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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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Volume 53

No. 8



When the Night Riders roll down World Parkway Boulevard, their wheels are lit, their frames are lit and sometimes their clothes are lit. There is no mistaking members of this group.



That flash of light that just glowed down the road - probably members of the Night Riders bicycle group

Have you ever looked out your window or driven down the road and seen a bunch of people riding by on glowing bicycles?

Ever wonder who they are or where they come from?

You might be surprised by the actual answer!

Those bicyclists belong to a group exclusively at On Top of the World. They are all OTOW residents who enjoy riding together at night, safely, with glowing lights and sharing a love of music.

The group is called "Night Riders."

If you haven't seen them in person, you have probably seen them on an evening news show. They have quickly gotten the attention of local media outlets and have been published on TV and in newspapers.

"We have some awesome people

NIGHT RIDERS

riding at night with our bikes lit up with the most amazing, colorful lights," said founder Lisa Harris.

"We have so much fun and laughter. We play a really nice, diverse selection of music while we ride and we get together to have great conversations."

While this group loves riding at night and showing off various colors, they do not take exception when it comes to safety rules.

Lisa says everyone obeys the rules of the road. They basically stay off public roads and remain within the community - on the east side and the west side.

The Night Riders get together for pure enjoyment inside the community - and they get plenty of spectators.

Everyone who rides has differ-

ent lights, which are powered by battery sources. Lights can run the length of the bike, around the wheels and cover the handlebars - some people even wear lights.

Generally speaking, the Night Riders get together every other Sunday.

Before each scheduled ride, a map with directions is posted on two websites - the official Night Rider website on Facebook and another site on Nextdoor.

You must be a member of the group to gain access to the Facebook site and you must be a member of Nextdoor to go to that site, but once on either site, a lot of information is provided.

Lisa says many people go to both sites just to post pictures and videos of the group.

"Our group exists because of your community support, and when we ride, we very much appreciate all your cheers, comments, pictures and videos," Lisa said.

The group is also planning to reserve the pavilion for a future function where food and beverages will be served. This will be an event for Night Riders members only. Of course, the evening will end with a bike ride.

Watch this newspaper for that future date.

The group would also like to schedule a fun parade in the community which would allow every bike rider at OTOW to participate.

There is no charge to join the group and you don't even have to ride a bicycle to become a member. Anyone who lives at On Top of the World can join.

If you need help purchasing bike lights or need help decorating your bike, the group can help there, too.

If you have a question for Lisa, you can send a message to her at fitnezz2@gmail.com.



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*Culverts must remain completely open***Please don't interfere with wildlife****What the Duck?**

Over the last several weeks, your Association and SCA have received complaints from concerned residents regarding ducklings in and around the culvert that runs from the East Side pond at the front of Building No. 10 to its outflow behind Building No. 11.

Rest assured, your concerns have not fallen on deaf ears.

We reached out to Florida Fish and Wildlife for guidance and found out that they do not participate in any relocation efforts for native waterfowl.

They did recommend that the ducks not be fed and have instructed us not to interfere with their natural lifecycle.

With that being said, many residents have taken steps to block the culvert openings with netting in an attempt to keep the ducklings on one side of the pond and with their mother. This can be very dangerous to residents who are climbing on OR around the culvert to place netting at the opening and to the ducklings who may become stuck in the netting and unable to free themselves. This would be a far worse situation for them.

Additionally, the placement of netting at the opening could also catch debris. Under large storm conditions, such as tropical storms, hurricanes, or any storm dropping 2 inches of rain (or more) per hour, debris in the net could cause pond levels to rise and restrict water flow in the storm drains, which would result in localized flooding of parking lots and roadways. This would be completely unacceptable and an avoidable set of conditions.

Exactly how to address the matter is a no-win situation for the Association. At a minimum, signage has been ordered and will be placed around the pond alerting residents of area dangers and advising them not to feed the ducks, thus attracting them to the hazardous condition.

The exact species of ducks is unknown. Florida Fish and Wildlife informed us that should they be identified as Muscovy ducks, they would be considered an invasive species, competing with native species of ducks, and they do not participate in removing them from their habitat. Federal regulations allow landowners to take steps to remove them without the need for a federal or state permit. Removal can also be done by hiring a nuisance wildlife trapper.

The ducks may be humanely euthanized, but it is illegal to capture them and release them elsewhere.

Whatever the species, let's all do our part to ensure the safety and well-being of not only ourselves, but of whatever duck species that visits our ponds, by observing them in their natural habitat, safely and from a distance.

Emergency Suspension of Services

From time to time, especially during tropical storms/hurricane events, you may find that the management company has suspended certain services as a pre-



caution.

The services temporarily interrupted may include elevator, laundry and trash services.

It is never an easy decision to make, but the safety of the residents and the community guides many of these difficult choices.

During tropical storm events, Duke Energy may experience widespread power outages similar to the interruptions that the community experienced during Hurricane Irma in 2017. Outages of that magnitude can take days or weeks to remedy.

During one of these outages, if elevators were not shut down, it would be highly possible that someone could become entrapped inside of an elevator.

If wind speeds have exceeded a safe operational threshold, the management company suspends elevator services.

County and local municipalities also suspend many essential services, including 911 call response, under such conditions.

If there were an entrapment in an elevator during those conditions, it could be hours before the person could be rescued.

Given this possibility, and for your safety, the management company acts accordingly by suspending services during such storm conditions.

Power outages are also one of the many reasons laundry services must also be suspended.

Trash service interruptions during tropical storms/hurricanes occur as well out of a concern for the safety of the employees who provide those services.

Recognizing that it is simply unsafe to be outside of your unit during extreme weather events like these should assist in an understanding of why the management company makes the decision to temporarily suspend these services.

Did You Know?

It is that time of year again when your Association receives many requests for insurance verification from residents and their insurance companies.

Did you know that you, or your agent, can visit the On Top of the World Condominium Community Website at www.otowclearwaterinfo.com? You simply go to the "General Info Tab," scroll and select "Wind Mitigation Forms."

There you will find the Wind Mitiga-



tion Report that corresponds to your address. You can fill in your unit number in the appropriate space after you print the needed document, then send it to your insurance agent.

As a reminder, this is a service provided at no cost to you or your insurance company. If you would like to have a copy mailed directly to your insurance agent, you will need to drop off a written request at the Community Service Office along with a \$15 check payable to Parkway Maintenance & Management, LLC, along with your Wind Mitigation Request Form, which can be obtained at the CSO.

As a reminder, the Wind Mitigation Reports are valid for five years from the date they were completed.

Community Service Office Information

The Community Service Office (CSO) hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted.

If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff are working with someone else.

Please be patient. Calls and voicemails will be responded to during normal business hours.

Once the requested service matter is identified, a service order will be generated and submitted to the appropriate department to address the matter.

The goal of the CSO is to make an initial assessment of the request and to determine if it is an emergency or non-emergency. Once the matter is assessed, a plan to resolve will be made and work scheduled. From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request.

It is not necessary to report service requests more than one time.

If you have any questions regarding your request, and until the Community

Service Office reopens, please call the Service Request Line at 727-683-6981.

As a reminder, window and door repair or replacement is exclusive to the unit and is the owner's responsibility. The Association's responsibility is to the structure and common elements.

Service Request Line

If you are unable to visit the Community Service Office, the OTOW phone number to submit a service request is 727-683-6981. Please call for general building matters in the common areas only. Please do not leave health-related emergency.

After-Hours Number

The OTOW after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115 for matters such as water intrusion into your unit. For all other inquiries regarding general matters or questions that are not service related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office. In the event of a life-threatening emergency, please dial 911. For a power outage, call Duke Energy at 800-228-8485.

OTOW Alerts

Signing up for OTOW-ALERTS (powered by RAVE) is incredibly easy. Simply go to otowclearwaterinfo.com and from the home page scroll down to the bottom of the page and the "Sign Up Now" box will be located to the left of the screen. Click to enroll.

You can also sign up from the "Stay Informed" tab located at the top of the home page.

This is without obligation or cost to you. Your email and cell phone numbers are secure, never shared and never solicited. Alternatively, you may visit the Community Service Office to apply.

OTOW-ALERTS provides advance warning of severe weather events as well as other matters of critical concern to the residents of OTOW Condominium Community. It is not hyperbole to say some

Rumor Control - Employee Background Screenings

Some people have too much time on their hands, or maybe smoking something they shouldn't, to think this one up!

The Management Company does not hire employees from work-release.

Rest assured, Parkway Maintenance and Management Company employees all undergo a rigorous pre-employment background check and drug screening. They do this in large part to ensure the safety of On Top of the World residents.

OTOW management personnel meet

Post-Champlain Towers Collapse

The horrible events in Sunrise, Fla., give us all pause to mourn and to consider the path of recovery, and the path forward.

I met with Parkway Staff shortly after learning of the collapse. We asked the very serious question, "could such a tragedy happen here?"

A totally honest answer is, while we doubt a catastrophic event is a possibility because of our near-continuous building inspections and maintenance program, the chance is very minimal because of unknown, unknowns.

But minimal is not the same as zero.

I don't know that we can ever get to zero chance of any catastrophic event. But frequent building inspections are high on the list of preventative things to do.

The community has seen serious structural fires within units that were modified by an individual owner without Association review and without a building or electrical permit.

And yes, this community had two events of a structural nature in 2011.

The first, a leaning stairwell determined to be due to soils subsidence (a plant died, was removed, and the remaining root ball decayed, leaving a void underground).

The second was the collapse of an architectural element above a stairwell.

In both of those events, there were no condos structurally affected and no injury or loss of life.

Post-event, the management company worked with a qualified structural engineer and other licensed professionals to not only understand the cause, but to develop a recovery plan, and to execute on it.

Post-event, all buildings of that design were thoroughly inspected, and structural engineer-designed modifications were implemented where appropriate to ensure structural integrity.

Otherwise, post-event analysis is inevitable and thoroughly proper.

A part of that analysis will ultimately result in new legislation requiring a uniform standard of inspection for all buildings more than 40 years old (good life advice for anyone).

To that end, the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar, announced the creation of a task force to recommend policy changes as well as provide technical expertise to the legislature and governor.

The collapse and policy changes resulting from the Task Force's work will be the subject of committee hearings and several pieces of legislation.

Also, the condo collapse was discussed at a meeting of mayors and vice mayors in Pinellas County with some suggestions as to how locally they can ensure older buildings are structurally sound.

There was discussion of adopting a provision in place in Miami-Dade County that requires a building more than 40 years old to undergo a thorough inspection every decade to ensure structural soundness.

The bottom line for all condominium



communities is to expect increased scrutiny and third-party inspections of structural and electrical elements of all habitational buildings.

I can't help but wonder how that will work inasmuch as there are not enough structural and electrical engineers and other qualified building inspectors in Florida to make that happen very fast.

Regardless, there is a need for this level of scrutiny.

One thing for sure is that this will cost any community significantly, but is a worthwhile additional annual expenditure. It is necessary.

I will also predict that large insurers are looking at Florida and scratching their collective heads to determine: (1) if they will continue to insure communities, (2) what underwriting standards to apply, and (3) how to price the unknown risks, especially of coastal condominiums.

Post-COVID19 Real Estate Boom

It's getting to be old news that local, regional and national home sales are extremely strong.

This is being fueled by stupid-low interest rates and tremendous consumer demand. Mix in a robust demand for new home deliveries hamstrung by labor shortages, material shortages, cost increases in all materials, delayed delivery times on manufactured components, and long lead times on creating new home sites, we have what is best characterized as a seller's market.

Resale condo listings for sale are at historic lows (as of this writing, there are only seven resale listings active in OTOW, an all-time low).

It is no wonder the OTOW Community is seeing record condo sales prices.

Year-to-date through May, 64 resale condos have been closed. The community is on track to turn over and close 370 resale closings in 2021.

Prices have ranged from a low of \$70,000 to a high of \$245,000.

Total dollar value year-to-date, as of May 2021, is \$21 million. This is looking like \$50.4 million by the end of the calendar year.

On Top of the World Real Estate of Pinellas is leading with 34 closed sales through May 2021, and sits at 22.1 percent of total sales out of 56 real estate offices having sales in May - the greatest listing and sales volume through May 2021.

Looking at the county as a whole, total closed homes sales-to-date, net of OTOW resales, overall resales is 959 through May 2021.

Median sale price has increased approximately 29.4 percent year over year.

Median time to contract is eight days (percent change year over year is a -78.4 percent decrease over 2020).

For sale inventory is at 0.8 months, a -75 percent reduction year over year.

Perhaps the most fascinating statistic for me is the 153.9 percent increase in total dollar volume of condo and town-home sales year over year. This is followed by the median percent of original list price received

Insurance Update

Recently departed Tropical Storm Elsa is a strong reminder to each resident to check in with your insurance agent and make sure the insurance coverage on your unit and contents is adequate.

If you feel "lucky" and go without insurance, or believe you can self-insure any loss, please reconsider because the cost of repair or reconstruction may well exceed the market value of your condominium at the time of the event.

It is the obligation of every owner to insure the contents of their unit.

The Community Service Office has handled numerous major leaks from improperly maintained water heaters.

The replacement and maintenance of water heaters is the responsibility of the unit owner.

In all cases, the owner found out how important having insurance is when faced with paying for the extensive damage to their unit, the adjoining units and the Association property between the units.

The Association will seek reimbursement from the unit owner for its repair work in every instance.

This is a good point to segue into the limits of coverage that individual unit owners may wish to have.

Contents coverage may vary greatly depending what you own. As a basic point though, you need adequate limits to cover furnishings, personal items, floor coverings, appliances and cabinetry.

All carriers write an HO6 rider that provides for loss assessment coverage in the event of a special assessment from the Association to cover unforeseen shortfalls or losses.

In the On Top of the World Condominium Association, buildings are insured under a master policy in the name of the Association. The deductible is \$10,000 for any event per occurrence including wind/hail related damage. Named storm events carry a separate deductible of 5 percent of the total value at the time of loss, at each location involved in the loss, subject to a minimum (community wide) deductible of \$250,000 for any one occurrence.

With respect to flood (rising water), earthquake and flood resulting from a named storm, all loss, damage, and/or expense arising out of any one occurrence shall be adjusted as one loss, and from an amount of each such adjusted loss there is

a \$100,000 deductible.

For more information, please visit www.otowclearwaterinfo.com then click "Community" and download the pdf document entitled: Insurance Responsibility of the Individual Unit Owner.

Elevator Maintenance

Your Board and the management company understand the dependence residents have on elevators. Even the shortest interruption may cause a major inconvenience for residents.

To prevent service interruptions to the greatest extent possible, the management company directly employs State licensed elevator service technicians.

Additionally, all 83 elevators receive their preventative maintenance monthly, equating to 12 times yearly for each one!

This ongoing regimen ensures that the equipment is in a better position to service the community reliably and safely.

The adopted ASME A17.1 requires a maintenance control program (MCP) and the maintenance performed in accordance with the MCP. A "routine examination" a minimum of once a year, is required to be performed and reported to the Bureau of Elevator Safety for elevator certification.

By far, the most frequent cause of service calls is elevator timeout. This occurs when a door is blocked open for a short period and the safety shut-off activates and shuts down the elevator until the service technician manually resets it.

It is very common that such an instance happens when a resident blocked the door while trying to move some home furnishings into the elevator cab. This inconvenienced several neighbors on the upper floors needing to use the elevator and resulted in the service call out.

Upcoming Projects

Painting/Waterproofing

With the August heat comes the wettest of the summer months in the West Central Florida region. This means that painting contractors must utilize their time wisely as they never know when the skies are going to open up and put a damper on their plans for the day.

As this article goes to print, painting crews will be wrapping up work on the east side of property and moving to the following structures west of Belcher Road:

The rear façade of Buildings 64, 66 and 73 will have waterproofing coatings applied, while the front facades of Buildings 78 and 79 will be prepped and repainted.

As always, please keep in mind that the painting contractor will be operating in close proximity to parking areas and front/rear porches which may require the temporary displacement of vehicles or property.

Thank you for your cooperation in advance and keep in mind that inclement weather can affect start and completion dates as well as the listed order of work.

(Continued on page 5)

to discuss condo collapse in Miami

The installation of new unit address numbers will continue in August as this is another community improvement project that accompanies the application of front façade coatings.

As the painting contractor moves throughout the property, management company crews will be installing new life-safety compliant, reflective unit numbers on the common area wall in proximity to unit front doors. Bulletins will be posted in advance of the work advising residents of the process and what they can expect.

Unit numbers currently attached to the common element wall will be removed by the painting contractor, while numbers installed on front unit doors will need to be removed by the unit owner.

If a unit owner wishes, they may contract with the management company for the removal of any old unit numbers for a nominal fee. Please remember that for community standard reasons, all old unit numbers must be removed.

Construction, Roofing and Large scope projects

There are no large scope construction projects scheduled for the month of August, 2021.

Cable TV update

At the June meeting, the Board voted to engage a consultant to “cast a wide net” for video and cable providers capable of servicing this community.

In the meantime, you may wish to go to OTOWClearwaterInfo.com and click the “Community” link to review the June 18, 2021, link to “Wirecutter” on strategies to save money on your cable bill and increase viewing options through internet streaming.

Recurring Reminders for all Community Residents

Building walkway repairs will continue as construction crews perform maintenance to second and third floor walking surfaces.

Many buildings will see these restoration crews as the management company focuses its efforts on these types of repairs. This work requires the use of specialized power tools and may cause a temporary inconvenience in the form of noise and dust. Repair crews will do their best to limit the inconvenience during this

necessary work.

These small repair areas will also be coated as a future preventative. As always, we ask that residents please limit any foot traffic in and around any work area they may encounter.

Walkway coating improvements will continue across property. These improvements involve preparation of the surface (and occasionally sub-surface) concrete, the addition of acrylic fortified materials to stairwell surfaces, and then the application of a quality slip-resistant barrier coating. The end result is intended to provide longevity to the balcony walking surfaces as well as returning the look to its original conveyed color scheme.

The management company will post notices on affected buildings’ bulletin boards concerning the dates crews are expected to commence the work. Please be aware of “Caution” and “Wet Paint” signs in and around these work areas.

Inspection Services Division

The Inspection Services team, in conjunction with the Parkway Construction Department, will continue prepping buildings scheduled for new paint coatings in the current improvement cycle.

This has been an ongoing endeavor throughout the community over the last few years and encompasses the removal of all association unapproved plant hanger brackets, holiday lighting hooks that are affixed into the masonry block, hose reels, and other wall and ceiling penetrations.

In keeping with association rules, these items will be removed without notice. Residents are kindly asked to seek association approval before affixing anything to the common element in the future.

The management company would like to remind residents that all water softening equipment installations require advance association approval via a modification permit. A permit application package may be obtained by visiting the community service office in the east activity center at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard.

Residents are also reminded that only resin-style, not ion exchange or salt, water softeners are permissible in the community. Please make sure you apply for a permit and receive approval prior to contracting with a service to avoid a compliance visit by the management company. Thanks for

your advance cooperation.

Inspection services representatives will also be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproofing coatings during the current fiscal year improvement cycle. The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules. This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied.

Many first floor unit owners will be receiving notification from the Inspection Services Department over the coming months as the management company works towards the removal of all unapproved decorative stones throughout the community. The stones are not only an unapproved item for use in landscaping, but have the propensity to damage association and personal property alike.

The Inspection Services Division is continuing to find many awnings with compromised connection points to the common element. In response, they have been reaching out to affected unit owners to have the awnings removed and limit any further damage to the community. As noted in prior articles, the “clamshell” awnings do not meet building code for wind resistance. Fortunately there are new products that do. If you have an awning, please arrange for its inspection through the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center.

The removal of plantings located above and around the potable water meters that service the individual units is also ongoing. The management company is asking that all residents comply and not replant the areas. Plants or other items found in these areas will be removed without notice and disposed of as they hinder the proper maintenance of these meters in the future.

Please keep in mind that the condominium association requires a modification request for any landscape alterations. Many times decorative rocks or landscaping are installed without the advance approval of the association, and the removal and disposal of these items becomes the responsibility of the violator. Please, always apply for approval before you install.

Inspection efforts are focused on the

tagging and removal of personal furnishings and belongings placed in outside stairwells of buildings. These obstructions present a fire concern, block egress, or are of a nature that they do not comply with written community standards.

The management company would like to reiterate to residents that barbecue grills be it propane, charcoal or electric, are not permitted on any balcony areas, as they pose a fire risk to the structure and residents.

Clutter enforcement has always been one of the most recurring compliance issues at On Top of the World, these efforts make for an overall safer community in which to live.

If you receive notification that an item is out of compliance, please correct the issue immediately.

If you have a question and were not able to speak with a compliance representative at the time of the notification, please stop by the Community Service Office and request an appointment. Someone will be glad to contact you.

Please remember that items tagged in common areas may be removed and disposed of without further notice. Please help make your community safer by complying if you receive a violation tag/door hanger. Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Be Mindful and Safe

August is also the ramp-up to the busiest part of the storm season. If you are planning a trip, please make sure you have storm-proofed your condo by removing anything on or around the exterior of your condo that could become an object of destruction during a high wind event.

This, of course, includes clamshell awnings, together with chairs and potted plants to name just a few of the hazards that are easy to overlook (we may see them every day and these items just “blend in”).

Summer is a great time to get out and visit family and travel around. Whether you go a great distance or stay local, please be mindful and aware of your surroundings at all times. The greatest protector of your personal safety is you.

Remember, that school resumes in mid-August in most counties throughout Florida. Be especially careful when driving near schools. Have a safe summer!

Water softener installations require a permit

The Management Company would like to remind residents that all water softener installations at On Top of the World require a modification permit approved by your condominium association in advance of installation.

Modification permit applications may be picked up at the Community Service Office located inside the lobby of the East Activity Center.

Please make sure to apply for and receive association approval before installation to avoid a compliance visit by the management company.

Please note, resin-style softeners are the only approved type of water softener allowed in the community. Salt-style, also known as ion exchangers, are not permissible by association rule.

Thank you for attention and cooperation. Questions? Visit the Community Service Office.

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Questions and Answers

OTOW Board Member Gail Sanders

1. Why did you decide to join the On Top of the World Board of Administration?

(A) I had been an employee about eight or nine years and had already fallen in love with the community. With a vacancy on the board, it was certainly a privilege when Ken Colen invited me to apply to serve on the board to a community that I was very impressed with.

2. What do you hope to accomplish on the Board/what is your vision for the future of On Top of the World?

(A) My role on the board is mainly concerning the leasing of the condominiums in the community. I hope to communicate an accurate understanding about the rules and by-laws for owners and tenants as regards leasing here at OTOW.

I have an opportunity, as a resident when I am at the activities and functions, to set matters straight when people have questions, concerns or have been listening to false rumors.

3. What are some of your favorite things about living at On Top of the World?

(A) I've lived here for the past 14 years. I was 50 years old when I came to



Gail Sanders

work/live here. I could legally live here because my roommate was my cousin who was 55+. At 50 years old, I was the youngest person in the office at that time.

I really enjoy living in a community of mature people. I've had the opportunity to listen to the life-experience of these

residents. They are so very interesting and I have been so very impressed by them. I really love the people here.

The amenities are abundant and lots of fun. At first, I thought it was going to be a drag living here with so many older ones, but at the dances and concerts; those elderly men and women would pull me on the dance floor and swing me all around it! I have come to learn the key to a happy and healthy retirement life is to remain active.

4. What has surprised you most about serving on the Board?

(A) I thought there might be times where there could be some heated discussions, but it's been just the opposite. I really appreciate the even temperament of the members on the board. They are very solution-oriented. I really appreciate that there's a genuine common respect for each other despite the personality differences and the background differences.

I am grateful that the Board works so well and we all have each other's backs. I think that is mainly due to the mutual respect that we have for one another and what OTOW means to each of us. You can feel and hear that sincerity when you are with the board members.

It's a family-owned business and I, myself, have a background with a family-owned business. My father owned and operated his own real estate company back in 1968 - Bob Baucom & Associates Real Estate. So I can appreciate the dynamics of a family-owned operation and how there is more dedication involved.

5. What one message would you like to share with the people who live at On Top of the World that we may not have covered?

(A) A majority of the people love living here. That small percentage that have complaints – Ken feels for them and wants them to be satisfied as well. I want everyone to keep in mind that the majority of the people who live here, love living here.

I respect that the board takes into consideration the complaints – they need to be given attention – but not to let it get us so down that we have negative thinking.

The majority of the people love it here and recommend it to their friends and family. It has a very good reputation in and around the city and state.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve. I hope to continue to be a part of it as long as I can.

Be aware of real estate scams

The following is a news release from Attorney General Ashley Moody

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Florida is in the midst of a home-buying frenzy and Attorney General Ashley Moody is encouraging Floridians to be vigilant against real estate scams.

Buying a house is widely considered a major component of the American Dream, however, it can quickly turn into a nightmare for consumers who fall for nefarious plots and

lose hard-earned dollars.

By guarding against fraud, consumers can safely navigate the process.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Buying a home is often the largest and most important purchase a person makes. So, it's important to ensure scammers don't take advantage of the situation to turn a dream purchase into a financial nightmare. I encourage all Floridians looking to buy a home to be on guard against scammers trying to exploit Flor-

ida's hot real estate market."

Common real estate scams include escrow wire fraud, rental scams, loan-flipping scams and foreclosure relief scams.

ESCROW WIRE FRAUD: Escrow wire fraud is where scammers pose as representatives from a title or escrow company to contact a new homebuyer with instructions for escrow money transfer.

If the consumer follows the instructions of the scammers, and wires in the escrow money, the scammers can withdraw that money and disappear.

To avoid falling into this trap, consumers should always check the original documents received from the lender directly and call the phone numbers listed on the document to confirm the validity of the wiring instructions.

Double-check the validity of any message received that requests a change to the instructions already received, and always confirm the escrow account number with the bank or lender before wiring any money.

RENTAL SCAMS: Rental scams occur when scammers post fake rental ads on Craigslist or other sites using fake photos or photos from other, legitimate listings. Then, the scammers will ask for either an upfront payment in cash to view the property or hold the cash as a deposit.

To avoid falling victim to this type of scam, consumers should be suspicious of anyone who asks for a cash deposit to see a property, and ensure the person is the real property owner before negotiating rental terms.

LOAN-FLIPPING SCAMS: Loan-flipping scams occur when a predatory lender persuades a homeowner to refinance their

mortgage repeatedly, often borrowing more money each time. The fraudster will charge high fees with each transaction, and eventually the homeowner gets stuck with higher loan payments that are unaffordable.

To avoid this scam, be wary of solicitations from lenders that were not contacted by the homeowner first, and work only with known banks or lenders.

FORECLOSURE RELIEF SCAMS: Foreclosure relief scams involve scammers duping homeowners in pre-foreclosure with promises to save the owner's home if the owner pays a large fee. Afterwards, the homeowners are often in worse financial shape and the house is still foreclosed.

To avoid this scam, consumers in this situation should work directly with their loan servicer to modify the existing loan, request forbearance or make another arrangement.

Last month, Attorney General Moody issued a Consumer Alert warning Floridians about moving scams. To avoid common moving scams, consumers should:

- Never sign any blank or incomplete documents or contracts;
- Obtain moving estimates and quotes from the company in writing and make sure the estimates are binding;
- Determine whether the movers will perform the move alone or if the company will be subcontracting with another carrier; and
- Beware if movers show up in rental trucks without uniformed personnel.

Real estate and moving scams occurring in Florida can be reported to the Attorney General's office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or filing a complaint online at MyFloridaLegal.com.





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OTOW Community Activities Calendar - August 2021

East Activity Center

CRYSTAL BEACH ROOM

Entertainment Committee Board: Monday, Aug. 2, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Jesters Board: Thursday, Aug. 12, 3:00-5:00 pm
 Good Karma Book Club: Thursday, August 19, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Good Neighbors Knitting Group: Wednesdays, 9:00-11:00 am
 Coloring Book Group: Wednesdays, 12:30-2:00 pm
 Pray for America: Saturdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Chinese Paint Brush: Tuesdays 12:30-4:00 pm (Aug 3, 10 only)

LARGO ROOM

Democratic Club Meeting: Thursday, Aug. 12, 2:00-3:30 pm
 Bonesavers: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8:00-9:00 am
 World Quilters: Tuesdays, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
 TOPS: Thursdays, 9:30-11:00 am
 Veterans Group: Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2:00-4:00 pm
 Aging Successfully Seminar: Thursday, Aug. 19, 11:30 am-1:00 pm

CLEARWATER ROOM

Ceramics: Thursdays, 9:00 am-2:00 pm
 Caring & Sharing: Tuesdays, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

WOODSHOP

Mon&Tue, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm; Wed-Fri 8:00 - 4:00



AUDITORIUM

Republican Club Meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 10, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
 Line Dance Club: Tuesdays 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, Saturdays 8:30 - 10:30 am
 Moving and Grooving: Mondays 10:00-12:00 (Beg), 12:00-1:00 (EZ Beg)
 Moving and Grooving: Wednesdays 11:30-12:30 (Beg), 1:30-3:00 (Experienced)
 Moving and Grooving: Saturdays 1:30-3:00 (Experienced)
 Cardio Dance: Saturdays 11:00 am-12:00 pm

EXERCISE ROOM

Line Dance Practice: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 7:00-8:00 am
 Ladies Exercises: Monday-Friday 8:00-9:00 am
 Co-Ed Exercises Class: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:00-10:45 am
 Hatha Yoga: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 am
 Tai Chi Flow 108: Mondays 4:15-5:15 pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 3:15-4:15 pm
 Tai Chi Short Form: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 2:15-3:00
 Qigong: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 3:15-4:00 pm
 Cardio Dance: Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm

LEARNING LAB

Computer Club: Wednesdays 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

EAC SWIMMING POOL: Mon-Sat 8 am - 8 pm, Sun and Holidays 9:00 am - 8:00 pm (May-Sept)

FITNESS CENTER: Monday-Saturday, 7 am - 9 pm, Sundays and Holidays 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

West Activity Center

Pavilion

Sports

BELLEAIR ROOM

Zumba: Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00 am - 10:00 am
 Zumba Gold: Saturdays 10:00 am - 11:00 am
 Zumba Gold Chair: Mondays 10:00-11:00, Thursdays 9:00 am -9:45 am
 Ping Pong: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: Thursdays 10:45 am - 2:00 pm
 Computer Club: Saturdays 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Baby Boomers Meetings: Wed, Aug. 4*

Press Association: Thursday, Aug. 5, 5:00-7:00 pm
 Lambda: Saturday, Aug. 14, 6:00-10:00 pm
 Bavarian Chalet: Sunday, Aug. 15, 4:00-8:00 pm
 Ladies Bunco: Wednesday, Aug 18, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
 Karaoke: Sunday, Aug. 22, 5:00-8:30 pm
 Dominos: Tuesdays 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Pickleball: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, 9-12
 Tennis Club: Meets Mon-Sat 7:30-11:00 am
 Tennis Courts Open to all Residents
 7 am - 10 pm weekdays, 9 am-9 pm weekends
 Billiards Room is open for non-league play

* Baby Boomers will not meet again until further notice.



EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN



In case of **FIRE** or other **BUILDING EMERGENCIES**, Parkway Maintenance and Management, and your On Top of the World Condominium Association, would like you to know that every OTOW resident should have their own plan.

1. Have an evacuation plan. This is the most important piece in case of an emergency event.
2. Make note of the fire alarm pull-stations and emergency exits closest to your unit in case of fire and evacuation.
 - Exits are easily identified and illuminated by signs at the ceiling.
 - Pull-stations and fire extinguishers are located on each building's walkways and in the center core areas.
 - Only use a fire extinguisher if the fire can be extinguished easily.
3. Have a secondary plan to exit the structure if your primary exit point is blocked or unsafe.
4. Never attempt to use an elevator during an emergency as it may be available for firefighters use only. Use stairs.
5. Residents should immediately proceed to a parking lot area safely away from the building. Do not block the entrances to the parking area. Fire response personnel need clear access for trucks and equipment.
6. Calmly and plainly, call 911 and state the nature of the emergency and give your address.
7. Follow instructions given by emergency response personnel.
8. Do not re-enter a building until emergency response officials have deemed it safe to do so.
9. Planning in advance saves lives. Don't delay, plan today.

Leasehold extensions and their advantages

NOTE: Maybe you've heard about the Leasehold extensions offered to On Top of the World folks who own apartments that are called leasehold units.

The leasehold extension is called a First Amendment. I own a leasehold unit at OTOW that I rent out. I'm also a lawyer.

My law firm represents Parkway Management and Maintenance Company. Also, but I think this is well-known, Kenneth Colen is my cousin (and my best friend).

Having said that, I can tell you that I've looked into this leasehold extension business. I've done it simply by looking at the extension agreement and by paying attention to what it says and what it means.

I'm going to sign it.

Why?

Because the primary purpose of the leasehold extension is to increase the length of a leasehold so that it expires in 2119.

That's right: 2119.

There's no cost to me.

There's no cost to you.

Not only that, where the original term of the leasehold allowed for various increases, the extension limits that to \$6 per year.

Advantages:

(1) The safety of the OTOW community and the quality it offers to residents is assured. Also, the value of your and my unit will remain competitive to other condominium units throughout the area.

(2) Lenders will like the idea that the lease extends to 2119. I've also looked into how to handle this. Simple, enough. I ask for a form to request what they call a First



Amendment. Then, I sign it in front of two witnesses and a notary. You can do the same. If you can't find a notary, just take the First Amendment to the OTOW Community Service Office where they'll have a notary for you. Check out the OTOW website (otowclearwaterinfo.com) for further information.

Scam Alert

In the past three weeks, my wife and I have received phone calls from the IRS, the Social Security Administration, the United States Marshal's office, Amazon, my bank, and a caller who claimed to have found a credit card with my name on it.

The scammer needed "verification" that she had the right information.

Uh Huh.

The caller was the only one who actually spoke to me.

Let me remind you, NONE of those agencies or companies will call you and NONE of them will demand money from you.

I did not click on "number 1." I just hung up. So should you.

As for the credit card, it was, of course, in my wallet where I always keep it.

The gal had some of my numbers, but I was not going to help her scam me by giving her more numbers.

Just hang up.

Oh! And while I am speaking of hanging up, don't be afraid to hang up on your grandson who is calling from this or that land to tell you he needs money because he was arrested for, well, for whatever.

But we already know that scam don't we?

Q. I have a homestead and Medicaid question. I need to apply for Medicaid for my aunt. I know that a homestead is protected from Medicaid and does not have to be given to the State of Florida or to the nursing home. Does that change if her homestead is on leasehold land?

A. No, it does not.

The homestead protection against creditors' claims, and this includes a homestead be it on leasehold or not, is protected from Medicaid recovery claims.

In a leasehold, you own the apartment, or home.

The individual unit is not leased — it is owned by whomever is listed on the deed to the property. The owner is entitled to all the homestead rights, such as the homestead exemption, the Save Our Homes Cap, and as I said, the creditors' claims and Medicaid claims.

I know there is confusion about this, but I do not, for the life of me, know why.

The person listed on the deed, owns

the apartment that has been built on that land. I can't say it any other way.

Q. I'm a Snowbird. I gave the key to my apartment to a neighbor so she could check on it from time to time. It turned out that she was using it as a place for a liaison. She denies it.

Can I put in video cameras to catch her or them and prove what is going on?

A. Why don't you just take away the key?

As for your question, I may not be very smart, but I'm not crazy, which is why I am not answering you.

Jerry Colen (Jerry@colenwagoner.com); Rachel Wagoner (Rachel@colenwagoner.com); and John Beck (John@colenwagoner.com) are members 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 a masters degrees in accounting and taxation. The law firm practices in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, real estate, elder law, Medicaid planning, and business and professional advice. This column does not, nor is it intended, to provide legal advice. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for any situation. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. The Law Offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. is located at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, Florida 33777 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons in Ocala, Florida. Our phone number is (727) 545-8114. Online you can find us at www.colenwagoner.com.

New book alleges untold story about Lucille Ball's challenges in acting world

It seems today everyone is writing a book, but in case you didn't hear, Darwin Porter wrote a shady book about Lucille Ball that will shock your boots off!

Lucille was born in Celoron, N.Y. (Jamestown, N.Y.) about two miles from where our community newspaper editor, Doug Kates, was born. Lucille was born in the first half of the 20th century ... Doug a little later.

Lucille was born when all entertainment was completely controlled by the Mafia. They owned everything. You did not perform if you weren't one of them. Every nickel you put in a jukebox went to the mob.

According to Darwin's book, Lucille was deeply involved with the mob and actually lived with Johnny DaVita, who, according to the book, was an alcohol smuggler between the United States and Canada.

Early in her career, Lucille did some modeling and got some small roles while in New York. But apparently things didn't

go well. Reportedly, at the end of one interview with a famous director, Lucille was told she had no talent, her breasts were too small and she couldn't dance.

According to the book, the mob decided Lucille would be better off in Hollywood.

Lucille was introduced to Betty Grable, already a star at Paramount Pictures. According to the book, Betty told Lucille about casting couches and how they worked. Lela Rogers, mother of Ginger Rogers, also told Lucille about casting couches.

Lucille and Betty became friends. Since Betty had blonde hair, Lucille reportedly died her hair red to lessen the comparison.

By the end of 1934, Lucille went to Columbia Pictures headed by Harry Cohn. According to the book, she had been warned that Harry was ruthless and self-centered. Apparently, every female under contract to him had to submit to him sexually.

In 1940, Lucille officially met Desi

Arnez and eloped, but it didn't seem to change anything. Once in the 1950s, the city of Miami arranged to have a "Desi and Lucy Day" but by the time the two guests arrived, they were heard yelling at each other.

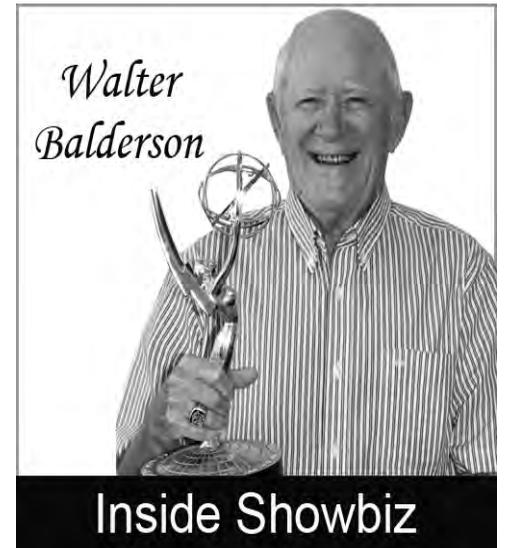
The Lucille and Desi love story would be filled with affairs, animosity, brutal arguments and yet ... success. TV was their medium and what a success it turned out to be. On screen, fans loved them.

Given their shared roving eyes, perhaps the most surprising aspect of their story is that they stayed together as long as they did — 20 years.

Desi is quoted in the book as saying, "Marriage is OK, but adultery is more fun. Just ask Lucy."

And the fans never knew!

In 1989, Lucille was scheduled to return to her native Jamestown for the first time in many years. In a highly anticipated event, she agreed to be the guest speaker at Jamestown Community College's graduation ceremony on May 22 and receive



an honorary doctorate degree. But on April 26, just days from graduation, Lucille died after a surgery complication at the age of 77.

Our editor, Doug, was at that graduation ceremony. His brother, Dan, received a diploma that day.

Living healthy program returns to OTOW

Do you, or anyone in your family, have diabetes? If so, then you need the Diabetes Self-Management Workshop.

If you attend, you will spend just two hours a week and learn how to stay active and enjoy life!

This free, six-week workshop, through CARES (Community Aging & Retirement Services) is offered to On Top of the World residents beginning on Aug. 10 and running every Tuesday through Sept. 14. Classes run from noon- 2:30 p.m. on Zoom.

In the near future, this program will return to the On Top of the World community as an in-person program.

You will learn how to (1) work with your healthcare team (2) manage your symptoms and blood sugar levels (3) use your medication effectively (4) exercise safely and easily (5) handle depression (6) plan healthy meals (7) communicate better about your health with family and friends (8) solve problems and (9) relax and manage stress.

To register, please email Theresa Brock at CARES - tbrock@caresfl.org.

Sign up early as space is limited to 10 (eight minimum needed to hold the class).

A commitment to attend all classes for the six-week term is required.

CARES is a charitable organization dedicated to improving the lives of older adults in West Central Florida. Since 1973, CARES has helped improve the quality of life and independence for adults and seniors through health, social and supportive services. The organization works with health professionals, families, volunteers and businesses who want elders to age positively and with dignity.

In the future, this program, as well as many other Summary of Evidence-based Programs, will be available to our residents through CARES Health and Wellness Department depending on our level of interest.

Funded by Administration on Aging (Federal), Department of Elder Affairs (State) Area Agency on Aging – CARES contracts with Area Agency on Aging Pasco-Pinellas (AAAPP) for Health and Wellness Programs Title IIID. Class Participants must be 60+ years of age.

Other Classes That Will Be Offered At OTOW If There Is Interest

Below you will find a sampling of in person classes coming in the near future to On Top of the World. The class dates, times and registration instructions will be included in my September column and on Nancy's Bulletin Board at the website www.otowclearwaterinfo.com. Much more detail for each program is available at Nancy's Bulletin Board.

Theresa Brock, Health & Wellness Coordinator for CARES, noted that depending on interest, the classes, which are limited to 10 persons, would continue on our calendar until all who are interested have an opportunity to participate.

All of the classes run 2 to 2½ hours once a week for 8 weeks, facilitated by two trained leaders, one or both of whom are non-health professionals with a chronic-disease themselves.

Theresa is looking for additional volunteers from our community who are interested in becoming a trainer and certified to teach. If interested, residents may contact Theresa directly at 727-862-9291, Ext. 2008 (office) Wednesdays and Saturdays or



by email at tbrock@caresfl.org
Other classes offered by CARES:

Chronic Disease Self-Management Minimum of 8 needed – Max of 10

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program “Living Healthy” is a workshop for people with different chronic health problems (such as hypertension, COPD, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, etc.).

A Matter of Balance Managing Concerns about Falls Minimum of 8 needed - Max of 12

Managing Concerns about falls is conducted in eight, two-hour sessions and uses group discussion, problem-solving strategies, videos and gentle physical exercise.

Older adults learn positive coping methods to reduce fear of falling and remain active and independent. Participants become more confident about managing falls by believing that they can increase their strength, find ways to reduce falls, and protect themselves if they do fall.

Chronic Pain Self-Management Minimum of 8 needed - Max of 10

The Chronic Pain Self-Management program is for people who have a primary or secondary diagnosis of chronic pain.

Subjects covered include (1) techniques to deal with problems, such as frustration, fatigue, isolation and poor sleep; (2) appropriate exercises for maintaining and improving strength, flexibility and endurance; (3) appropriate use of medications; (4) communicating effectively with family, friends and health professionals; (5) nutrition; (6) pacing activity and rest; and (7) how to evaluate new treatments.

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance Minimum of 8 needed - Max of 10

This Tai Chi program represents the results from years of scientific research and study by the Oregon Research Institute.

The program focuses on prevention of falls by regular practice.

Tai Chi will improve one's balance and reduce the likelihood of falling. There are eight single forms in the program, all of which are derived from the traditional, well-known, 24-Form Yang Style Tai Chi, but tailored to community adults who wish to improve balance and mobility.

After you take this program, you may continue on a regular basis taking all levels of Tai Chi here at On Top of the World with Ruth Pittman. She has years of experience teaching Tai Chi and a variety of modalities at the East Activity Center's Exercise Room.

Please see the Community Activity Cal-



Donate Blood

Get A Free Beach Towel!

Thursday, August 12, 10am-3pm

East Activity Center

North Parking Lot

To Register
Visit OneBlood.org

Nancy's Bulletin Board at otowclearwaterinfo.com
or stop in the Community Service Office

endar on page 8 for the classes that she offers.

In this time of uncertainty, supporting local non-profits has never been more important. To support CARES visit www.caresfl.org and make a donation

One Blood

The Big Red Bus will be parked at the East Activity Center North Parking Lot on Thursday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. See below for details on registration.

Aging Successfully Series Celebrating Age

Leslie Noland, MS, Community Educator/Intervention Specialist, from Gulf Coast Community Services, will return to the East Activity Center Largo Room on Thursday, Aug. 19 at 11:30 a.m.

After a very difficult year, she has chosen an uplifting topic to kick off a conversation, “Celebrating Age.”

She will lead a discussion on the benefits of getting older, the importance of our history and creative ways to celebrate.

To join in the discussion, simply call Nancy Rogers at 727-799-2734 or send an email to general_activity@otowfl.com with your name, building and unit number.

Master The Possibilities

MTP offers a full library of pre-recorded classes (bundled) for \$7.

MTP is offering a new perspective for distance learning. Two of the instructors, Frank DiPiero and Dee Collier, have provided recorded versions of several of their classes. Since each has four or more recordings completed, MTP is now offering each instructor's recordings in a single offering.

Frank, a retired military security officer, presents subjects on the Middle East, Russia, China and the Pacific Rim. Dee, a retired history teacher, enacts the personal stories of women who had a historical impact, in full costume and in character.

For the single low price of \$7 each, you get the entire recorded library for the instructor. It is available for your enjoyment via the internet any time day or night until the end of 2021. As an added bonus, each instructor plans to record one more video later this year, and the new video is included in the registration. MTP will notify registered students about the availability of the new recordings when they are ready.

Registration is available now. Video links and login information will be on your order receipt.

To register, send an email to general_activity@otowfl.com or call

(727) 799-2734. Give your name, class title(s), street address, unit number, phone number and email address.

Helping Hands Mobile Food Dispensary

Helping Hands has been in operation with a dedicated food dispensary for On Top of the World residents since the last Thursday in May.

As the response has been positive and the operation is running smoothly, Helping Hands has added another day per month, the second Tuesday. Please mark your calendars for the second Tuesday and LAST Thursday of the month at 12 p.m.

The next food dispensary will take place at the East Activity Center north parking area in August as follows:

- Tuesday, August 10 at 12 pm
- Thursday, August 26 at 12 pm

Please do not show up more than five minutes before the start time.

These events are exclusive to our community and proof of residency is required. Residents will enter at Columbia Drive, receive bags of food in their vehicle's trunk and then drive on through to exit back out on Columbia Drive. The entire operation should conclude by 1:15 p.m. On Top of the World staff will be directing traffic and Helping Hands volunteers will dispense the food.

Dinner Night

I am in the process of coordinating a list of food truck and restaurant vendors that may participate in a monthly Dinner Night.

The event is planned to take place at the North Parking area at the East Activity Center, near the Pavilion. Vendors will offer dinner and refreshments to enjoy on site or take home. Tables and chairs will be set up for dining in the parking area and the pavilion and picnic sites are areas where residents may also dine.

More information will follow in my September column, on the official Clearwater website and bulletin boards at the Activity Centers. Resident participation will determine whether Dinner Night can become a monthly or possibly bimonthly event.

If the vendors are not supported with orders, they are likely not to return so please plan to attend.

Movie Night

Movie Night will soon resume in the auditorium, hopefully as early as this fall!

If you are interested, drop me a note and let me know. Stay tuned for more info in this column and on Nancy's Bulletin Board.

August 2021

Master the Possibilities™



Leading in Lifelong Learning

Bundled Courses - One Flat Rate!

International Perspectives with Frank DiPiero



This course is a collection of recorded classes from MTP instructor Frank DiPiero. Frank's lectures cover the Middle East, China and the United States, the Asia-Pacific Rim, Iran, Russia, and more. Each bundle includes at least 4 complete courses!

Course Fee: \$7

Women of Historical Note: Portrayed by Dee Collier



This course is a showcase of the collected recordings of women of historical note and their perspectives on their point in history portrayed by Dee Collier. Watch any video, in any order, at any time during the entire term. **ADDED BONUS!** As Ms. Collier records additional classes throughout the term, those recordings will be added to this library and available at no extra charge! You'll receive email notifications when recordings are added to the library.

Course Fee: \$7

Distance Learning OTOW Clearwater

Register Today!

Video links and login information will be on your order receipt.

To register: email general_activity@otowfl.com or call (727) 799-2734

Give your Name, Class Title(s), Street Address, Unit #, Phone #, and Email Address.



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- 2 EXPLAIN YOUR SYMPTOMS**
- 3 RECEIVE CARE IN YOUR HOME**
- 4 REST EASY**

ACTIVITY REPORTS



Showing off their latest quilts are Cheryl Kutchinski, Patty Radel, Jeri Hunter and Maria Susi. Below is a llama wall quilt.

World Quilters still creative but missing their members

By Doug Kates

Walk by the Largo Room on a Tuesday morning and you will hear music blasting from inside.

Is there a party going on?

No. But when you get a group of people together with their sewing machines on full speed, you have to play the music loud in order to hear it!

Since the East Activity Center reopened in January, the On Top of the World "World Quilters" group became active again.

You might see their old sewing machines in the room and think group members are making their own clothing, but that's not the case. The quilters are making beautiful projects they sell or donate.

"We quilt blankets, wall hangings, bags and tote bags," said Cheryl Kutchinski.

"We do a lot of crafts," said Patty Radel.

Any old fabric product can be turned into a quilt, a stuffed animal, a holiday stocking or even oven mitts.

The quilters make baby products for



World Quilters

Kimberly House, a local charity group that helps young ladies with unexpected pregnancies.

The quilters also make blankets, towels and other decorations that are donated to local veteran organizations for fundraisers.

Group members can work on individual projects or they can work together on big projects. Walk into their "office" and you may see llamas, penguins and ducks to name a few critters.

It's all in fun!

But honestly, the quilters just want to get back to normal again.

Pre-pandemic, there were 15 people all being creative at the same time. This summer there are only a handful. Some of the regulars haven't even returned to Florida since the pandemic began.

"Many never made it back, but we've stuck together," Jeri Hunter said. "We also volunteer and do special projects."

If quilting sounds like something you may want to try, this summer is the perfect time. You have to enjoy loud music and you must own your own sewing machine, but there are no restrictions as to what you can make. You can even learn - beginners are welcome.

World Quilters meet from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the EAC Largo Room. There is no fee.

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Introducing our new Dining Page

What you see is a demo for the first-ever On Top of the World News Dining Page.

Each month, restaurant advertisers may purchase an ad on this page for only \$125. Whoever buys first gets the top of the page.

If this becomes popular, OTOW News will publish two back-to-back Dining Pages. Success of this experiment is up to our residents. Please support the advertisers on this page each month, and if your favorite restaurant is not on this page, bring this page to your favorite restaurant and ask why? The owner can contact Doug in the newsroom at 727-799-3216.

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OTOW News



DINING PAGE

Karaoke at the pavilion



Karaoke with Lenny and Kathy held its first sing-along outdoors at the pavilion in June. Hot dogs were cooking on the grill and served free of charge. Many community residents participated and enjoyed an evening of singing and dancing. Some sang solos, some duets and some as a group. Our karaoke program has more than 5000 songs to choose from and we provide songbooks. Our next Karaoke with Lenny and Kathy will be Sunday, Aug. 22 from 5-8 p.m. at the pavilion. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served! Come join us for another fun evening.

Movie DVDs now on sale

Jesters 2022 stage show will have a Broadway theme

By Evelyn Flam

Now that our audience has given us rave reviews for the On Top of the World Jesters' first movie, "BAM - A Tribute to Boomer-Age Music," we are almost ready to turn our attention to our next stage show and to begin recruiting new stars.

But, before we get started on the next show, we want you to know that you can order your own DVD of "BAM - A Tribute to Boomer-Age Music." Just call 727-797-1761 or 609-489-1400, or email jesters21c@gmail.com and make a request.

Our next show was selected at our last Jesters board meeting. The title will be "A Funny Thing Happened ... On Broadway!" with the subtitle of "The Music of Stephen Sondheim and Carole King!"

In between summer vacation and summertime travel,



the Jesters' board did manage to meet in June and July to organize for the fall.

We know we have great talent in the Jesters, but we also know there is more talent among our residents just waiting to come forward.

So if you can sing, dance, tell a story, play a musical instrument, sew or help behind the scenes, come join the Jesters and have the time of your

life.

We will announce the meeting dates as soon as they are confirmed.

Hopefully, you will soon see our Jesters' poster in your building with a phone numbers to call for information. The poem on the poster was written by a member some years ago when Jesters Bill and Doris Atkins first introduced and performed Broadway-style musical variety shows to OTOW.

As our Jesters saying reads: "Come Join Us! Don't Delay! You can become a member as quick as today!"

Jesters' policy is still to get everyone involved and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Write to us at jesters21c@gmail.com. Dues are still only \$5.

We invite you to join in the fun. As always, we look forward to hearing from you and getting together, "Jest For Fun!"

2022 show will have a little mystery - join and be a part of it

By Vicky Portsmouth

Hello, neighbors!

As August rolls around, the Theater Workshop club looks forward to the fall as our seasonal neighbors start laying plans for their treks back to their Florida winter homes.

It is always nice to be back together with friends within walking distance! We have such a unique community.

Our excitement about our 2022 stage production is building as Director Will Peterson puts his ideas on paper and begins to build his show. His creative team of Assistant Director Lori Gerstein, Music Director Tom Portsmouth, and Creative Coordinator Jim Bjorgo help fill in the spaces with their ideas on material for songs, dance and comedy, as well as props and costumes.

The show promises to be full of fun ... and mystery!

We welcome all residents, who hold a valid activity card, to become members and play onstage, backstage or offstage. We will keep you posted as the fun and excitement continue.

We hope you will be part of it!

Stay tuned. Stay safe. We will see you soon.

Please check our Box Office webpage for information on Theater Workshop and our plans.

The web address is otowboxoffice.com.



Theater Workshop

OTOW JESTERS



"We are the Jesters. We want you to know.
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Our variety shows!"



For information call 727-797-1761 or 609-489-1400

COME JOIN IN THE FUN!



OTOW
Theater Workshop

The original stage production club at On Top of the World, Theater Workshop, has been making shows for more than 50 years.

Our club is open to all residents with a valid activity card.

We would be excited to have you join us and showcase your talents on stage with song, dance, comedy or backstage management.

Check out our club page on the Box Office: otowboxoffice.com

Jump into something fun! You've been hiding too long!

Mike Cooper has organized our community parade for the past decade, now it's our turn



My first Irish Club parade was 13 years ago - just six months after becoming the editor of this newspaper.

I didn't attend the event to work. I just came to see what it was all about.

I didn't bring my camera. I brought my dog, Montana, and we sat on the curb in front of the Austrian Alpine building and watched the clubs, bands, floats and residents walk by.

I was amazed that our residents were able to pull off such a wonderful event.

It wasn't until after that parade that I learned the truth.

There really wasn't a large group of residents which organized the event that year. It was one person.

Mike Cooper organized the local participation, from clubs to groups to anyone who wanted to ride a decorated golf cart down World Parkway Boulevard.

Mike Cooper led the monthly Irish Club parade meetings, helped raise funding for the parade and worked with On Top of the World management to make the event possible.

Mike Cooper organized the bands, got the old police car here, called in the clowns and got outside groups to participate.

Mike Cooper organized the parking lot party, which 12 years ago included free beer and free hot dogs.

Mike Cooper got the post-parade entertainment.



A scene from the 2020 Irish Club Parade.

Mike Cooper also played a major role in determining the honored guests who stood on the honorary viewing stand at the three-way stop signs.

Mike Cooper got everyone in line on parade morning, he escorted the police car down the road from the golf course, and he went back-and-forth on his golf cart during the parade to make sure everything was running smoothly.

And Mike Cooper made sure it never rained. Not one parade was ever canceled due to weather during his time as the parade chairman.

Yes. The parade has a committee that makes the parade possible every year.

But without our friend Mike, we would have never had a parade. Period.

Our community lost a true hero in May when Mike was promoted to take care of parades above the clouds.

Now it's August and next spring is coming up fast.

Everyone reading this article has enjoyed either the Irish Club parade, the post-parade party or has seen replays of the parade on our community TV chan-

nel.

Now it's time to step up where Mike left off.

It's our turn.

Barb Lenzi is the current president of the Irish Club. Even though the 2022 parade is nine months away, it's already time to start making plans.

Barb and the club need your help.

She needs parade organizers. If you have friends in the music business, ask them if they want to march.

If you belong to clubs outside our community, which love to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, ask them to participate.

There are two Irish events coming up early in 2022 to help pay for the parade. If safety conditions allow us to hold those events, please attend or donate.

And on parade day, we need volunteers. From buying decorations, to getting everyone in line, to signing up clubs and keeping track of golf carts - there are a ton of volunteers needed.

Someone has to pump the keg on the beer! If you can do this, and you know you can, contact Barb.

If you can hold a clipboard, contact Barb.

If you can sell tickets to the spring Irish shows, contact Barb.

The Irish Club parade is a huge tradition at On Top of the World. If you have just moved here, you don't know what you've missed.

After a 45 minute parade and musical march down World Parkway, Boulevard hundreds of residents gather in the East Activity Center parking lot for food, drink, music and dancing.

And in 2022, the parade will be broadcast live on OTOW-TV Channel 732 for the first time ever. So even if you cannot leave your condo, you will be able to watch the event live on TV for the first time.

Sure, this is August.

But Mike would be the first one to tell you, the planning has already begun.

If safety allows, there will be a parade in March. Please contact Barb if you are willing to help. Her email is here:

BPLenzi@verizon.net

Irish Club schedules future events

By Barbara Rice

Friends raised a hearty toast in celebration of the life of longtime friend, Mike Cooper, on June 25.

Mike passed away unexpectedly in May.

Irish Club members and guests gathered at the On Top of the World pavilion to honor Mike. Memories and many old photos were shared. Fun stories about Mike brought smiles and



laughter.

Bagpipe music by Ray Willis included moving selections "Going Home" and a rousing rendition of the "Army Caisson Song" in honor of Mike's service.

Barbara Lenzi, club president, told members that much help will be needed to step into Mike's shoes to organize the next St. Patrick's Day Parade. Mike spearheaded the parade for the past 13 years.

Barbara urged members and friends to say "yes" when asked to help with the parade.

"Mike never said no," Barbara reminds us.

Irish Club members have also been

busy planning upcoming events. Home events are dependent upon OTOW facilities being open again to gatherings.

A welcome back pizza party is scheduled for Nov. 4 in the East Activity Center Largo Room at 5 p.m.

The holiday season will be celebrated with a brunch at the Dunedin Golf Club on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 11 a.m.

Comedian George Casey is scheduled to take our stage on Jan. 27, 2022. Laughs begin at 7 p.m. in the EAC.

The Byrnes Brothers, Irish musicians and dancers, are scheduled to bring a lively performance all the way from Mount Charles, Ireland, to the EAC on Feb. 24,

2022. Time to be determined.

Our annual St. Patrick's Day dinner dance is scheduled for March 3, 2022, in the EAC at 5 p.m. And, our annual picnic will be in Philippe Park, Safety Harbor, on April 4, 2022, at 11 a.m.

Tickets to these events will tentatively be sold in the EAC on Mondays and Thursdays beginning in the fall. Anyone with tickets to previous performances canceled by George Casey or the Byrnes Brothers due to the pandemic, or last year's canceled picnic, should bring these tickets for a refund or exchange.

Proceeds from ticket sales are used to fund the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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Next Delivery Date

September newspapers will be delivered on September 1.

To advertise in our September edition, payments must be received by August 15.

Please note, we may sell out ad space before the deadline!

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

On Top of the World News is a community organization for the benefit of the residents of On Top of the World. On Top of the World News does not accept advertisers solely for commercial purposes or income. This newspaper will be published on its regular schedule whether there are advertisers or not.

On Top of the World News reserves the right to reject any advertiser within its sole, absolute and unfettered discretion. Not every advertiser is acceptable. If you, the resident of On Top of the World, have had a justifiably bad experience with an advertiser and if we have had previous complaints that are justified, we will not accept future advertising from them.

The News endeavors to keep the standards of this paper at a high level. We do not, however, endorse advertisers or knowingly accept objectionable or fraudulent advertising. On Top of the World endeavors to publish only good, informative and worthwhile happenings of life. This newspaper will leave the daily news of life with all its strife, struggle and turmoil to commercial publications. On Top of the World News does not strive to be a profit-making entity. We take pride in the fact that the On Top of the World News staff is entirely made up of volunteers except for two professionals to coordinate the operation of this paper.

On Top of the World News does not accept an advertiser solely because it is willing to pay to advertise.

Trades and services regulated by the State or County must all be licensed in order to advertise. In some cases, background checks are required. All advertisements must contain a local address or a local telephone number. Ads resembling news articles or news pages are not accepted. The submission to OTOW News of any photo, artwork or other form of copyrighted material authorizes OTOW News to use and/or print the image at later dates and in other forms in such ways as OTOW News, in its sole, absolute and unfettered discretion deems appropriate. OTOW News may not be reproduced in any way, in any other media, except in print and on official OTOW Websites.

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Press Association Volunteers This Month:

Lyn Taecker
Donna Lukas
Karen Sutton

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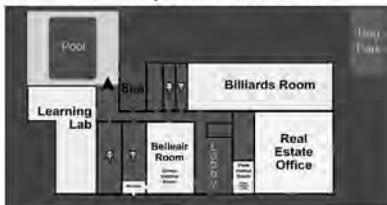
East Activity Center Ground Floor



East Activity Center First Floor



East Activity Center Second Floor



West Activity Center

East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map



Pavilion Park

Important Phone Numbers

Community Service Office

727-683-6981

Activities Office

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Who's up for a game of seated volleyball?

By Doug Kates

Someday soon, residents in your building or in your club may be preparing for their next volleyball match.

Will your team be taking on the building across the street or maybe play against residents from a building on the other side of Belcher Road?

Or maybe your club will form a team and take on another club?

Or it could be as simple as residents showing up and picking teams on scheduled days.

Chair volleyball may be coming to On Top of the World. It all depends on your reaction to this story.

Brenda Nichols is a resident here in our community. Previously, she lived in another community where many residents participated in chair volleyball.

"It was one of the most popular activities there," she said.

A regulation volleyball net was set up indoors, along with six chairs on each side of the net. Most normal volleyball rules took place, except participants sit in their chairs. You are not allowed to stand!

And oh, instead of a regulation volleyball, the object of choice is a beach ball.

Now, who doesn't enjoy hitting a beach ball?

A minimum of six players are needed

if you wish to enter your own team. Players on each team rotate in and out of the game and a fun time is had by all.

A reward can be food after a game.

Sweating, heavy breathing and using muscles are guaranteed.

Chair volleyball is great for upper body mobility, and builds muscle tone, quicker reflexes, hand-eye coordination and endurance.

Nancy Rogers, from the OTOW Activities Office, said chair volleyball provides a fun way to be active and it's impossible to play without laughing.

To play, residents would have to sign a waiver and pay a one-time fee, which would help pay for new, needed equipment.

Chair volleyball would actually become a certified club and those who play would become members of the club.

The club would also need volunteers to help set up, retrieve beach balls and keep score.

Chair volleyball could take place mornings, afternoons or evenings depending on room availability.

Please write to Brenda and tell her if you are interested in chair volleyball. Her email address is truckerjohn1@verizon.net.

If Brenda receives enough interest, the idea will move ahead.



Indoor volleyball with a beach ball may be coming to OTOW.

Veterans Group to resume monthly meetings

Starting Wednesday, Aug. 4, the On Top of the World Veterans Group will begin meeting again on a monthly basis.

The first meeting will be held in the Largo Room at the East Activity Center from 2-4 p.m. Ongoing meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at the same time and location.

The focus of these meetings will be developing and planning social and informational events for the remainder of 2021 and into 2022.

The two top items of discussion will be our annual October barbecue and Armed Forces Day. That's right, you read it correctly, we will be having our annual October barbecue this year!

There will be a number of challenges



ahead of us to make this happen, but I'm confident that working together we can do it.



Helping Hands Food Dispensary

Helping Hands Mobile Food Dispensary will be in the East Activity Center North Parking Lot the second Tuesday and last Thursday of every month for an exclusive drive-thru food distribution for our residents only. The event will be at 12 pm. Please do not show up more than 5 minutes before.



Residents will enter at Columbia Drive, receive bags of food in their vehicle's trunk and then drive on through to exit back out on Columbia Drive. The entire event should conclude by 1:15. On Top of the World facility staff will be directing traffic. Helping Hands volunteers will dispense the food.



Donate Blood

Get A Free Beach Towel!

Thursday, August 12, 10am-3pm
East Activity Center
North Parking Lot

Visit Nancy's Bulletin Board at otowclearwaterinfo.com for the registration link

Republican Club opens voter registration booth at Third Friday events in Safety Harbor

By Edwina Schick

Ronald Reagan Republican Club members are very excited about their new "Events Booth," and are ready to participate in Safety Harbor's once-a-month downtown Third Friday event.

Come out and see the club's beautiful new banner featuring Old Glory waving across the sky.

New residents from On Top of the World are encouraged to attend Third Friday and get a taste of what the club is all about.

The club will be performing a community service by hosting an official state voting registrar at their booth. This will give people a chance to register.

If you are a Florida resident and have not registered to vote yet, the deadline is Aug. 25 to vote in the primaries.

A Florida registrar can register you no matter what affiliation you choose and is required by law to get your registration card to Supervisor of Elections office within 10 days. You can also pick up a form and mail it in yourself.



The club's next meeting will be on Tuesday, Aug. 10, at the East Activity Center auditorium with doors opening for registration and socializing. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. The special guest speaker will be Charlotte Smith - Executive Director of the Pinellas County Grand Old Party.

Our Ronald Reagan Republican Club is a great place to get informed. You don't want to miss it.



Pictured above are Ronald Reagan Republican Club representatives from On Top of the World at Third Friday in Safety Harbor in July. The club workers offered to register residents to vote in Pinellas County and also helped get signatures for their candidates. In the front row, left to right, are Mary Jane Lofton, Jeanne Schinn and Evelyn Tiamson. In the back row are Regina Hanson, Flavio Pinato, Ann Brown, Edwina Schick, Senator Ed Hooper, Lee Hooper and Fernando Mariz (playing guitar and singing). (Photo by Jesse Tiamson)

Computer Club sets plan to go hybrid

By Mike Wood

So, does the headline mean that the Computer Club is going to purchase a gas/electric powered vehicle?

Well, not exactly.

But you get the idea.

Hybrid technology, in today's vernacular, also means that as face-to-face meetings start opening up, the Computer Club will be running simultaneous face-to-face and Zoom meetings on Saturday mornings, ergo Hybrid meetings.

These hybrid meetings will begin on Saturday, Aug. 7.

Then you have folks asking why run both if we can now return to face-to-face meetings?

The Computer Club's answer is simple. Many of our members haven't been back from Canada and other parts of the globe since the pandemic began and have come to love seeing all of their friends via Zoom every week.

It is our way of keeping the club to-



gether locally (face-to-face) and globally (via Zoom).

For the time being, the face-to-face part of the meetings will be held at the Belleair Room in the West Activity Center.

Although attendance in the room is currently limited to 20 members, participating in the meeting via Zoom will continue for the foreseeable future.

About the Computer Club

The Computer Club meets every Saturday morning at 8:30 in a Hybrid format, meaning face-to-face and Zoom running simultaneously.

Visitors are welcome.

Sessions usually consist of presentations or discussions led by club members or guest speakers.

Time is also made available to ask questions.

In addition to the Saturday meetings, the club offers assistance to any OTOW resident with basic technology-related questions or issues. This assistance is offered in the West Activity Center Learning Lab on Wednesday mornings from 8:30-10 a.m. on a first-come first-served basis.

Knowledgeable Computer Club vol-

unteers offer basic computer, tablet and smart phone program assistance and app help. The services are free to all OTOW residents with a valid Activity Card. Computer Club membership is not required to get assistance.

If residents have in-home computers that require service in their condos, the Computer Club does not offer an in-home repair service, although, the Computer Club can offer guidance and assistance in locating service providers who can address other-than-basic service needs or in-home computer issues.

Computer service-related questions can be sent to the Computer Club at otowcc@gmail.com. Responses normally are made within 72 hours after the request is received.

Otherwise, for more information about the Computer Club, email us at otowcc@gmail.com, visit our website at www.otowcc.com or click our link in the OTOW Box Office, otowboxoffice.com.

Motivated OTOW group wants to help you lose weight

TOPS stands for "Take Off Pounds Sensibly."

Our club meets Thursday mornings from 10-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

We are very motivated to help you want to lose weight. We are a friendly group and usually go out for a healthy meal after our meetings.

Because we are a part of a national club, we charge \$32 per person for yearly national dues. For joining the national club, you will receive a monthly magazine of helpful items.

Please come to our meetings at no charge for one month to try us out.

For more information call Libby Shear at 727-669-1486.



OTOW Box Office - otowboxoffice.com

Democratic Club supports new outreach center in Clearwater

By Donna Lukas

Your Democratic Club officers apologize for the cancellation of our July meeting at On Top of the World.

We decided to err on the side of caution regarding uncertain pending weather and the status of the OTOW facilities.

Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, Aug. 12. Please join us.

At our June meeting, we told you about the opening of a North Pinellas County Democratic Outreach Center. The address is 1402 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. in the Greenwood neighborhood of Clearwater.

The office is currently open Monday – Friday from noon to 4 p.m. If you have not driven past to check it out, here are a couple of pictures to show you what it looks like. Feel free to drop in.

At the time of this writing, an Open House event is being planned for the first week of August. Check our club website on the otowbox-



Democratic Club

office.com for confirmation of the dates.

This website will also list information that may not have been available at the time of our most recent meeting. Also look for club announcements on OTOW -TV channel 732.

Our next club meeting is scheduled for our usual time and place, the second Thursday of the month, 2 p.m. in the Largo Room of the East Activity Center. The focus of that meeting will be voter registration training.



Pictured above is an interior view and exterior view of the new Pinellas County Democratic Outreach Center in Clearwater. According to the center's new website, the center will support Democratic candidates, volunteers and campaigns in mid and north Pinellas County. It will also serve as a hub for community outreach, voter registration and election information.

Official Website of On Top of the World - Clearwater
otowClearwaterInfo.com

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Moving and Grooving cardio dance workouts return to EAC auditorium in August

By Hope Tera

I was overjoyed when Margaret LeTourneau invited me to join the Moving & Grooving Club she created.

Her line dancing and my cardio dancing have create a beautiful union.

I am thoroughly enjoying myself in the Cardio Dance classes and I'm grateful that people show up to join me for the fun dance routines.

But this is far from a solo effort. There's a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes. That's where my helpers come in.

There are too many helpers to mention by name, but two stick out in my mind ... Cheryl Pollack and Madeleine Fontaine.

Cheryl and I met at a Baby Boomers dance outing at an Arthur Murray Dance Studio. How appropriate. We became instant friends. Cheryl was enthusiastic about adding a cardio dance class and never hesitates to help.

She has been the administrator in charge of registering and checking in students.

With a bit of encouragement, Cheryl started leading dances and her repertoire continues to grow. Her favorite routines usually involve Beatles music.

When I come across a dance routine



that I like, Cheryl is my go-to person. If she likes the dance, I add it to my roster.

Best of all, when I messed up my knee in May, Cheryl jumped in. She led the classes while I was on the sideline, calling out the dance steps.

One of Cheryl's best talents is her hip gyration. Do yourself a favor...catch Cheryl dancing to "Hot, Hot, Hot" by Don Omar.

Then there's my friend from up north, eh ... Madeleine Fontaine.

She is approaching her fifth anniversary here and it's obvious when you meet Madeleine and see how happy she is.

I challenge you to ever find her without a smile and a warm embrace.

Madeleine barely spoke a word of English when she relocated to Florida. I almost forgot to mention that English is her second language because she is fluent now.

There is nothing she won't do to help me out. She ensures participants sign the monthly waiver, she gets the lighting set up before class, etc. And the best part is, she is always grateful and encouraging.

Madeleine feels that the Cardio Dance classes help her stay physically fit and keep her heart strong. Plus, she has made even more friends in class.

A highlight of many classes for me is when Madeleine gets up onstage to lead the group in "Mambo Italiano." Her joy is contagious! The class just wouldn't be the same without her.

We haven't been running classes since I injured my knee, but classes are resuming in August. The dances will be strictly low impact from now on. No more jumping for me.

The schedule will be as follows:

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Exercise Room in the East Activity Center (EAC) on the lower level

Saturdays at 11 a.m. in the auditorium

I am hopeful that this schedule will make it easier for working residents to join in.

Starting in October, the plan is to increase the number of classes each week.

- Mondays, 1-2 p.m. in the EAC Exercise Room.

- Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m. in the EAC

Line dance with us live on Aug. 25

It doesn't matter where you live!

On Wednesday, Aug. 25, from 2-3 p.m., line dance with the Moving and Grooving bunch as they dance live in the East Activity Center auditorium.

A one-hour portion of their Wednesday morning program will be broadcast live on OTOW-TV Channel 732 and broadcast live on YouTube for people who have the private link.

The time will be published on the Moving and Grooving webpage on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) and the YouTube link will be published on the same site the week of the event.

You will need the YouTube link to watch live - but once you have it, you can even watch live in Oklahoma!

Exercise Room

- Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the EAC Exercise Room.

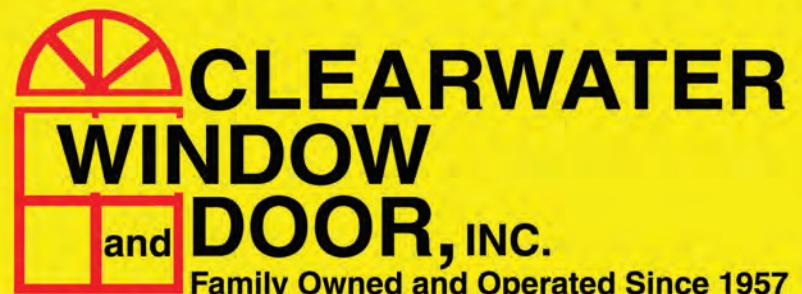
- Saturdays, 11 a.m.-noon in the auditorium.

For more information, please visit our web page on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). And as always, hope to see you on the dance floor.

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Sometimes the food at Lambda parties is very colorful - other times you cannot pronounce what you are eating

By Bruce Lovett

July was Lambda's birthday month.

For 12 years, club members have been hosting great parties for fantastic people with some really interesting foods.

I say "interesting" because for over 100 evenings they have hosted pot luck dinners and no one ever knows what culinary delights or surprises may show up.

But, believe it or not, recently the quality of the food has even stepped up a notch.

Part of the reason is that many people spent their pandemic lock down time experimenting in the kitchen, watching cooking shows or getting involved with online cooking activities and contests.

Now our club is benefitting.

Another reason the food has improved at Lambda events is that on Labor Day of 2020 a new member moved in, Jay English. Every event he attends he raises the bar a little higher.

At the first event, he had his food strategically placed around an organic sculpture with flags everywhere.

At the second event, he brought a three-bean salad, made with fresh beans, and Focaccia Bread with a floral theme.

See picture at right.

And for our club's birthday on July 14 he brought Ratatouille: Confit Dyaldi.

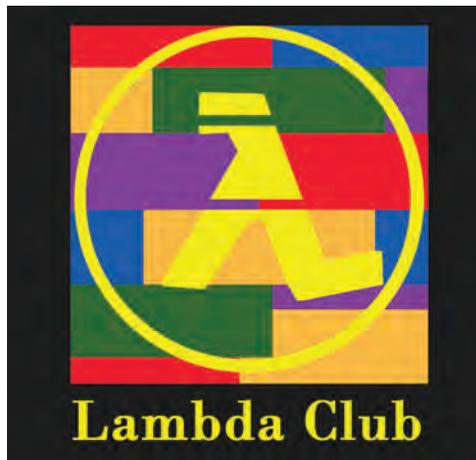
This reporter didn't know to spell it, let alone make it. Again it encased a colorful flower type design.

Jay has been heard to say "I believe food has to look just as good as it tastes."

Jay's visual sense and his love of flowers comes to him innately. He was born and raised in Canandaigua, N.Y., in one of the state's most picturesque areas: The Finger Lakes.

Aside from the beautiful views, the area is also very successful at wine production.

But according to Jay, when some of



the smaller vineyards couldn't compete with the larger ones, they instead used their property to cultivate African Violets and Streptocarpus plants.

This reporter thought he said streptococcus and wondered how and why he cultivated strep throat. Upon visiting his apartment and witnessing first hand his unique green thumb, it all became clear. His Florida room is not filled with foliage native to his adopted state but to that of his home one.

Upon leaving the armed services, Jay used his GI bill to study at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology and landed prestigious jobs in retail merchandising for the majority of his business career.

Upon retirement, he moved to On Top of the World and Lambda members and their palates are both very happy he did.

His Ratatouille was just one of the many interesting dishes to grace this year's Pot Luck Birthday Party. There were sandwich platters, both professionally and homemade, a pseudo lasagna and many others.

Some bizarre gifts changed hands, great cake was served and a good time was had by all.



Flowers on a Focaccia Bread

Our next social will be Saturday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. at the OTOW pavilion. It's our annual beach party so dress in fashionable beach attire. Don't forget to bring your beach balls as well as something beachy keen to share.

Lambda is a club that serves the LGBT population at OTOW, as well as

their neighbors and friends.

Should you wish further information about the club, go to our Web page at lambdclearwater.blogspot.com.

You can also check us out on the OTOW Box Office (otowboxoffice.com), or call Dave Beaven at (727) 410-7566.

'Watch' was started 50 years ago to get neighbors involved

By Dave Beaven

The Neighborhood Watch Program was started 50 years ago by the National Sheriff's Association and the Department of Justice.

Its goal was to enlist the help of residents in local communities to be additional eyes and ears to what's going on where they live.

In this way, these groups not only helped fight crime in their neighborhoods, but also got involved with helping their neighbors through service projects and individual acts of kindness.

The mission can be defined by using the word WATCH.

W stands for Watch. This is step num-



ber one. As residents, we are closer than anyone to what's going on in our neighborhood. We notice when something or someone looks suspicious or out of place. Is there a stranger hanging about, for example?

A stands for Assess. Here we should evaluate what we are seeing. Is this something that is a potential threat to residents in the area? Or is it just an isolated incident. Could the stranger be visiting one of the residents?

T stands for Take Down as in take down information that could be helpful to authorities about what's going on. Write down a description of the suspicious person or the license tag of a car.

C stands for Contact. If you feel that what you see is threatening, contact the Sheriff's Office. 911 is for emergencies and 727-582-6200 is for non-emergencies. Our liaison deputy has said this to our members time and again: If we don't call,

they can't help us.

H stands for Help. Sometimes it's not a suspicious activity that we notice. It can be a more personal issue. Maybe we see a neighbor struggling with groceries or who seems lonely. Here's where we can offer assistance to them through a friendly chat or help with a task. Showing kindness benefits both the receiver and the giver.

Neighborhood Watch at On Top of the World consists of a group of residents who want to live in a peaceful and secure environment based on mutual consideration and respect.

To find out more, go to our official website: areawatch2020.blogspot.com. We are also on the Box Office.

OTOW
News



Pet of the Month



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Nancy

Hello everyone. My name is Nancy. I am an 8-year-old Chihuahua Terrier Mix. I was rescued from Tampa by my forever parents, Tom and Chris Scarpato of the Swedish Traditional Building. I have a brother, Ken. I always make my presence known by saying “hello” to everyone, including the squirrels. I love rolling in the grass and getting belly rubs My Mom says I make a beautiful witch! Of course, that was Halloween four years ago.

Each month, OTOW News and Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming are featuring a Pet of the Month in this newspaper. Any pets living at On Top of the World are eligible. To enter your pet, email one clear, color photo to OTOW.newsroom@gmail.com and tell us what makes your pet special. If you don't have email capabilities, drop off your photo and information at the newsroom. You must include pet's name, owner's name, building and age of pet. If the age is not included, your pet will not be eligible. Only one pet per household can win each year, but now two pets from the same household can be one entry. The winner this month will receive a gift card from Woof Gang Bakery in Clearwater. If you are the winner this month, stop by the newsroom to pick up your gift cards. Each monthly winner becomes eligible for Pet of the Year honors in January. Voting for Pet of the Year takes place online in January. The winner will be announced each February. The winner receives additional prizes and will be invited to march in the annual Irish Club Parade each March.

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Expires 8-31-21

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Includes complete physical exam, fecal exam and any 2 vaccines from the following list:
rabies (1 year), da2pp, leptospirosis, bordetella.

Add a heartworm test for only \$25 more. Substitute 3-year rabies for only \$10 more. Must present coupon.

Expires 8-31-21



Entertainment for 2022 is getting booked

By Mary Ann O'Neil

The Entertainment Committee has cancelled all of its events for 2021.

We are hopeful to resume presenting shows, dances and free meet & greet events starting in January 2022.

When the East Activity Center is completely reopened, tickets and information will be available Monday and Thursday, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

If you purchased tickets for any 2020 cancelled show or dance, including New Year's Eve, please contact Mary Ann O'Neil at (727) 449-9243, for information regarding a refund.

To receive your refund, you will need to provide the original ticket(s) and must request your refund by Nov. 1, 2021.

For those season ticket holders, we will do our best to make sure you will still

have your reserved seats once tickets go on sale.

Entertainment for 2022 is in the process of being booked and we are looking forward to bringing back some great shows from past years as well as new ones.

Shows will be held on Thursdays, dances on Saturdays and Meet & Greets on Sundays.

You can view future scheduling in-

formation on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) and OTOW-TV channel 732 when it becomes available. Everyone on Spectrum gets OTOW-TV.

Information is also on bulletin boards in the East Activity Center, the West Activity Center and on your building's bulletin board.

We look forward to January 2022 when the fun will resume.

Press Association's only summer meeting will be Aug. 5 and will start with food on the grill

The On Top of the World Press Association did not have a meeting in June or July, but will have an evening meeting on Thursday, Aug. 5, 5 p.m. at the pavilion.

The first hour will be social only. Something will be cooking on the grill for a lite dinner. The meeting portion will begin at 6 p.m.

All news staff, veterans and newcomers, are encouraged to attend. This is our only meeting of the summer.

Our editor, Doug Kates, will update us on the latest newspaper business, including the addition of a new Dining Page. He is counting on newspaper staff and residents to help make this page successful.

Doug will also go over how the newspaper has been doing over the last few months. Normally, summer is a slow time for news, but as you can see in this month's newspaper, staffers have been working very hard to produce a quality paper.

There is no meeting in September.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 7, in the East Activity Center auditorium. This will be a morning meeting at 11 a.m.

The annual Writers Workshop will take place on Thursday, Nov. 4, in the auditorium. The time will be announced later. This is the only time all year that Doug teaches everyone how to be basic journalists. So whether you are a veteran on staff, a newcomer, or plan on writing this winter season, please attend.

Safety guidelines will be determined as we get closer to the meeting date.



OTOW News announces new Dining Page

On page 14 of this newspaper, you may have noticed something new. OTOW News is introducing a new Dining Page.

There are two reasons this newspaper is going to try a dining page.

1. Currently, there is a lack of restaurants advertising in our newspaper and this special page might encourage them to participate.
2. OTOW News would like to advertise local restaurants to give our readers some new choices.

The preliminary plan is to have five restaurants on a page, or possible 10 if we have to expand to two, side-by-side pages.

OTOW News wants the Dining Page to be a special attraction that residents will want to look at for deals. We also want it to be a new and successful idea for restaurant owners to promote their facilities.

So why am I telling you this?

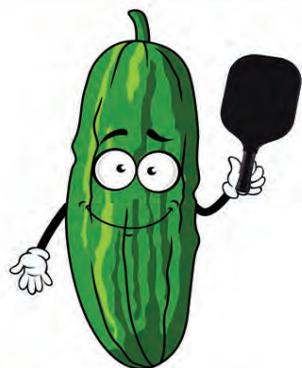
Someone has to let the restaurants know we are starting this page.

Go back to page 12 and cut out the entire page. Then take it to your favorite restaurant and ask, "Are you going to be on the new OTOW News Dining Page?"

If several readers help promote the page, it should be a new, successful edition to this newspaper.

Thank you in advance!

Pickleballers taking a break to cruise the Caribbean



Pickleball

The On Top of the World Pickleball Club will be putting down its paddles in January 2022 for seven days of rest and relaxation.

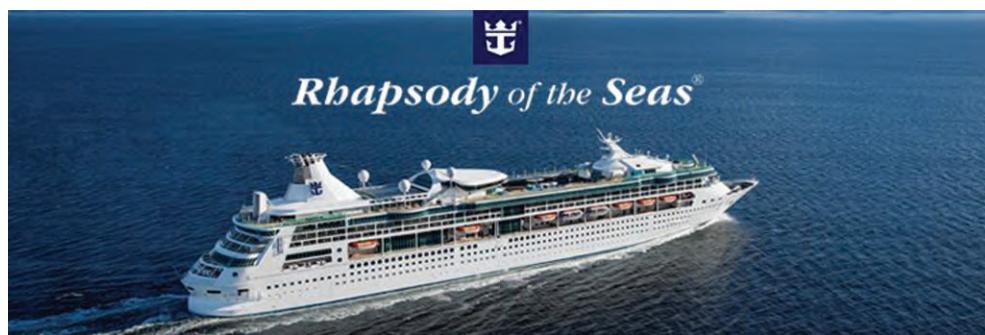
We are going on a cruise together!

The agenda includes travel on Rhapsody of the Seas, and ports will include Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Mahogany Bay and Belize.

The cruise leaves Jan. 22 and will take seven days, leaving out of Tampa.

The cost is \$403 per person, which includes \$50 of onboard credits.

There will be bus service to and from On Top of the World, one-hour cocktail parties on the ship, and the trip is open to



all community residents.

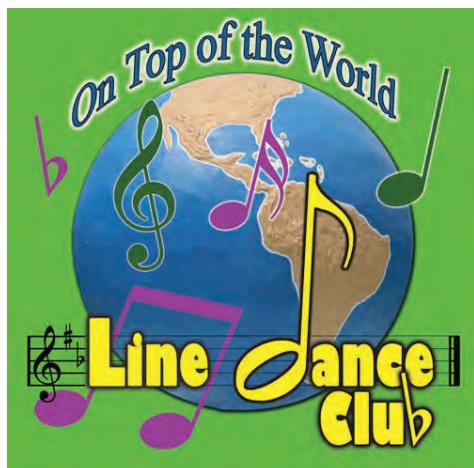
But hurry! Cabins are filling up fast.

If you are interested, or need more information, please call Pickleball Rep.

Kathy Ahrens at 727-804-1827.

The Pickleball Club is working with Ships 'n Trips travel agency to make this event possible.

Even former electricians love to line dance - what is your excuse?



By Leila Walker

You may notice there is a gentleman attending our morning line dance class hosted by your On Top of the World Line Dance Club.

I would like to introduce you to D. George Kelbatyrov (center in picture).

George immigrated from the Soviet Union to the United States in May of 1989, through a Christian Refuge Pentecostal group. He has been married to Olga for 41 years and he has a son, David, who is 40.

George is a great success story!

In the Soviet Union, George worked for 15 years as an electrician in a coal mine!

When George came to this country, he could speak no English, but after just three years in the U.S., he started his own business named DK Electric Inc.

George retired three years ago.

George's hobbies include dancing, bicycling and kayaking. He says he loves to dance and he really appreciates all the instructors who make line dancing happen in OTOW!



Pictured above is the 7 a.m. On Top of the World Line Dancing practice class, which takes place Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7-8 a.m. in the East Activity Center Exercise Room. Anyone is welcome to join our class.

George is a part-time resident, but hopes to move to OTOW permanently in maybe one or two years. Right now he is a Snowbird. His northern home is in Pennsylvania.

George thinks OTOW is a great community. He feels the community is a clean and well maintained area. He said the people are very friendly and they take care of each other.

George is always anxious to return to OTOW so he can continue to line dance.

You, too, can learn the love of line

dancing by joining the OTOW Line Dance Club, which offers classes on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays in the EAC auditorium.

From 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays an Advanced Beginner session is being offered and from noon to 1 p.m. an Improver Session for more experienced line dancers is offered.

Additional practice sessions are offered from 7-8 a.m. each Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Exercise Room of the EAC. This is the time when

the instructors practice the dances that are on the Tuesday and Saturday programs.

You can obtain useful information about line dancing and other OTOW activities by visiting the OTOW Box Office at otowboxoffice.com

You can see demos of some of the dances on OTOW-TV Channel 732, weekdays at 11 a.m.

If you need additional information, contact President Leila Walker at Leila.g.walker1@gmail.com or text/call 443-845-7842.

Knitting Group gets extremely excited and appreciative over a large donation of yarn

By Cheryl Butcher

We hit the jackpot last month!

A member of a local church donated seven trash bags of yarn to our club.

Her mother had recently passed away, and upon cleaning out the home, she discovered a cache of yarn and completed projects that she donated to the Good Neighbors Knitting Group. It is a welcome gift as our supply was dangerously low. Now we can get back to work.

It is time that you officially meet our original movie star - Marilyn Takesh.

Despite being a fairly new member of our club, Marilyn eagerly volunteered to teach our initial instructional video on beginner knitting which is currently on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com).

Marilyn has only lived in On Top of the World for one year, but she brings many years of knitting experience to our group. Her mother taught her and a friend when they were in high school.



Knitting

Originally from Clifton, N.J., Marilyn came to OTOW after her husband, Bob, passed away. She left behind a son and a daughter and 11 grandchildren. But with her knitting skills, she has 16 baby blankets ready for those great-grandchildren

when they start to arrive.

Marilyn's other major interest is photography. She has traveled to Africa three times photographing the beautiful cities and animals. She participated in safaris to Botswana and Kruger National Park in South Africa and produced many amazing pictures.

Just ask her and she will proudly show you the canvas prints she displays in her home. Some are of animals and others of sights she has experienced on those remarkable journeys.

If you have an interest in knitting or crocheting, we would love to have you join us in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room on Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m. We are operating within the safety guidelines set by On Top of the World so a mask and social distancing are required.

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group operates under the auspices of Good Neighbors Association.



Movie star Marilyn Takesh

Now selling picnic supplies

Good Karma Café has reopened

Your building or your club is holding a party at the East Activity Center pavilion.

A lot of people are expected. There will be games, entertainment, a lot of conversations and a ton of food ...

But wait! You forgot the charcoal for the grill!

No problem.

The Good Karma Café reopened in July and is now selling charcoal, lighters and other picnic supplies. There are paper plates, plastic cups, eating utensils, beverages, snacks, sandwiches and more.

Just remember, the café is currently open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will remain open as long as safety guidelines allow it.

The café reopens with a lot of your favorite items coming back. There are fresh coffee and danishes in the morning, sandwiches, subs and salads provided by Sunset Subs, plus a variety of beverages and chips.

The café is selling basic toiletries, including soaps and shampoos, too.

Are you in the mood for an ice cold Diet Mountain Dew and a Snickers bar?

How about a bottle of water for the swimming pool?

The café has them!

Stop by today and meet Shannon DeSerres, who will be operating the cash register at the café and pouring your coffee. Shannon is all excited to help finally reopen the doors.

As of this story going to press, the café was not open on weekends, but days of operations and hours could change month to month. Watch for future announcements in this newspaper, on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com) and on OTOW-TV channels 732.



Shannon DeSerres holds a bag of charcoal for sale in the Good Karma Café.



YOGA with Marilyn

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Tuesdays & Thursdays **Hatha Yoga** 9:30 am - EAC Exercise Room

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Tuesdays 2:15-3:00 pm

* See schedule for all classes on page 8

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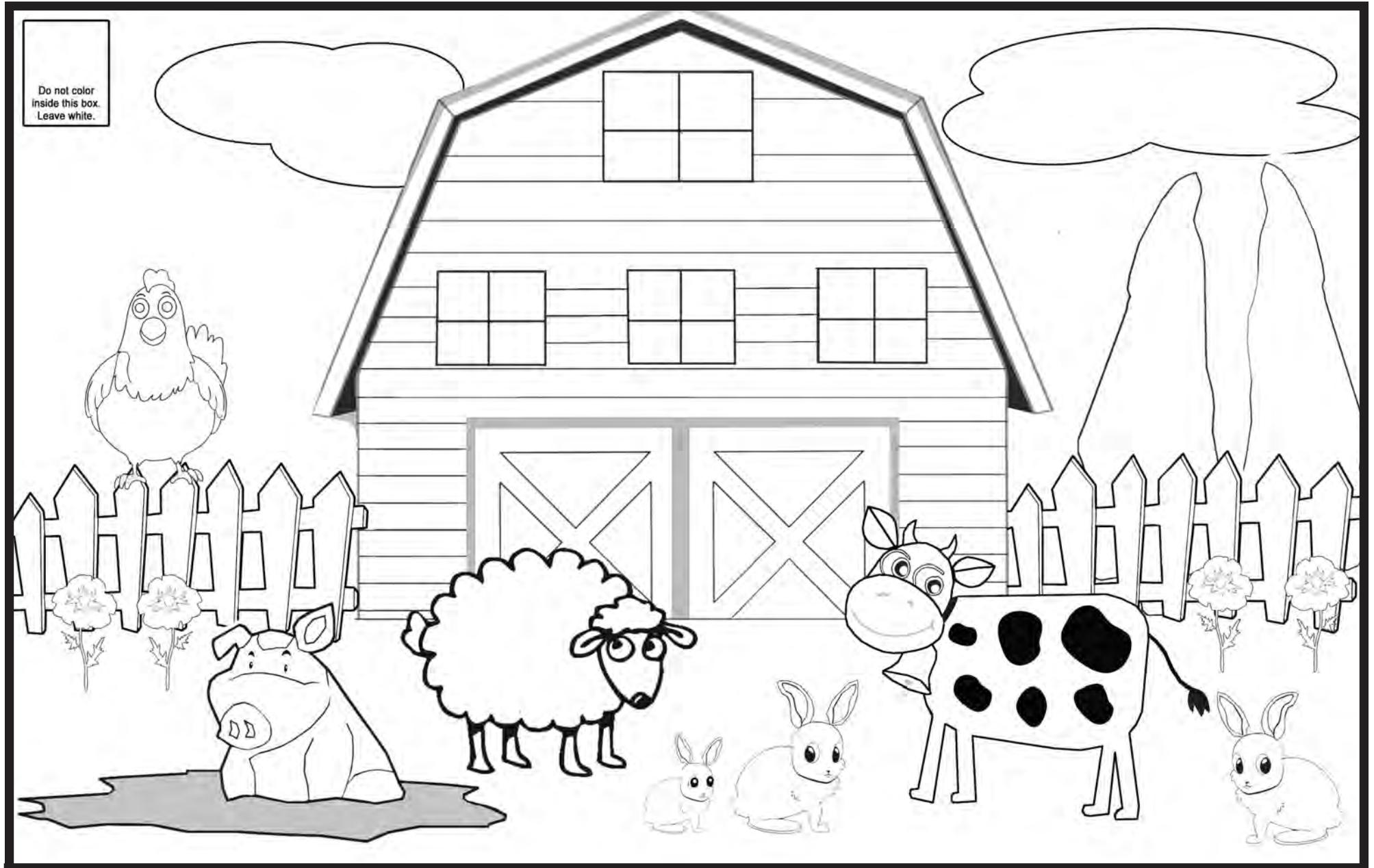
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Annual Color Book Club Coloring Contest

Aug. 2 is National Coloring Book Day. It is perfectly OK to think about your childhood and remember how much fun it was to color between the lines. Pictured above is our contest entry for this year. Color it in using any source you want - crayons, markers, pencils, paint, etc. The only medium you cannot use is computer-generator colors. Everything must be colored in by hand and use must use the entry picture from this newspaper - no reproductions of the image above will be accepted. Drop off your entry at the newsroom or Community Service Office in the East Activity Center by Monday, Aug. 16. No email entries will be accepted. Members of the OTOW Coloring Book Club will judge the winners. Club members are not eligible to win. Judges will not know the names of artists when judging. You must be an OTOW resident with a valid activity card to enter. If you have fun coloring this picture, feel free to join the Coloring Book Club anytime. They meet 12:30-2 p.m., Wednesday afternoons in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room. The winner of this contest will be announced in the September newspaper. First place is a \$20 gift certificate to Wal-Mart.

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Thursday Golf League back in action

By Ken Smith

After not playing any Thursday Golf League matches for over a year due to COVID-19, we are back playing every Thursday, reuniting with old friends and making new ones.

We are currently establishing quotas and honing our skills in anticipation of the official season starting in November.

New members are always welcome. All On Top of the World residents with a valid activity card, including renters, are welcome to play. Each person is allowed to bring one paid guest.

Our league is mixed so both men and women are encouraged to join.

For more information and to sign up, please visit the OTOW Box Office at otowboxoffice.com and look for the Thursday Golf League link. It is the one with the Earth golf ball.

You can also contact Harry Barbin at 215-514-1280 or email Harry at harrybarbin1@gmail.com.

Recent Results

June 17

First place was CJ Messina with a plus 9. Second Place was Paul Meyers with a plus 6. Third Place was a tie between Joe Wisinski and Harry Barbin both with a plus 4. Closest to the pin on hole No. 3 was Bob Hunt, on hole No. 5 was Diane Moxley, on hole No. 6 was Ken Smith, on hole No. 9 was Joe Wisinski, on hole No. 13 was Pat Mahony, on hole No. 15 was Harry Barbin and on hole No. 16 was Ada

Thursday Golf

Maloof. Skins were recorded by Harry Barbin on hole No. 1, Bob Hunt on hole No. 3, Joe Wisinski on hole Nos. 5 and 8, and Diane Moxley on hole No. 8. Low Gross was Harry Barbin with a 63.

June 24

First Place was Ken Oatsvall with a plus 8 and second place was Bruce Macpherson with a plus 2. Closest to the pin on hole No. 3 and hole No. 5 were Joe Wisinski, on hole 6 was Scott Rogers, on hole No. 9 and hole No. 16 was Ken Oatsvall, on hole No. 13 was Fred Schick, and on hole No. 15 was Diane Moxley. Skins were recorded by Joe Wisinski on hole No. 4, Paul Meyers on hole No. 7, Ken Oatsvall on hole No. 9 and hole No. 16, Scott Rogers on hole No. 11, Fred Schick on hole No. 13, Bruce Macpherson on hole No. 15 and Dave Pettinger on hole No. 18. Low Gross was shot by Bruce MacPherson with a 68.

July 1

On July 1, due to wet course conditions, we played a different layout for the first time. We started on the 18-hole course and played holes 1 through 4 and 14 through 18, then we played the 9-hole course for the final nine holes.

Most enjoyed the change and the



If this picture looks inviting, join the Thursday Golf League. You could be chipping from here next Thursday.

small, raised green on the 9-hole course provided a challenge.

First place went to Joe Wisinski with a plus 9 and second place went to Harry Barbin with a plus 7. Closest to the Pin on hole No. 4 was Ken Oatsvall, on hole No. 3 was Bruce MacPherson, on hole

No. 15 was Fred Schick and on hole No. 16 was Harry Barbin. Skins went to Bruce Macpherson on hole No. 3, Joe Wisinski on hole No. 5 and hole No. 16, and Harry Barbin on hole No. 7, No. 8 and No. 13. Low Gross was shot by Harry Barbin with a 59.

You cannot play tennis 24 hours a day, so how about a little golf and a little snorkeling

By Joe DeChiaro

The On Top of the World Tennis Club continues to have its monthly golf outing and early dinner.

This past month, we had our fewest turnout for our golf event at the 9-hole since we started last May 2020. Only four members showed up. They were Bruce McMasters, Jane Collins, Joe DeChiaro and Don Guidara.

Jane won four skins, Bruce won three skins and Joe won two skins.

We decided to eat an early dinner at Harold Seltzer Steakhouse off Gulf to Bay Boulevard. This was the first time since COVID-19 that we reserved indoor eating. The host seated our group in a private room secluded from the general public.

We also celebrated Helen DeChiaro's birthday with a surprise birthday cake. There will be two more social events scheduled for this month. They will be a snorkeling and shelling boat adven-



ture leaving from the Dunedin pier, and a lunch at the Home Plate restaurant in Dunedin.

Reports from both of these events will be in next month's paper.



Enjoying a break from tennis, for a round of golf, are left to right Bruce McMasters, Jane Collins, Joe DeChiaro and Don Guidara.

Cooking tips and shortcuts



Like everyone else, since the COVID-19 pandemic started I have been spending a lot of time watching TV.

But the shows I watch may be a little different than the ones you are watching.

I enjoy The Cooking Channel, Food Network, Lidia's Kitchen, old Julia Child shows and Jacques Pépin.

I also read a lot of cookbooks and magazines, including Cooking Illustrated, Cook's Country, Food and Wine, and of course, regular cookbooks.

In doing so, I have learned a lot about cooking shortcuts and cooking tips. So I would like to share some of them with you in hopes it will make your cooking a lot more fun and easy.

TIP 1

When making egg salad, I put the hard boiled eggs in a mixing bowl and chop them up quickly with a pastry cutter. This prevents me from getting eggs all over my cutting board.

TIP 2

Sometimes chopping jobs require both a full-powered swing and considerable precision, like cutting up bone-in chicken parts. I place the blade of a chef's knife, or meat cleaver, directly on the target and then sharply strike the back of the knife with a rubber mallet.

TIP 3

When deep-frying a large batch of food, such as breaded chicken breast or egg-plant, I use a roasting pan. I arrange the pan over two burners, add oil and heat it for frying.

TIP 4

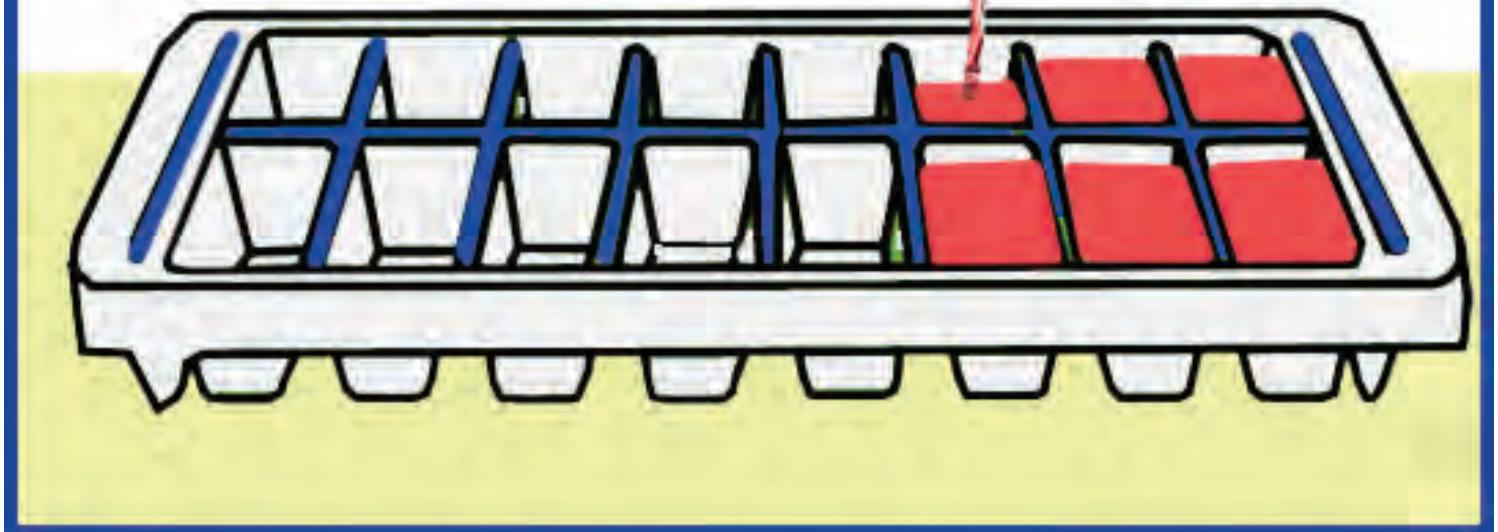
When cleaning scallions (spring onions), I notice that there's sometimes a thin membrane left behind after the removing outer layers. Rather than try to peel it off, I simply wipe the scallion clean in one motion using a damp paper towel.

TIP 5

To keep gravy hot for serving, I put it in a ceramic teapot instead of in a traditional gravy boat. The lidded pot keeps the gravy hotter than a gravy boat and the spout makes for tidy pouring.

Don't let leftover wine go to waste. Make Wine Cubes!

TIP
7



TIP 6

When plucking large amounts of parsley or cilantro, I thread the stems through the holes of a perforated spoon and pull the herbs through. The leaves gather in the bowl of the spoon, and the stems can be discarded.

TIP 7

In the unlikely event I have any leftover wine, I like to pour it into ice cube trays. When I want a nice chilled spritzer, I put the wine cubes in a glass and pour club soda or sparkling water to create a wine spritzer that develops as the cubes melt.

TIP 8

Pouring liquid into a hot skillet to deglaze it can cause messy splatters. To keep my stovetop cleaner I cover the pan with a splatter screen and pour the liquid directly through the mesh into the pan. Once the splatter and sizzles subside, I remove the screen.

TIP 9

It can be a maddening struggle to pull a paper-thin coffee filter from inside a stack. I turn the stack inside out, which makes it a cinch to pull off a filter.

TIP 10

I used to hate poking around with a spoon to skim excess grease off sauces, stocks and soups. Now what I do is set just one side of the pot over the burner, which allows the simmering bubbles to push the slick of fat to the other side of the pot, making it easier to spoon off.

TIP 11

When you have a lot of dark bits cooked on the bottom of your skillet, I pour in some water and few drops of soap and bring it to a boil on the stovetop. The boiling action loosens all the gunk and makes cleaning the skillet with a scrubber a breeze.

TIP 12

When I am roasting foods in a skillet in the oven, I hang a potholder on the oven door so it's at the ready to cover my hand before transferring the hot skillet to the stovetop. I then leave the potholder over the skillet handle to help me remember that the handle is still hot.

TIP 13

Do you have to peel away foil from a wine bottle to expose the cork? I have found that the easiest way to remove the tight foil cover is with a vegetable peeler. Start at the bottom of the foil, peel away a thin strip, which loosens the rest for easy removal.

TIP 14

When you have flour or dough on your hands and you want to wash it off, the best way to do so is by using cold water instead of hot water. With cold water, the floury paste slides right off.

TIP 15

To help plastic wrap cling tightly to the rim of metal mixing bowl, run a bit of water around the sides of the bowl to give the plastic more purchase.

TIP 16

For an easier way to clean corn, put on a clean pair of rubber gloves to remove the clingy silk. The friction from the gloves helps grab the fine threads, making them easier to pull away.

TIP 17

Instead of chopping whole canned tomatoes on a cutting board and ending up with tomato juice all over the countertop, I cut them up with a pair of kitchen scissors right in the can.

TIP 18

Boxed broth sometimes gugs and splashes out of the container, which can cause a mess. I found that by simply rotating the box so the spout is at the top of the container, instead of the bottom, it pours the broth without any splashing.

Past versions of The Butcher Block and Science of Cooking can be found on the Box Office.

Go to otowboxoffice.com and look for a special link to the home page.

**Science of
Cooking
Healthy
Food**

By Marie



Email questions, suggestions and comments to
Marie
marieshealthyfood@gmail.com

*Also, visit the Box Office
for past recipes in this newspaper.*

otowboxoffice.com

Ingredients

For the base

8 oz. fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
8 oz. fresh rhubarb, trimmed,
cut into 1/2-inch pieces
1/2 cup of blueberries
1/2 cup raw stevia
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon salt

For the topping

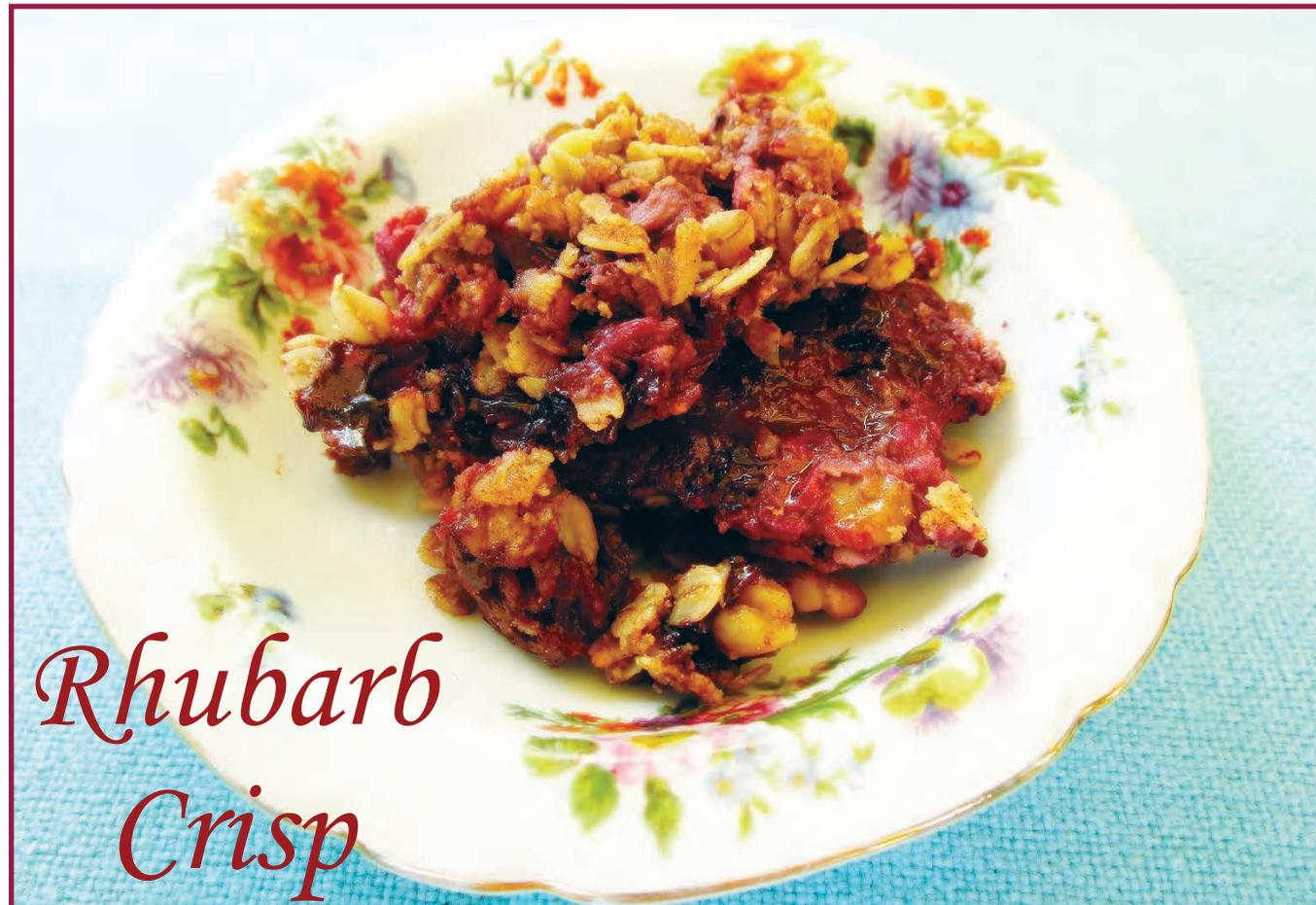
1 cup rolled oats
1/3 cup chopped walnuts
1/4 cup almond flour
1/4 cup unsalted butter (1/2 stick), melted
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon salt
Serves 6-8.

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a medium bowl, mix the topping ingredients, except the butter. Crush lumps.
3. Add melted butter, stirring until mixture is crumbly. Refrigerate about 15 minutes to firm topping so it spreads easily over the fruit.
4. Cut fruit in 1/2 pieces. Combine strawberries and rhubarb. Stir in stevia, vanilla and salt until stevia is dissolved.
5. Mix cornstarch in lemon juice to help it dissolve and to prevent clumping. Stir into fruit.
6. Transfer fruit to an 8-inch greased baking dish. Gently press down with a spatula to make the top as even as possible.
7. Sprinkle chilled topping over fruit.
8. Bake until juices are bubbling in the center and topping is golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool to room temperature. Leftovers will keep for at least 4 days and stored in the refrigerator, but, my dear chefs, it is unlikely to last that long!

Disclaimer

This column is not intended to provide medical advice. The reader should consult a physician for medical advice.



One dessert I love making is a crisp. Unlike a pie, it's so easy to throw together and is always a crowd pleaser. Crisps are made with a base of fruit and an oat topping, baked to crispy perfection!

A crisp is a relatively new dessert first mentioned in a 1924 cookbook. (1) Rhubarb did not become a popular food until sugar became cheap and readily available in the 19th century. This rhubarb crisp is a healthy updated version made without refined white sugar to achieve a lower calorie level.

I prefer serving crisp chilled on a hot day. Fruit flavors are more pronounced when served cold. Likewise, I prefer crisp plain without any garnish so the fruit flavor is maximized. This also avoids extra calories from a dollop of ice cream or yogurt.

Health Value

Most Americans fall short of the goal of eating three or more servings of fruit a day. One strategy for incorporating more fruit into your diet is to eat fruit for dessert. This dessert, featuring tart rhubarb tempered with sweet strawberry, is an example of this strategy. (2)

A crisp is lower in carbohydrates/calories than a fruit pie which has two crusts. A pie also typically has lots of undesirable hydrogenated fats and gluten in a wheat crust.

Caution for those concerned about gluten: even though oats are naturally gluten-free, a very small portion of people with celiac disease still react to them if the oats are produced in a facility that processes wheat.

The strawberries and rhubarb combo is a classic pairing of good friends. Together they provide an additional burst of vitamin K, fiber and vitamin C. A 3.5-ounce serving of cooked rhubarb provides 26 percent of the daily value for vitamin K1. (3)

The Science

Rhubarb isn't the most well-known produce, but it has a lot to offer. Hothouse rhubarb is available most of the year, while field-grown stalks are available in early spring, typically April through June. My dear chefs, many fruits are suitable for crisps; for example peaches, apples and berries.

Rhubarb is actually a vegetable, similar to celery, but has been labeled by the government as fruit and regarded so by most chefs. It's tart and sour, and when you add sugar and cook it down, it becomes sweet like berries, releasing a beautiful syrup-like juice.

Avoid cooking rhubarb in aluminum, iron or copper pans because the acidity of the rhubarb will react with these metals leading to discoloration. Instead, choose enameled cast iron, anodized aluminum, non-stick coated aluminum or glass.

Cooking Tips

Cut fruit about the same size so the crisp bakes evenly — and so it's easier to cut and serve each slice! Portion control is important in healthy approach to this delicious dessert.

The cornstarch thickens the fruit juices that release as the crisp cools. Cooling allows the juices to fully thicken.

LINKS: (1) www.duluthnewstribune.com/lifestyle/food/

(2) www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/

(3) healthline.com/nutrition/

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BUILDING REPORTS



Get one-on-one lawn bowl instruction before a new season begins this fall

By Wendy Colquhoun

We are lawn bowling once again here at On Top of the World.

The courts have been resurfaced and there is a new drainage system.

Weather permitting, and if safety guidelines remain relaxed, regular bowls will be Wednesdays and Sundays at 6 p.m. There will also be morning bowls on Thursdays at 9 a.m.

Anyone interested in trying lawn bowling can take lessons. There are day and evening opportunities available. Lessons are Wednesdays at 9:15 a.m. and Fridays at 7 p.m. Be sure your activity card is up to date.

It's been a while since the last Lawn Bowl Club competitions on our own court so let's refresh your memory.

Before our courts were closed for maintenance and the pandemic, we had 65 club members. Many people think only Canadians lawn bowl, but this isn't true. During a regular winter season here, we will have players from various nationalities, including the United States, South Africa, England and Europe.

Our club is considered social and competitive. There are usually opportunities to bowl six days a week and there are some fun tournaments, but we also have some competitive tournaments that are taken very seriously.

For those who get really serious, there are opportunities to join Bowls USA, which schedules national and world competitions.

There are also rules and etiquette within the club, but they are taught through instruction and practice.

We have special events for Christmas and Valentine's Day. We march in the Irish Club Parade together. At the end of the year we have a "Crazy Day" when we bowl in costumes.

Yes. We have a lot of fun and lawn bowling is a great way to compete and meet new people.

Everyone, even our veteran members, will be playing on our new surface for the first time.

While some lawn bowl surfaces may be grass, carpet or crushed rock, our lawn bowl surface here at On Top of the World is crushed rock and related to tennis courts.

Har-Tru is a trade name for a product that is used for sports surfaces, including tennis and lawn bowls.

Har-Tru is a natural green stone called Precambrian metabasalt. This stone is over a billion years old and is found in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

Tennis courts are referred to as clay courts, but Har-Tru is actually crushed stone.

This stone is very hard and angular, important properties for sport surfaces. The angularity helps the crushed stone lock to form a stable surface and the



Carolyn Lust and Jan Lust get some lawn bowl instructions from Wendy Colquhoun.
(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

hardness provides durability.

Further, the porous nature of the stone dries quickly after a rain.

Maintenance of our lawn bowl courts require brushing, watering, rolling and scarfing.

Although a slang word to indicate eating quickly

and voraciously, scarfing for our lawn bowl surface means to break up and re-distribute material.

The tool we use to do this is purchased from a tennis supply company and called a lute. The material and the tools used for tennis and lawn bowling come from the same source.

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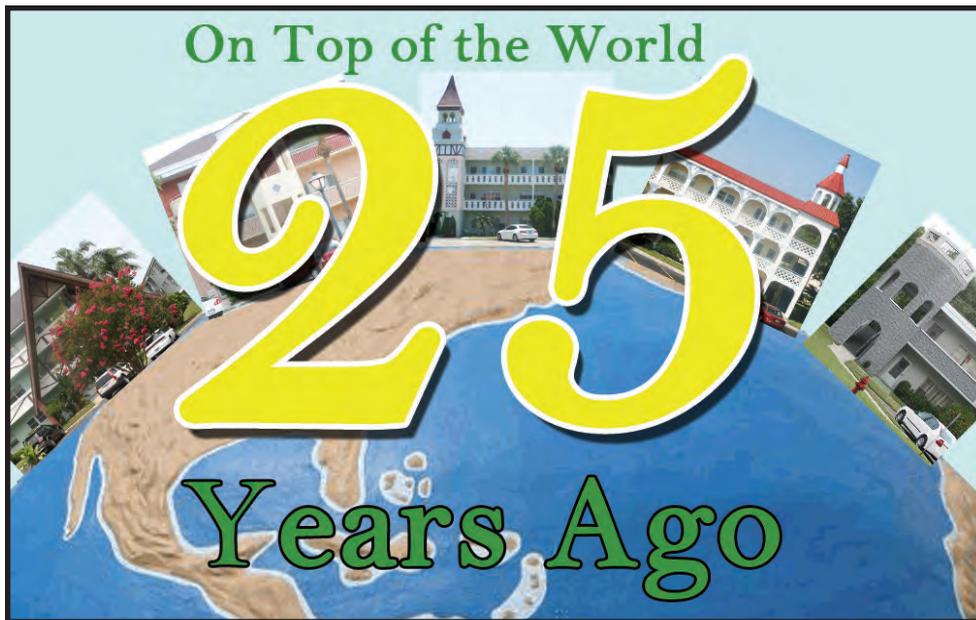


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**A look back at the OTOW News
August, 1996**

- **Singles Club:** Hope everyone is enjoying the summer. For those who are staying in Florida, have you noticed we do not have the hottest weather? It is not uncommon for some states to top 100 degrees frequently. July was a wonderful month. We had the honor of the Olympic Flame being carried through our part of the state.
- **Kiwanis:** The Kiwanis International Convention in Salt Lake City was a big success. There were a total of 10,800 Kiwanians and guests there with 7,000 registered Kiwanians (592 were from Florida). There were 3,768 clubs represented from 32 different countries. Salt Lake City is a beautiful city and wonderfully equipped to handle a large convention. OTOW Kiwanis is now looking forward to the Florida District Convention which will be held on Marco Island in September
- **Modern Archery Golf:** I'm Frank Mrochka. I represent the Professional MAG Club that has developed a new exciting physical fitness archery field sport. It's the only field sport that helps you develop a new physical appearance, new poise, youthful self-confidence and a slimmer figure. The name of the game is Modern Archery Golf (MAG), and it's played the same as golf, but instead of a golf ball and iron, a low pull archery bow is used to project a soft tip shaft at targets laid out on a field resembling a golf course.
- **Tennis:** It's nice to see that even in this hot, humid weather we still have quite a few of our members playing on all six courts. This despite the fact that many of our Snowbird members are now back in Yankee Land. The latest in tennis racquets, according to Tennis Magazine, is something called "Big Bubba," which is longer and larger than any previously made racquets. I don't think this Big Bubba will be approved by the ITF for use in organized tennis, and I don't believe that our senior tennis players either need or want a racquet like this.
- **Viking Building:** Since the fourth of July is a great day to celebrate, the Viking Building threw a great ice cream social and 25 attended. What a variety of flavors and toppings, thanks to Roslyn Hockberg and her helpers. We will miss Jane and Howard Carlson, and wish them much happiness and good health in their new home. The Florida International Museum of St. Petersburg advised that the exhibition of the "Splendors of Ancient Egypt" would close on July 7, 1996. Dr. John and Millie Geert went on June 22, 1996. The treasures are on loan from the museum in Hildesheim, Germany.
- **Malaguena Building:** It looks as if we are in the summer doldrums again. So many people are gone on vacations that the building is really half empty. There is not much news to report; however, Dorothy and Martin Bacheller have just returned from a trip to western New York State. While there, they pursued their hobby of updating their genealogy records, toured the state and then drove to Albany, N.Y., to attend their grandson's graduation from high school. They celebrated the occasion with a family before returning home.

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OTOW BUS

August 2021 (Subject To Change)

Schedule/Riding Guidelines

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Tuesdays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Walmart
Wednesdays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Publix
Thursdays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Walmart
Fridays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

There will be a temporary change to our normal bus schedule in August. The locations and times above are subject to change. Watch OTOW-TV, The Box Office and Nancy's Bulletin Board to learn when the normal bus schedule has returned.

Reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance and seats are reserved on first-call basis. You must present your valid activity card before boarding. The bus driver is not permitted to assist passengers in any way. No eating or drinking on the bus. Shopping time is limited to 90 minutes. Face masks are recommended.

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Your pre-storm checklist

1. Purchase a battery-operated radio and a supply of batteries.
2. Purchase flashlights with batteries. Use caution when using candles.
2. Get an ice chest. Stock up on a week's worth of water, food that won't spoil, pet supplies, toilet paper, purchase a battery-operated fan.
3. Refill medical prescriptions.
4. Go to an ATM or bank and get cash.
5. Fill your vehicle with gas. Fill a lawn mower container with gas.
 Please do not store generators on property. Only first floor units can operate a generator after power goes out.
6. Recharge cell phone batteries and use only when necessary.
7. If you are evacuating, tell people where you are evacuating to and leave your contact information.
8. Bring lawn furniture and outdoor decorations indoors.
9. Make sure you have a first-aid kit, including bandages, ointments.
10. Make sure important documents are safely stored.
11. Don't forget rain gear, blankets and home entertainment.
 Don't panic, but you may not have internet service for days.
12. Sign up for the RAVE alert system from OTOW.
 Community updates will be posted on otowclearwaterinfo.com, OTOW-TV Channel 732 and the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

WHEN A STORM HAS PASSED

- A. Do not go outside and begin cleanup on your own. Let OTOW employees remove limbs and all damage. There could be wires down.
- B. Traffic lights may be out. Stop at all intersections.

For more information, visit www.ready.gov/hurricanes



Chinese Cathay was the spot for barbecue and socializing

By Jayne Dowdy, Chinese Cathay Reporter

Building 15 (Chinese Cathay) was delighted to get together and get to know each other as we have many new residents in our building. We enjoyed a hot dog barbecue with all the fixin's at our beautiful new pavilion! Music in the Park by Rich & Cindy livened up the place and made the barbecue all the more fun! What a wonderful place to live! We can't wait to get together again soon!

Rio Riviera meeting recognized the importance of human contact

The Rio Riviera Building recently held its Annual Building Coordination Team meeting. Due to the pandemic, we haven't had one since February of 2020. Now that we are less at risk from COVID, we all agreed we felt safe enough to get together and reengage.

Like our entire country, building morale took a nosedive while we were all masked and socially distancing. There have been numerous articles written about the importance of how human interaction affects our overall health. Humans need social interaction to thrive. Bringing us all back together was vital to everyone's mental as well as physical health.

During the meeting, we had several volunteers step forward to enhance our building team. Everyone enjoyed the great pizza and delicious desserts. They were delighted to hear about our upcoming



Pamela & Stuart Rosenblatt

Paradise

monthly dinners, boating adventures, group outings and holiday party plans.

The resurgence of energy was rejuvenating as well as contagious. Stu and I look forward to helping our building create new friendships and wonderful memories together.

A Note For Dog Walkers

When picking up after your dog, do not throw plastic bags down the storm drains. This is against the law.

Always clean up while walking your dog.

BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR DOG HYDRATED.

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Couple sails on first post-pandemic U.S. cruise

By Theresa McAllister

Our bags were packed and we were definitely ready to go.

Theresa and Chuck McAllister were ready for their first post-pandemic cruise!

My husband and I are avid cruisers and we have been sailing the high seas for more than 30 years.

The pandemic brought many of our favorite activities to a screeching halt and sailing was at the top of the list. Under guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), “no—sail” orders were issued and continually updated throughout the past year.

Cruise lines established “healthy sail panels” to guide them through protocols for returning to the seas.

We waited until that someday finally arrived ... and Celebrity Cruises made that someday happen sooner than imagined.

We were fortunate to be among the 1,100 passengers who boarded the first ship in the cruise industry, the Celebrity Edge, to sail from the United States in 15 months. What an historic event!

The experience was unforgettable,

from walking the gangway to stepping on board the ship.

“It was like walking the red carpet. The captain and her staff greeted us with cheers and applause ... the welcome back never stopped.”

As the Edge set sail from her home port in Fort Lauderdale, the ship’s horns sounded loudly and were echoed by another Celebrity ship still in port. The tug and pilot boats used to escort each ship blasted water cannons to celebrate this historic sailing. Media and onlookers lined the pier shouting their goodbyes and waving flags as the ship passed.

Although we were heading to the Western Caribbean, we never left the ship. Instead we spent our time exploring the many options onboard and sharing experiences with fellow passengers who traveled across the United States and beyond to be there.

My husband summed up the trip by saying, “It was as close to normal as we have felt in a long time – 35 percent capacity, fully-vaccinated adults and no masks.”



Intrepid cruisers Theresa and Chuck McAllister were among the 1,100 passengers who took the first cruise out of a U.S. port in more than a year.

And we know how to celebrate!

We enjoyed some of our time onboard the ship in a private cabana being pampered by our own personal attendant. It was awesome!

And we did get to see “Bug Naked,” the star of the ship... the elf-eared Sphynx cat who shares the helm with her master, Captain Kate McCue!

We enjoyed this cruise so much, we are ready to sail again.



Two residents move to west side of OTOW

The west side of On Top of the World won... two of our residents, that is. Mike Talhouk, Randy Doyon and their two furry friends, Kobe and Bailey have left Mallorca (they did turn off their lights). Our loss is the West side’s gain. They will be missed, but the anticipation of new residents in the building is always fun. Introductions will be made upon the newbies’ arrival.

We survived the first tropical storm of the season and are tolerating the heat, which is still much better than thinking of shoveling snow and watching icicles dripping... Was it hotter this summer or is it that memory fades with the good times we have here?

Looking forward to the fall and then of course, Christmas, when a party will be in order this year. See you later.

Meet our new Granada Building reporter

We need to give a special “Thank You” to Barb Jamrozy, our wonderful and exciting news reporter for On Top of the World’s Granada Building. She dedicated her news, words of wisdom, experiences and beautiful smile for over five years and will be dearly missed.

She has decided to retire her writing and pass her duties to Toni Young (that’s me!). I will do my best to follow in her footsteps to bring you the best reports that I possibly can.

Our July Monday luncheon was held at Po’ Folks recently. The old-fashioned country-style cooking and friendly get-together was enjoyed by all.

On Monday, Aug. 12, we will be gathering at the Cracker Barrel in Oldsmar at our usual time, 12 noon. Besides friendly chatter and good food, you can catch up on any fall gift or décor shopping while you are there.



The sign-up sheet has the details, and is located in the center core of building, first floor on bulletin board next to the elevator. Please sign up three or four days prior to our lunch date so we can make reservations. If you need a ride, please check the box “ride needed” on sign-up sheet and we will try to accommodate you.

Everyone is welcome. It’s a perfect way to get together with your building neighbors and enjoy good times!

If you have any exciting news about anniversaries, birthdays, holes-in-one on the golf course, or you are a new neighbor, let me know.

Please share your events or news with your neighbors and community by emailing to me your information: toni.one@icloud.com. Your information should be sent to me by the 13th of the month.

Don’t forget to check in with your OTOW-TV channel 732 or visit www.otowclearwaterinfo.com for community updates, openings, changes and events.

There is also the OTOW Box Office site with club news, OTOW announcements and activities, fun games to play, and more: It’s at www.otowboxoffice.com



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Why would I ever want to write about my neighbors?

Hi, my name is Dianne Hanrahan, your new Contemporary Building reporter.

My husband Barney Hanrahan and I finally made the move to On Top of the World after 20 years of vacations visiting with family Phil and Donna Smerz, who are longtime residents.

We permanently relocated here in December 2019 from Schaumburg Ill., where I was employed as a Health Information Supervisor for over 25 years in the medical field.

Weekday mornings will find me walking early with support group Karen Phipps and Carole Whynot and then to the pool for aqua aerobics with a great workout, great instructors and a much needed cool down.

As a fanatic sports fan I can be found on the recliner drinking cold beer and couch coaching on Saturday and Sundays. Wine painting is also in the plan when normalcy resumes.

Barney and I have two wonderful daughters as well as four grandchildren,



Contemporary - 31

all still in the Chicago area. My hope is that the beach is more appealing than the snow so they will visit more often. Also, Barney is an avid golfer which will be a draw for my grandsons.

My answer to the headline question is that our Contemporary Building is lively, full of pranksters, energetic, caring and is a family inside the community. I look forward to sharing their stories with you in the months to come.

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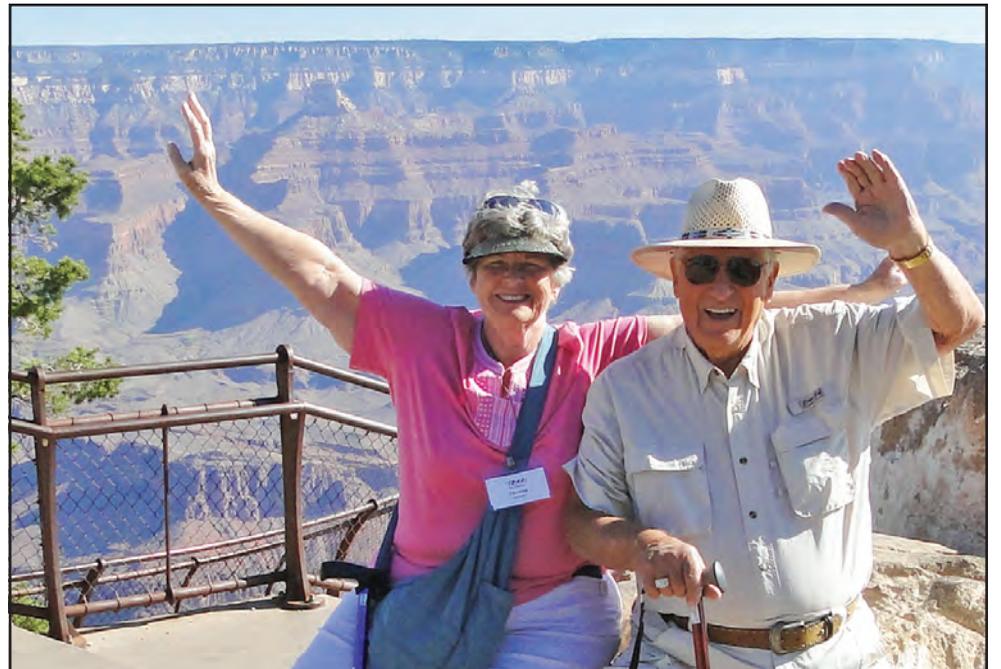
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We say so-long to a friendly, respected Englander resident



Englander resident Chickie Brophy always offered a cheerful thought and a smile for everyone. (Photo by Terri Mikszenas)



The Grand Canyon serves as the backdrop for Terri and Dick Mikszenas during their 2021 tour of five U.S. National Parks. (Photo by Dave Berman)

It is very important to understand the fact that life is a continuous flow of events, and therefore we should make constant efforts to maintain it. Our life is made up of time and memories associated with it. These memories are actually beautiful experiences, which may be good or bad. Sometimes life gives us lemons so that we can make lemonade from them.

We have been fortunate here at the Englander to have the sweetest "lemonade," our neighbor Chickie Brophy.

Chickie and her husband John moved to the Englander when the building was built in 1992. After John passed in 2013, Chickie continued living at On Top of the World until just recently, when she felt it was more important to live near her identical twin sister, Mary Fielder. Mary also lived at OTOW, just across the street from Chickie. Often, it was easy to get the sisters mixed up because they continued looking so much like each other. Now they will

enjoy being next door neighbors at their senior living residence in Traverse, Fla.

Chickie always offered a cheerful thought and a smile for everyone. We will certainly miss her here at the Englander, but send her on her way with our wishes for her continued good health and happiness.

The Wild West is open! Terri and Dick Mikszenas, along with OTOW residents Dave and Janice Berman, just returned from an amazing tour of five National Parks. "Our trip was postponed in 2020 and we were still a bit concerned about traveling in June of 2021, but with our double doses of vaccine, off we went," said Dick.

The 12-day tour began in Arizona from Scottsdale to Sedona, in Utah through the Grand Canyon and both Zion and Bryce National Parks. They visited Salt Lake City and Jackson Hole where they enjoyed a float boat ride down the Snake River with the Grand Teton Mountains framing the views.

With a front row seat, they saw Ole Faithful erupt at Yellowstone National Park along with several other park geysers. Dick celebrated his 89th birthday in Cody, Wyo., where his cousin and her husband,

residents of Cody, joined them and offered to be personal guides at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

The tour continued through the Badlands National Park in South Dakota with its dramatic landscapes, steep canyons and towering spires. Bear, bison, bighorn sheep and prairie dogs inhabit its sprawling grasslands.

The tour continued to the Crazy Horse Monument before ending at Mount Rushmore, in the Black Hills region of South Dakota.

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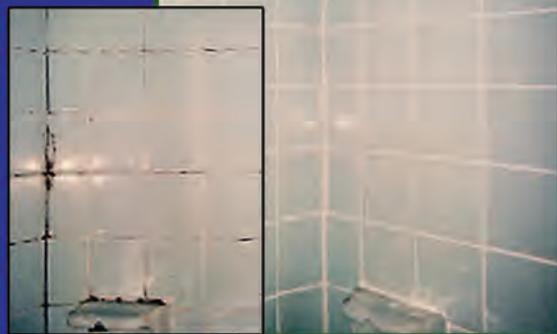
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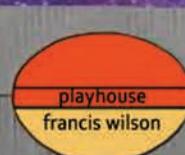
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“Let Freedom Ring” was the phrase that enticed building residents to create colorful 4th of July display

By Jesse Tiamson

I am writing the French Renaissance II column this month on behalf of Sue Trost, our building reporter.

“Let Freedom Ring!” No other battle cry had so much double meaning than on this 4th of July of 2021.

First, the Declaration of Independence from the British rule back in 1776. Second, freedom from the crippling pandemic of last year, with its lockdowns, mandatory masking, distancing, business shutdowns and school closures.

Here at On Top of the World, we saw the cancellations of social shows and dances, group meetings and most activities at both of our activity centers.

The residents of French Renaissance II celebrated this newfound freedom with their beautiful lobby decoration with flags that reminded all of us of the sacrifices of all those who gave some and those who gave all to preserve that freedom and a plea for God to bless this country.

Much thanks go to all those who gave up their time to grace our building: Jesse Tiamson, Sue Trost, Evelyn Tiamson, Judy Hoffman and others who



donated items to display and those who donated funds to buy other items and keep our building a happy residence to be proud of.

Residents from other buildings were seen visiting the building and taking pictures of the lobby decorations, even taking selfies.

We hope that our efforts serve as inspirations for others to do the same thing to their buildings, as part of their community. We will continue to decorate our building for the holidays of the year. And we encourage our other residents to give up a little bit of their time and their talents, and treasure to help us continue these efforts.

Happy people = happy building = happy community!



The French Renaissance II “Let Freedom Ring” display was spectacular to view at night, as shown here. (Photo by Jesse Tiamson)

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OTOW residents on hand for big July 4 celebration

Many residents of On Top of the World went to watch a concert and big fireworks display on the Fourth of July held at the BayCare Ballpark.

The event kicked off at 7 p.m., and featured a great, music-choreographed fireworks show at 9:15. Attendees celebrated America's birthday in style with the largest fireworks display in stadium history, a star-studded concert by The Black Honkeys band and fun activities and giveaways for kids of all ages.

All-American culinary concessions, such as hamburgers, hot dogs and popcorn were available on-site for purchase, as well as adult beverages.

Our first hurricane preparation of the season was handled nicely here in our community. Pools were closed while On Top of the World workers removed chairs that the wind would have blown around. Workers went around to buildings to make sure all loose items were secure.



Elevators were shut down as well as the washers and dryers. We were very fortunate that "Elsa" was a weaker storm than first predicted.

Welcome new residents to our Siboney building. Many moving trucks have been busy unloading furniture lately, and soon we will be having meetings and luncheons for all.

Please check the bulletin board for



Pictured above are attendees enjoying a concert at BayCare Ballpark in Clearwater on July Fourth. It was all part of a big fireworks display and Independence Day celebration. (Photo by Lillian Foy)

the upcoming events. We hope to meet everyone very soon and get to know the new residents. Enjoy your summer and be safe in the Florida heat.

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News and notes about the good folks at Emerald Isle

Muchas gracias to Jennifer Hanson for choosing Clear Sky Draught Haus in Dunedin for our June event.

Although the turnout was small (about 15), the atmosphere was delightful and the Taco Tuesday food was delicious.

I hear that Bob Rentell has a big birthday coming up. Not sure when. Anyway, a very happy birthday to you, Bob, and many more.

Tom and Cheryl Butcher recently celebrated Tom's birthday by dining out. Tom is a wine connoisseur, so I'm sure their choice was a good one. Also in the news, Mare and Bill Gipperidge entertained their daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Larry Hedgecorth over the Fourth of July weekend.

We have many new neighbors moving into our building. I hope we can welcome them at our next event.



Meanwhile, an Emerald Isle welcome to Randy and Maureen Walker; Murray Segal and Janice Wayne; Chris Vitagliano; and Gail and Dan Struckmann.

The summer weather has brought the usual Snowbird exodus and things are pretty quiet around here. Several



The Clear Sky Draught Haus in Dunedin was the setting for Emerald Isle's June lunch event, at which more than a dozen residents had a great time. (Photo by MaryAnn Nargi)

neighbors are planning summer trips now that the COVID pandemic has eased up somewhat (we think).

Have a great summer, everyone. Also, please give me your news so I can share your joy with our residents.

Attention OTOW News writers ...

When submitting your stories to the newsroom by email, please put the name of your building, group or sport in the subject line of the email.



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OTOW amenities attracted newest Villa residents

August already — where has summer gone, and for that fact, the whole year?

Welcome new neighbors Frank and Airianne Kopa, and Frank's mom, Kathleen Kopa, from Mohall, N.D., (which is just about in Canada). Retiring from family businesses, they wanted warmer climes for their many favorite outdoor activities.

On Top of the World fit the bill to a "T". All amenities they wanted are here: golf, swimming, beaches, wonderful grounds to walk, and handy to everything one could ever want.

So when you see a striking lady on the arm of a tall handsome fellow, you may question their age. Yet believe it or not, Frank and Airianne are indeed grandparents to six, making mom Kathy a great-grandmother.

Our uninvited guest, Elsa, had little to no effect here, thank goodness. Management took no chances and made sure everything that could cause problems was battened down. Thank you for being on the side of caution. Most of us stocked up on essentials, so are ready for any event in the future.

Sheryl McKay just returned from a



large family reunion in Chattanooga, Tenn. She said it was wonderful to have everyone together to catch up on family doings.

Earl Balance and Mike Murphy enjoyed North Carolina for a holiday with family and friends as well.

Karen Beaver is looking into a dolphin cruise from Tarpon Springs sometime in the fall for the Villa. Sounds like a fun day on the water. Please check the bulletin board for updates on that event.

Karen did a great job organizing the very-well-attended luncheon at Ozona

Blue. Looking forward to more such events in the months to come.

The Jesters movie was very enjoyable. Amazed at the talent we have here. Our own Rockette, Patricia Sprouse, sang and danced up a storm. Hats off to all performers and the unsung heroes behind the scenes. One minute on screen is usually one hour of editing, so kudos to editor Doug Kates and staff. Well done!

Hope you have seen the colorful bike parades making the rounds? Some 92 bikers join in this. Fun for them and us as well.

Speaking of fun, the pickle ball club recently held a karaoke evening at the pavilion. A good crowd arrived for hot dogs and a fun evening of song and dance.

Before closing out, please no building materials, discarded furniture or unwanted things in the trash room. Also, the storage rooms need to be addressed. Everyone has a numbered designated space. Some of our new neighbors have found no space at all.

Until next we meet, keep that mask handy. Anniversaries and birthday greetings go out to all. Again, thanks to



Welcome new Viennese Villa neighbors Frank and Airianne Kopa and Frank's mom, Kathleen Kopa.

our dedicated OTOW maintenance crews and management officials for the care they extend to us. We trust their retirement will be as pleasant as they make ours. Any news fit to print, send to fresca@maine.rr.com.

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Here's the recipe for a successful outdoor event

What deep, dark secrets lurk behind the doors of Villa Riviera? Only "The Shadow" knows!

Well, actually, that's not quite true. Most residents at the green and terra cotta building at the corner of Ecuadorian Way and World Parkway are extremely friendly and their lives are pretty well open books. Many have even sat down with this reporter and shared their stories.

But the biggest mystery of all is their secret for a good time. Now, for the first time it will be revealed.

First and foremost, you have to put up a notice in strategic locations at the start of June advertising a "Summer Fling" in July and a sign-up date. Then add social directors to sit in the lobby and collect names and a nominal fee for supplies.

Have the social directors use the money to buy:

- 1) 15 lbs. of roast pork
- 2) 40 hot dogs
- 3) Four dozen hotdog/hamburger buns



- 4) Industrial-sized bag of coleslaw and a can of sauerkraut
- 5) Two ginormous watermelons
- 6) Mustard and ketchup
- 7) Tray of assorted cookies

Add in four crock pots, one BBQ, a "Never Trust a Skinny Chef" apron, five crazy volunteers and 40 fun-loving residents. Mix well.



Villa Riviera folks on hand for the building's big "Summer Fling" held last month.

Preset a Saturday in July to a breezy 85 degrees, hold the rain and spread the mixture evenly over six metal picnic tables in a pavilion built by a fantastic

condominium complex.

And the rest is no secret. A great time will be had by all.

Even "The Shadow" knows that!

ATTENTION WEST-SIDE DRIVERS

As you enter on World Parkway and approach Americus Boulevard, remember to come to a complete stop before making your turn. Do not pass a left-turning car on the right, inasmuch as that blocks the other driver's vision and could cause an accident. Remember to make a complete stop when you come to any stop sign within the On Top of the World community.

The other cars and pedestrians around you are depending on it, even though you may not see them. A "rolling stop" places you and others at risk of an accident. Stop, look both ways, and look in front of you. Thanks for being a cautious and safe driver!

DID YOU KNOW?

All applications for occupancy of a condo are available in the Community Service Office or on our Website!



otowclearwaterinfo.com

Which application do you need?

Application for Approval of Owner	<p>If you...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are purchasing a condominium • have inherited a condominium • are being added to a deed of a condominium
Application for Approval of Residency	<p>If you...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan to reside in a condominium in which you are NOT the owner (you are NOT listed on the deed)
Direct Owner Application for Lease Approval	<p>If you...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are leasing (renting) a condominium

ATTENTION DRIVERS & CYCLISTS

A reminder to drivers who may not realize that bicycle riders have the same rights and responsibilities of a car when entering and exiting the Belcher and Sunset Point entrances. Stay safety-sharp and read up on your "Florida Rules of the Road."



Four ways to turn your water ON and OFF to protect your property and your neighbor's property

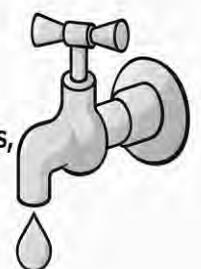
1. You can call 727-799-3417 (Option 6) weekdays from 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. or weekends from 7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. There is no charge for service during these hours.

For service calls from 5:30-9 p.m. weekdays or noon-7 p.m. weekends, call 727-799-1115. There is a \$35 charge (checks only, no cash).

2. Visit the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Friday. The office is closed noon-12:30 p.m.

3. Go online to otowclearwaterinfo.com and fill out a service request form online.

4. For emergency services, call 727-799-1115.



You must be present to have water turned on, not off. Payments must be made in checks only - no cash.

Box Office Sudoku

0	8	2	7	□	9	5	3	1	4
□	9	8	3	□	4	0	2	□	6
6	□	0	□	1	□	8	□	2	□
7	2	□	5	□	8	□	6	3	1
8	1	4	□	3	□	2	9	6	5
□	□	□	□	□	6	□	□	□	□
5	0	6	□	9	□	3	7	8	2
2	6	□	1	□	3	□	0	4	8
□	□	□	6	2	□	1	8	□	□
□	5	3	8	□	2	6	□	7	0

OTOW NEWS WORD MIX

Unscramble the six words listed below.
If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word of the month.
If you cannot come up with the secret word of the month, then redo at least one of the six scrambled words.

R D A I O

E S A D N

I E D I N V

I I N N A D

E R S I P P H

E N O R I H E

SECRET WORD:

Last month's scrambled words: thorn, audit, violet, eggnog, reverse, nirvana. Secret Word Last Month: tavern

OTOW NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS

This classified ad listing is a service to the On Top of the World community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and the ad wording must be 20 words or less, including phone number. Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. **If submitters' name, building and unit number are not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.** Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, units for sale or rent, or employment. Drop ads off at the newspaper office. We cannot accept ads over the phone. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, phone numbers are within the (727) area code.

FOR SALE

Bike, excellent condition, 21-speed, fits 5'7" or taller, includes two blinking handlebar lights/one blinking rear light. No reasonable offer refused. 387-9141

All crystal-designed pieces, priced together or separate: five crystal bowls, crystal heavy pitcher, two dolphins, oil/vinegar set \$150 OBO. 813-748-4959

Ladies right-hand golf clubs plus bag with box of new Top Flite balls, two bags of tees. 754-2794

Elliptical stationary bike \$75. 221-2995

White rattan dresser with drawers, shelves and door \$60; 4 red kids' chairs \$25; 2 white pottery lamps w/new shades \$50. 560-5710

Craftsman variable speed reciprocating saw, 1" stroke w/case/manual; Craftsman 4" dustless belt sander w/manual. \$45 each firm. Both used very little. 644-8524

Bigelow green tea, six boxes, 20 in each box \$10. 723-0240

Hearing aid batteries, ID +312, tan color, 8 to a card, 3 1/2 cards \$15. 797-9616

Queen-size comforter set, used once, olive green/gold, includes dust ruffle, decorative pillows, drapes & sheets \$65; two lamps \$10 each. 270-7900

Dining room table with two leaves & four chairs. 631-848-4198

Bedroom set, less mattress/box spring; 5-piece dining room set, great shape; 48" Samsung smart TV & stand; antique desk/antique bottle. 491-9124

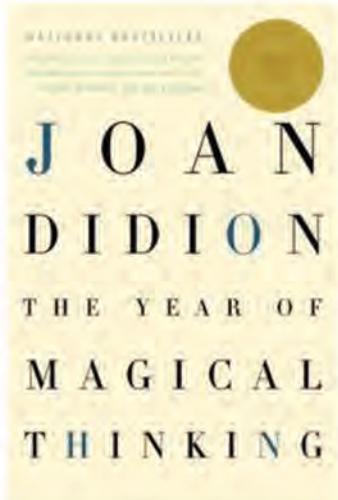
Car cover, fits compact/medium sizes, excellent condition, used once \$50. 474-7393

WANTED

Upholstering of small occasional chair: seat and flat back. Can text a photo for estimate. Leave message. 725-1376

**Check out
OTOW-TV
Channel 732**

Good
Karma
Book
Club



J O A N
D I D I O N

T H E Y E A R O F
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T H I N K I N G

10 a.m., Thursday, August 19
"The Year of Magical Thinking"
by Joan Didion

10 a.m., Thursday, September 16
"The Only Woman in the Room"
by Marie Benedict

Space in the Crystal Beach Room will be limited and safety guidelines will be in place.
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otowboxoffice.com - look for our link

Need more information, write to Jslantz1948@aol.com or call 727-754-3823

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- Botox Cosmetic
- Facial Vein Treatment

- Coolsculpting Body Shaping and Alma Accent Cellulite Procedure
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- Broken Blood Vessels
- Spider Veins
- Port Wine Stains
- Hemangiomas
- Birthmarks



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