



# Good Karma Café grand opening ceremonies Feb. 3

By Doug Kates

How many times have you sat at the East Activity Center swimming pool and thought, “I wish there was somewhere I could go to get a cold water?”

Or how many times have you finished a set of tennis and wished there was somewhere you could go in the community for a snack?

Starting Feb. 3, both of these wishes will come true, along with even more possibilities.

The Good Karma Café will officially open for business at 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 3. The entrance will be located in the lower level of the EAC, where the library used to be located.

The café will be a source for hot and cold beverages, lunch items, pre-packaged dinners, and fresh and healthy snacks, seven days a week.

“I have received many positive comments,” said SCA Manager Dessa Barabba. “People are excited. They can’t wait for the café to open. There is a lot of interest in the take-home items.”

For the first five days the café is open, anyone making a purchase will be given a raffle ticket for daily drawings. You need not be present to win, but must stop by the café and make a purchase to enter.

“Now, you’ll be able to play golf and then come down to the café and get a sandwich,” Dessa said. “We want this to be a popular destination.”

Residents will be able to browse the café, select items and then proceed to a self-service kiosk, where they can pay for their items with a Visa, MasterCard or a bank debit card. Residents can also set up a Good Karma Café account through the Community Service Office. You control how much money



Last month, On Top of the World announced a new café coming to the community. On Feb. 3, residents are invited to the East Activity Center to see the new café. Pictured above are the temporary walls put up during construction. On Feb. 3 these walls will be removed and the community will get its first look at the finished product. (OTOW News artwork by Doug Kates)

is in your account. You will choose a username and password to access your account from the kiosk. Also, coming soon you will have the opportunity to purchase pre-paid cards at the Community Service Office.

The Good Karma Café is not a fast-food restaurant and you cannot place orders for such items as burgers and pizza. However, these types

of items are prepared and prepackaged and made fresh for sale. Proceeds from every purchase will go to a variety of charities currently supported by the Good Karma franchise.

The café will be open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. Hours were specifically picked as to not interfere with Coffee Corner. There will be limited seating in the café, but residents

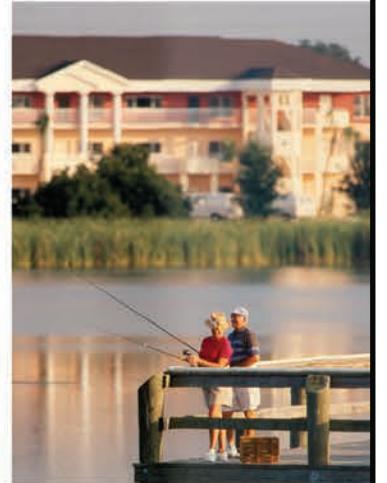
are asked not to eat meals elsewhere in the EAC. Please also remember to be considerate to other residents who wish to use the café by disposing of your trash and leaving the tables neat and clean when your dining experience is complete.

The café is open to OTOW residents and employees, and will be under 24-hour video surveillance.

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# Time to think about your property, insurance

Much of the December Annual Meeting was spent discussing loss prevention.

Items discussed involved steps that a resident can take to protect themselves, their property, and the neighboring property.

If an event occurs, the Association will attempt to notify the owner promptly. It is critical that the Association have updated owner emergency contact information. Please help your Association by updating your emergency contact information. You may do this through the community Website or at the Community Service Office. All information is held confidential and only used in an emergency.

Considerable damage happens each and every year as a result of improperly maintained heating/cooling units (HVAC). It is absolutely critical that you have your HVAC unit serviced annually. Failing to do so puts you (and your neighbors) at risk from damage from flooding if the condensate drain line backs up.

Additionally, if your HVAC unit has heat strips to provide heat, and the unit is not serviced, the heat strips may malfunction, overheat and cause a fire.

As to the washer/dryer, unless you live in building 62 through 79, 85, or 90 through 97, all on the west side of Belcher Road, and you have a washer/dryer, it was installed without approval or guidance from the Condominium Association.

More to the point, it would have been installed without the benefit of using a licensed plumber, electrician, or appliance specialist.

This leaves you, the owner, open to significant liability in the event of an overflow or fire. Simply put, a dryer may result in an overload at the electrical panel because it is drawing excessive power. In some cases, we have found that unauthorized dryer installations have used the same circuit breaker as the stove and HVAC. This is an open invitation for trouble.

Now really, is an in-home convenience worth your property or your life? If you have this situation, please call a licensed specialist and have it corrected immediately.

If your water heater is over 10 years old, it needs careful monitoring for possible leaks. If it is over 12 years old, you'd be money ahead to replace it altogether.

Strangely, a leak never seems to occur when you are home. Leave for a week and you may just come back to



a flood, or worse, intervention by your Association.

The Community Service Office does sell, at cost, a warning device that senses dampness and alarms loudly. This same unit may also be extended to the pan in the HVAC unit, thereby giving you a two-for-one benefit. If you can change a 9-volt battery, you can also install this simple device. It makes good sense to install this device.

If you have any questions on anything I've written about so far, please go to [www.OTOWClearwaterInfo.com/service](http://www.OTOWClearwaterInfo.com/service) or visit the Community Service Office for details. The Website has a great deal of information on practical maintenance you can do to protect and maintain the interior of your home.

## Property Insurance

It's not often that your Board gets to see the benefits of its work, however, during the first week of January, we received a letter from a resident who saved over \$300 by bidding their property coverage on [www.ChallengeMyRate.com](http://www.ChallengeMyRate.com). This really does work and can save you money on your HO6 coverage.

Any uninsured resident takes on the risk of large dollar losses in the event of fire or water damage. I cannot stress the point loud enough or long enough that it is the responsibility of each individual owner to make sure they have adequate insurance on their personal property and on that portion of your condo not insured by the Association's master policy.

Generally, owner property coverage policies are written on the interior components of the condo and on your personal property. Your Association's coverage ends at the interior finish on your walls. In other words, everything from the paint in is yours.

The tile, carpet, cabinetry, appliances, plumbing above the finish floor, air conditioning, and other components are also all the responsibility of the individual owner to insure.

Insurance coverage is inexpensive and there is no good excuse to not have your personal contents insured for at least \$25,000. Remember, the Association only insures the structure. Contents are your responsibility.

Damage within the interior area of your home can become quite costly, especially if a leaking air conditioner or water heater causes damage in adjoining units. Costs of repair can really be large. It is the owner's obligation to maintain or replace these components, and their liability when they don't. Proper insurance coverage will help save you large out-of-pocket expense if that happens.

The HO6 rider covers the insured owner for a portion of the deductible the Association maintains. Currently, your Association maintains a deductible of \$10,000 per occurrence to property damage from any peril other than wind (such as fire). Speak with your insurance agent to make sure you have coverage in place and that it is adequate. And don't forget about bidding competitively through [ChallengeMyRate.com](http://ChallengeMyRate.com).

## Work Progress Outlook

**Painting/Waterproofing:** Buildings 51 and 34 will have new waterproofing membranes applied to the backs and sides in February. Remember, all start dates are approximate and inclement weather may affect scheduling.

Flooring replacements in the center cores are continuing on schedule. Building 86 will have the first floor improved and building 4 will have the second floor improved in February.

Utility contractors will continue replacing the potable water lines that service individual units during a two-stage improvement project that began in October. Once again, these improvements will affect buildings 1 through 10, and the project is scheduled for completion sometime near early February. Buildings 8, 9, and 10 are scheduled in late February and early March.

Railing improvements will continue in February with buildings 4 and 15. Licensed contractors will be replacing or adding aluminum components to the walkway guardrails and stairwell handrails, so please exercise caution in the areas where these improvements are being made. The majority of these railing projects are estimated to last 2-5 weeks, depending on the scope of the work and the size of the structure.

A project affecting the third floor

walkway on the south side of building 26 is anticipated to begin in February, too. A specialty concrete restoration company has been contracted to remediate a portion of the southwest wing. These repairs will involve the exposing and cleaning of the steel of any scale, treating it with a retardant, and then closing the area with a specialty concrete product that is stronger than the existing concrete encasing the steel.

Notices will be posted in the building regarding the exact start date as soon as permitting from Pinellas County has been issued.

The interiors of the elevators in buildings 6, 11, 16, 17, 60 and 61 were scheduled to undergo a laminate upgrade in late-January and throughout the month of February. The process is estimated to take the contractor three to five days. Please be aware that the elevator will not be available during these upgrades, so residents will want to plan accordingly. Bulletins will be posted in the affected buildings in advance of the work.

## Construction projects

Curb lines will continue to be restored during the month of February. Please exercise caution and slowdown in areas where workers are making these improvements. Flagmen may temporarily stop traffic if the situation warrants. Sidewalk panel replacements will continue throughout the year, as will header and window sill repairs.

A project to restore the decorative stucco on the front façade of Building 31 will continue in February. This project is anticipated to be completed in late February or early March. Crews will be utilizing scaffolding and high-reach equipment. Residents may be asked to temporarily relocate their vehicles while this work is underway.

Asphalt paving and resurfacing projects will commence in May.

The structural inspections and correction program (an inspection process by the management's construction department that affects repairs on headers, tower elements, walkways, sidewalks, parapets, columns, railings, center core doors, etc.) will continue in February. Residents may notice an increase in the patching and painting of center core areas as this will be the main focus in the spring. As building's age, more detailed inspection and assessments are required. Timely reporting of maintenance matters by residents is helpful to the continuing success of this program.



Kenneth Colen, Publisher • Doug Kates, Editor • Dave Hart, Asst. Editor

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To advertise in our March edition, checks must be received by Feb. 15\*

\* Be aware, we may sell out all our ad space before the deadline!

NEXT DELIVERY DATE

March newspapers will be delivered on Feb. 28

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**This month's volunteers:**

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- Esta-Lee Schwartz
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**9:30-6 Mon-Thur, 9-2 Fri**

**\*The normal deadline for purchasing ads is the 15th of each month, but our color ad space will likely sell out before the 15th. Black and white ad space could also sell out before the 15th.**

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# West Activity Center pool will close March 3

The West Activity Center pool will be resurfaced and new drainage and pavers will be installed.

Work will commence March 3 and will continue for six to seven weeks.

Please note, the pool area will be closed during these renovations. It is important to observe safety rules during the construction period, so please do not try to enter the work area at any time.

Once again I would like to thank our residents for their patience during our many improvement projects.

I want to thank the SCA staff for their hard work and assistance in



maintaining our beautiful facilities. We think they do a great job and if you think so, too, please write a note and

drop it off at the Community Service Office. Let us know so we can share your good comments with the staff.

The "Grand Opening" of the Good Karma Café is set for Monday, Feb. 3, at 10 a.m., so be sure to stop by the Community Service Office and set up your Good Karma Café account.

Someone is also available to answer any questions you may have.

The AAA Senior Defensive Driver Program will be held at the East Activity Center Starlite Room on Thursday, March 20, and Friday, March 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$15 and

is payable the first day of class. Additional classes may be offered in May, but will be based on need and those dates will be announced.

A registration form can be found on page 54 of this newspaper and needs to be submitted to the newspaper office no later than March 13.

The Florida Licensing on Wheels bus (FLOW) will be at the East Activity Center north parking lot on Thursday, March 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you need to renew your license, or change your address, this is an easy, quick way to do it without leaving the community.

# Inspection services will be looking at cores, awnings

By Ken Colen, Chairman

Compliance inspections by the Inspection Services division of the management company are ongoing.

Inspection services will be addressing overplanted or unmaintained landscape around all building common areas.

Please keep in mind that the condominium association requires a modification request for any landscape alterations. Many times, decorative rocks

or landscaping is installed without the advance approval of the association, which results in the removal and disposal of the items at the residents cost.

Clutter enforcement is another item which requires constant monitoring by the management company. This includes the tagging and removal of excessive furnishings placed in the center core, walkways, and end stairwells areas. Remember, much of the material placed there was unapproved by your

Association and may actually violate the life safety code for building access.

Awning inspections continue to take place by the Inspection services division of the management company. The Clearwater area has seen an increase in storms and rainfall the last few years, and as a result, many of the awning attachment points have been weakened to the point where the "clam-shell" style awning must be removed to halt any further damage to

the structure.

The management company continues to report the older style awnings in disrepair or with weak attachment points. As noted in prior articles, the "clam-shell" awnings do not meet building code for wind resistance. Fortunately there are new products that do.

If you have an awning, please arrange for its inspection through the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center.

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- (3) Go Online to [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) and fill out a service request.
- (4) For service after 3 PM call 799-1115. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required at the time of service.

*\* For timely service, please schedule a request a day in advance.*

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# This is a busy time for service requests - we ask for your patience this season

## Service Requests

The holidays have come and gone, but our winter "Snowbird" season is in full force.

We not only feel the impact on our roads and in local retail establishments, but the influx also has an impact within our community.

The volume of additional requests for service and inspection services increases. A question presented at the Annual Association Meeting in December pertained to the length of time it appears to take to complete a service request, in particular during the months from November-April.

The management company schedules large projects throughout the year, prioritizing work based on safety concerns, weather conditions, and equipment and vendor schedules, as well as minimizing disruption to the residents.

The first step is to make the impacted area safe.

After that step, the remedial work is evaluated and scheduled based on the prioritization it receives.

Larger in-house projects are also based on coordinating the upcoming work schedule with projects already scheduled on the calendar.

You can rest assured, if you have submitted a service request, and the requested service is the responsibility of the management company, the item will be prioritized as described above.

Day to day routine maintenance is ongoing and most requests are resolved within several business days. If the service item is unit owner responsibility, you will be notified by the management company.

## Fruit Trees

The care and maintenance of fruit trees located in the common areas has also been brought to my attention.

Fruit trees are not approved plantings in the On Top of the World Community. Fruit trees are typically planted by new residents that are excited about the novelty of having an orange or grapefruit tree planted in their backyard.

Visions of picking this delicious fruit to send to family and friends are usually the motivation. What most people don't realize is that fruit trees are temperamental and need a lot of



care for the tree to be productive and produce edible, sweet fruit.

Unfortunately the novelty soon wears off, the resident cannot reach the fruit on the upper branches, or the resident moves and the fruit falls to the ground and is left to decay attracting fruit rats and fruit bats.

I am sure you agree these animal species are not the type we want to include as neighbors.

The management company removes dead/dying or unmaintained fruit trees in accordance with tree permit guidelines issued by Pinellas County.

As a reminder, all plantings in a common area of the property must have approval by the Association prior to installation. Any fruit on a tree in a common area is available for all residents in the community to harvest, unless the tree has a placard by the Association.

## West Side Pool Renovations

The West Activity Center pool and pool deck are currently scheduled to begin renovations in early March.

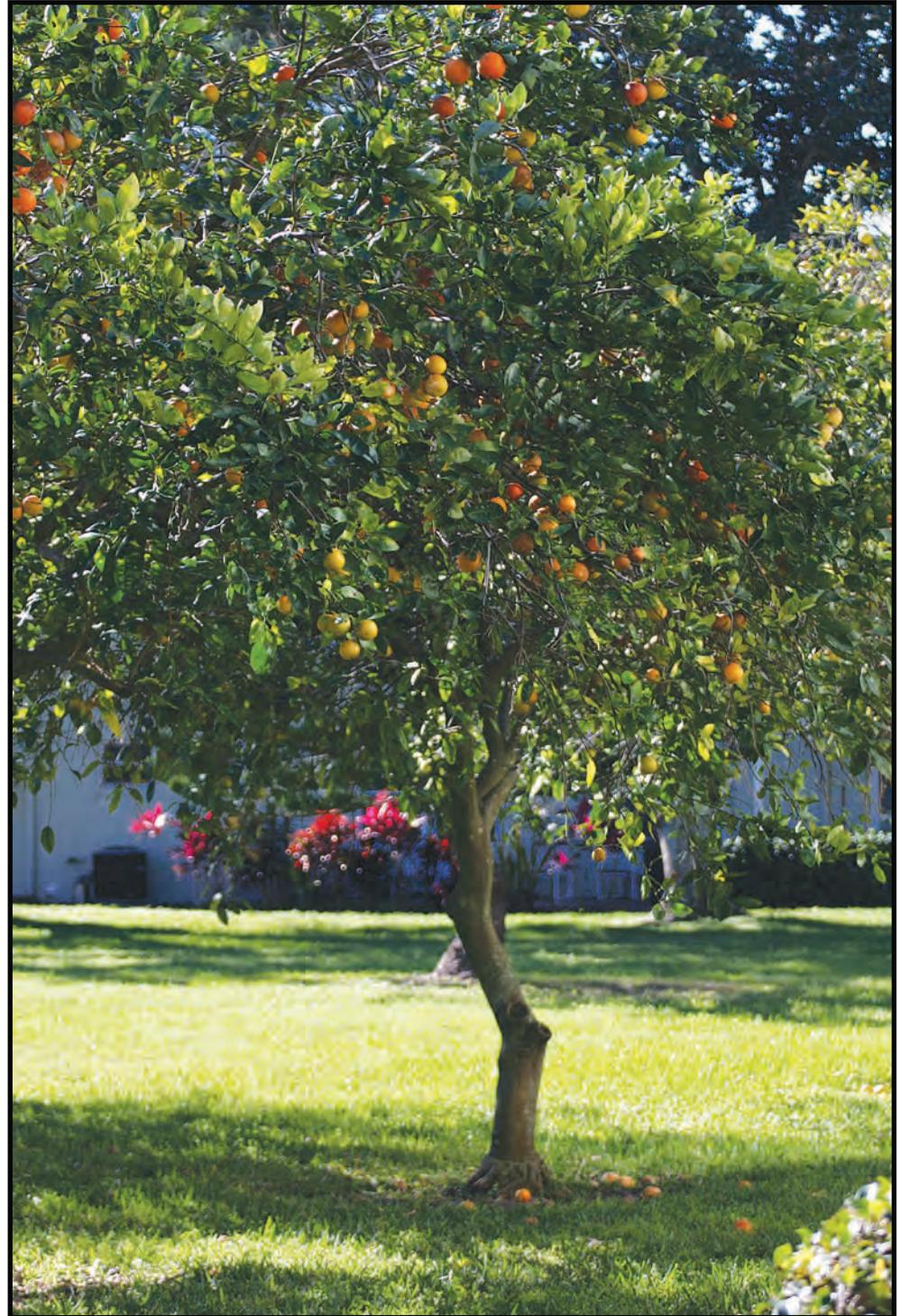
The interior pool finish will be replaced and a new pool deck and fencing will be installed.

While the weather in March can be temperamental, the vendor will make every effort to complete this project on time.

The scope of work will require the closure of the west side pool for approximately five (5) weeks.

We acknowledge that there is no good time to do this type of work and apologize for the inconvenience.

Rest assured, the end result will be well worth it. We encourage you to use the heated East Activity Center pool or visit our beautiful local beaches during this time.



Fruit trees can be full of sweet goodies, like the one above, but fruit which has fallen on the ground can rot and attract unwelcome pests. Read this column for more on fruit trees.



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# Is this really Florida?



Remember Jan. 7? Morning temperatures in Clearwater were 32-35 degrees. Pictured above are Walt and Chris Savoldi of Indiana, who were visiting friends at On Top of the World. The Savoldis, dressed in winter jackets, hoods, gloves and toting a spare jacket, thought the weather was balmy enough for a walk on World Parkway Boulevard. Meanwhile, very few residents were anywhere in site. They, apparently, considered the conditions too cold to venture outside. ‘This isn’t cold!’ Walt said. It was reported, there were only three people on the golf courses, on a morning when rain was not even in the forecast. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

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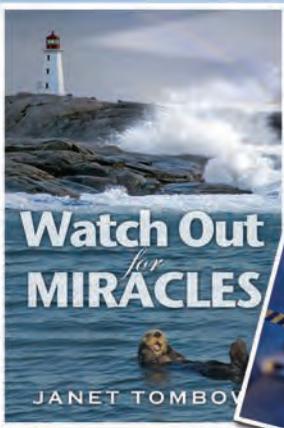
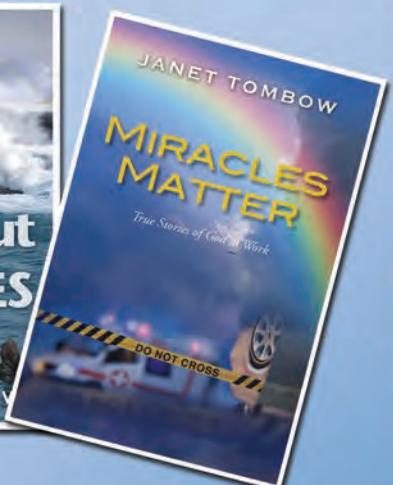
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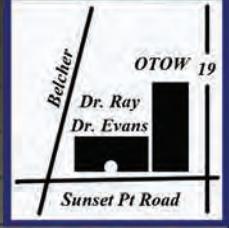
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***A Healthy Heart is a Happy Heart on Valentine's Day***

# Art Guild membership soars and competition picks up for Artist of the Month honors

By Cheryl J. Reese

Our biggest news this month is actually to recommend you attend the Art Show and Sale on Feb. 23, from 1-4 p.m., at the East Activity Center.

There will be many artists displaying and selling their work. Several live demonstrations of different art mediums will be taking place.

Please support our group, vote for your favorite picture, and enjoy the free refreshments.

Our hope is to inspire others and to provide a variety of art forms.

Our last Art Guild meeting took place on Jan. 10. Eighteen new members joined our group for a total of 52 current members. A big welcome back to the remainder of returning Snowbirds!

At the Art Guild meeting, all members had an opportunity to judge for Artist of the Month. Bob Hammond won with his pen and ink drawing with watercolor wash. It is being displayed in the front lobby showcase of the East Activity Center until February's winner is selected. Do stop by and take a look. Bob is a very accomplished artist, and his picture won over a huge number of entries this month.



**Bob Hammond receives the Artist of the Month ribbon from Audrey Lerigo, who won the award in December.**

A pastel demonstration by Lorraine Potachi was also held at the guild meeting. She is a faculty member at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center and an award-winning artist in many art societies. She is very talented and enter-



taining.

The members were in awe with each step of her presentation and pastel painting.

Thursday's drawing lessons, instructed by John Fier, concentrated on drawing different facial components, including eyes, ears, nose, chin, hair -- and a lesson with drawing the entire face. These were great lessons.

A live model was at each of the Jan. 16 and 23 lessons, using the earlier classes to fruition.

At the Feb. 14 Art Guild meeting, Taylor Ikin will demonstrate watercolor on yupo paper. She introduced the form of art through Cheap Joes and is a faculty member at the Dunedin Art Center. Her class is entitled, "Dancing with Yupo."

# 2014 OTOW ART SHOW

Sunday  
Feb. 23  
1-4 pm

**EAC Auditorium**



\* Free Refreshments  
\* Art For Sale

# Improvements already under consideration for next season's Holiday Lights Contest

The annual Holiday Lights contest in December was tagged successful and the Press Association spent a majority of its January meeting discussing ways to make the next one even better.

"We had online voters from nine different states, 94 people in all, and we had 31 condos enter the contest," editor Doug Kates told the newspaper staff. "Compared to the previous two years, this year's contest was very successful."

This was the first time residents were allowed to enter their own condos in the contest, rather than buildings competing against buildings. In 2012, only five buildings entered, so it was decided a change had to be made.

This time around, voting was done online and pictures of each entry were online for everyone to see. Everyone was allowed to vote for their top five favorite condos. You didn't even have to be an OTOW resident.

The winners were Merlyn and Raymond Cooper from the Casa Verde Building. They received a two-day, one-night pass to the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa, plus use of basic amenities and a free breakfast.

Second place was Richard Mattiace of Hawaiian Towers; Third place was Anne Renaud of Mediterranean; Fourth place was Pat Stephens of Melbourne and fifth place was Marge Jacobs of Swedish Traditional. All four received certificates from the Sunset Grill.

During the contest, Doug told the Press Association he received a lot



of comments. Some residents complained they didn't have computers and could not go online to vote. Some voters said the Web site did not allow them to vote. Others said they placed one vote and were not allowed to place their other four votes.

"There were a lot of people who voted successfully," Doug said, "but I will take a more in-depth look at the voting site and see what changes can be made to make sure everyone gets a chance to vote for the next contest."

One change, already made, centered around voting for five different condos. In some cases, voters may have voted five times for one condo instead of picking five different entries. This problem has already been corrected for next time. Voters will be unable to pick the same condo five times.

Doug said it was also perfectly clear that ground-floor condos had a huge decoration advantage than second and third floor condos, so next season there will be two divisions –



## GFI

one for ground floor units and one for second and third floor units.

In an attempt to make the playing field even for this past December's contest, Doug asked online voters to concentrate on lights and exterior wall decorations, and not give consideration to lawn decorations.

It appears, the voters listened.

The Press Association asked Doug if photographs of each entry could be posted on OTOW-TV and then people without computers, and unable to vote online, could fill out a form to vote. Doug said this would be possible once the registration deadline has passed.

Lastly, upon counting all the votes, On Top of the World inspected each winning condo to make sure they all complied with building decoration rules. Management reported there were some minor violations, but they were not critical enough to disqualify any winners.

Management would like to remind all residents that their holiday lights must be protected with a ground fault interrupter (GFI), which will protect against abnormal electric flow and prevent individuals from getting shocked. Management said GFIs can be purchased at any home improvement store for under \$20.

Also, residents are reminded next season to make sure they do not cover up condo unit numbers with their holiday decorations. Emergency personnel must be able to see your unit numbers, even if the emergency is not at your condo.

The next Press Association meeting is 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 6 in the East Activity Center large card room. At this meeting, Doug may make a special announcement about the March meeting, which has been rescheduled for 5 p.m. in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

**Editor's note:** If you experienced a problem voting during the Holiday Lights Contest, please mail Doug a brief note detailing what happened. You can mail your information to OTOW Newsroom, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E, Clearwater, FL, 33763.

## Making final preparations for Jack & Jill Tournament

Pictured above is the 2014 Jack & Jill Tournament committee. In the front row, left to right, are Donna Osborne and Gloria Sayer. In back are Billie Pineau, Elaine Stretavski, Rose Mulhall, Sherry Ivey, Pauline Jones, Marie Belliveau, Becky West, Leora Hamm, Terry Kuplen, Sheila Meneilly, Dottie Meissner and Terri Mikszenas. The tournament is Feb. 4.

(Photo by Bud Sayer)



More golf news on pages 40, 41, 42

# Think twice before you click one of those mysterious links that appear in your emails

## Scam alert No. 1

I make it an ABSOLUTE policy to never click on a link, or open one, that has been sent to me, no matter who sends it, unless the person sending me the link has first emailed me to tell me that he or she is sending me a link.

Then that person has to wait until I respond that it's OK.

Does that sound harsh, particularly when the link is to something about our grandchildren?

Of course it's harsh. But you know what's worse? It's opening a link from someone we believe is a child, relative or friend, only to find that it's a scam link with a virus or worm.

We must be extremely careful of Internet frauds and scams, and the best way to do that is not to open links.

I get lots of emails from friends who think such and such is cute so here's a link to it. I just say "I can't open it."

Think about it!

## Scam alert No. 2

The IRS is warning folks that there's a scam going around where a caller claims to be with the IRS and demands that you send in a pre-paid credit card.

The IRS never places a call like that. You must NOT speak with such a caller. They get very abusive anyway. You must simply hang up the phone immediately.

Q. I went to a seminar and one of the speakers said that the best way to avoid probate is to have a living trust. What do you say?

A. I say that the best way to avoid probate is to spend your money so



that there's nothing left to probate anyway. However, if by chance, you want some other way to avoid probate that does not require a trust, and is just as effective, and much less expensive, here's my favorite: Try setting up pay on death accounts. They work at your bank, credit union or brokerage firm.

Q. Our daughter's husband - who we tolerate, but have never liked - keeps asking us what we are going to leave him in our Wills. He probably doesn't mean it, and he just thinks he's funny. To us, though, it's annoying. What should we do?

A. Try telling him that you shall remember him in your Will. Then have a paragraph in your Will that says: "To our son-in-law, Harry, who always wanted us to remember him in our Wills: Hiya Harry!"

Seriously: We cannot allow our children or children-in-law to intimidate us. Tell him to stop it!

Q. If you don't like annuities, what investments do you like?

A. I've never said that I don't like annuities. What I have said is that I do

not like the way they are frequently marketed to senior citizens.

Basically, an annuity is a life insurance product. The difference is that in a life insurance product, you usually pay a quarterly, or semi-annual or annual, premium payment throughout much of your life.

With an annuity, you almost always pay the entire premium in advance. In either situation, the money you pay — that is, the premium payment — is used for a life insurance portion with the balance used by the insurance company in an investment program.

You, or who you've named, is the beneficiary. In my opinion, annuities are marketed to seniors as an investment plan — sometimes, even as a place to hold one's IRA.

However, annuities almost always have, what are in my opinion, excessive costs and fees associated with them.

Additionally, there are frequently very extreme penalty periods for early withdrawal.

I think one can do much better by purchasing a no-load annuity that provides tax deferral or tax avoidance.

I guess this doesn't quite answer your question because you want to know what investments I like. I can't answer that. I'm not an investment advisor and I don't sell investment services. I sell my legal services.

What I think folks should do is study the many, many options that are "out there." Go online to some of the large brokerage firms, such as Vanguard and others, and just read what they have to say about annuities.

And yes, I do not feel that annuities are a worthwhile investment for seniors.

Q. What is the very best way for a husband and wife, who have no children and no close relatives, to hold the title to their homestead?

A. The best way is to hold the title in the names of both the husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety. Then have Wills that direct what will happen to that property when both are deceased.

The fact that you do not have any children or close relatives is irrelevant to how you should hold the title to your homestead.

---

Gerald R. Colen is an attorney who is a member of both the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. He concentrates his practice of law in the areas of real estate, elder law, wills, trusts, probate, business law and simple and complex estate planning. He welcomes your questions and comments. This column is not intended to provide legal advice, but is only intended to provide limited information on the specific matters raised in the questions and answers. You should always consult your own attorney for specific advice. Mr. Colen is available for conferences at his law office at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, FL, 33777. His phone number is (727) 545-8114. He is also pleased to respond to email at his email address of gcolen@tampabay.rr.com or through his Web page at www.gcolen.com. In Ocala, FL, Mr. Colen is available by appointment for legal conferences at the On Top of the World sales office, which is located near Sid's Cafe.

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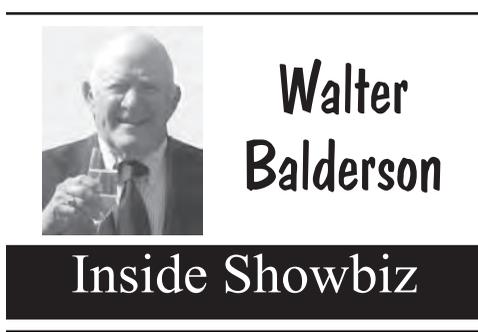
# Nat King Cole succeeded in a tough time period

Nat King Cole, a singer and jazz pianist, was the first black American to host a television variety show.

It was during the time when racial bias was still looming in the south. The show could not attract sponsors and some stations did not carry it at all. Consequently, the show was canceled after 13 weeks.

Nat's father was a Baptist minister and his mother was the choir director. In his early teens, Nat was playing classical music. He eventually abandoned classical for jazz – his other passion.

Nat formed the Nat King Cole trio and toured the country plaza playing at



jazz clubs. The group really hit the big time with their recording of "Straighten Up and Fly Right," a song inspired by one of his father's sermons.

As an African-American performer, Nat struggled to find his place in

the civil rights movement. He encountered, first hand, much racism when touring the south. Even though he was accused of being an activist, he always insisted he was an entertainer, not an activist.

By the early 1950s, Nat King Cole emerged as a popular solo artist. By the late '50s, his career had begun to dwindle. But it did not decline for long.

Nat's career returned to the top with his country-influenced hit, "Ramblin' Rose."

Nat died in 1965. Hundreds showed up to say goodbye to the legendary singer at his funeral in Los An-

geles. He was only 45 years old.

Nat's music remained popular, finding its way onto countless movie and TV soundtracks.

His daughter, Natalie, carried on the family profession, becoming successful in her own right. In 1991, she helped her father to achieve a posthumous hit. Through the magic of tape and modern technology, she recorded his hit "Unforgettable" and added her voice to make the song a duet.

For a version of this song, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdBKXdc4dgw>

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**NOTICE**

**Important bulletin for all residents of On Top of the World**

A new standard has been implemented for sealants that will affect window, awning, and air conditioning contractors performing work for residents at OTOW.

Residents should be aware that due to an extremely high failure rate, silicone sealants are no longer approved for use as a caulking and weatherproofing product within On Top of the World.

Failure of the silicone sealant bond has resulted in water intrusion into units. This has resulted in significant water damage and costly repairs. **WATER INTRUSION** is a serious issue that may damage belongings and lead to mold growth.

Protect yourself by asking your contractor in advance if they are using an **ACRYLIC URETHANE** or **POLY URETHANE** sealant recommended for use by your Association. Applying the proper sealant in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications may prevent water intrusion.

Detailed information is available at the East Activity Center Service Desk for your convenience. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

**We are working harder to make OTOW your wonderful place to live!**

*OTOW News will begin accepting auto and home insurance ads*

# Advertising changes start in March

On Top of the World residents will notice a new page in the March edition of this newspaper.

The page will feature advertisements from individuals who own or operate their own personal businesses.

These ads will include healthcare, handyman services, cleaners, errand people, grocery shoppers, massage therapists, in-home nurses, in-home hair care, in-home pet care, and more.

The ads will all be the same size and displayed on this one page. Ads will be sold on a first come, first serve basis, until the ad space is full. Additional ads will not be accepted for that month.

In past newspaper editions, these ads were scattered at the bottom of



various pages. The purpose of this change is to show residents which advertisers are working on their own.

Keep in mind, On Top of the World does not recommend or endorse any advertisers in this newspaper. We

are simply offering local businesses an opportunity to promote themselves or promote certain products.

As always, anyone operating their own personal business, who plans on entering someone's condo, must pass a background check with On Top of the World before placing their first ad in this newspaper.

This policy will not change.

We do recommend you conduct your own background check and request references prior to allowing unknown persons or entities into your home.

Corporate businesses, providing personal services in condos, are not required to complete the OTOW background check on all of its employees,

but still must be licensed and insured.

Another change coming to this newspaper is allowing insurance companies to advertise auto and home policy coverages. In the past, this newspaper has not accepted insurance ads.

There is a growing concern that many residents are failing to properly insure their vehicles and homes, and OTOW wants to allow these providers the opportunity to offer competitive coverage and rates for our unit owners.

OTOW will not endorse any insurance carrier - simply provide a space for them to advertise.

This newspaper will not sell advertising for other insurance coverages, such as health or life.

**The Florida Licensing on Wheels bus (FLOW) will be at the East Activity Center north parking lot on Thursday, March 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**If you need to renew your license, or change your address, this is an easy, quick way to do it without leaving the community.**

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**Pick-up location: The Salvation Army**  
1625 North Belcher Road, Clearwater

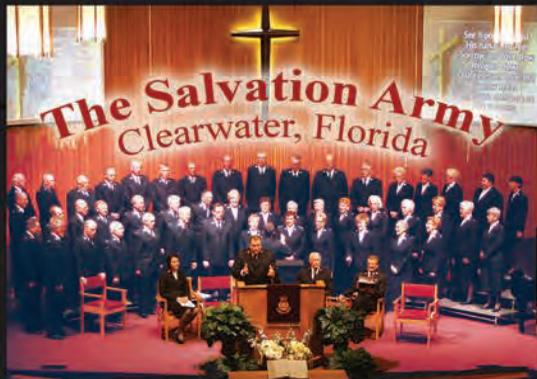
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# Join the Snowbirds Club for a spectacular view on March 22

By John Koning

As earth-bound creatures, we marvel at the aerial maneuvers of the shore birds on Clearwater Beach.

We seem equally impressed by the sights and sounds of multi-million dollar flying machines that defy all physical laws of the universe, craning our necks at airshows to watch in awe as they play high risk games of chicken at break-neck speeds.

The trouble with airshows is that the aerial acrobatics are always so far away.

What if you could watch the Air Force Thunderbirds scream by terrifyingly close, aboard a private yacht in Tampa Bay?

What if you had a 360 degree view of the death-defying aerial acrobatics?

What if you could enjoy a delicious buffet before watching the action?

You could do all these things if you were one of the wealthy Tampa Bay Lightning hockey players whose mansions line the bay, but you don't have to score 50 goals in a season to have all this.

Join the Snowbirds on March 22 as we cruise Tampa Bay aboard the Yacht Starship. We'll fill our bellies and watch the MacDill Airshow from the best vantage point available, outside of a Thunderbird cockpit.

So why am I telling you this now when the show seems so far away?

It's because there are only a finite number of seats remaining and they are going fast. Don't snooze on this one or you'll lose!

Another hot item on our March itinerary is the Strawberry Festival. Stop by the Snowbirds sales desk or visit our Website to decide whether you want to enjoy the festival for the day or combine events and watch the legendary Oak Ridge Boys in concert as they celebrate their 40th anniversary of making American musical history.

Either way, it's a Florida tradition that is sure to please.

As always, and from anywhere in the world, visit [www.snowbirdstow.com](http://www.snowbirdstow.com) for complete information and easy to use order forms.



This spectacular picture was shot by Ed Foland of the Snowbirds Club from the Yacht Starship during a previous Thunderbirds Air Show.

# Italian Festival

Saturday, Feb. 22, 11-9  
 Sunday, Feb. 23, 11-7

Safety Harbor Marina  
 (next to Safety Harbor Resort & Spa)



Enjoy a family-friendly, fun-filled event with all of your favorite, traditional foods and desserts. Plus, Italian music and entertainment.

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- Ulcers
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  - ingrown, fungus, unsightly, or painful
- Skin disorders, warts
- Growths, tumors
- Lumps, bumps



Gary R. Goodman, DPM and  
 Elizabeth M. Annis, DPM

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[www.clearwaterfootdoctor.com](http://www.clearwaterfootdoctor.com)

Dr. Goodman is Board Certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and is a Fellow, of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. Dr. Annis is Board Qualified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and is an Associate, of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.

# Golfers and baseball fans wanted!

## Club to host presentation on Canadian-related issues

By Rick McLauchlan

The Canadian Club's annual President's Ball was held Jan. 29 and members and guests enjoyed the formal event with an excellent dinner/dance hosted by our President René Careau and his spouse Nicole Doucet.

The event continued the practice of honoring those who have served as Canadian Club President over the years. Thanks go out to the volunteers who made it possible.

Please note that Canadian Club membership registration will no longer be available on Mondays and Thursdays in the East Activity Center. If you wish to join the club, please contact Linda McKee at 727-470-9161.

The Canadian Club Golf Tournament, scheduled for Feb. 16 at 8 a.m. (shotgun start), is not sold out. Please contact Bruce Mills at 727-559-1458 if you want to participate. If you are a renter, remember to purchase your green fees ticket before tournament day.



Tom McKee has a block of tickets available for the Blue Jays versus the Phillies game, 1:05 p.m. on Monday, March 24. Please contact him at 727-470-9161.

The Canadian Club is sponsoring a Canadian Snowbirds Association (CSA) presentation on Friday, March 21, from 2-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium. Karen Huestis, a CSA Director, will be sharing interesting information, including the allowable number of days out of country, cross-border issues, as well as retired-persons visas.

The presentation is open to all Ca-



Pictured here is last year's winning team from the annual Canadian Club Golf Tournament. From left to right are Bryan Myers, Becky West, Marie Lamothe and Rick McLauchlan. This month we will crown the 2014 champions.

nadians at OTOW, not just Canadian Club members.

Spring Fling will be Friday, March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the EAC auditorium. Tickets will be available on a special date, Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m.-noon in the EAC auditorium and regular sales Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. commencing Feb. 20.

The event cost remains \$10 for members and \$13 for guests.

Keep informed regarding happenings at your club by going to our Webpage <http://otowcanadianclub.com/> as well as the On Top of the World Box Office Website <http://www.ontopoftheworldnews.com>. Click the Box Office link.



# CALLING ALL CANADIANS!

**Your On Top of the World Canadian Club invites you to a presentation by the**



## CANADIAN SNOWBIRD ASSOCIATION

**Friday, March 21, 2-4 p.m.**  
**East Activity Center Auditorium**

CSA Director Karen Huestis will give an informative talk on:

- Number of days out of country
- FREE Snowbird Extravaganza & Provincial picnics
- Cross-border issues • Forms to fill out • Retired persons visa

Plus, there will be a question and answer period and door prizes

# Tai Chi

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Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 1:30, EAC gym.  
**Call to attend (727) 726-0336**

## Spanish French Classes

At On Top of the World Yellow Room

- Starting Spanish Conversation Class begins Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m. Five-week class.
- Intermediate Spanish Class starts Tuesday, 4 p.m. Five-week class.
- French Conversation Class, begins Monday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m. Five-week class.

---

All classes taught by Dolores Rollins Certified Spanish/French Teacher

---

\$40 due at first class.  
 No refunds after second class.

---

Call 207-449-2641 for more information.

# Louie Bravo will be featured at Valentine's Dance

By Rita Kress

With a sultry singing style, Louie Bravo will perform at the Baby Boomers Valentine's Dance on Tuesday, Feb. 11, from 5-9 p.m. in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

The dance is open to all On Top of the World residents.

Louie will be performing hits from the 1950s through the 2000s, mostly oldies, plus classic rock and roll.

His concert will also be seasoned with a steamy Latin flair, including a repertoire of Latin, Cumbia, Bolero, Salsa, Merengue and more.

Louie will heat up the room and make everyone want to dance and sing out loud. This is an out-of-the-box change-of-pace night.

Anyone attending is asked to bring a potluck dinner item.

A limited amount of tickets are still available and can be purchased for \$10 each at our meeting Feb. 5 or by contacting Rita at 727-600-8529.

The Baby Boomers are proud to announce another new activity to our growing list of many adventures.

We are going to start golfing! Two of our talented members, Bill and Gilda, are being gracious enough to train us as beginner golfers. The training is free and will introduce many members



Louie Bravo recently performed at Madeira Beach.

to the wonderful world of golf. A big thanks goes out to the both of them.

One of our members, Mike Albano, found a great price, for our single members, to take a five-day Carnival Cruise and at the end of January. This was the second time in two months that we had a planned a cruising event.

Baby Boomers is a very active

group participating in many fun-filled activities, including biking, kayaking, sailing, golfing, deep sea fishing, cruising, dining out, dancing, potluck dinners, holiday parties and picnics.

We also do outings to the theater, museums, festivals, concerts and local day trips.

Our meetings are the first Wednes-



## Baby Boomers

day and third Thursday of every month, at the East Activity Center Starlite Room, 5:30 p.m.

Meetings for February will be on Feb. 5 and Feb. 20. Anyone interested in joining the Baby Boomers group are welcome to the meetings and should bring their current On Top of the World Recreation Card. There is no membership fee.

Our meetings usually consist of everyone participating in creating weekly or monthly social activities. After the meeting, we usually continue with a fun-filled activity, such as dining out, dancing, or visiting a local club for additional socializing.

For more information, watch our ads on OTOW-TV and visit our Web page on the Box Office.



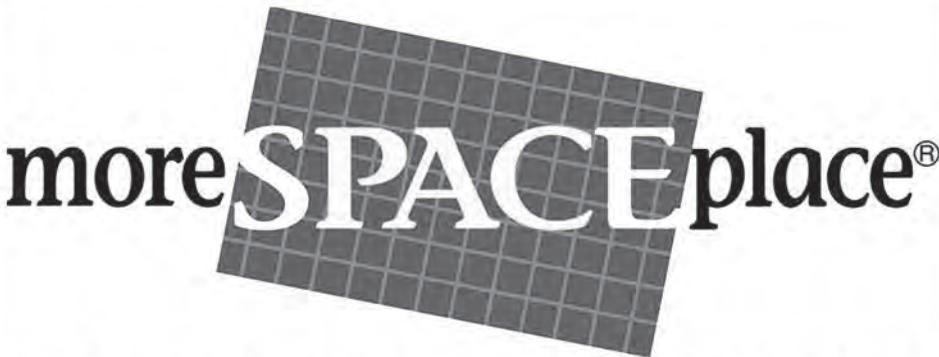
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## Three greyhounds ready for adoption on Valentine's Day

By Bill Sharpsteen

Happy Valentine's Day

Did you know approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas?

We have a lot of greyhounds who would love to be someone's Valentine. We also need foster homes to help these retired racers on their way to their forever home.

Another class of three greyhounds graduates Feb. 14, which is Valentine's Day, from the Hardee Correctional Facility. These graduates actually live in the cells with the prisoners.

A "greyt" fun event is scheduled on Sunday, April 6, from noon to 4 p.m.. This is our combined 11th semi-annual Greyhound Picnic and Greyhound reunion. It will be with Gold Coast Greyhounds and Bay Area Greyhounds held again at Philippe Park, 2525 Philippe Parkway in Safety



### Greyhound Club

Harbor.

We will have about 80 greyhounds and 150 two-legged handlers in attendance - no barking!

Please save the date and let Bill know if you are interested in attending. More details in upcoming articles.

We will also participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade sponsored by our On Top of the World Irish Club. Walkers are always welcome.

Remember, Greyhound Club members meet every third Friday at Third Friday in downtown Safety Harbor. We set up next on Friday, Feb. 21



### for the greyhounds!

near the corner of Second Avenue and Main Street to show off greyhounds for adoption.

We also continue to visit several ALFs in the county each month to bring cheer to their residents with our "Gentle Giants!"

Please add our OTOW Greyhound Club meetings to your calendar for the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be Thursday

Feb. 20 at 10 a.m.

Call Bill today at 727-797-7977 to help foster or babysit a greyhound for a day to a week, or adopt a greyhound, donate, or volunteer with this group.

You can also like Gold Coast Greyhounds on Facebook to keep up-to-date on events!

You will be richly rewarded for your time spent. These gentle giants will leave paw prints on your heart!

## Suggestions wanted for improving club

By Mary Widman

At our Singles Club meeting in January, our new club president, Nancy McMullan, was installed.

Outgoing president, Dorothy Carpenito, thanked her board members for all their help during her four years in office.

Nancy passed out suggestion slips asking members what kind of activities they would like to do during this coming year. Many suggested a day trip such as John's Pass in April or May.

Our meeting in February will be our annual "strawberry fling." Hope everyone will be there.

The March meeting will feature the Premier Dancers. This dance troupe always puts on a very professional show. March may also bring us a fashion show. Ladies, please remember, we need models for the show, all ages, all sizes.

Please watch On Top of the World cable channels 96/720 to keep updat-



### Singles Club

ed on our club activities.

I want to thank Sally Shevlin for her hospitality in serving the wonderful coffee and pastries that we all enjoyed.

If you know of any member who needs a word of cheer, please call Sunshine Lady Mary at 796-1184. She will send a card from all of us.

Please bring your suggestions for new activities to Nancy at our February meeting on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 6:15 p.m. at the East Activity Center Veranda Room. If you have any questions, call Dorothy at 796-4460.

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## West Activity Center pool will close March 3 for renovations



Alessandra 'Sandy' Feliciano, a soprano, is a student at the University of South Florida. She will be attending a study program this summer.



Jessica Best, a mezzo, is a graduate of the Florida program and recently moved back north. Both singers performed with 'VOICEexperience' in January. (OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)

## Good Neighbors' Thursday crowd enjoys morning of opera voices and more is to come in March

Well, here we are in February already.

We had a good turnout on Good Neighbors' Thursday in January. The entertainment was provided by "VOICEexperience" and was wonderful.

It was the first time, I think, everybody stayed till the end of the performance. I hope to get "VOICEexperience" back before the end of the year. I am sorry we ran out of coffee and donuts - all the more reason to get there early.

Remember, we start serving at 9 a.m. We need to get the show started

Good  
Neighbors



President Doris Paino

as soon as possible as we have so many things to cover -- the vendors and clubs need to make announcements, and there are raffles and entertainment.

Also in January, we had our vol-

unteer luncheon. It was held at Chopsticks and about 60 people attended.

We are going to have a flea market in March, so starting in February we will be renting tables. If you want to rent a table, there will be a Good Neighbors representative in front of the Gift Shoppe on Mondays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. Table locations will be given away on a first come, first serve basis. Tables are \$15.

Entertainment for the Good Neighbor's Thursday in February will be provided by the Jesters, so come on out. It is going to be a lot of fun.

In March, we are going to have

Opera Tampa on stage for Good Neighbors' Thursday. You don't want to miss that show. Opera Tampa was originally scheduled for February, but we had to make a switch.

If you want to have an Easter Sunrise Service, someone has to step up to contact the Salvation Army and make the arrangements. Good Neighbors will provide refreshments, and the Entertainment Committee will provide flowers. But neither group will be handling the arrangements. If no one steps up, the service will not take place!

Have a great month. I will see you at the East Activity Center.

### Opera Tampa coming to OTOW in March

On Top of the World News reported in January that Opera Tampa would be performing for Good Neighbors during the Thursday morning "meet your neighbors" program.

However, due to a scheduling conflict, Opera Tampa was moved to a new date in March. Music fans who attended the January program, did get to see "VOICEexperience" in its place. See the March newspaper for more details.

### Building reps needed

Good Neighbors is looking for building representatives from every On Top of the World building.

If your building does not already have a representative, and you would like to volunteer, please call Debbie at 946-3968.

There will be a meeting of all building representatives at 10 a.m., Friday, Feb. 7 in the East Activity Center Starlite Room.

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is Almost Here!



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**THE BAKERY**

# Rehearsals winding down for February show, so now is time to purchase advanced tickets

By Marvin Flam

It's finally showtime!

After six months of dedicated work, the Jesters are wrapping up the final rehearsals for their 35th annual musical variety show, "Fifty Shades-The Musical Mystery."

The show's performances are Friday and Saturday Feb. 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m.

The audience will be treated to singing, dancing and comedy performed by their friends and neighbors who are On Top of the World residents. The Jesters do not bring in outsiders to perform in, or provide sup-



port for the show.

This year's show will showcase great moments and familiar music produced in movies over the past 100 years. The audience will relive these moments, recognize the music, and enjoy the terrific Jester cast perfor-

mances.

And there is also a murder mystery! Who done it?

As events unfold, watch our lead detective, first sargeant and famous movie detective solve the case.

The show is a fast-paced musical and murder mystery that will leave everyone excited and upbeat.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, at the Good Neighbors get-acquainted meeting, the Jesters will be represented by several cast members performing numbers from previous Jester shows.

This meeting is free to all OTOW residents. In addition, Good Neigh-

bors will provide free coffee and donuts, and a drawing will take place to give away free prizes.

So come and enjoy the morning and be treated to all of this. It all starts at 9:30 a.m.

"Fifty Shades - The Musical Mystery" general admission tickets are \$5. Tickets for all three shows can be purchased from Jester members or by visiting the East Activity Center auditorium on Monday and Thursday mornings, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Don't miss this fun weekend of OTOW talent.

Let's get together:  
"JEST FOR FUN"

## New large-print and regular-print books

By Katy Gerritt

The new year has brought many of our Snowbirds back, and we are so happy to welcome them to the new library!

We started the month with our First Friday Sale and had a great response. Not only did we sell many books, but we have also received lots of donations!

Thanks to all of you as your donations and our book sales have helped support the purchase of new books.

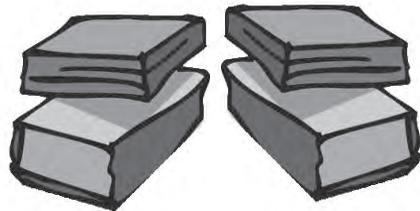
We have also separated out large-print hardbound sale books and placed them together on the top shelf.

We also have several biographies on the top shelf for sale.

Membership renewal time is here. Please see us about your new 2014 card which is still only \$2 a year. What a deal!

We have several new books arriving in large print. They are:

- "Dark Witch" by Nora Roberts
- "Gods of Guilt" by Michael Connelly
- "Hunted" by Karen Robards,
- "Big Sky Secrets" by Linda Lael Miller
- "Robert B. Parker's Bull River" by Robert Knott
- "Standup Guy" by Stuart Woods



### OPEN HOURS

**Mondays 9 am-noon**  
**Wednesdays & Fridays**  
**Noon-3 p.m.**

### Library News

• "The Longest Ride" by Nicholas Sparks.

In regular print we have

- "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd
- "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak
- "The Valley of Amazement" by Amy Tan
- "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt

We welcome the opening of the Good Karma Cafe in the old library space. This will give our readers a place to relax, read and have a snack.

Feb. 7 will be the next First Friday Sale so come in and visit with us.



## On Top of the World Computer Club

[www.otowcc.com](http://www.otowcc.com)

### Classes, Presentations, Problem Solving One-on-One Assistance

We hold a business session, presentations, and advanced and beginners classes every Saturday morning from 8:30-10 a.m. in the East Activity Center main card room.

We help members with hardware and software issues from 9-10 a.m., Monday mornings, no appointments necessary, or you can schedule an appointment from 9-10 a.m., Tuesday-Thursday.

We will help any member with Windows XP or Windows 7 instruction from 9-10 a.m., on Fridays. Our club offers free Wi-Fi in the EAC, and a computer equipment recycling service to members for a small, modest fee.

The computer lab is located opposite the large card room. By joining our club, you can ask all your computer questions in a relaxed, friendly environment, and your questions may help others with similar situations. You are also encouraged to share your own past computer experiences - both good and bad.

**Don't miss the Theater Season Preview on pages 32 and 33**

# Line dance icon Ira Weisburd coming to On Top of the World for special event

Life can take some unexpected turns. Dreams shatter and certainties vanish. What really defines us is how we adapt to those changes.

Ira Weisburd, one of the world's most prolific line dance choreographers, was an introverted 19-year-old pre-med student at the University of Miami when a pretty face changed his life and his future forever.

It was a full-heart crush that Ira had for one of his fellow students in 1972 that pulled his nose out of his medical books and launched him on a collision course with the dance world, first locally and then internationally.

The young lady, who was the subject of Ira's affection, asked him to accompany her to an Israeli Folk dance. He sat and watched, feeling awkward and clumsy, but feminine persuasion finally coaxed him out onto the floor where he discovered that, not only did he love the music, but he could actually dance.

Ira joined the club and a few months later was thrust into the position of president of the University of Miami International Folk Dance Club when the current leader moved away.

The romance that triggered Ira's change of direction ultimately faded, but his love for dance flourished.

That was more than 40 years ago, and now, at 60, Ira and his lovely wife, Diane, live the dream of making a living while brightening lives, traveling the world and enjoying great music and dance.

The 1970s in Florida was a booming era with exponential growth and real estate opportunities galore.

The huge influx of retirees and seniors, bent on escaping the snow, created a market for what Ira calls the birth of active adult lifestyle communities, like our own.

Opportunists built thousands of apartments and homes, selling some for as little as \$8,000.

Ira discovered that he had found his true calling and, to his father's dis-



Line dance instructors Ira Weisburd and Dolly Foland.

(Photo by Ed Foland)

may, dropped his masters degree to teach Israeli folk and line dancing.

Dance-starved communities in the Miami area begged him to come and teach dances to their stir crazy residents. Some offered him a whopping fee of \$1 per class.

Ira resisted, because his one hour commute would eat up most of the massive profits. But, as we know, seniors are not easily dissuaded, and Ira was soon the instructor for communities like Century Village in Deerfield Beach, Fl., where he has been teaching since 1974.

Word spread like wild fire and soon Ira was a full-time instructor teaching in many similar communities all over South Florida.

From the days of jotting choreography on paper napkins to the wonder that is YouTube, Ira has basked in the joy that his line dances have brought to thousands of dancers around the world.

Single for most of his life, Ira understands how singles feel and sees line dancing as an ideal dance form for them.

As line dancing grew in popularity, the competition for space on the dance floor between the ballroom couples and the single line dancers caused a few, shall we say, hiccups. Ultimately line dancers were given equal space, much to the chagrin of the couples.

Ira and his wife of two years, Diane, are not only dance lovers, but dog

## FEB. 18

lovers as well, and it was their dogs that originally brought them together when Diane sat for Ira.

Now that Ira's dances enjoy worldwide popularity, travel opportunities abound.

Diane is faced with the agonizing decision of accompanying her husband or enjoying life with their dog and all the community amenities and activities in the community where they are building their new home.

On Feb 18, the On Top of the World Line Dancers have opened their Tuesday afternoon class in the East Activity Center to accommodate the large number of folks Ira attracts.

The dance floor, which has resonated with so much great music and dancing over the years, will once again reverberate with beautiful tunes and tapping toes.

Many of the people who have signed up for Ira's workshop will meet him for the first time, but Snowbirds Club line dance instructor Dolly Foland is not one of those people. Not only has she met Ira before, but she has also done a flash mob dance with him to his blockbuster line dance, S.B.S. Shuffle Boogie Soul.

Dolly, and the rest of the Snowbirds Club line dancers, are thrilled to join with the OTOW Line Dancers in hosting Ira and Diane.

If you like to line dance or to watch line dancing, join us on Feb 18 from 1-5 p.m. Tickets are only \$15, in part, because of Ira's generosity and also his proximity to OTOW.

This could be a once in a lifetime opportunity for residents to watch and learn from one of the world's leading choreographers.

You can buy tickets at line dancing events on Tuesday afternoons, Thursday mornings and Saturday mornings.

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# 2014 board vows to make safety a priority



## Fixers Club

By Doug Erickson

This is the fifth installation of the Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers Club's Executive Board since the reorganization of our management style.

Each year the incoming president and vice-president bring new ideas and direction. By limiting leadership roles to one year, commitments are made to do the best for their term.

Joe Miranda, the 2014 president, has plans to continue efforts to make the shop safer, healthier and cleaner.

To this end, supervisors will be on duty for all hours of operation and will focus on those features. They also will be able to assist, or get assistance, on equipment use and maintenance.

Summer hours will be reduced in order to provide supervision. Members having the skills, and who have proven their reliability, will be able to arrange for exclusive use of the shop.

John Koning, vice-president, says "2014 promises to be an exciting year for the Fixers Club with the arrival of our mini lathe, for turning exotic pens, and the wood carving course to be taught by carver Brian Prime. The young and active group of ladies who have joined recently



Pictured above, in the front row, left to right, are Jim Calamas, Steve Stiefler and John Koning. In the back row are Ray Tabor, Earl Shettle, Steve Sutton, Joe Miranda and Doug Erickson. (Photo by Joyce Monahan)

will make a positive impact on our club."

The charitable aspect of our club continues by making toys for Good Neighbors to distribute. Upwards of 2,000 are made each year. That num-

ber will grow as more members are invited to participate.

We will also be giving surplus hand tools to a new program, "Tools for Missions." Come and see us if you would like to donate.

The skills our members have, and are developing, along with their pride in the toy shop and wood shop, assures us of an on-going vibrant club.

For more information go to [www.fixersfiddlersandfumblers.com](http://www.fixersfiddlersandfumblers.com)

## Every spring song will have a number in it

By Ilene Bargerstock

What is your lucky number?

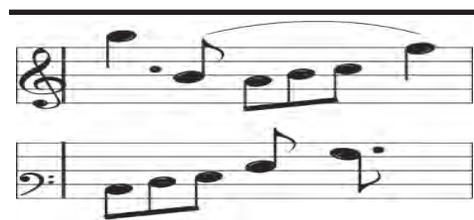
Mine is four.

Well, actually, it's three fours (444).

In the Western Pennsylvania coal-mining town where I was born and raised, the company-owned houses did not have numbers.

Finally, during my high school years, we moved into a borough with numbered houses and ours was 444.

While I do not consider myself to be superstitious, it's uncanny the many



### Chorus

times I look at a digital timepiece at exactly 4:44. It may be on my wristwatch, a clock in the house, or car.

What does all this have to do with

the On Top of the World Chorus?

The title of our upcoming spring concert is "Music by the Numbers."

Every song will have a number in the title. Maybe one of them will be your lucky number and bring a smile to your face!

For my fellow, former, coal town residents, the men will be singing "Sixteen Tons" and we know all about that.

It's been said that "one" is the loneliest number.

So make plans to get together with

some of your friends and neighbors and join us for an evening of fun and music by the numbers on March 29 and 30.

Look for more details in the next edition of On Top of the World News.

If you enjoy singing choral music, please come and sit-in at one of our rehearsals Mondays, 10-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center large card room, and Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. in the EAC auditorium. Perhaps you'll be inspired to join us!

**You can enter your pet in our Pet of the Month contest by dropping off a colorful photo and a brief summary of why your pet deserves Pet of the Month recognition. Drop photo and summary off at the newsroom. Only one pet per household eligible each year.**

# Our show is a real tribute to the USO

By Lilli Scheifen

It's February already and St. Valentine's Day is upon us once again.

Don't forget that special someone – even something small could be appreciated if it comes from the heart!

Our hearts and minds are gearing up for our show, "Swingin' With the USO." It seems we hear more and more about the USO lately, and that makes us proud to be honoring such a great organization.

Our servicemen and women give of themselves so we can enjoy the freedom of living here in the wonderful United States of America.



## Theater Workshop

Our songs, dances and skits are progressing nicely. We have a fun group, and it is a pleasure to rehearse

and see the finished product coming to the fore.

Our piano player, Bob Groves, who was recommended by Barbara Hynson, is doing great, and it is no mean feat to help us find the right pitch for our songs. We can't thank him enough for his patience and good humor.

There are also some new members to our cast who are a fine addition to our club and will help make our shows even better.

Then there are our regular standbys without whom we couldn't keep on keeping on.

We rehearse every Monday and Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. at the East Activity Center.

So come on down in March and enjoy our tribute to the USO. Our shows are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m. We hope to see you there, and your cheers and applause are appreciated.

Don't forget to stop and visit our table every Monday and Thursday at the East Activity Center, 8:30-10:30 a.m. We will provide you with information about our club and tickets for our upcoming shows.

## Got a box of old stamps?

The start of a newly-anticipated season has begun to the delight of the On Top of the World stamp collector's group.

Our first meeting of the new year was held on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Great new finds and accumulations were the highlights of the meeting. Many items were available to fill needed spaces in our albums.

We are looking forward to our next meeting. It should bring even more participation. So come join us in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room on the third Tuesday of every month from 1-3 p.m.

Bring that box of stamps or albums so we can work on them together.

Upcoming meeting dates are Feb. 18, March 18, April 15 and May 20.

For more information, call Jim Sundberg at 847-951-2284.



## Stamp Club

## Parade set for March 8

## One fabulous concert down, another fabulous concert to go!

By Mary Skaarer

Our 2014 season got off to a great start with our first Irish concert on Jan. 10 by our favorite, and long-time performer, Cahal Dunne, "Ireland's Happy Man."

He gave us an outstanding performance, entertaining a large audience with his gifted music and wonderful song.

He also doubles as a comedian, as his many jokes had the crowd breaking their sides with laughter.

Cahal's performance shows he is a superb entertainer.

Please mark your calendars for an upcoming concert on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. in the East Activity Center. The concert will feature another wonderful entertainer, Ken McBride, "Ireland's Phantom of the Opera."

We look forward to another great show and Ken has promised an outstanding performance. You don't want to miss Ken's concert, so purchase your tickets early for a better choice of seats. Ticket sales have been brisk for this event.

March will be a fun-filled month for our club with the following events on tap:

Parade meetings are held every other Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the computer room at the East Activity Center.



## Irish Club

Please come and join us to share your ideas, because an event like this brings all our volunteers together. Your help is greatly appreciated.

The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place 10 a.m., Saturday, March 8 on World Parkway Boulevard.

The annual St. Patrick's Dinner Dance will be held at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, March 12, in the EAC. The dance will star "Sharon and Pat."

Sharon shares her wonderful voice in song while Pat plays his famous accordion.

Guests will dine on a menu of traditional corned beef and cabbage, and a second entrée of chicken with all the trimmings - Bon Appetite!

Purchase your tickets early to secure a good table.

All tickets for our events are on sale 8:30-10:30 a.m., every Monday and Thursday in the EAC - just look for the Irish Club!

## February will be full of horse play

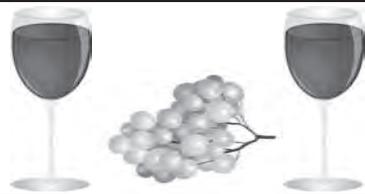
By Jerry Kaplano

It's hard to believe we are already going into our second month of 2014!

So enjoy yourselves - that's what I will try to do.

There are still a limited number of seats available for our Feb. 14 trip to Tampa Bay Downs with the New York/New Jersey Club. The tickets are \$22 which includes admission, program and buffet luncheon. As always, tickets are available at the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings.

Our next meeting will be Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. There will be coffee, followed



## Italian American

by "Night at the Races." You will have a choice of Italian or American sandwiches.

Cost for members is \$5 and non-members is \$6.

Hope to see you there.

**Next Press Association meeting is  
1:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 6 in the EAC Large Card**

# Travel Club to take in Neil Simon play this month

By Pat Zorland

December 2013 is now just an after thought, but our trip to New Orleans still lingers on the minds of all who went.

Now that all the holidays and parties are behind us, the Travel Club will try to put together a date when we can gather as a group and view all of the photos taken by our wonderful photographers.

Our January 2014 meeting started off with a bang. With so many members in attendance, it was decided to let everyone come in, pay their dues, sign up for trips, and visit with one another.

Our president, Audrey Jones, called the meeting to order. All the reports, and old and new business, were taken care of, then it was on to current



## Travel Club

events.

On Dec. 20, 2013, a few of our club members took a bus trip to the Straz Center for an afternoon performance of the Radio City Rockettes in a New York City Christmas Spectacular.

Members arrived early enough to have a nice lunch before the show started.

I lived and worked in New York City for many years and this show

brought back so many wonderful memories. I think I will put it on my bucket list to return to visit the Big Apple again.

We are now in the planning stages for the 2014 year. Our calendar will cover day and overnight trips, and maybe even a mystery trip or two.

So far, on Feb. 15, we will be going for lunch at 1 p.m. and taking in a play written by Neil Simon called "Rumors," 2:30 p.m. at a new company called the "Sun Coast Star Playhouse."

Then on March 19 we will visit the Citrus Winery, followed by the Sun-coast Bird Sanctuary.

Hopefully, in April, there will be a trip to New York City.

In October we are planning a trip to San Antonio, and in November we

will visit the Biltmore Estates in Asheville, N.C.

The Lunch Bunch has two lunches planned. The first will be in February and the second in March.

Please come to our monthly meetings to hear all about the lunch trips and sign up to attend. Roxie will present a full description of restaurants, including where they are located and what items are on the menu.

Remember, our monthly meetings are always on the first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

You can always find us on Mondays and Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center. Stop by, say hello, and check out what is new and exciting with the Travel Club.



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## Morning exercise party



You may recognize some of us from our morning exercise class. We get up early every morning to start our day off with a few laughs as Carol Babini leads us in line dancing. At 8 a.m. we begin with a cardio workout, followed by Julie Narancich's or Sheila Bonomo's zumba class! So by the time we head home to shower, grab a bite to eat, and head out the door again, most of you are just getting out of bed! On Jan. 17 we enjoyed the fruits of our labor by inviting our husbands and friends to join us in a get together. These exercise chicks outdid themselves by bringing their favorite recipes to share. We had plenty of adult beverages. Needless to say, we had to work extra hard the next mornings.

## Lake cruise, dog races, theater show highlight month of February activities

By Walt Copeland

Our trip to Fort Myers was wonderful.

The shows were great – and the food ... I gained 10 pounds in just two days.

Our next meeting will be on Feb. 6 at 10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Starlite Room.

On Friday Feb. 7, we'll celebrate Ground Hog Day at 5 p.m. with a catered dinner, entertainment and door prizes. Cost is \$18.

On Monday, Feb. 3 and 4, we'll travel the Florida Backroads and Waterways to Lake Okeechobee. Our cruise will include meals and an optional trip to a Hard Rock Casino.

On Thursday, Feb. 6, we'll have a membership meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Starlite Room.

On Saturday, Feb. 8, we'll enjoy an



### Pennsylvania Club

afternoon at the dog races by bus for a matinee buffet. The \$38 cost includes admission, program, buffet, tips and taxes. Reservations are filling up fast.

On Friday, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, we'll celebrate with a visit to the Early Bird Dinner Theater for a buffet, followed by a delightful comedy. Cost is \$35. Transportation is not included.

On March 6, we have our membership meeting in the EAC at 10:30 a.m.

On March 10, at 7 a.m., we'll depart by bus for five days in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. We'll go to Dollywood, the Dixie Stampede Show, Smokey Mountain Opry and Harrah's Casino. Cost is \$699 per person, double occupancy, or \$859 single.

On March 23, we're going to the Victory Ship Casino at Port Canaveral for an afternoon gambling cruise, featuring a buffet, free drinks while gambling, entertainment, and \$20 free play - all this for \$39, including the round trip bus.

You don't want to miss this trip; it's a steal.

March 25 is our annual picnic at Philippe Park, Shelter 2 at noon. We'll have a super catered meal, followed by free bingo with prizes, and a putting contest.

On April 3 we'll have our mem-

bership meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Starlite Room.

From April 7 – 11, we depart for the famous Lake Lanier Resort in Georgia for eight meals, several shows, a gold mine, and a visit to the Hofbau House. Cost is \$599 per person, double occupancy, or \$749 single.

On Easter Sunday, April 20, we'll dine at the Early Bird Dinner Theater for a sumptuous buffet and an enjoyable comedy. Cost is \$35 including tax and tip.

On Friday, April 25, it will be our end-of-the-season-party. It will be catered with entertainment and door prizes. Time will be 5 p.m., and the cost is \$12. (The club will subsidize our shortage.)

Our membership is open to all residents of On Top of the World - not just Pennsylvanians.

# You could be cutting a gem right now



## Lapidary

By Penny Page

A lot of folks ask me what we do in Lapidary.

I looked up the definition of lapidary in the dictionary and it said “one who cuts, polishes or engraves stones.”

Pretty simple explanation, but if you belong to our club, you will find it is a lot more. We invite you to stop in and find out for yourself.

Charlie Fuhr, our instructor, has been teaching for the past six years.

Charlie has been in the business for 45 years. He has worked as an independent contractor cutting for jewelers in Michigan and Florida.

I asked Charlie why he volunteers as our instructor and he said, “because I like the joy people get when they finish their stones, have them set and see the finished product.”

Students only need to have the desire to learn.

Most students start out cutting glass and progress to synthetics and natural stones. One of our students, Nielson Sabadin, has been cutting stones for a year and has cut at least a



Charlie Fuhr works on a project right here in the On Top of the World lapidary room.

dozen. He told me, “When I am in lapidary, I forget about everything else.”

Nielson’s last project was a replica

of the Taylor-Burton Diamond!

Lapidary meets on Mondays and Thursdays, from 9 a.m. to noon,

downstairs in the East Activity Center.

Dues are \$25 for the year. Stop by for a tour of the shop.

## Spring chorus concert - March 29 and March 30

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# Dress code is 'red' for Valentine's party

By Dave Beaven

Can you feel the love?

Well, hopefully you will this month as Valentine's Day is in the middle of it!

This is a month for flowers, chocolates and greeting cards. And that's what we will have at our social this month on Friday, February 14 at 7 p.m. in the Large Card Room of the East Activity Center.

It's a Red Party!

Dress code will be wear red, of course. There will be some love songs playing in the background as you come in. Head over to the bar for some Love Potion Number 9. And don't forget to pick up a valentine. One of them will



## Lambda

be a lucky card that wins a door prize.

Members will be encouraged to bring in romantic treats for refreshments. This will be the perfect place to celebrate with your significant other.

Or, if you're single, you might meet someone new. You never know.

Thanks to all for making last

month special. Our Café Calypso social drew a good crowd and brought a flavor of the islands right here to On Top of the World.

We decided against the Limbo Dance, though. There was no need to throw anyone's back out even worse!

Last month saw another successful coffee klatch - some coffee, some cake, some chit-chat. It's a great way for our members to get to know each other.

Lambda is a social club for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) residents of OTOW. We are an informal group that gets together for various activities. Regular events include monthly socials, dine-outs, and coffee

klatches. Also, we have a group, the Mall Walkers, which meets weekly to walk at Countryside Mall for an hour.

We look to expand our circle to all LGBT residents in the OTOW community, and we also welcome participation by other OTOW residents who would like to meet their gay neighbors. There are people from many different backgrounds and areas here at OTOW. Lambda Club is just one more reflection of that fact.

If you are interested in finding out more about the club, visit our webpage: <http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com>. You can contact us by e-mail at [lambdaclw@yahoo.com](mailto:lambdaclw@yahoo.com) or call Dave at 727-410-7566.



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# Bethyl and Bob Mayer: Autumn bloomers

Bethyl and Bob Mayer share a diverse past, an idyllic present and a bright future

There is a perceptive quote from author Susan Gayle that goes like this:

"In the garden of life, late bloomers are especially beautiful."

Bethyl and Bob Mayer are a couple of late bloomers. If you read on, you'll understand the accuracy of Susan's words.

While Bethyl and Bob had intriguing childhoods, their accomplishments seem to multiply as their lives progress.

Bethyl is the great-grand-daughter of a Mormon polygamist who was imprisoned during Utah's transition to statehood when he refused to give up any of his four wives.

When Bethyl was in her teens in Phoenix, Ariz., she had a brief friendship with a guy who played music in a local bar. She was too young to get into the bar, so she sat outside in the car. Her friend would come outside on his breaks to chat. That friend was Marty Robbins before his rise to fame.

While many young ladies would gladly give up their right arm, or their little brother, to have such a friend, Bethyl saw it as no big deal.

No big deal?

Maybe that's because Bethyl's life is defined by so much more.

She has realized many accomplishments during a season of life when most folks are coasting into retirement and winding down.

Bethyl finished a bachelor's degree in Classical Archeology at age 58.

She can take credit for identifying one piece of a mummy coffin in the Albany Institute of History and Art as belonging to Ankhefenmut, an Egyptian priest of the 21st dynasty, and linking it to other parts of the coffin, one in London and another in Vienna.

If you had visited the On Top of the World Craft Fair, you would have seen some of Bethyl's latest accomplishments.

She is a talented photographer, who loves to bring out the natural beauty found within the gates of our community and in Pinellas county.

She has found another outlet for her creativity by making thematic shadow-boxes using her neighbor, Brian's, cast off wooden cigar boxes.



Bethyl and Bob Mayer share a diverse past, an idyllic present and a bright future.

**Getting to Know You**

A monthly feature about the people in your  
On Top of the World community

by John Koning

Bethyl also documents the adventures of her grandchildren and her outings with On Top of the World buddies Joy and Char by crafting elaborate and interesting photo books.

Now let's talk about Bob.

If you happen to meet Bob for the first time at one of his beloved line dancing classes, you might get the wrong impression of this man, whose dance technique could be described as a cross between Fred Astaire and a baby giraffe taking it's first steps.

In stark contrast to Bethyl's rural Utah childhood, Bob was raised as Catholic in a Jewish neighborhood in the Bronx, N.Y.

He was cared for by his Hungarian grandmother while his parents worked.

At age 55 he retired from a ca-

reer in New York State government and immediately launched into his second career teaching English as a second language.

Bob got his masters degree around the time he retired and convinced Bethyl to move to Barcelona, Spain. It didn't take any convincing really. Bethyl sold the house and her antique business and joined Bob for their European adventure.

After two years in Barcelona, Bob told Bethyl of his desire to return stateside to get his doctorate. She was supportive, as usual, and just plain Bob became Dr. Bob at age 61.

A prestigious Fullbright Fellowship followed and they were off to Slovenia for a year followed by another two in Budapest, Hungary.

If you think language was a problem for Bob, think again. Do

you remember Bob's Hungarian grandmother who cared for him as a child? That linguistic past paid off in spades!

Budapest was not the end of Bob's teaching career by any stretch. He and Bethyl returned home and he continued teaching at the University of New York at Albany until he was well into his 70s.

Bob regards himself as a perpetual student, delving into the kind of intellectual reading that would induce a coma in most of us. However, the love of learning is not the sum of the man. He is a hopeless billiards addict and he brings his flamboyant line dancing style to classes on both sides of Belcher Road.

A word to the wise, keep your distance from Bob's flailing limbs when the music starts. Bethyl got too close during a folk dance and paid for it with a sprained wrist. Despite his variable style scores, Bob gets straight A's for enthusiasm.

After 44 years of marriage, 85-year-old Bob and 81-year-old Bethyl can regularly be seen walking hand in hand next to Arbor Lake and talking about their next adventure.

# 2014 OTOWW T



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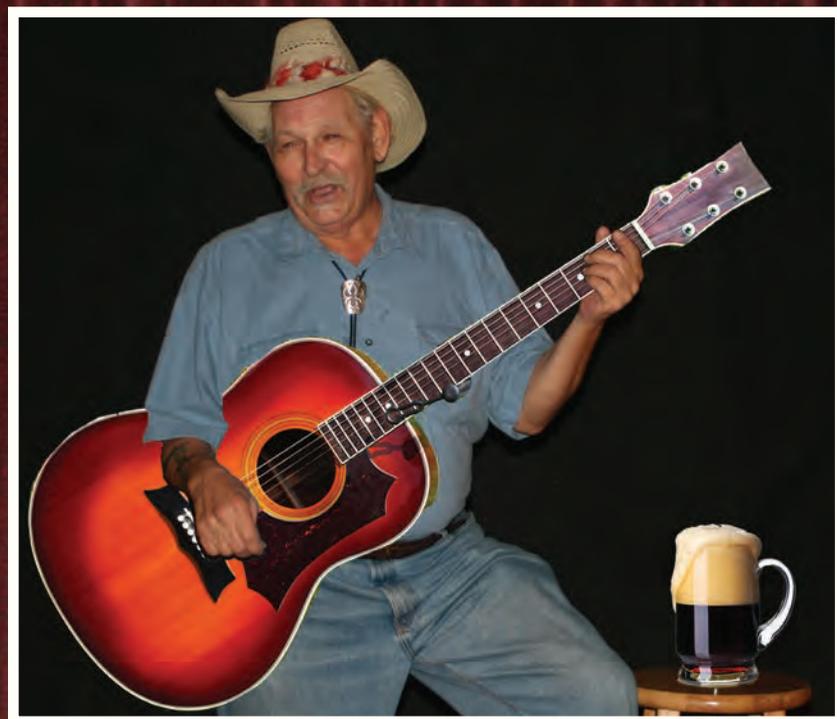
Tickets for both club shows are on sale from 8:30-10:30 a.m., M

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# 370 years of family history shared at January meeting

By Anne Watkins

We had very special entertainment in January when Dolores Rollins told us of her French-Canadian background, then sang songs in French and played the spoons, all accompanied by husband James on the accordion.

James even made cookies for us, so it was quite a treat from start to finish!

Dolores' family moved to Quebec about 1642, a time of constant war in Europe, during the reign of Louis XIV, whose court was at Versailles.

It was a time of migration to the New World, and two brothers Chretien came to Canada.

Dolores' line remained there until 1909, when they migrated to Maine to work in the woolen mills and at farming. The women, as well as the men, worked the mills, and one female member of the family became quite deaf from the incessant clatter of the machinery there.

Family life was close in the Catholic French Canadian communities. Young newlyweds traditionally stayed with their parents for a couple of years until they were sufficiently stable to go



## Family History

out on their own. Sunday dinners at grandma's included all her offspring and their offspring as well.

Dolores found, quite by chance, what happened to the other brother, who originally came from France. When she and Jim were in New Orleans, they found the other brother's cotton plantation, which was still in the family after all this time. That Chretien brother had once owned as many as 200 slaves.

By the late 1800s, the original house had become a barn, but has since been restored, and is now, what else, but a bed and breakfast!



Jim and Dolores Rollins entertained the club with old-fashioned spoon playing and accordion music.

Our next meeting will be a field trip for members to the Safety Harbor Museum on Tuesday, Feb. 11, followed in March by a return to our regular meeting time of the second Monday of the month.



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# Hoosier Club welcomes fourth president

By Nancy House

The Hoosier Club installed new officers for 2014-2016.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, Nancy House, a charter club member, became the fourth president to serve the club membership.

The first club president was Bonnie Rice, followed by Cathy Faulkner and Mary Beth Hufty.

Nancy, the newly-elected president, expressed her gratitude for the quality leadership of former presidents.



## Hoosier Club

Patty Dominguez began her two-year term as vice president with Jerry Rice continuing as treasurer. Dan Hyden will complete his term as secretary in the coming year.

All club members and guests can look forward to a bowling outing at AMF Bowling Alleys and dinner together at Kally K's on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

A trip to the Tampa Bay Downs is in the planning stages and will be presented at the upcoming meeting.

The next general meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4, in the East Activity Center craft room.

All residents of OTOW are encouraged to join the club, but if you are a Snowbird from Indiana, it's a must for you to join this group.

Two years ago, Wade Candler stated, "The Hoosier Club facilitates interaction with other members through fellowship and scheduled activities."

When questioned, he noted that he still feels this to be true.

Since he and his wife, Phyllis, moved to OTOW permanently in 2012, the Hoosier Club has provided them with many activities, where they can meet new friends.

Everyone is encouraged to come experience some Hoosier warmth and hospitality.

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*This list could change monthly.*



## Philosophy Club

# Express your views

By Bob Reis

Our club is currently enjoying presentations, which are followed by a question and answer period.

The discussions give you the opportunity to express your own views.

We also have "Open Discussion" meetings. With this format you have the opportunity to suggest a topic of special interest to you.

Join us on any Tuesday. You don't have to be a member of our club to attend. You're welcome even if you just want to listen, Tuesdays 10-11:30 AM, East Activity Center Veranda. Any questions? Call Bob Reis at 798-2443.

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# ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

## Concerts, bands, dances arrive in February and 'Flashback' is already booked for New Year's Eve '14

Wow!

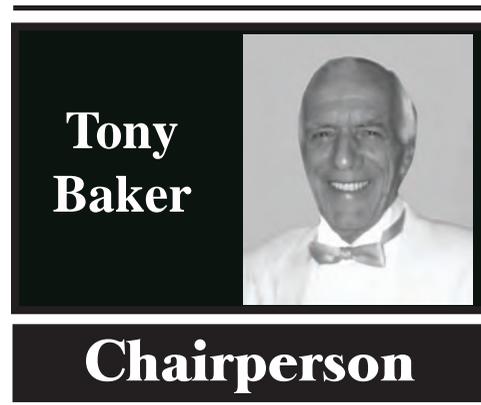
What a fabulous New Year's party we had in the East Activity Center.

The band, "Flashback," did a wonderful job, and judging by the feedback from people who attended, everybody had a great time.

Ladies wore their beautiful dresses. Men wore their suits and tuxedos. The fabulous attire made this such a special occasion.

And ... in case you're curious ... we have already booked "Flashback" for New Year's Eve 2014, so get your tickets early.

The On Top of the World Entertainment Committee has a great lineup for you in 2014. On Feb. 6, we start off with our first concert, with Jimmy Tra-



vis, who is a great performer. Jimmy mixes comedy with his very talented musical skills.

On Saturday, Feb. 8, we have the Suncoast Band, which will surely get you up and dancing to a variety of

music.

Jerry Chase, will be your Sunday-In-The-Park entertainer on Feb. 9. Jerry is a local man, whose father lives right here at OTOW.

Your next concert will be on Feb. 20 and will feature Vinnie Talarico. This performer uses so much energy, and sings Pop and Opera. Last year he put on a fabulous show for our residents.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, we will have a dance hosted by The Travelers band – a very talented group of musicians who specialize in '50s, '60s and '70s music, and will play special requests for your pleasure.

On Feb. 23, Sunday-In-The-Park will feature Carlo, who was here a

couple of years ago and was very well received by our residents.

Last, but not least, on Friday, Feb. 28, we have a cabaret you don't want to miss. We have Sonny LaRosa's Jazz Band, the youngest jazz band in America. These kids are great musicians, who have played all over America, including Las Vegas. This event is set up with tables and it's BYOB. Tickets are \$10 apiece, so book a full table early for your friends. Book quickly so you can sit with friends.

Tickets for all the events listed above are available from 8:30-10:30 a.m., Monday and Thursday mornings, in the East Activity Center.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

On Top of the World welcomed

The Marlins to the East Activity Center auditorium in early January.

The Marlins performed a variety of past favorites.

(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)



# ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



2014 ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE – TONY BAKER, CHAIR

## FEBRUARY 2014

For information call (727) 474-2999

<p><b>THUR</b> <b>6</b></p>		<p>Thursday Night Concert Series - 7:30pm - \$15</p> <h3>Jimmy Travis</h3> <p><i>Multi-talented with hilarious comedy and upbeat music</i></p>
<p><b>SAT</b> <b>8</b></p>	<p>Saturday Night Dance - 8pm - \$10 at the door</p> <h3>The SunCoast Band</h3> <p><i>Tampa's longest running high energy variety show</i></p>	
<p><b>SUN</b> <b>9</b></p>		<p>Sunday-In-The-Park - 2pm - Free</p> <h3>Jerry Chase</h3> <p>An accomplished singer &amp; musician with a large repertoire</p>
<p><b>THUR</b> <b>20</b></p>	<p>Thursday Night Concert Series - 7:30pm - \$15</p> <h3>Vinnie Talarico</h3> <p>Awesome singer, musician, and entertainer</p>	
<p><b>SAT</b> <b>22</b></p>	<p><i>Sounds of the 60s</i></p> 	<p>Saturday Night Dance - 8pm - \$10 at the door</p> <h3>The Travelers</h3> <p>Golden Oldies, especially from the 60's era</p>
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>28</b></p>	<p>Friday Night Cabaret - 7:30 and \$10</p> <h3>Sonny LaRosa</h3> <p>America's youngest and talented jazz band</p>	

### PREVIEW OF MARCH EVENTS

- March 6 - Lola and The Saints - Concert
- March 8 - Bitter Sweet - Dance
- March 9 - Carlo Lovasco - Sunday-In-The-Park
- March 20 - John Denver Tribute - Concert
- March 22 - Rebound - Dance

Tickets on Sale  
Mondays & Thursdays  
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## Be prepared before you arrive at the golf course, this includes checking the outdoor temperature

By Pete Milner

Our new officers for 2014 are all set to bring to you a fun season with fun play and hopefully some good weather for golf.

There hasn't been a lot of activity in recent weeks due to the holidays, but by the time you read this, we will have had our annual meeting and our agenda will be set.

There are a few things I would like to go over at the beginning of our season. Things you should remember. For instance, in the future, refer to the weather report on Bay News 9 in the Suncoast area for the temperature. If

### Men's Golf

the temperature is below 42 degrees, there will be no league on that day. Remember though, you must come to the golf course and sign up for the next week before 10 a.m.

On days when there is league golf, you must sign in at least 30 minutes before your tee time. Please don't let your tee time go to someone else because you are 10 minutes too late.

It was voted on last year at our 2013 annual meeting that no push

carts (manual or electric) or driving golf cart is to be within 30 feet of the green. Please don't let your golf privileges be revoked. These are OTOW golf course rules.

Please check the scoreboard next to the 19th hole for announcements of upcoming dates and schedules for coming events. Check the scoreboard either after golf or on Thursdays for next week's tee times. Our crack staff usually has the scheduling done shortly after play. You can also check behind the scoreboard on the side of the 19th hole for your posted handicap and winnings.

Check out our treasurer's winter

hat. For all those who read this article to the end, tell me what color it is when you pay your dollar for next week's play.

Our officers for 2014 are as follows: Lester Whynot - president; Marcus Schell - president-elect; Russ Caughey - treasurer; Pete Milner - secretary; Jay Schwallie - trustee three years; Ken Nield - trustee two years; and Jim O'Neil - trustee one year.

If you would like to volunteer to help in the shack or as a starter, please speak to Jack Yorkery.

Good luck on the golf course and enjoy the time with your fellow golfers.

## Guys and Dolls night ends in a 3-way playoff

By Joe Ventimiglia

The On Top of the World Billiards Club and Que' T Billiards Club combined for a Guys and Dolls Scotch Doubles Tournament on Jan. 16 and when regulation play ended, some winners were still not decided.

Twenty-four players made up 12 teams from the east side and 12 teams from the west side.

The west side decided to play a little longer.

Three teams were in a dead heat for the top three places and a playoff had to take place to decide the order of finish. In the end, Joe Ventimiglia and Rashanee Turner took first place, Nick Sapienza and Ellen Frederick took second place and John Fier and Mary Spearman took third place.

The east side tournament had a more organized finish and did not need a playoff. The first place team was Howard Wilson and Terry Wittman. The second place team was Joe Doire and Alice McCullough. The third place team was Ian Hunter and Kay Mahoney.

Tony Esposito was the scorekeeper and Ed Solivan was the referee.

Another Guys and Dolls Tournament will take place in February, but as of press time, dates were not announced. Interested players should check the bulletin boards in the Billiards Room.



### Billiards

## Dorothy Ryan captures three wins in December

By Connie Saylor

Dorothy Ryan went 3-for-3 in Flight B action during nine-hole ladies golf league play in December.

Dorothy started the month on Dec. 3 with low score in a Three Clubs and a Putter Tournament. She edged Vayna Cormier and Char Flach for the honor.

A week later, Dorothy took first place with Anna Hyden in second place, and Marge Jacobs and Vayna Cormier tying for third.

On Dec. 17, Dorothy completed the sweep by edging Vayna Cormier for low score. Anna Hyden was third.

The following is a list of other weekly awards:

#### December 3

##### Three Clubs and a Putter

Flight A - Connie Saylor and Ellen Gilbert.

Flight C - Ginny Tousignant, Barbara Sensale, Marge Sivek, Margo Smith and Sue Liesch.

Flight D - Pat Palladino, Romy Brady, Dolly Foland, Pat Murray and Nancy House.

Anna Hyden and Jean Norris each had a birdie on No. 2.

#### December 10

##### Low Gross/Low Net

Flight A - Ann Stewart and Jean Norris.

### 9-hole Ladies Golf

Flight C - Ginny Tousignant, Verona Titus, Mary Ann O'Neil and Sue Liesch.

Flight D - Pat Palladino, Romy Brady and Nancy House.

#### December 17

##### LowGross/Low Net

Flight A - Connie Saylor and Ellen Gilbert.

Flight C - Margo Smith, Barbara Sensale, Sue Liesch and Ginny Tousignant.

Flight D - Nancy Geyer, Nancy House, Rachael Tranchemontagne and Claire Racine.

Anna Hyden had a birdie on No. 5.

#### February Schedule of Events

4-Low Gross/Low Net

11-Low Gross/Low Net Valentine Surprise

18-Low Net (Flight Tournament Week No. 1)

25-Low Net (Flight Tournament Week No. 2) (50/50)

You must play "both weeks" to qualify. Sign up no later than Feb.11 - sheet will be posted.



# SPORTS

## What does WD-40, a gorilla, hot tea and toilet paper have to do with golfing? You'll have to read ...

By Pat Eastman

What do you carry in your golf bag?

Here's what some of our members carry.

Jackie Woloszyn carries counting beads, which match her golf outfits.

Gilda Gambacurta carries two tees tied together.

Marie Belliveau carries a lucky charm from Vancouver.

Pat Eastman carries a Boston Strong wrist band.

Leora Hamm carries a photo of her adorable Yorkies, Chip Shot and Gizmo. She also carries WD-40 for fire ant bites. The WD 40 immediately takes away the sting.

Becky West has a gorilla in her bag.

Marcy Zambron carries everything in pink.

Katie Quelch brings her morning hot tea.

Sue Morse brings special smoothies.

Dottie Meissner always has toilet paper.

Pauline Jones tops them all. She brings a full course breakfast including hard boiled eggs, bananas, grapes,

### 18-hole Ladies Golf

nuts, carrots, assorted crackers and protein bars - not only for herself, but for her whole foursome.

Back to golfing...

More Tuesday highlights were recorded recently. Maria Im shot a 59 net. Fran Zaloski shot a 75 gross.

Pat Eastman shot her age -- now 66.

Brenda McLeod bettered her previous one-birdie round with a two-birdie round - birdies on No. 2 and No. 11 on her way to a nice 86.

Gwen Lemke eagled 14 with a nice chip in.

#### Upcoming events

- Feb. 3, Board meeting 9 a.m. EAC.
- Feb. 4, Jack and Jill (rain date Feb. 11.)
- Feb. 5, General meeting 9:30 WAC.
- March 10-11, Handicap tournament.
- March 26, Spring luncheon

#### Tournament winners

**Dec. 17**

Flight A Pat Eastman, Diane Gervais



Pauline Jones with some of her snacks.

(Photo by Joyce Monahan)

Flight B Katie Quelch, Linda Rice

Flight C Pauline Jones, Ada Bryant, Pat Daiziel

Flight D Ellen Fier, Maria Im

**Dec. 10**

Flight A Pat Eastman, Carole Lacey

Flight B Dot Graham, Diane Moxley

Flight C Fran Zaloski, Sherry Ivy

Flight D Brenda McLeod, Maria Im

## Ed Stenger has great December

By Marge Sivek

I am busy making new resolutions for 2014. I hope I don't break any of them.

Shuffleboard invites any new people to the shuffleboard courts on Mondays and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. We will teach you the game if you have never played before.

The following members won three games to end 2013.

Dec. 2: Ed Stenger

Dec. 5: Ed Stenger

Dec. 12: Rod Jones, Kasy Lenkewich, Ed Stenger



### Shuffleboard

Dec. 16: Kasy Linkewich, Rod Jones

Lost & Found is located in the Community Service Office



**OTOW  
Golf Tournament  
8:30 am - April 1**

All OTOW golf league members welcome.

**\$20 donation goes to  
Rally for the Cure.  
\$7 for lunch.**

This tournament is a scramble format. Forms will be sent out by email to members of the Ladies 18-Hole League. Forms will also be available at the pro shop. Entries should be returned in paper form and filled out completely in ink or pencil. There will also be raffles. This tournament benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. For more information, call Linda Rice at 669-7853.

# SPORTS

## '60s dinner dance Feb. 27

# February is for residents who love lawn bowling

By Bob Laplante

Ah February!

This is the month of love.

And no-one loves February more than the Lawn Bowl folks.

It's the month when our club hosts its annual big party, dinner dance, held in honor of past presidents.

This year's fun theme will be a wild and groovy return to the '60s with participants encouraged to contribute to the festivities by dressing in their finest garb of that decade.

You could be a flower child, peace demonstrator, a Beatle, an astronaut racing to the moon?

There is so much to choose from!

All of this is happening on Feb. 27 at the East Activity Center. The cost is only \$25 for a full meal, complimentary wine and dancing.

This event is open to all On Top of the World residents. Tickets may be purchased any morning at the Lawn Bowls Club or by contacting the event coordinator, John Wigle at 791-7527.

The Club Mixed Pairs Tourna-



Pictured above, left to right, are doubles winners Ralph Ross and Dot Graham, president Wendy Colquhoun and tournament director John Wigle.

ment was held on Jan. 10 and 13 under the coordination of John Wigle. The winners were Ralph Ross and Dot Graham. Congratulations to all who played in this rain-delayed tour-

namment.

Although the cold may discourage participants from bowling, only rain and snow cancels games. Fortunately, being in Florida, only the former be-

## Lawn Bowling

comes a factor.

We have been blessed this year with very few cancellations due to rain, (should I be mentioning this and jinx the club?), however the New Year's Levy Bowl was rained out. This did not stop the members from showing up and socializing.

It's never a waste when friends get together to ring in the New Year. This is especially so after the New Year's Eve party the evening before.

Upcoming events include the Canadian Club Tournament on Feb. 6 and 7, a Valentine's Day Fun Tournament and lunch on Feb. 13, and the 4-3-2-1 Triples Trophy Tournament on Feb. 20 and 21.

The month ends with the previously mentioned '60s Theme Dinner Dance.

Members are encouraged to sign up to play and support the coordinators in these events.

# Don Baker wins 2013 Match Play Championship

The 2013 match play championship was held over the past month, and after many close matches, four players made it to the semifinals.

Don Baker, Ron Parham, Pete Dominguez and Dutch Michael were the last golfers standing.

Don "ATM" Baker, and defending champion and resident food critic "Uncle" Ron Parham, made it to the final round.

The final match seemed to last two days. Each player had opportunities to pull ahead and the lead changed several times.

A timely birdie by Don on the seventh hole put him one ahead with one to play. Needing to win the final hole to square the match, Ron hit a great tee shot over the green but came up just short of winning the hole. Don held on to claim the 2013 match championship.

Congratulations Don!

## Thursday Golf

Weekly play continues and the week six champion was Patti Cook. Second place went to Don Baker and Ron Parham came in third. Patti Cook's great round tied her with Bill Higgins for low gross. Barry Levene, Don Baker, Duane Hinrichs, Bruce MacPherson and Alan Teal all collected one skin each. Longest drives went to Don Hunter and Patti Cook. Gary Ordway was closest to the pin.

Week seven was won by Dennis Trauffer. Barry Levene placed second and Jim Stiffler was third. Paul Meyers had the low gross round. Fred Schick, Clyde Hershberger, Dennis Trauffer and Don Baker had one skin each.

Rain plagued week eight and golfers struggled to complete the round.

Ken Smith persevered and took first place. Gilda Gambacurta was second and Fred Schick took third place. Low gross went to Clyde Hershberger. John Maloof played through the rain and took home two skins. Don Baker had one skin.

A two-person alternate shot tournament was scheduled for week nine. Nineteen teams signed up only to see their hopes drowned by a complete rain out. The match will be rescheduled at a later date.

The points race to the League Championship remains tight. Clyde Hershberger is on top with 18 points. Dennis Trauffer is in second place with 17 points. Others on the leaderboard include: Paul Farrell 15, Don Baker 14, and Fred Schick, Ada Culbertson, Patti Cook and Bill Gambacurta with 12. Pete Dominguez, Paul Meyers and Ken Smith all have 11 points. Barry Levene follows with 10

points.

The Thursday League is a mixed league. All skill levels compete on an equal basis using the USGA Stableford format. Our league welcomes new members at any time and all On Top of the World residents are welcome to join the league.

Weekly play is not mandatory and guests are welcome. There is no weekly sign up. If you show up you play.

If you are interested in playing competitive golf using USGA rules, our league is for you.

Players must sign in by 10:30 a.m. and play begins at 11 a.m. every Thursday.

We play the course to a Par 67. Men play from the blue tees where available. Women play from the red tees and yellow where available.

For information call Paul @ 727-474-2344 or email blackdoggol@aol.com.



### *Joe Ventimiglia captures six top-three finishes*

# Ron Blaettner among 14 different winners

In the last Billiards' session, 14 different people got a taste of victory in either eight-ball, Scotch Doubles or nine-ball tournament play.

One of the players picking up two wins was Ron Blaettner, who started out with a nine-ball win on Dec. 17, and then was forced into a playoff on Jan. 7 with Allen Pier, before prevailing and capturing a second title.

In the Dec. 17 tournament, Ed Rameriz took second place.

On Dec. 24, Joe Ventimiglia was the winner and Ed Rameriz was runner-up again.

On Dec. 30, Frank English was the winner and Ed Way was second.

On Jan. 14, Howard Wilson picked up the win and Ron Blaettner settled for runner-up.

Nine-ball meets 1 p.m., Tuesday afternoons in the West Activity Center Billiard Room. Bring your recreation card, get in on the action and have some fun in the competition. We use the round robin format.

#### **SCOTCH DOUBLES**

In Thursday evening Scotch Doubles action, Dennis Balling added his name to the winner's list twice.

First, Dennis teamed with Tony Baker for victory on Jan. 2 and then he teamed with Joe Ventimiglia for victory on Jan. 9.

At the Jan. 2 tournament, the team of Joe Doire and Joe Ventimiglia was second. On Jan. 9, the team of Ray Quirion and John Shearer was second, and the team of Bob Ellis and Norm Theriault was third.



## Billiards

On Dec. 12, the Scotch Doubles league did not have enough players for teams, so everyone competed as individuals.

In Flight A, Andy Anderson took first place, followed by Tony Baker and Howard Wilson.

In Flight B, Ray Quirion won the title, Gene Baranowski was the runner-up and Dennis Balling was third.

On Dec. 19, Scotch Doubles went back to team play.

Terry Wittman and Nick Sapienza were the winners for the night. Gene Baranowski and Allen Pier claimed second place. Ron Baltrunas and Joe Ventimiglia were third.

On Dec. 26, Scotch Doubles returned to individual play.

In Flight A, Joe Ventimiglia captured the win and Ed Rameriz was second. In Flight B, Dennis Balling was the winner, Gene Baranowski was second and John Shearer was third.

#### **EIGHT-BALL**

There were five nights of eight-ball action and seven different champions.



Pictured above are the top three finishers from the Jan. 6 eight-ball tournament in the A Flight. From left to right are Denny Balderson (second), Tony Baker (first) and Bill Robertson (third).

Allen Pier won two titles. First, on Dec. 9, he won the A Flight with Hugo Orantes second and Bill Robertson third. Then on Jan. 13, Allen took first, Norm Theriault was second and Joe Doire was third.

On Dec. 9 in B Flight, John Shearer was the champion, Gene Baranowski was second and Charles McKague was third.

On Jan. 13 in B Flight, Joe Ventimiglia was the winner. There was a tie for second place between Bob Ellis and Terry Wittman. Joe finished the entire session with four wins, one second and one third.

On Dec. 23 in A Flight, Denny Balderson took first place, Allen Pier

second place and Hugo Orantes third place. In B Flight, Gene Baranowski won, Dennis Balling was second and Larry Henderson was third.

On Dec. 30, A Flight saw Hugo Orantes pick up a win, Joe Doire finish second and Jim Anzalone third. In B Flight, Terry Wittman and John Shearer tied for first. Gene Baranowski was third. Gene finished the session with one win, four second and one third.

In the last session report, for Jan. 6, Tony Baker edged Denny Balderson for the A Flight title. Bill Robertson was third. In B Flight, four different players all finished with eight wins: John Fier, Ian Hunter, Ray Quirion and Nick Sapienza.

## New members always welcomed and you do not need experience

By Penny Page

New Year's Day has come and gone, but resolutions are still fresh in our minds.

Some of us are going to the gym more, riding our bikes on a regular basis, learning a new language or instrument, or are just determined that this year will be our best year yet!

If you are a member of the Women's Que' T Pool Club, and your resolution is to get better at the game, I am reminding you that Ed and Denny are in the pool room every Saturday and Sunday at 4 p.m.



## Que' T Billiards

to give us extra help. If you've never been for lessons, you will be surprised how much you can learn. Usually, a special technique is explained

to us as a group and then each of us proceeds to our own table to practice. Our coaches come around to help us individually. It's a wonderful opportunity and we hope that you will take advantage.

If you are not yet a member, here are some important facts about our club:

**Membership** - You don't have to have your own cue, nor be an experience player, to be a member. We have house cues and great coaches who will work with you individually at no cost.

Membership dues are \$10 a year.

Elections are held in March.

We play on Wednesday evenings from 6-8:30 p.m. all year long.

You must be a resident of On Top of the World with a current recreation card.

While a sense of humor is not required, there is a lot of laughter going on at our meets.

We welcome newcomers and hope to see you on Wednesday nights.

If you would like to know more about our league, you can contact our president, Becky Balderson, at 727-674-1733, [becky@beckybalderson.com](mailto:becky@beckybalderson.com).



## Action heats up with tournament play at the OTOW tennis courts

By Joseph Spahalski

The roar of excitement that you hear coming from the tennis courts is from the cheers, the moans and the groans from participants and spectators watching our annual tennis tournament.

Something a little different is going on this year.

To recap, in the singles and double matches, if you lose, you are done. Kaput. No more chances. You're out. Wait until next year.

But that's not the case with the team tennis events. When you play a match you collect points. It doesn't stop at one match. Nope, then you

### Tennis

go on to play the next match and the next match until you play all the other teams.

When all the matches are done, only then will the winning team be recognized and get the gold.

The winning team must utilize strategy, skill, endurance and maybe bribery, in order to be rated the best team standing.

They can stand tall - that is if they are still standing.

If you want to see, feel and experience this excitement, free tickets are on sale now. What are these tickets for?

Well, if you want to watch some exciting tennis, buy your free tickets before they are printed. There is a huge discount until Jan. 29.

Just having fun with you.

You really don't need tickets to see great tennis. Most matches will start at 9 a.m. on most days during February. Stop by and watch some great action.

Speaking of action, perhaps this is the time to consider getting some action yourself.

How you might ask?

There is a lot of action by playing

tennis. Ladies, gentlemen, girls, guys - come on out to the courts and see what you are missing.

This is a great sport for making new friends, while losing a few pounds.

Ladies, starting this month, an additional starting time at 9 a.m. will begin on Wednesdays and Fridays. Our first group starts at 7:30 and you are invited to join them, too. Your choice!

We play on courts Nos. 3 and 4 (Court No. 1 has the lights.)

As a reminder, the tournament is going on and a slight wait may happen. Of course, this is a good time to get acquainted with the group and see good tennis.

## Three games finish with one-run margins

Some explanations are in order.

In last month's column, I referred to players "streaking home," "racing to second base" and "making a running catch."

Terms like streaking, racing and running are relative.

To our grandchildren, we may have been loping, trotting and ambling.

Those less generous might even refer to stumbling, hobbling and limping.

We felt the wind in our hair (or hairs), and knew we were streaking, and it was no misdemeanor.

Now that I've cleared that up, here's the action from last month.

### Cody's 16, Scott's Pharmacy 15

Showing no rust in his first game of the season, Frank Schlotter's heroics in the field and at bat led Cody's to victory.

First he cut off two runners at the plate with expert scoops of relays. Then Frank's ninth inning-double deep over the center fielder's head drove, in the tying run. He later scored the winning run on Gary Burgett's sacrifice fly.

### Softball

#### Scott's Pharmacy 20, Cody's 14

This game was tied after four innings, but Scott's exploded for 11 runs over the next four innings to clinch the victory.

Joe Farrell, Scott's first baseman, returned from injury to dominate the game with a six-hit day. He also made an unassisted double play which led to cheers from both teams and his joyful exclamation, "I love this game."

Cody's had home runs by Lenny Segall and Dom Dinello, and five hits from Hugh Quirk, but they were not enough to offset Joe's brilliant performance.

#### Cody's 11, Scott's Pharmacy 10

Home runs by Bob Stoddard and Lenny Segall, plus Tony Caputo's three hits, overcame four-hit days by Guy Bertuzzi and Paul Fice to eke out the victory.

#### Cody's 18, Scott's Pharmacy 16

In a seesaw game, Cody's five-run ninth inning made the difference as

pitcher Guy Bertuzzi held Scott's to one run in each of the last two innings.

Scott's power-two triples (Bill Arkins, Bob Fields), two doubles (Bill Bennett, Bob Fields) and a home run (Bob Howell)-was trumped by Cody's 32 singles (six each by Greg Zimmer and Guy).

For Cody's, Lenny Segall and Don Dinello blasted home runs, while Henry Santos, Joe Maley and Hugh Quirk each got four hits.

#### Cody's 15, Scott's Pharmacy 14

Hugh Quirk and Bob Rittner had five hits apiece at the top of the batting order and set up power hitters Lenny Segall, Don Dinello and Bob Howell to drive in runs.

Tony Caputo's two doubles and a triple contributed to the win, and his aggressive running put him in position to score the winning run.

For Scott's, Bill Arkins, Guy Bertuzzi and Pat Kennedy each had six hits to keep the game close.

#### Cody's 17, Scott's Pharmacy 7

Lenny Segall's three home runs, including a grand slam, led the rout.

Joe Maley's frozen rope double

and Paul Fice's triple gave Scott's some hope, but Cody's offense was relentless.

In a league first, Paul Fice dove for a ground ball ending up prone on the ground. More impressive, he arose without assistance and continued playing. Typically modest, Paul commented, it may have been closer to a fall than a dive, but in the league annals "The Dive" will become as legendary as Babe Ruth's called home run.

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Baseball relies on statistics to tell its stories. Here are our current statistical leaders in two important categories: On Base Percentage (OBP) and Slugging Percentage (SL), along with the major league career leader:

OBP: Lenny Segall (.850); Guy Bertuzzi (.829); Bill Arkins (.789); Pat Kennedy (.740); Paul Fice (.735); Ted Williams (.482).

SL: Lenny Segall (1.850); Bob Howell (1.391); Greg Zimmer (1.154); Bill Arkins (1.099); Bob Rittner (1.097); Babe Ruth (.690).

**Good Karma Café opens 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 3  
in the lower level of the East Activity Center**

# My Valentine's Day miracle memory

My wife was in her ninth month, glowing and beautiful with our first child.

We were supposed to be going to a Valentine's Day party that evening, but fate would step in and change all that.

My "heir apparent" decided enough was enough and wanted "out."

As I was driving my wife to the hospital, I kept thinking how great it would be if I could find a police car, so I could flag the officer down and have an escort with sirens blaring, driving through red lights, and all that other cool stuff.

Alas, the trip to the hospital was uneventful, all things considered, and after filling out the required paperwork upon arrival, the rest was up to my bride.

I had called both sets of future grandparents and told them not to rush as their grandchild was only in the early stages of labor.

Who was I kidding?

The grandparents were at the hospital before we were. You could see their skid marks into the parking lot!

I had also called our friends at the party, letting them know we were not going to be able to make it ... for obvious reasons.



By Allen Winston

## Winston's World

And so the wait began.

We didn't know if it was going to be a boy or a girl. All we wanted was a happy, healthy, life-changing baby to arrive with the normal family chaos and congratulatory excitement that accompanies such an event.

Other families, who had arrived after us, were already enjoying their miracles, but we were still waiting for ours.

I was a very naïve father-in-waiting. The future grandparents seemed worried. And then the doctor appeared (he happened to be my wife's uncle), and told us the baby had turned his head in the birth canal, which was why labor was still in progress.

My future genius got "stuck."

The next thing I remember is hearing the word "episiotomy." I didn't know what episiotomy meant, but it had six syllables and sounded serious.

My naivete was now being overwhelmed with concern. I was assured and reassured by all around, including the doctor, that everything was going to be OK. I prayed so.

It was now around 11 p.m. My wife had been in labor almost 20 hours when the entire Valentine's Day party walked into the hospital waiting room. Everyone was dressed in red - lots and lots of red - and they brought with them hors d'oeuvres, cake, and champagne.

The party had been moved to our hospital!

Within minutes of their arrival, the doctor reappeared in the waiting room, into this sea of red, to announce a perfect, beautiful, baby boy, whose name would be Peter.

Mother and child were doing fine.

While I slipped away (I couldn't wait to be with "my family"), the celebration in the waiting room was already underway.

Almost 40 guests from the party were there and were now joined by a number of nurses, many of whom

were going off duty.

Also joining the party were nurses aides, other families who were celebrating their miracles, the janitorial help, and two sets of very proud grandparents.

Peter arrived in this world with a full-blown party in his honor, champagne corks popping, and all.

No father could be prouder.

When my wife and I first got married, we discussed how large a family we wanted. We were talking about having five children (we were very young and naïve).

But when I reached her in the hospital room, holding our miracle, she mentioned for me to come closer and kneel down.

Weakly she whispered into my ear, "We are never going to have sex again."

It all sounded so final to me, but eventually we did come to a compromise and had two more boys.

My wife's quest for a daughter never came true, but her next quest took place with no resistance. It was my turn for a medical procedure, and from that point on, we were assured, we would never have a Valentine's Day party in a waiting room again.

# If you told your husband 'I love you,' what response would you get?

A group of women were at a seminar on how to live in a loving relationship with their husband.

The women were asked, "How many of you love your husband?"

All the women raised their hands.

Then they were asked, "When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?"

Some women answered today, some yesterday, some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their cell phones and text their husbands: "I love you, Sweetheart."

The women were then told to exchange phones and to read aloud the text message responses.

Here are some of the replies:

1. Who is this?
2. Eh, mother of my children, are you sick?
3. What now? Did you crash the car again?

Marge Mayer



## Marge's Humor

4. I don't understand what you mean?

5. What did you do now?

6. !?!

7. Don't beat about the bush, just tell me how much you need.

8. Am I dreaming?

9. If you don't tell me who this message is actually for, someone will die.

10. I thought we agreed we would not drink during the day.

## Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day will soon be here and flowers and candy will soon appear.

As children we learn to say, "Roses are red, violets are blue, sugar is sweet and so are you."

The valentines we send to those we love will be covered with hearts and maybe a dove.

The heart-shaped boxes are just dandy because they contain chocolate candy.

Bon-bons and chocolate we simply adore, but what they do to our hips we can't ignore.

## When Did We Get Old?

Someone suggested we got old the first time we received a senior citizen discount without asking.

Another blamed AARP, declaring the letter inviting membership was like a death knell.

You were only 50 then, just a child.

A third person laughed and said she got old exactly at the point when her arms were too short to read the newspaper.

We're talking Suddenly Senior here when out of the blue that moment in time, contrary to our age, we realize we are geezers to the rest of the world.

When did we get old?

Was it the first time we got up in the middle of the night to pee?

The first morning we got up feeling terrible when we didn't even have a good time the night before?

When we said, "Back in my day?"

Was it our first "senior moment?"

When we learned our knees could predict the weather better than Channel 8?

Our first gray hair?

The day we decided holding in our stomach wasn't worth the effort?

The moment we realized we were now reading the obits instead of the news?

**Everything advertised on this page is free!**



# BULLETIN BOARD

## Polar Bears

The Polar Bear group meets 9-10 a.m. every weekday morning in the East Activity Center swimming pool as long as the temperature outside is above 62 degrees.

Cost is free. We meet, exercise and build friendships. Come and join us.

## Slimnastics

What is slimnastics?

Walking, stretching and getting your blood flowing.

We do not do floor exercises.

Slimnastics meets in the East Activity Center gym at 9 a.m. every weekday morning.

Every class is free to On Top of the World residents.

## Morning exercises

Come join us every morning at 8 a.m. in the East Activity Center lower gym room.

On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings our workouts include stretching, building balance and coordination, improving flexibility, and strengthening the body's core.

Bring a towel or mat because we do floor exercises.

Each day we work different muscle groups. Also, bring your hand weights to our strength training/weight lifting classes on Wednesday and Friday mornings while we work on improving muscle tone.

The Association was kind enough to supply us with a weight rack so we can leave our weights which are locked after each class. We have incorporated music to our daily cardio workout.

## Bonesavers

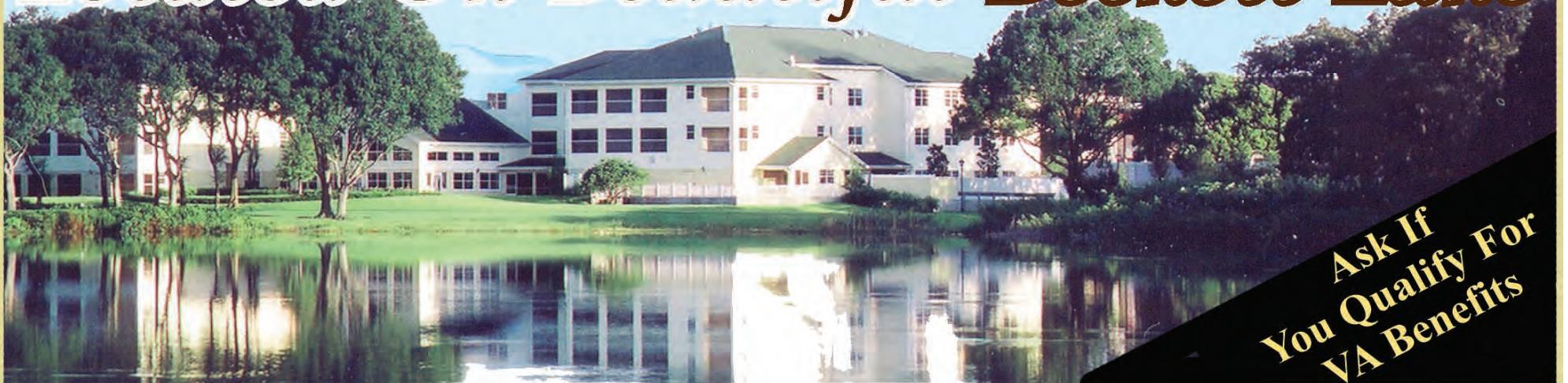
Did you know that the Bonesavers exercise class helps prevent bone loss?

We use hand weights and ankle weights in exercises that were developed by Tufts University in an effort to prevent further bone loss. We never do floor exercises. There is no charge for this class. Men and women are both welcome to participate. We meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8-9 a.m., in the large card room on the lower level of the East Activity Center. We hope to see you there.

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**Check out the Box Office Web site for a list of all exercise related events, plus clubs, groups and sports.**

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**Walgreens**  
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**OTOW News**  
**Pet of the Month**



Valentine's Day 2012 was a day Kenya will never forget.

She spent the previous year in a garage full of caged cats, all waiting to be fostered for adoption.

Then, on this very day, her cage door opened and there was a new face staring at her - it was Bonnie Mack from the Antigua I Building.

Kenya's life suddenly changed.

She was no longer homeless.

From the minute Kenya entered Bonnie's condo, she knew she had found a new forever home. There were toys waiting for her, as well as plenty of food and cold water -- and a clean litter box.

Kenya and her new mom bonded for the next four days -- no place was off limits. She was free to settle on any

window ledge and to watch the neighbors as they passed by the house.

Kenya actually became her new name. Bonnie saw her beautiful colors and decided her new friend resembled many of the beautiful animals in Kenya.

Today, Kenya is treated like a queen, and Bonnie says, "Every day, she knows what it means to live On Top of the World."

Each month, OTOW News, Walgreens and Pet Supplies Plus 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 [bootss@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bootss@tampabay.rr.com) and tell us what makes your pet special. If you don't have email capabilities, drop off your photo and information to the newsroom. You must include pet's name, owner's name, building and age. Only one pet per household can win each year. The winner will receive (1) 8x10, (2) 5x7 and (4) 4x6 photos from Walgreens on the corner of Belcher and Sunset Point roads. You will also receive a \$10 gift card from Pet Supplies Plus on McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater. If you are the winner this month, bring the newspaper and your original color print to Walgreens to receive your prize, and stop by the newsroom to pick up your gift card. Each monthly winner becomes eligible for Pet of the Year honors in January. We are currently running low on entrees, so if you've never entered your pet in the contest, now is the time to do so! Good luck!

# OTOW NEWS PHOTO SEARCH

*Find 10 Differences In The Two Photos Below (answers will appear in next month's newspaper)*





Sugar 'N Spice recently 'performed' with pianist Dino Kartsonaski during a church program. The entire video is on YouTube.

## OTOW Pet of the Year already has a famous side

By Doug Kates

Gloria Lindley says her dog has a wardrobe collection that is bigger than her closet.

However, once told that Sugar 'N Spice was voted the 2013 On Top of the World Pet of the Year, Gloria paused for a moment and panicked.

Seems to be, Sugar 'N Spice may not have anything green to wear when the Irish Club St. Patrick's Day parade takes place next month, and it's become a tradition the past two years that our Pet of the Year rides in the parade.

"I'll have to go get her a new outfit," Gloria said.

Sugar 'N Spice, a long-hair Chihuahua, was Pet of the Month for February of last year and was one of 12 OTOW pets who competed for Pet of the Year honors last month.

Sugar took first place with more than 2,000 online votes. Peaches was second with 404 votes and Frankie was third with 151 votes.

Asked how Sugar got so many votes and Gloria had a pretty good answer. She is one of 17 children and said everyone in her family voted. Plus, there were nieces and nephews who also voted.

Sugar regularly attends church at Countryside Baptist and many parish-

ioners showed support by voting, too.

And that's not all.

Sugar's former owner, who now lives out of state, also put together a voting campaign and had many of her Avon customers vote.

So, between family, church, business and OTOW residents in general, Sugar had a lot of support during the online voting process, which covered just more than two days.

Sugar can now list another achievement in her resume.

You see, Sugar already has her own Facebook page, she is a service dog, she visits patients in nursing homes and hospitals, and is probably most famous

for once playing piano with performer Dino Kartsonaski. If you don't believe me, Sugar and Dino have a video on YouTube that you can watch.

"Everyone just loves her," Gloria said. "She has a photo shoot coming up with all her clothes. She is a mascot in the church choir and sings at Christmas time.

Sugar is now 11 years old. At age 9, she was on hand during opening ceremonies of the OTOW Dog Park on the west side.

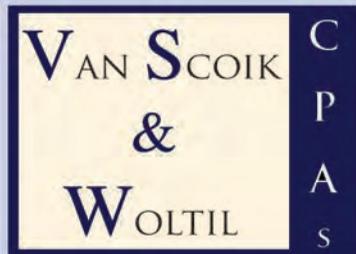
Sugar wins a free bubble bath and groom from Barks & Bubbles, Mobile Grooming and a free medical checkup from Animal Healthcare Services.

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# Weather turns cold, but sunny, for beach condo stay

This holiday season gave some Mandalay residents the chance to celebrate with friends and others to see family members who live far away.

Jim and Terry McHugh invited some friends and neighbors in for a pre-Christmas party. Their apartment was a magical setting for the festivities. They had been collecting Christmas memorabilia for years. There were many decorations with a Christmas theme including too many Santas to count, some of which were animated and danced or presented a little scene. They were terrific hosts and made so many delicious things to eat that even the eager guests could hardly make a dent in the goodies.

Fred Drew went to Norfolk, Va., to see his son, daughter-in-law and grandson. His son is retired from the Navy but still doing similar work as a civilian. His son had been recovering from an injury and so had lots of time to spend with Fred before he had to go back to work.

Fred loved spending time with them. The weather was cold, but sunny, and they enjoyed the opportunities to eat out together, to talk and enjoy each



other's company. Fred is especially proud of his young grandson and said that he could not keep up with his dexterity and speed in playing video games.

My husband Carl and I had a great time, too. My son rented two condos at the beach so there would be room for the whole family.

One son and his wife came from Atlanta, my daughter came from Washington, D.C., and my son, daughter-in-law and two granddaughters came from Montgomery, Ala..

We played games such as bridge and Trivial Pursuit with much conversation and laughter.



Mandalay residents enjoy a recent building luncheon. (Photo by Mary Lou Wall)

We celebrated my eldest son's wedding anniversary (at a really sophisticated restaurant) and sang Happy Birthday to my daughter (born on New Year's Eve).

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate. We had hot and sunny

weather just before they came. My beach-loving daughters-in-law were disappointed because it was overcast and chilly a lot of the time while they were here (although the warmth and good cheer of being together made up for it)!

## Building officers installed at Jan. meeting

Let me start this article with an apology to my fellow Americana residents for not submitting a January column. My excuse is simply that I was having too much fun with everyone else in the building.

The annual meeting was held at the beginning of January in the Veranda at the East Activity Center. In addition to the usual discussions, including the past year's activities and plans for the New Year, the most important business arising was the election of new officers. President, Stan Spahalski; vice president, Jean Nicolaus; secretary, Karen Ipsen; and Ken Jenner who is continuing as treasurer. Wing captains were later appointed by Stan. They are Arnie Engelbert, Carol Muntzenberger, Ann Talner, and a newcomer to this post, Joan Delott. Welcome aboard, Joan.

Also, we are welcoming new neighbors: Denise and Joseph Malfer, Rita and Ian Moy, and Jasmin Stokes.



Make sure you check our building bulletin board for any information about upcoming events, including monthly lunches, the Valentine's party and the end-of-season barbecue. Also, get to know your wing captain.

The first Saturday in December we joined together in the core to set up the Christmas decorations. The tree was erected in the center of the core, and outdoor lights were strung

over each entrance as well as wreaths and bows hung along the second and third floor balconies. Individual units added their own Christmas touches in their windows. Everyone who came by enjoyed the beauty that was added.

Early that same evening we continued our new tradition of toasting the beautiful work we did with a BYOB cocktail party. Angie and George Georgiou and I purchased finger food which was quickly consumed by everyone who attended.

The following week we gathered again, this time at the Dunedin Golf Club. The food was delicious. We had a sing-along and then awarded door prizes to a large number of the guests. Catherine Gray is the gal who made the arrangements. Catherine did her usual fine job, and we want to thank her. Ann Talner gathered the door prizes which were transported there by Becky and Dennis Balderson. Everyone seemed pleased with the entire evening.

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## Attention OTOW News writers ...

**When submitting your stories to the newsroom by email, please put the name of your building, group or sport in the subject line of the email.**





## Fujiwara welcomes newcomers

We have a number of new people in our building and we would love to get to know you better and have you get to know us. Check the bulletin board in the lobby and sign up for our monthly dinners.

There is also a list on the bulletin board for new people listing which apartment you are in, birthdays, and anniversary dates.

Welcome back Francis Perotta, Dominic, Mick and Lilly; Scott Mooney; Norman and Brenda Lieberfreune; and Nan Charkas. If you are new and don't see your name here, go check out the bulletin board with pencil in hand.

Neal and Jean O'Brien recently returned from their 11th Carnival Cruise to the Caribbean and are already talking about their 12th one in May. This makes a grand total of 21 cruises on various cruise lines for them.

Joy Prolifko and Char Flach returned from a two-week trip together to France and Italy. They visited Paris, Aix-en Provence, Aries, the French Riviera, Florence, Cinque Terre, Pitti Palace and Chiati, Siena, Tuscany, and Rome. It was a trip of a lifetime. Joy thinks she left something behind and is already planning a trip back!

Char's next trip is a cruise to Australia, visiting all the Polynesian islands along the way.

Folks, mark your calendar for Feb. 6 for our next building meeting. In the meantime, keep a song on your lips and love in your heart.

## Resident is honored by big birthday bash

Hope everyone had a happy New Year! We at Austrian Alpine were very busy with our lobby party (which seems to be getting bigger and bigger each year), our tree decorating (thanks to all who helped) and our delicious Christmas dinner at Lucky Dills.

Len and I hosted our annual Christmas party, with 22 family members attending.

Our Sunday karaoke is in full swing now, starting in December with a huge Christmas party with 80 in attendance. Karaoke will be held once per month. Notices will be posted on the bulletin board and on OTOW-TV (channels 96 and 720).

A very belated happy birthday wish to Blanche Mahrle. She recently returned from Michigan after celebrating



her big birthday on Oct. 12. (We don't know her exact age, but we hear it's 10 years less than Tom's, who celebrated his 100th birthday last month!)

Blanche's grandson was married the same day as her birthday. The next day, Blanche's daughter, Mary, threw a

party with drinks, food and cake at a nearby restaurant with 60 close friends and relatives on hand. Cards and photos were placed in an album, which Blanche thoroughly enjoyed perusing.

Grace Hodek recently returned from a Christmas Caribbean cruise. She had a wonderful time.

I recently came across this quote for the New Year that I would like to share:

"We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors. But they all come from the same box."

Have an awesome New Year and know that someone has thought about you today!

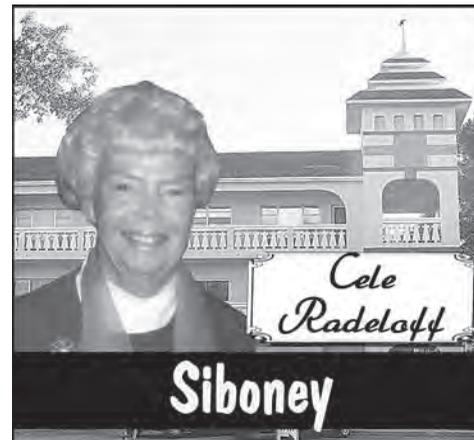
"A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour."

## Comings and goings allow for family time

We are so fortunate to live here in Florida even though we did have a "taste" of that frigid weather they experienced up North. Many of us visited family: Arla Gossiaux flew to Michigan, Audrey Decker to Connecticut, and me, to New Jersey and Long Island, where I visited seven homes, including three grandchildren's new houses.

Several neighbors had out-of-town relatives for Christmas dinner. Ethyle Lee's daughter Susy and husband Westy arrived from Tennessee, and they invited Rita Tombari for dinner. Grandson Chip and his wife, Tasha, came from Tennessee, and granddaughter Tiffany and husband Eddie drove from Tampa to join in the festivities. Ethyle enjoyed the four great-granddaughters. (There are a lot of females in the Lee family.)

Lillian and Mike Foy's two daughters flew here from New Jersey for their first visit to On Top of the World. They went fishing on Pier 60, enjoyed the exercise class and hot tub and viewed the fireworks at Clearwater Beach on New Year's Eve. Lillian is a true "Good Neighbor," securing a cane for Aida Tapia, her next-door neighbor, from the OTOW Community Service Office. Just see Julie if you need to borrow a cane, walker or wheelchair. Thanks, Lillian!



Doris Prekopa invited Penny (her sister), Mary Hodges and Agnes Krepelka for Christmas dinner, which was delicious.

Skip and Pat Heller's get-together was delightful with so many appetizing dishes. Pat is a super cook and is our "soup lady."

Sue Rausch's backyard potluck dinner was a winner... a true "Florida" event!

About 40 of us enjoyed a steak dinner at the Eagles Club in Odessa where Dave Mathewson works. Good food, good conversation and good company made the evening so special.

Many thanks to all who removed the Noel signs and decorations throughout the building. Mary Jane and Audrey Decker took down the

tree and then they put up the January decorations in the core, with Ralph's help. It looks great! Thank you.

Welcome back Irene Nickolson from Massachusetts.

In a quiet moment, I realized that this year I will no longer be an octogenarian. My son is already asking me, "What's left on your bucket list?" Maybe winning the lottery or appearing on "Wheel of Fortune?"

Incidentally, my son and family spent a week in Orlando at Universal. They visited me for one day and took down all my Christmas decorations. Did I appreciate that kind gesture! I gave my two granddaughters many of my 33-1/3 phonograph records since record players are in vogue again.

The Jesters Show, in which our own Lillian Foy will be performing, is on Friday, Feb. 14 and Saturday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. We have tickets. Also, eight of our line dancers are doing two numbers. Please attend and support us.

The next Siboney building meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m., in the Sunrise Room. See you there. Dues are still \$5 per person.

Happy Presidents' Day and Happy Valentine's Day!

### THE NEWSPAPER IS ON THE WEB

The OTOW News is online, and you can easily download and view the complete current issue, as well as issues from the past 12 months.

The first thing you do is go to [ontopoftheworldnews.com](http://ontopoftheworldnews.com). Then click on the OTOW Newspaper banner. Just below that is the Clearwater Press Association heading. Click where it says "Click Here."

At the Press Association site you will see a thumbnail image of the current issue's front page. Directly underneath is a "Click Here" link.

Be sure to bookmark the link. You may want to send the link to your family and friends up North so they can keep up with all the happenings at On Top of the World.

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# Nagoya building has its own 'hall-of-famer' in residence

We are honored to have an Athletic Hall of Fame recipient in our building! Arlynn (Andy) Anderson was inducted into the SCSU Hall of Fame in October, 2013, for his many accomplishments at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. It is almost overwhelming to see all of his accomplishments contained in his Lifetime Achievement Award.

Andy was the men's gymnastics head coach from 1966-1978. He received his doctorate at Florida State University and his Masters Degree at Bemidji State University, where he also taught and coached.

Andy is married to a wonderful woman named Jan, and I give her credit for taking care of their family at home—including 16 Thanksgiving holidays without him, due to competitions in which his students were participating. It is my belief, as the saying goes, that behind every successful man there is a wonderful, supportive wife.

Andy coached (and participated himself) in the following competitions: gymnastics, diving, men's and women's tennis, hockey, bowling, diving and swim team, racquetball, and track.

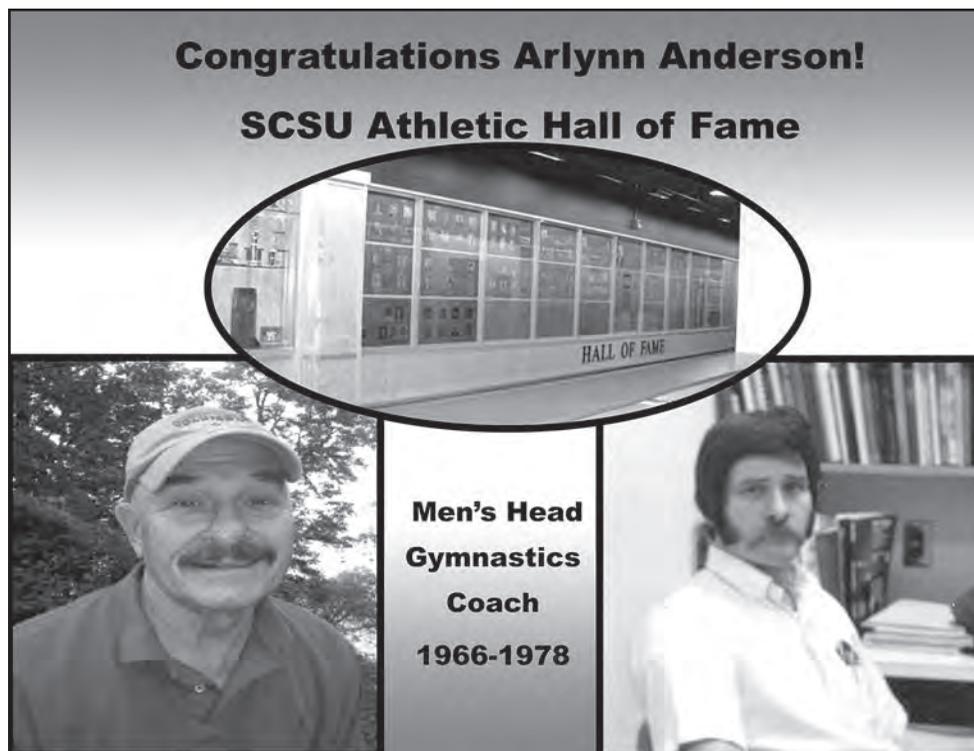
He twice held first place in the horizontal bar at the Northwest Open Gymnastic Championships.



He competed in racquetball tournaments for over 40 years, was a superior-ranked diver and member of the swim team, and a superior-ranked member of the tennis and track teams at the University of Wisconsin.

He received a YNCA Century Award in 1983 from Teledyne Fitness Center, Mobile Ala. He taught over 37 different classes in Physical Education, Education, Health and Anatomy. He was the president of the National Sports Council for Gymnastics, among many other too numerous to list.

He has received many letters from his former students for a Lifetime Achievement Award he won, telling him how well they have done in life



This poster was on display at Arlynn Anderson's Hall of Fame induction ceremony

and how he has influenced their lives in a positive way.

Fifteen accomplished gymnastic students came in person to the induction ceremony to thank him for all he has done in guiding and mentoring them. One former student has gymnasiums across the United States, and some of his

students are on the U.S. Olympic Team. It is now a generational contribution for his accomplishments.

Andy now enjoys golfing and pool at On Top of the World.

In closing, Happy Valentine's Day to all residents of On Top of the World!



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# Grandpa takes kids on their first OTOW photo shoot

Holiday visits from family are a frequent occurrence at On Top of the World, and this holiday season saw many.

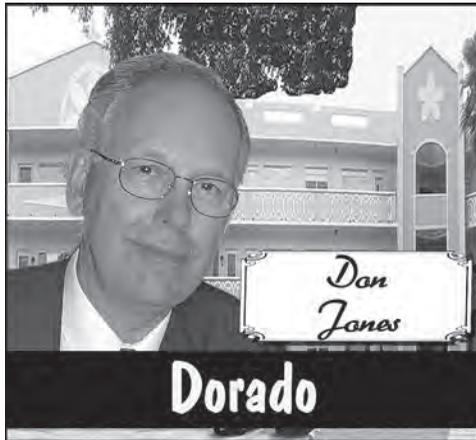
Visitors see our surroundings in a new light and shed great insight into many things. They see the beauty that we take for granted here. They enjoy the warm temperatures. They ask many questions about our activities here. In short, one of the great values for residents is the freshness that comes with family visitors who are open enough to comment on the day to day situations in which we find ourselves as residents.

My wife and I were blessed this holiday seasons to have a visit from our son and his family. The family includes two children aged 8 and 4 years. They were enthusiastic about everything and had many requests.

Yes, we went to Disney and we had great meals prepared by grandma and our daughter-in-law. One of their requests was to go on a photo shoot with Grandpa.

Since we had four cameras in the apartment, the two children and their mother and grandpa all had a camera. It is revealing to see what children see through the lens of a camera. You will see two pictures that were taken on this photo shoot that show the beauty of OTOW that surrounds us each day. We too often take this beauty for granted.

We decided to take a walk along Lake Arbor on the sidewalk. I do this walk almost daily. I like to look at the trees, the flowers and the birds as I walk, but something gets much more exciting when you have a 4-year-old and an



Reporter's 8-year-old granddaughter captured this egret taking off in flight.

8-year-old along. First we encountered that great tree behind the Queen Victoria building near Lake Arbor. Then we saw birds: groups of Ibis, duck families, egrets and blue herons.

Later we encountered a neighbor who was taking advantage of the breeze that had sprung up to fly numerous



The kids take a break from photographing to fly a kite, thanks to a generous neighbor.

kites. We had to stop of course and take some pictures, and the friendly neighbor offered to let the children fly one of the kites.

All in all, they had a wonderful photo shoot and saw things that I see every day but I saw them with a new and fresh approach that showed through the lens of their cameras.

Attached please note that the tree picture was taken by our 4-year-old grandson and the egret taking flight was snapped at exactly the right moment by our 8-year-old granddaughter.

They have arrived home safely in Canada now, and their grandparents are resting up here in the Dorado building after a busy two weeks, but we feel refreshed and again suffused with energy and newness of life that comes with holiday visits.



This majestic oak was snapped by the 4-year-old grandson of reporter Don Jones.

Our Dorado holiday party was a great success thanks to Cheryl and Peter Milner who organized the get-together. Thirty-one residents attended and enjoyed a meal with live music at Sea Sea Riders restaurant. Four happy Dorado residents went home with the four door prizes.



## OTOW 55-and-Over Driver's Safety Course



**Class is 9-Noon, March 20 & 21 in the East Activity Center Starlite Room**

*(Please fill out one form per person. Completed forms must be dropped off at the OTOW newsroom by March 13.)*

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**Building number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**You must bring a check for \$15 to the first class. Make check payable to AAA.**

## Trip to Carolina mountains was a bit chilly

During the holidays, Avona Carrol invited the entire building to a Christmas Eve Party. What a success, she had a great turn out. Everyone enjoyed the evening. Good job, Avona.

The Warrens have fun “dressing-up” now and again —Cleopatra and Julius Caesar for Halloween, winning a surprise prize for Most Elegant Couple.

In November, it was dress-up time at an Imperial Symphony Orchestra event (playing the famous Beatles music in “A British Invasion”) in Lakeland, where they went as the English Prime Minister and his lady.

Recently, in honor of the fourth season premier of “Downton Abbey,” WEDU’s very able contribution to good world-wide TV-watching (Masterpiece Theatre on Sunday nights) — they dressed in the haute-couture spirit-of-the-piece that began in 1912 three seasons ago (see photo). They are standing in front of a picture of Highclere castle, where the show is filmed, and where they visited in June.

They really enjoyed themselves on each occasion and, if smiles were the proof, they had a very good time! They wish all at On top of the World a very Happy New Year!



I am back from my trip to the mountains of South Carolina to see my family. It was a complete welcome change of scenery. Instead of egrets and wood storks, I have seen vultures and mountain chickens. It’s a far cry from the beauty of Florida, but non-the less interesting and different.

I could sit and listen to the locals talk for hours. They have very quaint sayings, which at times my daughter has to translate for me. Loads of fun. However, the fun stopped on a Monday night when the temperature went down to 16 degrees.

Due to the low temperatures, the pump on the well froze and burst several water pipes. Needless to say, the

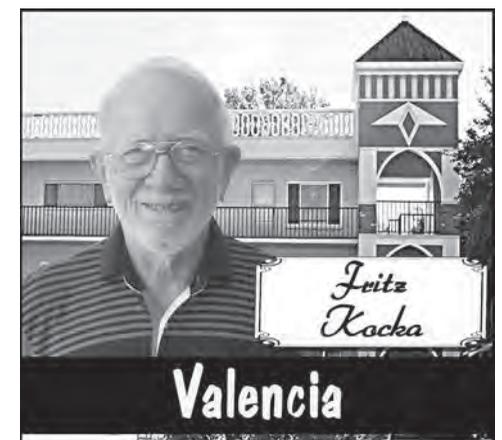


Elizabeth and Malcolm Warren dressed up as “Downton Abbey” residents of the 1920s.

local plumber was really busy. We hit the stores and got some water, but the shelves quickly emptied out.

We had a few miserable days but then fortunately, my son-in-law had a friend as a plumber so he came after-hours to fix it.

If you are new to the building or have interesting news to share, let me know. I have a basket and a notice in the core bulletin board for you to place your information as well as an e-mail and phone number to reach me.



## Plans made at building meeting

The last of our chickens have returned to the coop. Welcome back to all!

I believe most of us are still recovering from the holidays.

The ladies January luncheon was held at Oriental Super Buffet on Gulf-to-Bay on Jan. 9. The food and service were great. The men went to Paradise. Both were good choices.

The first meeting of the New Year was held at the Sunrise Room at 7 p.m. on Jan. 23. Our activities for the following months were planned.

Just a reminder that our annual dues for 2014 are due (\$10). Make out your check and drop it off to Ellen.

Mama sez: Other people’s tattoos are like other people’s children. Only you can see how bad they are.

## Storage room cleanup progressing well

Sounds of Christmas are behind us, but how we enjoyed what sounded like the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing from the Algozzina condo during the holidays. George’s music accompaniment and the Christmas carols sung by many brought joy, peace and healing to its listeners.

This is a great time of the year. The holidays are over, the decorations are put away and it’s the only time that our condos actually feel bigger to us. Doesn’t take long for that feeling to go away though as we put everything into our storage bins.

Our storage rooms are looking great with just a couple of areas still to be addressed. There are just a few paints, chemicals and furniture yet to be removed for the safety of our building and all our residents.

Thanks are extended as usual to Rich Hayes for the use of his electricity to light our building’s wreath and to our phantom wreath remover who put them all away until next year.

It is like pulling teeth to get a new treasurer for our building, but we are happy to say no dentist was needed when George Algozzina stepped up and agreed to take on this role. He’s written an informative letter to us all and asked that we pay our building dues



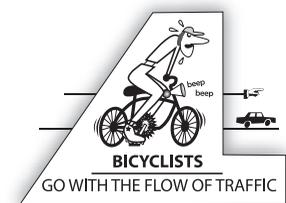
to him as soon as possible. It is said to get something done, give it to a busy person. George works full time and volunteers on more committees than we can count so please take it upon yourself to make this payment to him so he doesn’t have to come knocking’.

Appreciation is extended to Dick Mikszenas who has been our bookkeeper and treasurer for many years... carefully maintaining our books and keeping us above the poverty line.

The new year brings a new digit added to my life and I always think of the advise my dad would give me. “Today is the oldest you’ve ever been, yet the youngest you’ll ever be so enjoy this day while it lasts.” A couple of observations that I’ve made at this

time of my life are that I’ve realized I’m never going to be really good at anything now especially golf, and the things I used to do, I no longer care to do, but I really care that I don’t care to do them anymore!

February celebrates Valentine’s Day and President’s Day. It’s also the time when all our northern friends and family come to visit. May you be showered with lots of friends and friendship, candy and flowers as you celebrate the month of February.





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# Original owner celebrates 100th birthday at OTOW

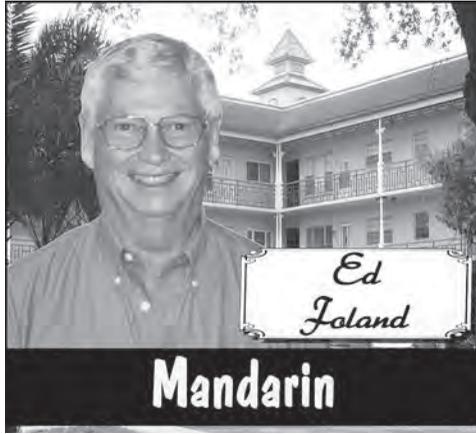
Bill Pallait turned 100 years old on Oct. 8 of last year and, during the past century, has seen a lot of change. Over the holidays we threw a surprise, belated birthday party for Bill, who is an original owner in the Mandarin building.

Was it electricity or airplanes or computers that most impressed Bill over the first hundred years? The correct answer is, none of the above. It was the radio that he built in high school from a kit. When it was all finished voices came out of the box like magic.

Bill's mother was not driven to the hospital to deliver Bill. A midwife came by horse and wagon to the farm house outside of Manchester Conn. In those days the horse drawn wagon was the primary mode of transportation in farm country.

The horsepower for tilling the soil to produce their food and smoke also came from horses. One of the crops raised on their farm was tobacco. Growing and rolling your own cigarettes was a very common practice.

A brand new all-black luxury



Model T Ford replaced the aging horses as the primary mode of transportation when Bill was 7 years old. The roads were dirt unless it rained, then they were mud. The Model T Ford would get stuck in the mud, but the horses and wagon never did.

Bill took charge of the Christmas decorations for the Mandarin building for many years, but when he turned 94 he asked the younger volunteers to take over.

Emily, Bill's wife of 68 years passed in 2008. They had one daughter,



Bill Pallait and daughter Linda Bouley celebrate Bill's century birthday with residents of the Mandarin building. Bill is an original OTOW owner. (Photo by Ed Foland)

Linda Bouley, who spends her winters with Bill. Stay tuned folks, because plans for Bill's next surprise birthday party are already underway!

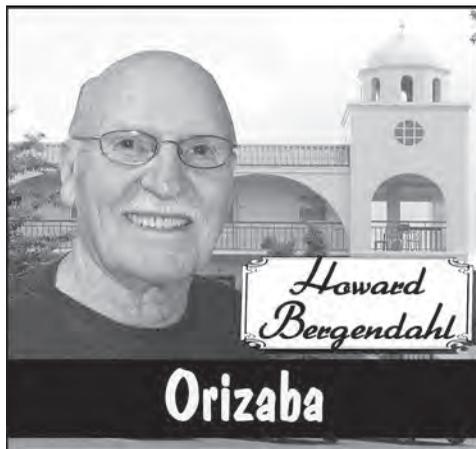
## On junk drawers, resolutions kept (or not) and advice

Happy Valentine's Day. Make sure that you get that card or gift for the one you love.

The holidays are a thing of the past but I hope that the good feeling is still with everyone. Please don't wait until next year to feel happy and friendly, especially toward your neighbor.

The visits to the family up North are mostly ended and everyone is settling down to a warm and comfortable stay in Tampa Bay. The news reports say that this past tourist season was one of the best in recent history. One advantage that we have, living here, is that we have these beautiful days on a constant basis.

The Snowbirds often ask the year-round residents about the heat in the summer and the answer is usually, "I don't really feel it that much."



The air conditioning in the apartments, cars and shopping areas make summer an actually comfortable time and the pool area is a favorite location for all residents.

I was watching a television show recently that highlighted

people who saved things that they had accumulated.

I have a situation where I have a lot of greeting cards for various occasions such as birthdays, Christmas, Fathers day, etc.

Some of the cards are quite nice and some are even tear-jerky, which makes disposing of them a difficult exercise. If I keep these cards does that make me a hoarder and if I dispose of them am I insensitive? Guess I will have to wait for one of those days when I get stung by the cleaning bug and decide to throw everything away that I haven't used recently.

I also wonder about that junk drawer that everyone seems to have, did you ever notice how this drawer starts to expand into other drawers?

Another thing that interests me

is the custom of making New Year's resolutions. How many people out there have already broken resolutions made this year and how many just repeat the same resolutions each year? Is it a good thing to vow to give up something or start to do something and then disregard it in a very short time?

Anyone with the desire to improve themselves by making a credible promise to themselves (or to others) should be able to do so anytime of the year, not because it somehow became tradition.

I think I should stop giving out advice to people who probably don't want to hear it.

I have been in many places but I have never been in "kahoots." I understand that you have to be with someone to be in "kahoots."

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Wally Laskowski (reporters' husband) shows off his visiting granddaughter...



... while reporter Marguerite Laskowski poses with her daughters during their recent visit to OTOW.

## Reporter's family visitors come from Arizona, Georgia

We are all used to seeing the Snowbirds' cars and their out-of-state license plates parked in assigned spots. But there were many cars with out-of-state tags filling the visitors' parking spots the past couple of months.

Our own visitors came from Georgia and Arizona. One daughter and granddaughter drove from Acworth, Ga., and were with us for six days. Then another daughter surprised us with a three-day visit from Arizona. She flew into Tampa and stayed with her sister until they could spring the unexpected and happy visit on us. We had not seen her in three years. (See photos at top.)

We played many card and board games. Movies were on the agenda as well as visiting the local restaurants. And, of course, there were many family dinners over which we laughed and caught up on the latest details of our children's lives. They also were able to visit with their Florida aunt and cousins.

Their lives are much busier and



more interesting than ours. It is amazing to see the cell phones, iPads and other electronic gadgets they carry with them.

Once their visits were over and they had departed to go back to their husbands, animals and jobs, our home was very quiet again. We love to see them come to visit. We miss them when they leave. And, we look forward to their next vacation with Mom and Dad in Florida.

"Till We Meet Again"

## Welcome to new reporter for Southern Colonial

Southern Colonial's holiday party was held at the Olive Garden. We had a nice turnout and everyone had a great time. We all want to thank Jean Norris for making all the arrangements.

We would like to welcome our new neighbors, Jim and Bobbie Hunt. Previously, they lived in a large house in Clearwater, eventually wanting to downsize and still be able to live in the area. They have resided in Florida for 39 years.

We also want to welcome back our Snowbirds. We missed you guys! Some Snowbirds even became full-time residents:



Paul and Allison Keating, Lucy Sheedy, and of course, your reporter and her husband, Viola and Tom Occhiogrosso.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

## THE WAY WE WERE A look back at the OTOW News

(Part 57 February, 1976)

By Dolores Burm and Elaine Gotler

- Wednesday restaurant visits during the month included The Reef, Trader Frank's and Chief Charley's.
- Harry James and his Orchestra played on March 11. All proceeds were donated to UPARC.
- Upcoming On Top of the World trips will be a cruise on the *Starward* of the Norwegian Carribean Lines, a Bicentennial Trail trip, a Rockies Calgary Stampede and a Tauck Tour of the Wild West.
- Kay Gordon, the new president of Good Neighbors Association, welcomed a turnout of 100 registered as members.
- Wondering what to do with some of your extra money (\$1000)? How about a Home Federal S&L four-year CD at 7%?

See you in March

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OTOW Exp 2/28/14



**VALENTINE'S DAY**

*By Alma W. Hudson*

This is the month  
For Valentine's Day  
We all look forward  
In our entire way

Love comes in so many ways  
It is difficult to define  
But one thing for sure  
It is always the right kind

The love for our parents  
Starts the first rule  
Then love for our teachers  
When we are in school

Love for our church  
Helps us to grow  
And those who are in it  
Help us to know

As each day begins  
God shows us the way  
With clarity of thought  
To help us through the day

When we are adult  
And have chosen our mate  
We find a different love  
That is so very great

How lucky we are  
When we're blessed with love  
And to know it is a gift  
That's given from above



**SINGING A LOVE SONG**

*By Alma W. Hudson*

We'll be singing a love song  
As long as we live  
Moon and stars up above  
Song and joy that we'll give

When I walk with you and talk with you  
The world seems so bright  
Your eyes will shine right into mine  
What a heavenly sight

When we're singing our love song  
We always will strive  
Keep our wonderful love song  
Forever and ever alive

It's the joy we share beyond compare  
And the love that we give  
We'll be singing our love song  
As long as we live

**AGING PROCESS**

*By Robert E. Thomson*

I'm getting forgetful. I can't  
Remember things quickly. So please  
Be patient with me, for I have  
What is known as Old Timers' Disease.



The submission below is from an OTOW Writer's Ink member



**“WHALES”**

By Elaine Detlefsen

Whales are large mammals that live in the sea and look like fish.

I had an occasion a few summers ago to board a boat in Provincetown (Cape Cod), Mass., in the hopes of sighting different species of these creatures. It was a very memorable day since this was accomplished.

These majestic creatures rise from the depths of the water and immediately nuzzle the sides of the boat. One whale actually slapped the

water with its flippers as if greeting the crowd aboard. We all viewed humpback and finback whales mostly. The show they put on consisted of holding their heads high out of the water, executing dives and leaping straight out of the water into the air.

While I was on the vessel, a naturalist helped us all identify and learn more about these gentle giants. He explained that some whales live

to be 100 years old. Some also shed their skin. The whalebone is the tough elastic substance that hangs in fringed sheets from the upper jaw of some whales and strains out tiny sea animals on which they whale feeds.

Our boat had to motor to a second location before any activity started. If a day is not a success and there is not any activity to be seen, we were told we would receive a refund.

This cruise went six miles out to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary because it is a favorite feeding ground for the whales. This area encompasses 600 square nautical miles. It is approximately 26 miles east of Boston and six miles north of Provincetown.

Wow! What a wonderful gorgeous day it was to be on the water admiring the sky, sea and whales.

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# Some handy info on light bulb phase-out

When España first opened, we had five otters that came now and then to swim in the retention pond beside my apartment. They came back and forth through the white pipe at the far end of the pond.

Occasionally I would see one hippy-hopping across the property from behind the Malagueña building to the pond. After a while, we only had one otter that came occasionally. Well, on Jan. 9, I had a huge surprise. As I was fixing dinner, I looked out my kitchen window and, low and behold, there were four huge otters sitting on the ground on my side of the pond.

I called some of my neighbors and told them about the otters. We had quite a gathering watching them play.

As of Jan. 1, we can no longer purchase the 40- and 60-watt incandescent light bulbs that we are accustomed to using. On Sunday, Jan. 12, the Tampa Bay Times had a great article on the new light bulbs. The article is on the front page of the Home Link section. You can also access it on your computer.



The article said we now have choices: compact fluorescent light bulbs; LED bulbs and halogen bulbs. The article stated that understanding the label is easier if you know a couple of terms. "Lumens" measures a bulb's brightness, i.e., 450 lumens equals a 40-watt bulb; 800 lumens equals a 60-watt; 1,100 equals a 75-watt; and 1,600 lumens equals a 100-watt bulb.

At this point, all incandescent bulbs are not included in this change. Among the exempt bulbs are three-way bulbs, 150-watt bulbs, and bulbs with

narrow candelabra bases that are often used in chandeliers. Be sure to read the labels because not all of the new bulbs can work on a dimmer.

I am amazed at the number of people who contact me to make suggestions for subjects that I should include in my articles. The latest one is in regard to people not remembering that the parking lot is for cars and the sidewalk is for people. When you pull up so far that your tire hits the curb, be aware that the front part of your car is over the sidewalk, which may impede the progress of folks on motorized scooters, etc. So you may want to back up a little.

Almost every afternoon, the residents on the west side of our building have the privilege of watching a gentleman from Malagueña flying kites. He usually has three or four in the air at the same time. Take a walk down to the lake and watch him sometime.

It's time for us to get ready to eat candy and smell flowers. Valentine's Day is coming soon, so Happy Valentine's Day to you all!

## Bible Study Club

Bob Reis, President

The OTOW Bible Study Club is a non-denominational Bible study group to explore the word of God, and how it relates to our everyday lives. Our teacher, Woodie Tully, brings 45 years of Bible teaching experience to help understand the Scriptures.

The club meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the Veranda Room of the East Activities Center. Occasionally we use a third Tuesday evening for refreshments, music and singing.

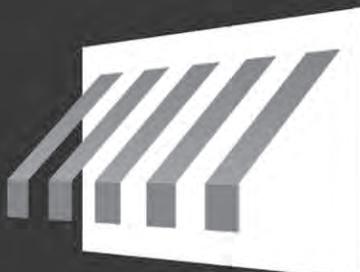
We welcome everyone to our club. You do not need to have any knowledge of Scripture to join, and there are no club fees required. We are not a church; those attending are from a variety of denominations.

Every first-time guest receives a complete copy of the Bible to keep as their own.

For more information, call either Bob Reis, 798-2443, or Woodie Tully, 399-1773.

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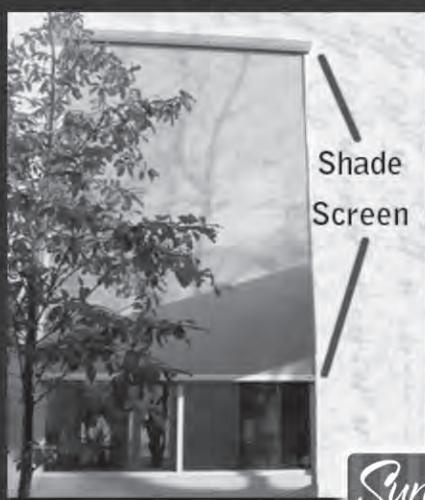


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# Virginia Mucci: talented female singer of the '40s era

By Cecile Sangiamo

Ginny Mucci was born in Orono, Maine, now home to 10,000 residents. There must have been a lot fewer people when Ginny grew up there over 70 years ago. (Orono is located on the Stillwater River in Penobscot County and was first settled in 1774, named in honor of Chief Joseph Orono of the Penobscot Nation.)

Ginny, one of seven children, learned to appreciate music at an early age. Dad was a piano teacher and Ginny joined the high school choral group and was an energetic cheerleader.

At the time of her graduation from high school, there was a call for defense workers in Bridgeport, Conn. So, at 18, she and a friend found a room and began doing important precision work for Uncle Sam assembling radios, refining bullets, etc.

On their days off, they pitched in to pack boxes for shipment of personal items to the troops overseas.

During the five war years there were shortages of critical materials, such as copper, which led to them being temporarily laid off. This gave Ginny a chance to return to Maine for a family reunion.

When the war effort resumed, it was back to Bridgeport, working for good pay — about \$15 per week. That

work stopped for good at the end of the war and Ginny found work as a secretary in the clothing business.

This gave her the first look at incoming fashions so she could pick out the best.

She also worked at the University of Bridgeport as a secretary in the payroll department, counting out the dollars and coins in the paychecks.

Ginny's roommate delivered records to various establishments around Bridgeport, as their juke boxes needed constant replenishment to keep up with the latest songs.

Ginny occasionally accompanied her friend on her rounds. When they made a delivery to a particular local hotel, the hotel owner, who had hired a band, asked Ginny if she could sing. Ginny's friend said she had a nice voice because she was in the choir at St. Augustine's church.

The owner told Ginny to go talk to the trumpeter. Ginny sang "Sentimental Journey" for him, accompanied by the piano player, which was received with appreciative applause. The hotel owner was so pleased he invited her to come down whenever she could and sing with the band.

That trumpet player (and band leader) was John Mucci. When the band moved to another location, he asked her



Featured resident Virginia Mucci with photos of husband John and herself when she was a big band singer in the 1940s.

to sing with the band every night. What an exciting opportunity, and dinner came with it, too!

Ginny was the band's featured singer for two years and by that time, a wonderful relationship had developed between her and the bandleader. They married in 1947, this girl from English stock, to the Italian boy with nine siblings, whose parents had come over from the old country.

As was the custom of the times, the bride "retired" from her singing career. For another reason, she attracted too many interested young men, which didn't sit too well with John.

It was a very busy life, with four growing children — two girls and two boys: Kathy, Leonard, John

and Cynthia. These have given the family seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

During the summers, the family would go up to Maine to the cabin which they had built. They still have it and come from all directions to gather for summers on Cross Lake. Folks also come from Europe for the Winter Carnival.

Around the mid-80's John and Ginny moved down to Florida and, while enjoying the Florida climate, it was decided, at long last, to travel to Italy.

Their tour included Rome and Venice. They hired a car and driver to take them to Campobasso where John's family originated. It is a hill town in southern Italy where John's family had labored in farming and raising cattle.

Ginny and John lived in a home near Belcher and Druid Roads for 15 years, having both retired there after working in Connecticut.

When John passed, Ginny decided to move to On Top of the World and begin a new life full of interesting activities. Many of you know Ginny from our Jesters shows, where she sang for as many years as she has lived here in OTOW.

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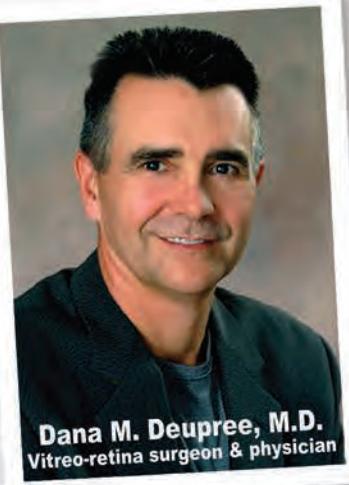
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# Viennese Villa rolls out new twice-monthly event

Happy Valentine, birthday and anniversary greetings to all February celebrants.

Congratulation to Mary and Bill Carey, who celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss on Jan. 29 with pals at Bern's Steak House.

Pictured below is our merry band at Grillsmith's. Additional photos can be seen in the core, thanks to Hal Fairfield for printing and Connie McDonald for posting. It was a fun evening of good food and company. Kudos to Howard Rochte for pulling dinner together on such short notice.

Bill Carey initiated a core cocktail party. It was a hit. So much so we voted to make it a twice-monthly affair. Also decided on dinners or luncheons out for the building. Watch for the postings.

The Sea Bird Sanctuary on Indian Shores was the beneficiary of our son



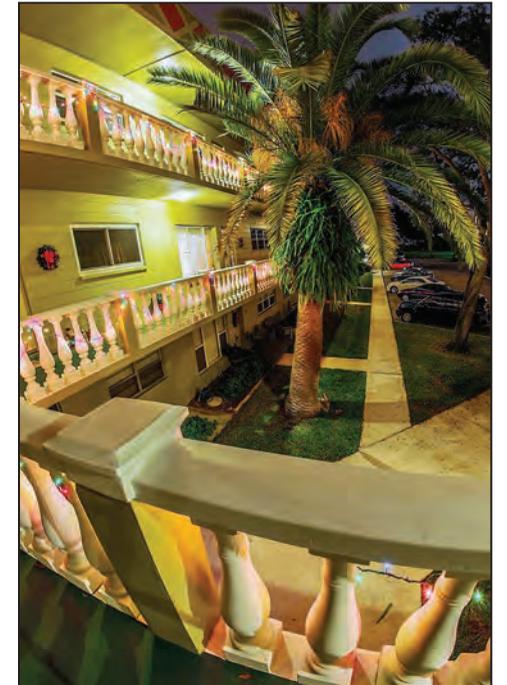
Mike Leonard's photo clinic workshop. All proceeds of the well-attended affair went to the care of the birds. This is a pet project of Mike's. Photographers from all over the U.S. attended. It's a marvelous place to take guests and it's free. Some of Mike's photos of our building can be seen at right.

I have been requested to remind residents that building materials, rugs, furniture and alike are not to be left in the rubbish room. Management will assess the building (which is you and me) for removal. If useable, post a note on the bulletin board. Someone may need or want the items. Habitat for Humanity will also take useable materials. Debris goes to Clearwater Recycling, 727-464-7500.

Connie McDonald is planning the building auction for March. Here's the



Above, dramatic late-evening colors and a wide-angle lens emphasize the Viennese Villa's magnificent architecture. At right, an example of leading lines, patterns and intriguing lighting — each important elements in a successful photograph. To incorporate all in a single photo is the mark of a true professional. (Both photos by reporter's son, Mike Leonard)



opportunity to clear out overstuffed storage areas. Also a reminder that no areas are supposed to be enclosed with doors. This is a fire safety regulation.

That's it for this month. Remember send all the news that's fit to print to fresca@maine.rr.com.

Hint of the month: Exterior windows won't clean? Use a razor blade scraper. It removes that stubborn black film that collects.



Building luncheon at Grillsmith's. (Photo by Hal Fairfield)



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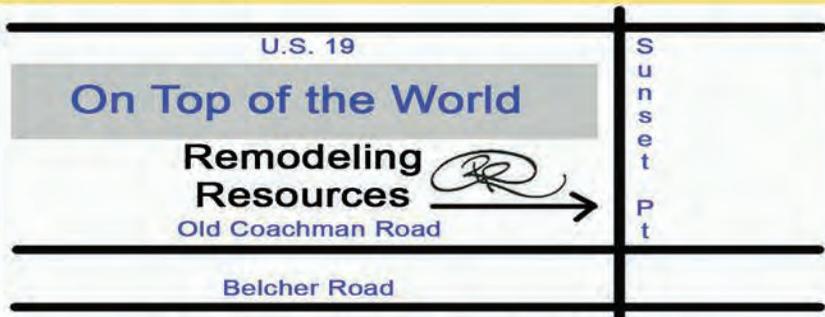
## HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE OTOW NEWS

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# Travels and family visits are always special times

*In February we celebrate President's Day, Remembering those who led the way. How oddly, though, we give our thanks, We stop the mail and close the banks.*

As I look out my window at the beautiful sunshine, this morning, I forget that I had to wear my Northern coat, hat and gloves just the other day. I know you are all happy that you were in Florida this January.

So glad to see so many of you at our December outing at Queen's Pizza. There were special table decorations and prizes for all. Thank you, Carol and Stormy, for all your work to make this possible. Also glad to report that Anita and John made it on time to eat with us. Stormy and Ted were planning a cookout for Jan. 25. More about that next month.

Congratulations to Pat Stevens on her fourth-place award for her Christmas decorations. Hope this will inspire more of you to enter next year as there will be two divisions, first floor and upper floors.

Liz and Gary Thompson had a wonderful trip to Hawaii, visiting four islands. Also they were able to celebrate their daughter's birthday at our December luncheon.

Shirley Jones' son and fiancé visited from Georgia. They celebrated her birthday and her sister and brother-in-law visited from Lakeland.

Betty and Larry Hayhurst went on a 14-day Caribbean Cruise, touring seven Islands. They had a wonderful time and Larry said they ate too



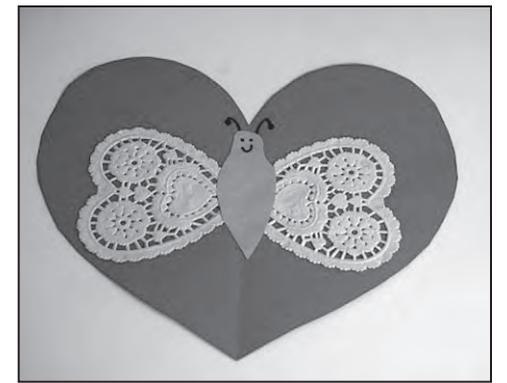
much good food. So you know what that means: diet!

Lee Sceaira moved to Melbourne on Irish Lane in November. She thinks it is the friendliest place with many nice people. She tells me she is 91 and proud of it. She looks so young it is hard to believe the years.

Susan and Sonny Hunt reported two more outings. One to the Pirate Invasions at Dunedin Museum and the other to Robertson's to enjoy all the Christmas decorations.

My son-in-law, Greg, from South Carolina and my granddaughter and her husband from Connecticut spent a long weekend in January with me. This has become an annual event that I look forward to. We enjoy just being together and having lots of good food.

Enjoy all the holidays that February brings. In addition to President's Day, there is Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and, if you want to celebrate, Lincoln's and Washington's Birthday.



Remember when we, as kids, made Valentines in school out of paper and paste?

# Valentine's Day is second largest greeting card holiday

February has long been associated with romance; however the origin of Valentine's Day is not very clear.

Legend has it that a theologian and teacher named Valentinus was imprisoned during the third century for his Christian beliefs and sentenced to death. The legend goes Valentinus healed his jailer's blind daughter. The night before he died, he wrote a farewell note to the girl and signed it "From your Valentine." The next day, Feb. 14, 269 A.D., his sentence was carried out.

Valentine's Day is always observed on Feb. 14. The first American Valentine was published in 1849 by Esther Howland of Worcester, Maine. There are an estimated 151 million cards exchanged not including Valentines exchanged in kids' classrooms making this the second largest holiday for giving greeting cards.

As a little girl, I remember cutting colored paper hearts to give as Valentines to parents, family and friends. At school we would take a piece of red, white or pink construction paper, fold it in half and cut as needed. Many got a little fancy and used paper doilies, crayons and paint. We created treasures to give to those we loved.

Now, as a grandmother, I have received Valentines over the years from my five grandchildren. The pictures shown above are just a few examples. The best ones are those which are homemade.

Another childhood memory of February was getting a couple days off



school because of president's birthdays. I remember getting off school on Feb. 12, the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, the president during the Civil War.

On Feb. 22, we celebrated the birthday of George Washington, a hero of the Revolutionary War and the first president of the United States.

Then congress in the mid-70s declared a single holiday, to be called Presidents' Day and observed on the third Monday in February. So now we celebrate all presidents on this one day.

The Paradise Reserve recently had our entrance gate system changed and updated. The residents are looking forward to the newer system and gate functions.

Building 94 is preparing to elect new building officers at its February meeting.

Happy Valentine's Day. Enjoy Presidents' Day.

## ATTENTION WEST-SIDE DRIVERS

- As you enter on World Parkway and approach Americus Boulevard, remember to come to a complete stop before making your turn. Do not pass a left-turning car on the right, inasmuch as that blocks the other driver's vision and could cause an accident.
- Remember to make a complete stop when you come to any stop sign within the OTOW community. The other cars and pedestrians around you are depending on it, even though you may not see them. A "rolling stop" places you and others at risk of an accident. Stop, look both ways, and look in front of you. Thanks for being a cautious and safe driver!

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## Calendar of Monthly OTOW Activities — February 2014

1	Saturday	6:00 PM	Lambda Club Game Night	Large Card Room
3	Monday	9:00 AM	Ladies 18 Hole Golf Meeting	Kitchen
3	Monday	9:30 AM	Brazilian Embroidery Class	Crafts Room
3	Monday	6:00 PM	Bldg No. 82 Capistrano Meeting	Sunrise Room
3	Monday	11:00 AM	Snowbirds Club Meeting	Starlite Room
4	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Hoosier Club Meeting	Crafts Room
4	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Bldg No. 84 Malagueña Meeting	Sunrise Room
5	Wednesday	9:30 AM	Ladies 18-Hole Golf Meeting	Sunrise Room
5	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Baby Boomers Meeting	Veranda
5	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Theater Workshop Meeting	Auditorium
6	Thursday	1:30 PM	Press Association Meeting	Large Card Room
6	Thursday	10:30 AM	Pennsylvania Club Meeting	Starlite Room
6	Thursday	7:30 PM	Entertainment Committee Show	Auditorium
7	Friday	10:00 AM	Good Neighbors Meeting	Starlite Room
7	Friday	5:00 PM	Pennsylvania Club Party	Auditorium
7	Friday	4:00 PM	Bldg No. 90 Queen Victoria Meeting	Sunrise Room
7	Friday	2:00 PM	Travel Club Meeting	Sunrise Room
8	Saturday	8:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Dance	Auditorium
9	Sunday	6:00 PM	Karaoke Singing	Auditorium
9	Sunday	2:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Sunday In The Park	Auditorium
10	Monday	6:00 PM	Bldg No. 85 España Meeting	Sunrise Room
10	Monday	8:30 AM	Entertainment Committee Blood Pressure Screening	Veranda
10	Monday	2:00 PM	German Interest Group Meeting	Sunrise Room
11	Tuesday	5:00 PM	Baby Boomers Dance	Sunrise Room
13	Thursday	12:00 PM	Lawn Bowlers Luncheon	Crafts Room
13	Thursday	9:30 AM	Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee	Auditorium
13	Thursday	7:00 PM	Irish Club Show	Auditorium
14	Friday	1:00 PM	Art Guild Meeting	Art Room
14	Friday	7:30 PM	Jesters Show	Auditorium
15	Saturday	7:30 PM	Jesters Show	Auditorium
16	Sunday	2:00 PM	Jesters Show	Auditorium
17	Monday	9:30 AM	Good Neighbors Free Eye & Ear Testing	Auditorium
18	Tuesday	1:00 PM	Stamp Collectors Meeting	Sunrise Room
19	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Hoosier Club Game Night	Crafts Room
19	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Italian Club Party	Auditorium
20	Thursday	6:00 PM	Baby Boomers Meeting	Veranda
20	Thursday	7:30 PM	Entertainment Committee Show	Auditorium
20	Thursday	10:00 AM	Greyhound Club Meeting	Veranda
21	Friday	1:00 PM	Bldg No. 44 French Ren. I Meeting	Sunrise Room
22	Saturday	6:00 PM	Lambda Club Game Night	Large Card Room
22	Saturday	8:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Dance	Auditorium
22	Saturday	6:00 PM	Sensational Seniors Meeting	Sunrise Room
23	Sunday	1:00 PM	Art Guild Show	Auditorium
26	Wednesday	6:00 PM	NY-NJ Club Meeting	Auditorium
26	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bldg No. 89 Siboney Meeting	Sunrise Room
27	Thursday	2:00 PM	Democratic Club Meeting	Starlite Room
27	Thursday	5:00 PM	Tennis (Women's) Meeting	Sunrise Room
27	Thursday	5:00 PM	Lawn Bowlers Dinner/Dance	Auditorium
28	Friday	7:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Show	Auditorium

*Groundhog Day  
Sunday, Feb. 2*

*Super Bowl XLVIII  
Sunday, Feb. 2*

*Abe Lincoln's Birthday  
Wednesday, Feb. 12*

*Valentine's Day  
Friday, Feb. 14*

*Presidents Day  
Monday, Feb. 17*

*G. Washington's Birthday  
Saturday, Feb. 22*

## Daily OTOW Activities

### MONDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium  
 7:30 Tennis (Women's) Exercise..... Outdoors  
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:00 Ladies Exercise ..... East Side Gym  
 8:30 Ent. Comm/Clubs Ticket Sales . Auditorium  
 8:30 Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 9:00 Zumba Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 9:00 Library..... Library  
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim ..... East Side Pool  
 9:00 Photo IDs..... East Activity Center  
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 10:00 Learn Chinese Class..... Small Classroom  
 10:00 French Speaking Class ..... Yellow Room  
 11:00 Dancercize..... East Side Gym  
 11:30 Contract Bridge ..... Yellow Room  
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 12:30 Mahjongg Game..... Rainbow Room  
 12:30 Family History Meeting .... Computer Room  
 1:30 Shuffleboard ..... Outdoors  
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym  
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced..... East Side Gym  
 5:00 Mahjongg Game..... Rainbow Room  
 6:00 Bingo ..... Auditorium  
 6:30 Contract Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 6:30 8-Ball Tournament..... Billiards Room

### TUESDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium  
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:00 Ladies 18-Hole Golf..... Golf Course  
 8:30 Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 9:00 Zumba Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 9:00 Caring and Sharing..... Crafts Room  
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim ..... East Side Pool  
 9:00 Horseshoe Game ..... Outdoors  
 9:00 Photo IDs..... East Activity Center  
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 9:00 Jewelry Making ..... Lapidary  
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 9:30 Ladies 9-Hole Golf..... Outdoors  
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 10:00 Philosophy Club Meeting..... Veranda  
 10:30 Ballroom Dancing Class ..... Auditorium  
 11:00 Yoga Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 12:00 Ceramics..... Crafts Room  
 1:00 Oil Painting ..... Art Room  
 1:00 9-Ball Tournament..... Billiards Room

1:00 Line Dancing..... Auditorium  
 1:00 Music Group..... Large Card Room  
 2:00 Chess ..... Rainbow Room  
 3:00 Spanish Speaking Class..... Yellow Room  
 4:00 Irish Club Meeting ..... Computer Room  
 4:00 Spanish Speaking Class..... Yellow Room  
 5:30 Dominos ..... Small Classroom  
 6:00 Mahjongg Game..... Rainbow Room  
 6:00 Pinochle..... Large Card Room  
 6:30 Euchre Cards ..... Starlite Room  
 7:00 Bible Study Meeting ..... Veranda

### WEDNESDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium  
 7:30 Tennis (Women's)..... Outdoors  
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training ..... East Side Gym  
 8:30 Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 9:00 Knitting Group ..... Veranda  
 9:00 Zumba Gold Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 9:00 Sewing Class ..... Starlite Room  
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim ..... East Side Pool  
 9:00 Photo IDs..... East Activity Center  
 9:00 Slimnastics ..... East Side Gym  
 9:00 Good Neighbors Crafts ..... Crafts Room  
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 9:30 Cribbage ..... Small Classroom  
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 10:00 Aerobics ..... East Side Gym  
 10:00 Tai Chi ..... Large Card Room  
 11:00 Dancercize..... East Side Gym  
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 12:00 Library..... Library  
 1:00 Painting Pals..... Art Room  
 1:00 Double Pinochle ..... Small Classroom  
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym  
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced..... East Side Gym  
 5:00 Baby Boomers Game Night ..... Kitchen  
 6:30 Contract Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 6:30 Ladies QueT Billiards ..... Billiards Room

### THURSDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium  
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:00 Snowbirds Club Line Dancing Beginners  
 ..... Sunrise Room  
 8:30 Ent. Comm/Clubs Ticket Sales . Auditorium  
 8:30 Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 9:00 Zumba Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim ..... East Side Pool  
 9:00 Photo IDs..... East Activity Center

9:00 Snowbirds Club Line Dancing  
 ..... Sunrise Room  
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym  
 11:00 Yoga..... East Side Gym  
 11:30 Contract Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 12:30 Writers Ink Class ..... Computer Room  
 1:00 Mahjongg Game..... Small Classroom  
 1:00 Drawing Class ..... Art Room  
 1:30 Shuffleboard ..... Outdoors  
 2:00 Chess ..... Rainbow Room  
 3:30 Italian Speaking Class ..... Kitchen  
 5:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom  
 6:30 Billiards Tournament..... Billiards Room  
 6:30 Canadian Club Game Night ..... Large Card Room

### FRIDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium  
 7:30 Tennis (Women's)..... Outdoors  
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training ..... East Side Gym  
 8:30 Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 9:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom  
 9:00 Zumba Exercise..... Large Card Room  
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim ..... East Side Pool  
 9:00 Photo IDs..... East Activity Center  
 9:00 Slimnastics ..... East Side Gym  
 9:00 Ceramics..... Crafts Room  
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 10:00 Hula Hooping Exercise ..... East Side Gym  
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class ..... West Side Gym  
 12:00 Library..... Library  
 1:00 Chess ..... Rainbow Room  
 1:00 Music Group..... Large Card Room  
 1:00 Mahjongg Game..... Small Classroom

### SATURDAY

8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts  
 8:30 Computer Club Meeting.. Large Card Room  
 8:30 Line Dancing ..... Auditorium  
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers ..... Outdoors  
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge ..... Large Card Room  
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym  
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced..... East Side Gym

### SUNDAY

1:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom  
 2:00 Wii Bowling Exercise .... Large Card Room  
 6:00 Bridge..... Large Card Room

# Building storage room cleanup set for March 1

With the holidays behind us and a busy activity schedule ahead of us, now is the time to get organized.

If you have seen the women's magazines on the newsstands, you will notice varying articles on "Clearing out Clutter," "Simplifying your Life," and getting rid of space-stealing possessions.

With this in mind, we will be conducting our annual storage room cleanup on Saturday, March 1. All items must be labeled with the owners name, unit number and current year. Unmarked items will be removed and donated to charity. Those willing to help with the cleanup, contact Larry Pata.



The above procedure also holds true for the bicycle room. As you know, space there is limited and there is a waiting list. So please be considerate

of your neighbors and mark your bikes accordingly.

If you have a bike to sell, you can list it in the On Top of the World newspaper. If you have one to donate, contact Lucy Castello, Merle MacDonald or Larry Pata. The local homeless shelter and other establishments are always looking for usable and even non-working bikes as transportation for their residents and employees.

Please remember that the wing captains are now collecting the building dues. Please refer to the notice that was hung on your door. Pay your dues by Jan. 31 and be eligible for the prize drawing.

For the first time in years, attendance at our monthly luncheon was poor. I blame it on a the fact that Tuesdays are generally golf and canasta days.

Hopefully, attendance will be better at our lunch at Kally-K's in Dunedin on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at noon.

The business/potluck supper will be held March 19 in the Sunrise Room of the West Activity Center at 5 p.m.

A Golf Scramble is slated for March. Donna Osborne will be in charge of the affair. Details will be provided at a later date.

Keep your eye on the bulletin board for further information and sign-up sheets for all these functions and more.

## Let's all say 'welcome' to our newcomers

Brrrrrr! That's what a lot of folks have been saying as temperatures dipped into the 40s (even 30s at night) for a few days. Well, aren't we glad that we only have to feel that way a very few times during the year here in Clearwater?

My husband and I were in Pennsylvania for the holidays and believe me, we appreciated coming out of the snow, ice and single digits!

Our building had its semi-annual meeting on Jan. 15 and was well-attended. We had several newcomers — thank you for attending! Flamenco has very good organizations and activities. We feel privileged to have such a good group of folks!

One couple who is new to our building is Bob and Lorraine Gendron. They moved from Massachusetts to Florida in 1974, then from a home in Largo to On Top of the World this past November. It's not easy to downsize from a house to a smaller condo (as many of us have shared groans



over this!), but they are doing a great job of it.

Bob and Lorraine are multi-talented people who have worked in or owned, a variety of businesses in their working life: car sales, service station, U-Haul, car detailer, disc jockey and then, for many years, a home cleaning business. (P.S.... don't call them for this service please... they are now retired!)

But they have many stories to tell, such as the ones when they worked

for the famous Bob Cummings and John Travolta!

The Gendrons were married at age 19 and have two children. They are proud to say that they will soon be celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary! For hobbies they love music and have enjoyed much dancing. Welcome to our little community here, we are glad to have you!

By the time you read this it may almost be Feb.2, Groundhog Day. Punxsutawney Phil, in Pennsylvania, has made weather prognostications for over 124 years.

If Phil sees his shadow and returns to his hole, he has predicted six more weeks of winter-like weather. If Phil does not see his shadow, he has predicted an early spring.

We don't have to worry about that prediction here in our land of a temperate climate. But we can hope for our family and friends up north that it will be good news!

## How about those New Year's resolutions?

What happened to all our warm weather? This has been the coldest (my husband says coolest) weather we have felt since our move to Florida three years ago. We definitely became spoiled with all of the 80's and 90's.

But I guess we shouldn't complain, as our friends and relatives up North are experiencing temperatures in the minus category. Temperatures in the 50's feels and sounds a whole lot better than those in the teens.

Kudos to the entertainment committee and those responsible for making the New Year's Eve Dance so enjoyable. We had a great time and the group Rebound had the dance floor filled with On Top of the World dancers. Those in attendance counted down to midnight and said goodbye to 2013 with the singing of Auld Land Syne. Hello, 2014!



I'm sure most of us made those famous New Year's resolutions. We might have made some to stay healthy or get healthier, break some bad habits, stay connected more with friends and family or just to savor each day.

We each start the New Year with such enthusiasm in the things we want

to change, but most of us let them go by the wayside after a few weeks.

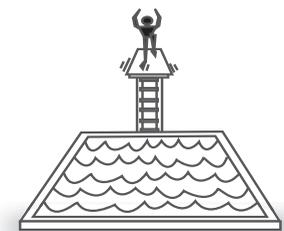
Maybe it would be better to just wake up each day and give ourselves a goal for that one day. Live each day — seize the moment.

The OTOW Christmas Decorating Contest was a great success. The word is that the contest will be held again for the 2014 Christmas season. There may be a few "tweaks" so stay tuned for more on this when the time is closer.

Just a little reminder to please be careful and watchful for those who ride their bikes and use walkers here at On Top of the World. The speed limit is 20 MPH. Let's be safe instead of sorry.

The Saratoga building has been very quiet lately. If anyone has any news, please be sure to let me know.

Wishing all of you a Happy Valentine's Day!



### SWIMMING POOL RULES

**DON'T EMBARRASS YOUR GUESTS!**  
Know the Rules and Abide by them!

- This facility is exclusively for OTOW unit owners with a valid OTOW recreation card, for guests of unit owners accompanying residents with a valid recreation card, or for renters with a valid recreation card.
- Please show your valid recreation card upon the SCA staff's request.
- Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave.
- Swim at your own risk
- There is no lifeguard on duty.
- Oils, sun block, and body lotions must be showered off before entering the pool.
- Pool will be closed during inclement weather.
- Walkways to the gates must be kept clear at all times.
- Use of these facilities is at a resident's or guest's own risk.
- Guests under the age of 15 may use the facility from 12-4 p.m., seven days a week.
- Guests under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- Children under age 2 must wear a "swim diaper."
- Please take all children for frequent potty breaks.
- Pools are closed when gates are locked.

## Reporter, husband renew wedding vows aboard ship

Hello from Rila Renaissance. This reporter just returned from a January cruise that had some big and some small surprises.

The first surprise was from Mother Nature. Before we started on our cruise venture, our son and daughter-in-law had to come from New Jersey during a significant snow storm. Needless to say, they were delayed for hours, but their plane was one of the few not cancelled. They arrived around 6 p.m. on Friday, the day before the cruise.

Our daughter-in-law's sister and husband were joining us and were driving from Texas on the same day. They started at 5 a.m. on Friday. They endured the end of the holiday traffic but the worst was when they hit the Florida border. It was heavy traffic on and off from the Panhandle until they came to On Top of the World. They finally arrived at 9:30 p.m. Friday.

The great thing was that everyone was here safe and sound and we departed on Saturday, Jan. 4, as scheduled.

We sailed on the newly renovated *Brilliance of the Seas* out of Tampa. Saturday night we had our second surprise. The original Drifters were the big show of the evening. My husband Bill and I were so delighted.

On Sunday, it was formal night and



we all dressed up for the occasion. Then came our biggest surprise. Our son and daughter-in-law made arrangements for us to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary with a renewal of our vows. I felt like a young bride again with a beautiful bouquet of white roses.

We had a champagne toast and a wonderful anniversary cake. I was so moved and emotional, I had a hard time holding back the tears of joy and just about made it through the reciting of the vows. This is a memory my husband and I will remember for the rest of our lives.

Although our 50th anniversary is in May, our son and daughter-in-law would not be available then because of their schedules. We assumed that we would celebrate on this cruise with



Arlene and Bill Bergen (center) and family after vow renewals they took while on a cruise.

a simple anniversary toast. We also celebrated our son's 40th birthday, our 70th birthdays and our daughter-in-law's acceptance into the medical program for radiography. She is also on the Dean's List! We are so proud of her. It is not easy going back to school after 20 years.

Please put the OTOW Art Show on your calendar. It will be held Feb. 23. Our neighbors Audrey Lerego

and Penny Page have some of the pieces on display. Please come and support them.

I hope all our neighbors have a wonderful Valentine Day and a great President's Day weekend celebration.

If you have any interesting news about a great trip, pictures of the scenery, new births, etc. Please let me know. Put the information in the white mailbox under the bulletin box.

## Former 30-year resident lauded on her 100th birthday

Hope you had a great holiday. Thanks to everyone who participated in our holiday activities and building decorations. The party was a success, with several new residents in attendance. Our building dinner at Alfano's was good, and again Sue provided everyone with a box of homemade candy. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Well, she did it — Mildred Leggett, after living here for 30 years, made it to 100 years old on Dec. 13. Her daughter said her three days was highlighted by a surprise visit from a number of family members and friends. We all had fun and she received many cards and flowers. She's amazing and keeps on going.

She told everyone at the residents' party she went to a party the previous Saturday and stayed out all night (the weather was nasty, so she stayed with family but her story is better).

Daughter Carol attributes her longevity to good genes, positive attitude and staying active. Mildred walks a mile and takes a fitness class in the mornings. In the afternoon, if she's not out having lunch or shopping, she's playing cards. Evenings she's out for dinner or theater and on Sundays, there is church.

Her grandfather lived to 106 and her parents to their 90's. She was the



seventh of 10 children. Her two sisters lived into their 90s, and her "little sister" Fern is still alive at 98.

As a young woman she worked in a box office when George Sinclair spotted her and said "that's the girl I'm going to marry." They married in 1937 and had two daughters, Carol and Sharon.

George owned Sinclair's Family Restaurant from 1948 to 1962. She would make pies in the morning so she could go curling in the afternoon. She was one of the original founders of the Galt Curling Club. She is an avid golfer and a member of the First United Church and the Gait Little Theater.

"We were all on our way to Broadway," she laughs, "We were



A proud Mildred Leggett shows off the cake for her 100th birthday. With her is Mildred's daughter, Carol Ariss, of Kitchener, Ontario.

so good." A few years after George died in 1967, Mildred reconnected with Sid Leggett, whom she had first met as a teenager when the pair were camp counselors in Massachusetts. They married and moved to New Jersey for 10 years, then relocated to Clearwater.

Her last venture lasted 30 years, volunteering with the Salvation Army. Walking daily and of course golfing.

Her time on the green was highlighted by a remarkable three holes-in-one, two of which she got in one tournament. The following year, at the same tournament, she repeated the feat. One of them was the 13th hole...

Mildred was on her own beginning in 2008, until she was 97 years old, and then moved to Kitchener to be closer to her two daughters, four grandkids and four other children whom she is "special Nana" to.

She cruised the Mediterranean and Alaska and has visited England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Mildred received congratulations on her centennial birthday from the Queen, Governor General David Johnson, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other dignitaries.

I look back now Mildred and wonder why when we went out, we looked to see which one of us found the right direction?

I need articles, please. Let me know of any guests, things of interest or birthdays. We enjoy reading columns from the other reporters. Did you like our building lighting contest? Think about Rural French entering next year.

It's getting hard to throw our garbage out as there are too many cartons in the pails and no room for garbage. Thanks for your cooperation.

Trivia: In August, 2014, there are five Fridays, five Saturdays and five Sundays. That only happens once every 823 years.

Be good to one another. In God we trust.

## Seasonal Residents-Temporary Address Change

To ensure timely delivery of On Top of the World mailings, please use this change of address form. This form will allow for a temporary change of address as you move to your seasonal address. You will still need to make a temporary change of address through the U.S. Postal Service for your regular mail service.

# OTOW Change of Address Form

Building # \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Forwarding Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Forwarding Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Leaving OTOW Home: \_\_\_\_\_



Complete a new form in the future if your return date is unknown at this time.

You may mail this form to : On Top of the World Condominium Association Inc.  
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Clearwater, Fl. 33763

## THE OTOW BUS COMES DIRECTLY TO YOU!

For reservations, call 799-3417, then press #7 of the voice menu. Seating is limited. Make reservations 24 hours in advance.

Reservations for transportation to and from the East and West Activity Centers will be accepted following the schedules listed below.

### Tuesday Morning Specials

See Posting in Bus

Paradise/West Side.....9 to 9:20 a.m.  
East Side..... 9:25 to 9:45 a.m.

### Thursday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.  
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

### Tuesday Afternoon

K-Mart & Countryside Mall

Paradise/West Side 12:30 to 12:50 p.m.  
East Side..... 12:55 to 1:15 p.m.

### Thursday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.  
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

### Wednesday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.  
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

### Friday Morning

Super Walmart

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.  
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

### Wednesday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.  
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

### Friday Afternoon

Super Walmart

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.  
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

## Guidelines for Riding the Bus

- The OTOW bus service is for the exclusive use of OTOW residents with a valid recreation card.
- This service is provided to our residents at no charge.
- Thank you, but the driver is prohibited from accepting tips.
- The bus driver picks up passengers with reservations only.
- You must be able to transfer on your own to ride the bus.
- Medical devices may be restricted due to passenger load.
- Eating and drinking on the bus is prohibited.
- Shopping bag limits and size restrictions are at the driver's discretion.
- If space allows, residents with current recreation cards may catch a one-way ride home on the bus.
- If you create a safety hazard or cause unsafe distractions to the driver, you will not be permitted on the bus.
- Shopping time is 90 minutes and begins at the first drop off.
- Due to limited seating, we cannot accept multi-day reservations.
- Reservations are first come, first served, and may only be made 24 hours in advance.
- The reservation phone number is for seat reservations only. Please leave your name, trip request, building and unit number, and phone number.
- If you live on the second floor of a two-story building, or if your building's elevator is out of service, the driver will carry your bags to your front door. The driver is strictly prohibited from entering your unit.
- The SCA staff takes their directions from SCA management. Please refer all questions and concerns to the Community Service Office.

# New Azores building captain presents new ideas for 2014

“Happy New Year” has quickly faded into my past, much like my resolutions. The challenge of a new year is in place as the bills keep rolling in. Next year is going to be different!

Life here at the Azores got underway on Jan. 10 with our building’s board meeting to seek and appoint a building captain to fill out the rest of the current term. Those meeting were Russ Heiserman, assistant captain, Doris O’Meara, secretary, and Brenda McLeod, treasurer. It was unanimously agreed to contact and offer the job to Katy Gerritt. Katy accepted and is our building’s captain.

Katy joined the meeting and discussed some of her ideas to bring harmony and community to our building through greater input from the residents and greater resident participation in general.

She presented ideas on a building recycling program, greater effort in getting storage rooms better organized and quite a few other building activities to develop a sense of community. She suggested a core coffee early on so



residents could meet the board, input ideas, submit building dues and visit.

Katy recruited Marie Pirrello as entertainment chair, and Carmel Tomich to continue as Sunshine Lady.

Katy and her husband Ford originally came to Florida from Connecticut some 27 years ago. Katy has had a career as a nurse, carefully helping new arrivals into our world. She and her husband moved into the Azores two years ago, and she has shown a great deal of interest in being involved in building affairs (see photo).



New building captain Katy Gerritt.

On Jan. 15, the Azores ladies had their first luncheon of the year. Fifteen ladies traveled to the Lucky Dill for lunch and lots of visiting. Of course, on the same day, a few of the building R.O.M.E.O.s shuttled off to Molly Goodheads for lunch.

On Jan. 23, the 3-Cs coffee was held in the core. A good turnout for this opportunity to interact with our new captain and the building board.

Our international traveling diplomat, Dulce Boyce, recently returned from 18 days in the jungles



Dulce Boyce during her African trip.

of Africa. She flew into Johannesburg, South Africa, spent the night, then off to Victoria Falls. Then on to Chobe National Park. This park has an elephant population of about 50,000. Dulce obviously found one that she liked (see picture). After Chobe, Dulce spent time in the Okavango Delta where she saw the elusive Pel’s fishing owl, hippos, buffalo, sable antelope and kudu. More days of exploring in the Kafue National Park and the Hwange National Park.

Keep a close eye on the bulletin board. I have a feeling that lots of things will be happening at the Azores.

## Building dues now being collected for the 2014 year

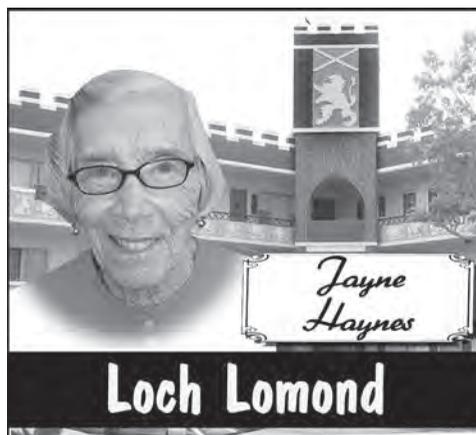
I hope everyone attended the Loch Lomond building meeting in the Sunrise Room. This is the one business meeting and serves to tie together the events of the past year and to propose activities for 2014.

A necessity to carry out these ongoing ideas is the contribution of the very reasonable yearly dues from each unit. Shirley Swift has again agreed to collect these dues. Please, if you haven’t contributed yet, see that Shirley receives your check or cash. The roster has her unit number and phone number, so you can get it to her easily.

Again, those who accept various organizational “jobs” need others to join with them. Please read the bulletin notices and join in. The monthly lunches will resume and are open to all. Get to know your wonderful neighbors.

The 2013 holiday season was extremely enjoyable, aided by the pleasant weather, making outside chats successful at catching up with one another. The building looked great, and several units displayed wonderful seasonal collections. Sherry Ladell had a window completely full of such varied Santa-type figures that I couldn’t count them all.

Lucille Greenhaigh, who is constantly preparing projects, and Lyle Johnston co-hosted several open house evenings, allowing many residents to get together with small groups and broaden their acquaintances. The Christmas dinner was planned primarily by Sophia



Kugeares and Shirley Swift and was most enjoyable.

Each day at the East Activity Center, I see fellow residents – exercise classes, dance groups, Good Neighbors projects, tables filled for coffee or tea from the Coffee Corner, vendors and clubs selling tickets for your participation, and many card games.

And, of course, our Lawn Bowling girls, Marg Kells and Dot Graham, can fill you in on their full-time activity.

So, Loch Lomonds, let me know of your life events, travels, and let’s converse with one another wherever the moment allows and welcome new residents. And know that if you are going through a “rough” spot, feel free to share your concerns with your good neighbors. Think of some way we can get together for viewing the St. Patrick Day parade that passes right by our joint backyard space. Take care and stay in touch.

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# Long-time resident celebrates 32 years here

Once again, we thank you, Pat Volheim, for all the time and effort you gave to make our holiday party such a huge success. We have already booked a date for this year's party at the same place.

Even though Christmas for 2013 is in the past now, I can't resist telling you about the very unique gift that was given to Gin Upton and her brother Dale by Dale's girlfriend, Barbara.

Early in December Barb phoned Gin to ask her to accept airfare to Minneapolis to surprise Dale. Gin accepted, and with the help of her sister Michele, kept her arrival a secret until the night of the celebration.

You can imagine the surprised look on Dale's face when Gin "popped out" of the huge box she had hidden in. Despite the bitter cold in that state, none of the family minded because the fun, games and get-togethers they enjoyed provided the warmth needed.

One of the best parties I attended was that which was hosted by Case Bastmeyer. He wanted to celebrate not



only his 86th birthday, which was on Dec. 15, but also his having owned his condo for 32 years.

So, at least 32 people enjoyed an open bar and pizza of all kinds. Donna Cameron entertained with organ music. A variety of carols and oldies had some of us singing. Case had not been able to come from his Toronto home for four years for different reasons and had to return just before New Year's but is chomping at the bit to return.

Welcome back to our building are John and Gwen Briggs, who arrived

from Manitoba several days after Christmas. They endured bad driving conditions, but their old diesel truck succeeded in getting them here with no mishaps.

Mike Caramanna also arrived from his summer abode but did have a mishap (a lady plowed into his car). He was bruised a bit, but the woman had good insurance to make necessary repairs to his car. He is once more to be heard giving his words of wisdom and interest. So glad to have these fun people here again!

The building luncheon has been changed to the fourth Monday of the month. Check the bulletin board as to time and place. Also check it for important news that might be posted.

In closing, I urge you to attend the entertainment that will be provided Feb. 20 by the Entertainment Committee in the East Activity Center. Kay Tomasselli's son-in-law Vinnie Talarico will be the star of the show. If the program is half as good as it was last fall, you will be most pleased.



## Kudos to a hard worker

Thanks to all the team work that put together our Jan. 11 party to celebrate the New Year. There were 56 people enjoying all the goodies.

It was our luck that the rain held off until the event was over. We enjoyed the cake! Thanks to Annie Wilson (who is leaving our building), for all her work on the flea market, taking good care of plants and flowers and her cheerful help with all things (see photo at bottom).

Welcome new residents Ann and Ernie Kilcup, who come to us from another building here at OTOW. They have been in Florida 10 years, coming originally from Niagara Falls, N.Y. Ann enjoys dancing, family history, crafts and work with the Theater Workshop. Ernie enjoys music and playing pool.

Much love and kisses to all sweethearts on the 14th. Good luck in keeping your resolutions for 2014!



Modernage resident Annie Wilson

## A surprising fact about Valentine's Day

Happy Valentine's Day to all wives, mothers, sweethearts and friends.

Did you know that there will be almost 190 million Valentines sent this year and that teachers will be the recipients of most of them? E-Valentines are gradually replacing those mailed.

Capistrano neighbors did a lot of traveling this winter season, with most venturing north braving the cold, the snow, and crowded airports to celebrate the holidays with family.

Almost everyone has returned safe and sound and we haven't heard any airport or travel horror stories.

Karen and I flew to Niagara Falls



to face the 13-degree temperatures, and four inches of water in the basement. In spite of the mess, we enjoyed our Christmas with family, got everything cleaned and headed back to Capistrano

and our dogs Timmy and Angel.

A photo of Capistrano residents Pat and Frank Massaro enjoying a dance at the East Activity Center to welcome the New Year adorned the front page of the On Top of the World News January issue. Congratulations Frank and Pat. It was a great picture (actually taken in 2012) and you both looked super.

Tony and Claudette Sinopoli cruised out of Miami late last year on a five-day classic movie cruise. Tony is a classic movie buff and enjoys this annual cruise which, in addition to showing some of the classics, includes the stars of those movies aboard as guests.

The latest cruise included Robert Wagner of movie fame as a guest among others. Tony has met a number of the stars from some of the movies we all saw in theaters when admission was less than a dollar.

Have you noticed there were a lot of young people visiting during the holidays? It is great to see the kids enjoying the sunshine and warm weather.

Well don't forget Feb. 2 is Groundhog Day. Feb.18 is National Battery Day and my birthday; I hope I am charged up! Give your dog a biscuit on Feb. 23, for that day is Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day.

If you have any news to share let me know — it makes it easier to produce these articles.

See you in March.



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*References available.*

## A call for volunteerism

With the New Year's wishes and Christmas holiday celebrations behind us, we now prepare ourselves for a fresh start to our condo year.

We offer thanks to Jean Gitlin who gave so much time to working on the task that long required attention, i.e., painting the mail boxes that immediately improved the look of the entrance core area.

There are many things that contribute to the contentment of where we live. We have ideas, but we need the hands to carry them out.

The same people cannot continue to shoulder the responsibilities that we should all be sharing. This is a call for volunteers to step forward and offer to assist in the activities we present to our condo residents.

We realize that so many of us lead lives that cannot commit, but are still able and very much wanting to participate with us. This message is directed at those who may be capable of assuming leadership, or assisting those who are able to participate in a leadership or co-leadership role.

Our once very lively community needs to invest again in a new spirit of camaraderie where participating together lends an atmosphere of congeniality to our residence. That will also resonate in the OTOW



community where the feedback once was that our residents are different and that is what helps us succeed in our endeavors.

That is the recollection I have of times past when we came to live here and we shared glorious experiences with one another.

We now have new residents and we would like to become acquainted with them. We invite them and all who reside here to come to the first meeting of the New Year. The date will be posted on the bulletin board and we look forward to seeing you.

We are open and willing to accept your input on what we are trying to accomplish. You are the magic we need to open the door to a really great New Year!

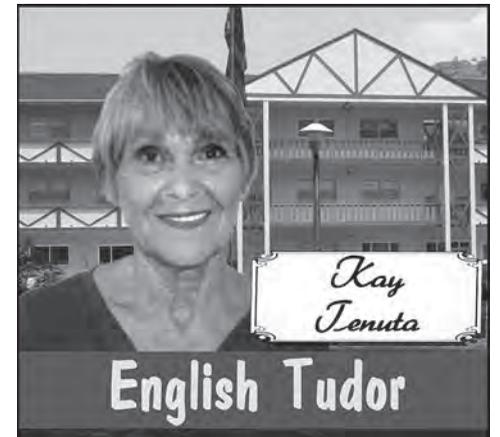
## Building's annual Food Bank donations exceed goal

Are you still writing 2013 on your correspondence? I am, as it always takes a few months for me to get used to writing the new date. And just think, in 334 days we can change again and write 2015!

A friend sent me a card over the holidays that included this line, "...a New Year full of promise." Wow, what a gift she gave me, and it immediately made me work on my 2014 resolutions.

Writing this column has introduced me to so many nice neighbors in my building and I wish more lived here year-round. Meanwhile, I'm hanging around and waiting for them to make the full-time move.

Our lovely and talented activities director, JoAnn Dameron, has added a new activity for our building as a yearly event. It's a food drive for the Clearwater Food Bank. All donations stay local in Pinellas County, which the donors seem to like. JoAnn gave the residents a seven-day collection time limit, and boy did they provide! Residents donated 118 lbs. of suggested food items. According to the in-take director, these 118 lbs will provide 79 meals. There is only a 30-day supply at any given time, so the need goes on.



Unloading the Food Bank donations are left to right, Roy Satkowski, the in-take clerk, and Jo Ann Dameron.

Our new officers have scheduled their first meeting of 2014. Residents: Please provide me with your news and please read the bulletin boards for future events.

## Noting some of the talented residents in our building

Maybe our building name should be changed from "Granada" to "Talent," due to the fact that we have so many talented residents!

For example, we have Judy and Tammy Edwards, who both write well, Barbara Humphreys, who leads the writing club, and now we have a new resident named Marilynne Kuestner, who is a talented artist.

Marilynne was born in Boston and attended the Art Institute of Boston. In 1976, she moved to Clearwater, where she met and married the late Richard, and raised their two daughters, Kendall and Kristina. Kristina is a news anchor for a television channel out West.

Marilynne is a lovely, friendly person, who is helpful to our building and its residents. She is a creative woman who loves working with clay and painting with water colors.

A visit to her art-filled apartment is a treat for the eyes. Marilynne is not too inclined to sit still for long, inasmuch as she also enjoys Tai-Chi and yoga.

As if all that is not enough, she also is a world traveler, having been to China, Greece, Paris and Spain.



She is a most welcome addition to our building.

Betty Kostka was recently visited by her sister Anna and niece Pamela, from Pittsburgh. The trio enjoyed dining, shopping and cooking together for eight days.

Twenty people attended our January luncheon at First Watch. Our next luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m., Feb. 7, at Kally-K's. Please, make use of the sign-up sheet and join us.

Until next month, remember that Nelson Mandela said "Service to others is the rent you pay for service on Earth."

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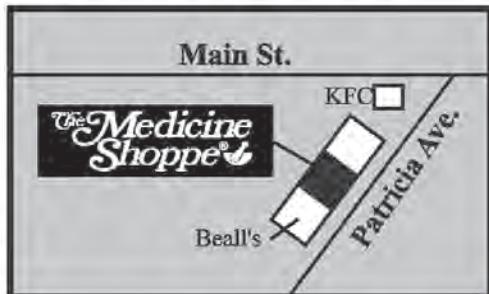
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This Classified section is a service to the OTOW community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and copy must be 20 words or less including phone number. Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. *If the submitters's name and building is not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.*

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Ads must be placed in the boxes marked OTOW News in the East and West Activity Centers or dropped off at the newspaper office. We cannot accept ads over the phone. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted.

## FOR SALE

- Wolfgang Puck food processor \$50; KitchenAid 2-slice toaster \$25; KitchenAid coffee maker \$25; Rival crock pot \$20. \$100 for all. 796-8447
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- Patio tables (glass) & several chairs. 712-8639
- Beautiful black leather jacket, size 10/12, lined, inside pockets, belted, zipper front closure, zippered side, breast pockets and sleeves \$50. 726-4619
- Ladies' 8-speed bike, good condition, ridden only three times \$60. 401-258-2059
- Easy Spirit ladies' shoes, black slip-on, size 6, new \$30; electric throw \$10; Straight Talk Samsung cell phone, no contract \$50. 692-7028
- Cue stick and case, never used, signed by Steve Mizerak \$75. 725-3708
- Gold's Gym exerciser chair, like new \$60 OBO. Call to see. 754-2794
- Dell desktop computer, very good condition \$100; Royal Doulton figurines, will sell one or all. Price for all \$395. 724-1756
- Car cover, fits Honda Accord, used once for one month, excellent condition \$30. 723-2404
- Large shell table lamp, brass and glass; floor lamp with matching table lamp; large gold mirror with matching shelf. 725-0753
- Matching La-Z-Boy recliners, rose fabric, one is a rocker \$200. 791-7907
- Maple hutch \$225; queen bedroom set \$125; kitchen table w/6 chairs \$115 OBO; also odds & ends. 475-9167
- Allied 58-piece ratchet driver power bit set (inches & mm) \$10. 799-1261
- 12-piece table setting, "Lady Louise" old ivory pattern from the 1940s, good condition, made in U.S.A. \$225 OBO. 331-1554
- Two Bag-Boy 3-wheel push-pull golf carts \$35 each. 725-3775
- Hammond organ w/bench; wall entertainment center; 3-room-size blue carpeting. 612-5916
- Mini-blinds, fit F-Deluxe, aluminum, ivory color, excellent condition, LR (91" x 63") \$45, DR (74" x 51") \$35, both for \$70. 207-230-9033
- Ultra quiet Kenmore dishwasher, like new \$150; seven golf clubs: driver, putter, irons 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 all for \$10. 600-8529
- Love seat, seafoam green trimmed in brown piping, has two throw pillows. Excellent condition, two years old \$250. 812-599-3968
- Wurlitzer console piano, walnut cabinet, good condition, in tune, w/tuning tools and music \$300 OBO; three TVs, 13" to 29". 603-997-1977
- Green 65" sofa bed, floral print; end tables; cocktail table; dining room cabinet, 53" wide w/two shelves & three drawers. 726-2850
- Set of three ceramic planters, blue & white pattern, large, medium and small \$30. 796-2003
- Rocker/recliner \$40; Hoover carpet cleaner \$50; assorted luggage \$5 each. 754-1594 or 616-558-4977

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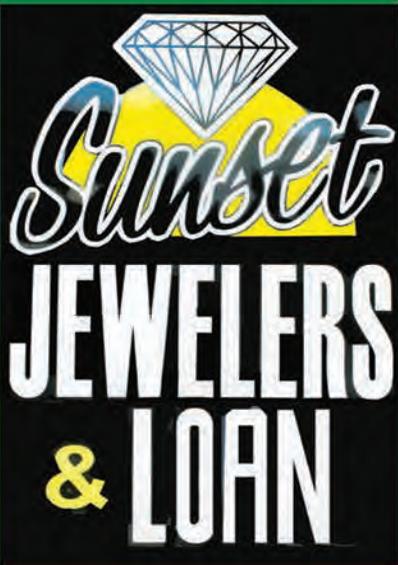
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