



Fall Festival
story and photos
See pages 14 & 15

Good Neighbors
Association Flea Market
See page 25

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

December 2022

Published Since 1968

54 Years of Only Good News

Volume 54

No. 12



FREE - NO TICKETS REQUIRED

Carol with the Chorus
7:30 pm, Saturday, Dec. 3

OK, You might be a little confused.
There will be a Chorus Christmas Concert!
However, you are all joining the Chorus.

For the first time,
OTOW Chorus is asking residents to
attend this free holiday concert and
sing-along with the Chorus
to more than 15 different carols.
You know all the songs.
You love to sing.
You love Christmas.
Please, come join us.

“Deck the Halls” “Winter Wonderland”
“Joy To The World” “White Christmas”
“Jingle Bells” “Frosty the Snowman”
“Silent Night” and many more!

**This year's Chorus concert is
free and you are singing with us**

Carol with the Chorus

Who doesn't like to sing Christmas carols?
Who doesn't like free tickets?

For the first time ever, your On Top of the World Chorus will perform a holiday concert with almost all caroling.

You are not only invited, but you will be one of our singers from the audience.

“Join in with the On Top of the World Chorus for an old-fashioned Christmas sing-along,” said Sylvia Reider from the Chorus.

“Bring your family, friends and everyone who loves to sing Christmas carols.”

Find a chair, join Chorus and sing traditional favorites such as “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” “Holly Jolly Christmas,” “The First Noel,” “We Wish You A Merry Christmas” and more.

Eight members of the Chorus will be on stage leading you through the correct chords, and the words to every song will be on the movie screen for you to follow.

Plus, the Chorus will sing four of their own songs to let you rest your vocal chords.

Want even more?

“Mrs. Claus will welcome you at the main entrance with jolly laughter and candy,” Sylvia said. “She will step on stage to sing-along with the audience. Santa Claus will be the master of ceremonies, bringing the magic of Christmas to our community celebration.”

Some other OTOW clubs may be donating holiday decorations for the stage. If you come dressed in your favorite holiday attire, then it will be the perfect evening.

The concert will take place Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

“This sing-along is On Top of the World Chorus' gift to our community,” Sylvia said.

Now, we are not saying that every future Chorus concert will be audience participation, but this one will follow that format. Singing is a natural stimulant that makes people happy, smile and friendly to others. So why not stop by for an hour and contribute your voice.

Or, just listen and let your neighbors sing.

If you attend and go home with a smile, then Chorus has another message for you. You never have to sing alone. OTOW Chorus is already preparing for its annual spring show. You can sign up and become a member.

Chorus members have regular rehearsals and build new friendships. There is no sign-up sheet yet for the spring concert, but after the holiday event, tell someone from Chorus you are interested in joining.

If you want to support Chorus, donations will be gladly received before and after the concert. This is the first time Chorus has not charged for a concert, but funding is needed to purchase music for future concerts.

What's up with this newspaper?

You've probably already noticed, the December edition of On Top of the World News is a little strange-looking?

It's true. You are not seeing things.

In November, OTOW News decided to switch printing press companies, but we didn't give our new printing company, The Villages, a lot of time to prepare for us.

The only newsprint they had in stock is what you are reading today. It's called broad-

sheet.

So rather than have no newspaper at all in December, OTOW News presents our holiday-edition newspaper on broadsheet paper.

Our new printer has a state-of-the-art printing facility which will make our newspaper photos look just like prints you buy at the drug store.

You will also notice there are fewer black

and white pages. The Villages does not print black and white. In fact, our January newspaper should have no black and white pages at all.

So surprise!

This is still OTOW News - just with a different shape. Our amazing staff wrote 65 stories for you this month.

Hope you enjoy.

END THE YEAR ON A

High Note



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- On-site office open 7 days a week, we'll show your home more often and sell it faster.
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Community Service Office (727) 683-6981 Leave Message If Needed	Water Turn On/ Turn Off (727) 799-3417 Menu Option 6	Emergency Service After Hours / Weekends (727) 799-1115	Activities Office (727) 799-2734
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Duke Energy (report power outages) 1-800-228-8485
Pinellas County Sheriff (Non-Emergency Line) 727-582-6200
Pinellas County Consumer Hotline (Report Scams) ... 727-464-6617



Not only did the Canadian Club have a beautiful table at the 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival in November, but some Canadian mounties came in just for this event! In the month of November, the Canadian Club signed up more than 40 new members. Some of those new members are below. They signed up during Registration Night on Nov. 16. (Photos by Rowland Hetrick)

Canadian Club gets 90 sign-ups in just two weeks with Christmas dinner dance approaching quickly



By Connie Stanley

I am so happy to announce that at the On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo on Saturday, Nov. 5, 90 people registered for the Canadian Club.

Susan Cober reported that 45 of those are new members!

Congratulations to all and welcome aboard for a fun time!

Nearly two weeks later, on Registration Night, 20 more people registered for our club. We are elated and excited to see all this enthusiasm!

If you are reading this article on Dec. 1, this is the final day for ticket sales for our "Welcome Back" Christmas Dinner – Dance.

Ticket Sales Coordinator Lydia Côté and her elf, Harold Côté, will be selling tickets at the Canadian Club information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Cost is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. It will be a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixins', plus coffee and dessert.

The dinner dance will take place on Monday, Dec. 5, 5 p.m. Bring your own beverages. Dancing music will be provided by Grant Hemond and Associates.

On Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023, the Canadian Club will be going to Tampa Bay Downs for A Day at the Races.

Event Coordinator John Henry is selling seats so get your tickets soon. The buffet begins at 11 a.m. Cost is \$32. Transportation is not included.

We are also pleased to announce that your Executive Committee is trying something new! We are welcoming you to an off-site dinner theatre event called Birthday Club on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023, starting at 4 p.m.



More than 90 people signed up for the Canadian Club in November, including 40 brand new members. Some of those happy people are show above.

The locale is 13344 49th Street N, Clearwater, Fla.

The theatrical shows are funny and entertaining and performed by professional actors with years of experience.

The dinner is prepared by Banquet Masters, an onsite full-service caterer.

The cost is \$50 which includes dinner, taxes, show and gratuity. There is also a cash bar!

We'll be selling tickets at our information table in the EAC Auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. until Jan. 6, 2023.

The Birthday Club performance we will be watching is about five women who get together for their birthdays. Each woman has their own story and own favorite drink. They celebrate, commiserate and support each other as they negotiate

through marriage, work, divorce, birth and kids, while solving the problems of the world.

When one of the ladies admits she went out with another woman's husband, the vodka hits the fan.

Come celebrate the ups and downs of friendship in this humorous romp.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023, our club will host its own "Golf Fun Day" with a rain date of Saturday, Feb. 26.

The event is 18 holes and starts at 7 a.m. The cost is \$12 per golfer, which includes a box lunch.

If you are interested, contact Event Coordinator Harry Morrison at 778-771-4886 to reserve your spot or email morrisonharbar@aol.com.

On Monday, March 27, 2023, our club will be going to a Toronto Blue Jays spring

training game against the Philadelphia Phillies.

We have reserved 50 seats for the 1 p.m. game. Contact Event Coordinator Susan Cober at 727-754-6063 or email susancober@rogers.com.

Our club will participate in the annual Irish Club Parade on Saturday, March 4, 2023, so please sign up with Coordinator Jackie Cornett Small at 502-594-2444 or email her at jcornettsmall@gmail.com if you'd like to march with us.

Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season, a very Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.

I look forward to seeing you at our "Welcome Back" Christmas Dinner-Dance.

How Florida Senate Bill 4-D will affect your On Top of the World Community

Florida Senate Bill 4-D, the Florida State Legislature's response to the June 2021 building collapse in Surfside, FL, passed into law during Special Session 2022D earlier this year.

Florida Senate Bill 4-D was heard in only one committee meeting, in both chambers, before being considered for final passage during the special session. The usual practice is that bills of this magnitude are heard in multiple committees to get the broadest range of public input.

To refresh your memory, this bill created a statewide milestone inspection program for condominiums and cooperative buildings that are three or more stories, 30 years after initial occupancy, and for buildings located within three miles of the coast, 25 years after initial occupancy.

Community associations are now required to conduct reserve studies and apply for recertification every 10 years. The bill would prohibit associations from waiving reserves for items that require inspection.

Additionally, on the matter of inspections, there is a very limited supply of engineers and architects in this state to make such required threshold inspections. It is doubtful that the majority of condominiums in this state will be able to comply by the statutory deadline of Dec. 31, 2024, set by Florida Senate Bill 4-D for threshold inspection completion.

When it comes to mandatory reserves, the legislation applies to all reserves (paving, painting, roofing, elevators, and now structural) and the cost to repair or replace. This provision will have a harsh impact not only on the On Top of the World Condominium Community, but all 1.5 million condominiums (28,000 condo associations) in the State of Florida, beginning with the 2023 budget year, which will have an impact on future budget expenses since reserves are now mandated in the law (most likely impacting the fiscal year 2023-24 and forward).

In our case, imposing mandatory reserves, as required under the current law, Florida Senate Bill 4-D will add substantially to your monthly community services fee! This would be in addition to any new operating expenses that come into the next 2023-24 budget.

I don't believe anyone on the Board wishes to see anything of that magnitude imposed on residents of this community. If the Legislation isn't fixed, the Board will have no choice but to comply with the law on the matter of adopting mandatory reserves.

Bear in mind that the Legislative session begins on March 7, 2023. Committee meetings will begin the week of Dec. 12, 2022 and run through February 2023.

Now is the opportunity to contact your elected officials, Representative Kim Berfield and Senator Ed Hooper to tell them that changes need to be made in Florida Senate Bill 4-D during the 2023 regular session. Share your concerns with the impact Florida Senate Bill 4-D will have on you personally and ask them to do all they can to fix the reserve provision to allow flexibility for community associations through alternative funding methods.

Here is how to contact your representatives:

State House Rep Dist-58 Kim Berfield
Suite 206
2963 Gulf to Bay Boulevard
Clearwater, FL 33759-4259
Phone: (727) 724-3000
kim.berfield@myfloridahouse.gov

State Senator Dist-16 Ed Hooper
Suite 305
3450 East Lake Road South
Palm Harbor, FL 34685
(727) 822-6828
Hooper.Ed.web@flsenate.gov

One option floated during the regular session, but not included in Florida Senate Bill 4-D, was an option for an association to be able to secure a line of credit to cover this reserve obligation, but that too will come at a cost to associations.

You may wish to suggest that some version of this be adopted into any proposed legislation.

As currently adopted, Florida Senate Bill 4-D allows no flexibility in reserve funding



and is a financial disaster waiting to happen.

In the broadest sense, Florida Senate Bill 4-D will adversely affect the affordability of condominium living, and by extension the value of many condominiums, once it goes into effect.

I would expect many residents across the state, burdened by the cost of this regulatory compliance, to begin to sell, potentially collapsing the market value. Add to this, high interest rates and the most costly insurance markets in decades ... you can see where I am going.

That said, I am forever an optimist.

The worst imaginable scenario will likely never happen, provided the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis hear from constituents and take ownership for fixing the dual crisis of community association legislation and property insurance.

Please follow the Association home page at otowclearwaterinfo.com to find the most up-to-date information on this important legislation. We have provided a sample letter to send your legislator.

Cable and Internet Update

It is unfortunate that on Oct. 16, Spectrum cut off access to the Community TV Channel. They did so without any warning to the Association. We are reaching out to them to determine if this was an inadvertent, innocent mistake, or something else.

Summit Broadband workers are installing fiber optic cable now to the East Activity Center and will connect to the Community Channel so it will be available when Summit Broadband service begins.

Considering the scope of the project, the work has progressed very well with a few exceptions. The exceptions were a damaged water main, which resulted in a short shut down of water service. There was a sewer main strike resulting in a sewer back-up in two condos. Summit Broadband has handled the clean-up and restoration of these units.

There was also a strike on a gas main. It appears that City of Clearwater location service did not completely locate and mark the 1 inch line as requested. City of Clearwater Fire Department managed the emergency and notifications of impacted residents. Service was reestablished very rapidly and residents were allowed back in their condos after a short delay.

Inasmuch as the underground work is completed, we expect no more interruptions.

As of Nov. 11, the infrastructure build-out is on schedule. The underground conduit, in proximity to the building, has been completed as well as the building molding and fiber runs. Eighty percent of the units have the fiber cable in the unit. Twenty percent were not available for access thus far. The fiber-in crews are working with the On Top of the World maintenance team to gain unit access. The construction crews are currently working to complete infrastructure connection points.

There are two primary fiber hub sites, located on West Australia Way (East) and at the end of Costa Rican Drive (West). The West Fiber hub was expected to have permanent power the week of Nov. 11. However, due to delays with Duke Energy related to Hurricane Ian recovery efforts, Summit Broadband may need to temporarily utilize a generator to supply power to the east fiber hub.

If needed, the generator was expected to be operational by Nov. 11. It will be removed once Duke Energy provides permanent power to the hub-site location.

If you live in proximity to the buildings nearest the fiber hub, you should have received notification from the Parkway Team.

Once the fiber hubs have power and are

connected, a Summit Broadband Engineering Team will begin the turn-up and testing processes.

On Nov. 21, Summit Broadband was expected to begin installing a test group of residents throughout the property to assist in the final testing. These specific residents were expected to be contacted on or after Nov. 11 to set up their appointment.

The installation of the new services was expected to begin on Tuesday, Nov. 29, and will continue until all units are installed.

As of this newspaper going to press, 3,394 condos have scheduled service installation appointments, representing 68 percent of the property. Summit Broadband is currently scheduling appointment into late January 2023.

During the first week of installation, Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, key Summit Broadband personnel will be in the field closely monitoring the installations. Summit Broadband's subsequent on-site schedule will be posted.

Weekly IPTV (Internet Protocol Television) Workshops begin on Dec. 6. Residents will receive an R.S.V.P. invitation following their installation of the new services.

Property Management Update Gated Entries

The change out of gate personnel took place at midnight on Nov. 2. Allied is now the gate staffing provider. The service switch over was delayed 90 days to allow reasonable notice to the prior company and their employees.

As noted in the budget, operating expenses for this category have been prorated over the budget year.

Allied has brought in new personnel from outside of OTOW-Clearwater. The Management Company will continue to monitor the performance of the new personnel and communicate regularly with the Allied staff supervisor.

Painting/Waterproofing

As always, the painting contractor's processes include a thorough pressure washing, followed by the sealing of any hairline cracks in the masonry, and then the application of a high quality coating.

As always, please keep in mind that the painting contractor will be operating in close proximity to parking areas and front/rear porches which may require the temporary displacement of vehicles or property. Thank you for your cooperation in advance and keep in mind that inclement weather can affect start and completion dates.

Construction, Roofing and Large Scope projects

Building 88 will be the next to see the arrival of the aluminum railing contractor's work crews. This vendor will be removing

and adding/supplementing elements in the common balcony walkway and stairwell areas to bring the building up to current life-safety and building codes.

These projects, depending on structure size and scope of work, take roughly 2-5 weeks to complete. Please be aware that work crews may be utilizing power tools and equipment necessary in the replacement process. If you happen to encounter a work zone, please exercise caution and avoid cordoned off areas. Safety is key for work teams and residents alike.

The 2022 calendar year work in review

2022 has continued to bring many challenges, the biggest being the drastic increases in materials and labor costs for many of the services and improvements made in the community each calendar year.

The truth of the matter is that many contractors are either not taking on any additional work because of staffing levels, or they are tentative in delivering proposals for projects because of a lack in confidence from manufacturers that they can meet production deadlines or even hold-steady pricing at all.

All of this is affecting not only this community, but the nation as a whole.

To control as many of these volatile intangibles as possible, the Management Company continues to employ specific trades in-house and secure its own pricing for materials used throughout the year. This has resulted in a substantial savings to the community, as well as provided for a level of quality service and reliability that has proven difficult to achieve by outsourcing the work.

Even through all of the indeterminate moments that 2022 presented, the Management Company has remained committed to its role. The On Top of the World community can expect the same in the new calendar year as we look forward to better times.

During the 2022 calendar year, the following improvements were able to be accomplished in the community:

- 4 low-slope roofing projects
- 3 elevator equipment modernizations
- 5 elevator Cab Remodels
- 9 walkway coating improvements
- 5 building railing improvement projects
- The restoration of the tower project at Building 36
- Over 1,700 fire extinguisher and hydrant inspections
- Engineering work for the rehabilitation of the World Parkway Boulevard drainage creek
- To date, 16 front façade painting improvements and 12 rear façade coating improvements

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Community
Service Office

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- ★ Built-in additional battery bays for use of optional second & third batteries to increase alarming time.
- ★ Approximate dimensions (Height/Diameter): 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" or 67 x 114 mm



Dear
 Representative Kim Berfield
 Senator Ed Hooper

Congratulations on your recent election to the Florida House/reelection to the Florida Senate!

As a constituent of yours and a resident of the On Top of the World community in Clearwater, I want to bring your attention to an issue that I am very troubled by and hope that you will work to address in the upcoming legislative session.

The legislation passed following the collapse of the condo in Surfside creates important deadlines and requirements to ensure the safety of condominium buildings in Florida. However, while the Legislature intended to protect those of us who choose to live in condos, I am concerned that there will be unintended consequences that will make condo living unaffordable for me in the near future.

First, the inspections mandated by Florida Senate Bill 4-D require all condominium buildings three stories or higher and more than 30 years old to be inspected by a licensed architect or engineer by the end of 2024. I am concerned that the On Top of the World Association may not be able to accomplish this due to the relatively small number of licensed architects and engineers compared to the significant number of condominium buildings and associations in the state.

Next, I am concerned that condominium associations are no longer permitted to waive reserves for "structural components." These components include plumbing and foundation, among others, which have no knowable useful life. Requiring my community to collect and hold reserves for the repair of these structural components will price myself and many of my neighbors out of our homes.

I have been informed by my Association that there will likely be some technical changes made to the law this upcoming session. As a concerned constituent I ask you to please consider changes to the law that will allow associations to fund reserves in different ways rather than a one size fits all approach. Associations in Florida also need more time and clarity as to the milestone inspection program in order to comply with the new law.

The collapse in Surfside was a tragedy and I support efforts to prevent that happening anywhere else. I am concerned though that the legislation passed in the spring's special session will make condominium living too expensive and force myself and my neighbors out of our homes and the communities that we enjoy so much.

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to your response to my concerns.

Sincerely,

OTOW resident



Please send a letter to your state representatives expressing your concerns about Florida Senate Bill 4-D. You can use the letter above as a guideline. There is more information at otowclearwaterinfo.com Addresses are provided on page 4.



BUS SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

8:15 AM Clearwater Mall (OTOW Bus)
 12:15 PM Sunset Point 19 Mall (OTOW Bus)

TUESDAYS

8:15 AM Publix (OTOW Bus)
 10:30 AM Countryside Plaza & Mall (OTOW Bus)

WEDNESDAYS

8:15 AM Walmart (Neighborly Care)
 8:30 AM Excursion Day Trip* (OTOW Bus)
 11:00 AM Walmart (Neighborly Care)

THURSDAYS

8:15 AM Publix (Neighborly Care)
 8:30 AM Clearwater Mall (OTOW Bus)
 11:00 AM Publix (Neighborly Care)
 12:45 PM ALDI & The Salvation Army (OTOW Bus)

FRIDAYS

8:15 AM Sprouts (OTOW Bus)
 12:15 PM Walmart (OTOW Bus)

The On Top of the World bus schedule will now include the OTOW shuttle bus Monday through Friday. The Neighborly Care Transportation bus will continue their Wednesday shuttles to Walmart, along with their Thursday shuttles to Publix. The bus driver only picks up passengers with reservations.

Reservations are first-come, first-served, and can be made from 7 a.m., Monday, thru 1 p.m., Thursday, for any day(s) in the **current** week. However, NO reservations will be accepted after 1 p.m. for the next day to ensure the morning roster can be prepared before staff leave for the day.

When making multiple reservations for your week ahead, please ensure careful planning to prevent the need to cancel. To cancel a ride, please call the bus line as early as possible. You must present your valid activity card before boarding. Please be visible to your bus driver outside your center core.

No eating or drinking on the bus. Shopping time is 90 minutes.

*** DAY TRIPS**

- Dec. 7-Downtown Dunedin;
- Dec. 14-Downtown Safety Harbor;
- Dec. 21-Clearwater Beach;
- Dec. 28-Mystery Trip (residents pick).

For Reservations call (727) 799-3417, Ext. 7

Hydro-Jetting starts up again in January

Random Acts of Kindness

While putting together my article for this month, I typed and deleted many times trying to find just the right topic that would inspire warm and thoughtful holiday wishes.

This started me thinking about the past, present and yes, the future, and well, it reminded me of something that happened a few years ago, so I decided to bring the story back.

I hope you enjoy this blast from the past. While passing through the Community Service Office one day, I was taken aback by a resident who was clearly having a rough day but was able to maintain a smile and friendly demeanor in their exchange with one of our Community Service Office coordinators.

I recall being somewhat surprised because just prior to this instance, I witnessed an exchange with a person who was equally upset, but who scowled at the coordinators instead.

While both individuals received the same good, quality service, it reminded me that not everyone remembers to be kind and patient with one another.

Given the year it has been for everyone, it is so important now, more than ever, to remember that everyone has, from time to time, things that happen in their life that cause difficulty and struggle.

What is important is the way in which that is projected to others we encounter.

Wouldn't it be great if everyone would try to perform a random act of kindness to brighten someone else's day?

After all, 'tis the season and all of that! You never know, it could cause someone to randomly act in kindness. It doesn't even have to be a grand gesture, just something small like a smile, or even a thank you. That thank you, that smile, just may come back to you!

Right off the BAT

Bats are an important part of the Florida ecology. They consume large quantities of mosquitoes and other pests.

I should note that bats are a protected species in Florida, especially during their breeding season (April through August). They are regular visitors in the community.

Due to the many ornate details in our condominium buildings, in certain circumstances the location of the structure itself (think lakes or wooded areas), bats are more than happy to try and find a new home through the smallest of openings.

When this does happen, it can easily go unnoticed because of the hours these fuzzy nocturnal insect hunters keep. The matter usually reveals itself through residents that keep late night hours, or through an after-hours Management Company staff member who notices them when the bat's activity is at its highest.



Dessa Barabba

Community Update

To learn more about these neighbors, go to myfwc.com/conservation/you-conserve/wildlife/bats/. The Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation provides a very informative write-up.

If a situation of nuisance habitation is reported, the Management Company begins its inspection process, looking for entrance points or tell-tale identifiers like discolored areas where the bats are accessing the building. Once this is determined, and dependent upon the time of year, exclusionary devices may be installed to help these vital creatures find their way out of the structure while excluding their re-entry without injuring them, and humanely allowing them to relocate to a more suitable roosting point.

In certain situations, and after the bats have relocated, remediation work is required to return the area to its prior state and exclude possible recolonization to the extent possible (bats can be persistent). This requires the enlistment of contractors certified and qualified to handle the work. Bids must be obtained, schedules and site visits arranged, contractor insurance documented, and ultimately services rendered.

With the current state of post-pandemic affairs and limited labor resources available, this process can prove to be lengthy.

Residents are asked to remain patient as the Management Company works diligently to address the matter and bring it to a satisfactory resolution as soon as reasonably possible.

Bat colonies pose little risk of disease transfer to humans when left undisturbed. Raccoons and foxes have higher incidence of rabies than do local bat species (of which there are 13 species known in Florida).

Histoplasmosis, a common fungus found in soil, may also be transmitted by birds and bats.

The highest risk for spore inhalation can occur when a colony or bird roosting area (think pigeons) is disturbed. For example

when a clean-up is taking place.

Best practice is to not disturb a colony area, unless it is undertaken by a licensed specialist with the correct specialized protective equipment.

Post-COVID, many of us remain highly germ phobic. It is important to keep a good perspective and understand that Histoplasmosis infection is rare and that bats have been in the area since before any of us came here.

Hydro Jetting Project Resumes in January

If you live in Buildings 17-30, you should be aware that your Management Company will resume the sewer hydro jetting project in January.

As a reminder, this was discussed during the June 11, 2021, General Meeting.

This project is undertaken as a preventative maintenance measure.

In January 2023, contracted work will begin on the extensive project of hydro-jetting kitchen and bathroom sanitary drain lines and replacement of common sanitary cleanouts.

Currently this project will commence with phase two on or around Jan. 9, 2023, with an anticipated completion date of no later than June 30, 2023. To complete this project on time, the target goal is to complete four first floor units and two cleanouts per day.

Phase II will begin with Building 17 and proceed in building numerical order until completion of this second phase of the project at Building 30.

Access to your unit must be provided for approximately two to three hours with additional access provided later, should a follow-up be required.

The impacted units will be first floor units exclusively and any necessary follow-up appointments will be scheduled by the Management Company.

If your unit will be vacant during this period, it will be necessary for you to appoint a representative to provide entry to your unit during your scheduled time. In the event you do not have a personal representative, please complete the form on page 7 and return it with your unit key to: On Top of the World Condominium Association, Hydro Jetting Project, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E, Clearwater, FL, 33763.

Keys will be returned to you once the project has been completed. If you have already submitted keys, thank you.

A tentative schedule has been established for this project. However, it is dependent upon ease of access into units and will be weather dependent. Should weather, or other delays occur, notices will be sent out via an OTOW Rave Alert. Be sure you are signed up to receive alerts prior to project commencement. Notices will be posted in each building up to two weeks prior to the scheduled start date.

This information will also be available on the OTOW Community website at www.otowclearwaterinfo.com under the General Information tab and then selecting the "Hydro Jetting Project" tab.

If you have any questions, contact the Community Service Office at 727-683-6981. Please leave your name and phone number if you require a return phone call.

An email has been established at clwjettingproject@parkwayclw.com.

If you have not yet provided keys or contact information for a key holder who will be providing access in your absence, please do so prior to the end of December so that this project starts and stays on schedule. Your participation and cooperation are appreciated.

Did You Know

Now is a good time to remind you to update your emergency contact list and include most current phone numbers. This information was originally collected at the time of your interview for residency.

For many of you, that information is more than 10 years old.

In the event of an emergency involving your unit at On Top of the World, or in the event of an emergency involving you, the Association needs current emergency contact information to provide to law enforcement and Emergency Medical Service personnel.

If another OTOW resident, or someone local, has a key to your unit, please include this information when completing your Emergency Contact Form.

The Emergency Contact Form is located on this page. Once completed, please drop your form off at the Community Service Office or mail it to the Community Service Office at 2069 World Parkway Blvd., Clearwater, FL, 33763.

You can also update this information conveniently online at www.otowclearwaterinfo.com and click the Community Services tab. From there, select "Community Service Office" and scroll down the page to Emergency Contact Update

and click "Go To Form."

Driver Courtesy

One-way traffic signs are used to inform motorists that traffic on a street or parking lot entrance is traveling in one direction only. The one-way traffic sign is a regulatory sign and drivers encountering a one-way sign must travel in the direction that the sign indicates.

Drivers must not travel in the opposite direction of a one-way sign due to the risk of a head-on collision.

While a crisis may be avoided, the reality is that the consequences can be very real.

Not following directional signs can be a dangerous decision that may not only impact the driver involved, but others as well, and the outcome could be life altering.

So, the next time you encounter a one-way sign, please follow the direction, for you, as well as others in the community.

Community Service Office Information

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

The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted. If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff 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 one time.

If you have any questions regarding your request, and until the Community Service Office reopens, please call the Service Request Line at 727-683-6981.

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

Service Request Line

If you are unable to visit the Community Service Office, the OTOW phone number to submit a service request is 727-683-6981. Please call this number to submit a service request only for a general building matter in the common areas only. Please do not leave health-related emergency information on the service request line, as this will delay the amount of time it takes us to respond to non-emergency service requests.

For a life-threatening emergency, please dial 911.

For a power outage, call Duke Energy at 800-228-8485.

After Hours

The OTOW emergency after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115. Please call this number, afterhours, in the event of an emergency, such as water intrusion into your unit.

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.

Call this number, afterhours, in the event of an emergency, such as water intrusion into your unit.

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 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. It is not hyperbole to say an advanced warning may save lives!

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

You never know when OTOW or a building captain will need to get in touch with you or your family in case of an emergency.

Please fill out this form and leave your emergency contact information on file in the Community Service Office.

Please update once a year.

Drop Off or Mail To: OTOW Community Service Office, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E., Clearwater, FL., 33763

Today's Date: _____ Bldg #: _____ Unit #: _____

Owner's Name: _____

OTOW Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACTS (At least one name should be out of state)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make sure one person living nearby has spare keys to your condo and vehicle. List below who is holding your spare keys.

Name: _____ Bldg # _____ Unit # _____

Phone # _____

Hydro-Jetting Project

Month	Buildings	First Floor Units ONLY
January 2023	17	1-27
January 2023	18A	1-25
January 2023	18	1-21
February 2023	21	1-20
February 2023	22	1-20
February 2023	23	1-21
March 2023	24	1-25
March 2023	25	1-25
March 2023	26	1-29
April 2023	27	1-29
April 2023	28	1-25
April 2023	29	1-21
May 2023	30 & Any Remaining Units	1-21

If you will not be present or available at your unit during the time scheduled above, please fill out the information sheet below and mail to the address provided.

On Top of the World Condominium Association, Inc.
 Hydro Jetting Project
 2069 World Parkway Blvd E
 Clearwater, FL, 33763

Cut and mail back form along with personal representative information or include key with form.

OTOW Address _____ Bldg # _____ Unit # _____

Please complete the following if you are mailing your key (include):

Your Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Mailing Address (key return): _____

Please complete the following if you are assigning a personal representative:

Your name: _____ Phone number: _____

Representative name: _____

Representative phone number: _____

Representative address: _____



EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

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



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



People visiting Mount Rushmore read OTOW News
 So can you! Visit:
otowboxoffice.com

Angel Trees back in both activity centers

It has become a tradition on the day after Thanksgiving, our SCA facilities staff clears the fall decorations and puts up an Angel Tree at the East and West Activity Centers.

The organization sponsoring the Angel Tree is Pinellas County Foster and Adoptive Parents Association (PCFAPA) and their mission and message is as follows: "To provide quality training, support and activities for member foster and adoptive families. We strive to provide our parents with the necessary resources to deal with the many challenges they face in raising our community children."

Each Angel Tree contains tags, which are the names and wishes of children in the program.

PCFAPA reports that in the past couple of years, due to COVID-19, the organization has been asking for gift cards only to help buy the child's wish or wishes. This has worked out wonderfully! The children love taking the gift cards and going shopping.

Every year, the children are surveyed to get their feedback and the past couple of years the feedback has been so positive. The children have been so excited with getting the gift cards and going shopping.

Most children share that everyone typically buys things for them without asking what they would like, and they never get to go shopping. They have really enjoyed shopping with the gift cards and choosing exactly what they dreamed of.

This year, PCFAPA would like to keep doing the gift cards for their wishes. But they know there are some Angel Tree tag sponsors who really want to buy the gifts, so if this is the case, please feel free to buy the gifts. PCFAPA wants to make everyone happy and enjoy the holidays.

Note to sponsors: if the child's wish is for an expensive item – sponsors are not expected to get a gift card to buy the item fully (unless you want to), but get a gift card to "help" buy the item. Those children then will save up and buy the item themselves.

Some of our foster children, or foster parents, have health conditions and therefore the program is still attempting to make the program one of less contact and still provide Christmas to our children. Those foster children and foster parents then will order online and have it shipped directly to their homes. This will limit the shopping and exposure risks for them.

On Top of the World has generously supported the Angel Tree and has helped bring Christmas to many adopted and fostered children. With all the organizations out there fundraising for worthy causes, PCFAPA wants you to know that all contributions you make will positively impact PCFAPA and their children

Please take an Angel Tree tag and simply tape a gift card or gift card holder/bag.

PCFAPA will need your gift cards dropped off to the Community Service Office no later than Monday, Dec. 19.

Food Truck Night

Come out for our first Food Truck Night of the season, Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 3-7 p.m.

Charm City Seafood, BBQ Queen, SeaDog Cantina and Essential Pizza will all be there.

Farmer's Market Schedule

The next Farmer's Market is set for Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023, and Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gerald Colen Lecture

Attorney Gerald Colen will be giving a lecture on the U.S. Constitution, on Friday, Dec. 9, from 10-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room

The United States of America is the oldest democratic republic in the world. It holds that distinction because on Sept. 17, 1787, 39 members of a Constitutional Convention, all of whom we call Founders, came together to



sign a document that begins with the words "We the people of the United States of America..."

The document is our American Constitution.

Embattled as it may seem, our Constitution has held us together through the years. It is our beacon shining brightly, reminding us that we were and are a nation of laws with the goal of justice for all.

On Dec. 9, Jerry will be with us to speak about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the 14th Amendment.

Jerry will also discuss some current controversial issues, all the while, focusing on what our Constitution has to say about the world in which we now live.

Registration is required by emailing general_activity@scaclw.com or calling 799-2734

Meet The Author

Sharon Rich will be here to discuss her book "Sweethearts" which will soon be a movie.

The story is about Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, actors in the 1930s who wanted to get married, but were not allowed. Sharon's presentation will be Tuesday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m., in the West Activity Center Learning Lab. Registration is required by emailing general_activity@scaclw.com or calling 799-2734.

One Blood

The Big Red Bus will be back on Thursday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and parked at the East Activity Center North Parking Lot.

One Blood's goal for our community is 12 or more donors! All donors will receive a \$20 e-Gift Card, plus a wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!

Take this opportunity to save lives!

Notice to All OTOW Clubs & Activity Coordinators

Please submit your online Facility Request Dec. 1-15 to renew your room reservations for January through April.

To complete an online Facility Request form visit: www.otowclearwaterinfo.com and click on "Community Activities" and "Forms." Then 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. (Works better if you use Google Chrome 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.

Fall Festival & Expo Huge Success!

The 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo returned on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Residents came out for this event to have fun, celebrate the season, enjoy the beautiful weather, reconnect and build community.

After a three-year hiatus, the question



The Angel Tree in the West Activity Center lobby in December 2021.

was, will everyone participate? The answer was a resounding, "Yes!" Thanks, mainly, to the residents' turnout, this year's festival was a huge success! In my opinion, it's also the wide variety of vendors that makes this event so special.

There were OTOW clubs, arts & crafts, home improvement, cultural arts, health & wellness and more. The vendors were very pleased to connect with so many residents.

This year we offered more complimentary tables to OTOW clubs as an opportunity to reconnect. We are pleased to report that 19 clubs participated and reported getting a long list of new members.

Outside, we enjoyed the chill-out vibes courtesy of Glen Edmead on steel drum.

Inside, Fletcher Music provided the perfect ambiance.

Space was limited, but this year we added more food and it was fantastic!

Felice's Italian Deli, Stevie D's Philly Cheesesteaks, Sea Dog Cantina and BBQ Queen were there. Our Good Neighbors Association served breakfast inside.

Outside were desserts, and hot and cold beverages outside. All the food vendors report record sales!

CVS (corner of Belcher & Main) and the Pinellas County Department of Health offered flu shots and a variety of immunizations. They report a very productive day which is great news for the health and safety of our community.

Many thanks to Andrew Turner of Turner Produce for the abundance of free pumpkins and produce.

As a community, we have an opportunity to express our gratitude when he returns with our Farmer's Market on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Please stop by and purchase your produce for the week or even just the vegetables that you will cook that evening for supper.

It was gratifying to see all of you out and about and making the most of this event. It

reaffirms for me that you are ready for our upcoming season of Food Truck Nights and Farmer's Markets.

Thank you to all the clubs for a great job decorating your tables at the festival. As always, it was very difficult to choose a winner of the "Best Decorated" table contest. Everyone is a winner because your creativity added so much to the event and is greatly appreciated.

Theatre Workshop won the prize this year (\$50 Visa gift card). Congratulations! Please see a photo of their display on page 14.

On behalf of SCA and our Good Neighbors Association volunteers, we look forward to seeing you all again next year on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023.

Activity Card Renewal

Activity card renewal takes place at the Community Service Office located at the East Activity Center. The hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30-3 p.m.

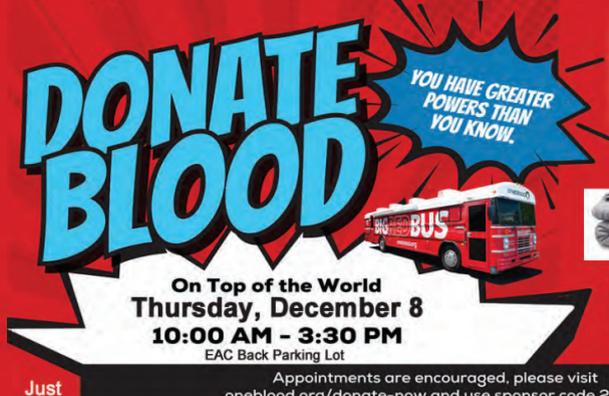
When renewing your activity card, or getting a brand new one issued, please remember to bring with you a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport, and a current piece of mail indicating your name and On Top of the World property address. Activity Cards will not be punched or processed without proper identification and address verification.

In addition, for renewal, you will need \$3 and your expiring/expired card. If you do not have your card, you will need to bring \$25 for purchasing and processing of a new card.

Residents can also obtain an electronic access card for the fitness center for \$7 (replacement \$25).

As a reminder, you must bring your valid activity card with you when using SCA facilities and be prepared to show it upon staff request. Any noncompliance matters will be directed to the On Top of the World Association.

Thursday
December 8
10 am - 3:30 pm
EAC



On Top of the World
Thursday, December 8
10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
EAC Back Parking Lot



Free Blanket



\$20 E Gift Card



Mini Physical



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 27515

Just Show Up

ID REQUIRED *One offer per donor per donation. No cash value. Not redeemable. Gift card only. For more information please visit oneblood.org/faq.

oneblood  Share your power.

OTOW Community Activities Calendar

December 2022

SPECIAL EVENTS

New York-New Jersey Club, Ugly Christmas Sweater Party, Thursday, Dec. 1, 4-7 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Chorus Holiday Concert, You Are Invited to Carol with the Chorus, Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Canadian Club Holiday Dinner Dance, Monday, Dec. 5, 5-10 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Meet The Movie Writer, Sharon Rich, on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m., in the West Activity Center Learning Lab.
 Italian-American Club Christmas Dinner, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 5-8 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee, Thursday, Dec. 8, 8:30-11 a.m., East Activity Center Auditorium
 Veterans Group Christmas Party, Thursday, Dec. 8, on board the Calypso Queen
 Jerry Colen presentation on the US Constitution, Friday, Dec. 9, 10-11 am, East Activity Center Largo Room (free)
 Ping Pong Christmas Party, Saturday, Dec. 10, 6-10 pm, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Food Truck Night: Wednesday, Dec. 14, 4-7 pm, East Activity Center Back Parking Lot
 Jesters/Theater Workshop Combined Holiday Dinner (club members only), Friday, Dec. 16, 6-10 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Billiards Christmas Party, Saturday, Dec. 17, 5-10 pm, West Activity Center, Belleair Room
 Entertainment Committee Meet & Greet with Santa and Grandkids: 2 - 4 pm, Sunday, Dec. 18, EAC Auditorium
 Lambda Club Christmas Dinner (members only), Saturday, Dec. 24, 4-8 pm, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Entertainment Committee New Year's Eve Bash (No tickets sold at the door), Saturday, Dec. 31, 9 pm - whenever, East Activity Center Auditorium

CLUB AND GROUP EVENTS

Art Guild Acrylic Painting, 1 - 4 pm, Thursdays, EAC Largo Room
 Art Guild Board Meeting: 3 - 5 pm, Thursday, Dec. 1, EAC Largo Room
 Art Guild Painting Pals: 1-4 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Baby Boomers Group: Meetings, 5:30-6:30 pm, Wednesday, Dec 7 and 5:30-6:30 pm, Thursday, Dec. 15, EAC Largo Room
 Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: 10 am - 1 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Billiards (8 Ball): 6:30-10pm, Mondays and Tuesdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Billiards (Scotch Doubles): 6:30-10pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Billiards (9 Ball): 1-3 pm, Fridays
 Bingo: No Bingo In December
 Caring & Sharing: 9 am - 12 pm, Tuesdays, Kitchen/Clearwater Room
 Ceramics: 10 am - 2 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room
 Coloring Book Group: 12 - 3 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Computer Club: Computer Help, 8:30-10 am, Wednesdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Computer Club: Meetings, 8:30 - 10 am, Saturdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Cornhole: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Democratic Club: Meeting, 2-3:30 pm, Thursday, Dec. 8, East Activity Center Clearwater Room
 Democratic Club Happy Hour: 7-10 pm, Tuesday, Dec. 27, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Entertainment Committee Board Meeting: 10 am - 12 pm, Monday, Dec. 5, EAC Crystal Beach Room
 Entertainment Committee Show: 7:30 pm, Thursday, Dec. 15, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Good Karma Book Club: 10 am - 12 pm, Thursday, Dec. 15, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 High Vibe Tribe: 7 - 9 pm, Thursday, Dec. 8, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room
 Jesters Board Meeting: 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Wednesday, Dec. 14, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Keyboard Club, Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm, East Activity Center Clearwater Room
 Knitting Group: 9 - 11 am, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Ladies 18 Hole Golf Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 9 am - 2 pm, East Activity Center Clearwater Room
 Lambda Club: Social, 6 - 10 pm, Friday, Dec. 9, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Learning To Dance with Noland: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Line Dance Club: 1 - 3 pm, Tuesdays (Dec 27 in Auditorium, Dec. 6 & 13 in Clearwater Room), 8:30-10:30 am, Saturdays, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Line Dance Club Practice: 7 - 8 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room
 Moving and Grooving Line Dancing: Tuesdays, 9-12 pm (Dec. 6 & 20 in Belleair Room, Dec. 27 in Aud), 1-4 pm Fridays, East Activity Center Auditorium
 Philosophy Club: 10-11:30 am, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Pickleball: 3:30 - 6:30 pm, Monday through Friday, 9-12 pm, Sundays
 Ping Pong: 10 am - 3 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Pray for America: Meeting, 10 am - 12 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Press Association: Meeting, 1:30-2:30 pm, Thursday, Dec. 8, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Republican Club: Meeting, 7 - 9 pm, Tuesday, Dec. 13, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Shuffleboard Meeting: Friday, Dec. 9, 1:30-3:30 pm, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room
 Social Dance: 1-3 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Snowbirds Line Dance: 8:30 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, EAC Auditorium
 Texas Card Game Club: 3-10 pm, Friday, Dec. 16, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room
 TOPS: 9:30-11 am, Thursdays, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Theater Workshop Board: 6-7 pm, Wednesday, Dec. 7, General meeting 7-8:30 pm, Dec. 7, WAC Belleair Room
 Travel Club: 2-4 pm, Friday, Dec. 2, East Activity Center Oldsmar Room
 World Quilters: 8 am-2 pm, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Writers Ink: 1 - 2:30 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room

CARDS AND GAMES

Blackout (Canadian Club): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Cribbage: 10 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room
 Dominos: 5:30 - 8 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Ozona Room
 Double Deck Pinochle: 1 - 3:30 pm, Sundays and Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room
 Duplicate Bridge (Beginners): 9 am - 12 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room
 Duplicate Bridge: 11:30 am - 4 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room
 Duplicate Bridge: 11 - 3 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room
 Ladies Bunco: 6:30 - 10 pm, Tuesday, Dec. 13, West Activity Center Learning Lab
 Mahjongg: 1 - 4 pm, Fridays, West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room
 Mexican Train Card Game (Dominos): 1 - 5 pm, Thursdays, Safety Harbor Room
 Poker (Alonzo's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Mondays, EAC Safety Harbor Room
 Poker (Bob's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room
 Poker (Tom's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Wednesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room
 Poker (Carol's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, EAC Safety Harbor Room
 Poker (Barry's Group): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room
 Poker (Richie's Group): 6 - 8:45 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room
 Samba Hand/Foot Canasta: 6 - 9 pm, Thursdays and Fridays, EAC Ozona Room
 Samba: Mondays, 12:30 - 3 pm, EAC Ozona Room

EXERCISES

Aqua Aerobics: 9-10 am, Monday through Friday, East Activity Center Swimming Pool
 Bonesavers: 8-9 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Largo Room
 Chair Yoga: 8:30-9:30 am, Wednesdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Co-Ed Exercises: 10-10:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room
 Hatha Yoga with Marilyn: 10-11:15 am, Mondays, West Activity Center Belleair Room
 Hatha Yoga with Marilyn: 10-11:15 am, Thursdays, East Activity Center Exercise Room
 Ladies Exercise: 8-9 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room
 Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance: 12-1 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10 Saturdays, EAC Exercise Room
 Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance Light: 1:15-2:15 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 Saturdays, EAC Exercise Room
 Slimnastics: 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room
 Tai Chi Flow 108: 3:15-4:15 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room.
 Tai Chi Qigong: 3:15-4 pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays East Activity Center Exercise Room
 Zumba, Thursdays, 9-10 am, West Activity Center Belleair Room

**No Bingo
In
December**

There will be no club or group events, including use of swimming pools and fitness center, on Sunday, Dec. 25, as all OTOW facilities will be closed for the holiday.

BUILDING EVENTS

Azores-Annual meeting, Monday, Dec. 5, 6:30-9 pm, WAC Belleair Room

Casa Verde - Holiday Party, Monday, Dec. 12, 5-10, WAC Belleair Room

Mallorca - Christmas Party, Friday, Dec. 9, 4-10 pm, WAC Belleair Room

FACILITIES

Library

Open 10 am to 12 pm, Mondays and 1-3pm, Wednesdays

Woodshop

8 am-12 pm Monday-Friday (membership required)

Fitness Center Hours

7 am to 9 pm, Monday through Saturday

9 am to 8 pm Sundays

(closed 12:30-2:30 Mondays and Thursdays)

Swimming Pools (May through Sept)

Monday-Saturday, 8 am to 8 pm

Sundays and Holidays, 9 am to 8 pm

Swimming Pools (Oct through April)

Mondays-Saturdays, 8 am to 6:30 pm

Sundays and Holidays, 9 am to 6:30 pm

PAVILION

Dec. 5 - Lawn Bowl Party, 21 pm - 3 pm
 Dec. 10 - Azores Annual Building Picnic 12 pm - 2:30 pm
 Dec. 11 - English Gothic 12-3:45

Dec. 11 - Pickle Ball Christmas Party 4-8 pm
 Dec. 17 - Austrian Alpine Holiday Party 2-6 pm

OTOW News



Pet of the Month



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Hi neighbors!
My name is Gracie Anne and I live with my best friend, Joan Baptist, in the Capistrano building.

I'm a beautiful, long-haired tabby with four white socks and I am 6 years old. I am named after Joan's great-great grandmother and Joan's mother.

I came to live with Joan four years ago when she rescued me from the Pinellas County Animal Shelter.

I wish I could tell her about my first family, but she knows that they must have been caring people. From the day I arrived at On Top of the World, I have been polite, well-behaved, friendly and loving.

I only use my scratching pads and posts, never jump on counters, and always use my litter box.

I have perches in all four of our windows and I spend hours sunbathing, snoozing in the sunshine, and watching the birds and squirrels.

I have frequent visits from my friend Kiko, a pleasant little Chihuahua.

Every morning I sit on Joan's lap while she has her coffee and I serenade her with my lovely purr.

Sometimes during the day, I hide behind a curtain and when Joan passes by I jump out to scare her.

Each evening, Joan brushes me and I love how that feels. Then, she throws my pink mouse and I chase it. After that, I chase the laser light around. I let Joan think that I



Gracie Anne

don't know she is controlling that light.

I certainly have a charmed life and Joan gives me everything that a cat could possibly

want. So, I give her back all my affection and add infinite joy to her life.

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



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Tufts University
Veterinary Medicine

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For new clients only. Good for only 1 pet.
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One coupon per household.
Must present coupon.

Expires 12-31-22



Did you know there are 3 ways to turn your water on or off?

Must be present for water to be turned on.

(1) **CALL:** 727-799-3417 (Option 6)
Service hours are 7:30-5:30, Mon-Fri,
and 7:30-11:30 am, Saturdays.
Requests during this time frame are free.

(2) **VISIT** the East Activity Center Community Service Office during business hours from 8:30 am - 3 pm, Monday-Friday.

(3) **GO ONLINE** to otowclearwaterinfo.com.
Go under the service tab to fill out a request.

After hours service is available 6-9 pm, Monday through Friday, 11:30-9 pm Saturdays and 7:30-11:30 a.m. Sundays, by calling 799-1115. There is a \$35 fee for all after hours services.

Service Policy

Residents must provide a date and time for service. A minimum 2-hour service window exists. You must be present in all circumstances for your water to be turned on. No exceptions. Payments are checks only.



Coloring your own Christmas art can be socialable and relaxing

By Elsie Paulan

Oh Christmas tree. Oh Christmas tree. How lovely are your branches?

Christmas is coming way too fast, but the Snowbirds have arrived and luckily didn't bring the snow with them.

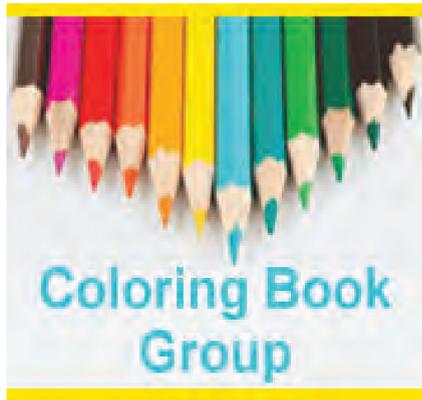
Since they have flown in, maybe they will fly over to the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room on Wednesdays at noon to join us in the fun of coloring and socializing.

We do have extra supplies for you to practice with if you do not have your own.

And, if you enjoy this activity, maybe Santa will bring some supplies for you.

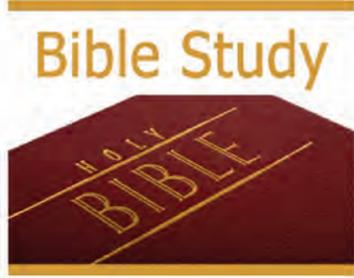
Come on over and join us.

Our picture of the month has been done by Kathy Bollinger using gel pens. Very appropriate picture for this time of year.



BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

The non-denominational On Top of the World Bible Study Group is returning to the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.



The group will meet at 2 p.m. on Fridays beginning Jan. 6, 2023.

The instructor will be Dave Hall, PhD., a retired pastor.

Questions? You may call Jim at (727) 712-0159.

Come join us and study the Bible.

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Celebrating 50+ Years ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



Residents enjoyed a tribute to the Doobie Brothers during a China Grove concert in late October.

(OTOW News photo by Howard Wolff)

If you purchase season tickets for 2023, you will never miss a show and you will keep the same seats the entire year

By Mary Ann O'Neil

Here we are ready to close out 2022!

The Entertainment Committee has had a very busy year with terrific shows and dances.

If you missed any of our shows or dances this past year, well, make sure you don't miss any in 2023. You won't be disappointed with the lineup we have for your enjoyment.

Pamphlets are available at the Entertainment Committee information table 8:30-10:30 a.m., Mondays and Thursdays, in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

Our Nov. 17 show featuring The NYCE Guys was very enjoyable. The songs brought back many memories for us all and it was a night of true entertainment.

Another great turnout by our residents, thank you.

The Southshore Cruisers played great music for our dance on Nov. 19. We love listening and dancing to the music of the '60s and '70s.

At our Sunday Meet and Greet on Nov. 20, the On Top of the World Entertainment Committee announced the board for 2023: President Karen Safee, Vice President Christine Bopko, Secretary Sherry Ivey, Assistant Secretary Lu Greenhalgh, Treasurer Tim Beaver, Assistant Treasurer Marian Leamy, and Directors Kirk Safee, Susan Carlson, Mike Wood and Mary Ann O'Neil.

Thank you all for staying on for another year. Your dedication and hard work is appreciated by all.

For our holiday show on Dec. 15, Sequel will present "Sparkling Entertainment."

Sequel was formed in 1985 by guitarist and vocalist Ron Tew, who still performs with and manages the group, along with Laurie Marks, Patti Bell, OC Woods, and special guest Jon Neil.

Sequel plays all around the area and has been doing tribute shows since 2015.

Several years ago, Sequel did a holiday show for us and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

At our Sunday Meet and Greet on Dec. 17, Santa Claus will arrive at On Top of the World to visit with children visiting relatives who live here. Before Santa's arrival there will be a sing-along to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Mike Wood and Kirk Safee will be tracking Santa throughout his journey to On Top of the World as the children wait patiently for his arrival. Once Santa arrives, and meets with each child, they will be given a small

gift. Afterwards, cookies and juice will be provided by On Top of the World Good Neighbors Association. This is a fun event not only for the children but also for our residents.

On Dec. 31, our New Year's Eve Dance will be our first New Year's Eve Dance since COVID hit. Soul Love will be performing for us and I'm sure everyone will be out on the dance floor at midnight to welcome in 2023.

Just before midnight, every table will receive a bottle of champagne to toast the new year in.

If you haven't purchased your tickets, please stop by the Entertainment Committee information table to see what tickets are still available. Our New Year's Eve dance is always a sellout so don't wait as there will be no tickets sold at the door. Tickets are \$30.

Jan. 19, 2023, starts the new year off with Elvis -- Dwight Icenhower -- returning to give our residents another great show. Dwight has been entertaining our community for several years and he always draws a big crowd. If you haven't bought your tickets, you need to do so as this show is always a sellout. Tickets are \$20.

Jan. 21, 2023, our first dance of the new year, will feature T C and Sass Band. This band plays locally and plays a variety of music. Come out for a fun evening. Tickets are \$10.

If you are thinking about purchasing season tickets, you still have time to do so. Remember the advantage of purchasing season tickets is that you have the same seat throughout the year, and you do not have to purchase individual tickets.

The cost for season show tickets is \$160 for the year and season dance tickets is \$140, which includes New Year's Eve.

Tickets are available Mondays and Thursdays at the East Activity Center Auditorium from 8:30-10:30 a.m. All show tickets are \$20 and all dance tickets are \$10, except for New Year's Eve which is \$30.

For information, please call (727) 449-9243 or (215) 431-4799.

We hope to see each of you at our shows and dances for 2023. Remember the Entertainment Committee tries to bring in the best entertainment we can for the small price you all pay. Come out and support your community.

On behalf of the On Top of the World Entertainment Committee Board we want to thank every one of our volunteers. The volunteers are those who sell tickets, greet you at the shows and dances, help decorate, clean up after shows and dances, post monthly flyers in each building and anything else they are asked to do. Our hats off to each one of you!

Happy holidays to all!

**The Entertainment Committee New Year's Eve Dance
returns for the first time in three years.**

Tickets are almost sold out ...

8:30-10:30 am Mondays & Thursdays in the EAC Auditorium!

Monthly Calendar

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



Tickets on sale 8:30-10:30 a.m. Mondays & Thursdays in the EAC Auditorium.
View our entire schedule online at otowboxoffice.com

DECEMBER

- 15 Sequel Holiday Show presents "Sparkling Entertainment" 7:30 pm
- 31 New Year's Eve dance featuring Soul Love (9 pm, \$30)

Have Yourself.....

"A Very SEQUEL Christmas"

Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season!

7:30 PM, December 15, EAC Auditorium

O. C. Woods Patti Wazelle Laurie Marks Ron Tew

www.Sequelband.net

JANUARY

- 19 Elvis - Dwight Icenhower 7:30 pm
- 21 T C & Sass Band 7:30 pm



Dwight Icenhower

FEBRUARY

- 16 Ultimate McCartney Experience (Show), 7:30
- 18 Southshore Cruisers - Sweetheart Dance, 7:30
- 19 Horse Races, 2 pm

For more information about the Entertainment Committee call (727) 449-9243.



It may have been three years since On Top of the World hosted a Fall Festival, but the residents certainly did remember the fun.

The 2022 Fall Festival & Expo took place on Nov. 5 and the East Activity Center Auditorium was packed.

People went around visiting more than 50 vendors inside the EAC and then went outside to visit 40 more vendors in the back parking lot.

There was food, music, dancing and a fall cutout to pretend you were a gnome.





Glen not only provided Caribbean-style music, but he was also a friendly host.

There were food trucks and food stands.

You could buy artwork or get advice on remodeling your condo.

Theater Workshop was voted Best Table Display.

Flu shots were available and so were keyboard lessons.

The festival was four hours of success.

Watch for the festival to return in 2023 in early November.



(OTOW News photos by Mary Lou Wall and Nancy Rogers)

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Only Good News for 54 Years - Published Since 1968

Kenneth Colen - Publisher

Doug Kates - Editor

Press Association Officers

Tom Butcher, President Joe DeChiaro, Vice President
 vacant, Secretary Yvonne Courtney, Past President
 Newsroom Hours: 9:00-5:00 Mon-Thur, 9-2 Fridays Phone: (727) 799-3216

Next Delivery Date

January newspapers will be delivered on Thursday, December 29.
 To advertise in our January edition, payments must be received by December 15.
 Please note, we may sell out ad space before the deadline!

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

On Top of the World News Inc., 2069 World Parkway Blvd. E., Clearwater, FL 33763. Phone Number: 727-799-3216. Online newspapers and advertising rate information are available at www.ontopoftheworldnews.com/clearwater/news.php

Press Association Volunteers This Month:

- Lyn Taecker
- Joanne Cordes
- Tara Still
- Mary Lou Wall
- Bob Rittner
- Cheryl Butcher
- Anne Younger

Around The World In This Newspaper

SECTION 1

- 1 Chorus Holiday Sing-Along Preview
- 2 Important Phone Numbers
- 3 Canadian Club
- 4 Kenneth Colen
- 5 Recurring Community Reminders
- 5 Bus Schedule
- 6 Dessa Barabba
- 7 Hydro-Jetting Projects Resumes
- 8 Nancy Rogers
- 9 Community Calendar
- 10 Pet Of The Month
- 11 Coloring Book Group
- 11 Bible Study
- 11 Recycling Information
- 12-13 Entertainment Committee
- 14-15 2022 OTOW Fall Festival Highlights
- 17 Veterans Group
- 18 Press Association
- 19 Neighborhood Watch
- 19 Bingo
- 20 Rachel Wagoner
- 22 South Africa Is Still My Love

SECTION 2

- 25 Good Neighbors Association

- 27 Jesters
- 28 Theater Workshop
- 29 Italian-American Club
- 30 Cornhole
- 31 Line Dancing
- 32 Travel Club
- 33 Moving 'n Grooving
- 34 Snowbirds Club
- 36 Republican Club
- 36 Art Guild
- 38 Irish Club
- 39 Lambda Club
- 39 Aqua Aerobics
- 39 New Vegan Group
- 40 World Quilters
- 40 High Vibe Tribe
- 41 New York-New Jersey Club
- 42 Texas Card Club
- 42 Around The Bay Entertainment
- 43-45 Sports
- 46 Karaoke
- 47 Fixers
- 48 Democratic Club
- 49 Free Activities
- 50 Butcher Block
- 51 Science Of Cooking

SECTION 3

- 53 Dorado
- 53 Malaguena
- 55 Emerald Isle
- 55 25 Years Ago
- 57 Siboney
- 57 Polynesian
- 59 Vienesse Villa
- 59 Flamenco
- 61 Bavarian Chalet
- 61 French Renaissance I
- 62 Contemporary
- 62 Valencia
- 62 Azores
- 63 Rural French
- 63 New World French
- 63 Granada
- 64 Classifieds
- 64 Keyboard Club
- 65 Chetnik
- 65 Bohemia
- 66 Puzzle Page
- 66 Good Karma Book Club
- 66 New Library Books
- 67 Change Of Address Form
- 68 OTOW Shirts Make Great Christmas Gifts



East Activity Center Ground Floor



East Activity Center First Floor



East Activity Center Second Floor



West Activity Center

East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map



Pavilion Park

Important Phone Numbers

Community Service Office

727-683-6981

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off

727-799-3417 Option 6

Activities Office

727-799-2734

Emergency After Hours/Weekends

727-799-1115



Volunteers from the Veterans Group sell donated items during the Good Neighbors Association Flea Market in November

Veterans Group will be celebrating the holidays at sea



By Pamela Rosenblatt
 What can be more fun than ending the year on the Calypso Breeze enjoying an evening dinner cruise from John's Pass in Treasure Island?

It really doesn't get much better. The On Top of the World Veterans Group will be holding a holiday celebration on the Calypso Breeze on Thursday, Dec. 8.

If you miss this opportunity, we will do it again out of Clear-

water Beach this summer.

Unfortunately, this year we were unable to do our potluck dinner. Hopefully we can restart this tradition next year.

Your Veterans Group continues to collect items for our needy and homeless veterans at Bay Pines in St Petersburg. Stop by our information table on Mondays and Thursdays, from 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center Auditorium, for a list of the most needed items.

You can also get information on what we're doing next year.

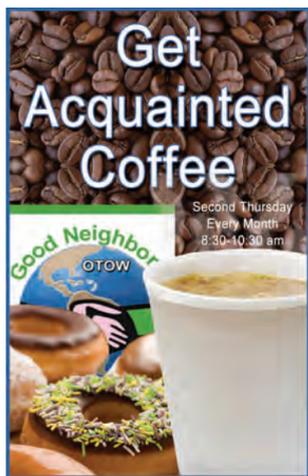
Our 2023 calendar is available at the information table. We also have information and applications for veterans and guardians who may be interested in the next Honor Flight.

If you made it out to the Good Neighbors Association Fall Flea Market, you may have scored some great deals. We had an insane amount of donated items at our tables. All proceeds from

sales benefit our veterans.

Our success is due to the hardworking team of men and women who assist in lending a hand during our events. The team consists of military veterans, their spouses, neighbors and friends, who enjoy providing our knowledge of resources to our community, but mostly their desire to have fun.

All are welcome to join our group.
 God Bless America.



Thursday, Dec. 8 EAC Auditorium

8:30 am Information Tables - 9 am Coffee and Donuts

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On Top of the World News Editor Doug Kates (far left in green shirt) teaches a basic journalism class to members of the Press Association staff. Once every year, Doug spends one hour going over basic Associated Press journalism guidelines. This year's class was attended by 44 people. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

Newspaper staff voluntarily attends one-hour journalism class to make OTOW News better

Overseeing monthly meetings, organizing the annual Appreciation Luncheon and being a dominant member of the On Top of the World News staff were only some of the tasks Yvonne Courtney achieved during 17 years with the Press Association.

Yvonne was the club's president for 14 consecutive years and vice president for three years. She was on the board for nearly 200 consecutive newspapers.

In November, Editor Doug Kates honored Yvonne during the annual Press Association Writer's Workshop.

In a surprise, Doug called Yvonne to the front of the meeting and presented her with a plaque on behalf of the Press Association.

Doug said he didn't know of anyone, from any club, who has ever been president for 14 straight years. He said it will probably never happen again.

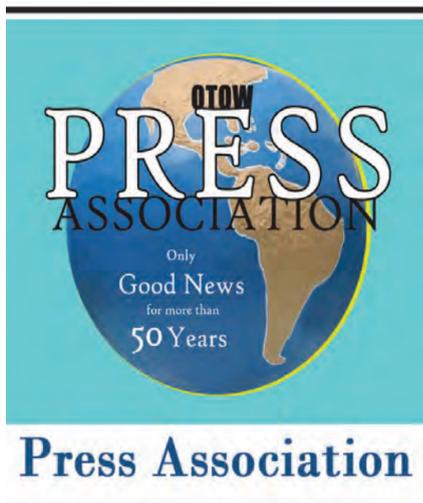
The plaque was presented and 44 residents in attendance all applauded.

The Writer's Workshop is the only time all year when Doug actually teaches basic journalism. No one is expected to get a four-year college degree in one hour, but Doug does highlight basic guidelines and writing rules.

This year was another successful class.

In other newspaper news, our community newspaper has undergone some major changes this past month.

This month's newspaper was printed on



broadsheet paper, meaning top to bottom it was 7 inches longer than normal.

This was also the first edition of our newspaper printed by The Villages, which have a state-of-the-art new printing press.

OTOW News is very grateful The Villages was able to print this edition and plans call for them to remain our printer for at least the next 12 months.

The next Press Association meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 8, 1:30 p.m., in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.



OTOW News Editor Doug Kates presents Yvonne Courtney with a plaque thanking her for 17 years on the Press Association board. Yvonne was president of the club for 14 consecutive years. She stepped down in May. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

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Care for someone with Alzheimer's? Get familiar with 'Take Me Home'

By Dave Beaven

A number of years ago, I was a caregiver for my mother who lived here at On Top of the World.

My mom had Alzheimer's, which is a progressive disease as most of you know.

The effect was that my mother had to be watched all the time. I had to hire some neighbors here to be with her during the day while I worked, and I took over in the evening.

Given the cost of assisted living/nursing home care, I imagine that there are other residents here who are in a similar situation - watching loved ones.

One of the symptoms of Alzheimer's/Dementia is that the patient can wander. I looked at the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department reports this year and saw three reports of missing persons here at OTOW. Although details weren't provided, logic would suggest that some of these cases involved confused residents who wandered away from home. This is not just an issue here. Every year, we get Silver Alerts which inform us to be on the lookout for senior drivers who are missing and driving around lost.

The Sheriff's Department here in Pinellas County has a program called: Take Me Home. It's a voluntary program in which you can enroll your loved one. It requires that you provide a recent photograph, patient name, description, demographics and emergency contact information. This will be uploaded



into their database. Then, if a sheriff's deputy encounters a confused or lost person, the database can be consulted and the caregiver notified that the patient is safe and able to be returned home.

This program can also work for people with developmental issues or medical conditions that can affect their alertness.

More information is available through the sheriff's office at the website: pcsoweb.com/take-me-home-1 or you can call 727-582-2222.

Neighborhood Watch consists of a group of our residents here who want to live in a peaceful and secure environment based on mutual consideration and respect. To find out more about us, go to our website areawatch2020.blogspot.com.



"There will be no bingo in December. Bingo will resume on January 9. Wishing you all Happy Holidays and hope to see you in 2023"

Skycrest United Methodist Church

CHRISTMAS EVE
4 PM Family Service
6:30 PM Candlelight Service

CHRISTMAS
11 AM Morning Service



Here are some more opportunities for you to join us for worship:
Sunday, Dec. 4, 11:00 AM, Service of Lessons and Carols
Wednesday, Dec. 21, Longest Night Service

Skycrest United Methodist Church is a church you can call home for the holidays. Are you looking for a place to find Hope, Peace, Joy and Love this Advent season? Consider joining us at Skycrest United Methodist Church. At Skycrest, our mission is to connect people with God, each other, and the world.

Skycrest welcomes and includes people of every age, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, and physical and mental ability. United, forgiven, and saved by our belief in Jesus Christ, we offer a loving environment to all seeking respite in God.

Come join us!

Looking for a church to call home year-round?
We have a 9:45am modern service and an 11 am traditional service on Sundays. We also have a free community yoga class on Tuesdays at 7:00pm, as well as Bible studies, an Advent study, interest groups, and more.

Hoping to celebrate the beauty of Advent with you this season!
Please contact us at 446-2218 or office@skycrest.net. You can also visit our website at www.skycrest.net. Hope to see you on Sunday!

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Hello everybody.
It's Rachel Wagoner.
Jerry Colen, John Beck and I are all partners in our law firm, Colen & Wagoner, P.A.
Jerry loves to write this column every month, but so do I.
In order for me to sneak in a column or two once in a while, I have to send Jerry to Time Out, which is what I've done for the holidays.
This way I can speak with you about some legal matters that concern me.
Over the years, Jerry has come up with some "Jerry-isms" which are his cutesy sayings he calls his rules of law practice.
Here are a couple "Jerry-isms."
Legal 101: Read the documents!
Legal 102: If you don't understand the documents, don't ever sign them.
Now, I hope Jerry will forgive me but I'm going to add to one of his rules. We will call it "Rachel's corollary":
Legal 102 Appended: Never sign a document without keeping the original signed document or an exact copy of it, including the signature page with the copied signature right on the document.
Let's talk about this.
Quite frequently, a client calls me or makes an appointment to meet at one of our offices, either in Clearwater or in Ocala.
They have a problem with something they bought or leased or something they did.
Sometimes it has to do with a contract to buy or lease an automobile, or it's an auto repair service contract. Sometimes it's about a promissory note where they loaned money to someone and they aren't getting repaid.



Recently, someone called to say he had a two-year lease on his apartment and now the landlord is trying to sell it. Did he have to allow a multi-lock on the front door, and did he have to allow strangers into the home to look around?
I'll ask to see the contract or the lease, or the note or any other written document.
Too many times, I find out the client didn't keep a copy, or alternatively, what I am handed is an unsigned copy of whatever is in dispute.
This is a problem.
How can you ever expect to receive legal advice about a document if you don't have it to show your attorney?
Or, if what you show your attorney is not an exact copy of what you signed, including how you signed it with your signature?
Legal 101: Read the documents and Le-

gal 102: Don't sign if you don't understand it - these are both great advice.
But I also know that more often than not, the documents you need to sign are in small print, difficult to read and hard to comprehend.
It's easy for Jerry to have his "rules," but you and I know it's not so easy to follow them when you are in a moment when you want to be done with a transaction and go home and relax.
And, of course, we always do want to trust someone, be it the friendly saleslady at the dealership or repair shop and, of course, we want to trust our children.
I get that.
So, what should you do?
First, there is no excuse for making a transaction and then leaving without the original signed document or an exact duplicate copy of it.
Second, never ever accept being told that you don't really need your own exact copy.
If someone tells you it will take some time to create an exact duplicate, just say "I'll wait."
When you get the duplicate, compare it and especially make sure the signatures are yours on any duplicate copy.
Everyone can check, even if it means taking a bit more time before you can get home and have a cocktail or two.
I promise you, having your own copy of anything will be a big help when you need it.
By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have passed and Christmas is approaching. On behalf of myself, John Beck and Jerry Colen, and all our staff, I wish you a

most wonderful, happy and healthy Christmas, Chanukah and Happy 2023.
Best wishes to all!
- Rachel

Rachel M. Wagoner, John Beck and Jerry Colen are law partners in Colen & Wagoner, P.A. Rachel is an attorney at law who handles matters as diverse as Wills, Trusts, Probate, simple and complex estate planning, asset protection planning, real property matters, including condominium and homeowner association matters, and title insurance matters. Rachel also provides legal advice and counsel to business and professional men and women, as well as corporate or limited liability companies in which they are involved. This column is only intended to present factual situations that may be of interest to our readers. It does not, nor is it intended to, provide legal advice. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for your specific situation and you should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. Rachel Wagoner and Gerald R. Colen have law offices at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, FL, 33777. Their phone number is (727) 545-8114. In Ocala, FL, their office is in the Town Center at Suite 11 across from the ice cream shop. Rachel and Jerry also meet clients at On Top of the World, in Clearwater, FL. You can call or email them for directions. You are invited to visit the law firm's Website at www.colenwagoner.com. You can email Rachel Wagoner at Rachel@colenwagoner.com or email Jerry Colen at Jerry@colenwagoner.com.

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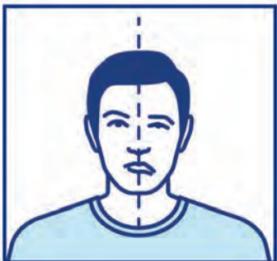
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After 53 trips around the world, South Africa is still my love



Bonnie Mack's fifth visit to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa - the southern most point of the continent.

By Bonnie Mack
Paradise Resident

People fall in love with their favorite travel destinations - France, Italy, Hawaii to name a few.

Now this might sound strange, but my favorite destination is South Africa - so much so, I just returned home from my 15th trip.

Let me explain.

One never knows where our journeys will lead us - or who we'll meet along the way.

Recalling the old movie with Kathryn Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart, I didn't meet my "Bogart" while navigating a rickety old boat in Africa. Rather, it was on a small boat off Rio de Janeiro in 1973.

At first glance, I wondered if I wasn't in Africa, after all.

The handsome man sitting across from me was dressed in a tan safari suit, white shirt and tie, and a fedora hat - complete with an animal skin band!

Our initial meeting was short, but a few months later we met again in Chicago, my hometown.

At that time, I learned that Theo was a third generation Afrikaner and he was delighted to enlighten me about South Africa.

Listening to Theo talk about the beauty of his country, especially in the springtime, when the colorful protea flowers spread themselves across the mountainside, made me anxious to see this part of the world for myself.

Theo regaled me with stories of the first settlers from Germany, Holland, England, and Portugal. He introduced me to the many native African tribes.

I was like a little girl turning the pages of a wonderful adventure book. I just knew I'd have to see Africa for myself.

In 1974, I spent three weeks traveling from Dakar (Senegal) to Johannesburg and Cape Town (South Africa), Victoria Falls (in what was then Rhodesia, but was renamed Zimbabwe).

I went on safari through Kenya and Tanzania, and completed a tour in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), following the imprisonment of Emperor Haile Selassie.

South Africa was still practicing apartheid, so many countries wouldn't accept flights from that country, making travel even more difficult.

The friendship between Theo and me lasted more than 30 years until he passed away in 2004.

Prior to COVID, I had traveled around the world for 53 consecutive years.

Though there are many places I love, the continent of Africa will always be dearest to my heart.

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2022 Craft Show/Flea Market

Good Neighbors Association has had a busy fall

Festival, clothing drive, flea market all successful

By Jesse Tiamson

It was a whirlwind 21 days for the Good Neighbors Association.

We were interrupted by Tropical Storm Nicole that cancelled our Get Acquainted Coffee in November.

Then Good Neighbors Association had its annual fall Food & Clothing Drive that netted many bags of clothing items and boxes of non-perishable food that we donated to the Shepherd Center.

Many residents drove by the northeast parking lot to drop off their donations that the Good Neighbors Association volunteers picked up and sorted out.

Then on Saturday, Nov. 5, Good Neighbors Association participated in the On Top of the World 2022 Fall Festival & Expo.

We had two tents outdoors where we sold tables for our annual Flea Market/Craft Show. We also sold cold drinks to residents.

During the festival, indoors at the Auditorium, Good Neighbors Association also served doughnuts and coffee to the outside exhibitors and vendors.

Then came the big event the following Saturday, Nov 12. Good Neighbors Association hosted its annual Fall Flea Market/Craft Show two days after Nicole.

All three events - clothing drive, festival and flea market - were successful thanks to



the untiring efforts of club officers and the volunteers who made sure that things were planned and coordinated to their successful conclusion.

Our Dec. 8 Get Acquainted Coffee entertainer will be The Amazing Richie, the magician. He is also an OTOW resident.

Information tables open at 8:30 a.m., followed by coffee and donuts at 9 a.m. Entertainment will begin before 10 a.m.



Pictured at the very top is the annual Flea Market/Craft Show with dozens of vendors in the Auditorium. Above was the Good Neighbors Association table. Below are Good Neighbors Association volunteers working our annual Food/Clothing Drive at the Pavilion. (OTOW News photos by Jesse Tiamson)





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New members sign up at Fall Festival, but Jesters could still use your help



Jesters

By Evelyn Flam and Robyn Kumar

Were you one of the many people who visited the Jesters table at the On Top of the World Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 5?

Well, if somehow we missed meeting you, let us fill you in on what was happening.

We had a beautifully-decorated booth. Many people stopped by to join our club, buy tickets for our upcoming show, or to just chat. Yes, you heard that right!

Tickets are now on sale for our upcoming show - Vegas Vibes - which will be performed on Feb. 10, 11 and 12, 2023.

If you haven't already bought your tickets, they are on sale at our club information table in the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30.

You should get them while they're hot!

You are invited to join us at our next general meeting which will be held at the



Jesters club members Rick Kipe, Lillian Foy and Tony Baker are seated at the Jesters table during the On Top of the World Fall Festival and Expo on Nov. 5.

West Activity Center Belleair Room on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. You are always welcome to come early or stay later to do a little socializing.

We are still looking for people who would like to help behind the scenes. We need backstage help, ticket sellers and ticket takers at our performances.

If you have any questions, please contact Robyn Kumar at 516-662-9640. Always remember, being a part of our club is "Jest for fun!"

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Theater Workshop celebrates award for ‘Best Decorated Table’ prior to shipping off to sea

By Maxine Sutcliffe

Wow!

Was the Theater Workshop table at the 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo wonderful or what?

We were all so excited and proud.

Our table was designed by Vice President Keith Elder and was awarded first prize for best decorated table!

(See photo on page 14).

How about that!

It was so well-deserved by Keith, but not just Keith. Although he came up with the concept, we had a great team that used our 2023 show theme “Oceans Away.”

Keith and the team planned and did much of the artistic aspects, construction and signage.

Construction, table set up and take



down included Rick Kipe, Rick Roberts and Tom Gannon. Sewing and table decorating included Janet Lang, and Debbie and Shirley Miller. Manning the table (wearing our “Oceans Away” uniforms) included Jane Wolf and Ron Steele.

So a big “thank you” to the board and membership participation, and the OTOW

Awards Committee.

Talking about our show, “Oceans Away – Cruising Our Style,” things are well underway.

Our singers, dancers and comedians are attending their rehearsal time slots and working hard. Believe me, we are having lots of laughs, too.

This show is not only about performing in front of you, your neighbors and friends, but it is also about us having a lot of fun and good camaraderie along the way.

The holidays are almost upon us so this brings me to remind you of our joint Theater Workshop/Jesters Christmas Holiday Party.

All Theater Workshop and Jesters members and their guests are invited.

The Christmas Party will be held on Friday, Dec. 16, from 6 p.m. at the East Activity

Center Auditorium. Please come and sign up for your pot luck contribution (either appetizer, accompaniment for the main course, or dessert) which is in lieu of charging for a ticket.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the Theater Workshop next meeting at 6 p.m. on Dec. 7 in the West Activity Center Belleair Room (and Jesters meeting on Dec. 14) as well as at the Theater Workshop and Jesters information tables between 8:30-10:30 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays at the Auditorium.

Come to our meeting and join a festive evening of fun, food and music for dancing hosted by our very own Theater Workshop member “DJ” Mike Wood.

Our meeting will include socializing and refreshments with a meeting to follow at 7 p.m. See you then.

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Italian-American Club celebrates November with a dance and will cherish December with a holiday party

Italian American Club



By William Peterson

Here we are already into the month of December. We have gotten through Thanksgiving and are getting ourselves ready for the next celebration coming our way.

We are happy to say that our Italian-American Club picnic at the Pavilion was enjoyed on a very sunny and pleasant afternoon.

The subs ordered from Jersey Mike's were the featured food along with sides of potato and Caesar salads.

Jersey Mike's has donated coupons for a free regular sub to all who attended the picnic. Their store is located in the Northwood Plaza at the corner of Enterprise and McMullen Booth Road.

So, please use the coupons and enjoy the sub.

Our club's Pasta Night dinner/dance was held on Nov. 9 catered by Mama Felice.

The meal consisted of pasta, meatballs, sausage and peppers, and it was both filling and savored by our members. There was music, and all in attendance said they really had a fun time.

There are a limited number of tickets still available for our annual Christmas party to be held at the Countryside Country Club. Please don't miss out on this scenic location and excellent food.

We will be giving out Santa grab bags to all in attendance. There is also valet parking available.

We are putting together our 2023 events and are pleased to say that we are bringing back A Day of Racing at Tampa Bay Downs for \$33. It includes entrance to the track, a program for the races and a fabulous buffet lunch with coffee when you arrive. There



Pictured above, Italian-American Club members and guests take part in a pasta night celebration in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Below, Cathy and Rich Webb show off a Jersey Mike's restaurant coupon that was passed out to everyone who attended the Italian-American Club picnic in October.

(OTOW News photos by Mary Lou Wall)

will be a bar close by.

So, don't miss out on this fun day.

Of course, we are still planning for our annual St Joseph's Dinner Dance and for our closing event - an ice cream social. So, please don't miss out on any of the 2023 events.

Flyers for all of our events can be picked up at our information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium from 8:30 until 10:15 a.m. every Monday and Thursday.

Volunteers are always needed at the tables to help sell tickets and for helping set up and clean up at our events.

You don't have to be Italian to join our club. All you need is a current activity card.



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Our cornhole ringmaster will not only get you ready for competition, but will help you feel welcomed

By Margaret LeTourneau

As you check out the photo of happy cornhole players, you might notice the widest smile is on the guy smack dab in the middle.

That friendly guy is our impressive Moving 'n Grooving Club Cornhole Ringmaster Michael Payne.

Like all ringmasters, Michael has many talents.

As soon as he enters the Belleair Room, Michael's exuberance for cornhole and for its players is highly contagious. His quick

wit, genuine interest in everyone, and fun interactive manner, keeps everyone bubbling with laughter and enthusiasm.

Michael is not only a top team leader, but he is also a top cornhole player. He has earned our Four-Hole Winner's Plaque and our Four-Hole Winner's Medal for landing four bean bags in a row into the cornhole.

Michael, originally from Utica, NY, majored in healthcare administration at Ithaca College while he worked as an orderly.

He then moved to Florida in 1977. He has dedicated his career to assisting seniors

... working his way up from administrator to vice president of operations for various senior facilities.

In his last role, he was a developer/owner/partner and vice president of operations at Beckett Lake Lodge (which is located just a few blocks from On Top of the World).

Michael and his wonderful wife, Viki, moved to On Top of the World 10 years ago. They are relishing retirement, although they stay very active, helping run our Moving 'n Grooving Club.

They have two children and two adorable granddaughters, who keep them on their toes.

Why not come meet Michael and check out The Moving 'n Grooving Club's cornhole, which is played every Monday from 1-3 p.m., in the West Activity Center's Belleair Room.

If you enjoy it, we ask that you join our club. An annual membership costs \$15 and also includes unlimited line dance and cardio dance classes offered by our club.

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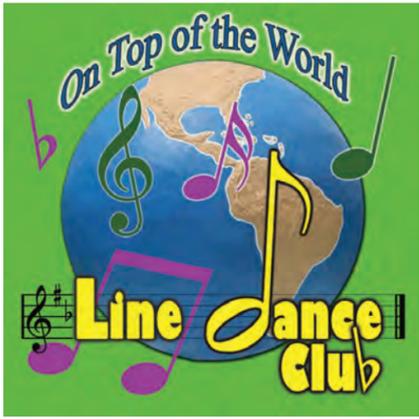
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Line dancers went outdoors to celebrate Oktoberfest and feast on brats



Members of the On Top of the World Line Dance Club held an Oktoberfest party at the Pavilion in late October. There was, of course, outdoor line dancing. (OTOW News photo by Ed Foland)

By Leila Walker

The On Top of the World Line Dance Club recently held an Oktoberfest celebration at the Pavilion.

The weather, as you can see from the picture, was perfect. The temperature was very comfortable for an outdoor event.

Bratwurst was cooked on the grills by chef, Tim Beaver, and wife, Karen, served the food. We would like to thank Tim and Karen for their help in making the Oktoberfest successful.

We learned that evening that not only do line dancers love to dance, but they are also great cooks!

Delicious side dishes were prepared by the dancers.

We would also like to thank our other helpers. Madeleine Fontaine and Debbie

Mayo thoroughly cleared the area just prior to the event and assisted with the cleanup.

Mary Becker helped with arranging the food as it arrived. Ed Foland was our DJ for the evening and he provided the picture for this article.

This event could not have been a success without our volunteers.

Of course, we did lots of line dancing!

Join our club for line dancing.

The OTOW Line Dance Club conducts

regular sessions every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Advanced Beginner dances are offered from 1-2 p.m. and Improver dances are offered from 2-3 p.m.

Line dance sessions are also offered every Saturday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the EAC Auditorium. Advanced Beginner dances are offered from 8:30-9:30 a.m. and Improver dances are offered from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Additional practice sessions are available on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7-8 a.m. in the EAC Exercise Room. These sessions prepare you for the dances that will be taught on the Tuesday and Saturday programs.

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



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When Travel Club takes a road trip, we eat, drink and take in terrific entertainment

By Janice Berman

What happens when 44 On Top of the World Travel Club members get on a bus? They head to Tennessee for a road trip to Pigeon Forge and the Smoky Mountains.

Once underway, the fun never stops.

On travel days, time passes quickly as we play bus bingo and watch movies.

Terri Mikszenas, our wonderful trip organizer, keeps a continuous supply of snacks, candy and water available for us to enjoy and enjoy we did!

We attended six high-energy shows. All the performers were exceptionally talented so it was impossible to pick a favorite.

The sets and costumes were breath takingly beautiful.

During the Smith Morning Variety Show, two brave members from our group went on stage to compete in a hula-hoop contest. We learned some can hula-hoop and some can't.

You might think all we did was sit, eat and be entertained, but we did much more. Many of us went on the Great Smoky Mountain Wheel located at the island in Pigeon Forge. This ferris wheel looks like the London Eye with its huge, 200-foot-high observation wheel. Passengers were treated to views of the Smoky Mountains in all their beautiful fall color.

We also spent time exploring and shopping in Pigeon Forge and beautiful historic Gatlinberg.

Our trip concluded with a guided tour of the Great Smoky Mountains National



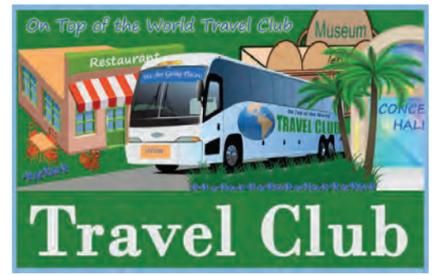
On Top of the World residents stop for a show at the Country Tonight Theatre in Pigeon Forge

Park. We learned many things during the tour. One thing that stands out for me is that this National Park is the most visited park in the country every year.

Thank you, Terri for a wonderful trip.

We all took home great memories that will last till next October when we get to do it all over again!

The On Top of the World Travel Club will not have a general meeting in December



as many club members will be cruising the Caribbean the first week of the month.

We will be in the East Activity Center Auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:15 a.m. to sell tickets and provide membership needs.

Holiday party tickets are available for all members and guests. If you are considering joining the Travel Club, but something is holding you back, come buy a ticket to the holiday party. The evening will include laughing, music for listening and dancing, plus good food. It is guaranteed to feed your belly and your soul.

Come see us in the auditorium to learn what great events are coming in the new year.

The January general meeting will take place at the East Activity Center in the Oldsmar Room on Friday Jan. 6, 2023, at 2 p.m. President David Berman will be greeting us with a few stories and jokes you won't want to miss.

Remember we are going places. Come share the fun!

Meet the Author

Sharon Rich, Dec. 6



Rose-Marie 1936

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, author Sharon Rich will be at On Top of the World to talk about her biography "Sweethearts" - a story about actors

Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, who fell in love in the 1930s, but were not allowed to get married. "Sweetheart" will soon become a movie of its own.

Sharon's presentation will include the movie "Rose-Marie" and behind-the-scenes footage from the movie. Sharon will speak from 10 am - 12 pm in the West Activity Center Learning Lab. Registration is required. You can register by emailing general_activity@scaclw.com or by calling 799-2734.

After the meeting, Sharon will be signing her book.



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Pictured above are scenes from a recent Yee-Haw party hosted by the Moving 'n Grooving Club. Cowboy hats and boots were recommended.

(Photos by Howard Wolff)

Snowbirds' return adds fun to line dancing

By Hope Tera

It's the most wonderful time of the year. I'm not talking about Christmas, although that's right around the corner. I'm referring to the annual return of our beloved Snowbirds.

During the off-season, the traffic is lighter and it's usually easy to find parking at Clearwater Beach and Aldi's, but our Snowbirds are back and it's wonderful reconnecting with long, lost friends.

Let's enjoy this time.

Case in point ... Denis O'Doherty.

Denis and his husband, Bob, have a beautiful home and life in the mountains of western North Carolina. It's understandable that they head north in the springtime, but they're back now and it's a treat to have them in town once again.



As Denis shared ... "We love the mountains of western North Carolina. Leaving is always a little sad, but returning to On Top of the World is always such a joy - reconnecting with friends and meeting new people, plus all the activities we take part in here. We feel so blessed to live in such an active

community. What a precious gift to be alive, I mean really alive."

On a different note, our Moving 'n Grooving Club has consolidated our current three main activities into our club - line dancing, cardio dancing and cornhole. We are one family, an energetic group who enjoys socializing and staying active.

Recent studies confirm that staying active helps keep us physically and mentally fit.

How about trying some line dancing classes with Margaret LeTourneau?

She caters to all levels and a great time is guaranteed.

If you are interested in giving your heart a good workout, you can try a cardio dance class with Hope Tera.

Looking for a gentler workout?

Then a cardio dance light class might fit

the bill.

If you just want to have some friendly competition, cornhole might suit you. The schedule is on the calendar page.

Members of our club receive monthly calendars, showing dates, times and locations for our activities.

If you would like to receive a copy of our monthly calendar for December, please contact Hope Tera at 914-217-9206 or email her at movingandgroovingotow@gmail.com.

The Moving 'n Grooving Club is always welcoming new ideas and new beginnings.

You can also learn more about our club on the On Top of the World Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). Look for our logo.

As always, we hope to see you out and about.

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Theater, horse races, cruises and of course, line dancing



By Ed Foland and Dale Stackhouse
The Snowbirds Club has announced several exciting activities in their upcoming schedule, which includes travel, entertainment and line dancing.

Club members and guests recently attended a play at Fletchers Early Bird Dinner Theater in Clearwater. The play was very funny, had an unusual plot and a happy ending. Good food was enjoyed by all.

Our next dinner and show at Fletchers is a play called "Birthday Club."

Tampa Bay Downs is a favorite destination for racing enthusiasts. Space is available for our lunch buffet and racing on Wednesday, Dec 21.

The buffet features hand-carved roast beef and turkey breast. The lunch and viewing area for the races is a semi-private, glass enclosed area of the grandstand. The cost is \$35 and includes admission, viewing races, lunch, all taxes and tip.

A cruise offers more for your money and is often more relaxing than other types of vacations.

Our club's next cruise is a seven-night casino cruise to the Bahamas, departing from Tampa on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, aboard Royal Caribbean's Serenade of the Seas.

As well as a casino on the ship, there are two casinos in Nassau and one in Bimini, so a variety of places to gamble.

Of course, if gambling is not your thing, there are many other things to see and do, both on and off the ship.

If you are a first-time cruiser, you can relax knowing that your tour escorts, Ed and Dolly Foland, will look after you and take care of all the details. They have been doing it for more than 20 years!



A group of Snowbirds Club members go through the buffet line on their way to the meat carving station before being seated at the front row of tables to enjoy the live play with professional actors.

(Photo by Ed Foland)

Snowbirds Line Dance classes are every Wednesday morning in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

For those who have never line danced before, Ed Foland teaches a beginners class from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. following his own 12-step program. He has published a booklet outlining the 12 basic steps used in line dancing.

Dolly Foland is a line dance instructor and choreographer with more than 30 years experience - 14 of them at On Top of the

World. She teaches from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. with the first hour being easy dances and the second hour devoted to improver level dances, which may be more complex and challenging, and better suited to experienced dancers.

Line dancing is great exercise for both mind and body, and no partner is needed.

Visit our information table on Monday or Thursday mornings at the East Activity Center to pick up flyers and schedules of our events, as well as a free map of On Top of

the World. The information is also on Box Office. To see this and more, follow these steps.

1. Go to otowboxoffice.com
2. Scroll down to Club Web Pages
3. Click on the words Snowbirds Club, or on the Snowbird logo and the page will open.

Club contact person is Ed Foland. Use the email: endfoland@aol.com or call (727) 417-3272.

Visit the Snowbirds Club web page at otowboxoffice.com



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Republican Club wraps up pre-election voting efforts and then celebrates late into election night



By Carl Turner

The Ronald Reagan Republican Club had two key events in November.

On Nov. 5 we had a booth at the On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo, where special appearances were made by Brian Scott (candidate for Pinellas County Commissioner District 2 at Large) and Kimberly Berfield (candidate for Florida State House District 58).

This was part of the Republican Club education program to help members and other On Top of the World residents understand the issues and the candidates views prior to the Nov. 8 election.

Then on Election Day, club volunteers helped voters learn who the conservative candidates were so they could vote for them if they wanted.

The Republican Club had more than 19 volunteers for these two events, which included Jesse Tiamson, Susan Salmieri, David DiNardo, Jane Treggett, Ann Messina, Mary Jane Lofton, Karen Tatge, Jack Jarvis, Rick Ricketts, Joann Osburn, Krystyna Ciura, Marilyn Lane, Maria Pinato, Edwina Schick, Maryina Mackiewicz, Laura Broberg, Bob Crampton, Carl Turner and others.

Copies of the conservative candidate voting list were provided by Jim Bjorgo.

A special thanks goes out to all of these volunteers who worked four-hour shifts and



Pinellas County Commissioner Brian Scott was a special guest of the Republican Club during the 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo on Nov. 5. Brian is wearing his own election shirt in the photo above.

to Jim who helped provide OTOW voters with valuable information prior to their vote.

After the midterm elections were over at 7 p.m., instead of having a normal second Tuesday of the month meeting, Mary Jane Lofton had a party to watch the election returns come in.

The Florida Republican candidates were very successful and the national Republican candidates elections were not conclusive in the early voting results.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec.

13. We will have a short business session and then our annual pot luck Christmas party will be held. Both events will be in the West Activity Center from 6-8 p.m. A meat dish will be provided by the club. Members are free to bring non-members and guests to this get together.

The theme of this meeting will be to provide ideas on how to get additional volunteers and what activities the club should be doing in the future while having fun doing it.

These ideas and others will then be the focus for the Jan. 10, 2023, meeting which is the second Tuesday of the month. The event will be 6-8 p.m. in the WAC.

Finally, thanks to all of the voters in the midterms who made this the most successful Republican election in Florida history.

If there are any questions, please contact Carl Turner at 443-624-9303 or email carlmarvinturner@gmail.com.



Rosemarie Lugg instructs her eager students on how to paint with acrylics.

Did you know that holiday greeting cards are a special form of commercial art?

By Julie Awot

Hello readers. It's that time of year again. Yes, that time when we are bombarded with everything we need to do or buy. We are inundated with TV and radio advertisements as well as print circulars.

It is officially the holiday season.

In this issue of On Top of the World News, I want to touch a bit on commercial art and its purpose.

This type of art is primarily produced to sell a product or service. It doesn't have to be educational. It just needs to lure the viewer.

Holiday greeting cards can definitely be classified as commercial art, but with a twist. This art form evokes a visual and emotional response that the consumer wants to share.

Holiday greeting cards had mass popu-



Art Guild

larity from the late 1930s through the 1970s.

As a kid, I remember pouring over the Christmas cards that came each day. There

were beautiful angels in starry skies and precious baby deer in snowy woods. Some cards were of Santa or snowmen, or babies in a manger.

To my eyes they were all beautiful and I liked to think about who sent which card.

Now, circling back to the purpose of commercial art to sell a product or service, let's think about the typical Florida Christmas card.

This art form may be the sole reason so many have relocated to Florida.

Think about it.

Santa is having a great time on every card. He's water-skiing, golfing, relaxing on the beach and he delivers presents from an awesome sleigh made from a giant shell.

In the meantime, beautiful pink flamin-

gos, sporting Santa hats, are decorating palm trees with lights and starfish.

It's all joyous and magical and quite alluring, and here we all are, celebrating the season in sunny Florida.

The OTOW Art Guild has a light schedule this month. We will be having our monthly meeting and holiday pizza party on Friday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

On behalf of the Art Guild we would like to thank the OTOW community for your support of our activities this fall. The Fall Festival, a demonstration by Robert Simone and our holiday paint and sip were all successful because of your participation.

We wish you all a joyous season and a wonderful year to come.



*Happy Holidays
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Brendan O'Connor Variety Show



January 12, 2023



6:30 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium
\$15 members, \$18 non-members

A delightful evening filled with Irish music

Proceeds fund the Irish Club parade.

Tickets sold Mondays and Thursdays 8:30-10:30 am in the EAC Auditorium

Two Irish shows set for early 2023 and the parade follows on March 4

By Barbara Rice

Shamrocks, not sugar plums, are dancing in the heads of every Irish Club member.

Even in December, members are busy planning the next On Top of the World St. Patrick's Day Parade set for March 4, 2023.

We are also getting ready to host two outstanding evenings of entertainment for the community next year.

And the club's Christmas brunch is soon.

The Brendan O'Connor Variety Show will fill the East Activity Center with Irish music on Jan. 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Brendan's family hails from Dublin. He grew up with Irish music in his blood.

The talented Irishman has played at the North Myrtle Beach Irish Festival for the past 12 years.

Paul Duffy's concert has been re-scheduled for Feb. 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the EAC. The change means an even



Irish Club

bigger and better show. Darin Graves, an accomplished fiddler, will join Paul and his many instruments on stage. The talented pair will get your feet tapping.

Ticket prices for the Brendan O'Connor and Paul Duffy shows are \$15 for members and \$18 for guests. Proceeds will be used to help fund the parade.

The club's Christmas brunch will be at the Dunedin Golf Club on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m. Cost is \$30 each.

For the 27th year, the Irish Club parade will grandly kick off March. A party will follow in the EAC parking lot

Parade committee members have been at work for several weeks. We hope you will put Christmas green aside for a moment or two and think about St. Paddy's green.

It is not too early to begin planning entries. Past entries have been very creative! Put on your thinking caps for a super 2023 entry. Registration forms are available.

Fewer parade meetings will be scheduled with participants this year.

If you know someone outside our community who would be great in the parade, let us know.

Convertible owners generously chauffeured participants down the parade route in style last year. We hope we can count on these spiffy rides again.

Save this special date in March. In-

vite the grandchildren. Tell new OTOW residents why not to miss this gala day of green.

Irish Club members have yet another green on their minds – money. The cost of putting on the parade increases each year. Donations were generous last year and will again be appreciated.

Contact Tom O'Riordan and Colman Weir for more information about the parade, to request an entry form, or make a donation.

Tom can be reached at 845-664-0504 or tj050659@gmail.com. Colman can be reached at 914-584-3370 or by emailing Colman.weir@yahoo.com.

Tickets for the Duffy and O'Connor shows can be purchased on Monday and Thursday mornings, 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the EAC Auditorium. Tickets to the Christmas brunch will be available, too.

Irish Club dues may be paid then. You do not need to be Irish to join. Dues are \$5 per member.

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If you could not find a Lambdan last month, it was because they were all over the world

By Bruce Lovett

“Lambda around the world.” What do you think of that as a title for a reality show?

Earl Ballace, our club videographer, asked that very question to club members at a recent get together.

“Well, you’d certainly have enough material for it” a club member replied. “Lambda seems to be all over the globe lately.”

Earl, his husband, and some friends recently returned from a three and half week trip to Italy. They flew to Italy’s southern isle paradise, Sicily, for two stops before leisurely working their way up the boot towards Rome - their final destination before flying home.

Along the way, the group hit various famous destinations. The one that took their breath away was Pompeii. The majesty of the ancient civilization made them feel so very young.

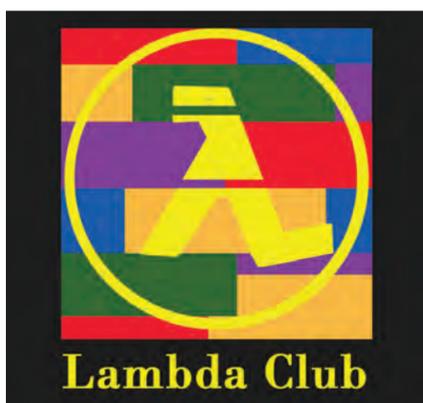
And by just two days, they missed another Lambdaite who had flown to Rome, via London, England, to take one of those repositioning cruises. He would be hitting Portugal and the Canary Islands while on his way home.

Not to be outdone, our fearless president, Dave Beaven, and his spouse joined James Farmer and his better half, On Top of the World trophy model Bruno Nardizzi, for 10 exciting days at a Mexican Pacific paradise.

They rented a car, traveled north and south, and hit the beaches and all the famous night spots. Dave came back exhausted but claimed to have had the time of his life.

Lou Messier gets honorable mention for having traveled to Gulf to Bay and Old Coachman to work the baklava/sundae bar at the recently held Greek festival. He helped bring a little Greece to those of us unable to travel.

Now that it’s December, it is time to bring people home from around the world



to get them around the Christmas tree. Lambda, in its own inimitable style, will be continuing with two of its most enduring and popular holiday traditions.

First up is our annual seasonal gift exchange social. On Dec. 9, at 6 p.m., bring a wrapped gift (bring one to receive one) and something festive for the buffet table to the Largo Room at the East Activity Center. Christmas music will be playing, mistletoe will be hanging and HoHoHo punch will be served.

Fifteen days later on Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. in the same room, we will be having our annual Christmas Eve feast. Turkeys will be provided by the club, but we need all our elves to get busy fixing sides and desserts.

There is no reason to be alone on Christmas Eve while Lambda is in existence.

Lambda is a club that serves the LGBT population at OTOW as well as their neighbors and friends. Should you wish further information about the club, go to our official website at <http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com>. You can also check us out at otowboxoffice.com or call Dave at (727) 410-7566.



Jack Kilgen, Dave Beaven, James Farmer and Bruno Nardizzi visit Mexico.



Aqua Aerobics Instructors Chuck Davidson, Irene Pappas and Lillian Foy enjoy the clubs yearly luncheon. Unable to attend was Sylvia Raider.

(Photo by Frieda Cardinal)

Aqua Aerobics celebrates the year with a luncheon

By Irene Pappas

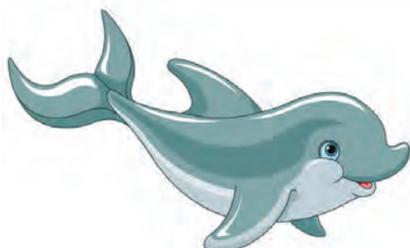
Aqua Aerobics celebrated their year-round class with an annual luncheon at the Olive Garden.

Thirty people were in attendance enjoying a private room.

Aqua Aerobics classes are open to everyone from 9-10 a.m., Monday through Friday. This class takes place at the East Activity Center swimming pool with the exception of the following holidays: Fourth of July, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

The beneficial exercises of being in a swimming pool include balance, memory, strength and pain reduction.

There is never fee so come join us!



Aqua Aerobics



At the first Vegan Club meeting, a selfie was taken of the first people to join.

New Vegan Club sets agenda for future meetings

By Ronald A Baltrunas

A small group met for the first Vegan Club meeting in November. We got to know each other and we discussed veganism.

Veganism is eating no animal products - only vegetables, fruits, nuts and seeds.

We discussed why we became vegan. We do it for our health, for the animals and for the earth.

We are living proof that we don’t need to eat animals to be healthy. Only one of us monitors protein intake. The rest have no problem getting enough with a good diet.

There was an agreement that vegetarians can be part of the vegan group. It is possible that we will become a broader plant-based educational club for healthy eating.

In our next meeting, we plan to welcome new members, discuss the many new plant-based food options, exchange recipes, discuss the documentary “Eating our way to extinction” and whatever else comes up!

Our next meeting will be 3 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9 at the West Activity Center Learning Lab/Computer Room. For more info, you can email Vegans10@yahoo.com or call Ron Baltrunas at 727-466-3348.

For information on veganism look up vegansalvation.com.

If you enjoy the hum of sewing machines, you should be creating with us



By Cheryl Kutchinski

Do you like to sew? Do you enjoy the sweet hum of sewing machines, plus good conversation and laughter? You are reading the right article.

This is what the World Quilters do from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

Looking for inspiration? We enjoy using colorful fabrics, embroidery threads, embellishments, hand-dyed wool and more to create one of a kind projects.

The World Quilters group has made beautiful quilts, wall hangings, tote bags, placemats, table runners and microwave bowl hot pads.

The list goes on and on. We bring our own sewing machines and supplies to class. Some of our members don't need a sewing machine. They work with hand embroidery, needle-turn applique and rug-hooking. All are welcome. Need a little help to get started? Just stop by and visit with our members. We are a friendly "no dues" group. We can help you with ideas to get your first project started. We all help and learn from each other. Come join us.



World Quilters



November speaker will be back in December

Greetings, fellow spiritual seekers! I am excited to announce that our High Vibe Tribe meeting will take place on Dec. 8 with the Rev. Tracey Quillin discussing the Divine Feminine.

She was supposed to be our guest speaker in November, but our class was cancelled because of Tropical Storm Nicole.

Rev. Tracey is the senior pastor of Unity of Palm Harbor and will be here to share stories from her heart and experiences about the Divine Feminine.

Plan to be at the Kitchen/Clearwater Room from 7-9 p.m. You may refer to the November news article for more details or contact me at otowooowoo@gmail.com.





Back in October, members and guests of the New York-New Jersey Club put on their best Hawaiian shirts and did island dances in the Auditorium.

(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

**2023
Irish Club
Parade**

**10 am
Saturday
March 4**

**It is not too
early to start
planning.**

Just in time for the NFL playoffs, NY-NJ will host Sports Shirt Night

By Will Peterson

A special thank you to everyone who joined the New York-New Jersey Club during the 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo.

The event took place on Saturday, Nov. 5, and was a huge success. A lot of people came out on a very pleasant day and our club membership went up significantly.

We look forward to seeing all of our members at upcoming events.

On Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, the New York-New Jersey Club will host Sports Night catered by Felice's Deli in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. and will feature Mama's chicken strips with dipping sauces, plus baked ziti, pulled pork, salad and bread.

Mama's famous apple cobbler is for dessert. Water, coffee and ice will be provided. Music will be by the Kathy and Paul Duo. The cost will be \$23.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023, our club will meet in the EAC Largo Room at 6 p.m. We



New York - New Jersey Club

will be watching film snippets from the movie Mama Mia and listening to music from the group Abba.

Brush up on your Abba songs, because there will be a sing-along.

Dessert, coffee, water and ice will be served and all for just \$10.

In March, we will participate in the Irish Club Parade as we do every year and we hope that our members will be ready to march and wear the green.

In October, members of our club put on their best Hawaiian shirts and had an island-style dinner with dancing.

The event was well attended by club members.

The New York/New Jersey Club is open to anyone who lives at On Top of the World. The cost to be a member is only \$5. The only requirement is that you must have a valid Activity Card.

Have you paid your dues? Dues are collected each Monday and Thursday at our information table from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

Volunteers for our table and at each event are always welcome.

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Record turnout on one-year anniversary of Texas Card Game Club startup



The Texas Card Game Club held their most recent tournament on Friday, Oct. 21. There were 22 players present as this was the highest turnout since the club started exactly one year ago.

There were three new players as membership grew to 47 players.

After playing for nearly four hours, the final three players decided to divide the prize pool which was the highest collected for a tournament.

The final three players were newcomer Henry Moses, Joe DeChiaro and second-time player Christina Yulis.

The final tournament this year will be



Henry Moses, left, Joe DeChiaro and Christina Yulis reached the final table in October.

on Friday, Dec. 16 at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room.

Anyone can join the club by coming to the tournament or contacting Joe DeChiaro at

joegdechiaro@yahoo.com. You must have a valid Activity Card.



Plenty of holiday entertainment in December

The holiday season is upon us once again and local venues will be providing a plethora of holiday magic to entertain On Top of the World residents.

'Tis the season to get out and enjoy all the wonderful entertainment near us.

Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater

Dec. 4: From the Tony Award-winning creators of the Broadway classic "Ragtime," comes "Anastasia" - this dazzling show transports us from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s. A brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet officer determined to silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing con-man and a lovable ex-aristocrat.

Dec. 9: Engelbert Humperdinck, a Grammy nominee and Golden Globe winner, returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall for a special performance of holiday hits.

In a career spanning more than 50 years, he has generated sales in excess of 140 million records including 64 gold albums and 35 platinum. Engelbert has received four Grammy nominations, a Golden Globe and stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Las Vegas Walk of Fame and Leicester England Walk of Fame

Dec. 11: The Florida Orchestra Holiday Pops will be performing all of Santa's favorites at the most popular concert of the year. It's a very merry tradition for the whole family.

Dec. 17: 'Tis the season to celebrate when Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, formerly of Sha Na Na, returns to the Ruth Eckerd Hall stage for his 14th annual Bowzer's Holiday Rock 'N' Roll Party starring legendary artists Peter Noone ("Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Daughter"; "There's a Kind of Hush"; "I'm Henry VIII, I Am").

Also joining on stage will be Gary U.S. Bonds ("New Orleans"; "This Little Girl"; "Quarter To Three"), Dennis Tufano, original lead singer of The Buckingham's, Sha Na Na Reunion with Henry Gross & Johnny Contardo ("Shannon"; "Those Magic

Changes"), Joey Dee ("Peppermint Twist"; "What Kind of Love Is This").

Dec.18: "My Fair Lady" is "a sumptuous new production of the most perfect musical of all time" according to Entertainment Weekly.

Boasting such classic songs as "I Could Have Danced All Night," "The Rain in Spain," "Wouldn't It Be Lovely" and "On the Street Where You Live," My Fair Lady tells the story of Eliza Doolittle, a young cockney flower seller and Henry Higgins, a linguistics professor, who is determined to transform her into his idea of a "proper lady."

Dec. 31: For more than 25 years, the Salute to Vienna New Year's Eve Concert has combined timeless music, dazzling costumes, breathtaking dance and beautiful flowers to create an unforgettable New Year's celebration that continues to enchant and delight audiences.

The exuberant music of Johann Strauss and his turn-of-the-century counterparts is brought to vibrant life in a joyful spectacle featuring European singers, dancers and a full symphony orchestra.

The Mahaffey in St. Petersburg

Dec.10: The Florida Orchestra Holiday Pops.

Dec.15: Enjoy the Best of Ballet from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" to Falla's "The Three Corners Hat" and more - all will help you celebrate the holiday season.

Dec. 17: Listen to Classical Christmas Carols as Michael Francis takes you to his homeland for a cozy concert that evokes a traditional English Christmas on the cobbled streets of a snow-covered village.

Featured will be Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on Christmas Carols," Victor Hely-Hutchinson's "Carol Symphony," an audience sing-along and more.

Dec. 27: Cirque Dreams Holiday dazzles with a brilliant and whimsical family holiday spectacular.

This annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. As lights dim and the music swells, audiences will have visions of sugarplums dancing in their heads as a fantastical cast of holiday storybook characters come to life.

Dec. 29: Kolo is a theatrical show that is a magnificent expression of the cultural heritage and the spirit of Modern Ukraine. Never before in history has this story been told through performance, music and dance and never before in history has this story been more relevant or more important!

Francis Wilson Playhouse

Dec 1-18: "Once Upon A Mattress" is a musical version of the "Princess and the Pea." This show is hilarious, raucous, romantics and melodic.

Straz Center in Tampa

Until Dec. 4: Welcome to "Hadestown," where a song can change your fate.

Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theater Album.

Intertwining two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — "Hadestown" is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

Until Dec. 24: A heavenly phone call from Rosemary Clooney prompts The Plaid's return to Earth for a posthumous Christmas performance in "Plaid Tidings" to bring a little harmony to a discordant world.

Combining beloved music from the '50s and '60s with traditional holiday songs and plenty of classic and comical references, this musical comedy confection promises to be the biggest "bowtie" on your holiday season.

Dec. 9: The Florida Orchestra Holiday Pops.

Dec. 16-18: "The Nutcracker" is a glit-

tering, star-studded Tampa holiday tradition.

This version of the well-known holiday classic includes principal dancers from the New York City Ballet.

This family-friendly favorite takes audiences into Clara and Drosselmeyer's fantastical world of dancing sweets, sword-fighting rodents and some of ballet's most famous music.

Opening Dec. 28 until Jan. 22, 2023: "Hamilton" is the story of America then, told by America now.

Featuring a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, R&B and Broadway, "Hamilton" has taken the story of American founding father Alexander Hamilton and created a revolutionary moment in theater — a musical that has had a profound impact on culture, politics, and education.

It has won Tony, Grammy and Olivier Awards, along with the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and an unprecedented special citation from the Kennedy Center Honors.

Our Tampa Bay Lighting continue their National Hockey League Season at Amalie Arena in Tampa with a very busy December.

Dec. 3: Toronto Maple Leafs
Dec. 6: Detroit Red Wings
Dec. 8: Nashville Predators
Dec. 10: Florida Panthers
Dec. 13: Seattle Kraken
Dec. 15: Columbus Blue Jackets
Dec. 28: Montreal Canadiens
Dec. 29: New York Rangers
Dec. 31: Arizona Coyotes

To one and all at On Top of the World, have a very happy holiday season and enjoy all the "Entertainment Around the Bay."

(Every event in this column is the result of internet research from each source's website. None of the venues in this column paid for advertising or supplied information. The order of appearance is random. OTOW News is merely supplying you with a list of events this month, but is not making a recommendation which events you should attend.)



Pete Cosgrove wins week one

Congratulations to Pete Cosgrove for winning week one of the 2022-23 Friday Mixed Golf League season.

Our league operates under a point system and Pete was plus 7 for the day.

Second place was Rick Muchler with a plus 6 and third place was Phil Albury with a plus 6.

Fourth place was Scott Rogers with a plus 5. Fifth place was David Saccone with a plus 4.

There was a match of cards at plus 6 and plus 4 to determine the standings.

Friday Golf

Closest to the pin on hole No. 3 was Fred Peace, on hole No. 5 was Scott Rogers, on hole No. 6 was Phil Albury, on hole No. 9 was Dave Pittenger, on hole No. 13 was Mary Bernard, on hole No. 15 was Mike Marsh and on hole No. 16 was Bruce MacPherson.

Skins were recorded by Pete Cosgrove on hole No. 13 and Rick Muchler on hole No. 16.

Low gross was Scott Rogers with a 58. The play for Nov. 11 was canceled due to tropical storm Nicole.

The Friday Mixed Golf League was created to provide On Top of the World men and women with a venue for competition using the United States Golf Association rules of golf.

Our league uses the USGA Stableford scoring format, which is a quota point system used by many leagues throughout the country. In this format, each player has a point quota and they try to play above their

quota, not directly against other players. This allows players of all skill levels to compete fairly each week.

We play every Friday, weather permitting. The championship season is November through April. Summer and Fall Golf continue May thru October.

Volunteers are needed to help run the league and form committees that oversee and govern the league. If interested, contact Harry Barbin at 215-514-1280 or email harrybarbin1@gmail.com.

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SPORTS

'Young' stars of OTOW softball not only get dirty on defensive plays, but also finish plays with throws to first base

By Bob Rittner

When excited by a play made by the New York Yankees in the 1950s, broadcaster Mel Allen would exclaim "How about that!"

If Mel would have witnessed On Top of the World softball games last month, he would have shouted himself hoarse!

Paradise Blue 8
Paradise White 8
Paradise Red 4

Kathi Finley caught two foul pop-ups behind home plate, demonstrating lightning quick reflexes.

In his first game back, Ron Shields flashed in to one hand a sinking liner in right field.

The game-tying hit, with two outs, was a Tara Gunning line drive single to center field.

Finally, after hustling in to catch a short pop-up, Charles Kovarik ended the game with a bullet throw to first base for a double play.

"How about that!"

Paradise Red 11
Paradise Blue 10
Paradise White 5

With his Blue team down 11-9 in the middle of the last inning, rookie Bob Voigt led off with a triple. Bob was safely into second base, but demonstrated great base running-smarts when he saw the third baseman leave the base unprotected while hustling to retrieve a ball. Bob advanced to third for his triple.

After an out, Bob scored on Bob Ballentine's hard single, but the rally ended there.

There was splendid fielding all around, highlighted by George Webb's leaping grab of a liner at third base.



Paradise Blue 8
Paradise White 6

The star of the game was Melvin Tennille, who caught three outfield flies - the last one he backed up, reached far over his head for a catch and recorded the third out. The play saved at least two runs as the bases were loaded.

George Webb also played spectacular defense at third base, letting no balls get by and making strong, accurate throws to record outs.

Additionally, George doubled and tripled.

When asked how he accounted for such a brilliant performance after 30 years of softball inaction, he replied, "I have to credit my mentor, Jim Tiano, for putting me back on track."

(Jim is his father-in-law.)

For the Whites, Jim Costello had a perfect day. Two of his three hits went for doubles.

Paradise White 7
Paradise Blue 6
Paradise Red 3

Offensively and defensively, the White team excelled.

On offense, Mike Allen's two-run homer opened their scoring while Melvin Tennille built on his success of the last game to go 3-for-3.

Tara Gunning made a brilliant play on a ball that caromed off the shortstop, was scooped up and gunned to first to nip a speedy runner.

Robert Bannick scored the winning run when he singled - his third hit on a perfect day - and came around on singles by Bob Voigt and Guy Bertuzzi.

The Blues had stars, too. In the third inning they scored two runs on a single by George Morgan followed by booming triples by Bob Studwell and Dennis Kovalanka.

Paradise Red 12
Paradise Blue 11

New stars and veteran stars dotted the rosters, contributing to a close fought game.

Seasoned players Frank Whitney and Joe DeChiaro doubled in the last two innings driving in rookie Mary Anne Benuzzi, who singled twice, and veteran Roger Martel, with key runs for the winners.

For the Blues, Bob Rittner's bases-loaded single drove home three runs to temporarily tie the game.

But the real stories of the game were sensational defensive plays. Shortstop Ralph Scunziano laid out prone to stop a grounder and throw a runner out, and later leapt far to his right to snare a screaming line drive at the tip of his glove.

Bob Dembinski, at middle infield, grabbed a shot up the middle, fed perfectly to Ralph, who threw a bullet to first for the

double play.

Rookie Kathi Finley stopped numerous grounders in the outfield and hustled them back to the cutoff to freeze runners.

Paradise White 9
Paradise Red 4

Keyed by back-to-back homers from Eddie Ramirez and Charles Kovarik, each beyond the center fielder, the Whites triumphed.

They were assisted by two rookies, Gille Chartrand and Mary Anne Benuzzi, each of whom doubled and singled into the outfield.

For the Reds, Bob Dembinski scored twice after doubling twice.

Paradise White 6
Paradise Blue 3

Sometimes plays are made that take your breath away.

On three consecutive plays, shortstop Joe DeChiaro scooted to the hole between shortstop and third base to backhand hard grounders and throw bullets to first base to nab runners.

It looked like professional baseball.

Earlier, Mary Anne Benuzzi flashed in from right field to cradle a high fly for an out to the applause of both teams.

And at second base, Robert Bannick corralled a series of grounders, on one occasion dropping to the ground, and threw runners out.

The winning team turned four double plays. The pivot in each case being Tara Gunning, who whipped throws to first base to record the outs.

The hitting star was Gille Chartrand, whose homer traveled so far he circled the bases without a throw home.

Guys and Dolls Tournament returns after two-year absence and Pat Mahoney and Sheryl Barbin take the crown

Men's Golf Association

By Barney Hanrahan

We are pleased to report that the traditional On Top of the World Men's Golf Association annual Guys and Dolls golf outing resumed after a two-year absence because of the pandemic.

Twenty-five couples came to play with a shotgun start. Three couples were paired per hole. Everyone had an enjoyable time playing and enjoyed food and refreshments after the event.

Pat Mahoney and Sheryl Barbin took first place with a net score of 56, followed by Joey and Sue Ellen Dowe in second place with a 58.5.

There was a tie for third place at 61.5 between the teams of Marc and Cindy Schell, and Barney Hanrahan and Jackie Dolan.

All scores are listed on the Men's Golf Association website otowmensgolf.com. There are more photos, too.

Our thanks to Jay Laracunte for his usual expertise in cooking. We want to thank the officers for the organization of the event.

We hope this event can be held on a more frequent basis and not wait another year to bring everyone together.

I apologize for my report missing in the October newspaper. Gremlins broke into the newsroom and stole my report.

We are including those scores in this report so everyone will be recognized for their play.

Before listing the scores, I would like to acknowledge Tom Petit had a hole-in-one at hole No. 13 on Nov. 2. Tom also came in third in his Flight for that day.

Nice play Tom.

September 21
Flight A

First Place: Roy Montheith, 60, Roger Amundson, 61, Mike Schuyler, 62, Stanley Doran, 64, Jim Anzalone, 65.



Pictured are winners from the Guys and Dolls Tournament. From left to right are Marc and Cindy Schell (tied for third place), Barney Hanrahan and Jackie Dolan (tied for third place), Joey and Sue Ellen Dowe (second place) and Pat Mahoney and Sheryl Barbin (first place).

Flight B

First Place: Ron Lafond, 58, David Johnson, 59, Marc Schell, 60, Jay Schwallie, 62, Martin Forde, 63.

Flight C

First Place: Andy Polselli, 65, Jim Curl, 57, Sal Vasapolie, 58, Joe Ventimiglia, 60, Sonny Morris, 60.

Flight D

First Place: Joseph Dowe, 61, Alex Miller, 67, C.J. Messina, 69, Les Mencilly, 69, Henry Rejman, 71.

October 12, 2022

Flight A

First Place: Nilson Sabadin, 63, Roger Amundson, 64, Jim Anzalone, 64, Mike Crittendon, 65, Jere Keiser, 65.

Flight B

First Place: David Johnson, 58, Jose Ferrer, 61, Jay Schwallie, 65, Martin Forde, 67, Guy Bertuzzi, 68.

Flight C

First Place: Sal Vasapolie, 59, Andy Potselli, 59, Tim Palmquist, 65, Dan O'Sullivan, 65, Jim Curl, 65.

Flight D

First Place: Joseph Dowe, 61, Les Mencilly, 65, Phil Perez, 66, Patrick Mahoney, 68, Todd Smeltzer, 69.

October 19

Flight A

First Place: George Mead, 63, Bill Higgins, 64, Bill Whipps, 64, Nilson Sabadin, 68, Mike Schuyler, 68.

Flight B

First Place: Mike Smith, 62, Mike Spodeck, 64, Pete Gagnon, 64, Dick Pasco, 66, Gerald Morrissette, 67.

Flight C

First Place: Andy Polselli, 61, Sal Vasapolie, 66, Harry Crawford, 68, John Gill, 68, Bob Ellis, 69.

Flight D

First Place: Patrick Mahoney, 63, Henry Rejman, 65, Alex Miller, 68, Les Mencilly, 76, Phil Perez, 77.

October 26

Flight A

First Place: Ed Sixon, 62, George Mead, 64, Mike Crittendon, 64, Mike Schuyler, 65, Bill Higgins, 65.

Flight B

First Place: Pete Gagnon, 61, Tom Sullivan, 63, Daniel Morey, 63, Marc Schell, 63, Mike Spodeck, 64.

Flight C

First Place: Sal Vasapolie, 62, Bob McGrogan, 63, John Gill, 65, Bill Mooney, 66, Joe Ventimiglia, 66.

Flight D

First Place: Les Mencilly, 61, Joseph Dowe, 64, Alex Miller, 67, Henry Rejman, 74, Phil Perez, 75.

November 2

Flight A

First Place: Ed Sixon, 60, Fred Peace, 62, Tom Petit, 63, Mike Crittendon, 64, Jim Anzalone, 64.

Flight B

First Place: Dave Cox, 62, Andy Polselli, 64, David Johnson, 67, Daniel Morey, 67, Edmond Malona, 67.

Flight C

First Place: Marc Schell, 61, Ron Lafond, 62, Ed Fox, 63, Jim Mutscher, 63, Sal Vasapolie, 65.

Flight D

First Place: Joseph Dowe, 59, Alex Miller, 63, Harry Crawford, 64, Joe Ventimiglia, 64, Tim Palmquist, 65.



Sixteen members and guests of the On Top of the World Tennis Club enjoy dinner at a Greek festival in Clearwater.

Tennis players support local Greek festival before the start of a new season

By Joe DeChiaro

The On Top of the World Tennis Club held their monthly dinner at the Greek Festival at the Holy Trinity Church on Oct. 28.

There were 16 members and guests who attended.

We enjoyed a variety of Greek entrees, such as pistitso, braised lamb shank, tiropita/spanakopita and Greek salad.

We saved room for dessert, which included baklava, galaktoboureko and loukoumades.

Some of us enjoyed a tour of the church as well as buying sou-

venirs from indoor vendors.

The night ended as we watched youthful Greek dancers entertain us with traditional Greek dancing to traditional Greek music.

We are planning this month's dinner at Duff's on Thanksgiving Day.

The Tennis Club is open to all residents with an updated activity card. The new season starts on Dec. 1 and you can sign up on the tennis courts in the morning. We play seven days a week.



Ladies getting ready for holiday brunch with music

By Gloria Sayer

The Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association Christmas Party Brunch is scheduled for Dec. 7, 11:30 a.m., at the East Activity Center Clearwater Room.

Our social events are always a big hit as we dress up in our colorful holiday outfits and enjoy music, food and camaraderie.

A short general meeting also will take place. Thank you to Chairpersons Gail DuCharme, Dottie Graham, Gloria Sayer and Verna Lundgren for volunteering their time and talent in organizing our Christmas party. It is sure to be a hit.

The league held our first Game Day and general meeting at the 18-hole course picnic area on Nov. 8. President Sherry Ivey presided.

The Flight A Ladies provided refreshments that were enjoyed by our golfers and social members. Our next Game Day and general meeting are scheduled for Dec. 13. Flight B Ladies will provide the refreshments.

The Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association is now in the third month of golf and I would like to share the weekly awards (net scores) to date. Congratulations to all the winners.

18-Hole



Ladies Golf

Oct. 4

Flight A. Terry Kuplen 69, Katie Quelch 70, Cindy Schell 75. Flight B. Donna Osborne 63, Donna Smerz 76. Flight C. Gail DuCharme 66, Rose Mulhall 70, Joan Yorkery 75. Closest-to-the-pin No. 15 Donna Osborne and chip-in Sheila Meneilly.

Oct. 11

Flight A. Nancy Lo 69, Cindy Schell 70, Terry Kuplen 70, Verna Lundgren 71. Flight

B. Donna Smerz 65, Linda Rice 66, Debbie Figaski 70, Robin Goralczyk 70. Flight C. Rose Mulhall 57, Gail DuCharme 65, Joan Yorkery 77. Closest-to-the-pin No. 15 Nancy Lo and chip-in Sheila Meneilly.

Oct. 25

Flight A. Cindy Schell 66, Nancy Lo 68, Verna Lundgren 70. Flight B. Linda Rice 68, Debbie Figaski 71, Carole Lacey 75. Flight C. Rose Mulhall 70, Suellen Dowe 72, Gail DuCharme 77, Joan Yorkery 77. Closest-To-The-Pin No. 15 Cindy Schell. No chip-in.

Nov. 1

Flight A. Kim Norried 67, Ursula Taylor 69, Terry Kuplen 70, Nancy Lo 70, Joy Walker 70. Flight B. Debbie Figaski 63, Verna Lundgren 66, Donna Smerz 69. Flight C. MaryBeth Devine 61, Rose Mulhall 72, Joan Yorkery 74. Closest-To-The-Pin No. 15 Verna Lundgren. Chip-ins Natsue Dawson No 16, Karen French No 17, Suellen Dowe No 10, MaryBeth Devine No. 16.

Nov. 8

Game Day (net score for 9 holes)

Flight A. Cindy Schell 31, Gloria Sayer 32, Rosemary Sabatino 33, Becky West 33. Flight B. Debbie Figaski 29, Verna Lundgren

34, Donna Osborne 34, Carole Lacey 35. Flight C. Joan Yorkery 30, Arlene Hanson 39, Rose Mulhall 45. Closest-to-the-pin No 15 Carole Lacey. Chip-in Carole Lacey No 13 and Arleen Hanson No 13.

Chairperson for the month of December is Ursula Taylor. You may call Ursula at 716-510-2798 to sign up for golf or to cancel if you have already signed up and can't play that day.

The first day you plan to golf in the league, please bring your updated On Top of the World Activity Card and your dues.

We would love all the ladies at On Top of the World, who wish to play golf in the 18-Hole Ladies Golf Association league, to contact our Membership Chairperson Joy Walker at 585-703-0757 or email Joy at Joy.walker131@gmail.com.

You may check the bulletin board across from the pro shop at the golf course for information regarding Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association as well.

Please come and join us.

The Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association and myself wish you all a fantastic month of December. Have a very merry and blessed Christmas and happy and healthy new year.

Three new members bring a bunch of enthusiasm to our league

By Paula Ergang

The On Top of the World 9-Hole Ladies Golf League welcomed three new members in November. All three of them have interesting golf backgrounds.

Sheryl Barbin comes from a golf family. Her son golfs as do many nephews, including one at the college level. She also has two golf pro brothers. One taught her to golf when she was 15.

Sheryl had not golfed since 2012 until moving to OTOW in 2021. She has big shoes to fill and is already doing that. She and her partner won the Guys and Dolls Tournament in November.

You could say Sheri Blaa is a "legacy" member. Her parents, Fran and Ron Magnussen, have lived here 27 years and golfed in the leagues.

Sheri and her family lived in a golf community in Illinois for 30 years, but never had time to golf because of work. She and her husband started golfing this summer and she says that they love it. Now her parents can watch from their patio whenever Sheri plays

9-Hole



Ladies Golf

on the 18-hole course.

Patti McKay took up golf because she was tired of being a golf widow. She and her husband traveled all over the country, Hawaii included, playing golf and making great

memories.

She moved north for a while, but made sure she found a league so she could continue playing. Now she's back in Florida and said "she's delighted to be able to join the nine-holers, a great group of ladies!"

These ladies are welcome additions.

Here's the scores from our Tuesday play.

October 18

Low Gross/Low Net: A Flight: Marilyn Lisbon, Paula Ergang, Kathy Ahrens. B Flight: Carolyn Lust, Carroll Harris. C Flight: Theresa Gates, Carole Whynot. D Flight: Ava Ciolli.

October 25

Low Gross/Low Net: A Flight: Marilyn Lisbon, Kathy Ahrens. B: Linda Graff, Carolyn Lust. C: Mary Ann O'Neil, Nancy Schifferle. D: Ava Ciolli.

November 1

Low Gross/Low Net: A: Ann Stewart, Kathy Ahrens. B: Linda Graff. C: Carole Whynot, Marge Sivek, Mary Ann O'Neil. D:

Ava Ciolli.

On Nov. 8, it was revealed after play that hole No. 7 was our "Mystery Hole." Scores on that hole were deleted. Low scores were A: Paula Ergang. B: Diana Anderson. C: Carole Whynot, Mary Ann O'Neil, Marge Sivek. D: Ava Ciolli.

Ann Stewart had a birdie on hole No. 5. Our first birdie of the season!

Nov. 29 was our "Wine and Nine" play with a short meeting, snacks and a 50/50 afterwards.

Kathy Ahrens has planned our Christmas party this year. Watch the bulletin board at the course for information.

2023 should have a bright start for us thanks to Ava Ciolli. She has done all the legwork for ordering new league shirts and has brought many samples to help us make our choice. By January we should be a sea of pink on the course.

Finally, from everyone in the 9-hole league, we say "Happy Holidays."



Spooky karaoke

Karaoke by Lenny and Kathy hosted a special night in October and many residents sang solos and group songs under the Pavilion. There was even a contest for best outfit. Maria Avdelas took first place as a fortune teller. Gary Zimmerman grilled hot dogs and people danced. There was supposed to be a special Christmas karaoke at the Pavilion in December, but it has been cancelled. If you want to sing holiday songs, attend the Chorus sing-along concert on Dec. 3 in the Auditorium.



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If you stop by the Fixers information table on a Monday or Thursday morning, this is what you will see. Some very talented craftsmen will show off items created right in our own woodshop.

Fixers Club puts talents on display at both the Fall Festival and at the Craft Show/Flea Market

Not since the early 1980s have the Fixers, Fiddlers & Fumblers Club, aka the Woodshop, participated at both the Fall Festival and Craft Show.

But we did last month on Nov. 5 and 12.

Vice President Jesse Tiamson was behind the brainstorming. It was intended to showcase not only the many handcrafted items of the club, but also the skills and ingenuity of the members who created them.

These high quality items were on full display for the residents to look at and buy at suggested donations.

And they did!

The materials and kits were purchased personally by members at their own expense and all the proceeds went directly to the club. No financial gains



went to the members even though some took many hours to make them.

The funds made from the sale of these items will be used to purchase lumber for the use of the toyshop, tools, parts of tools that need repair and replacements, and supplies that members use to work on their projects.

The other purpose of their participation is to let residents know, especially

those that just moved into the community, that a woodshop exists and is open to membership.

We teach beginners the proper use of tools and even help the uninitiated in making their first projects.

The club is actually made up of three sections, namely the woodshop itself, the lapidary (where gemstones are cut and lessons given on how to cut and polish them for use in jewelry making), and the toyshop (where hundreds of wooden toys are built year round for distribution to schools, hospitals, orphanages, and the like).

As such, the club is a non-profit organization.

Annual membership is \$35 exclusively to On Top of the World residents.

As part of our service to the community

and its residents, we also repair broken wooden items like small tables and chairs, picture frames, small cabinets, and boxes brought in by the residents for a donation.

The wood cutouts used at both the Irish Club Parade and Fall Festival, and the picnic table at the 9-hole golf course, were all made by members of the Woodshop.

The shop is open Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and on Friday 8 a.m. - noon. During these times, there is a shop representative assigned to oversee the work at the shop and to make sure that tools are used properly and safely.

Prospective members are encouraged to drop in and a short tour is given by the shop rep. The next general membership meeting and election of officers for 2023 will be held on Wednesday, Jan 4, 2023.

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Democratic Club holiday party set for Dec. 8



Democratic Club

By Joanne Cordes

Hip-hip-hoorah!

'Tis the season for celebrations.

To begin festivities, the Democratic Club participated in the On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo and really had a great time entertaining passers-by with our citizenship quiz.

There were only three questions, but some people asked for more so we added three more questions. Everyone won a U.S. flag sticker and a Victor bookmark (continue reading to learn about Victor).

In November, we made our Democratic Club's monthly Happy Hour Party a three-fer.

We added an election watch and a birthday on the same November day, Nov. 8.

Katerina Tepes is the very pretty blonde lady, third from the left, in the front row of our photo, who celebrated another glorious year. She generously provided two cakes! One was a tiramisu cake and the other was a chocolate mousse. There was also champagne for all.

Katerina's treats were a great surprise in addition to our potluck spread.

We needed the sustenance and adult beverages to endure the announcements of election results.

If you know our mascot, Victor, (from our blog page worlddemsclub.blogspot.com and created by Dave Beaven) he had his usual, wise interpretation of events with this comment: "Thanks to all of our members who worked on this latest election campaign.



Democratic Club members dressed their best for an election party of Nov. 8. We also threw in a birthday party for Katerina Tepes (sixth from left).

While the results of the election were not ideally in our favor, the friendships that were built and the teamwork that occurred made our club stronger. Going forward, let's continue to support each other and hold to our principles to make a better community for all."

So, what's next for our club activities? Thanks to Tropical Storm Nicole, our regularly scheduled meeting for Nov. 10 was cancelled and moved to the following week, same time and place.

Our holiday party is scheduled for Dec. 8 in the East Activity Center Clearwater Room/Kitchen from 5-7 p.m. We'll have a potluck buffet with bring your own beverage. The club will provide a baked ham, soft drinks, water and ice.

Bring a gift – new or gently used, any dollar amount -- if you want to participate in the gift exchange.

This event replaces our monthly meeting and it is routine to update your membership for the coming year. So please remember to bring \$12 for membership dues.

You may also want to bring a few extra dollars for a 50/50 raffle - a first for us at the holiday party.

To end the year's events, our happy hour will gather on Tuesday, Dec. 27 in the EAC Largo Room. It will be a Happy Hour/New Year's Eve party all in one.

For certain, we will have political talk and predictions for 2023.

Any and all Democrats living in OTOW are welcome, club member or not. Spirited

and opinionated chats are what we do.

You can always visit us on our official website at worlddemsclub.blogspot.com. Or visit our information table at the East Activity Center Auditorium on Mondays (only) from 8:30-10:30 a.m. to learn about upcoming club activities or chat about current events.

You can also visit our Meta/Facebook page at On Top of the World Democratic Club, Clearwater, to learn about local political events or add commentary to current events.

Yes, there is a Democratic Club at OTOW. And we are happy to meet you, to listen to what you have to say, and have you join us in "holding to our principles to make a better community for all."



FARMERS MARKET
 Wednesday, January 4
 Wednesday, January 18
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 East Activity Center

Welcome to Milos

Greece

Where
 people read
 OTOW News



So can you! Visit otowboxoffice.com and download this month's newspaper.

Free Activities

All Year Round!



Aqua Aerobics Classes

If The Outdoor Temperature Is Over 62 Degrees, We're Exercising

Need a fun way to exercise?
Join our exercise classes each morning.
All are welcome. Classes are free.

9-10 a.m., Weekdays, East Activity Center Swimming Pool

Social Dance Lessons

Social Dance Lessons will continue. Instructor Fred Mills allows his students to pick the dances to learn and there are a ton of dances to choose from. He will teach Cha Cha, Foxtrot, Hustle, Rumba, Salsa, Swing, Waltz and more.

Fred's classes are open to all residents with a valid activity card. Social Dance takes place every Thursday afternoons, 1-3 p.m., in the West Activity Center Bel-leair Room.

Shuffleboard Club

Monday through Sunday

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Philosophy Club

The On Top of the World Philosophy Club is meeting again. The group will get together from 10-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

Join us for interesting and lively conversations. Each week is a different subject. You may come just to listen. You may volunteer to present a topic, but we do not discuss religion or politics. Please be respectful of different values. Coffee, water and tea are available. Everyone must wear a mask.



Pickleball!

PLAY SCHEDULE

Sundays 9-12
Mondays through Friday 3:30-6:30
Training takes place Mondays at 3:30

Newcomers welcome. Must have a valid Activity Card.



tops

"Take Off Pounds Sensibly."

Meets 10-11 a.m. Thursdays in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

We are very motivated to help you if you want to lose weight. We are a friendly group and usually go out for a healthy meal after our meetings. Because we are a part of a national club, we charge \$37 per person for yearly national dues. Please come to our meetings at no charge for one month to try us out.



Real People. Real Weight Loss.®

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

Beginner Bridge

Get ready for some fun by playing, learning and improving your bridge skills. You will become familiar with the nuances and conventions of the game by coming to a beginner/improver lesson. Instruction is provided Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Ozona Room on the lower level of the East Activity Center. Further information is available by sending an email to loresc@yahoo.com or by calling Christine Nason at 727-366-0221.



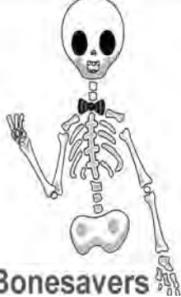
Ballroom dance classes

Ballroom dance classes will take place at 1 p.m. every Monday in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

The instructor is Noland Shade, who teaches beginner dancing to help couples learn how to dance socially.

Dance lessons are taught at a slow pace so anyone can learn how to dance over time.

No pre-registration is necessary. Simply show up and learn.

Bonesavers

The Bonesavers exercise group meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-9 a.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

We use hand weights and ankle weights, a towel and a chair.

If you want to try it out, just come over and borrow the weights we already have available.

Men and women are both welcome.

Majongg players wanted over the fall

Wanted: Mah Jongg players to fill in at our afternoon games. We play Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1-3:30 p.m. in residents' condos. Please call Libby at 727-669-1486. No experience needed!

Billiards

9-Ball Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
8-Ball 6:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays

Ceramics

Thursdays

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Clearwater Room

Pray for America

Saturdays

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Crystal Beach Room

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Fridays 10:30 to Noon - January 14 through April 29

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How much flavor do you want in your home-cooked prime rib?



A tasty cow lives in the fields and eats grass. Some people think the flavor of the grass, or of the winter fodder, changes the flavor of the meat, but it doesn't. Actually, flavor is created by fat that surrounds the muscles.

The fat absorbs flavors and make a big difference in the taste of the beef.

Before slaughter, cows go through a phase called the "finishing phase," which lasts for three months, more or less.

It's a very important period during which the cow is fattened. A good finish has an effect on the quality of the meat and is done differently according to what the cow has fed during past seasons.

I know I have talked about the different grades of beef. But just for a refresher, let's review.

Mainly, there are three grades of beef that you will find in a supermarket. They are prime, choice and select.

The major difference is the marbling.

Prime beef yields the most amount of marbling (quality of meat surface), which is why it's usually sold in high-end restaurants, hotels and butcher shops. All cuts of USDA prime meat are perfect for cooking on a barbeque grill.

Wagyu Beef

"The best meat in the world" is Wagyu Beef.

This beef, which can have more fat than it does flesh, is reminiscent of foie gras (a specialty food usually made from the liver of a duck or goose).

Forget everything you thought you knew about meat. Wagyu is something completely different. Let's make one thing perfectly clear: Wagyu is not a breed. It's a Japanese cow. Wagyu means "Japan" and also "the spirit of peace and harmony" that reigns there. "Gyu means "cow."

Why is Wagyu the best of the best?

In France, they love fattened goose or duck liver because it results in an exceptional product.

In Japan, they raise cows for the same reasons - an extraordinary meat, unbelievably tender, with fat that melts in your mouth like candy. Its flavors are buttery, floral and slightly sweet.

It's insanely delicious.

A plate with "red blood" on it can freak some people out. Yeah, you might want to eat it, but the "blood" can make some people squeamish.

But actually that red juice in your meat is not blood. Blood is removed during the slaughtering process and afterwards very little blood remains in the muscle tissue.

That red liquid is water mixed with a protein called myoglobin. As meat ages, the muscle tissue breaks down, and it doesn't take long. The water and myoglobin cells are released and, voila, a red blood-like liquid emanates from the meat when it is prepared.

So you can relax when you see that red liquid the next time you eat a steak.

Meat can be matured in two ways: sous vide (in its own humid environment and juices) or dry-aged in a cold fridge with controlled temperature. The flavors of a dry-aged meat are incomparable.

When I want to cook a prime rib, I like to dry age it in the fridge for 5 to 7 days before I cook it on a grill or in the oven.

So what is dry-aging and how do you do it? Dry aging is a post mortem treatment for beef designed primarily to intensify flavor, with a secondary benefit of promoting tenderness.

The flavor development is shaped by both a reduction in moisture, which correlates to a concentration of flavor, and the cultivation of good bacteria to lend a funky, nutty profile to the meat.



In short, dry aging makes beef taste really really good.

When you get your beef (prime rib) home, first take it out of the package and run it under cold water. Pat dry and get a dinner plate, and add a paper towel. Place the meat on the plate. Cover the meat with another paper towel. Clear out the bottom shelf of your fridge. Place the roast on the shelf of the fridge. Change the paper towel every day for 5 to 7 days.

Prime Rib Roast Ingredients

One 10 to 12 pound dry aged beef roast
3 sprigs of fresh thyme
6 cloves of peeled garlic
1 large onion, sliced 1/4-inch thick
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees fahrenheit. Using a sharp knife, make a slit 3/4 of the way up the fat cap. Pull the fat cap back and season the entire roast with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

Place the garlic, thyme and onion slices in-between the meat and the fat cap. Lay the fat cap back over the vegetables and meat.

Using butcher's twine, secure the fat cap to the roast by tying the two together at six different intervals (wrap the twine from the rib end to the loin end).

Cover the exposed fat cap with cracked black pepper.

Place the roast, rib side down, on a



wire rack. Place the wire rack in the oven on the center rack. Place a drip pan on the bottom rack of the oven. This will catch all the dripping from the roast.

Roast for 1 1/2 hours for medium rare. Remove the roast from the oven and allow to rest for 5 to 10 minutes before slicing. Using knife, cut away the butch-

ers twine. Carve the roast into individual serving. Reserve the pan drippings for later use.

Wine Recommendation

Cabernet Sauvignon or Zinfandel.

Put your leftover sweet potatoes into a healthy soup for the cooler-weather days ahead



Do you have any sweet potatoes left over from Thanksgiving? If not, go buy some now. They are in season.

Make a batch of tasty sweet potato soup from the recipe on this page. This recipe is perfect for a cool day and enjoy a hot lunch all week long. This soup is a win/win for flavor and nutrition.

Piquant Sweet Potato Soup Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons oil
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 small onion, thinly sliced
- 1 tart green apple, such as Granny Smith
- 1 celery stalk, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon finely grated fresh ginger
- 2 pounds sweet potatoes
- 6 cups chicken stock
- ¼ cup Aldi Specially Selected® Medium Four Pepper Salsa
- Smoked paprika
- ½ c. pumpkin seeds

Directions

1. Peel potatoes and apple. Cut in 1 inch chunks.
2. Use a large skillet with non-stick coating. Heat oil, using moderate heat.
3. Add sweet potatoes and onion. Stir occasionally.
4. Transfer to a large pot. Add stock and apple, celery and ginger. Simmer about 15 minutes.
5. Towards end, use a masher to mash the potato chunks.
6. Stir in Four Pepper Salsa. Allow soup to cool.
7. Working in batches, transfer mixture to a blender and puree until smooth. When blending hot liquids, always hold the blender lid down with a kitchen towel, start on low and slowly increase speed ... unless you enjoy wearing hot soup.
8. Before serving, sprinkle with smoked paprika and sunflower seeds.



Piquant Sweet Potato Soup

Four Pepper Salsa can be purchased at Aldi. Mexican peppers are much more popular in U.S., given they are now more mainstream and less an ethnic specialty. (*1)

This salsa has four peppers which combine for an overall mild, pleasing flavor.

- Pequin chile peppers have a nutty, citrusy and smoky flavor with a moderate to hot level of spice that dissipates quickly.

- Guajillo are bred for flavor rather than heat. These chiles are slightly fruity with a sweet heat, tannic with a hint of pine, tart berries, and light smoky undertones. They are the second-most common chile used in Mexico cuisine.

- Jalapeño peppers are mild to moderate in heat level.

- Chipotle peppers are dried and smoked jalapeño peppers. They typically have a rich, earthy, and smoky flavor with a medium heat level.

My dear chefs, you will find this inexpensive salsa to be useful in your cooking. You can spread it over a grilled cheese sandwich, top a dish of chili, use it as

tortilla dip and in other creative ways.

Try it. You'll like it!

Smoked paprika delivers a dramatic bittersweet taste with an intriguing smokiness. It originated as a Spanish specialty, made by slowly smoking pimentón (a type of pepper) over oak. It has a round, smoky, woody, smokey flavor different from everyday paprika. Smoked paprika elicits flavors that bring out the complexity of your dish.

My dear chefs, you will discover interesting ways to use smoked paprika: in jambalaya, dry rubs, smoky potatoes, ratatouille and deviled eggs.

The Science

The science behind the flavor of this soup is based upon aromatic ingredients which intensify and bring out other flavors.

Another factor is the silkiness of the soup coats your mouth, giving more direct contact to your taste buds and olfactory sensors. All these result in an easier

release of volatile flavors.

This recipe utilizes sweating, which is the process of slowly cooking chopped vegetables in a fat. It is done over moderate heat (unlike browning at high heat).

Sweating will eliminate some of the excess moisture within those vegetable without over-emphasizing the flavor of the vegetable.

If browned, the sweet potato flavor might be too sweet which would compete too much with more subtle flavors.

The Health Value

This soup has a very silky, creamy flavor. The puree creates the creamy mouthfeel without adding butter and cream. Normally creamy soups feature high fat from butter and cream. But that is not beneficial for good health.

Sweet potatoes are filled with all sorts of body-boosting goodness — just one sweet potato contains 368 percent of recommended daily amount of vitamin A, as well as plenty of vitamins B, C and antioxidants.

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

(*1) pdf.usaid.gov

Gerald Colen presents

The U.S. Constitution



Gerald Colen will be giving a lecture on the U.S. Constitution, on Friday, Dec, 9, from 10-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

The United States of America is the oldest democratic republic in the world. It holds that distinction because on Sept. 17, 1787, 39 members of a Constitutional Convention, all of whom we call Founders, came together to sign a document that begins with the words

"We the people of the United States of America..." The document is our American Constitution.

Jerry will also discuss some current controversial issues, all the while focusing on what our Constitution has to say about the world in which we now live.

Registration is required by emailing general_activity@scaclw.com or calling 799-2734.



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Dorado 'reindeer' and Santa are getting ready to deliver candy canes to building residents. From left to right are Edwina Schick, Mary Jane Lofton, Carol Jo Brenneman and Ann Brown.

Dorado building decorating committee already has holiday plans for December

By Edwina Schick

What will the Dorado Building Decorating Committee think of next?

One thing for sure, the building core will be a great place to take a good seasonal picture. They love to make their fellow residents smile.

For fall, their goal was to make their residents laugh. With a headless biker setting, they definitely succeeded. Ray Howard thought the setting was so funny he took pic-

tures and sent them out to a few friends.

With the help of the decorating committee, the biker did find his head. More laughs and comments came when they added the one of a kind, hand-painted pillow head to the biker.

Within days, the core was transformed again. This time it featured a beautiful fall tree with stunning red, gold and burnt orange leaves.

Brenda Nandici and her sister Caryn Schmelzee took

the opportunity to make a memorable sisters photograph.

Now, the last season of the year, residents have caught the decorating fever. Not only are the residents enjoying the new Christmas tree in the core, but we are seeing Nativity scenes, Menorahs, and even an early Mardi Gras tree from Mary Ann Christian's condo.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year.

Holiday dinner outing has new date

Holiday greetings, everyone!

Here we are at the end of another year!

As I mentioned in the November issue, the Malaguena Social Committee has holiday plans.

Our dinner at Carrabba's Italian Grill last year was such a success we decided to do it again. The food was delicious and we all had a great time.

Note the date of our dinner has changed to Wednesday, Dec. 7.

The restaurant manager suggested this would be a better choice because a very large party was scheduled on our original date.

Two large groups at the same time didn't sound like a good idea.

Taking his advice, I agreed to move our dinner to Wednesday, Dec. 7. The sign-up sheets are posted in both lobbies. Everyone is welcome, especially our new residents.



Please sign up by Dec. 6, so we can give Carrabba's an accurate count.

Giving is the spirit of the season and nothing is more gratifying than giving toys to

children. Last year our donation of new toys to The Salvation Army was a huge success. It was heart-warming to see how grateful The Salvation Army folks were for our generosity.

This year it's even more important to make the holidays special. So many families lost everything or were left homeless when Hurricane Ian hit our state. If you'd like to contribute, bring a new, unwrapped toy to the lobby on the dates and times posted in our core.

Joni Benedetto, a member of the Malaguena Social Committee, will be on hand to collect the toys.

January will be here before we know it! That means Malaguena Social Committee members will be collecting annual dues for 2023. Dues are \$20 per condo and are voluntary. We use the money for events like pizza

parties and other events throughout the year.

Bonnie Donnelly, Joni Benedetto, or Kathleen Murray will be knocking on your door in January. Your voluntary contribution is much appreciated.

Speaking of the Malaguena Social Committee, we are a busy bunch planning events for residents. We have quite a few new ideas for next year. We plan and organize monthly dinners, like the July 4 potluck, pizza parties, and the Oktoberfest potluck.

We have meetings on the second Wednesday of every month. Our next meeting will be on Dec. 14. If you'd like to join us, we'd love to have you.

Please feel free to contact any member of the social committee for times and locations.

Wishing everyone the happiest holiday!



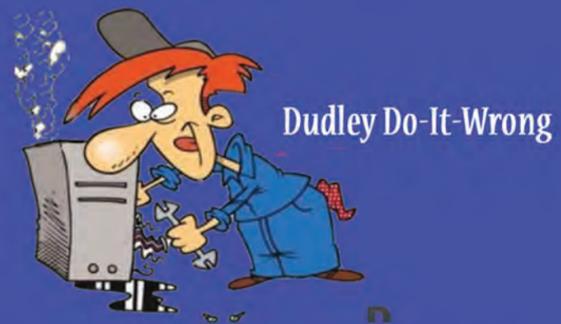
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Emerald Isle could be most social building at OTOW

Are they awarding prizes for the most social building?

If so, I nominate the Emerald Isle.

Here's the inside scoop on what we've been up to lately.

We had a delicious luncheon at Frank's Restaurant in Dunedin. About two dozen members attended, table-hopping and sharing congeniality. Thank you to Maryann Nargi for hosting this event.

Cheryl and Tom Butcher put on a party on the front lawn of our building. Nancy Younts won the pumpkin decorating contest. The chili was amazing! Thank you, Cheryl.

Tom barbecued hot dogs and several neighbors brought desserts and side dishes to share, including brownies and pumpkin pie.

Mmm-delicious!

We were 30 strong at this event.

We welcomed back neighbors Treva and Larry Olinger and new neighbors Ada and Alphonso Tundidor.

Welcome also to new neighbors, Maggie and Ron Reinhardt.

Our November luncheon, hosted by yours truly and husband, Marshall, was at Johnny's Italian Restaurant in Clearwater.

The December holiday party will be held at the Island Way Grill on Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. There will be bus transportation. Sign up now!



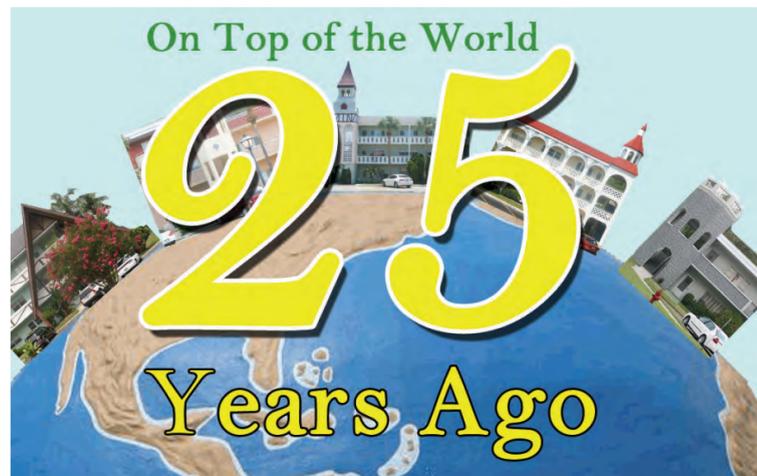
Suggestions: The unwritten rule of the laundry room has always been, if your clothes are ready and you are not, someone else may remove them. Solution: Set a timer in your kitchen to remind you to retrieve your belongings.

You are welcome.

The holidays are approaching. This month we will be decorating the building. Volunteers are welcome.

Many thanks to Eva Politanski who goes above and beyond decorating our core for each holiday.

We wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday and New Year.



December 1997

• Nancy Davis, Activities Director: We are now whirling into the holiday season, and no matter what race or creed or country of origin, you must admit the month of December lifts almost everyone's spirits. It's a month bursting with excitement and filled with the odors of plum pudding, gingerbread cookies, plump roasted turkey and fresh-cut pine trees. The sound of silver bells and carolers rings out with good cheer. Windows are decorated with glistening baubles, silver and gold beads, satiny ribbons and crystal angels. Christmas is celebrated in many countries throughout the world and in each one, wide eyed children eagerly await the opening of their gifts on that special day.

• Country & Western Line Dancing: We're off to a great beginning! Several newcomers have decided to try Mary's country/western line dance beginners' classes. Four of the five students are of the male gender. Hey guys, I know you all prefer to hold a gal in your arms when you are dancing, so line dancing can be a lot of fun. And, it helps to have gals all around you, beside you, behind you, and in front of you! With these new fellows, we're closing in on a 25 per cent male representation.

• Tennis: We appreciate the fine work in negotiations for the tennis club by our excellent president Betty Houghton. Also, we are fortunate in having some fine craftsmen in our ranks. George Schenkel repaired some of our benches and painted them a sparkling white. We also now have some hooks to hang equipment on, thanks to George's ingenuity. George Schmittke did a noble job on our new tables when they developed "sway back." He put new borders on them and with ingenuity got them back to a level stance. These two Georges work on our nets and benches with true craftsmanship.

• Men's Golf: Our golfing Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1997. Fred Makay was our Santa Claus, who was chauffeured around the golf course by yours truly while Santa handed out the Christmas bags. Joe Cellitti donated tees and ball markers and the club paid for the candy. The officers of the club made up the Christmas bags. The refreshments, of course, were wonderful and greatly appreciated. As posted on the bulletin boards, our new officers for 1998 are as follows: president, Frank Giarrizzi; vice-president, John R. Sutton; treasurer, Donald Hill; and secretary, Alton Labrecque.

• Royal Chateau Building: A building meeting was held on Nov. 4, 1997, and was well-attended. An election was held with results that Bessie Sarantokas is our new treasurer and June Clouart will remain as our recording secretary. By the time this article hits print we will have enjoyed our Dec. 6, 1997, Holiday Party and our 15th dinner-dance. From the posted list, it seems like both will be well-attended. Also, by now our building lights will have been hung and brightly displayed. Our next building meeting will be held in February of 1998.

• South Seas Building: The Red, White and Blue ladies' luncheon was held Nov. 12, 1997. The main purpose was to honor veterans and celebrate our freedoms. It was hosted by Anna O'Sullivan, Stella Howard and me. Millie Werchow was voted the most patriotically dressed and naturally was awarded the coveted "American Apple Pie" award. It was great to see everyone, and we look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Luncheon, hosted by Marilyn Helmrath and Fran Lopez.

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FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 3-7 pm

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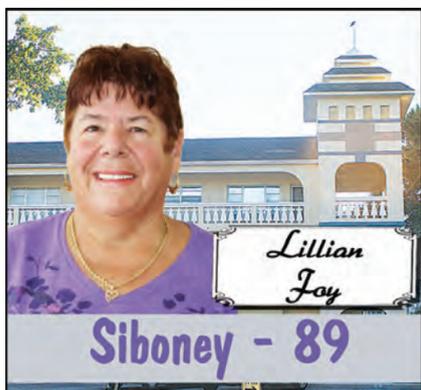
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Guess who this beautiful bride is with her handsome groom. Here is a clue: She was a newspaper reporter for our building. Siboney still remembers our all-time favorite reporter, Cele Radeloff.

Lunch group is back Time to make Siboney shine with holiday decorations

Siboney monthly meetings and core parties are now underway.

On Oct. 30, we had our latest core party and 30 residents were present. There was a lot of good food and delicious desserts.

We are very impressed with how quickly our fiber optic boxes were installed for our new Summit television system. The installers were friendly and courteous.

I hope everyone went to the 2022 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo in November. It was very well-organized and there were plenty of vendors and residents who had tables to sell beautiful items.

The food trucks were there and what a delicious menu was offered.

Our lunch group went to Bonefish Grill in November. If you want to join the group please look for the sign-up sheet located on the information bulletin board in the core. Lunch bunch will resume in January. Everyone is welcome to attend.

December is a busy month for our building with the holiday decorations. Please help with the process of making our building shine with holiday decorations and lights.

Happy holidays everyone. See you in 2023.

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Fall season kicked off with an Italian dinner



Polynesian residents visited Johnny's Italian Restaurant for a dinner party in early November. Looks like they were really in Italy.

Happy holidays to one and all. Nov. 3 was the first official gathering of the season for the Polynesians as we met at Johnny's Italian Restaurant for some mighty tasty food.

Present were 13 of us to break bread and get caught up with each other. It was great to see folks after this long, hot summer.

Special thanks to Antoinette Russell and team for keeping the building decorated all throughout summer and autumn.

We will be decorating soon for the holidays so keep your eyes peeled for information on the bulletin board and come out to help create a festive core. We always have a good time when decking the halls!

On Dec. 21 we are teaming up with the Snowbirds Club for a day at the races at Tampa Bay Downs. The cost is \$35 per person and includes admission, program, buffet, tax and tip. Have lunch and watch the races from the Clubhouse Turn restaurant with comfortable seating in a glass enclosed seating area. See more details on the bulletin board.

A reminder, it's that time of year to pay your building dues for 2023 for the bargain

cost of \$10 per unit. Checks can be made payable to Polynesian Building Fund and dropped off with Debbie Clarkson. Or if you see Jay Jarvis or me, you may give us your checks and we will get them to Debbie. Please put your unit number in the check

memo area. Debbie will issue receipts. The dues are used to help finance the upcoming resident's pizza party, building decorations and for any miscellaneous expenses that pop up from time to time. If you have any news you would like to

share, please feel free to slide it under my door. Be sure to include your full name and telephone number. I will then call you to solidify an article for publication.

Here's to pleasant holidays and the ringing out of the old and in with the new!

Annual Shuffleboard Meeting

For current members and anyone who wants to join.

Friday, December 9, 1:30-3:30 pm

East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room

We will be voting for new board member.

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After 30 years of teaching, Judie Reed learned Florida weather is better than Massachusetts weather



Retired teacher Judie Reed.

It's that time of year again. Dust off those holiday decorations and ready the guest room.

This month I am writing about a new neighbor, a birthday cruise, helpful neighbors, a great recipe, polar bears and more.

Meet Judie Reed. Judie hails from Dartmouth, Mass. Judie initiated a pilot program for parents and students for after school activities with great success.

After teaching school for some 30 years in Fall River, Mass., she figured it was time to retire to warmer climates. Having a sister who lives here, it was a perfect fit.

Judie has five children, who are scattered from Iowa to Massachusetts, and believe it or not, a grand-mom to nine!

Her hobbies include reading, music and she loves traveling.

Judie's a welcome addition to the "Balcony Babes" as we call ourselves.

Mary and Bill Cary celebrated Mary's birthday on a Caribbean cruise. These two

certainly don't let grass grow under their feet.

A special thank you to Mike Tomaselli.

Little did Mike know what he was in for when he offered to mount my TV on the wall. The hour-long, easy job, turned into three days with helping hands from Chris Costanza, tools from Brad Hold and encouragement from me.

Thanks Andrea for lending him out. On Top of the World's response team was Johnny on the spot for a leak in a neighbors wall. Now if her insurance company would be half as fast.

There will be a run on apples after reading Randae Marie Tornetta's apple recipe in the November newspaper. Sounds fabulous for the holidays.

The Polar Bear swim aerobics (actually called Aqua Aerobics) is in session at the East Activity Center swimming pool. Every morning at 9 a.m., a great group gets together for wonderful exercises.

On Dec 12, our building will have a holiday party at Olive Garden. More information



will be posted on our bulletin board. Well, boys and girls, that's about it for this month and year. Until we meet again, trust Santa, be extra generous, and your holiday will be filled with happiness.

Birthday and anniversary greetings to all December celebrants Remember, any news fit to print send to fresca@maine.rr.com.

Flamenco residents have a social and a ghost shows up

Although the residents of Building 79 normally do not need an excuse for a party, a warm Halloween evening seemed like too good of an opportunity to ignore.

We did not give out candy, but there were more delightful foods and liquid refreshment than I can remember.



It was not a good time to go on a diet. Presiding over the delicious buffet was a skeleton butler with a hideous laugh who snarled as you passed by.

There was, of course, deviled eggs, along with toy plastic syringes filled with Bloody Mary mix.

Many came dressed for the occasion. There was wine. There was good cheer. There were ghosts. There was beer.

The haunting evening was conjured up by Barbara Krepela and Lorraine Gendron.

OTOW-TV will be switching to Summit Broadband. Watch for announcements when the channel number is revealed.

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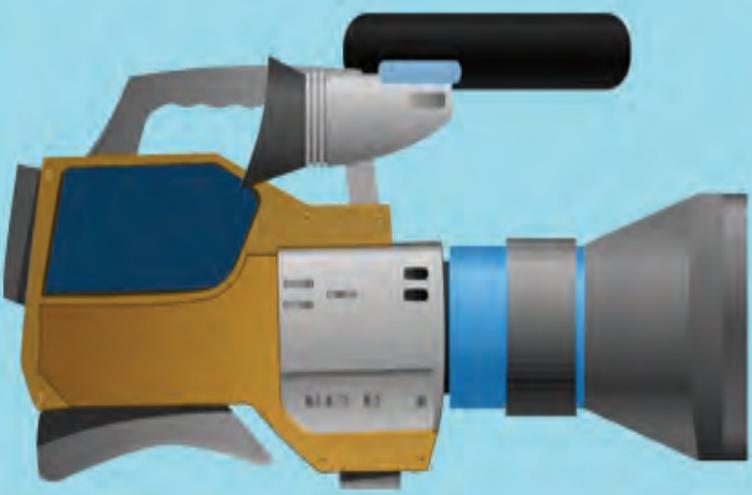
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The official On Top of the World Clearwater Website

otowclearwaterinfo.com



The Box Office

What Our Clubs Are Up To

otowboxoffice.com



Bavarian Fall Festival

By Betty Spoerl



The delicious smell of hot apple cider and fresh coffee filled the Bavarian Chalet lobby on Oct. 29. All residents were invited to bring their chairs and smiles and enjoy some sweet fall treats, including cupcakes, cookies, hot apple cider and coffee. The lobby had been decorated for the fall season by the building captains and looked very festive. There were more than 20 residents who filled the lobby with smiles and greetings. A big thank you from all those in attendance and the building captains, left to right, Betty Spoerl, Yvonne Rodriguez, Madeleine Fontaine, JoAnne Wallend and Annett Haggensen for planning this fall event.

Welcome Dennis and Lois Cullen to On Top of the World



French Renaissance I - 45

We heartily welcome two new residents - Dennis and Lois Cullen from Philadelphia, Pa.

They love many of the activities we have at On Top of the World. Dennis loves golf and fishing, while Lois enjoys crafting.

Dennis was a police captain in Philadelphia, while Lois was a medical coding clerk with Temple University sports medicine.

Together, they have six children, 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

They became familiar with our community because they used to visit their in-laws when they lived here.

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Building dinners are back

If you have paid attention to the Contemporary building bulletin board, you will notice that we are once again posting our monthly building dinners.

A lot of our residents requested we bring it back, but we need volunteers to put it together. Pick a gathering spot, hang a flyer on the board and see who signs up. It's not hard if building residents take turns. With 60 units in our building, we should be set for almost four years of monthly gatherings.

These outings could consist of lunches, or points of interest around the area. Let's get creative. Look for our December dinner which is already posted. We will discuss plans for New Year's Eve this month.

As so many of you donated at this same time last year to The Guardian ad Litem program, we are asking for your help once again. This program can use diapers, wipes, books, school supplies, underwear and socks. Remember, please, that these are children in need. Watch for instructions on the board if you wish to donate.

On behalf of the Contemporary Building, we wish all our On Top of the World community a very merry Christmas and/or the happiest of holidays.



Valencia all set for a Jolley Trolley light show

The holiday season conjures up images of being bundled up and tucked cozily in the back of a horse-drawn carriage, cruising through the freshly fallen snow, toasting all your good friends, and spreading good cheer.

Well, we will not be seeing snow where we are, and you'd be hard-pressed to even find a horse-drawn carriage. However, Cathy Gaulin has arranged the next best thing - a December Holiday Lights adventure with the Jolley Trolley.

They will pick us up at our building and return us all safe and sound.

Of course, you can still wear your holiday mittens and your favorite scarf, although they won't be needed.

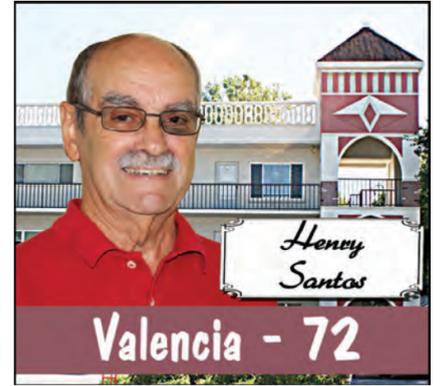
A little hot toddy, a flask of good cheer or some spiked eggnog might help to lubricate the vocal cords for the sing along, and you had better sing and not just mouth the words.

Check the bulletin board for the time and date, and see Cathy in unit 51 to reserve a seat as they are going fast.

I promise it will be a lot of fun.

While we are on the subject of decorations, our neighbor, Karen Pedersen, has volunteered to maintain and keep our bulletin boards relevant and up to date.

Karen took over from Kim Copeland



who had done a super job of selecting a seasonal theme and the appropriate decorations.

Thank you Kim and good luck Karen.

Last month, the Valencia building had to cancel our building luncheon at O'Keefe's Tavern because of Tropical Storm Nicole. This was very disappointing for all of us, but fear not, we will be getting together again soon.

My wife, Pauline, and I would like to wish everyone the happiest of holidays and a safe and prosperous Happy New Year.



Azores go to Ozona

Fifteen Azores residents traded stories and told tall tales over lunch at Molly Goodhead's Raw Bar in Ozona.

Diners enjoyed an excellent selection of salads, seafood, burgers and a great deal of laughter under an outdoor tent.



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If you guessed 120 candies, you went home with more candy than a trick-or-treater

Have you ever eaten at the Dugout? What's the Dugout?

That's Capogna's Dugout in Clearwater and where Rural French residents held our building luncheon on Oct 19.

The luncheon was hosted by Deborah and Floyd Benning and we had 14 residents who were able to attend.

Deborah and Floyd not only found a great place to eat and enjoy each other's company, but they also held a raffle.

A candy jar was placed on the table. It was filled to the top with all kinds of sweet treats. Each person guessed how many candies were in the jar. Then the number was revealed. David Stuhr was the winner with the guess of 120 candies. That lucky guess won him a free lunch paid for by Deborah and Floyd.

For David, it doesn't get any better than that. He went home smiling with a free lunch and a jar full of candy.

Building cleanup again?



Unfortunately, yes.

Building President Ed Fox organized yet another cleanup that was held on Tuesday Nov 1. We were lucky to have eight sets of helping hands to remove items and load a truck. Then we headed to the Pinellas County dump.

This cleanup was necessary because our garbage room was once again filled with illegal items that the garbage company will not remove.

The storage rooms were also cleaned out to remove items that are not permitted to be stored in those locations.

This time all of the metal was scrapped for cash and it was just enough to equal the cost of the cleanup. Normally this expense would have to come out of the building funds.

As a reminder, the garbage room is for household and recyclable garbage only. Any other items are the responsibility of the unit owner or renter to properly dispose of them.

Now, can you believe that three days after we had the cleanup, we found a pile of five large couch cushions in the same area that we had just cleaned.

Who would do such a thing?

Rumor is that that person was waiting for the cleanup to be done so they would

have more room to dump their cushions.

On Thursday, Nov. 10, we held our November luncheon. It was held at the Garden Grill Cafe in Palm Harbor and hosted by Jim and Carmel LeBlanc.

Our luncheon had 12 hungry people who braved the winds and rain of Tropical Storm Nicole. The food and the company were good which made the trip worth taking.

Once lunch was over, the rain and winds had subsided so the ride home wasn't too bad.

Save the date and make plans to join us at our Christmas luncheon at the Olive Garden in Clearwater on Dec. 13.

Our last luncheon at the Olive Garden was enjoyed by everybody and the requests were made to go back again.

Check the building bulletin board to sign up and get for more information.

If you have a story you'd like to be published contact Jim.

New resident gets flight diverted to Atlanta and then next flight cancelled because of Nicole



Linda Herron hosted a wine tasting party recently at her home in the New World French building.

We tasted three red wines and three white wines, and cards were issued for comments on taste and aromas. We also enjoyed cheese and crackers and other snacks.

A good time was had by all and there was no driving - we could all walk home.

We have new residents who just moved in from Cincinnati. Meet Tim and Diana Hill.

Tim came here first, liked On Top of the World, and bought a condo. Then Diana moved here. Fortunately, she liked the condo and they have been here two months now.



Residents at New World French held their very own wine tasting meeting recently. Between seven people, they drank six bottles of wine. Everyone walked home safely.

They have two little dogs, Gracie and Mya.

Diana has a newsy story to share.

Recently she flew to Cincinnati for an appointment, but on her return flight (Frontier Airlines), she was diverted to Atlanta.

Apparently a passenger at the back of the plane was seen to have a box cutter and walking to the front of the plane.

FBI and police boarded the plane in Atlanta and escorted the man away.

Passengers were given hotel vouchers to

stay the night in Atlanta. The next day Hurricane Nicole hit Florida, so her return flight was delayed another day.

You can imagine it was a very eventful trip for Diana. She was certainly glad to get home again to Florida.

Time running out to sign up for the Granada holiday party on Dec. 16



Jeff Young will be celebrating his birthday on Nov. 23. Next year he will share his birthday with every turkey that makes it past Thanksgiving.

Hello readers! Happy holidays!

This month each and every one of us at the Granada building wishes you many, many good blessings, a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

We had a great turnout for our monthly November get-together at Harold Seltzer's Steakhouse. The food and company were terrific!

Due to our December holiday party, we will not have another building luncheon until Jan. 9, 2023, at noon. We will kick off the New Year at the Tarpon Turtle at 1513 Lake Tarpon Avenue, Tarpon Springs.

Please sign up for the holiday party. We will meet at Afonso's Restaurant on Dec. 16 at 4:30. Alfonso's Restaurant is located at 1720 Clearwater Largo Road in Largo. Please sign up by the first floor elevator.

Let's get our Granadians' together again and celebrate!

Thank you for those who were gracious enough to donate to our building fund. We are happy to announce we will not have

Charlie Brown Christmas wreaths this year. There were not enough donations to buy new, but our inventive minds and hard work hope you will be proud of what we come up with. We will have newly redecorated, refurbished, beautiful wreaths to welcome our residents and guests into our Granada building core entryways.

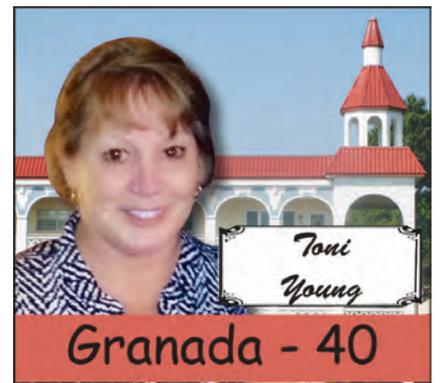
Believe it or not, many hours were spent dismantling the old lights and putting on the new lights! What a job!

Please thank Betty Gerkin, Dascilda Allen, Lori Nunziato and her assistant Terri, Linda Faust, and me, Toni Young.

Tom Jamrozy, the "Great Granada Organizer" will soon put together our Tampa Bay Downs Sunday excursions. Arlene and Stan Berger previously organized the events with great success and sold out seating until our pandemic separated us.

Stay tuned and get ready for future announcements.

Happy birthday Jeff Young, my husband, on Nov. 23. Every seventh year his



birthday falls on Thanksgiving Day and he competes for attention with the great turkey.

He easily takes that turkey down to the bone!

Happy holidays neighbors and friends!

Until next month and always, let your hearts not be troubled and your season

New Euchre Club

Is anyone interested in forming a new Euchre Club?
 Please email Mike at tigerm49@comcast.net.
 Suggest time of the day, days of the week and rooms you would like to play in. Winter only? Or all year round?
 If there is enough interest, a new club will be formed. Read OTOW News in January for updates.

Classifieds

Any On Top of the World resident with a valid Activity Card can place one classified ad in OTOW News each month. You are limited to 40 words, which includes your phone number. You may not use OTOW News classifieds to sell vehicles, your condo, bedding, or anything valued at \$500 or more. You may not use this section to find a roommate, rent your condo and for dating services. Classifieds can be dropped off in the newsroom during business hours or placed in our drop box in the Crystal Beach Room. Classifieds cannot be submitted over the telephone.

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Keyboard Club has new meeting room

The Keyboard Club is switching meeting rooms.
 You will now find us every Friday in the East Activity Center Clearwater Room at 10 a.m.
 All materials are provided.
 There are no dues.
 There is a lot of fun. You do not need your own keyboard. Everything is furnished.
 We would love to have you join us.



Keyboard Club

Next Press Association Meeting
1:30 pm Thursday
Dec. 8
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No, you did not see the famous chicken restaurant founder walking around On Top of the World

The well-known Colonel Sanders, whose face is seen on the signs of the famous fast-food chain, has lived most of his life in obscurity.

But wait. Recently the residents of the Chetnik building saw him around a few weeks ago.

After taking a closer look and a little investigation, it was not the chicken colonel we saw, but our very own building captain, Paul Bruyere, getting ready for an On Top of the World annual Halloween dance and costume party.

Paul and his wife, Claire, have lived at the Chetnik building for 18 years and he has been the captain for 10 years.

They have done a great job organizing social and special events for Chetnik residents and absolutely love having them in their roles. If residents needed something fixed, they know to call Paul, who has always taken pride in being a handyman for the past 26 years.

Paul recently celebrated his 80th birthday with family and friends and has been married to Claire for 45 years. He has a large family with five children, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Prior to his retirement, Paul built his own earth berm house in Dover, NH, and owned a storage company.

He held the office of city councilman in Dover for four years and clerk of court for



the Durham District.

After retirement, Paul and Claire moved to Florida in 1996 and as members of the Clearwater Country Club, enjoyed many games of golf.

Every Tuesday you would see them dancing at the New York, New York lounge and later they became members of the Red Apple Club.

By the way, Paul and Claire did win first place at the recent OTOW Halloween Costume dance as Colonel Sanders. Claire was a chicken. The dance was a lot of fun and we all look forward to next year.



Paul Bruyere, captain of the Chetnik building, also looks like a chicken restaurant owner.

Bohemiafest collects more than 500 pounds of food

Bohemians always enjoy gathering for all kinds of events. Their favorite is a version of Oktoberfest which is only held in November and named Bohemiafest.

It is their way of celebrating the fall season.

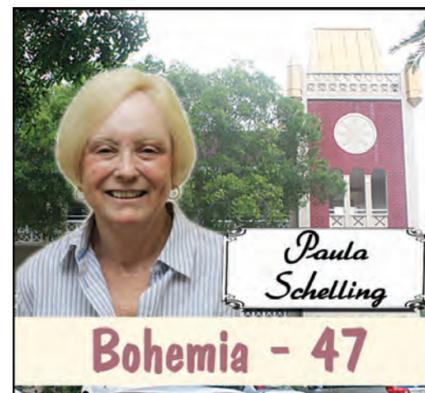
This year, 45 residents enjoyed bratwurst, sauerkraut and German potato salad, topped off with a nice cold beer or chilled glass of wine.

Our building goes beyond just celebrating each other. We also collect canned goods for our local food bank. The goal each year is to collect a minimum of 500 pounds of food.

Bohemiafest helped us attain that goal and beyond.

Have you ever participated in a two-ball foursome at golf? The girls' day out ladies designed their own version of this golf event and applied it to miniature golf. This tournament not only displayed the girls' talents at mini golf, but demonstrated some good-hearted competition. This was so much fun that it may actually be added as a yearly event.

Our building bunco group scaled down



their group from three tables to two tables during the pandemic, when they lost the facility where they played. This forced them to play in homes and created a rotation system where girls would sit out each month.

It is with a great deal of excitement that we announce we have found a restaurant willing to host us, starting this month.

We are overjoyed that we are now back to what is our normal.



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?

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6	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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WORDMIX

Unscramble the six words below. If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word. If scrambles do not work out the first time, try again.

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SECRET WORD						
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Last month's scrambled words: ROBIN, OFFER, BLAZER, BREATH, EYEBALL, RAINBOW. Secret Word Last Month: ROBBER

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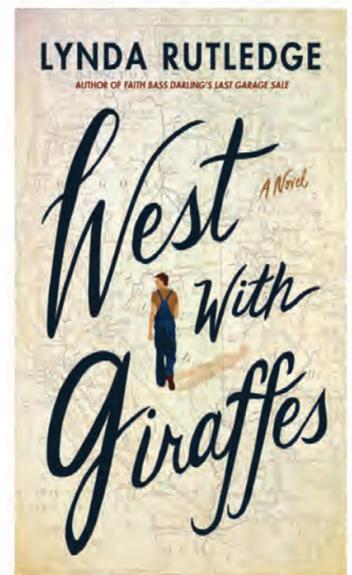
Join the library by Dec. 31 and get a 1-year membership for only \$4. Join in 2023 and the fee is \$5.

Books for sale: 3 for \$1. Romance 10 for \$1.

Also free books. Membership not required to buy books.

Hours: 10 am-12 pm Mondays, 1-3 pm Wednesdays

Good Karma Book Club



10 a.m., Thursday, December 15
 “West with Giraffes”
 by Linda Rutledge

10 a.m., Thursday, January 12
 “Beautiful Country”
 by Julia Qian Wang

All of our meetings take place in the EAC Crystal Beach Room
 For more information, see our Webpage on the Box Office:
otowboxoffice.com - look for our link

Need more information, write to Jslantz1948@aol.com or call 727-754-3823

OTOW CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

To ensure timely delivery of On Top of the World mailings, please use this change of address form. This form will allow for permanent or temporary change of address. This form may be dropped off at the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center or mailed to:
OTOW Condominium Association, Inc., Attn: CSO, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E., Clearwater, FL 33763

Building Number: _____ Unit Number: _____ Today's Date: _____

This change is: _____ Permanent _____ Temporary; Effective _____

Unit Owner Name(s): _____

Current Address: _____

Current Phone Number: _____

Forwarding address: _____

Forwarding Phone Number: _____

Don't forget to notify the United States Post Office of the change!
(Submit new form upon return)

Tourists and Former Prisoners at Mont Saint Michel in Normandy, France, read OTOW News online.

(Today this is a church)

You can too.



visit
otowboxoffice.com

Candles
can be
beautiful
for
Christmas.

But
please.

If you
light one,
remember
to put it
out before
you leave
your condo
or go
to bed.

Be
safe
this
holiday.

Don't want to go Christmas shopping?

**Not into
E
Commerce?**

**Everyone
on your list
already has
everything?**



Don't forget about
OTOW merchandise
on sale at the
Community Service
Office.
We have cool shirts!

And at the
Good Karma Café,
we have holiday cards!