

National Coloring Book Day is Aug. 2 and OTOW News has provided you with a free picture to color in. See page 23.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

August 2025 Published Since 1968 57 Years of Only Good News Volume 57 No. 8



Above are more than 20 Rio Riviera residents celebrating the Fourth of July at the Ozona Blue restaurant. Below is one day’s worth of fruits and vegetables Pat O’Beirne bought one morning at the Saturday Farmer’s Market at the East Activity Center.

OTOW has many wonderful activities for residents - add Saturday morning to your list

Living in Paradise on Shangrila Drive. Who could ask for anything more? Me. One of the reasons my husband, Jim, and I chose On Top of the World as our home was the variety of activity choices. A big shout of thanks to Activity Director Nancy Rogers for her tireless work coming up with activities. In case you didn’t know, Nancy is a one-person team. She does it all! I’m really enjoying our community’s newest activity - the Saturday Farmer’s Market located in the East Activity Center front parking lot. The picture you see with this article - it’s not a professional fruit photo from a magazine! It’s what I bought one Saturday morning! Thank you to Steve Pendlebury who was very busy sorting, stocking, displaying, pricing, selling and operating the cash register. I can’t imagine all the work involved in picking the freshest produce, driving tons of it to our tables, and then putting it on display - all for us. I bring a small grocery cart to carry what I purchase, which is always too heavy to carry. The Farmer’s Market begins at 11 a.m., but a word of advice, it takes until about 11:30 a.m. for Steve to get every-



thing ready. Give him a chance to display and price everything. Then get in line. Bring an umbrella - it’s hot out there. Steve will help you choose your pink pineapple, or which exotic peach or plum to enjoy. He’s been doing this for a long time, he knows his stuff. He’ll even halve a melon or pineapple for you. The Farmer’s Market ends at 4 p.m. If you haven’t tried the Saturday Farmer’s Market yet, it is better than buy one get one free or buy two and get two free at a local store. Steve accepts cash (small bills appreciated) and also accepts credit cards or debit cards. He has bags, but I bring my own



cloth reusable ones. Don’t forget the tip jar. Steve works hard for his money and I want him to come back! In building news, Rio Riviera celebrated the Fourth of July with a lunch

at Ozona Blue. You could probably tell from the photo what holiday we were celebrating. More than 20 of us were waving flags as we tried to pick from the menu.



Saturday Farmer’s Market

East Activity Center Front Parking Lot

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

11 am - 4 pm





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Don't lose sleep worrying about flooding in the On Top of the World community

Understanding Stormwater Drainage Flows

Besides tropical storms and hurricanes that deliver high volumes of water over several hours, there are also pop-up storms that can deliver an amazing volume of water in a very short time.

The pop-up storms, also called pulse storms or air-mass thunderstorms, may form over land or water bodies, wherever there is high heat and high humidity, and tend to be very localized.

Some of these events can disburse up to 6 inches of rain in a two-hour window.

I'm sure many of you have been driving into an innocent looking storm, only to have it turn into a very intense event that then dissipates (in what may seem forever). Congratulations, you've just experienced a pop-up storm.

The significance of this intensity storm is that you may experience the over-topping of your building's gutters and some localized water holding on the back patio and in the courtyard.

Once the storm ends, the standing water will percolate normally into the soil, which limits harmful erosion, and drain slowly (up to 24 hours) into the stormwater collection system and move out of the community. Rest assured, the finished floor in any condo is generally 4 inches above the patio, so rising water intrusion is unlikely.

It may be concerning to watch water rise behind your building, but just remember that the stormwater collection system is lower than your floor slab.



Thus, the possibility of having rising water enter a home is unlikely.

Because the On Top of the World Condominium stormwater system is designed around high-volume rain events, there has never been an event of rising water entering a condominium that this author is aware of.

If you are curious about current flood zones, you may view FEMA maps at: <https://hazards-fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8b0adb51996444d4879338b5529aa9cd>.

When prompted, enter in the address of 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, FL., 33763.

This is a good middle point to view the over-all boundaries of the OTOW Condominium Community. You will notice several areas displayed in an overlay color. Scroll down a little on the map and you will find a map legend that explains the colors and the flooding prob-

ability. You will notice that the majority of the community is not within any flood prone areas.

The areas of the community near creeks and other water bodies are in a very low probability zone (0.2 percent probability). This is not surprising given that creeks may top their banks under extreme conditions.

It should go without saying, NEVER drive into rising water. It is hard to gauge the depth and speed of the water.

Rising Water versus Wind-Driven Water

Wind-driven water is more common in high wind velocity situations where the rain is being pushed by the wind. In these situations, rain can literally be driven into the home around poorly installed windows and doors.

The old jalousie-style glass doors can be some of the biggest offenders.

The solution to that problem is to obtain Association approval to replace the

front or back doors, or leaking window frames with a Florida Building Code compliant door installed by a licensed professional.

It is also worth mentioning that poor owner maintenance on windows, like clogged weep holes, may play a substantial part in wind-driven water events. Swirling rain driven by storm-force winds may enter the building core and be blown beneath and around doors (especially the old jalousie type). This type of problem should be exceedingly rare. The solution is the same - door replacement by a license professional.

All this said, if you live on the first floor, and you are losing sleep worrying about another round of Category 3 hurricanes or greater storms, you always have the option of purchasing flood insurance individually. This author is not qualified to discuss this topic, other than to recommend you speak with your insurance broker.



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For water intrusion, create a ticket immediately

Gutters and Excessive Rain
Whenever there is an increased amount of rain, your Management Company and the Community Service Office may receive many concerns and inquiries regarding gutters.

Resident concerns include fear of water entering their condo through their windows and whether gutters will be able to hold large amounts of water received over a short period of time.

Requests include larger replacement gutters and inspections for water intrusions.

If your windows are properly installed and sealed, the water would naturally run down the building and not impact your condo.

Gutters are replaced when your building's new roof is installed. Gutters are sized for the roof area and anticipated storm events. That said, no gutter can capture all the runoff from a sudden, short-lasting cloudburst. In those cases, the overflow is deflected from the building by the gutter.

Should you experience water intrusion into your condo, regardless of whether it appears to be an internal source or external, please visit the Community Service Office in person or call 727-683-6981 to immediately submit a service ticket. This is for water intrusion only (and not the gutters).

If an incident is after hours, please call the after-hours number at 727-799-1115 and report it immediately. This allows staff to be more focused on rapidly finding the possible water source.

AppFolio

As a reminder, your Management Company has rolled out AppFolio property management software. It can be downloaded onto your mobile device and your home PC device by checking and downloading the app from the App Store or the Google Play Store.

The AppFolio portal gives you the capability to view such things as your current balance due, past payment history, full account ledger, as well as submitting a service request and viewing closed requests.

You also will be able to view shared documents, which include (but are not limited to) your Association's articles of incorporation, bylaws, declarations, rules, etc.

And finally, you can now update your personal information such as mailing address and/or email address.

Keeping your record up-to-date with the most current information ensures that you receive notifications and mailings from the Association.

Also, documents that would normally be posted only on the website will now only be posted to AppFolio.

If you did not receive an invitation or mistakenly marked the email as spam, please reach out to the Community Service Office for assistance. They can be reached at 727-683-6981.

**Upcoming Projects
Painting/Waterproofing**

By mid- to late-August, the residents in Building 41 should be seeing the painting contractor working on the front façade of their building.

This important, ongoing work involves the pressure washing of the masonry block, a thorough inspection of the surface, followed by sealing any



hairline cracks, an ample treatment of surface sealer, and finally followed by the application of a high-performance coating.

Once again, please keep in mind that when the painting contractor is operating on the front façade of buildings that they may require residents to temporarily relocate vehicles and move personal property from porches in order to perform this work.

Heavy equipment and specialized spraying equipment is used by the contractor so please keep this in mind and proceed safely in these work areas. Please use caution in these areas while the improvements are underway and be aware that inclement weather can affect these approximate start dates.

**Construction, Roofing
and Large Scope Projects**

There are no large-scale projects scheduled for August as this article goes to print.

**Recurring Reminders for
all Community Residents**

As a reminder, the Management Company performs enforcement efforts by removing all unapproved items placed in building common areas. This includes, but is not limited to, plants (live or artificial), personal items, non-exterior rated furniture, rusted chairs/tables or in disrepair and tchotchkes etc., as these items are not permitted to occupy common spaces.

These items will be removed and disposed of without further notice.

These ongoing enforcement efforts help keep the areas safe for first responders as well as maintain an aesthetically pleasing community for all to reside in. We ask that residents help keep the community's common areas in compliance by reporting violations of this nature to the Management Company.

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.

Inspection Services representatives will also be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproof coatings during the current 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.

If for some reason you are not at home when this work takes place, you may contact the Community Service Office and schedule a follow-up visit from the coating vendor.

First floor unit owners will continue receiving notification from the Inspection Services Department 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 Management Company asks if you receive a notification requiring action on your part, please remove the stones at the earliest convenience.

The removal of plantings located above and around potable water meters that service 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 continue to focus on the tagging and removal of portable barbeque grills, including propane, charcoal, or electric, which are not permitted in any building's common areas as they pose a fire risk to the structure and residents.

Only grills meeting approved Clearwater Fire Department standard are permitted on the patio of first floor units. If you're a first-floor unit owner and not sure if your grill complies, please stop by the Community Service Office to request a visit from our friendly Inspection Services staff.

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 Man-

agement Company.

**After-Hours
Emergency Information**

The On Top of the World emergency after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115. Please call this number, after hours, in the event of an emergency, such as a water intrusion into your condo. For all other inquiries regarding general issues or questions that are not service-related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office.

OTOW Alerts

Signing up for OTOW-ALERTS (powered by RAVE) is incredibly easy. Simply go to www.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 Clearwater Condominium Community.

As a reminder, when signing up for community and emergency alerts, be sure to enter your building number. You can select to receive notifications via text, telephone call, and/or email. You can select one, two, or all three notification options.

Should you wish to change your notification options you can do that by visiting the Community Service Office, calling 727-683-6981, or email at [www.associationinfo@otowfl.net](mailto:associationinfo@otowfl.net).

**Community Service Office
Information**

The Community Service Office 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 p.m., Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted.

If your call goes to voice mail, it is because the staff is 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.

Generally, all non-emergency service requests are assessed and addressed in the order in which they are received. 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 once.

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.



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Let’s all get on the same page with trash - OTOW adopts new recycling guidelines

By Diane Like
Board Chairperson

Recycling has been sparking conversations across On Top of the World and it’s no surprise why.

It’s the last topic I thought I would write about, but community interest has led the way.

I learned buildings have posters in their trash rooms outlining what can and can’t be recycled, but here’s a twist: Not all the posters match.

That’s led to a lot of confusion and questions from residents who genuinely want to do the right thing.

To help clear things up, I dug into the Waste Connections website and spoke directly with our local representative.

The goal?

To get the facts straight and share them with you.

The Glass Conundrum

Yes, it’s true.

One of the most common questions asked is, “Can we recycle glass?”

The answer might surprise you, “No, we can’t.”

Waste Connections confirmed that glass of any kind — bottles, jars, etc. — is not accepted in our recycling stream. If it’s glass, please toss it into the regular garbage bin.

While some programs do accept glass, our program simply does not.

Helpful Recycling Habits

What to do (and what not to do).

Even small missteps can cause big headaches for recycling facilities. Here are two simple things we can all do to keep the process running smoothly:

• **Plastic Bags**

It’s fine to carry recyclables in plastic grocery bags (Publix bags, for example), but don’t drop the bag itself into the recycling bin. Empty the contents into the blue bin and toss the plastic bag in the black garbage can.

These bags can jam machinery and contaminate an otherwise good load of recyclables.



• **Delivery Boxes**

We all love our deliveries, but those cardboard boxes can be a nuisance if left unflattened.

Please take a moment to break them down before putting them in the bin. A full-sized box takes up valuable space in a building’s recyclable bin and can leave the next person with no room for their recyclables.

Greasy Boxes and Tricky Questions

Residents have asked some great questions:

“Should I rinse my containers?”

“Can I recycle greasy pizza boxes?”

“What if something has both paper and plastic?”

We’ve compiled answers from Waste Connections and outlined what’s recyclable and what’s not. You’ll find the most common items listed at right — consider it your go-to cheat sheet for smarter recycling.

In Closing...

Recycling right isn’t just good for the planet — it’s a way to show respect for our neighbors and community.

With a few easy changes we can keep our program running smoothly and do our part to reduce waste.

Thank you to everyone who’s been asking questions and striving to get it right. Let’s continue working together to make OTOW a cleaner, greener place to live!

Quick Reference What Goes Where

Paper Products

Acceptable (Blue recycle bin):

- Newspapers
- Paperback books
- Cereal, cracker, and pizza boxes
- Milk cartons
- Amazon boxes (flattened, please!)
- Clean pizza boxes

Not Accepted (Black garbage bin):

- Wax-coated cardboard
- Paper bags with foil or plastic linings
- Paper towels, napkins, tissues
- Contaminated pizza boxes

Plastic Containers

Acceptable (Blue recycle bin):

- Bottles (water, juice, soda)
- Jugs (milk, detergent, tea)
- Tubs (butter, cool whip)

Not Accepted (Black garbage bin):

- Motor oil or antifreeze containers
- Garden hoses
- Biodegradable or compostable plastics
- Plastic wrap, baggies, rope
- Paint cans, toys, furniture
- Blister packs (gum/pill packaging)
- Coffee pod lids, absorbent meat pads

Styrofoam? Toss it in the black garbage bins.

Steel and Metal Containers

Acceptable (Blue recycle bin):

- Soda and iced tea cans
- Metal food containers (tuna, veggies, soup)
- Hair spray and shaving cream cans
- Disposable pie tins and baking trays

Not Accepted (Black garbage bin):

- Paint cans, propane tanks
- Coat hangers (return to your dry cleaner)
- Pots, pans, non-disposable bakeware
- Appliances, hardware, scrap metal
- Extension cords or metal wiring

New recycling guidelines community wide

WASTE CONNECTIONS

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RECYCLING DONE RIGHT

Items should be **empty, clean & dry**. Rinse only if needed.

WHAT GOES IN THE CART

PLASTIC Bottles, Jugs & Tubs	PAPER Mixed Paper, Cardboard, Cartons & Paperboard	METAL Aluminum, Steel & Tin Cans, Aerosol Cans & Aluminum Trays

What Does NOT Go In The Cart

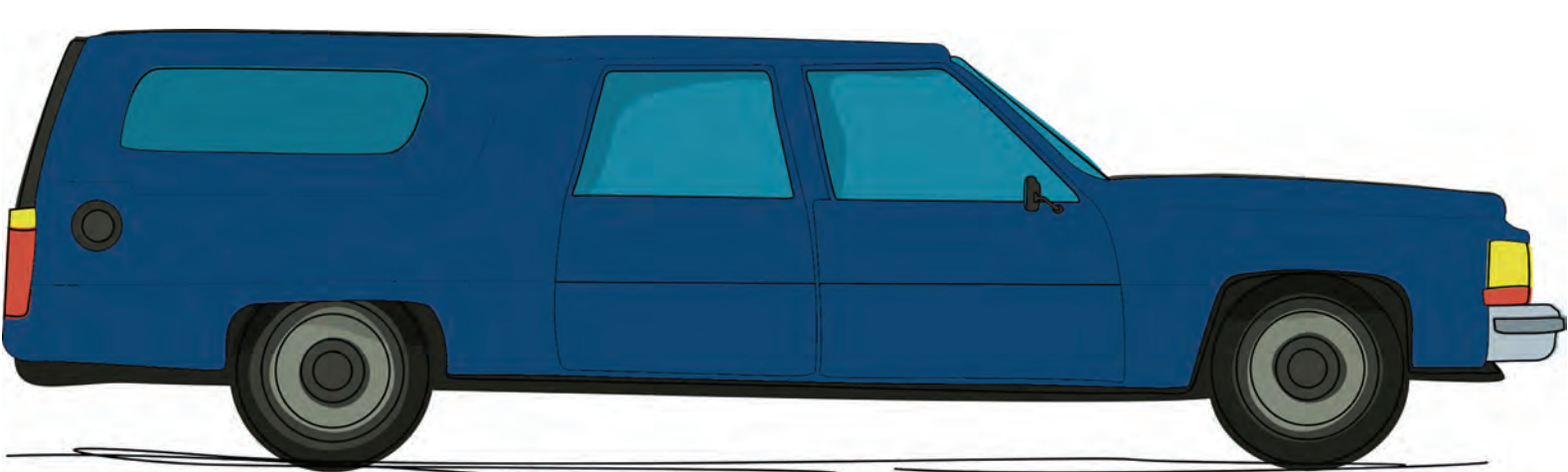
NO! No tanglers such as hoses, hangers, wires, chains, or electronics	No food, liquid, to-go containers, paper towels or dirty paper	No medical waste, needles, or sharp objects	No recyclables in bags and then throw bag in recycling bin. Do not recycle glass.
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DO NOT place a bag of recyclables in recycling bin.

If you collect your recyclables in a bag, please empty the recyclable contents into the recycling bin, but put the bag in the regular trash.

Thank you

You're driving along and come across a funeral procession - do you know what to do?



By Tara Still

You are driving down a road and encounter a funeral procession. Do you know how to respond?

Most important, be respectful. This is a solemn occasion.

A funeral procession is defined as two or more vehicles accompanying a deceased person's body, with headlights lit, and the lead vehicle (unless it's law enforcement) displaying a flashing amber light.

Pedestrians and other vehicles going in the same direction must yield to the procession, except for emergency vehicles or when directed by a police officer.

Drivers going the opposite direction do not need to follow these rules.

Most importantly, the procession has

the right of way. Once the lead vehicle passes through a green light, or a stop sign, the entire procession continues through without stopping.

So, if you are approaching a green light and a procession is going through a red light, you must yield to the procession.

Proper Identification

The procession must be clearly identified. This typically involves the lead vehicle having a flashing amber light (unless it's a law enforcement vehicle) and all vehicles in the procession having their headlights on.

Following Closely

Vehicles in the procession are ex-

pected to follow the preceding vehicle as closely as is practical and safe.

No Cutting In

Other drivers are prohibited from driving between vehicles in the procession if vehicles in the procession have headlights on.

You may drive between vehicles in a procession only if directed by a police officer.

Can you pass vehicles in a procession? Yes. You may pass the procession if the road has two or more lanes traveling in the same direction.

Yielding to Emergency Vehicles

Even with the right-of-way, drivers in a funeral procession must yield to

emergency vehicles that give an audible or visible signal.

Police Direction

Drivers in a procession must also yield when directed to do so by a police officer.

Due Care

While granted the right-of-way, vehicles in the procession must still exercise due care to avoid collision.

For more information, please visit the following website:

flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2018/0316.1974

A new address to contact board members

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Movie Night in July



Movie Night in July was attended by 50 residents. The film was ‘Bob Trevino Likes It’ and everyone received a free bag of popcorn. Movie Night will continue Aug. 13 with ‘The Friend’ at 4 p.m. For details, see Nancy Rogers column on page 8. *(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)*

Have you ever been told that restoring your teeth was hopeless?
Have you been led to believe that costly implants or uncomfortable dentures were your only option?

If the answer to either of these questions is yes, I have good news.




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A salute to everyone working after retirement - and the people who made it possible

Margaret Kuhn
It's hard for me to imagine my grandmother, at age 65, facing mandatory retirement in the late 1960s.
My grandmother was a nurse. She was affectionately known as "Mimi" and she did not want to retire.
She was a healthy-living role model to her grandchildren and an even greater inspiration than Popeye, who encouraged people to eat more spinach.
Mimi would flex her amazing upper arm muscles before serving each portion of spinach.
My Mimi lived to be 101 and so this mandatory retirement was particularly unfortunate for her.
But it was hospital policy, as well as the law of the land, that forced this mandatory retirement.
In fact, mandatory retirement in America was not fully abolished until 1986. The law might still be in effect if not for one intrepid activist by the name of Margaret Eliza "Maggie" Kuhn, who was born on Aug 3, 1905.
Margaret worked as a social worker for the United Presbyterian Church in New York for 25 years. She commuted from her home in Philadelphia and held various positions within the church's national office until she was forced to retire at the mandatory age of 65.
Rather than accept this as the end of her professional life, she viewed it as an opportunity to advocate for change.
In 1970, Margaret founded the Gray Panthers, an organization known for their bold actions, including public protests, to challenge ageism and better policies for older Americans.
Her philosophy was that everyone, regardless of age, has the right to participate fully in society and to influence the policies that affect their lives.
In the late 1970s, Margaret appeared on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show and other talk shows. I remember her first appearance with Johnny Carson and a weekly Gray Panther broadcast on New York public radio. I was only 18 years old, but thought this old bird has spunk!
She was certainly one-of-a-kind and born to lead this movement. A documentary was done about her life. It was called, "Maggie Roars."
Margaret passed away in 1995 at the age of 89, but the Gray Panthers continued to grow and became an international organization involved with combating ageism, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and transforming long-term care and broader social justice issues.
Today, whether you decide to continue working or stay active exploring new interests, no one will ever say, "You're too old!"
We have Margaret to thank.
In August I want everyone to remember and celebrate Margaret "Maggie" Kuhn.



Gentle Movement Exercise
In my role as Activity Manager, I gather insights from residents about various activities.
This year, with the new requirements for resident fitness instructors, our exercise classes have been the particular focus.
A notable highlight is Margaret LeTourneau's Gentle Movement Exercise Class, which is conducted while seated. Due to its size, the class is held in the East Activity Center Auditorium on Tuesday mornings at 11 a.m. and Friday afternoons at 3 p.m.
Intrigued by its popularity, I decided to explore what makes this class so special.
Lasting for one hour, the class is expertly guided by Margaret, who leads with the finesse of a seasoned professional from center stage.
For starters, Margaret encourages the class to shift away from daily worries to the needs of your body and self.
She instructs us that exercise should be challenging enough to cause fatigue, but not so intense as to cause pain.
Pain is a warning sign and no resident should push through it as this can lead to injury.
Margaret leads us through a series of skillfully integrated yoga stretches and breathing exercises enhancing the overall experience.
Midway through the class, Margaret turns the music on to bring up our energy to carry us through.
By the conclusion, participants experience a profound sense of well-being that touches on physical, mental and spiritual.
Now I understand why Margaret's Gentle Movement Exercise class is so wildly popular and very much appreciated.
On behalf of the residents who take her class, I want to thank Margaret for introducing Gentle Movement Exercise to our community. I am so appreciative of her dedication to residents and dedication to meeting SCA's professional requirements.
Fall Festival & Expo Nov. 1
On Top of the World clubs and groups can register for the 2025 Fall Festival & Expo until Thursday, Aug. 14.
Registration is very easy. Simply send an email to general_activity@

scacw.com with the name of the club or group. Please include a name, email address and phone number for one representative who will be responsible for receiving event communications from me.
That's all you have to do!
OTOW clubs and groups will not pay a fee for a table at the festival. But you must register by deadline, no exceptions.
Don't miss this opportunity to show off your club or group.
Meet new residents and register new members.
Tables are first-come, first-served and inside tables can be claimed and decorated the day before the event on Friday, Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. or the morning of the festival.
All other vendors (non-clubs or groups) will be required to complete a registration form at the OTOW website www.otowclearwaterinfo.com.
The deadline to register businesses and non-profit organizations is the same date, Aug. 14 (no exceptions).
Questions? Email or call Nancy Rogers at general_activity@scacw.com or call 727-799-2734.

Movie Night
The next Movie Night is 4 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 13, in the East Activity Center Auditorium.
We will be showing "The Friend."
"The Friend" was produced in 2024 by 3dot Productions and Big Creek. The director was Scott McGehee. The rating is R with a runtime of 120 minutes.
The cast includes Bill Murray, Naomi Watts, Cloé Xhaufaire, Constance Wu and Noma Dumezweni.
This film is about a solitary writer who adopts and bonds with a Great Dane that belonged to a late friend. She begins to come to terms with her past and her own creative inner life.
There will be seating for 80 resident, first-come, first-served. No reservations are required. Popcorn is free - one bag per resident.
Beat the heat and come inside to enjoy the film.

Saturday Food Truck Night
A new vendor, New York Barbeque, will be here from 3-7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9, in the East Activity Center front parking lot.
For dessert, please try new vendor Cocomos.
Then on Saturday, Aug. 30, from 3-7:30 p.m., Lobster Tank, Charm City Seafood and Lazy Crave Ice Cream will be here in the back parking lot.
As we cap off summer heading into Labor Day, let's enjoy some barbeque, seafood and ice cream from one new vendor and three tried and true vendors.
On Aug. 30, SCA will set up tables in the rear parking lot and we will be playing some recorded yacht rock tunes. You can dine outside in the parking lot or inside downstairs in the Clearwater Room. You also can pick up a meal and take it home. We hope to see you there.

One Blood
One Blood will be here from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Thursday, Aug. 14 at the East Activity Center front parking lot.
Residents can register to donate blood at Nancy's Bulletin Board at the otowclearwaterinfo.com website, in the Community Service Office or just show up that day.
All donors will receive a Tumbler, \$20 Ecards and mini wellness check-up, including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!
July Honor Roll: Anthony Richichi, Ava Ciolli, Cher Kim, Christopher Slaughter, Dale Rainwater, Daphne Longley, Dolores Wagner, Estelle


Lowe, Jeffrey Martin, John Foell, Keun Kim, Michael Hargett, Rachel Stone, Rex Doty, William Keane and William Price.
Healthy Steps
The Clearwater YMCA presents Healthy Steps for Older Adults - a fall prevention workshop.
This event will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon in the East Activity Center Largo Room.
Pre-registration is required.
Cathy Caceres, healthy living coordinator with the Clearwater YMCA will lead this fall prevention workshop. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Maximum registered is 30 residents per class.
The workshop will also return in the winter.
Healthy Steps for Older Adults is an evidence-based, fall risk screening and education class for adults age 65 or older. This program consists of one three-hour workshop focused on fall prevention, covering topics such as proper footwear, safety at home, good nutrition for bone health and the importance of exercise.
Participants will learn at-home exercises to improve strength and balance, and receive information about other fall prevention programs.
It's a powerful session with practical takeaways and it's free!
Each attendee will receive fall prevention gifts to take home, including a grabber stick, night light and anti-slip mats.
To Register, please email Nancy Rogers at general_activity@scacw.com. Include your name, address and telephone number and reference "Healthy Steps for Older Adults." That's it.
How Do I Make A Reservation On The Calendar?
The first step for making a reservation on the calendar is to email or call the Activity Office with the type of event you are planning and preferred date and location.
Send an email to general_activity@scacw.com or call 799-2734. This starts the process.
Once we confirm all the details, you will fill out the SCA Online Facility Request Form.
Visit: otowclearwaterinfo.com, click on "Community Activities" and "Forms" and select the SCA Online Facility Request Form. Complete and sign the form with your mouse or finger and click submit.
I will acknowledge receipt in an email. This form works better if you use Google as your browser.
Paper forms are still available and can be picked up and dropped off in the Community Service Office where I have a mailbox. Please complete the form outside of that busy office and then drop it off. I will acknowledge receipt in an email or phone call.

Activity Card Renewal
The Community Service Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed from noon to 12:30 p.m. for lunch).
You must bring a valid, government issued photo ID, a recent piece of mail showing your name and OTOW address, and your most recently issued Activity Card.
There is no fee for renewals, however, if your card has expired (all fiscal years have been punched at the bottom), a new card is required and the fee is \$3.
If you do not have your most recently issued Activity Card or Access Card, the fee is \$25 for a replacement.
If you already have an Access Card, there is no charge to renew. If you need an Access Card, there is a \$7 charge.

Join The Honor Roll

DONATE BLOOD

YOU HAVE GREATER POWERS THAN YOU KNOW.




On Top of the World
Thursday, August 14
10 am - 3 pm

Appointments are encouraged. Please visit oneblood.org/donate-now.
Or just show up at the bus.

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information, please visit oneblood.org/details.

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Share your power.



\$20 Ecard

Blood pressure check
cholesterol screening
pulse, iron count,
temperature.

August Calendar

Aug. 2 is
Ice Cream
Sandwich Day



Special Events

Saturday, Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Farmers Markets, 11 am - 4 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
Saturday, Aug. 9 - Food Truck Night, 3 - 7:30 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
Tuesday, Aug. 12 - New York-New Jersey Club NY Block Party, 5 - 9 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
Wednesday, 13 - Movie Night, 4 pm, "The Friend," East Activity Center Auditorium
Thursday, Aug. 14 - OneBlood, 10 am - 3 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
Saturday, Aug. 16 - Entertainment Committee Dance - Louis Bravo Trio - 7:30 - 10:30 pm, EAC Auditorium
Saturday, Aug. 30 - Food Truck Night, 3 - 7:30 pm, East Activity Center Back Parking Lot
Club Information Tables, Thursdays Only, 8:30 - 10:30 am, East Activity Center Auditorium
Wednesday, Sept. 3 - Association Board Meeting - 1 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium (also Live QTCW-TV 901)

Clubs and Groups

- Art Guild - Board Meeting: No board meeting this month
Art Guild - Business Meeting: No business meeting this month
Art Guild - Club Meeting: No meeting scheduled
Art Guild - Summer Art Program: 1-4 pm, Thursdays, Large Room
Art Guild - Painting Plus: 1-4 pm, Wednesdays, room open to club members
Art Guild - Acrylic Painting: 1-4 pm, Thursdays, room open to club members
 Baby Boomers: 5:30-6:30 pm, Aug. 6; 5:30-6:30 pm, Aug. 21, Large Room
Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: 10 am-1 pm, Thursdays, Learning Lab
 Bible Study: 2-3 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach Room
 Bingo: 8 - 10 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Canadian Club: Off for the summer
Caring and Sharing: 8 am-11 am, Tuesdays, Clearwater Room
 Chorus: Off until the fall
 Gardening Book Club: 12-3 pm, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room
 Computer Club: 8:30-10 am, Wednesdays and Saturdays, Learning Lab
 Democratic Club Board Meeting: 2-4 pm, Thursday, Aug. 28, Crystal Beach Rm
 Democratic Club Meeting: 2-4 pm, Thursday, Aug. 14, Learning Lab
Democratic Club Happy Hour: 5-8 pm, Tuesday, Aug. 26, Learning Lab
 Entertainment Com. Board: 10:30-11:30 am, Monday, Aug. 11, Crystal Beach
 Fishing, Fiddlers, Fumblers: No upcoming events
Freelists Weight Loss Group: 10:00 am-12:30 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach
 French Language & Culture: 11 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Dunedin Room
 Good Karma Book Club: 10-11:30 am, Thursday, Aug. 21, Crystal Beach Room
 Good Neighbors Association: No upcoming events
 High Vibe Tribe: 1-4 pm, Tuesday, Aug. 12, Clearwater Room
 Hish Club: No upcoming events
 Italian-American Club: No upcoming events
 Jesters Board Meeting: No upcoming meetings
Jesters Meeting: No upcoming meetings
 Kibitz Corner: 9-10 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, Clearwater Room
 Knitting Group: 9-11 am, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room
 Lombardi Social: 8-11 pm, Thursday, Aug. 14, Clearwater Room
Lombardi Chat: 10:30-12, Fridays, Safety Harbor Room
 Lunar Bowl Club: No upcoming events
 Music Group: 2-4 pm, Tuesdays, Dunedin Room
 New York-New Jersey: 5-9 pm, Tuesday, Aug. 12, Auditorium
 Pebblebrook Club: 10-11:30 am, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room
 Plant-Based Living Club: 3-4 pm, Wednesday, Aug. 13, Learning Lab
 Petaluma Club Board Meeting: 1-3 pm, Monday, Aug. 18, Crystal Beach
Petaluma Club Game Night: 6:30-9:30 pm, Monday, Aug. 18, Ballroom
 Pony Far Amante: 10 am-12 pm, Saturdays, Crystal Beach Room
 Pride Association: 2 pm, Thursday, Aug. 7, Gaps Up Grill meeting
 Republican Club Meeting: No meetings
Republican Club Picnic: Not rescheduled
Speak English: 10-11 am, Thursdays, Dunedin Room
 Tennis Club: No upcoming events
 Texas Card Game Club: 3-10 pm, Friday, Aug. 1, Clearwater Room
 Theater Production Meeting: 8:00 - 8:30, Wednesday, Aug. 6, Ballroom Rm
 Travel Club: No meeting in July
 Veterans Club: No upcoming events
 World Quilters: 2 am-2 pm, Tuesdays, Large Room
 Writer's Ink: Off for summer

Exercises and Games

- Aqua Aerobics: 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, BAC Pool
Basketball: 8-9 am, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Clearwater/Beach Room
Go-Go Golfers: 10-10:45 am, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Dunedin Room
Dance: 1-3 pm, Mondays, Ballroom Room
Dance Movement Exercises: 11 am-12 pm, Tuesdays and 3-4 pm, Fridays, BAC Auditorium
Bikedom: 11-12 am-12-13 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, BAC Exercise Room
Ladies Exercise: 9-9 am, Monday-Friday, Exercise Room
Line Dance Club: 1-3 pm, Tuesdays, Auditorium
Moving + Grooving Line Dance: 8:30-10:45 am, Tuesdays | 12:30-2:45 pm, Fridays, BAC Auditorium
Qigong: 2-4 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Exercise Room
Stress Relief: 9-10 am, Monday through Friday, Dunedin Room
Swimming: Line Dancing: Off until fall
Swim Dance with Hula: Off in August
Tai Chi Flow: 2:15-4:15 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Exercise Room
Yoga: Yoga and Stretch: 10-11:15 am, Mondays, Ballroom Room
 3 Ladies Golf: 8:30 am, Tuesdays
4 Ladies Golf: 8:30 am, Tuesdays
Billards Social: 8-10 pm, Mondays and Tuesdays
Billards 2 ball: 1-3 pm, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 - 10 pm, Tuesdays
Billards Events Room
Mens Golf: 9 am, Wednesdays
Mixed Golf: 8 am, Fridays
Lawn Bowling: 8:15 am, Mondays and Wednesdays | 9 am, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
Pickleball: 10 am-12 pm Mon, Wed, Fri | 8-10 am, Tue, Thu, Sat | 8:00-10:00, Tue, Wed, Thu | 9-12, Saturdays
Pond Ping: 10-11, Tuesdays, Fridays, Ballroom Room
Raffish Social: 8 pm, Saturdays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Schnitz: 1-4 pm, Off until fall
Tennis: 7-10 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays | 10-11, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
 All in: 3-4 pm, Wednesday, July 2, Crystal Beach Room (new)
Board Games: 1-3 pm, Wednesdays, Palm Harbor H. Harbor Room
Bocce: 9:30-10:30 pm, Thursdays and July, Ballroom Room (community club meeting)
Big House: 8:30-9:30 pm, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room
Class Bridge: 1-4 pm, Tuesdays | 9 am-10 pm, Thursdays, Dunedin Room
Cribbage: 10 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, Dunedin Room
Dinner: 5:30 - 8 pm, Tuesdays, Dunedin Room
Dinner Deck Picnics: 1-3:30 pm, Wednesdays and Saturdays, Dunedin Room
Ladies Bunch: 8-9:30 pm, Wednesday, Aug. 28, Crystal Beach Room
Mailing: 1-4 pm, Tuesdays, Fridays, Palm Harbor Room
Mailing Secretary: 5-6 pm, Mon. & Wed., Aug. 11-27, Palm Harbor Room
Mexican Train: 1-3 pm, Thursdays, Safety Harbor Room
Dinner: 1-4 pm, Mondays, Dunedin Room
Puzzle: 12:30 - 1:30 pm, Monday, Dunedin Room
Selling Plant & Fowl: 9:30 - 1:30 pm, Fridays, Dunedin Room
 Rouge Poker: 5-8 pm, Wednesdays, Safety Harbor Room
Rory's Poker: 8:25 - 9:30 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, Dunedin Room
Rory's Poker: 8-10:30 pm, Tuesdays, Safety Harbor Room
Dana's Poker: 8-9 pm, Wednesdays and Fridays, Safety Harbor Room
Laura's Poker: 5-6 pm, Fridays, Safety Harbor Room
Rory's Poker: 5-6 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, Dunedin Room
Tom's Poker: 5-6 pm, Wednesdays, Safety Harbor Room

Building Events

None

Swimming Pool: 8-8:30 Mondays-Saturdays, 9-9:30 Sundays | Workshop: 8-12 Monday-Friday | Library: 10-12 Mondays & Thursdays, 1-3 Wednesdays



Louie Bravo returns Aug. 16 and Halloween Dance tickets are on sale

By Mary Ann O’Neil

Just a reminder that there are no shows throughout the summer months, however, we do have dances. So get your neighbors and friends together and come out and support our Entertainment Committee dances. On July 19, the Ralph Roger’s duo Three’s Company entertained us at our monthly dance. Three’s Company performed for us last year and their wonderful voices blended for many great dance songs. Even though our steamy weather has been overwhelming, Three’s Company got us out on the dance floor for a fun evening. August is upon us and it is hard to believe that summer is almost over.

Time goes by when you are having fun. Join us on Saturday, Aug. 16, for our monthly dance featuring the Louie Bravo Trio. This trio brings all types of music from classics, oldies, Latin, Cumbia, Salsa and much more. Many of you have seen Louie Bravo perform around the area so you know it will be a fun evening. If you haven’t seen this trio, you are missing a fun evening. Remember, dance tickets are only \$10. You can reserve your seat and you are welcome to bring your own beverages and snacks. We provide coffee and ice as well as great entertainment. Shorts are not allowed at Entertainment Committee dances. This includes

both females and males. We would hate to have to ask you to leave. Those of you who have not yet purchased your Halloween (\$15) or New Year’s Eve tickets (\$30), this is a good time to do so. The earlier you purchase your tickets, the better chance you have of selecting the table you want. These two dances are our biggest dances of the year and we are always sold out. During the summer months, the Entertainment Committee will be selling tickets on Thursdays only between 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Even though we do not have shows during the summer, you can still purchase show tickets. Our shows will start back up in October.

We have three shows left for the year: Oct. 23 – Beatle Maniacs. Nov. 20 – Divas of the ‘70s and ‘80s. Dec.18 – Voices of Jazz. All of our past shows have been sold out, so get your tickets early for the best seats. All shows are \$20 per person. There are several ways to keep track of our summer events. We promote on OTOW-TV channel 901, on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) and on your building bulletin boards as well as at both activity centers. If you have any questions, please call 727-449-9243 or 215-431-4799. On behalf of the On Top of the World Entertainment Committee, thank you all for your support!

June 21 in the Auditorium



The Boomer Band entertained us during a previous Food Truck Night and they were back in June providing music in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Dances continue this month with the Louie Bravo Trio. *(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)*



July 19

During the Three’s Company dance on July 19, a line dance broke out. Not only could residents listen to music, but the dance floor was open to a variety of steps. *(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)*

Committee



Louie Bravo Trio



7:30 pm, Saturday, Aug. 16

Tickets on sale at the Entertainment Committee information table on Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 am, EAC Auditorium

Entertainment Committee Calendar

AUGUST

16 - Louie Bravo Trio (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10

SEPTEMBER


20 - At Large (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10

OCTOBER

23 - Beattle Maniacs (show), 7:30 pm, \$20

25 - South Shore Cruisers (dance), 7:30 pm. \$15

No shows June-September. New Year's Eve Ball Wednesday, Dec. 31. More info call 727-449-9243 or 215-431-4799



Each month, OTOW artist Irene Piper will be providing each Pet of the Month winner with a pet portrait based on their submitted photograph.

The owner will be contacted when each portrait is finished.

If you would like to contact Irene and request your own pet portrait, she is receiving emails at lois-lane96@hotmail.com.

Irene does not take the initial photograph. You must submit a photo and she will create the painted portrait based on the picture.

Irene also can be reached at 617-921-3272.

Pet of the Month



Woodrow Wilson

Hi. I'm Woodrow Wilson, a 14 pound miniature dachshund. I just celebrated my 11th birthday and I live in the New World French building (1) with Suzanne Vesely.

I am a perfect combo of sass and class!


I have a BIG personality and attitude.

I have selective hearing, but I'm playful.

I'm stubborn, but spunky, and yet the lady dogs of the building love me!

I am fearless, brave and loyal to my mom and very happily retired here in Florida!

Each month, OTOW News will feature a Pet of the Month. Any pets living at On Top of the World are eligible. To enter your pet, email one perfect photo and a brief reason why your pet deserves to be Pet of the Month. Email to otow.newsroom@gmail.com. You must include your pet's name, owners' names, breed of dog, age of dog and building you live in. You can enter more than one pet per household but they all must be in the same picture. The winning pet each month will receive a portrait for Irene Piper. The newsroom will notify you when your portrait is finished. Each monthly winner then becomes eligible for the State Farm Pet of the Year, which takes place with an online vote each January. Your pet must still be a resident of OTOW on Jan. 1 to be eligible for the State Farm Pet of the Year honors. The State Farm Pet of the Year will be announced in February and gets invited to march in the annual Irish Club Parade.



Guidelines for Riding the Shuttle Bus

- 1. You **MUST** have a valid Activity Card and present it to the driver upon entering the bus. The SCA bus service is exclusively for use by Association-approved residents and guests only. If you do not have a valid Activity Card, you may not ride the shuttle bus.
- 2. Reservations are **REQUIRED** - please call (727) 799-3417, Option 7 no later than 10 a.m. the day prior to your planned trip. Monday's trip deadline is 10 a.m. Friday.
- 3. Please be present in the care of your building at your scheduled pick-up time.
- 4. Shopping time is one hour for grocery stores and one hour for Walmart. Shopping time begins when you are dropped off at your destination.
- 5. Although appreciated, the driver is prohibited from accepting gifts and tips.
- 6. The driver may not assist you with entering or exiting the bus, or with your packages. Please do not ask the driver to do so.
- 7. The start time listed is when the shuttle bus departs the Community Service Office.
- 8. The pick-up schedule will rotate weekly between low and high buildings. Incoming one week pick-up will start with lower-numbered buildings and the following week it will start with the higher-numbered buildings.
- 9. Seating is not assigned. They are first-come, first-served.
- 10. Seatbelts must be fastened during bus movement and must remain fastened until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- 11. Eating, drinking, smoking, vaping, lighting, distracting the driver, or any other unacceptable actions at the discretion of the driver are strictly prohibited on the bus. Violation of the above guidelines may result in your bus privileges being revoked.
- 12. All route changes are at the discretion of management.

Bus Schedule August

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SHOP	BUS
Mondays	10:00 AM	Publix	1 hour	NC
Tuesdays	No Rides			
Wednesdays	10:00 AM	Walmart	1 hour	NC
Thursdays	10:00 AM	Walmart	1 hour	SCA Shuttle
Fridays	10:00 AM	Aldi	1 hour	NC

For next day reservations, please call before 10 a.m.
Call (727) 799-3417, Option 7

SCA - OTOW Shuttle Bus
NC - Neighborly Car Bus



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(OTOW)

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(Safety Harbor)

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On Top of the World News

Only Good News since 1968

Publisher: Kenneth Colen

Editor: Doug Kates

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On Top of the World News - 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, FL.,33763
Phone: (727) 799-3216 Hours: 9-5 Monday through Thursday, 9-2 Fridays
Deadline to advertise is the 15th of each month | **Next delivery is Aug. 29, 2025**
OTOW News can be read online at otowboxoffice.com | Advertising Rate Sheet is online under the front page

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If you submit an article or photograph to On Top of the World News, you are giving this newspaper permission to publish it - not only in the next edition, but any future edition, in print or online. If you submit a photo, please make sure people in that photo are aware you have turned it in for print and online publication. On Top of the World is not responsible for publishing people's images who wish to remain private. The individual submitting the image is responsible.

On Top of the World News may not be made available on any website except otowboxoffice.com, ontopoftheworldnews.com and otowclearwaterinfo.com. Uploading any link to another website is prohibited. The contents of OTOW News are copyrighted.

On Top of the World News is located at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, Fla., 33763. The office phone is 727-799-3216. The newspaper and advertising rate sheet are available by visiting the Box Office website and clicking the link for downloading the current newspaper. Look for the rate sheet icon. Past editions of OTOW News are also available on the same website. Each edition is uploaded about the first of each month.

Proofreaders This Edition

Joanne Cordes
Donna Gagnon
Tara Still
Pat Hayes
Lyn Taecker
Patti Branch

Around The World

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3: Ken Colen	17: Democratic Club	33: Art Guild
4: Dessa Barabba	18: Computer Club	34: 25 Years Ago
5: Association Board	19: Travel Club	34: Yoshimitsu
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East Activity Center Ground Floor

East Activity Center First Floor

East Activity Center Second Floor

West Activity Center

Pavilion Park

East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Community Service Office
727-683-6981

Activities Office
727-799-2734

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off
727-799-3417 Option 6

Emergency After Hours/Weekends
727-799-1115

Association Board Members: Chairperson Diane Like, Vice Chair Dave Kelly, Treasurer David Everett, Secretary Russell Bolin, Mike Elza, Janet Hooper, Les Meneilly, Dale Prunoske, Kathleen Cassel.

You can now send emails directly to the board: ClearwaterInfo@otowfl.net

Scammers learn from psychologists how to sweet talk people into making mistakes

Scam Alert

I am getting anywhere from four to five texts every day warning me that Social Security checks are being stopped, or this disaster is happening or that calamity will take place, blah, blah, etc., etc.

All I have to do is donate to this cause or that one or who knows what and I'll be saved.

I am 100 percent positive that most of you have received the same or similar messages. Please, block and delete them, or just delete them, but DO NOT REPLY.

Most of these messages are true phishing scams. Some may not be actual scams, but even so, once you contribute, they've got you!

Delete, delete and delete.

There are three words with which I want you to be familiar. Three wonderful words: "BLOCK," "DELETE" and "NO."

Block scam texts and emails.

Delete scam texts and emails.

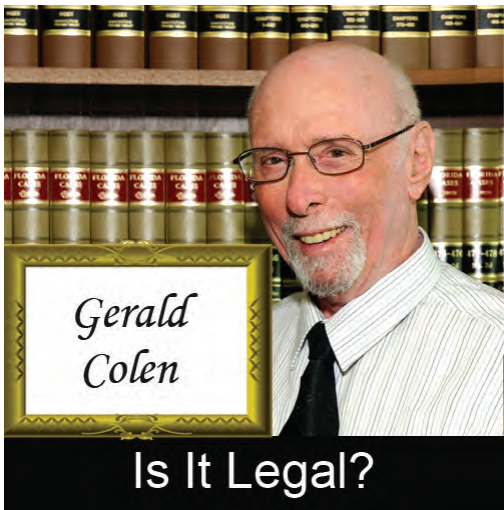
Say NO to texts and emails (or to anyone) asking for money.

NO is such a wonderful word and it is easy to spell and easy to say. It works for scams, even for children and grandchildren scams.

Scam Alert

How about this one!

A few days ago, I was on a website



and all of a sudden without any warning, a pop up ad appeared on my computer.

It said my computer was infected by some virus, or whatever, and it was terribly harmful.

All I had to do was click on a link that was right there on the pop up.

Well, folks. One thing I knew NOT TO DO was click ANYWHERE on that pop up.

And I didn't.

Instead, I shut down my computer—"Control-Alt-Delete."

I'm technologically challenged, and I did know that was the wrong way to shut down a computer, but I didn't have one of my grandchildren around to look with pity at me, sigh and then say, "Do this, grandpa."

So, I shut down and hit restart and that took care of the problem.

The pop up was gone.

Look here!

If you ever receive a pop up ad that just suddenly appears on your computer screen, it is always, always, always a scam. No exceptions. Do whatever you have to do to get rid of it immediately. It is a scam!

Q. You seem fixated on scams. Do you think that we are not educated enough, or not smart enough, to be able to handle them?

A. Well, I don't know about you, but I'm not even close to being educated enough or smart enough to protect myself from being scammed.

Scammers are more and more sophisticated and intelligent enough to fool anyone.

I've recently learned from a seminar put on by the office of the Florida Attorney General's office, that many scammers hire psychologists to teach them how to engage with folks who resist them or who might be skeptics.

Scamming is a multi-billion-dollar industry. Yes, an industry. And over the years I've had several clients who have lost thousands upon thousands of dollars to phishing scams. Worst of all are the romance scams.

So, yeah. I am fixated on scams.

Q. Do you talk just the same way as you write?

A. Yeah. But I cuss a lot, too.

(Jerry Colen, Rachel Wagoner and John Beck are law partners in Colen & Wagoner, P.A. Jerry and Rachel are members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. John has a master's degrees in taxation, accounting and a degree in finance. The law firm practices in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, real estate, elder law, asset protection for business and professionals. This column does not, nor is it intended to, provide legal advice to anyone. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for any situation, even if it appears similar to an issue you face. You should always consult with your own attorney for legal advice. The law offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. is located at 1756 North Belcher Road, Clearwater, FL., 33765 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons across from the ice cream shop. Phone numbers in Ocala and in Clearwater are (727) 545-8114. Our website is www.colenwagoner.com. For more information, send an email to Info@colenwagoner.com.)



Anna Marie Flallos tells residents they do not have to pay \$75 if their computer becomes locked. (Photo by Doug Kates)

Residents learn about the latest scams

By Doug Kates

Anna Marie Fiallos was back in our community on July 9 and more than 30 residents attended to make sure they wouldn't become the next scam victim.

Anna Marie is an investigator and outreach coordinator for Pinellas County Consumer Protection. She makes it her job to try to protect residents from becoming victims of scams. Problem is, the scammers keep getting better and better, and even people who think they know what a scam is, can get hooked right into the next scam.

Anna Marie told On Top of the World residents about one of the longest-running scams in the world - the grandparents scam. That's when you receive a phone call or email from someone claiming to be a relative, who is allegedly homeless, in trouble with the law, in jail and desperate for a loan. Many times, the scammer on the other end of the phone call or email message simply says "this is your grandson" without giving a name. "I need money."

Please don't fall for it.

Anna Marie said she gave this lecture one time and

a resident admitted to being scammed out of \$1000. The victim really thought her grandson needed money. Then another gentleman spoke up and said he was scammed out of \$10,000. He received a phone call that a relative desperately needed \$5000 and a short time later the same relative needed another \$5000. The victim was scammed out of \$10,000.

How do you avoid the grandparents scam? Get the name of the relative. Tell the relative you are hanging up the phone and will call them back. If the relative is not home, or claims to be in jail or in custody, then call the parents of the relative.

Ask questions. Ask the relative simple questions over the phone. See if they provide answers. Most likely, the scammer will hang up.

Anna Marie said you might receive a message on your computer that your computer has been locked and you have 72 hours to pay to have it fixed. This is a scam. You don't need to pay \$75 or any amount to have someone unlock your computer.

If two people come to your front door and say they are workers assigned to your unit, don't let them in.

Even if the workers look professional, don't let them in.

Anna Marie talked about a distraction scam where one worker will talk to you at the front door while the other worker goes inside your unit looking for things to steal. Don't fall for it! If you have an appointment with a company, make sure you ask for company ID. Look for the company truck in the parking lot. Look for a logo on their shirt. If you are not sure what to do, lock your door and find a neighbor to assist you.

Anna Marie also talked about the Toll Booth Scam. You may receive a letter that you have not paid a toll and you are in serious legal trouble. This is a scam. Do not send money to pay a toll. If you do happen to drive through a toll and receive a bill from the state, pay it immediately so you will have no doubts later that the bill was already paid.

Anna Marie will be back again another day. You might think you are invisible to scammers, but think again. They are getting better and more clever. It might be a good thing to come and listen to Anna Marie the next time she visits On Top of the World.



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† Hours vary by club.

†† Free Shipping for *Plus*: As of Aug. 19, with qualifying orders of \$50 or more, Sam's Club *Plus* members receive free shipping on all eligible online items denoted by a Free Shipping for *Plus* tag, up to a total of 10 addresses. Free shipping for *Plus* is available in the U.S. (excludes Puerto Rico, Guam, the US Virgin Islands and PO Boxes). Free Shipping for *Plus* is limited to ground shipping. Limited items are available for free shipping to Military AP/FPO addresses. Free shipping is available for online items only. Exclusions apply see [SamsClub.com/FreeShipping](#).

††† Curbside Pickup is always free for *Plus* members. As of Aug. 19, Club members get free Curbside Pickup on eligible items when they spend a minimum of \$50. Otherwise, \$4 fee per order.

¹ Same-day delivery services are offered by Sam's Club within a 15-mile radius of participating Sam's Clubs during a certain window of time of placing the order. Same-day delivery is not guaranteed and may change due to availability, weather, labor issues, or other factors. Active Sam's Club membership required. The standard delivery fee for Club members is \$12.00. Free delivery for *Plus* with minimum spend of \$50. Otherwise, \$8 fee. Delivery not available in Puerto Rico. Some items are not eligible for delivery including but not limited to gift cards, tires, flowers, prescriptions, café items, mobile phones, and alcohol and tobacco products. Other restrictions apply. Visit [SamsClub.com/delivery](#) for complete delivery terms. Order by 2pm for Same-Day Delivery.

² Instant Savings offers are valid in U.S. clubs, excluding Puerto Rico, with a U.S. membership. Visit [SamsClub.com/TermsAndConditions](#) or see a Club Associate for additional details.

ACTIVITY REPORTS



On Top of the World Ronald Reagan Republican Club members were allowed to partake in a press conference held by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis. Above, the governor displays two bills that were approved on June 23. (OTOW News photo by Jesse Tiamson)

Republican Club members attend a state press conference on condo matters

By Deborah Russell

Members of the Ronald Reagan Republican Club attended a press conference June 23 held by Governor Ron DeSantis.

In attendance was club President Deborah Russell.

"I was able to invite a few more club members to join me," Deborah said. "Vice President David DiNardo and several others joined us."

The press conference covered two new state bills related to condo associations in Florida. The bills, House Bill 913 and House Bill 393 were signed

during the press conference.

Approval for the bills came the day before the fourth anniversary of the Champlain Towers collapse.

The bills will provide new measures to build reserves and prioritize repairs.

Senator Ed Hooper, House Representative Kimberly Berfield, Senator Nick DiCeglia and Linda Cheney spoke about related topics.

Governor DeSantis said, "I think that this will provide relief, but to the extent that there needs to be some cleanup next year when the legislature reconvenes. We've got to be willing to do

that."

The new bills went into effect on July 1.

Our club will resume meetings on Sept. 2 at the West Activity Center Belleaire Room starting at 6 p.m. with a light supper, cold drinks and desserts.

The general meeting will begin at 6:45.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Adam Ross, Pinellas County tax collector.

Questions or comments, please contact Deborah Russell at 727-515-8211, or email her at debruss11@gmail.com.



Democratic Club discusses whether politicians should be concentrating more on overall population

By Dave Beaven

The Democratic Club has continued to stay active over the summer.

Last month at our club meeting, we watched a video interview on politics and society. It was called: What If We Tried Something Different?

The guest was an educator named Joanna Johnson. Her view is that the political parties and society in general have gotten too wrapped up in consumerism and wealth consciousness.

Concentration of wealth leaves the great majority of people behind struggling to support themselves and their families.

Political parties are too beholden to



rich campaign donors and their concerns.

Joanna advocates for more focus on

caring for the population as a whole to assist with housing, health, education and job opportunities for a better society.

You can see the interview on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrPyC5k81Gg>.

Many people in our country these days are getting their news from a variety of social media outlets: podcasts, Facebook, Instagram, cable news, etc. There is no Walter Cronkite to tell us, "That's the way it is."

So as a club, we are adjusting how we do business.

We will continue to schedule guest speakers, but we will also share infor-

mation online from other sources.

A number of us also participate outside of On Top of the World in local demonstrations.

In addition, we are collecting food donations at our meetings to support a local food bank.

You are welcome to attend one of our events. The club meets monthly on the second Thursday at 2 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab.

There are also a variety of other get togethers each month. If you'd like to find out more about our club, go to worlddemsclub.blogspot.com or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

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3-7:30 pm, Saturday, Aug. 30, EAC Back Parking Lot

Lobster Tank, Charm City Seafood, Lazy Crave Ice Cream



Is it time for you to upgrade your computer to Windows 11? Computer Club members can help

By Scott Mascitelli and Joe Wisinski

Microsoft Windows, the software that runs your computer, is undergoing a major change on Oct. 14. Windows 10, which you may have currently, is no longer going to be supported.

What does that mean?

It doesn't mean that Windows 10 won't work. It means that Microsoft will no longer provide security updates to your computer.

That's a problem.

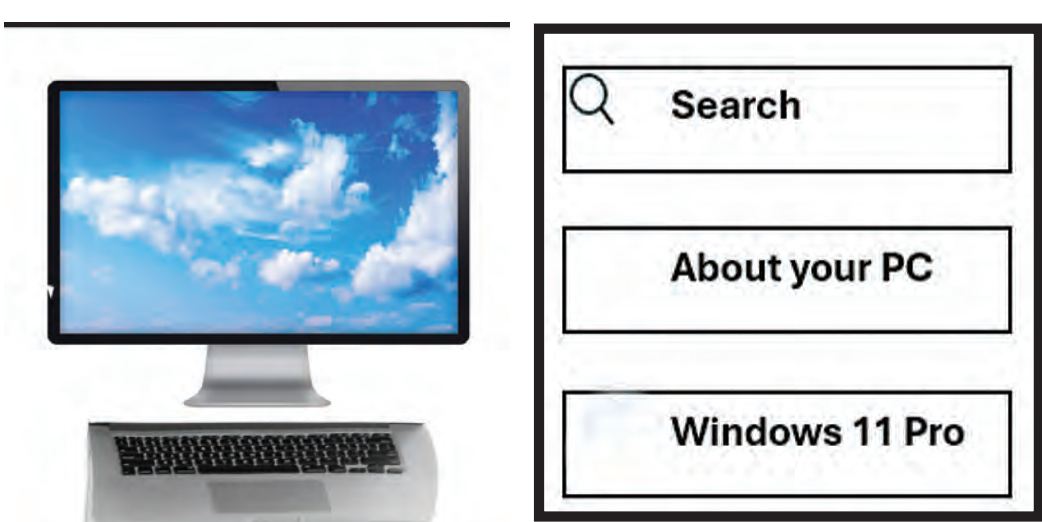
The computer you are using may become vulnerable to attack by dishonest people, such as hackers.

So what can you do?

First, check to see which operating system you are using on your computer, Windows 10 or 11. Here's how to check:

1. Click in the search field at the bottom of your screen and type "about" (without the quotation marks). A screen will open.
2. Click on "About your PC." Another screen will pop up showing which version of Windows you have (scroll down if necessary).

See the graphic accompanying this story for an example.



Computer Club

If your screen says, "Windows 11 Home" or "Windows 11 Pro," you're all set. You don't have to do anything.

But if your screen says, "Windows 10 Home" or "Windows 10 Pro," you'll have a decision to make. Here are some options:

1. Continue using Windows 10. But if you do, your computer will not be as safe. Cybercriminals continually devise new attacks and threats. Without security updates, your operating system could be at risk.

2. Buy a new computer. All computers manufactured today run Windows 11 and will receive security updates from Microsoft.
3. Utilize Microsoft's Extended Security Updates program. For \$30, you can get security updates for up to a year. This is not a long-term solution, but a temporary bridge to give you more time.
4. Update to Windows 11. Not all computers are upgradeable to Windows 11, but generally, if you purchased your device in 2018 or later, it might be upgradeable.

Explaining how to check if your

computer is upgradeable is beyond the scope of this story, but you can bring your laptop to a Computer Club weekly help session. We will check it free of charge.

Club members are available in the Learning Lab, which is the West Activity Center, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. every Wednesday.

There's no need to be apprehensive about the transition from Windows 10 to 11. But be ready for it to keep your computer safe.

About the Computer Club

The Computer Club meets every Saturday morning from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Meetings take place both in-person at the West Activity Center Learning Lab and using the Zoom virtual meeting platform. 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.

For more information about the Computer Club, or to ask computer service-related questions, email otowcc@gmail.com, visit our website at www.otowcc.com, or click our link on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

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KABoom is a fun, 45 minute class divided into segments consisting of warmup, moderate to high intensity cardio, exercises using light weights, cool down and stretching. It also focuses on improving balance, agility and mental acuity.

No chairs. Scheduled start time is 11:15 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays in the East Activity Center Exercise Room.

Please arrive before 11:15 a.m. to pre-register.

The instructor is Kevin Archibald, a certified instructor.

Class size will be limited to 30. Bring your activity card.

This class will be free to all Silver Sneakers members and \$2 a class to non-members.



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Share your summer vacation photos with us!

By Tom Chalupka

With the summer heat of Florida upon us, I hope all of our On Top of the World Travel Club members are enjoying themselves and hopefully still traveling.

In your adventures, if you take pictures and want to share them with us, we will post them on the OTOW Travel Club Facebook page.



Also, at our monthly meeting, we will give you time to show your pictures to our members. I am willing to assist anyone who wants to put together a power point presentation of their vacations.

Our monthly meetings are the first Friday of the month between September and June at 2 p.m. in the Oldsmar Room in the East Activity Center.

At our meetings, you can get the latest information on all the events and trips that we offer, and you can purchase tickets to them.

At the September meeting, I will be announcing numerous new travel locations that we have scheduled for the rest of 2025 and the beginning of 2026.

Also, from September 2025 to June 2026, the Travel Club will have information tables on Monday and Thursday mornings in the East Activity Center



Audrey Strong shares one of her vacation photos from Rialto Bridge in Venice, Italy.

Auditorium where you can find all of our current information. You also may buy tickets to whichever event interests you.

Many of the ideas for upcoming trips come from

suggestions that our members make and we are always open to new places to explore.

Have a great summer and remember our motto, "We're Going Places."

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More magic from the woodshop



By Jesse Tiamson

Back in December 2024, Fixers Club members used their magic to turn an 1800's bed from Ireland into a beautiful bench.

Seeing that story in OTOW News gave resident Mary Douglas a similar idea.

Mary walked into the woodshop one Friday morning in June and asked if we could turn another bed into a bench.

Instantly, it brought to mind the Irish bench made for Loren and Mendy Payne last December. Unsure of an answer, I asked if she could bring in the bed to see if it's something the shop could transform. Turned out, the bed was already in pieces!

There was a headboard and two footboards. What was so striking about this bed, unlike the Irish bed, was the intricate carvings in the wood.

After writing a work order, I told Mary I'd call her back after I talk to my team -- the same team that built the Irish bench.

I texted the team to let them know I received a project idea and asked them if they could look at the bed pieces the next time they were in the shop.

Lloyd Seabolt took the lead on designing a rough sketch for us to consider. Then the whole team met in a conference.

As a result, I called Mary to give her the good news that we'll take on the project. She thanked me even though



Joe Miranda, Lloyd Seabolt and Gary Anderson begin piecing together an old bed into a bench. At right, Mary Douglas tries the bench out for the first time. (OTOW News photos by JesseTiamson)

we were not sure how it would turn out.

After two weeks of work, with minor changes in design here and there, the bench was done!

We arranged for Mary to come and see the bench with all of us there.

Lloyd even bought a cushion from Walmart which gave the bench a proper look. We gave Mary the option of taking our cushion or getting one on her own.

Mary couldn't believe what she saw waiting for her to sit on!

"I saved an old child's bed from going to its final resting place," Mary said. "I told my neighbor what I hoped to do. She knew exactly where to send me.

With some idea of what I wanted, and the skill of the OTOW woodworkers, I have a new, beautiful, one-of-a-kind bench worthy of conversation. Thank you all so much for such a wonderful surprise."

After giving us a very generous donation, we took some photos for her.

It was another magical re-creation!

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Above are some of On Top of the World's best dancers joining Carla Hines during a song in the Auditorium. At right are dozens of strawberry shortcakes ready to be consumed.



New York block party with dirty dogs set for Aug. 12 and our Snowbirds will miss it

By Pat Hayes

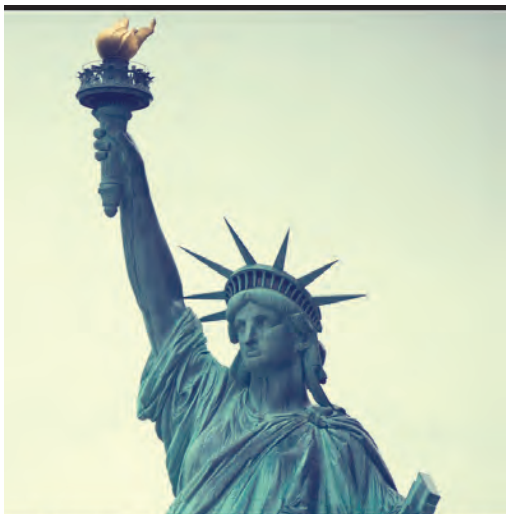
The New York-New Jersey Club wants to thank all of our members who joined us for Dessert Night with Carla Hines.

The Auditorium was packed and Carla, once again, gave a wonderful performance!

Many thanks to our volunteers who sold tickets and served food. A special shout out to Chef Gene Amature and Sous Chef Kevin Murphy for preparing the dessert. They were ably assisted by Anna Amature and Patty Hayes, who cut up 25 pounds of strawberries for this event!

The New York-New Jersey Club cordially invites you to join us for a summer of fun. We have two more events left before those pesky Snowbirds return from wherever it is they go.

Then we end the year with our ever-popular Ugly Christmas Sweater Party. On Tuesday, Aug. 12, we will host a



New York - New Jersey Club

New York-style block party in the Auditorium starting at 5 p.m. Cost is \$10. The menu will include New York-style dirty water hot dogs, beans, chips,

dessert, coffee, water and ice.

Once again, we are pleased to announce Frank Lebano from Brooklyn will be our host DJ .

On Tuesday, Oct 7 at 5 p.m. we will host Sports Night in the Auditorium. Cost is \$18.

Come wear your favorite sports shirt or hat. Even Boston sports fans are welcome.

The menu will feature Felice's Italian Catering pork subs with pasta salad. Choices also include sausage and peppers, meatball parmigiana, chicken parmigiana, Italian (Godfather), and tuna or turkey with swiss.

The DJ will be Scott McParland. Desserts will be provided by "Desserts by Lou." Coffee, water and ice will be provided.

On Tuesday, Dec. 9 the New York-New Jersey Club will host an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party in the Auditorium.

Cost is \$28.

Frank Lebano from Brooklyn will both DJ and be judge of our ugly Christmas sweater contest. There will be a prize for both the ugliest and prettiest sweater!

Dinner will include ham, mashed sweet potatoes, ziti, meatballs, salad and rolls. Dessert, coffee, hot chocolate, coffee, water and ice will be included.

There are no tickets sold at the door for our events. Cost for membership in our club is only \$5. If you join now we will include all of 2025 and 2026 events.

Also, come meet our friendly volunteers at our information table. If you would like to volunteer, stop by our table on Thursday mornings 8:30-10:30 a.m. and say hello to Vicky Cicia, Laura O'Conner, Anna and Gene Amature, and Ray Willis.

The Jesters Club is your answer to getting more involved

By Rodger Hillier

I have heard, so many times, people say, "I need to be more active."

The Jesters is a great place to start.

The Jesters are planning a year full of fun events. Our first meeting, with refreshments, fun activities and an opportunity to join the club, will be Sept. 10 starting at 6:30 pm. in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

Another date to mark on your calendar is Sept. 24, 10 a.m. to noon, and Sept. 25, 2-4 p.m. where we will be holding auditions in the Auditorium.

The creative team has put together a great show and we need your help to get it from the drawing board to the stage.

We already have many new people who said they would like to be a part of the show. We are excited about that.

Nonetheless, we still need you. "The more, the merrier."

You don't know what you are missing, unless you try. It is a joy to see so many great friendships that are formed throughout the year.

Be sure to stop at our information table at the 2025 Fall Festival & Expo on Nov.1. We will have characters in costume from our show answering all of your questions.

Also, on Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a holiday dinner at the Belleair Room for members and a holiday party on Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.



On Feb. 2 there will be a cast party - a catered event for all who took part in our show, "The Times of Your Life."

Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar.

And even though the show will end in February, the Jesters club doesn't stop getting together. We will be making plans to participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade in March.

Many of the Jesters are going on a cruise the end of February 2026 and you can still sign up.

Lastly, we end the season with a pizza party at the Pavilion in April.

You can ask any Jester and they will tell you...Jesters are, "Jest for Fun."



Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025
10 am - 2 pm

East Activity Center - Indoors and Outdoors

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Be a part of the fun!
Reserve a table. Space is limited. Register now.
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Email: general_activity@scaclw.com

2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, Fl

The Golden Years are meant to be savored, so savor with Surf’s Up Punch



By Earl Ballance
Last month, Lambda celebrated its 16th birthday. Members honored President David Beaven and his husband, Jack Kilgen, with \$350 in gift certificates as a way to express their appreciation for their service to the club. As we celebrated another birthday, I was reminded that birthdays, in general, are milestones that move us closer to the honored status referred to as one’s golden years. So, can we talk about those golden years for a minute? Speaking out loud here: the golden years are essentially a lifestyle upgrade! It’s as if life has handed you a VIP pass to savor simple joys and, best of all, to forget things at will. Consider those essential senior moments:



Jack Kilgen and David Beaven are honored for keeping Lambda Club strong after 16 years.

Missing someone’s birthday? That’s just a testament to your age-old wisdom of prioritizing the present. Misplaced keys or walking into a room and forgetting why you’re there? And let’s not forget about the com-edic aspects of those golden years. It seems like I’ve never been more ‘in demand’ than I am now. Visiting the doctor has evolved into a new hobby of mine. And redefining the phrase “getting lucky” now means scoring a park-

ing spot close to the clinic entrance! Bottom line is, we should embrace these golden years because we deserve them. Here’s to enjoying each splendid, golden moment, because these experiences — much like a vintage wine — are not old, they’re classic! The social theme for next month has been unveiled: Beach Days. The event will be held on Friday, Aug. 8, at 6 p.m. in the East Activity Center Oldsmar Room. The self-serving Sand Bar Lounge will be serving up the infamous Surf’s Up Punch, and the sound system will be cranking out the hottest beach music hits. The dress code will be beachwear, so prepare for sun, sand and a whole lot of belly laughs as we dive into an ocean of adventure. Lambda stands for equality, inclusivity and fighting against discrimination. It hopes to continue making a positive impact on the lives of its members. Here’s to many more years of joy, camaraderie, shared memories and meaningful connections within the Lambda Club. Need more information about Lambda? Go to the official webpage at <http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com>. You can also check us out on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com) or call David Beaven at (727) 410-7566.

Would you like to be guided away from confusion and chaos - see you Aug. 12

By Laurie LeClaire
Several months ago, one of our members, Marilyn Pashkowski, suggested I invite Kristin Geeslin to be a featured guest speaker. So finally I reached out to Kristin and she graciously accepted. Kristin met Marilyn while attending her yoga class here at On Top of the World. Later, Marilyn sent me a text message with Kristin’s contact information. Kristin Geeslin, “Mindful Seer,” is known for her gentle and light hearted approach to guiding emergent leaders, healers and seers from confusion and chaos to clarity and satisfaction. Kristin’s customized approach combines her recognized knowledge of metaphysics, psychic/mediumistic abilities and long-term mindfulness practice with her undergraduate edu-



cation in psychology, graduate degree in human resource development and breadth of knowledge from a 30-year

progressively responsible career in innovative nonprofit roles. Her long-term mentoring program and package sessions feature her soul and higher power focused sovereignty system, B.E.-I.S.M.™ (Intuitive Development and Mindfulness Method, as well as Intuitive Anatomy/Medical Mediumship centered ThetaHealing). She is also a featured author in “UNITY: Shape Ideas into Organized Action with Logic and Language.” Kristin offers interactive play shops on both modalities and related topics. Kristin is available for keynote speeches and team building, bringing groups into resonance around common goals and aspirations. As Kristin says, “Everything I do is focused on co-creating a world that works for all.”

Kristin plans to introduce her B.E.-I.S.M.™ five frequency wellness-method in s fairly interactive way at our next High Vibe Tribe meeting. We will use the body pendulum method to check for subconscious belief alignment at five levels. Kristin will share her story and do a little warm up with group members to learn more about them. So please feel free to bring a guest and plan to participate during her presentation on Aug. 12. High Vibe Tribe is free for members of our community and is offered once a month on the second Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. in the Clearwater/Kitchen Room of the East Activity Center. For questions, you may contact me at otowoowoo@gmail.com.

Theater Workshop offers coaching to anyone who wants to learn how to act

By Maxine Sutcliffe
During the two month break over our summer’s hottest months – Theater Workshop has been working behind the scenes. We are delighted to announce there is a unique show lined up for March 2026 with an experienced director to take us through the process of concept and design, to fully rehearsed stage performance. Although Audrey Strong is a new member to Theater Workshop, her proposal ideas and enthusiasm excited the board and will excite our existing and new membership. The show “Speak Easy” will provide

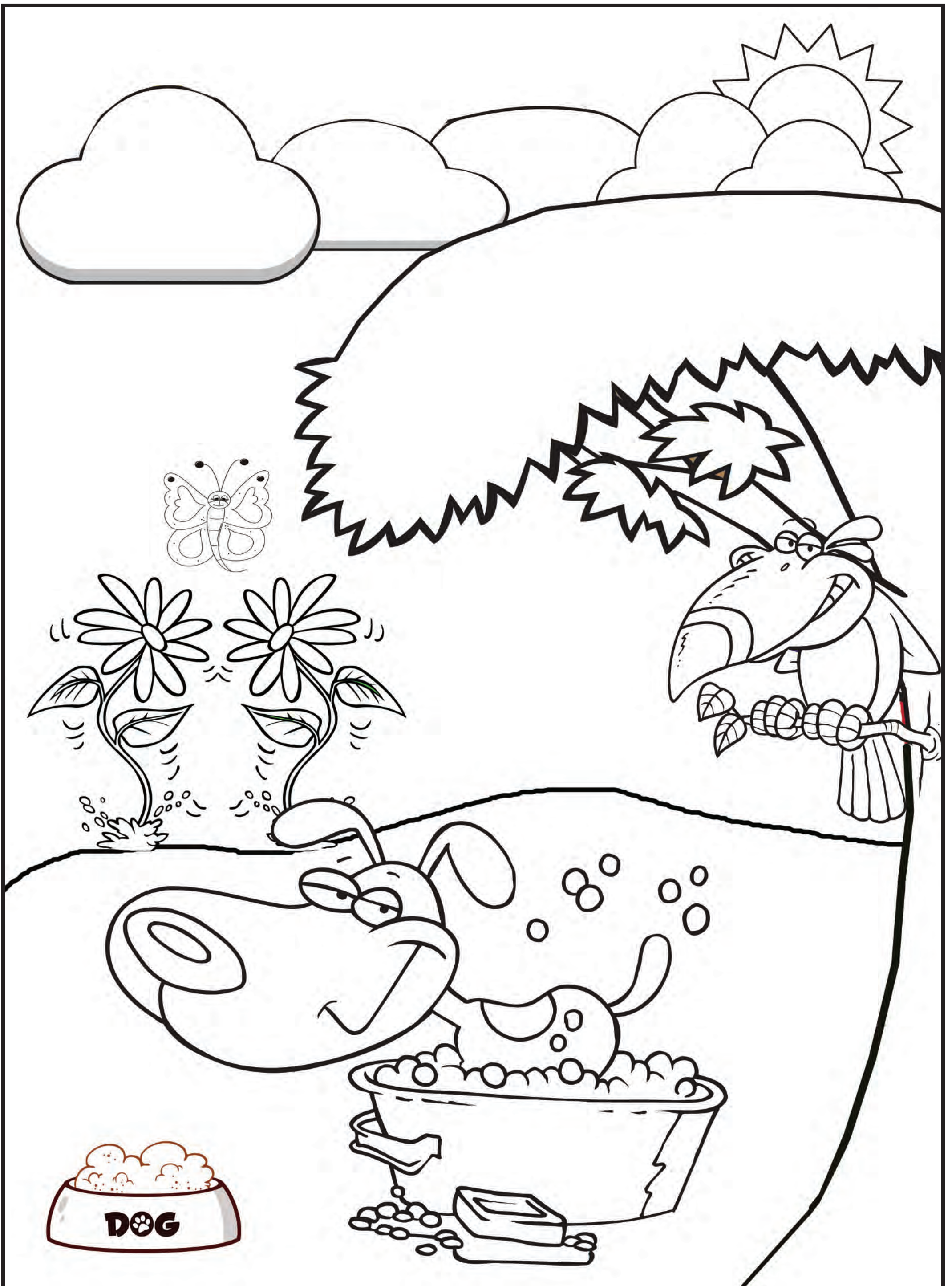


music, fun and dancing to highlight the era of Prohibition and all that embraces the roaring ‘20s. Our director has said there will be a part for everyone. She will be seeking singers, dancers, comedians and actors and, to this end, she has two mes-

sages for you - both existing and new members. First, she is seeking a music keyboard accompanist, a tap dancer and stage mother. Please send an email of interest to President Spring Shorten at springshorten@yahoo.com. Second, Audrey intends to provide “coaching” to anyone who wants to learn how to act. Each short coaching session will immediately follow the end of each general meeting commencing in September. These will be offered free to members and provide a really great opportunity to those interested in learning acting to uncover your talents or enhance

their acting skills. Theater Workshop’s next meeting will take place in the West Activity Center Belleair Room starting at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 3, with refreshments. Coaching will follow. Although Audrey is new to Theater Workshop, she and her husband, Tom, are both active on other boards and members of numerous clubs. We will have a “welcome back” cake, amongst other refreshments, after our summer recess and to kick off the fall season. At that time you will be given more details about our upcoming show.

National Coloring Book Day Aug. 2



In honor of National Coloring Book Day on Aug. 2, OTOW News is providing residents with a picture you can color at your leisure. There is no contest this year. Just purchase your favorite brand of crayons, colored pencils, paint or markers and fill in the image above just for fun. If you find this to be enjoyable, please remember On Top of the World has a Coloring Book Club which meets 12-3 p.m. every Wednesday in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room. Anyone can just show up and share an afternoon in air conditioning. No membership is required. There are no dues. There is a lot of socializing and sometimes snacks. Bring your own supplies.

‘A Little Latin Twist Night’ around the corner on Sept. 24

By Sam Gonnella

The first event of the fall/winter season for the Italian-American Club will be a toe-tapping, exciting, music-filled night.

At 5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 24, in the East Activity Center Auditorium, “A Little Latin Twist” will feature DJ Frank Lebano playing both Latin and American music - everything from salsa, cha cha and rumba to line dancing.

You can request a favorite song for dancing or listening. Someone will surely ask for Madonna’s “La Isla Bonita” to be played. Translated into English it means “The Beautiful Island.” It was Madonna’s first attempt to do a song with both a Latin beat and Latino lyrics.

In keeping with the Latin theme, the food choice for the night will be Cubanitos, tuna or turkey mini-sandwiches. Also on the menu are salsa and chips,

Italian American Club



coffee and dessert. Bring your own drinks. Cost is \$10.

At 5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 19, in the Auditorium will be Holiday PJ Pizza and Game Party night. You will have a choice of cheese, pepperoni, sausage or vegetable pizza. Coffee and dessert are included. Bring a favorite board game, cards, dice or dominoes. Don’t

Italian-American Club

A Little Latin Twist Night



An evening of Latin and American music.

Put your boogie shoes on!

DJ Frank Lebano

Cubanitos, Tuna or Turkey

Wednesday, Sept. 24

EAC Auditorium

5 PM

(Hurry back or you’ll miss it)



\$10



forget an interesting pair of PJ’s. Bring your own beverages. Cost is \$10.

At 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, in the Auditorium, we will be hosting a Gasparilla Party.

Ahoy Matey!

Pirates will be pillaging and plundering their way across On Top of the World to join us in a pirate-themed party.

Our grub will feature chicken fingers with dipping sauce, mini rice balls with sauce, macaroni and cheese, pulled pork sliders, tossed salad, bread and butter, coffee and cookies.

Bring your own beverages.

DJ Les ‘N More will provide the musical entertainment. Cost is \$25 for members and \$28 for non-members.

On Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026, and Friday, Feb. 27, 2026, we are going racing at Tampa Bay Downs Days.

Enjoy a day to experience the thrill of horse racing.

Horse bettors say there is a winner in every race. Will you be that winner?

Included in the price of these events are entrance to the track, a racing program and a full buffet luncheon.

A flyer with important details can be picked up at our information table when purchasing tickets. Cost of each event is \$45.

Details for other events coming later next year are not available yet.

Tickets and detail Information will be available this fall at our information table on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:15 a.m. Come pick up a flyer.

This club is open to all OTOW residents. An individual does not have to be Italian to join. Our goal is to have fun, along with good food and entertainment at reasonable costs. We encourage new members to join and for existing members to renew memberships.

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Press Association has new web page for staffers to review basic guidelines

Press Association staffers can no longer say, "I didn't know."

The Press Association has a new web page, now separate from where people go to read OTOW News online. The new site is inclusive to Press Association members and has valuable information for writers and photographers.

The new web page can be accessed by visiting the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) and going down to official club web pages. Just click the Press Association link and then bookmark to save.

The site contains a list of writing guidelines, common mistakes, photo tips, acceptable state abbreviations and a schedule for upcoming meet-



ings. There is an open invitation to visit the newsroom for proofreading and explains what to look for when performing

the task.

Most important, the web page contains some of the most basic guidelines for Press Association staffers. Each staffer should visit the site for a quick review.

The next Press Association meeting is 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 7 at Eggs Up Grill. More than 20 people signed up so we will have a private luncheon and meeting after the restaurant officially closes. Each staffer is paying their way.

The Press Association will hold a similar event on Thursday, Jan. 8, at the Varsity Club. Meeting time is 1 p.m. and we have requested the restaurant's meeting room. The Press Association had a Kickoff the New Year party before COVID times. This trip to

the Varsity Club will bring that event back. All press members are welcome. Again, you are on your own for lunch.

OTOW-TV channel 901 has added new sound equipment to make watching board meetings from home more enjoyable. However, there are still people who cannot watch the Summit Broadband channel. The system is working. The videos are working and the audio is working. If you are unable to watch channel 901 for live board meetings you must call Summit and request an equipment upgrade. Call (239) 571-5758.

There is no meeting in September. The first fall meeting will take place 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2 in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.



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Bilingual English / Arabic
Office: Clearwater



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Palm Harbor, FL 34685

St. Petersburg Office
1700 66th Street North
Suite 403
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Still enough Boomers around to hold a hooley at Flanigan’s Irish Pub



By Dianne Dvorak
A bunch of Baby Boomer hooligans enjoyed shenanigans at Flanigans Irish Pub on Friday, July 11.
Valerie Martin put out the word on our Google Groups site and it set in motion a lovely gathering.
The band Drunken Shrubbery helped create a good ole Irish hooley (wild party) and a craic (fun) good time with their zany Irish pub music.
Many Baby Boomers in our group are Snowbirds or are traveling, but there are always people still around our community who are available and want to have fun during the summer months.
The meetings are smaller, but continue in the East Activity Center Largo Room at 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of the month. The Baby Boomers welcome newcomers and members to come to the meetings, meet new people, get together for fun and enjoy the good life here at On Top of the World.

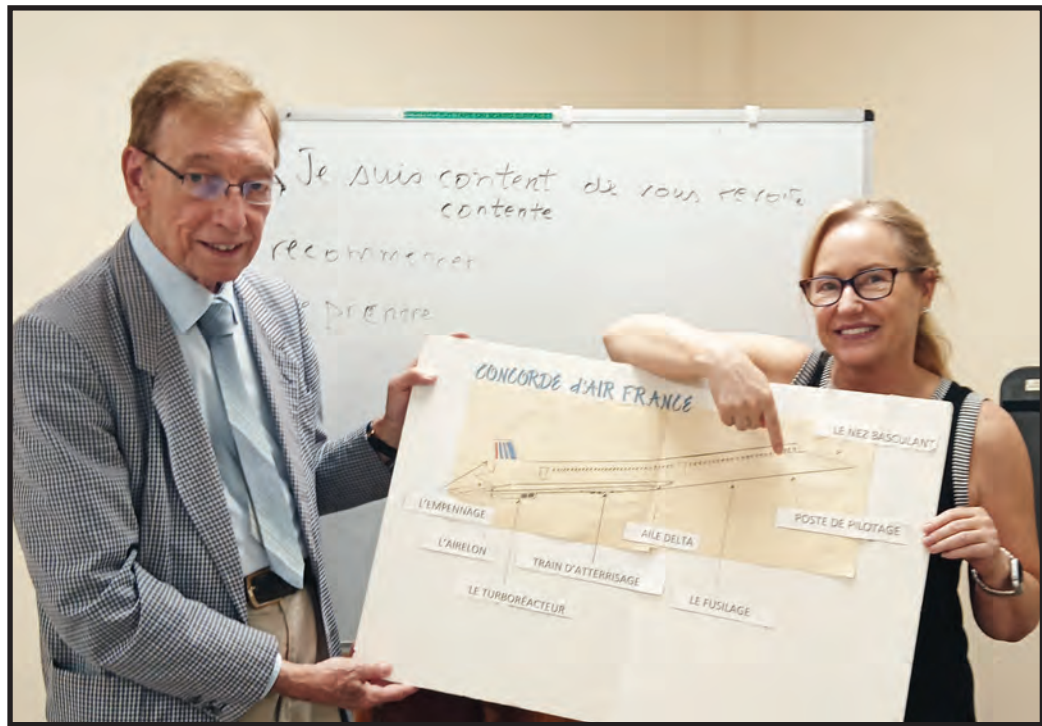


Boomers enjoy the Drunken Shrubbery band at Flanigans in July. Even though it is summer, the Baby Boomers Group was well represented.

French Culture class remembers the Concorde

By Jean-Paul Reymont
For those mechanically inclined, the month of July provided an opportunity for participants in the French Language and Culture Society to learn a number of French words normally used in the aviation profession.
However, they found that the basic vocabulary was not at all difficult. Words like fusilage and turboréacteur are French words that are familiar to those who speak English.
Other words are not difficult to learn such as poste de pilotage (cockpit) and train d’atterrissage (landing gear), which should pose no problem to learn as well.
The reason for this special class is the French Society was commemorating the 25th anniversary of the tragic crash of the famous Air France Concorde supersonic plane on July 25, 2000.

As many of us can recall, Air France’s Concorde supersonic planes flew passengers from Paris to New York City in 3.5 hours---an amazing feat in the history of aviation.
As one can see in our On Top of the World past newspaper articles, our society is not just a language class, but also a French cultural experience in which participants can learn about the events as well as cuisine, music, and daily expressions that one uses in everyday life in France and in Quebec.
In fact, as we know, the states of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine border on Canada’s French-

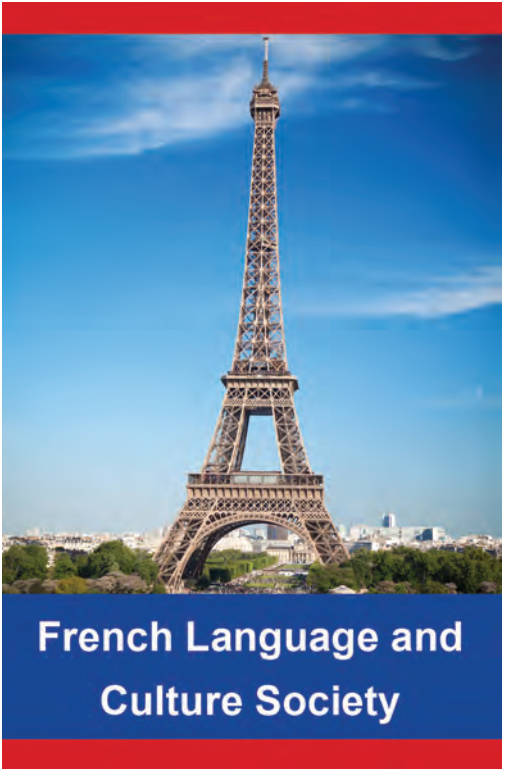


Susanne Cox shows different parts of the Concorde labeled in French.

speaking province of Québec, a tourist region where many Americans enjoy their summer holidays.
To practice French, we can also meet French-speaking people in our OTOW community centers and even run into a number of French-speaking tourists in our supermarkets, hotels, beaches, or at the Cercle français of the University of South Florida in Tampa.
However, to improve one’s French, one does not have to go far, especially at On Top of is World. In fact, one can

take a free language course in French right here in our East Activity Center’s lower level Dunedin Room, every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon.
Besides learning the language, our sessions also include a cinematic presentation of a 10 minute film which is usually dubbed in French along with with English subtitles. In the Clearwater area, one can also find French restaurants where one can practice with friends and fellow students.
We always welcome new partici-

pants and start our sessions with with a joke or some humorous situation they experienced either in French or in English.The French love humor, but in a nice way. They sometimes love to make fun of other people.
The sessions are in both in French and English and both beginners and intermediate feel comfortable in class since, of course, there are no semester exams. All are welcome. Venez et voyez! Come and see!



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- Pepsi
- Diet Pepsi
- Sprite
- Ginger Ale
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- A&W Root Beer
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- Gatorade
- Vitamin Water
- Zephyrhills Water
- Bai Coconut Water
- S Pellegrino Sparkling Water
- Fairlife Chocolate Protein Drink
- Karma Probiotic Water
- Apple & Eve Orange Juice
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- Kit Kat
- Snickers
- 3 Musketeers
- Lance Crackers
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- Oreo Cookies
- Belvita Sandwich
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- Plastic Cups
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- Charcoal

- Greeting Cards
- OTOW T-Shirts

(items in pictures may not match items in café)



Wimbledon whites at OTOW

The On Top of the World Tennis Club had a Wimbledon “all white” tennis day on July 10.

The white attire is a Wimbledon tradition.

Our club members are finding ways to enjoy tennis in the heat of summer. We welcome new members of all skill levels. Our hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30-10 a.m.; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - noon, and Sundays is open play from 6:30-8 p.m.



Golf doesn’t have to be cancelled because of heat - just prepare ahead of time

By Sheryl A. Barbin

It’s hot and humid at the On Top of the World golf courses!

With temperatures reaching over 100 degrees at times, playing golf in the heat isn’t easy, but the Friday Mixed Golf League is not letting a day in the summer golf season slip by because the sun is shining too bright and hot.

So here are a few tips for playing golf in extreme hot heat.

(1) Drink lots of hydrating fluids, such as water and electrolyte-filled sports drinks (Gatorade). Take a sip after every shot, or at the very least, have a few every time you step off the green and head to the next hole. Avoid high sugar content drinks like soda, coffee and alcohol because they will dry you out.

(2) Wear a hat. Best ways to protect your head from the sun is to wear a classic baseball-style hat, a bucket-style hat or a wide- brimmed hat.

(3) Look for shade on the golf course. You should always look for shade when waiting around. If you are not using a golf cart or umbrella, look for shade under trees or a supported roofed structure or under your towel by putting it



over your head.

(4) Carry an umbrella when playing golf. As was just mentioned, carrying an umbrella in your golf bag is more useful than you think as it can protect your head and skin from the sun, keeps you from getting drenched by showers and it can cover your clubs while hitting the ball.

(5) Wear the proper apparel in the heat. Choose clothes with lighter ma-

terials than cotton. Apparel that has a Dri-Fit feel (or something similar) will be best in the heat. Also avoid dark colors and favor lighter ones as they are more likely to reflect the rays of the sun instead of attracting them.

(6) Carry a cold towel. Carrying a towel with your golf bag is essential, but when playing in the heat, you should bring another towel along, simply for you to wipe your face on. Ideally, if you have a cooler with you, you’ll want to keep this towel cold so you can break it out whenever you’re looking to cool down.

(7) Wear sunscreen. This should be a priority whenever you’re on a golf course or not on a sunny day. On hot days where you’re more likely to sweat a lot, don’t forget to apply that sunscreen regularly so it remains effective. At the very least, make sure to put on some for the front-nine and the back-nine.

Though you may not need all these tips listed above, using a few of them will make your golfing experience much better on a hot summer day.

Summer Results

Friday, June 27

We had 27 players today. It was a warm day with a few showers. We played in 3 hours and 10 minutes. First place went to Mike Palermo with a plus-8, second place went to Lisa Muchler with a plus-1, third place went to Andy Polselli with an even round, fourth place went to Roger Shockley with an even round and fifth place went to Jim Cadwell with an even round.

Ties were broken by a match of cards.

Closest-to-the-Pin on hole No.3 was Mike Palermo, hole Nos. 5, 9 and 16 were Joe Wisinski, hole No. 13 was Vince Maranto, and hole No.15 was Bruce MacPherson.

Skins were recorded on hole Nos. 4 and 8 by Mike Palermo, hole No. 5 by Joe Wisinski, hole Nos. 11 and 13 by Len Picone, hole No. 15 by Bruce MacPherson, and hole No. 18 by Andy Polselli.

Low Gross was Mike Palermo with a 68 for 33 points. Nice round Mike!

Remember to sign up by 6 p.m. on Wednesday for Friday play.

Fundraiser Golf Tournament to Benefit Veterans

A fundraiser golf tournament to benefit veterans will take place Sunday, Sept. 14, at 8:30 a.m. at the On Top of the World Golf Course.

The event is open to veterans and non-veterans, men and women, but the event is for OTOW residents only.

The tournament will feature four-player teams. Collared shirts are required.

The cost is \$20 per person. Golf carts are \$13.

After the tournament, a lunch will be provided to all players.

There will be a 50/50 drawing and a raffle for additional prizes.

The tournament is being run by Joe Ventimiglia.

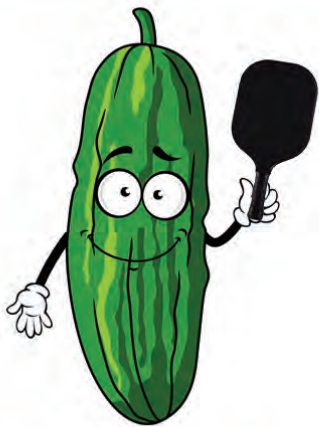
You can contact Joe at jventimiglia2340@outlook.com or call (718) 909-0657 if your are interested in playing.

The tournament rain date will be Sept. 21.



SPORTS

Investigative reporter digs hard, but finds no connection between pickleball and pickles



Pickleball

By Jim LeBlanc

Why does pickleball confuse the heck out of me?

We have a Pickleball Club with 129 members. Some people play throughout the year and others play when they have free time.

We are all different ages and each has their own physical abilities.

We play at different levels from beginner, intermediate and advanced to aggressive advanced. The choice of level you play is yours to decide.

Now the big question!

Why do they call it pickleball?

This game has no cucumbers, vinegar or food of any kind.

It has nothing to do with any vegetables or anything that's edible.

Who came up with this silly name?

(Editor's Note: Pickleball comes from the term pickle boats. In a pickle boat, the paddlers come from unused paddlers from other teams. The pickle boat becomes powered by a variety of resources. In pickleball, the sport is also a combination of other resources, including ping pong, badminton and whiffleball. Someone came to the conclusion that pickle boats and this new sport had something in common.)

Another thing I don't understand is once you start playing the game, why is the front box of the court called the kitchen?

There's nothing in there that resembles a kitchen. It's just a big empty space.

None of this makes any sense to me.



Pickleball players pose for a group photo. In many cases, you can show up and try the game and someone will loan you a paddle.

It's just confusing!

Instead of thinking about playing the game, it makes me think about my next meal.

Did you look at the ball?

It's plastic with 40 holes drilled in it. Were the engineers trying to save money when they invented this ball?

Is this a no frills ball?

Did the designer say we can cut costs by one cent for each hole? That'll be 40 cents savings per ball.

Enough about the name, equipment and terminology. Now let's talk about the game.

Pickleball is a fun and addicting game once you start to play. You'll find yourself looking forward to the next court time that you are able to get out and play.

This game offers not only exercise, but a chance to meet new and friendly people.

Male, female, young and old. Everybody is welcome.

As a beginner, the ball gets hit slow and mostly up in the air.

If you want to progress to the advanced levels, you can expect the games to become more competitive and the ball will be moving faster with more accuracy.

I, myself, enjoy the intermediate level. It's more laughs, fun, exercise and it's noncompetitive.

Are you curious about the game now or just hungry and craving a pickle?

All of the games are played at the Pavilion Park tennis courts at designated times. Stop by and watch the action. Walk into the dugout and ask a question. It's guaranteed you'll be handed a loaner paddle and a ball to bounce. Within five minutes, you might even be invited to play in a game.

Nothing but fun with friendly people.

If you choose to join the club after experiencing the fun of the game, there will be a \$15 membership fee. You'll need to go through a short orienta-

tion where the rules of the game will be explained, plus how to move your body safely to prevent injury. Most importantly, the club's gaming etiquette will be explained to keep the game respectable and civil. Once that's done, you just show up whenever you want and have fun. There is also an opportunity to get private lessons which will help your hitting and paddle control.

Hope to see you on the pickleball court.

Pickleball Club schedule:

8 -10 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

6:30 -8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
(for August only)

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Sunday.

OTOW softball adds preseason games

By Bob Rittner

The On Top of the World Softball League is announcing a change to its normal schedule.

For the first time in our history, we will have a series of pre-season games beginning Tuesday, Sept. 9 and continuing each Tuesday through Sept. 30.

If we find it worthwhile, we will continue to play each Tuesday until Oct. 14 when our pre-season meeting will take place at the Paradise Restaurant in Safety Harbor at noon.

The regular season begins with batting practice on Tuesday, Oct. 21, and the first game of the regular season will be Thursday, Oct. 23.

If you are interested in joining our co-ed league, you may come to the Safety Harbor city fields located at 940 7th Street South before 8 a.m. any Tuesday morning beginning Sept. 9.

Or you may attend our pre-season meeting on Oct. 14. We will allow you to play two games before deciding if you wish to join the league by paying



the \$65 annual fee.

The softball league has developed rules that allow all players, regardless of skill level, to participate fully and enjoy the camaraderie and fun of playing ball.

We compete and play hard, but always remember that the goal is to have fun. We do not keep standings nor do we present awards to players with the

best statistics.

We have players from ages 55-90+. Those 80 and older and women may use metal or composite bats while all others must use wood bats. The league provides the bats although individuals may bring their own.

We also welcome visiting family and friends of players to join our games when they are here. In one game this past season, we had four generations of a family from ages 11-87 on the field at the same time.

Perhaps what best represents the league's ethos is the common understanding that nobody has ever committed an error in a game. The fielder has made either a "great play or a good try."

After games, many of us congregate for breakfast at the Paradise Restaurant in Safety Harbor. They sponsor our league, providing us shirts and hats each season.

During the softball season, which lasts through April, we also have three special events. In December, we gath-

er for a winter banquet and in March for a spring banquet. These are paid for by each person who attends.

In February we have our Breakfast With Partners at the Paradise in which players may bring one guest — spouse or friend — to the affair. This is mostly subsidized by the league, paying for each member's breakfast and for part of the partner's as well.

Schedule

Preseason Games: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, 8-10 a.m. at Safety Harbor fields.

Preseason Meeting: Oct. 14: Noon at the Paradise.

Batting Practice: Oct. 21: 8-10 a.m. at Safety Harbor fields.

Opening Day: Oct. 23, 8-10 a.m. at Safety Harbor fields.

If you have any questions about our league, contact Bob Rittner at bobrittner@yahoo.com or text/telephone 727-735-1762.



SPORTS



By request, Ping Pong Club schedules a singles tournament



Ping pong players wore red, white and blue for an event marking the Fourth of July.

By Marie Clodge Valdes
The Ping Pong Club continues to welcome new members and their ideas at On Top of the World.
Recent members to join are Brian Denniston, Lois Price and Tom Fahey.
Upon joining, Brian asked if our club might have a Singles Tournament and I said, although we haven't had one in the three years that I have been in the club, I would ask the other club mem-

bers if they were interested. It was a surprise and a delight when 24 people signed up for our July 15 Singles Tournament.
Others were also interested in playing singles. While we are experiencing lower numbers due to the summer and our Snowbirds being north, we are still having an average of 12-16 people

playing each day. We try to make it a fun club where we celebrate birthdays and holidays, such as our recent July 4 Independence Day holiday event. We decorated the room and players were invited to wear red, white and blue.
Club members brought food for our snack table and of course we all shared in a photo opportunity.

Our club always has a lot of fun together. If you are interested in making new friends, socializing and playing ping pong in a cool air conditioned space, you are invited to drop by Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We would love to meet you.

OTOW Bowling League



STARTS Wednesday
October 15th, 2025

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Free coffee/Bar open

Call Lisa Harris
(from Night Riders)
if you have questions
(317) 590-3252

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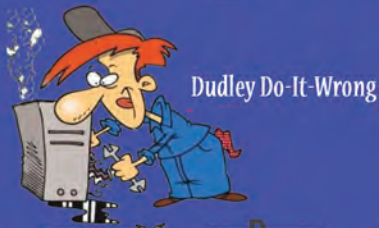
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Around the Bay

Clearwater Area Entertainment
By Mike Wood

Katy Perry, Chris Isaak, Charlie Brown among hot August nights Around the Bay

“Hot August Nights” isn’t just an album by Neil Diamond, it’s a description of the concert and theater scene in Tampa Bay this month.

On the concert scene, Katy Perry, Brad Paisley and Chris Isaak will be turning up the heat.

Theater fans will enjoy the all-time classics, “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown,” “The Picture of Dorian Gray” and a hilarious spoof on William Shakespeare.

If that’s not enough, one of the most iconic rock opera movies of all time, “Tommy – The Who,” will be playing at the Capitol Theater.

Keep an eye out for my ***Must See*** selections.

Also, remember to check out the latest venue I added, TheatreFor, a great, intimate little theater located at the corner of Sunset Point and Highland Avenue. Yes, one more great place to cool off in August as you enjoy great music and theater “Around the Bay.”

Live Concert Venues in Pinellas County

Ruth Eckerd Hall Venues

Ruth Eckerd Hall has seven venues in and around Pinellas County.

These are the three venues closest to On Top of the World. They are predominantly musical concert facilities.

Listed are some of the highlighted concerts coming to these great venues.

All tickets and information for the following Ruth Eckerd Hall venues are available through their website www.rutheckerdhall.com.

The BayCare Sound at Coachman Park

301 Drew St, Clearwater

Aug. 3, 6 p.m., Brad Paisley with special guests Walker Hayes and Alexandra Kay.

Aug. 21, 7 p.m., UB40 Relentless Tour with special guest The Fixx.

The Nancy & David Bilheimer Capitol Theater

405 Cleveland St, Clearwater

Aug. 1, 8 p.m., Chris Isaak, This Pop and Rockabilly music icon returns live to Clearwater!

Must-See Aug. 2, 7 p.m., Tommy – The Who, if you have never seen this legendary musical movie, you need to get to this one-time showing. OK, it’s not live but it’s definitely worth your time to go see!

Note: Also check out some of the other great classic movies on the Capi-

tol Theater summer movie series.

Ruth Eckerd Hall

1111 McMullen Booth Road
Clearwater

Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m., Mike Campbell & The Dirty Knobs. Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers lead guitarist and co-founder Mike Campbell debuts in Clearwater with many of the songs he wrote for big names like Tom Petty, Don Henly, Bob Dylan, Stevie Nicks and more...

Palladium Theater

253 5th Ave N, St. Petersburg

Twelve great performances at the Palladium this month.

Visit their website www.mypalladium.org for show dates, times and tickets.

TheatreFor

1863 N. Highland Ave
Clearwater

This is a new addition to area theater venues and this one is probably one of the closest to OTOW.

Located at the corner of Sunset Point and Highland Avenue, a mere 2.9 miles away, is this great little theater with some amazing shows.

This may very well become one of your new go-to venues.

Their shows run Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

So, check out this great venue by treating yourself to their offering for August.

Aug. 28-Sept. 14

The Picture of Dorian Gray – This classic Oscar Wilde novel comes to life.

Tickets and showtimes are available on their website www.theatrefor.com.

Live Theater Venues in Pinellas County

Francis Wilson Playhouse

302 Seminole St, Clearwater

The 96th season kicks off on Sept. 4 with the timeless musical Camelot.

Come back next month for show dates and times.

Tickets and showtimes are available on their website at www.franciswilsonplayhouse.org.

Early Bird Dinner Theater

13355 49th St N, Clearwater

Productions resume on Sept. 13 with the quirky comedy “37 Postcards.”

Come back next month for more show details and information.

Shows are 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. All performances include lunch or dinner and a show.

Tickets are available on their website, www.earlybirddinnertheater.com.

freefall Theater

6099 Central Ave, St. Petersburg

freefall Theater shows return on Sept. 5 with a great Andrew Lloyd Webber musical comedy “Tell Me on a Sunday.”

Come back next month for more show information. Just a little heads up, this will be a must-see performance next month.

Dates, showtimes and tickets available on their website: www.freefalltheater.com.

West Coast Players

21905 US Hwy 19 N, Clearwater

Come back next month for the first show announcement for their 2025-2026 season.

Tickets are available on their website: www.wcplayers.com.

St. Petersburg City Theater

4025 31st St. S., St. Petersburg

Their 2025-2026 season kicks off on Sept. 19 with “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” a Tony Award-Winning mystery based on a famous unfinished Charles Dickens novel.

Come back next month for more show information.

Visit their website for dates, showtimes and tickets: www.spcitytheater.org.

Blended Venues –

providing both live musical concert and theater shows

Central Park

Performing Arts Center

105 Central Park Dr, Largo

Must-See Aug. 8-17, You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown – Explore life through the eyes of Charlie Brown. This is a fantastic show for all ages!

For tickets and showtimes, visit their website www.largoarts.com.

The Mahaffey Theater

Duke Energy Center for the Arts

400 1st Street South

St. Petersburg

Aug. 12, 6 p.m., Lost in the ‘80s Live – A full evening of performers who will help you relive some of the great music from the memorable 1980s.

Show dates, times and tickets are available on their website, www.themahaffey.com/shows-and-events.

Tarpon Arts

Performing Arts Center

324 Pine Street, Tarpon Springs

Come back next month for more information when Tarpon Arts introduces their 2025-2026 season!

Show dates, tickets and the 2025 brochure are all available through their website, www.tarponarts.org.

Zubrick Magic Theater

1211 1st Ave N Suite 101

St. Petersburg

Unbelievable family-style magic shows every Thursday through Sunday.

This show is an OTOW resident favorite for all ages!

Tickets available on their website www.zubrickmagic.com.

Popular Concert and Theater Venues Across the Bay

The Straz Center

1010 N Macinnes Pl, Tampa

Must-See Aug. 13-24, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] {Again} – ‘A riotous romp through all of Shakespeare’s plays, plus the sonnets, in 90 minutes.’

Dates, showtimes and tickets are available on their website at www.strazcenter.org for these venues: Jaeb Theater, Shimberg Playhouse, TECO Theater, Morsani Hall and Riverwalk Stage.

Amalie Arena

401 Channelside Dr, Tampa

Aug. 22, 7 p.m., Katy Perry with special guest Rebecca Black. The biggest-selling female artist in Capitol Records history comes to Tampa for this once-in-a-lifetime concert.

The full listing of shows and tickets are available through the Amalie Arena website, www.amaliearena.com.

Raymond James Stadium

4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

Aug. 2, 7 p.m., Breezy Bowl XX Stadium World Tour, 20 years of Chris Brown with special guests Summer Walker and Bryson Tiller.

Concert and parking tickets available on the website, www.raymondjamesstadium.com.

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COMMUNITY REPORTS



During a bad storm on June 26, our flag at the front of the building was destroyed by the wind and rain. Larry Pate came over and donated a new flag and we installed it.

One resident donates a new flag and another resident buys a post-hurricane grill for building



New World French residents celebrated June birthdays during a dinner at Molly Goodheads in Ozone.

This is a very popular place for lunch and dinner. We only had one June birthday - Brad Shively (seated at the front).

We had a good time. Dinner was great and enjoyed by everyone.

Suzy Versaly made cupcakes. She put a candle on one of the cakes for Brad. He really enjoyed it.

During a bad storm on June 26, our flag at the front of the building was destroyed by the wind and rain. As I was taking the flag down, one of our residents, Larry Pate, came over and donated a new flag. We installed it.

Thank you, Larry. We really appreciate it.

We also held a Fruity Party in the core in June. This included a discussion about future activities, collection



New World French residents attended dinner at Molly Goodheads to celebrate June birthdays. There was one! Happy belated birthday to Brad Shively seated in the front row.

of dues, volunteers and decorations for Christmas.

We discussed keeping building parties in the core because more residents are able to attend.

Also discussed was purchasing a grill to use during post-hurricane power outages.

Ginny Upton's friend, Doug Zollo, who often attends our get-togethers,

kindly offered to pay for the grill. We now have a grill at our disposal should we lose power after the next storm.

Thank you Doug. We really appreciate this gift.

Anyone welcome to attend summer art classes in August and September



Art Guild

By Katie Bajis

On July 10, Maggie Reinhart and Robin Megel conducted an art class for On Top of the World residents who wanted to try drawing or painting with pencils, pastels and acrylics.

This first class was a rousing success with 10 attendees.

Some future classes might be activities like simple pallet knife painting and speed drawing with charcoal.

This is now a regular summer class every Thursday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo



This summer art class was taught by two instructors and was open to any resident in the community. Students enjoyed creating art with pencils, pastels and acrylics.

Room until Sept. 25.

August classes will be held on Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Participants do not have to be members of the Art Guild.

Interested residents are invited to bring their own supplies of colored pe-

cils, pastels and acrylics, but the guild will also have a limited supply to share. Light refreshments will be served.

The activity will be free to OTOW residents, but registration is required at least 24 hours prior to the activity. Resi-

dents can register by sending an email to Robin Megel at rmegel@gmail.com indicating whether you are bringing your own supplies.



August 2000

By Randae Van Denver

U.S. Events

The Hunley discovery is described as probably the most important (underwater archaeological) find of the 20th century. The Hunley was built in Mobile, Ala., in 1863, with the goal of breaking the Union blockade of Charleston, S.C. It was a tiny submarine ... a 40-foot long, iron-hulled vessel, powered by a hand-cranked propeller. The Hunley was designed to attack by ramming a torpedo (a copper canister filled with black powder) attached to a spar into the hull of an enemy ship. In 1864, it was the first submarine to achieve such a feat in combat, after which it disappeared to the ocean floor. After 136 years, it was raised to the surface in August 2000.

Tampa News

The old Blue Ribbon Market fire occurred in central Ybor City on August 11, 2000. The building had operated a popular local supermarket since 1970. The blaze caused \$1 million in damage and altered plans to renovate the 79-year-old building into Ybor City's largest dance club. Architectural renderings showed a restaurant, multilevel dance floors and huge television screens. Instead, it became a private-pay parking lot. The site had been the location of the first cigar rolling company in Ybor City in 1886.

Sports

On Aug. 12, 2000, at Shea Stadium in New York, the San Francisco Giants get two unusual runs in the fourth inning as Mets outfielder Benny Agbayani catches what he thinks is the third out and gives the ball to a kid (Jake Burns) in the stands. The mental lapse of not knowing there was only one out allows both runners on base to score. But the Mets still manage to prevail, beating San Francisco, 3-2. Agbayani gave another ball to the fan who had given the previous one back.

TV Contribution

On Aug. 23, 2000, Richard Hatch, a 39-year-old corporate trainer from Rhode Island, wins the season one finale of the reality television show "Survivor" and takes home the promised \$1 million prize in a 4-3 vote by his fellow contestants. Richard was known for walking around naked on the island in Borneo where the show was shot.

Medical News

Aug. 1, 2000: In one of the most important events of 2000, the Jarvik 2000 is first received by a patient. This is the first completely artificial heart that maintains a blood flow as well as generating a pulse. It is no longer used as a long-term replacement. However, a descendant of the Jarvik-7, the SynCardia Total Artificial Heart, is still used as a temporary bridge to transplant in patients awaiting a donated heart.

OTOW News

The popular Acropol Family Restaurant on Sunset Point Road, close to On Top of the World, advertised in our newspaper. Back in the August 2000 paper, its menu offered lamb shank with orzo meal for \$5.65 on its expansive menu. The restaurant opened in 1979 by Peter and Stella Stavrakos, immigrants from Greece. Their son and daughter-in-law ran it in later years. It closed its doors in 2024 after 45 years of loyal service.



Yoshimitsu resident Harry Urquhart has experienced many treasured moments during his lifetime. One of those most-treasured experiences was owning a 1972 Olds 98, as seen above. It remained a fixture in the building parking lot until 2024 when Harry donated it to the Disabled Veterans Organization.

Amongst a lifetime of experiences, Yoshimitsu resident saw Hindenburg on its final flight

By the time we move into a 55-plus community, odds are high we've seen a thing or two.

My friend and Yoshimitsu neighbor, Harry Urquhart, is the 13th of 13 siblings. He has seen his share of things.

Amongst his experiences are three treasures he will never forget.

Long before handling Ma Bell's telephone service for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush during their visits to Wisconsin, Harry served aboard the USS Ashland LSD 1 (Dock Landing Ship) in the "Forgotten War" - Korea.

It was during a return trip from, literally, the top of the world - the Arctic Circle - that he spotted a strange blip on his ship's radar screen.

But more on that in a minute ... let's go back in time.

What kid, when underfoot, hasn't heard his mother tell him more than once, "Boy, go out and play."

Harry heard that command one particular day, May 6, 1937, and did so.

The family lived near "Stop 12" in Elmont, N.Y., just a couple blocks from Belmont Racetrack. That particular Thursday, Harry was outside playing when he saw an unforgettable sight.

Passing low overhead was the dirigible Hindenburg blimp, gliding toward its fate in Lakehurst, N.J.

Harry, just over 4 years old, never forgot seeing that huge airship. Moments later it turned into a day in our country's history books.

Another treasured moment was in 1941 when young Harry looked out his upstairs bedroom window and saw three huge black cars swoop down on his neighbor's house. He saw men in suits carry out boxes and boxes, and lead a handcuffed-man away.

Years later, with the help of his wife, Jill, and her internet sleuthing, Harry would learn what he saw that day. The FBI was hunting a member of the Duquesne Spy Ring, a 33-member spy espionage network working for Adolf Hitler's German Reich.

The person he knew as his playmate's "Uncle" was Everett Roeder, who would soon be convicted of espionage against the US and sentenced to 16 years in prison.



nage against the US and sentenced to 16 years in prison.

So now, back to that radar blip. What was it?

The object in the radar blip appeared round. It was 60 miles straight ahead and about a mile above the USS Ashland. It measured 1500 yards across and 500 yards top to bottom. And it was blanketed by dense fog.

Harry tracked it aboard the USS Ashland for 12 hours. The captain of the ship alerted, ordered a change of course out of the fog and then issued a Notice to Mariners (NtM) reporting an Unidentified Flying Object.

There isn't anything to report after that because no object was ever positively identified. Nobody knows what happened to the mystery blip, but it was recorded as a UFO.

Now to 2024.

You may not know Harry, but you probably know his pride and joy - a maroon 1972 Olds 98.

Harry could be seen regularly tinkering and fixing his ride in the Yoshimitsu parking area after his regular early morning fishing adventures off the Dunedin Causeway.

His ride was a popular car with passerbys, young and old, right up to the day in early 2024 when he donated it to the Disabled American Veterans organization.

With his fishing and car tinkering days behind him, Harry is compiling his family stories and history to share with others.

There's so much to share.

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Rural French residents raise the question: Can we get Pizookies before dinner?



Rural French started the month of July off with a bang!
Not fireworks.
A building dinner.
Ten neighbors met at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, hosted by Jim and Carmel LeBlanc.
We enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere, and in between drinks and food, we had some good conversations.
Our waitress, Madeline, did a great



Residents from Rural French enjoy dinner at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse.

job serving us. I must say she wasn't only a very friendly and pleasant person, but she was also full of energy.
Oh, to be young again.
I remember what it was like to be young and energetic.
I forgot. What were we discussing?
Well, anyway.
Some of us enjoyed an appetizer before dinner and dessert after dinner.
The dessert choice was BJ's famous

Pizookie. If you haven't had a Pizookie, you should add it to your list of things to do.
Would it be wrong to skip the appetizer and the dinner to just order a few Pizookies?
In the July edition of On Top of the World News, it was mentioned that Joyce Krauss was retiring from being our wing captain on the Rhodesian side of our building. We are glad to report

that Delores Wagner has volunteered to replace Joyce and take over the position of wing captain.
Over the years, Joyce did a great job of informing and caring for the Rhodesian side. She isn't leaving us. She's just retiring from the wing captain position.
Joyce will be here and available to help Delores get started and to answer any questions.
Norma McClellan is our Persian side wing captain and she also has offered to help Delores in her new position. It's nice to see neighbors getting involved and helping one another.
Keep checking our building bulletin board for any updates or activities that are being planned. We have a large bulletin board with lots of room. Maybe you can help fill in the empty spots by planning a meal, get-together or maybe even a trip someplace interesting. Just hang a notice and sign-up sheet to invite your neighbors to join in and have some fun.

An advertisement for D & W Heating & Air Conditioning. It features a blue and white van with the company logo and name. Above the van, there are two Trane Comfort Specialist units. Text on the van includes "When Quality Matters Most, We Are Your Specialist", "TheAirSpecialist.com", and "License #: CAC1815573". A red banner at the top says "CALL NOW! 727.266.5218" and "PINELLAS AND PASCO". A green seal says "2018 Angie's list SUPER SERVICE AWARD". A white circle on the van says "DISCOUNT 5% LIMITED TIME OFFER on new equipment".

An advertisement for a book titled "Where There is a Will, There is a Way" by Marchell Short. The book cover is shown, featuring a woman holding a key. Text on the ad includes "By Marchell Short", "(513) 404-0819 | mgshorttaxsvc.com", and "Now available for \$30". A paragraph describes the book as a user-friendly estate planning guide. Another paragraph lists topics included: Power of Attorney, Living Will & Health Directives, Beneficiaries & Social Security, Passwords, Monthly Bills and Subscriptions, and Estate Planning Essentials. A third paragraph states that the book has large print and short chapters, real-life scenarios, space for taking notes, and one-page sample will worksheets. A final paragraph mentions that Marchell Short is a year-round On Top of the World resident, an income tax preparer, and former high school teacher.

An advertisement for West Coast Awnings and Sunesta Shade Systems. The top section features the West Coast Awnings logo, a BBB Accredited Business seal, and contact information: "1424 S. Missouri Ave. Clearwater, FL., 33756" and "727-447-3461". A yellow starburst says "Free old awning removal with purchase". The bottom section shows two photos of homes with awnings. The left photo shows a retractable awning over a patio, with the Sunesta logo and "Retractable Awning with Wind Sensor" text. The right photo shows a laminated patio cover, with the text "Actual Awnings at OTOW" and "Need to replace your clamshell awning? We have affordable options available." The website "www.sunesta.com" is also listed.

A beautiful mountain wedding in Arizona

You never know what beautiful places your children and grandchildren will pick for weddings.

On Top of the World residents Sharon Noel and her mom Bobbie Collins were off to Arizona to see Brittany Noel and Cody Fermoye get married in June.

It was off to the largest Ponderosa Forest in North America, to a breathtaking wedding venue tucked high in the mountains of Strawberry, Ariz.

The Cabins of Strawberry Hill, located 6,000 feet above sea level, hosted a beautiful three-day celebration for the wedding.

Brittany, Sharon's daughter and Bobbie's granddaughter, married her best friend, Cody, surrounded by family and friends who gathered from all across the United States – literally from sea to shining sea.

Brittany's sister, Amanda, attended as the bride's maid of honor.

The mountain venue was not only gorgeous, but also a cool escape with temperatures about 20 degrees lower than Phoenix.

Guests enjoyed activities such as hikes through tall pines, or simply relaxed on wooden decks under the



shade taking in a mountain breeze. Mom and grandmother said the bride was breathtakingly beautiful and the groom looked extremely handsome as they exchanged vows surrounded by love and nature's splendor.

Sharon shared, "Mom and I loved meeting our new extended family from Minnesota and celebrating with amazing friends."

Everyone had a wonderful time and all joined together in wishing Brittany and Cody God's blessings, protection, and a lifetime filled with happiness and love.



Amanda and Brittany Noel, center, pose for a photo at The Cabins of Strawberry Hill in Arizona. Mom and grandma from Florida enjoyed the scenery, too.

A new address to contact board members
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Poland, Lithuania, Estonia and more

Tracing Dad's footsteps

If someone wanted to learn more about the Baltic States, they could pick up a book or download some videos off of the Internet.

But On Top of the World resident Marilyn Pashkowsky decided to go see the Baltics for herself and learn a little history by being there.

For three weeks, Marilyn visited Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland. It was her first time to each place and the craving could be accredited to her following her family ancestry.

Marilyn, who is also our community yoga instructor and resident in the Victorian building (67), knows her Dad came to the United States from Poland around 1940, but no family records were kept to unveil an exact location. So she went to visit the entire area instead, despite not having any relatives to meet.

"I went by myself," she said. "I was part of a small group that traveled with Overseas Adventure Travel. I got to stay in a variety of hotels. My favorite foods were pierogis, duck and paczki (a jelly-filled donut)."

The trip included visits to various locations tied to World War II. She visited many United Nations Educational, Scientific and Culture Organizations, which covered history and controversial subjects.

"I had an emotional visit to Krakow, to Auschwitz and to the Schindler's Factory Museum (which features the Nazi invasion of Krakow in the late 1930s)," Marilyn said. "I toured the spectacular Wieliczka Salt Caves where I hiked down 150 meters. My calves were sore for three days."

The trip continued on to Warsaw, a piano concert in Chopin (birthplace of famous pianist Frederic Chopin), and a walk along the Baltic Sea shores where you might find a piece of amber if you are lucky. Marilyn found a very small piece.

She hiked the Hill of Witches (outdoor wood gallery) and saw Kalininograd, Russia, from a distance.

Eating native foods was part of the trip so stops for pink soup (beets and kefir) and kibinai (meat pastries) were included. Marilyn even helped make



Marilyn Pashkowsky visits Warsaw, Poland, during a trip to visit her father's side of the family.

goat cheese!

The Eastern European adventure concluded in Finland. The menu included reindeer hot dogs, fried sardines and dried elk. There was an opportunity

to taste a very expensive caviar, but Marilyn passed.

She did not pass on the chance to stay overnight in a jail converted into a hotel. You can google it – Home Hotel

Katajanokka. Marilyn was "held prisoner" there for just a night.

It was truly a unique three-week adventure.



Marilyn Pashkowsky visits Estonia.

Austrian Alpine welcomes new neighbors



In a bold move against sweat, 15 Austrian Alpine residents gathered at Smokey Bones for an air-conditioned summer barbecue.

Linda Franklin said that a good time was had by all while Dottie Ference was thanked for organizing this dining out event.

Please join us in welcoming our new neighbors.

Robert and Pat Seetin are the newest additions to our building. Robert and Pat moved here from Colorado. They have two fur-babies, Little Girl



Austrian Alpine residents beat the heat with indoor dining at Smokey Bones.

and Dash.

Robert and Pat enjoy meeting people and Pat has already joined a couple of community clubs.

They love to travel.

Robert is an Army veteran. Pat is a former college professor and a published author on marketing research.

You'll find them out walking and ex-

ercising.

Welcome Steve Smith who is originally from Detroit. He is a former Army medic. He served in Ft Rucker, Ala., where he did flight physicals for helicopter pilots.

Steve worked for the Detroit News and Free Press where he printed 1.3 million newspapers each day.

He likes On Top of the World News and is impressed by the color photography and layout.

Caesar and Kim Garcia and their dog, Gussy, are also new to the building. Caesar attended the building indoor barbecue at Smokey Bones and enjoyed the opportunity to get to know his neighbors.

Caesar is currently the director of Hope Villages of America. This food bank and their various programs are available to anyone in need.

Kim is a former wedding and portrait

photographer and is presently an in-home caregiver.

Some of our neighbors have been traveling.

Jose and Claire Rodriguez just returned from a 14-day cruise around New England aboard Holland America with ports of call in Newport, RI, Boston, Portland and Eastport, Me., Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Montreal, Canada.

They spent an extra five days exploring Quebec.

Their adventure had some top-notch spots. Claire was particularly fond of the high tea aboard the ship, Peggy's Cove, and the architectural style of Quebec.

For Jose, this adventure marked the milestone of celebrating his well-deserved retirement!

Chris Dodge and his girlfriend, Jen Hansen, have returned from a European adventure. They traveled to Bologna, took a train to Ravenna (Italy), then set sail on a cruise to Dubrovnik (Croatia), Corfu (Greece), Nice and Marseille (France), Florence (Italy) and concluded in Barcelona, Spain.

Marseille was stunning, according to Chris, and Barcelona was a remarkable city with exceptional dining experiences.

The Basilica de la Sagrada Familia in Barcelona was particularly impressive having been under construction for 100 years with another 10 years to go.

Thanks a million to Marilyn Whelan for her terrific donation of a card table and four folding chairs to our building - we're ready for some serious building bingo.



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On Top of the World Movie Night

4 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 13, EAC Auditorium
Production year (2024) Lions Gate Films, Inc. Rated PG-13 Runtime: 102 minutes
Director Tracie Laymon
Cast: Bill Murray, Naomi Watts, Cloé Xhaufaire, Constance Wu, Noma Dumezweni

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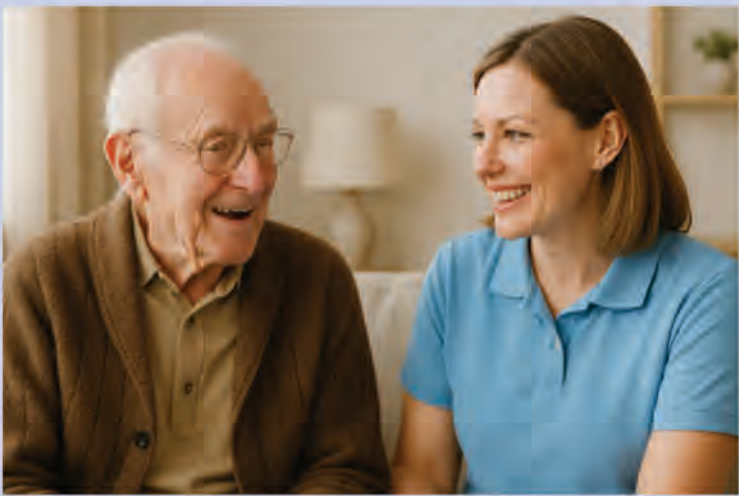
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For your next holiday party, create your own charcuterie

(Fancy word for meat and cheese platter)



What the heck is charcuterie and why do you want it at your next party?

There’s no better way to appreciate something than to learn about its history. And when it comes to something as universal as the art of charcuterie, we want to learn everything we can.

Charcuterie comes from the French terms “chair,” which means flesh and “cuite,” which means cooked.

But when we say charcuterie, we mean “cured meats” or preserved meats.

A traditional charcuterie is a place where the cured meats are sold, like a delicatessen.

Preserving meat is an old tradition that stretches back thousands of years. In the days before refrigeration, the simple techniques of salting and drying meat were enough to ensure their preservation for months. This is because salting meat quickly gets the moisture out, which makes it an inhospitable environment for bacteria.

While these simple techniques began long ago, it was 15th century France that developed more sophisticated curing techniques. Experimenting with different curing solutions, drying times, and cuts of meat, the French developed varieties of delicious cured meats that are part of the charcuterie art.

Traditionally, cured meats were made out of pork. However, these days, we have offerings like beef salami, turkey bacon and duck prosciutto.

Then, of course, there are products like salt cod and beef jerky that might not make it on your charcuterie board, but are still great examples of cured meats.

Charcuterie is the culinary art of preparing meat products such as bacon, salami, ham, sausage, terrines, galantines, ballotines, pates and confit.

Someone that prepares charcuterie is called a charcutier.

So why is charcuterie suddenly a rage?

As the saying goes, “Everything old is new again.”

Like many traditional foods that are making a comeback, charcuterie is a culinary art developed from necessity. Just like pickles, fermented vegetables,



home drafted beer, broth and kombucha, charcuterie has been revived and brought front and center by the traditional food movement. And, in my humble opinion, front and center is exactly where it deserves to be.

How to be a charcuterie for your next party

The fabulous thing about serving charcuterie at your own party is that there are no rules! You can keep it as simple as you like (just the cured meats maybe) or dress it up with fresh or dried fruits, a variety of artisan breads, plus crackers, olives, cheeses and spreads (like honey, preserves or jams).

You can also keep it budget-friendly by setting out a small plate or go all out with a large platter.

Charcuterie is perfect for the holidays

Putting together a charcuterie board is a snap, which is why it is perfect for

holidays parties.

Just visit the specialty department in your grocery store and pick what looks amazing. Then set it on a board!

Honestly, when something is this easy and delicious, why would you make anything else?

Tips for making your own charcuterie board

Offer 3-5 types of meats.

While we can technically eat piles of prosciutto, it’s a good idea to have at least three varieties of cold cuts. Try not to serve too many types of meats as that can also get overwhelming.

Vary the texture. A good rule of thumb is to have a few dry-aged choices (since these tend to be the most popular). One option is wet-cured (such as Italian mortadella), and one type of sausage (cut into bite-sized pieces).

Balance it with something acidic. It’s no secret that cold cuts are fatty. Bring some balance to the decadence with

an acidic ingredient such as brined olives, cornichons or pickled peppers.

Add something sweet to enhance the flavors of salty cold cuts. I recommend stacking your charcuterie board with some fresh fruit and sweet jams.

The fabulous thing about creating charcuterie at your own party is that there are no rules! You can keep it as simple as you like or dress it up.

So let’s get started.

Don’t forget the wine

Last, but not least, try to include a wine pairing with your charcuterie board. Make sure that the wine you serve is acidic to cut through the fattiness of the cold cuts.

While both red and white wines can be paired perfectly with a charcuterie board, I recommend sticking to regional varieties.

So if your charcuterie board consists of Italian cold cuts, then try a bottle of dry, bold Chianti.

ITALIAN CHARCUTERIE BOARD

1/4 pound Fennel Salami
1/4 pound Imported Prosciutto Parma
1/4 pound Flove Dolce Piccante Savdinia Italy
Cornichons

1/4 pound Capocollo
Anchovy

1/4 pound Italian Mortradella
1/4 pound Levoni San Gemnaro Imported Salami
Pecprino Romano Stuffed Peppers
Olives

These raspberry-lemon muffins will make an early morning worthwhile



(My dear chefs, on a personal note, I have enjoyed writing this column for over eight years and I hope you have enjoyed reading it, too. This is my last column and I thank you for your feedback. Look for my writings in the “25 Years Ago” column and hopefully other ways I can contribute to our excellent newspaper. I wish the best for your health and life.)

Why choose a healthy muffin? It’s about getting a treat and the benefits.

- **Healthy Aging:** There is a 31 percent greater likelihood of healthy aging if you eat high-quality carbs versus a diet heavy in low-quality carbs.

- **Better Nutrition:** Healthy muffins often use whole grains, natural sweeteners, fruits, nuts or seeds. That means more fiber, vitamins and minerals compared to standard muffins made with white flour and lots of white sugar.

- **Stable Energy:** A healthy muffin can offer slow-digesting carbs and protein, helping maintain steady blood sugar levels. That means fewer crashes and more lasting energy.

- **Weight Goals:** People trying to manage or lose weight may choose a healthy option to control calories and avoid empty carbs. The biggest gain is achieved eating a standard-size muffin rather than a jumbo muffin two to three times larger.

- **Healthy Muffins Taste Good:** When done right, healthy muffins can be just as satisfying as regular ones — sweet, moist, and flavorful — without the guilt.

To sell a reluctant friend on eating a healthy muffin, you’ve got to be smart about it — lead with taste, not with a lecture. People eat with their senses first. If it looks good, smells good and tastes good, they’re in. Health can be the bonus, not the headline.

Nutritional Value

Whole wheat flour adds more nutrition, such as complex carbohydrates and fiber, plus a pleasant nutty flavor, to baked goods fiber.

White flour is a refined ingredient which — like granulated sugar—can cause a rapid rise in blood sugar. Diets high in refined carbohydrates increase the risk of heart disease.

Whole foods, like raspberries and lemons, are packed with vitamins and minerals, while also providing sweetness and moisture.

Natural sweeteners, like brown sugar, help decrease overall sweetness due to their complex flavor.

So, a chef can use less white sugar while still attaining a pleasingly sweet taste.

The sweetness and fat in a muffin



can also create a tender texture.

Buttermilk provides several benefits. It adds moisture and tenderness, contributes to a lighter crumb, and enhances the overall flavor of the muffin.

Additionally, buttermilk can aid in activating baking soda, promoting lift and rise in the batter. It is also lower in fat and calories than milk.

Eggs provide structure, leavening, richness, color and flavor and protein to baked products. The height and texture of baked goods is determined by the balance between eggs and flour, which both provide strength.

One muffin has 220 calories, 9 grams of fat, 32 grams of carbohydrates, and 4 grams of protein.

The Science

Dear chefs, did you notice the recipe calls for a combination of whole wheat

and all-purpose flour?

Why?

Whole wheat flour can sometimes make the finished product seem drier and produce a coarser texture than using the more refined all-purpose flour.

Plus, substituting whole wheat flour 100 percent for white flour will lower the rise.

Why?

Mainly because whole wheat flour absorbs more liquid than white flour and produces a stiffer dough. The stiffer/drier the dough, the harder it is for it to rise.

So, a more pleasing result is attained with a mix of flours.

Whole wheat flour can be used in a crumble topping for muffins, but it will result in a denser, more rustic crumble with a slightly nutty flavor compared to all-purpose flour.

All-purpose flour produces a lighter,

more airy crumble topping.

For muffins, select an oil carefully.

One possibility is a neutral oil which does not have a flavor, like vegetable oil or avocado oil. This enables the flavor of the fruit to shine through.

Another more challenging choice is an oil that adds a complimentary flavor to fruit. Examples include extra virgin olive oil, which boosts a fruity flavor or refined peanut oil. The impact is a nutty flavor.

Fresh raspberries are the best choice, if available. Frozen ones discolor the batter. Be sure to dice the raspberries small with a sharp knife so that they are evenly distributed in the batter.

If using liners, also spray the liners on the inside to be sure the liner smoothly peels away from the muffin. This is especially important for low-fat muffins.

Raspberry-Lemon Muffins

Ingredients

- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup buttermilk
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup neutral oil, such as extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large egg
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1½ cups fresh raspberries

Directions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees farenheit. Coat a standard 12-cup muffin tin with cooking spray.

To prepare crumb topping

Combine ¼ cup flour, ¼ cup brown sugar, 1 teaspoon lemon juice and a pinch of salt in a small bowl. Add 1½ tablespoons oil and stir until crumbly.

To prepare muffins

- Whisk whole-wheat flour, all-purpose flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a large bowl.
- Whisk buttermilk, sugar, oil, egg, lemon zest and va-

nilla in a medium bowl until well combined. Add the buttermilk mixture to the dry mixture and fold until almost blended. Gently fold in the cups raspberries.

- Use a standard muffin tin with 2 oz. cups. Divide the batter evenly among the prepared muffin cups. Sprinkle with the crumb topping, gently pressing to adhere.

- Bake until golden brown and a skewer inserted into the center comes out clean, about 20 minutes. Let the muffins cool in the pan on a wire rack for 10 minutes. Transfer the muffins to the rack and cool at least 5 minutes more before serving.

Servings: 12

And the scavenger hunt winners are ...

The Bohemia building is unique. One thing that makes it different is its annual scavenger hunt amongst residents. Each year it is an Irish Lane versus Jamaican Street rivalry, which began in 2018.

At the beginning, the wins were pretty balanced each year. Four years ago, things changed when the Irish Lane side won.

Now, for the fourth year in a row, the Irish Lane side of the building prevailed and took the prize. Jamaican street reports they are more determined than ever to capture the bragging rights next year.

The gauntlet is down, so look out Irish Lane. The Jamaicans are coming to get you next year.

Our Christmas in July occurred last month.

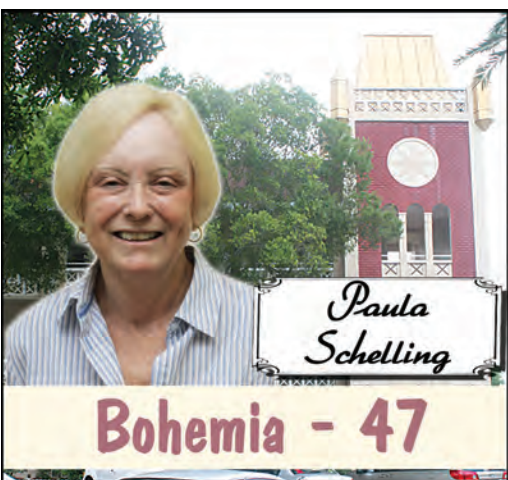
Christmas decorations were resurrected from the shelves one Saturday morning. A group of volunteers, whose only reward was coffee, rummaged through every tub to look for broken ornaments, torn garland and burned-out light strings.

An inventory was taken and list made of things needed for this upcoming holiday season.

At the end of the day, we declared ourselves ready for the holidays.

On the Fourth of July, our residents deviated from an afternoon pot luck luncheon to morning mimosas, bingo and brunch.

Due to the heat of the afternoons, we experimented with this new morning format instead. The responses were extremely positive. It looks like a new



tradition may have been started. Our monthly dinner was held at Cricketeers in Dunedin with 24 residents in attendance. What made this dinner special was the celebration of Ellen and Frank Marini's 60th wedding anniversary.

Our June mid-month dinner was held at Chili's. This is the first time this venue has been selected. From all appearances, everyone enjoyed themselves and it could be added again in the future on the social calendar.

We welcome new residents to the building.

First, Curt and Terry May. They moved to Florida from Michigan. Terry owned and operated a barber shop for 30 years. Curt was employed by General Motors. They are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren - one here and one in Michigan.

We welcome George and Jackie Brown. They are from Northbrook and Buffalo Grove, Ill., respectively.

Jackie is employed by Safe Guard



Bohemia residents play Fourth of July morning bingo in the core.
(Photo by Doug Mlodzinski)

Storage. Her job entails managing and training the employees at their various locations. George was the owner of an office supply and cleaning agent business. They have one daughter who resides in Grayslake, Ill.

Our next new resident is Ray Woolsey. His name may be familiar to some, as Ray is a long-time resident of On Top of the World, but new to our building. He plays on our softball team and is quite good, I understand.

Ray is originally from New York. He is an Army veteran. After leaving the Army, he became a banker, but remained an active member of the Army reserves.

Besides softball, Ray takes part in Qigong lessons here. In his spare time, he also enjoys music and reading.

We also welcome Mark and Jan Malanowski. They moved here from Indiana.

Jan originally was from Illinois and worked for Grayhill. This company builds switches that are used by the military. Mark is a Floridian who was employed by the Norfolk Southern Railway. They have three grandchildren who are spread from Hawaii to Chicago to Florida.

We in the building welcome you all and are glad that you are here with us.

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**DO YOU NEED
AN EXTRA
PAPER?**

Extra copies of OTOW News are available in the East and West Activity Center lobbies and at the newsroom.



**Mark your calendars!
Be back in Florida
by Oct. 18!**

Tickets sold 8:30-10:30 am
at Good Neighbors
information table on
Thursdays over the summer

Music Bingo

Coming on Oct. 18 to the EAC Auditorium

**Tickets are \$13 per person
and includes a hot dog meal.**



Flamenco dines on fine food and cold beverages to celebrate the early settlers



The first celebration of our country's independence was on July 4, 1777. It was a year after that the Declaration of Independence was signed. Surprisingly, it was only celebrated in Boston and Philadelphia.

There was bell ringing. There were Patriotic readings and bonfires. A fleet of ships shot 13 cannons in celebration of the new country. It was a joyous time.

There were also fireworks at the first celebration, as there are now. Americans spent an estimated \$2.7 billion in 2024 just to watch the sparkles.

The hot dog was invented in 1871. Hamburgers came along in the late 19th or early 20th century.

About 180 years later, they are a staple for the Fourth of July.

However, at the Flamenco Indepen-



Residents celebrating the Fourth of July pause for a group photo showing off their red, white and blue attire for the day. The gathering was hosted by Lorraine Gendron and featured a variety of food.

dence Day party, we had spareribs, sausage, shrimp and potato salad along with the usual fare.

We dined on salads and all kinds of dessert. We had strawberry shortcake and two apple pies.

The party was hosted once again by Lorraine Gendron with assistance from the building hospitality crew.

Next year remember this. It was a difficult time for the early independent settlers. There was no air conditioning

to cool off. No refrigerator to retrieve an ice-cold lemonade.

So, despite all the problems of the modern world, we got it pretty easy.

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Valencia residents can brag they saw a baseball game that finished three days later



Here in the Valencia building, residents were treated to a beautiful and fun Fourth of July bulletin board display by our ever-creative neighbor Karen Petersen.

Neighbors and folks who make our building part of their exercise walks always enjoy her efforts.

Our neighbors, Gus and Joy Longo, hosted a lively group of Valencia neighbors, friends and family for a trip to the BayCare Ballpark to see a Clearwater Threshers baseball game against the Tampa Tarpons on July 3. There were also fireworks.

Gus made sure we had perfect seats. Joy ensured everyone had a flag to proudly wave.

We all had fun, but had no idea the game we started watching was going to take three days in two stadiums because of weather.

The game started on July 3 at BayCare Park, but was suspended in



Valencia residents, family and friends enjoy their seats at BayCare Ballpark where a game between the Clearwater Threshers and Tampa Tarpons started on July 3. Due to weather issues, the game ended two days later in Tampa.

the fourth inning.

Thankfully for Valencia residents, since the ballpark is close by, we were able to vamoose home before the rain, lightning and thunder really got going. Ah, Florida weather. We just have fun around it!

The game picked up again on July 4 at Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, but

was delayed again for weather. No pitch was ever thrown.

The game resumed and ended July 5 at Steinbrenner Field in a 6-3 Threshers victory.

Our Valencia building monthly Ladies Brunch Bunch went to Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen in July.

These easy-going gatherings are al-

ways a chance to relax, recharge, have a lot of laughs, catch up on "who's been where," get to know each other better, provide some mutual support, and share wisdom, news and tips.

It's a "show up when you can" kind of "gaggle of gals" who know how to enjoy each other's company. All ladies in our building are welcome to join the fun.

Villa resident knows the Berlin Wall well

July saw a lot going on at Viennese Villa. We met interesting neighbors, welcomed home travelers, got ready for weather and more.

Pictured below is Jim Shepard with whom I spent an enjoyable time reminiscing about those tense, but at times funny events, in Germany in the 1960s.

Post-college Jim joined the US Army. Upon completion of military intelligence school in Maryland, it was off to the isolated US sector of Berlin.

The 1960s were tumultuous years to be in Germany, especially isolated by the Berlin Wall. Anyone traveling in or out of the city was scrutinized by East German guards, especially US personnel.

Jim was there when U2 Air Force pilot Francis Gary Powers was exchanged after being shot down on a secret mission over the Soviet Union.

Jim shared one story about a tunnel under the wall from east to west used by people to escape. The ruse was an outhouse! Some 200 people crossed.

While in Germany, Jim met his better half, Renate, a civilian employee. They started their own history, which continues to be long and happy.

After the service, Jim enjoyed a long and distinguished career as an educator. Retiring in 2002, he and Renate moved to Clearwater to be close to their children.

Jim was the Villa's captain for eons until passing the baton to Kirk Safee a few years ago.

Nice seeing Tim and Karen Beaver and Cheryl McKay around after returning from vacation holidays.

Message from Rosalie Borselli in Jacksonville, settling in her new place close to family. Misses all of us as we do that lovely lady.

If you haven't, best get ready in case



Jim Shepard

of storms. Batteries, flashlights, full car gas tank and easy fix meals. Peanut butter and jelly works well.

A car cell phone charger is very handy in case power is out.

Well kids. With that I shall bid you adeau til next we meet. Happy birthday to all, especially Randae Marie VanDe-nover and her wonderful dog, Iggy!

Remember, any news fit to print, send along to fresca@maine.rr.com.

New Beginner Mah Jongg Class

Free to Residents

3-5 pm, Aug. 11-27
Mondays and Wednesdays
West Activity Center
Palm Harbor Room

To register for all 6 classes
call Rose Fiore at 609-330-7788
or Barb Moon at 727-215-1034



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New resident is an artist and creates art with flowers



Sigrid Goodspeed and Mallie enjoying their new home at On Top of the World.

People come and people go, but it is always interesting to meet new neighbors.

One week before the arrival of Hurricane Milton, Sigrid Goodspeed moved into the Chetnik building at On Top of the World.

Sigrid is originally from Jackson, Miss., and has lived in various states before making her decision to relocate and retire in Clearwater.

She served as a legal assistant for numerous years before retiring from her role.

Her two sons reside in Florida. Connor and Paloma-Gabriel are expecting a daughter in September and they are in Spring Hill. Daniel and his fiancé, Meghan, live in St. Augustine.

During my visit with Sigrid, I could not help but notice the beautiful artwork that filled her home. Being an artist myself, I asked her about the pieces. Coming from an artistic family, she stated that her mother was a famous master painter in Mississippi. Her grandmother was also an artist and her brother worked as a potter. She proudly displays his work in her home.

Sigrid is actively engaging with the local artist community and has expressed interest in participating in upcoming classes at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center.

She loves creating joy with flowers and shares her creations at a local Oldsmar florist where she is currently employed as a florist.

Welcome Sigrid!



At a recent Chetnik meeting, it was announced that Building Captain Paul Bruyere and Secretary/Treasurer Diane Walker are planning to retire.

Sigrid was also present at the meeting.

After discussions and an election, Sigrid accepted the position as secretary/treasurer.

Mendy Payne accepted the position as building captain.

Thank you both for accepting the nominations. We are looking forward to a momentous year!

If you have any news, upcoming events, or special milestones from the Chetnik building that you would like to share with our community, please feel free to reach out. I welcome your stories, announcements and celebrations.

You can contact me directly at loislane96@hotmail.com.

I would love to hear from you and help spread the word!



PREPARE TODAY FOR A HURRICANE

Don't wait for a bad storm to be hours away.

Don't think, "It will never hit here."
The photo at left was taken Aug. 4, 2024. It did hit here.

Your Pre-Storm Checklist

1. Map out an evacuation route and choose a final, fortified destination well-inland. Tell family and friends where you intend to be during a storm. You should have one post-disaster contact - one person who is out of the danger zone, who you can contact and who will share your information with other loved ones. You may be short on power so consider limiting your contacts to one person.
2. If you stay behind, keep the following in stock: 1 week supply of bottled water and non-perishable foods, refill prescriptions, bottle opener, flashlight and battery operated radio. Do you know where these items are stored? Don't go searching for them as a storm is closing in. Keep tape and cardboard handy should a leak develop.
3. Create an inventory of your home. Use photos and videos in case some day you need to replace your items or determine the value of items lost. Special items should be stored away from your home in a safe place. Store important documents in sealable, water proof containers.
4. Bring in porch items and anything outside that could become a projectile.
5. Fill vehicle with gas. Don't wait until the mad rush starts.
6. Don't assume a storm is over. Stay indoors. Please use a flashlight and not candles. Keep refrigerator closed as much as possible.
7. Get cash. Money machines could be out for weeks.
8. Review your insurance policy once a year to make sure you are covered for a major storm. If you need to file a claim, do so immediately after a storm. Make a list of damaged items. Keep receipts. Be patient.
9. The OTOW activity centers are not storm shelters. They will not be open during a storm. If you live on an upper floor or may need assistance after a storm, plan ahead. There are nearby evacuation shelters.
10. OTOW will provide weather updates if possible using RAVE, OTOW-TV 901 and the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

WHEN A STORM HAS PASSED

- A. If you evacuated, do not return home until authorities give you the OK.
- B. Do not go outside. Do not begin cleanup on your own. Let OTOW management personnel remove limbs, wires and all damage.
- C. Do not drive into a flooded road. Turn around - don't drown.
- D. Traffic lights may be out. Stop at all intersections where a traffic light is not working. Treat each intersection as a four-way stop.
- E. Do not use sink water until authorities give the OK. Do not eat spoiled food.
- F. Do not wear flipflops outside. Wear sturdy shoes.

Sign up for RAVE alerts.
Community updates will be posted
on RAVE,
OTOW-TV Channel 901 and the
Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

www.nhc.noaa.gov



Terry and Bob Davey show off their winnings from a night at the Elks Club.

Proof - money can buy you love

Bob and Terry Davey, unable to visit their annual summer camp at Kibbe's Island, along the Allegheny River in Tionesta, Pa., decided to spend a vacation day at the Dunedin Elks Club instead.

During their first visit there, they took part in a game called "I Got It," where Bob unexpectedly won multiple times.

Bob, feeling doubtful after his first win, decided it was beginner's luck and said, "I will not win anything again for the next 10 years."

But he did.

After winning again, the whole room cheered on him and his wife. Terry wrapped her arms around him saying, "Honey, money can buy you love."

This brought immense joy to both of the Daveys and the crowd, creating a lively and cheerful atmosphere.

The Elks Club in Dunedin is known for using its proceeds from such games to support its operations and charitable causes. It offers a welcoming community and enjoyable activities for retirees and locals alike. The club provides space where people come together, socialize and have fun while contributing to a good cause.

Bob's unexpected wins in the game added an extra layer of excitement to their evening making it a night to remember for everyone involved. They made new friends and have a new place to have a fun time for great entertainment.

Bob and Terry have been Granadian residents since 2018. They were introduced to On Top of the World by Dr. Robert Kostka and his wife Bette



of 52 years. They were close friends of the Kostkas for many years. Robert was our local podiatrist of 36 years, who was the first resident of our Granada building. They watched the building as it was being built step by step, brick by brick, in 1974.

Both have passed yet remain beloved by those who knew them here.

Granadians spent a wonderful time together at a monthly lunch at Abes Tap and Grill Restaurant in July. They were laughing and sharing stories.

Our next luncheon will be held at the Varsity Club Sports Bar and Grill, 24091 US Hwy 19 N, Clearwater. Please sign up and join us on Monday Aug. 11 at 2 p.m.

Our next monthly "Meeting on the Green" will be held Thursday, Aug. 28, 4-5 p.m.

Until next time, as always, stay safe, be blessed and let not your heart be troubled.

Social Dance with Howard

Taking the month of August off.
Be back in September.

Qwirkle Group

Qwirkle is a fun tile game full of colors and shapes. Residents are getting together now to play together. It is easy to learn but challenging to master. Come join us. No experience necessary.



Mondays 1-4 p.m.
East Activity Center Dunedin Room
Everyone Welcome!
Call Sherrie Markey at 717-873-1066.

Blackout

Year-Round
Thursdays
6:30-9:30 pm
WAC Belleair Room
Must have a valid activity card and be a member of the Canadian Club.
Bring spare change.



Learn how to play at 5:50 pm

French Language and Culture Society
11 am - 12 pm
Wednesdays
EAC Dunedin Room



Bonesavers

Mondays, Wednesays,
Fridays
8:00 - 9:00 am
Clearwater Room



Speak English

A new class at On Top of the World taught by Lola Dickert and Eugene Z. We meet for 1 hour every Thursday from 10-11 am in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room. The class is free. There is no homework. This is your chance to learn how to speak English more fluently. Just bring your Activity Card.

OTOW Philosophy Club

Life, World Events, Environment, Education, Retirement, Health, Justice, Television

Philosophy Club

Guest speakers. Share opinions.
No politics. No religion. No complaints.

Every Tuesday
10-11:30 am
EAC Crystal Beach Room

Freebirdz

(formerly TOPS)
10:30 am -12:00 pm, Fridays
Crystal Beach Room
Sit, talk and lose weight.
No membership.



Shuffleboard

Open to all OTOW residents with a valid activity card.
Join us during league play and we have equipment available.
Mon-Tue-Wed 4 pm
East Activity Center



Classified

OTOW News classifieds are for On Top of the World residents only. You may place an ad to sell or seek to buy using up to 40 words. You cannot sell anything for a price of more than \$500. You cannot sell condos, cars, bedding or used clothing. No business ads. No companion ads. Classifieds must be dropped off at the newsroom in person before the 16th of each month. You may be asked to show your activity card. One classified per household per month. You must ask to have your ad run twice.

Puppies for Sale
Shih Tzu puppies (two males, two females) will be eight weeks old on Aug. 4. Please call Derek for pictures, price or any additional information, 727-288-4774. They will come with health certificates and first shots.

Ladder for Sale
16 foot Werner aluminum extension ladder. Asking \$125. Call Bob at 401-258-2059.

Baby Crib for Sale
Pac & Play Baby Crib. Only used for grandchildren's visits. Asking \$15. Bench

carry cart with large wheels, \$10. Call Diane at 260-705-6616.

Air Bed for Sale
Intex Dura Beam Deluxe Premium Air Bed. 39 inches by 75 in. by 13 in. Internal pump. Still in box. Never used. Asking \$25. Reply to davids34828@yahoo.com.

Accessories for Sale
China-Wedgewood Mirabelle Leigh shape creamer and coffee pot with lid. Asking \$60 and \$140. Vintage metal palm tree candle holders, \$65. Vintage Steve Urkel doll figurine, \$50. Call Clara at (813) 748-4959.

BRAIN TEASE

	4		5		3
3			2		
	3		1		5
	1	3		5	2
2			3		
	2		6		4

To do the Brain Tease above, you must put a number 0-9 in each white square. The trick is, each number can only appear one time horizontally and vertically. Start with a row or column with only one white square. As you fill in squares, the rest of the board will get easier to manage.

OTOW News

WORDMIX

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.
Please note, none of the secret words are plural.

A O L C L

T U O E R

U I N A L R

A D E L Z Z

A E C T L S I

I A I L V R O

SECRET WORD:

Last month's scrambled words: sound, image, muscle, purple, lottery, yielded. Secret Word Last Month: simply

Good Karma Book Club

A post-read book discussion group.

COKIE ROBERTS

Author of the #1 New York Times Bestseller *My Sister Sam*

Founding Mothers

THE WOMEN WHO RAISED OUR NATION

10 am, Thursday, August 21

“Founding Mothers ... Raised Our Nation”

By Cokie Roberts

10 am, Thursday, September 18

“Prophet Song”

By Paul Lynch

All of our meetings take place in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

For more information, see our web page on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

You can also call Jane at 727-754-3823.

LIBRARY

New Book

“The First Gentleman”

by Bill Clinton and James Patterson

Join the OTOW Library for \$5.

Renew your membership so we can buy new books.

Hours: 10-12 Mondays, 1-3 Wednesdays, 10-12 Thursdays