks the last bingo for the year; we will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2027.

Bingo is every Wednesday in the Recreation Center Ballroom. Raffle tickets are sold from 4 to 5:30 p.m.; three for \$1 or 10 for \$3; a winning ticket equals \$20.

Playing cards are sold from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.; \$1 each with resident ID; guests welcome; 20 games (18 based on attendance, one per \$75, one cover-all starting at \$110). Cards are equipped with sliders, so no daubers, markers, or chips are needed.

Bingo is an alcohol-free zone by state law; you can purchase beer and alcohol in The Pub and consume it there or on the patio.

If you think you have bingo, but aren’t sure, call it out. Let our volunteers check it for you so you don’t miss a win. It’s especially important to wait for each game (including the last one) to be verified before we move on! Because folks leave quickly after the last game, we suggest that the holder(s) of the potential winning card(s) come to the front of the stage for verification. Only the person with the possible winning card should come up to avoid confusion while volunteers return materials to the cart.

Please respect our volunteers! Please don’t move our things on the tables while we work, and don’t shout at us while we are doing our assigned tasks. We want the same things all the players want ... to have a good time and enjoy the night out; winning would be nice, too!

Consider becoming a volunteer. Chat with any of us or with Carl Folkers, Cathy Pecararo, or Nancy Grabowski.

Bridge



Monday Afternoon

By Carol Johnson

Aug. 3

1: Barb Heller & Arlene Loepp; 2: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett; 3: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac; 4: Donna Peters & Rad D.

Aug. 10

1: Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett; 2: Steve Sekac & Jack Heller; 3: Carolyn Higgins & V.J. Hentz; 4: Beverly Meirick & Judy Mackowiak.

Aug. 17

1: Donna Peters & Rad D; 2: Judy Mackowiak & Craig Ford; 3: Marlene Floeckher & Trudy Baumgartner; 4:

Mar Valchin & Bruce Gillett.

Aug. 24

1: Diane Robinson & Carol Johnson; 2: Beverly Meirick & Judy Mackowiak; 3: Pat & Debbie Quinn; 4: Mary Bloch & Sylvia Zelkin.

Aug. 31

1: Barb Heller & Carolyn Higgins; 2: C.J. & Dennis Dust; 3: Carol Johnson & Diane Robinson; 4: Jack Heller & Steve Sekac.

Tuesday Night Duplicate

By Bob Kraus

If you enjoy bridge and have never played duplicate, we invite you to try it. You already know how to bid, play, defend, and score. In duplicate, all pairs play the same hands, which emphasizes good bidding and play and minimizes the importance of getting “good cards.”

We set up the room with a movement, Mitchell or Howell, that provides the best experience for the size of the group. In a couple of minutes, we’ll show you how to use our bidding boxes and duplicate boards. Our goal is to provide a true duplicate bridge experience with less pressure than playing in a sanctioned game.

We meet Tuesdays in the Arbor Activity Center Card Rooms I-II at 6 p.m. Please arrive by 5:50 so we can set up the best movement for the number of players, up to nine tables. Bring a partner and 50 cents per person. We score the boards and email the results within a few days.

You can also play occasionally as a substitute. Contact us to be put on our list. For more information, call Bob Kraus at 352-492-8525. Come and enjoy an evening of competitive bridge.

Wednesday Afternoon

By Diane Robinson

Aug. 6

1: Kurt Baumgartner; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Billie Andersen; Cons: Trudy Baumgartner.

Aug. 12

1: Debbie Quinn; 2: Kurt Baumgartner; 3: Bruce Gillett; Cons: Craig Ford.

Aug. 19

1: Craig Ford; 2: Trudy Baumgartner; 3: Bruce Gillett; Cons: Al Kramer.

Aug. 26

1: Bruce Gillett; 2: Craig Ford; 3: Billie Andersen; Cons: Debbie Quinn.

Thursday Afternoon

By Trudy Baumgartner

Aug. 6

1: Trudy Baumgartner; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Craig Ford; Cons: Debbie Quinn.

Aug. 13

1: Kurt Baumgartner; 2: Debbie Quinn; 3: Dianne Robinson; 4: Pat Quinn; Cons: Betty Schaff.

Aug. 20

1: Judy Mackowiak; 2: Bruce Gillett; 3: Billie Andersen; 4: Trudy Baumgartner.

Aug. 27

1: Billie Andersen; 2: Debbie Quinn; 3: Judy Mackowiak; 4: Dianne Robinson.

Thursday Night

By Jeff Young

Join our friendly 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 af-

ter 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.

Aug. 6

1: Al Whitford; 2: Brent Powell; Cons: Herb Katz; 2 prize: Herb Katz.

Aug. 13

1: Vera Mangold; 2: Jeff Young; 3: Herb Katz; Cons: Raymond Bachik.

Aug. 20

1: Herb Katz; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Jeff Young; Cons: Malcolm Levine.

Aug. 27

1: Herb Katz; 2: Gary Moses; 3: Jeff Young; Cons: Al Whitford.

Bunco



Bunco Babes Social Group

By Michelle Malsch

We meet in the Arbor Conference Center Dance Studios I-II on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next scheduled game is Tuesday, Oct. 27.

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 our group’s name is “Bunco Babes,” a few husbands also attend. If you enjoy the game, don’t be afraid to be a “bunco dude.”

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

Prizes will be awarded at the end of the game for most buncos, minis, wins, and losses. There are also two door prize drawings for those who did not win any of the category prizes. We will no longer play for cash prizes. Please bring your beverage and 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!

Candler Hills Bunco

By Cindy Arkebauer

We will roll again on Wednesday, Oct. 7, starting at 6 p.m. at The Lodge at Candler Hills Meeting Room. Our theme will be Halloween if you wish to dress in costume. Please bring your own beverage and a snack to share if you wish.

Sept. 2

Most buncos–Sheila E. Tie at most wins–Gail B., Cheryl G and Sheila E. Tie at most mini buncos–Laura W. and Sheila E. Tie at most losses–Janet C. and Barbara D.

Cribbage

Judy Parisi



We meet in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room II on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 3 to 5

p.m. This month, we will have an extra play date on Thursday, Oct. 22.

We’re a non-competitive group of all experience levels. New players are welcome, and we will set up a teaching table for those looking to learn the game.

For more information, please email judith.parisi@gmail.com.

Euchre



Friday Night

By Mary Bloch

You are invited to come play euchre with some of the nicest people you will ever meet on Friday in the Arbor Conference Center Large Card Room, starting at 6 p.m. Bring some dimes to put in the kitty if and when you are euchred. We look forward to meeting you! Contact mary.bloch@yahoo.com with questions.

Aug. 7

1: Tom Nutt; 2: Mary Speckine; Tie at 3: Cindy Turek & Jeff David.

Aug. 14

1: Mary Bloch; 2: Jeff David; 3: Sande Caton.

Aug. 21

1: Pam Brown; Tied at 2: Trudy Baumgartner & Cindy Turek; Tie at 3: Bob Moravec & Bob Kraus.

Aug. 28

Tie at 1: Jean Gillette & Judy Lynch; 2: Trudy Baumgartner; 3: Jeff David.

Mah Jongg



Angela Brady

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

For more information, please contact Angela Brady at 407-403-0861 or agbrady@peoplepc.com. Jokers to ya!

Pinochle



Tuesday Night

By Herb Katz

Aug. 4

1: Marlene Floeckher; 2: Woody Clay; 3: Andy Nuccio.

Aug. 11

1: Edna Frye; 2: Norma Miles; 3: Al Whitford.

Aug. 18

1: Andy Nuccio; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Bud Alderman.

Aug. 25

1: Audrey Stark; 2: Jackie Nuccio; 3: Lee Freehauf and Ilene Casper.

Friday Morning

By Andy Nuccio

Aug. 14

1: Abe Toubail; 2: Charlie Budd; 3: Edna Frye.

Aug. 21

1: Steve Mintz; 2: Charlie Budd; 3: Marlene Flockher.

Aug. 28

1: Ilene Casper; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Andy Nuccio.

Sept. 4

1: Steve Mintz; 2: Al Whitford; 3: Jim Lagattolla.

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Home for the Holidays



Angels Above Baby Gowns

Janet O'Neil



During the past two months, Angels Above Baby Gowns has focused on community outreach with local partners, sharing our mission and the support we provide to hospitals, patients, and families in need.

On Friday, Aug. 28, several volunteers represented us at the AdventHealth Perinatal Symposium in Ocala, a continuing education event focused on perinatal care, maternal mental health, and compassionate family support.

We were grateful to join other local partners dedicated to serving families

with care and compassion. Attendees were especially impressed by the complete packages our volunteers prepare to help hospitals offer meaningful support to patients and their families.

On Tuesday, Sept. 1, WCJB Channel 20 in Gainesville interviewed us about Angels Above Baby Gowns and the handmade items our volunteers create for families in need. Reporter Kayla Lewis noted the wide range of products and apparel our volunteers provide to hospitals and families across the Florida communities we serve.

You can watch the brief video on the WCJB Channel 20 website at <https://www.wcjb.com/news/features/> > 9/1/26 > It's a Warm Feeling, Ocala Non-Profit.

We hope you enjoy this feature about our group. Above all, we are deeply grateful to the donors and volunteers who make our mission possible.



Photo by Janet O'Neil

Linda Lohr, Dawn Corey, and Sherrie Cherdak.

Tesla Owners & Enthusiasts Club

Dan Lack



Tesla owners can rent the Full Self-Driving (FSD) feature for \$99 per month. This feature can be engaged by giving verbal instructions or tapping the computer screen icon. When not engaged, FSD will automatically intervene if the car detects an imminent collision and use braking, steering, and/or accelera-

tion to avoid an accident.

As our reflexes slow, it's nice to know our Tesla vehicles can take over and help keep us safe.

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 own a Tesla. There are no dues. There are speakers at some meetings. Most meetings are spent discussing our vehicles. Come and join us. We are happy to answer any questions you have about these amazing vehicles.

Happy Hookers

Jan Spielvogel



Happy Hookers has a 2026 goal to create 2,000 hats. As of the end of August, we completed 1,500. If you would like to help us reach our goal, here are a few ways:

1. If you have yarn and no longer use it, we would appreciate your donation. While we especially love four-ply non-wool yarn, we accept all kinds.
2. Don't have yarn? A gift card to Michaels or Hobby Lobby will help us purchase yarn. 3. If you knit or crochet but are unable to be part of our Monday group, you can make a hat and donate it. We need all sizes, from children through adults. You can bring completed hats on Mondays or contact Ann Gallo for pickup.

Happy Hookers is open to all residents with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass. We meet on Mondays, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. There are no dues, agenda, or penalties for missing a meeting, arriving late, or leaving early. Life can and does interfere at times, and we would hate for that to hold you back. We have a group of ladies busy crocheting, knitting, needlepointing, card crafting, embroidering, and handcrafting.

This is a very talented group that's never too busy to help someone with a difficult pattern or stitch. We welcome newcomers with open arms. Attendees should bring whatever they are working on.

If you have any questions about our club, you may call either Jan Spielvogel at 919-274-6191 or Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178. If you have yarn, pattern books, knitting needles, crochet hooks, or other crafting tools that you no longer use, donations are always appreciated. Please bring them on Mondays during our meeting time or contact Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178 to arrange for pickup.

GOLF Clinics

Candler Hills Golf Club

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9 - 10 AM

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October 2026

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October 22: DAN FLOK 7-10 PM

October 29: ZAC PETTY 7-10 PM

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FRIDAYS

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October 9: Fat Tiki 6 PM

October 16: So Yummy BBQ Grill 6 PM

October 23: Fresh Off the Hook Fusion 6 PM

October 30: Da Wing Kang Wingz & More 6 PM

SATURDAYS

October 3: Pull Up Boyz 6 PM

October 10: THE RUNDOWN 7-10 PM

October 17: GROCUE 41 7-10 PM

October 24: Louisiana Curbside Cuisine 6 PM

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Sunshine Quilters

Linda Holst



The word “love” has many meanings, and to Rhonda Liedtke, it means quilting. “I love quilting, I love material, and I love to see what I can do,” states Rhonda.

Rhonda’s love for quilting began in April 2025 when she became a member of the Sunshine Quilters Guild. Rhonda had done some sewing in her junior high school home economics class. But she had no quilting experience. A twenty-year-old Singer sewing machine was replaced with a Brother sewing machine. “I liked the different decorative stitches,” stated Rhonda.

A neighbor encouraged Rhonda to join the Sunshine Quilters Guild. Rhonda states, “People (guild members) have been so helpful.” For example, various members have taught Rhonda how to use a rotary cutter, match seams, attach binding via machine, and modify a pattern’s measurements.

Besides learning quilting from guild members, Rhonda uses Facebook, YouTube, books, and magazines. Rhonda has researched quilt border techniques and how to use quilt scraps.

Rhonda’s first quilting project was a

14”x14” Valentine’s Day miniature quilt she designed herself. Rhonda’s quilting resume includes quilts, wall hangings, and bags. Rhonda has made comfort quilts for donation, and all but one quilt has been given to others.

Rhonda attended her first quilting retreat in August. One project from the retreat was a bag to hold quilting supplies. “I like to find a use for what I make,” states Rhonda. Rhonda says the retreat was so much fun; you could sew all day and take breaks whenever you wanted.

Rhonda is currently making a pad to place under her sewing machine to minimize vibration. Rhonda is making a king-size quilt, using her sewing machine’s decorative stitches.

A train quilt is in the design phase to later be given to her cousin’s son. The quilt will feature major train stations and images of train signs. A quilt journal featuring different quilt photos and articles is another future project.

No grass grows under Rhonda’s feet, as she has joined the Happy Hookers Club and is learning counted cross-stitch. Rhonda is also a member of the wool club, a branch of the Sunshine Quilters Guild.

Rhonda feels quilting challenges her inner self. The Sunshine Quilters Guild has also given her new friendships.

As a “newbie” to quilting, Rhonda has shown she has a talent for this hobby. Her love of quilting is shining brightly.



Photo by Cheryl Burke

Rhonda Liedtke shows her quilt made from donated fabric from members of the Sunshine Quilters Guild.

Rubber Stamp Greeting Cards

Linda Lohr



On Thursday, Sept. 3, Ruth Epling

presented a teepee card to our group. Thank you, Ruth, for presenting this unique card. This would be a great card using Christmas paper!

For class or general information, contact Connie Press at the email below. You’ll need basic supplies, such as a trimmer, glue, scissors, and cardstock. Everyone in the group shares their sup-

plies, and everyone brings new ideas to the table. You are only limited by your imagination!

If you think you’d enjoy this class, 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. We look forward to introduc-

ing new people to our fun craft. Our next presentation is expected to be Thursday, Oct. 2, in the Hobby Building Event Room from 1 to 3 p.m. Until our next meeting, keep on stampin’!



Photo by Ruth Epling

Cards presented by Ruth Epling.

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The New Pretenders

Nancy Grabowski



The New Pretenders attended the Club Fair in September and enjoyed meeting many of you. Hopefully, some of our new contacts will become some of your favorite performers when we take the stage on Friday, Feb. 5, and Saturday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m., and again on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2027, at 2 p.m.

The new season is entitled “Beats, Boots, and Broadway!” A wide variety of music genres are included, so there’s much for everyone to enjoy. We add our energy, stage presentation and decoration, costuming, and fun!

Tickets will be sold on Ticket Tuesday beginning on Jan. 5, 2027, in the Arbor Activity Center Card Room III. We will also sell tickets every Wednesday at bingo in the Recreation Center Ballroom, commencing on Jan. 6, 2027, around 3 p.m. Our ticket prices remain the same (\$15 reserved, \$12 general admission) and payment can be accomplished with cash or a check.

Carolyn Cummings is one of our recent recruits. Carolyn and her husband, Lindell, have been residents for a long



Renee Schneck, Joe Jones, and Tom Miller.

time. Look for her behind the drums ... her big grin is easy to spot! She has added her vitality and humor to our group!

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

Woodcarving Club

Linda Toner



This month, we are featuring one of our carvers who carves in the round (three-dimensional), Gary Dormanen.

Gary has been carving for many years. He is an advanced carver. His depiction of a bull is carved from butternut, his preferred wood. The bull shows the animal’s strength.

We have carvers of all skill levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. We offer bas-relief carving lessons on the second Thursday of the month. Appropriate wood for the lesson is available for purchase for \$5. At the end of the lessons, you will have a carving you can be proud of.

We meet the first, second, and fourth Thursday of the month in the Hobby Building Art Room from 4 to 6 p.m. If you already whittle or carve, join us and be surrounded by like-minded people. Carving is a peaceful, creative hobby distinct from other art forms. It is taking a plain piece of wood and creating something beautiful with it.

For more information, you can call Tom Fuchs at 352-586-1171. Stop by and see what woodcarving is all about.

Sewing Bees

Susie Clauson



Did you know that Head Start has been a program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services since 1965, providing comprehensive early childhood education, health, and nutrition services to low-income children? It is the oldest and largest program of its kind.

Sewing Bees Club is proud to contribute to these children. For many years, we have donated quilts to a local school’s VPK class near Ocala. And this VPK class has recently been recognized as the highest-rated class in the state of Florida.

The teacher says that receiving their quilts teaches the children appreciation, gratitude, and generosity. All are

positive human qualities that make the world a better place. And we thought we were just providing comfort!

Stop by and see us in action. We meet every Thursday, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in the Hobby Building Art Room. Can’t sew? No problem. If you can tie a knot, we need you. Don’t have a sewing machine? We have all the equipment you need. Everything we make is donated to disadvantaged children of Marion County throughout the year.

We are always in need of cotton quilting fabric: solid colors, child-friendly prints, and flannel. Financial donations and gift cards, especially from Hobby Lobby and Michaels, are always welcome. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Join our Facebook page (Sewing Bees Club Inc.) and see what magic takes place at the hive. You can stay up to date on what we are working on and our current needs. Please email SewingBeesClub@gmail.com with questions, or contact Ann Gallo at 917-597-2178.



Head Start quilt donation.



“The Bull” carved by Gary Dormanen.



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Writers Club

Paul DiSclafani



Everyone has a story inside them, and the Writers Club is a place where published and unpublished writers from all genres come together to share their stories. More importantly, our members rely on one another for answers to their questions.

We are creating an anthology of short stories written by our members. Our club members will write, format, and exclusively publish this compilation.

Since forming in February, our club has hosted guest speakers who have shared their experiences writing and publishing their work. Professionals in book, magazine, and newspaper publishing have given our members the tools they need to continue their writing journey and, more importantly, get published.

Poetry



You Are So Much More

By Janice M. Puta

When I'm in your dreams,
I'm there to remind you
who you are
and how much more
you can be.

Oops. The Cat Did It Again.

By Linda Toner

It's me again,
the tuxedo cat.
I have a tale to tell
and these are all true facts.
I was awake,
full of hunger,
my stomach is making
noises like thunder.
I stare at my bowl
and it's woefully empty
when it should
have plenty
of wet food in it.
I go in search of my humans
and find them in the living room
watching the TV
and it is booming.
I stand in the doorway
and meow my distress,
a sound that reverberates
"This is not a test."
I signal that
I am famished
but I can't enter the room
because I am banished
from it and that
is all because
I deliberately knock things
off the coffee table with my paws.
"Feed me, feed me"
I declare,
but they ignore my plea
and so I dare
slink into the sacred room
in search of
some kind of food.
I see the remnants
of some chicken,
I grab it stealthily
and I start licking
it all up,
then I silently fart.
It was a smell so horrid
that even the art
hanging on the wall,
held their noses.
Mom looks at dad and says,
"That doesn't smell like roses."
By that time
I'm out of there
as mom says to dad,
"Don't you dare
fart again in my presence
or I will give
you a lesson
in good manners!"
He turns to her and says,
"As a matter of fact,
I think that smell
came from the cat."
I'm back in the hallway,
purveyor of doom,
and give them my innocent look
that says, "I'm not
even in the room!"

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Now it's our turn to do the work.
Over the next few months, our members will share their stories, and our meetings will provide feedback and encouragement to each author. Our goal is to publish our stories on the Amazon KDP platform and distribute the finished product to all participants in the New Year.

If you aren't already a member of our club, why not come join us?

The Writers Club meets at noon on the third Thursday of each month in the Recreation Center Lounge. Our next meeting is Thursday, Oct. 16. We also maintain a members-only Facebook page.

Our club is open to any resident with a valid resident ID or Gateway of Services pass interested in writing, whether or not you've had your work published.

If you're interested in joining our club, please email me at pdisco23@aol.com. We share all handouts and other meeting information with all members, including those who cannot attend in person.

Indigo East Book Group

Dawn Winblad



If you're a lover of books, please read with us! The Indigo East Book Group, led by Dawn Winblad, meets every third Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Indigo East Community Center Meeting Room I. We are currently reading "Theo of Golden," by Allen Levi for discussion on Thursday, Oct. 15.

If you've read with us before, but it's been a while, we would love for you to come back. Please feel free to just pop in; no need to sign up. Join us, whether you've read the book or not; you can always look forward to a great discussion with this group. We read all kinds of genres, printed, audio, and ebooks.

If you have any questions, please email Dawn Winblad at dlwonceagain@comcast.net.

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View from the Library

Cammie Fairburn



The Pulitzer Prize for Fiction is awarded every October. It is one of 23 annual awards Columbia University gives to honor outstanding literary achievement. The first prize was awarded in 1917 according to the will of Joseph Pulitzer, a wealthy newspaper publisher who founded Columbia University's journalism school.

The On Top of the World library has several books that were recent Pulitzer Prize winners. They all share a common theme of love and friendship in the modern world. A 2007 winner, "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy, is about how love sustains a father and son as they journey across a post-apocalyptic America.

Another parent-child relationship is explored in "The Goldfinch" (2014) by Donna Tartt. It is a coming-of-age novel about a boy who loses his mother and is obsessed with a painting that reminds him of her.

Two books inspired by older classics are "Demon Copperhead" (2023) by Barbara Kingsolver and "James" (2025) by Percival Everett. "Demon Copperhead" is a modern rendition of Charles Dickens' "David Copperfield," and "James" is a retelling of "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain from the point of view of the slave Jim (James). Hope you enjoy these modern "classics."

Poetry Club

Bill Burton



Every other Tuesday is interesting as we pile in with our tablets, notes, and pads. A few, old-fashioned like me, still scribble in notebooks with pages of lines and half-finished poems and partial ideas awaiting our return to them. Sometimes we reacquaint ourselves with these sporadic thoughts later. Sometimes we never meet again. Ideas can be frivolous friends.

The good news is, whatever we have or have not created, someone else has finished something fresh, lovely, and new, or perhaps discovered a classic from days of old. Either way is like refreshments served at the local dance.

Important forms of poetry are sonnet, haiku, ballad, ode, and epic. At one time or another, they all surface in our meetings, and we hear the profound and the satirical intertwined with everything in between. It is not unlike meeting regularly with a group of guides and explorers contrasting their various journeys through new and unfamiliar lands and oceans. Some new view always emerges. There is never a bad week. The only thing lacking is that we end the meeting still wanting more.

We met lots of nice folks at the Club Fair and look forward to expanding our merry group of poets. Come share. Call Bill Burton on 352-492-8626 for times and information.

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Merilyn Ramsey and Lyn Yanss in "Comedy Tonight" in the fall of 2025.

Paradise Players

Cheryl Jensen



The Paradise Players enjoyed meeting residents at the Club Fair who stopped by to learn more about the group. Our members truly appreciated the enthusiastic feedback many of you shared with us about our past productions. Thank you!

The troupe is now putting the finishing touches on its upcoming "Comedy

Broadway Playhouse

Joanne Houston



There's a famous scene from "The Music Man," where the mighty Professor Harold Hill must teach the band kids to play their new instruments and stay out of the pool hall ...

The Broadway Playhouse Theater Group held auditions, and rehearsals are now underway for our 2026-2027 Broadway production of Meredith Willson's "The Music Man, Sr.," which will take place on Friday, March 5, 2027, and Monday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 6, 2027, and Sunday, March 7, 2027, at 2 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale beginning in January 2027 and can be purchased from a cast member. Many cast members have extensive experience in music, dance, and dramatic skills, and we have a wonderful opportunity to showcase their talents in this classic all-American production.

Famous songs such as "76 Trombones," "Trouble," "Iowa Stubborn," "Til There Was You," and "Gary Indiana" will be featured in our show, which will include the leading characters of Marian the librarian, Professor Harold Hill, Eulalie McKechnie Shinn, Mayor George Shinn, and the school board members and gossiping Pickalittle ladies, as well as many cast members from the town of River City, Iowa.

This spectacular show will be directed by Joanne Houston and Cheryl Richardson, who directed "Oklahoma!, Jr." last year. If you need any further information about the show, please email joanne.houston57@gmail.com.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Liz Elliott Lieberman



The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Club is now a company of actors who write and present original murder mysteries. We have already started rehearsing our newest show called "A Holiday Homicide." It is a fundraiser for the Friends of SPCA on Nov. 20, 21, and 22; the three performances will be held at The Landing.

All residents are welcome to attend, so we hope to see you at one of these hilarious, fun productions. The Friends of SPCA will announce ticket sales in the World News. VIP tables are available, and tickets will be \$60 per person. This includes a delicious three-course dinner provided by Pasta Faire. Where else can you see a show, have dinner, not worry about driving or parking, and dress in

your favorite outfits from the 1970s for that amount of money? 1970s attire is optional, but the music and dancing will be from that fabulous era most of us remember.

We are still overjoyed by the reception of "At the CopaOcala," which was performed for the Latinos Club in May. Many residents didn't have the chance to see this show, so we plan to remount the production in early 2027 for those who missed the chance to solve the mysterious murder of Lola, the showgirl.

For more information regarding the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Club, please contact Liz Lieberman at Lizzy-lieberman@gmail.com or 702-378-6300, or Pati Bean at pjbean5678@gmail.com or 253-278-1661. Please state your level of interest, either as an actor or to book a murder mystery for your organization or club. Besides actors, singers, and dancers, we will need people who can sell tickets, have marketing skills, make or build props, or just want to join a really fun group of people!



Anabel Parra and Cheryl Jensen in "At the CopaOcala."

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Hours:

Monday: **CLOSED**

Tuesday: 2 - 9 PM

Wednesday: 2 - 9 PM

Thursday: 9:30 AM - 10 PM

Friday: 2 - 10 PM

Saturday: 2 - 10 PM

Sunday: 2 - 8 PM

#17257 - 18/09/2026

📍 8399 SW 80th St, Suite 16, Ocala, FL, United States, Florida

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Fun with Golf Carts

Susan Pulling Robinson



On Saturday, Sept. 5, a few of our club members braved the weather and paraded around in their cheerfully decorated carts. Selected charities included Inter-faith Emergency Services, Bears and Blankets, Operation Shoebox, Chuck’s Piggy Bank, Veterans Helping Veterans, Early Learning Coalition, and Dannelon Elementary School. Many generous folks donated to these causes. Thank you!

Don’t miss a parade; mark your calendar for the following Saturdays:

- Oct. 31: Halloween
- Nov. 7: Veterans Day

- Dec. 5: Holiday Golf Cart Parade
- Dec. 19: Holiday Parade
- Dec. 26: Evening Lights

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

Unless otherwise noted, 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.

Karaoke Friends

Kathy & Charlie Petrosky



For fun I asked Reddit.com, “Why do you sing?” I saw a variety of answers and will share a few.

"It was the only thing that made me feel good."

"The physical sensation of words and pleasant sounds coming from my mouth feels like I’m releasing stress and tension. I’d like it to sound more pleasant though."

"I’ve always loved music. It’s what



Photo by Steve Warren

Linda Gerstel

makes life worth living for me. I started vocal lessons when I was nine, and it kinda just stuck."

"Singing improves your health, boosts your mood, and connects you with others."

Here is a challenge for you. When you catch yourself singing, and we all do at times, what triggered it?

This month we are highlighting Linda Gerstel. We are all glad she started singing. Here is what she would like to share with you.

"I loved music from an early age. I began participating in both church and community musicals during elementary school. I was part of band, chorus, and drama groups throughout the rest of my school years and college. I have enjoyed being involved with my church worship teams and choirs over the years. I had not, however, participated in karaoke until moving to On Top of the World in January. I have loved the opportunity to join in the fun with so many talented music lovers. The group has been so supportive and welcoming. I am so grateful God has allowed me to be part of such a wonderful community."

If you would like to join us, we meet the first and third Mondays in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room at 5 p.m. We love to have new singers join us.

This month, our theme is a “new song night” on Monday, Oct. 5, and Halloween on Monday, Oct. 19. Neither theme is mandatory. Just come and sing with us.



Photo by George Ostrom

Labor Day Gator fan.

Toppers Banjo

David Wesenberg



Toppers Banjo Band meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Arbor Activity Center Music Room with its full complement of members. An instrumental practice subgroup meets Mondays at 12:15 p.m. There are plenty of opportunities to join us and explore the banjo.

The band is currently evaluating new music and performance opportunities as we expand the range of instruments within our group, which includes banjos, guitars, violins, piano, double bass, dulcimer, percussionist, and a singer. We may add a trombone and a clarinet.

Our group’s instrumental lineup makes some new forms of music possible. The question is, do we want to expand our musical content range?

Also, the band enjoys the camaraderie and closeness during individual

practices as we play music. We are currently developing some musicians who just started on their instruments and are understandably anxious about their performance during these early stages. We need to allow enough time to perfect our performances, so we’ll be selective about which opportunities we take.

We do have several experienced players who would be delighted to help banjoists and others expand their skills. If you want to start playing or expand your skills, we have people who can help.

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 players, 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 just like to listen, join us and enjoy the music and conversation. Everyone is welcome. Let’s have fun with music together.

For more information, email David Wesenberg at dpw@mastersoftwareinc.com.



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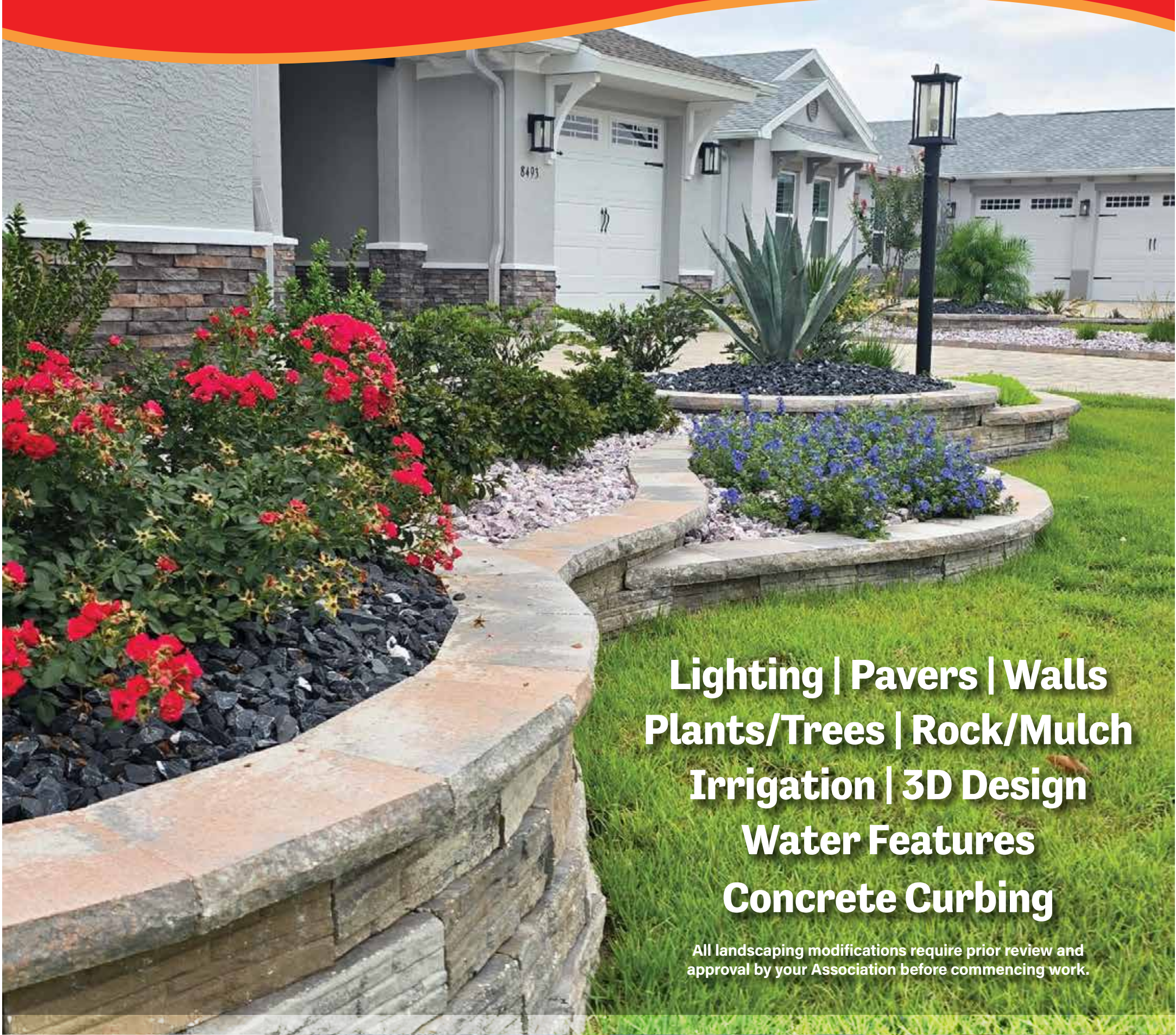
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FOR SALE, WANTED AND LOST/FOUND

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 news@colenbuilt.net.

ESTATE/TAGSALEADS: There is no charge to residents, however, residents must register their estate/tag sale. Complete and submit the form for your community by visiting OnTopoftheWorldNews.com/ocala > Advertising > Resident Advertising or in person at Resident Services. Forms must be submitted by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

SERVICE ADS: Will be accepted from residents and non-residents and may be emailed to news@colenbuilt.net. For advertising rates, visit OnTopoftheWorldNews.com/ocala > Advertising.

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 news@colenbuilt.net 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

Appliance: Hisense 7.0 cu. ft. chest freezer, white, with 3 wire baskets. Best Offer. Text 727-505-5677.

Collectibles: Assorted figurines Hummel, Precious Moments, Snow Babies, Johnathan & David, Boyd, Bears and Friends and a Grace Teaware Set. \$3 a piece. 941-504-8606.

Furniture: Barcalounger power-reclining couch and chair. 256-337-3733.

Furniture: Rod iron end tables with glass tops, \$80 for two. Oak round coffee table with glass insert, \$50. Small light brown recliner, \$50. 608-445-0660.

Golf Cart Equipment: Kenda tires with rims (4), 18 x 8.50-8, \$20 each. Call/text 352-873-3998.

Home Décor: Family of 4 Scandinavian yule goats (julbock), 9” to 27” tall, \$40. 941-504-8606.

Misc. Items: Bogen (3126) tripod with shoulder pads, \$60. Bushnell SpaceMaster black rubber armored 60 mm zoom telescope with case, standard and 25 mm wide-angle lenses, \$100. AmScope (SW-2T13) binocular stereoscope with zoom and adjustable 140 LED ring light attachment, \$175. 401-418-1153.

Misc. Item: Honda portable generator (EU3000i). Maintained monthly as directed. 973-800-5345.

Musical Instrument: Yamaha digital keyboard (PSR EW300) with stand, \$100. 352-547-9024.

Yard Equipment: EGO handheld stick lawn edger, 56-volt, heavy-duty with a rapid charger and battery, \$100 firm. 850-716-3596.

Tag Sales

Friday, Oct. 2: 8957 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Oct. 2 & Saturday, Oct. 3: 8882, 8923 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9117, 9121 SW 91st Circle (Williamsburg), 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. · 8931 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 8851, 8951 SW 104th Circle (Avalon), 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3: 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon · 8430-C SW 91st Street (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. · 9679 SW 99th Avenue (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 4: 8430-C SW 91st Street (Friendship Colony), noon to 3 p.m. · 8650-A SW 92nd Place (Friendship Colony), noon to 4 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 8 & Friday, Oct. 9: 8738-A SW 90th Street (Friendship Colony), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 9 & Saturday, Oct. 10: 9669-B SW 94th Avenue (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to noon · 9698-B SW 94th Avenue (Crescent Ridge), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10: 9382-D SW 89th Court Road (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to noon · 8359 SW 84th Loop (Candler Hills), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. · 9689 SW 89th Loop, 9693, 9697 SW 90th Street (Providence), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 16: 10430 SW 90th Street Road (Avalon), 8 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Oct. 16 & Saturday, Oct. 17: 9169 SW 91st Circle (Williamsburg), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 23 & Saturday, Oct. 24: 8569 SW 88th Loop (Candler Hills), 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24: 8382 SW 90th Avenue (Balmoral), 8 a.m. to noon · 8475-A SW 91st Place (Friendship Colony), 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 25: 8475-A SW 91st Place (Friendship Colony), noon to 3 p.m.

Services

American Junk Removal & Demo: One call, we haul – one item, room, or total clean-out. Total kitchen & bath demolition. Lawn/landscape clean-up. Dumpster rental. Call/text Garfield 561-306-6969. Quality work, competitive prices, licensed & insured.

Andy Dahms Interior Painting: Your local professional painting contractor. Turn your place into a showpiece. Quality Sherwin-Williams products. References available. Free estimates. Call or email at 941-730-1381 or andygooddeats1@gmail.com.

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.

Buying Used Watches: Rolex, Omega, Seiko, Bulova, Zodiac, gold, etc. Christopher the Watch Guy 352-229-5317.

Cash4Carts: We buy golf carts. Fast, friendly, fair. Will beat dealer offers. Cash paid. Same-day pick-up. 352-812-5630.

Cat Sitting: Provided by loving experienced Catsitter Nanny (resident) 352-854-8589.

Cleaning by Evelyn Lee: House & deep cleaning, move-outs. Licensed, bonded & insured. 352-286-6055.

CLEAN Window Cleaning LLC: Professional window cleaning, house washing, pressure washing, soft washing, roof washing, and paver sealing. Veteran-owned, bonded, and insured. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call or text 352-788-1111 or visit washmyhouseflorida.com.

Companionship & Housekeeping: Cooking, shopping, errands, light housekeeping, technology support, companionship, & daily assistance. For friendly, reliable in-home support, call Danielle at 352-425-5768.

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.

Eagle Carpet Cleaning: Carpet, tile & grout, and upholstery cleaning. 25 years serving the residents of On Top of the World. Call 352-369-4494. Senior discounts.

Estate Sale Services: Need to sell the contents of your home? Committed to providing quality estate sale services. Working hard so you don't have to. Lacy Hornberger (resident), SW Ocala Estate Sales, 352-550-4058.

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.

House Cleaning & Pet Sitting: Professional weekly, biweekly or deep cleaning. 47 years of experience. Free estimates. References available. Trish 865-389-1984.

Jordan's Golf Cart Batteries: Lithium battery with 8-year warranty, \$1,950 installed; 6- to 8-volt, \$860 installed; and 4- to 12-volt, \$925 installed with 24-month warranty. Call for free battery check 352-789-2812.

Junk Removal: Prompt service. Reasonable rates. Call/text Matt at 352-640-6467.

Maid in America by Ann: Quality cleaning services. Pet sitting available. Insured & reliable. 609-276-1099.

Mid Florida Window Cleaning: Interior & exterior windows, screens, tracks, mirrors, & hard water removal. Owner-operated, insured & free estimates. 352-817-0661.

Mobile Notary Public: Taking pride in my duty as a notary in Ocala. Nancy Faucher, 352-497-8201 (call or text anytime).

Paint Time LLC: Interior & exterior painting. Quality is our goal! Also offering power washing. Let's spruce up your home inside & out. Call/text Matt at 352-640-6467.

Pet Sitting: Offering daily drop-in visits and overnight care services in your home. 15 years of experience. Fran Spivack Russo 919-339-3052 (resident).

Transportation: Doctors' appointments, shopping, hair, surgery center, hospital, etc. Diane 352-854-9999 (resident). Please leave message (no texts).

US Pressure Clean: Professional exterior cleaning for your home. Roofs, siding, driveways, patios, windows & more. Safe, reliable service with outstanding results. Refresh your property today, call us at 1-800-444-6387 for a free estimate!

Wash & Wax: Completed at your home. \$60 most vehicles. \$80 pickup, van, & 3rd row seating SUV. Interior & exterior. 40 years in service. Mark Anthony (text) 352-239-5702.

Weed Pulling: Yard work, mowing, topsoil for lawn/garden and haul away. Offering organic weed/grass killer. Insured. 352-454-2009.

Wanted

Donations: Adult bicycles for homeless ministry (Carol 419-601-1322) · Dog or cat food (Friends of SPCA 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 for homeless; pet food/supplies for animal shelters; musical instruments for troops/veterans; socks, underwear & men's clothing (Donna 352-237-3062) · Yarn for VA hospitals, children, and newborns (352-843-6519).

Ham Radio Operators: Support the Community Emergency Response Team in the event of a disaster. Please email brucetwiss@yahoo.com.

Housekeeper: Once per week for four hours, \$17 per hour. Light housekeeping with a gentle touch – dusting, vacuuming, and steam cleaning. Cleaning products supplied. Must be dog-friendly. Call Bill at 352-237-6562.

Musical Instruments: Gently used flute, cello, travel-sized xylophone, or glockenspiel for The New Pretenders. Nancy 352-209-4699.

Musician: Born-again, play-by-ear, male to practice and praise our Lord with hymns in the keys of G or D. 352-362-0304.

Pet Foster Parents: Temporarily open your home to a pet in need. Call Friends of SPCA at 352-362-0985.

Scuba Divers: Certified open-water scuba divers wanted for local dives and skill-building practice. Must own or rent equipment. Call Larry at 516-945-4917.

HANDICAP EQUIPMENT

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

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