OTOW Theater Season Preview, pages 36-37

ON TOP OF THE WOOLD WORLD



February 2015

Published Since 1968

Only Good News for 47 Years

Volume 47 No. 2



Pictured above, April Glenn uses a hockey stick to try to slide her golf ball in the hole from about 10 feet out. Her 'slapshot' went just wide. Stan Glenn, Cindy Schell and Marc Schell all stood by and tried to learn how to use the stick from watching April, but all three missed the goal. Still, they had fun trying. At right, Bill Gambacurta follows tournament rules by sitting in a chair for a drive on hole No. 14. What followed this swing was a 175-yard drive which put his foursome 50 feet from the green.

(OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)



This tournament required more than golf skills

With a hockey stick sitting on the No. 11 green, Canadian golfers should have had a distinct advantage in the Suncoast Hospice Charity Golf Tournament held at the On Top of the World 18-hole golf course in mid-January.

But this wasn't the case.

Not even the Canadians seemed to know how to sink a putt with the blade of a hockey stick instead of the smooth, solid surface of a putter.

Nonetheless, everyone heading for hole No. 12 had a smile on their face.

This was the first year for this type of "fun" tournament and participants didn't know what type of unique challenges were awaiting them on each hole. There were also traditional skill contests such as closest to the pin and longest drive.

In the end, Patty Eastman, Ed Oulton, Betty McKay and Mike Crittendon did the best job of mastering the day with a low team score of 54.

Second place went to Anna Hyden, Dan Hyden, Anne Stewart and Jimmy Stewart with a 57.

Third place went to Ada Bryant, Tom Bryant, Pauline Jones and Jack Gow with a 58.

In the past 16 years, charity golf tournaments at OTOW have raised more than \$54,000. This year, at least another \$5,000 was added to that total.

LIST WITH THE LEADER.

PALM ACRE REAL ESTATE HAS CHANGED THEIR NAME TO ON TOP OF THE WORLD REAL ESTATE, INC.

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Lawn bowling is back, exercise equipment getting updated and golf tournament raises needed funds

This month has been busy and the community is full with the return of Snowbirds and many visitors from our northern states.

Everyone is taking advantage of the mild weather and the outdoor amenities.

The work at the lawn bowling court is complete for this budget year. We look forward to additional shade installments and improvements in the next budget cycle, beginning June 2015

I learned a great deal about lawn bowling during this unexpected renovation, so much so that I now look forward to playing the game.

For those of you who like to spend time at the West Activity Center gym, we ask for your patience while the equipment is being assessed for repair and/or replacement. We are working quickly to get the equipment back in operational condition.

In January I had the privilege to attend the luncheon for the On Top of the World Suncoast Hospice Golf Tournament. Even though the golf tournament was rained out on Jan. 13, in true OTOW fashion, the luncheon and charity raffle continued on.

I was excited to be invited to the luncheon and was so proud of this community event which benefits such



a great cause.

It was gratifying to see the large turnout for the luncheon, and even more surprising was the amount of money this community golf tournament has raised in support of the Rally for a Cure. In the past 16 years, this golf tournament has raised more than \$54,000 for this worthy cause.

Our thanks go out to the men's and women's golf leagues, and especially to Fran Zaloski and committee members, for making this tournament a success.

The new Waste Management representative for the OTOW community came by in January and reported the community's recycling efforts have been successful.

Recycling has been so successful in fact, that in the very near future we will be able to exchange an addi-

Hot dogs return to post-parade festivities

The Irish Club is working to coordinate the community St. Patrick's Day parade.

The parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, beginning promptly at 10 am.

During the parade, World Parkway Boulevard will be closed on the east side of the community for approximately one hour. The road remains open for emergency responders, however, during this time, all other traffic is required to cease.

This request is not only for the safety of parade attendees, but also for the participants in the parade. The parade is a lot of fun for the community and showcases the true spirit of On Top of the World.

After the parade, the Irish Club offers beer and pretzels (while supplies last) at the East Activity Center back parking lot. Hot dogs and soda will be available for a nominal cost by the Good Karma Café.

So grab a lawn chair, invite your friends and family, and come on out to this fun community event.

tional trash pick-up day for an additional recycling day because so much material is not going to the landfill. More information will follow in the OTOW News March edition and notices will be posted in the building center cores.

While this is certainly good news in our effort to preserve "our world," container please leave do need to keep in mind the rules a regular trash bin.

for recycling, paying particular attention to the disposal of cardboard. Large cardboard boxes are an important item to recycle, however, the cardboard must be broken down and must fit easily into a recycling container. If you cannot break down the cardboard to a size that fits easily in the recycling container please leave the cardboard in a regular trash bin.



4 hours of non-stop BINGO!

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Games begin at 12:30 p.m.
Advance tickets only. No tickets sold at the door.
Cost is \$30, which includes lunch and all-day coffee.
You can purchase tickets any Monday evening during Bingo, or Monday and Thursday mornings in the EAC auditorium.
No refunds.

It is time to be thinking about

It is good to be in Florida in February!

This is the time of the year that the community population reaches the maximum occupancy.

By extension, this paper also reaches the maximum readership.

In honor of those two events, I've taken out my soap box to make the following points:

(1) If an adverse event occurs in a property, 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.

(2) 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 inhome 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 more than 10 years old, it needs careful monitoring for possible leaks. If it is over 12 years old, you'd be money ahead to re-



place 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, the 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 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

February is a great month to review your property and casualty coverage.

Your Association always recommends that you discuss your coverage with your carrier, but to also bid out coverage.

Last year, during the first week of January, the Board received a letter from a resident who saved more than \$300 by bidding their property coverage.

Your Board recommends both the on-line agency, www.ChallengeMyRate. com and Coleman Agency. Coleman is local and provides great service. Their number is (727) 441-9911. This really does work and can save you money on your HO6 coverage.

Failing to be adequately insured leaves the owner at 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 \$25,000.00. 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 ChallengeMy-Rate.com.

Work Progress Outlook

Painting/Waterproofing: Building 82 is scheduled to have a new water-proofing membrane applied to the rear of the building in the month of February. Please keep in mind that all start dates are approximate and inclement weather can affect scheduling.

Flooring Projects: Building 56 and Building 58 are scheduled to have their first floors replaced in February. Please remember that this work is affected in the overnight hours to minimize any inconvenience to the community. Please exercise caution if you find yourself in proximity to these posted work areas.

Railing Improvement Projects: Work at Building 7 should be underway as this update goes to press. A licensed contractor 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 improvements are estimated to be complete in 5-7 weeks, depending on the scope and the size of the structure. Notices will be posted in advance of the work so residents of Building 6 should keep an eye on their bulletin boards for updates. Additional buildings are currently in the bidding process and are slated to begin in early spring.

Construction, Roofing and largescope projects: Building 18 is scheduled to have its roofing system removed and replaced in February. Materials for this improvement are estimated to start arriving at the building the second week, with work starting shortly thereafter. The arrival of these roofing materials, as well as equipment, will require the temporary relocation of resident's vehicles as the project progresses from each side of the building. Notices will be posted on bulletin boards to keep the occupants of the building abreast of the project's progress. The completion estimate for these improvements is roughly 4-5 weeks, weather permitting.

Building 66 will also see maintenance crews performing restoration work in the month of February. These teams will be working on stripping, prepping, and applying new coatings to the wood surfaces on the building. Please be aware that areas of the parking lot will need to be cordoned off to allow for high-reach equipment to operate. Notices will be posted to bulletin boards and door hangers will be left on units whose parking spaces will be affected. Thank you for your cooperation and please exercise caution in and around marked work areas.

Building walkway repairs will continue through winter and into spring as construction crews perform maintenance to the 2nd and 3rd floor walking surfaces. These small scale repairs require the use of specialized power tools and may cause a temporary inconvenience in the form of noise and dust. Repair crews will do their best to limit the inconvenience during this necessary work. These small repair areas will also be coated as a future preventative. As always, we ask that residents please limit any foot traffic in and around any work area they may encounter.

Continued on page 5

your property and insurance

Walkway coating improvements will continue across property in the winter and spring.

These improvements involve preparation of the surface (and occasionally sub-surface) concrete, the addition of acrylic fortified materials to stairwell surfaces, and then the application of a quality slip-resistant barrier coating.

The end result is intended to provide longevity to the balcony walking surfaces as well as returning the look to its original conveyed color scheme.

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

The patching and painting of all building common areas due to unapproved wall penetrations is continuing across property.

A large majority of this work is being performed in advance of contracted painting crews.

Notices regarding this necessary work are being posted in the affected buildings in advance of the work.

All in all, the response has been overwhelmingly positive, but the management company is asking for all residents cooperation in not drilling into or attaching any un-approved fastener to the structure in the future without modification approval by the On Top of the World Association.

If residents are not sure about what items (like wall mountings) require a modification permit, please stop by the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center and a representative will be glad to assist you.

The structural inspections and correction program (an inspection process by which the management's construction and roofing departments affect repairs on headers, tower elements, walkways, sidewalks, parapets, columns, railings, center core doors, etc.) continues to be an effective preventative in the ongoing practice of structural maintenance. 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.

Inspection Services Division

February will see the continuance of storage room compliance inspections. Many times these new items are randomly placed in other residents alFebruary will see the continuance of storage room compliance inspections. Many times these new items are randomly placed in other residents allotted space, or the items are of a nature that they are not permissible for storage. To assist in keeping these areas compliant and orderly, the Inspection Services Division of the management company started performing preliminary storage room inspections and tagging non-compliant items.

Residents who would like to request an inspection, or have general storage room questions should visit the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center. A representative will be glad to contact them regarding the matter.

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Parking and vehicle registration enforcement efforts are continuing to be heavily enforced.

With the return of the community's Snowbirds, comes higher traffic volume, and in some areas parking may be at a premium.

To ensure that all residents have ample parking, vehicles must be up to date on their registrations, and should be operational and not in disrepair. Please also remember that recreational vehicles or commercial vehicles are not permitted to be parked overnight within the community without advance association approval.

PODS or storage containers also require the advance written approval of the Association and may be tagged and removed if found to be in violation of community rules. Residents are encouraged to report any vehicle concerns to the Community Service Office for investigation and action if warranted.

Gardening

The removal of plantings located above and around the potable water meters, that service the individual units, is also ongoing.

The management company is asking that all residents comply and not replant the areas.

Plants or other items found in these areas will be removed without notice and disposed of as they hinder the proper maintenance of these meters in the future.

Please keep in mind that the condominium association requires a modification request for any landscape alteration. Many times decorative rocks or landscaping is installed without the advance approval of the Association, and the removal and disposal of these items becomes the responsibility of the violator.

Please, always apply for approval before you install.

A recent inspection by the Clearwater Fire Marshall's office confirmed the management company's commitment to the On Top of the World community. In particular, it's focused efforts in the tagging and removal of personal furnishings and belongings placed in outside stairwells of buildings that present a fire concern, block egress, or are of a nature that they do not comply with written community standards.

Leaf removal er with the simple tion of overgrow plantings, and removal of personal that they do not comply dents slow down limits, and be aw

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

While clutter enforcement has al-

ways been one of the most reoccurring compliance issues at On Top of the World, these efforts make for an overall safer community in which to live.

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

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

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

Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Awnings

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 "clamshell" style awning must be removed to halt any further damage to the structure.

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

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

Landscaping Projects

Leaf removal and disposal, together with the simplification or elimination of overgrown or un-maintained plantings, and roadside maintenance (the cleaning and clearing of curbs and parking lot entrance/exits), will continue into March.

For safety's sake, we ask that residents slow down, obey posted speed limits, and be aware of crews working in close proximity to roadway traffic. Their safety depends on your cooperation.

Landscape teams will also be performing their normally scheduled shrub trimming activities over the winter months and into spring.

Work almost complete on globe

Work to the front entrance globe fountain should be completed this

We thank you for your patience during these renovations and ask that you pardon our dust.

Water On/Off Service Changes

There is now a two-hour service window covering water on/off requests.

A Parkway representative will arrive within two hours of your requested time.

To turn water on or off, visit the Community Service Office between 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. or go online at otowclearwaterinfo.com For service after 3 p.m. call 799-1115. A \$35 after-hours payment is required at time of service.

Tennis Courts

Reminder, pets are not allowed on tennis courts.



staff, as well as tennis players, have removed dog waste from the court. Animal waste leaves stains on the courts. Additionally, the nails of the dog(s) leave small indentations on the court. Please help us keep your courts nice and clean for the enjoyment of all resi-

We ask you to utilize the beautiful Over the last few weeks, the SCA dog park for your pet's enjoyment on the West side of the property.

On Top of the World Village Post Office

COMING SOON: The Community Service Office will soon be home to our very own On Top of the World Village Post Office.

From here you will be able to purchase books or individual stamps, mail out priority flat rate shipping packages, and pick up change of address cards.

Watch for notices regarding our grand opening to be posted.

AAA Driving Course

The AAA driving course will be held in the East Activity Center Starlite Room on Thursday, Feb. 19 and Friday, Feb. 20 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The cost is \$15 and registration forms can be found on page 52 of this On Top of the World newspaper.

F.L.O.W Bus

The Florida Licensing on Wheels

bus will be on property Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the East Activity Center North parking lot.

Reminders

A smoking area has been designated at the farthest deck area at the back of each pool. The intention is to create a separate area away from nonsmokers. If you do smoke, be mindful that others do not want to breathe your smoke. This also applies to users of smokeless delivery systems as well.

Please remember to bring your recreation card with you when using the SCA facilities and plan to show it upon staff request.

I would also like 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.

When will the first Christmas candle go on sale in 2015? November? October? September???

Did anyone notice local grocery stores were selling Christmas candles the day after Halloween?

Halloween!

It was a subtle, hidden, sneaky way to gradually get shoppers used to the fact that businesses were going to push holiday merchandise well before Thanksgiving was even over.

In past years, Christmas specialties, such as ornaments, trees and holiday music, never appeared on shelves until after Thanksgiving.

Now, exit Halloween, it's time to put white beards and red hats on unpurchased pumpkins to get everyone in that early shopping spirit!

Really?

It appears the new selling tool for businesses is to subliminally expose potential shoppers to the holiday shopping season two months before the actual holiday itself.

But the key is to not be obvious by putting up a Santa display or fill a sled



with toys. The sneaky part is to put Christmas candles in the auto parts aisle, to put poinsettias in the produce section, and to temporarily replace Rocky Road ice cream with egg nog ice cream.

Seriously, we saw the holiday rush start in 2014 on Nov. 1 – maybe even sooner. My question is, in the near future, will the first Christmas candle appear on a shelf before Halloween ...

and when will sales become so early that it begins to annoy the common shopper?

Kind of got me thinking? Someday, will we need more government regulations to oversee the start of the holiday shopping season?

You know who should be put in charge of the holiday shopping season? The hurricane prediction people in Colorado, who can't really predict hurricanes.

I can see it now ...

"According to the Hurricane Prediction Research Center in snowy Colorado, the 2015 holiday shopping season will start Oct. 24 with candles, cookies and flowers as the first to hit shelves. You will be able to begin your holiday shopping at this time."

"There will be witches selling gift cards on Oct. 24, followed by ghosts pulling sleighs on Oct. 28, and goblins pushing layaway sales on Oct. 29."

"The 'Nutcraker' theme song will start playing in stores as early as Oct. 30 during the last-minute push to sell Halloween candy."

OK. Enough bashing the hurricane prediction center in Colorado and anyone else who thinks they can predict Mother Nature.

But seriously, what happened to the holiday shopping season starting after Thanksgiving?

I really did look twice and grumble when I saw my first Christmas candle on sale in October. I apologize it took four months to write about it.

All I ask now is, could someone please assure me that I won't see a Christmas candle on sale in August and I won't see my first poinsettia the day after Labor Day (Sept. 7).

And while I admit egg nog is delicious, I would rather not see my first bottle until Dec. 1.

Thank you and may I be the first to wish you a Happy Holidays for 2015.

OTOW ART GUILD ART SHOW **Browse/Buy Art By OTOW Residents** 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22 in the EAC auditorium

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Only Good News for 46 Years Published Since 1968

<u>COLUMNISTS</u> Hospice Golf Tournament Kenneth Colen, Publisher • Doug Kates, Editor • Dave Hart, Asst. Editor

Press Association Officers

Yvonne Courtney, President
Jackie Dooley, Vice President • Arlene Bergen, Secretary

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 March 2

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

On Top of the World News is a community organization for the benefit of the residents of On Top of the World.

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

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

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

On Top of the World News does not accept an advertiser solely because it is willing to pay to advertise. Trades and services regulated by the State or County must all be licensed in order to advertise. In some cases, background checks are required. All advertisements must contain a local address or a local telephone number.

The submission to OTOW NEWS of any photo, artwork or other form of copyrighted material authorizes OTOW News to use and/or print the image at later dates and in other forms in such ways as OTOW News, in its sole, absolute and unfettered discretion deems appropriate.

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

This month's volunteers:

Barb Sundberg
Arlene Bergen
Theresa Kawalec
Gloria Clifford
Cele Radeloff
Esta-Lee Schwartz
Jim Harrington

Newsroom Hours 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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On Top of the World Computer Club

www.otowcc.com

CLUB MEETINGS: We hold computer classes, presentations and help solve computer-related problems. We meet every Saturday, 8:30-10 a.m. in the East Activity Center Large Card Room.

HELP SESSIONS: Staffed by experts and OTOW residents - we help you with all your computer questions and problems. You can get one-on-one assistance with problems relating to computer software, hardware and applications. We help with Windows XP, Windows 7, 8, 8.1 and 10. There is free WiFi during help session hours. Sessions are Monday though Friday, 8:30-10 a.m., in the East Activity Center Computer Room.

RECYCLING: We will help residents recycle computers and printers for a small, modest fee. This service is for members only.

MEMBERSHIP: Our annual membership fee is \$20 for new members and \$15 for renewing members.

MORE INFORMATION: Find out what topics we will be talking about at future meetings.

Go to: www.otowcc.com

OPEN HOUSE

You've never visited the OTOW Computer Club?

Did you know On Top of the World has a Computer Club?

Do you know where the club meets?

Do you know what equipment is available to residents? Did you know club members can help you with your own

computer problems?

The Computer Club will be holding an Open House ev-

ery Saturday morning in February.

You are invited to a friendly get-together from 8:30-10 a.m. with free coffee.

Bring your laptop computers, I Pads, or Tablets, and if you have any questions at all, one of our members will try to help you - no strings attached!

Did you know there is free WiFi available to anyone who brings their computer to the Computer Room, Library or almost any room in the bottom floor of the East Activity Center?

Drop by and discover for yourself.

The Computer Club meets in the Computer Room, in the EAC, across the hall from the Large Card Room.



Art Sale set for Feb. 22



By Judy Mills

It's time for the annual Spring Art Show and Sale sponsored by the On Top of the World Art Guild.

The show will be on Sunday, Feb. 22 from 1-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

There will be many members exhibiting and selling their work. We will also be presenting several live demonstrations of different art mediums. There will be a 50/50 raffle and free coffee and cookies.

Admission is free and all attendees will have an opportunity to vote for a "People's Choice Award" for best artwork.

Each exhibitor will place one painting in competition for this award. The winning painting will be hung in the lobby throughout the summer season. This has always been a popular event and is a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

The Art Guild hopes it will inspire others and provide a variety of art forms for your enjoyment. We hope to see you there!

At our January meeting, we held a short business discussion, followed by some wonderful refreshments and cast our ballots for Artist of the Month for February.

Congratulations to Bill Martin! His painting will be hung in the lobby for this month. Stop by and check it out.

Then, we enjoyed a presentation by Carole Rosefelt on painting with alcohol ink on Yupo, which is a syn-



Bill Martin is the Artist of the Month for February

thetic paper. Very creative!

We have been keeping very busy with all of the different art class options:

On Mondays, Sharon is giving oils and acrylic lessons for beginner and experienced painters from 1-3 p.m. in the Art Room. Call her at 727-442-6404 for more information. Lessons are \$5 for members.

On Tuesdays, Wendy is teaching Chinese Brush Painting, which is a beautiful ancient Asian art. These classes are also in the Art Room from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. The cost of this program is \$5 for members. Please call her in advance so she brings enough sup-

plies. Her number is 723-7504.

On Wednesdays we continue to have Painting Pals/Open Workshop, which meets from 1- 3 in the Art Room. All are invited and encouraged to join us with your current project.

On Thursdays, John will continue giving his popular drawing lessons from 1-3 p.m. Classes are \$3 for members. Bring your own paper and pencils.

Membership is \$15 a year, which starts in November. Dues are used to pay presenters, expenses of the annual art show and refreshments at our meetings.

Our meetings are the second Fri-

day of the month at 1 p.m. in the Art Room, which is on the second floor of the East Activity Center. New and old members are encouraged to share your ideas for future activities. Bring a current project, completed or in progress, for the group to critique. Completed pieces are eligible for the monthly vote.

At our meetings we have a short business discussion, refreshments, and voting for artist of the month. The winning project will be displayed in the lobby of the EAC for one month.

The Art Guild welcomes new members of all skill levels. Come join us!

Community Information,
Club Information and
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There was a voting error in the 2014 Holiday Lights Contest. A first-floor unit was assigned to the upper-floor division by mistake and preliminary tallies gave that unit second place. However, after the error was discovered, second place was properly awarded to Pauline Curcio of the Swedish Traditional building. Her decoration work is pictured above.

Only 30 percent of Holiday Lights contest voters came from Florida

Maybe On Top of the World residents sought support from family members across the country, or maybe word is getting out that our community likes to decorate for the holidays?

Whichever case is true, voters participating in the 2014 Holiday Lights Contest came from all over the world, including 25 different states here in the USA, plus Canada, Puerto Rico and parts unknown.

Talk about major cities!

Some of the places people casted votes from included Cleveland, Tulsa, New York City, San Francisco, Miami, Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Portland, Phoenix, San Diego, Detroit, it. Minneapolis, Louisville, Seattle, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Oakland and Las Vegas ... to name a few.

There were also votes cast in To-

tawa, plus Sydney, Australia.

Oddly, out of the 271 voters who registered online, only 90 were from inside the state of Florida.

"It would be nice if most of the voters were actually from On Top of the World," said newspaper editor Doug Kates, "but if people want to vote from Kalamazoo, Mich., Oceanside, Calif., or Sunset Beach, N.C., then that's fine with me, too."

This was the fourth year for the Holiday Lights Contest. The first two years, the top prize went to the buildings with the overall most holiday spir-

Last year, for the first time, judging was based solely on individual condos.

This year, for the first time, individual condos were broken up into a

ronto, Montreal, Vancouver and Ot- first-floor division and an upper-floor division.

> In the January newspaper, preliminary contest results were posted, however an error was discovered. The second place condo in the upper-floor division was actually a first-floor unit.

> Therefore the final results are as posted.

> The overall grand prize winner was Ron Clement of the American Gothic building. He received a contest-high 238 votes of a possible 271 votes.

> Second place in the first-floor division went to Connie Stanley and Ken Campbell of the Polynesian Building. with 163 votes. This was their first Christmas in their OTOW condo.

> Third place went to Ann Renaud of the Mediterranean building, fourth place went to Pat Stephens of the Mel

bourne building and fifth place went to Marceline Guerrero of the Rancho Del Mundo building

First place in the upper-floor division was earned by Jesse Tiamson of the Ottoman building with 153 votes.

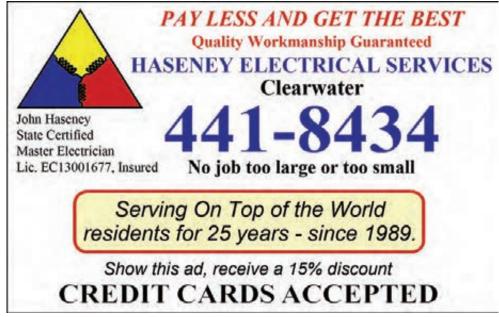
The new runner-up is Pauline Curcio of the Swedish Traditional building with 55 votes.

Third place went to Barbara Morris of the Chalet building. Fourth place went to Jim and Ruth Osborne of the Espana building. Fifth place went to Lola Bolton of the Fujiwara building.

Only Ron Clement and Jesse Tiamson are not eligible to compete in the 2015 contest, which will return using the same rules as the 2014 contest.

In the 2014 contest, there were 20 first-floor condos entered and 12 upper-floor condos entered.







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6 p.m.
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SCAM ALERT: The certified copy of a deed scam is still with us.

This is a scam where someone who has just purchased a property receives a letter from some company and the letter basically tries to sell the recipient a certified copy of a deed or maybe just a copy that's not certified.

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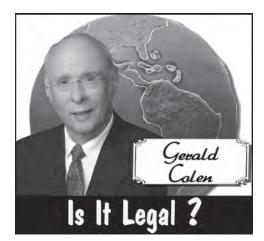
No exceptions.

You don't even need a copy because you'll have the original.

Please pass this on to neighbors, especially those who've just purchased a property, and since this appears to be a multi-state scam, if you know someone from another place or state that's just purchased a property, tell them to be on the lookout for the certified copy of deed scam.

Q. Do you get a lot of questions that are just plain weird and do you edit questions before you print them?

A. You don't know the half of it when it comes to weird questions.



And as for editing questions before I put them in my column, yes, I do that from time to time. I edit for spelling and for grammar and to make a question "flow" better. The newspaper may put the questions into clearer grammar as well

However, I try always to maintain the context of the question. I also edit out any mention of where someone lives, and by that I mean if someone writes me a question about a child who lives in, say, New Jersey, I'll edit out the name of the state.

I do not print any questions that

contain cuss words. I do not print any questions that are demeaning to any person or to any particular political, religious or philosophical view.

I get questions for this column in different ways and I do not count how many I get by email, how many by in person questions or how many by coming upon a question that I think will be of interest to my readers.

I sincerely welcome your questions. I never keep a question once it is used. If it's by letter, I toss away the letter. If it's by email, I delete the email under the "delete forever" format. It's a simple matter of privacy. I know we don't have very much privacy but what we have I sincerely respect.

Q. I live in Florida and my best friend lives in (a Midwestern state). We are not married and we are not blood relatives. Can I name my friend as the personal representative on my Will even though the friend does not live here?

A. There are certain persons who are qualified to be a personal representative of a Will. Basically, these are Florida residents over 18 and not convicted felons; blood relations, whether Florida residents or not, and certain financial establishments that are authorized to do business in Florida.

So, if your friend does not fall into one of these categories, it is likely that he/she will not qualify to be your personal representative in Florida.

Interestingly, though, that person could be named in your durable power of attorney, health care designation, and even in a trust should you have one. It's just the way Florida law is designed.

Q. My father has severe Alzheimer's and is in a nursing home. My mother has been visiting him often but not every day. Apparently, she met a man either from the nursing home or from where she lives and they've been "seeing each other." I think this is terribly wrong and would like to see this in your column. I would come to Florida if I could, but I work and have my own family to care for.

A. Here it is, but if you think I am going to agree with you, you've got another "think" coming.

For one thing, your mother didn't ask me for my opinion so I don't intend to give it out. For another, I know how devastating life can be for a man or a woman whose spouse can no longer function in any meaningful way and must now reside in a nursing

home. Try putting someone you love in a nursing home and see what the emotional strain can do.

Having a companionship is necessary just to get through the days and nights. And yes, I do understand that a loving child cannot just pick up and move here from another state and take care of a parent. That, however, does not change my thinking.

My motto is "Judge not!"

Q. I am a widow and would like to find a male companion, but am fearful of going onto the Internet.

I understand that it can be very dangerous.

Please don't suggest any religious institution as I am spiritual, but do not belong to any established group.

What about some of the companies I've seen advertised on TV?

A. I think there are many ways to meet someone that do not require you to go into Internet chat rooms or search online. I understand that the companies that advertise on TV don't really produce good results. You don't need to be a member of a religious institution either. There are clubs or organizations that need volunteers.

There are organizations that are worthwhile places to meet others with similar interests. You can't be lazy and truth be told I have it in mind that going online to find someone is lazy.

Gerald R. Colen is an attorney and member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the Academy of Florida Elder Attorneys. He concentrates his practice of law in the areas of elder law, wills, trusts, probate, real estate, title insurance, asset protection planning, business law, and simple and complex estate planning. This column is not intended to provide legal advice. You should always consult your own attorney for all your legal advice. Mr. Colen and his associates, Attorney Rachel Wagoner and Attorney Jennifer Cooley, are available for conferences at their law office at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, Fl., 33777. You may call them at (727) 545-8114. They also meet clients at On Top of the World, in Clearwater, Fl. and at OTOW in Ocala, Fl. In Ocala, Mr. Colen, Rachel Wagoner and Jennifer Cooley are available, by appointment, for legal conferences, at the former sales office of On Top of the World Real Estate Company. They have separate offices in the Circle Square Commons area. Call or email for directions. Visit Mr. Colen's Website at www.gcolen.com. He may be located on Twitter at @jerrycolen. Feel free to email him at Jerry@gcolen.com. Rachel Wagoner's email address is Rachel@gcolen.com. Jennifer Cooley's email address is Jennifer@gcolen.com

NOTICE

Important bulletin for all On Top of the World residents

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

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 Community Service Office in the East Activity Center. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Check out our special book sales coming up

Library adds 20 new books to shelves

By Katy Gerritt

The library is now open on Mondays 9-12 noon, and Wednesdays and Fridays 12-3 p.m., for our winter sea-

We are also in the process of updating library memberships, which are only \$2 annually, a very good deal to read a lot of bestsellers by favorite authors.

We have added lots of new books in December and January. They include "The Golum of Hollywood" by Jonathan Kellerman; "Personal" by Lee Childs; "The Perfect Witness" by Iris Johanson; "Leaving Time" by Jodi Picoult; "Murder 101" by Faye Kellerman and "Gray Mountain" by John Patterson. Grisham.

Also, "Paris Match" by Stuart Woods; "Deadline" by John Sanford; "Chasing Tomorrow" by Sidney Sheldon; "Blood Magic" by Nora Roberts; "The Cinderella Murder" by Mary Higgins Clark; "Lucky Us" by Amy Bloom; "Flesh and Blood" by Patricia Cornwell; "The Escape" by David Baldacci; "The Job" by Janet Evanovich; "Pegasus" by Danielle Steel; "Revival" by Stephen King; "Hope to Die" by James Patterson; "The Burning Room" by Michael Connelly and "Private India: City on Fire" by James

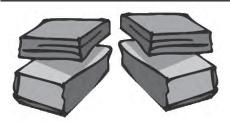
Certainly there is something for everyone on that long list!

We try to buy most titles in large print to accommodate our members, but sometimes that isn't possible.

We also have a large collection of sale books, thanks to donations, and the sales of these books help us raise money to purchase new books.

We are also continuing our First Friday sale which is "Buy four paperbacks and get one free" or "Buy two hard-bound books and get one free."

Looking forward to seeing you at the library!



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

Library News



Make plans now! Irish Club parade is 10 a.m., Saturday, March 7. Please do not drive on World Parkway Boulevard during the parade.







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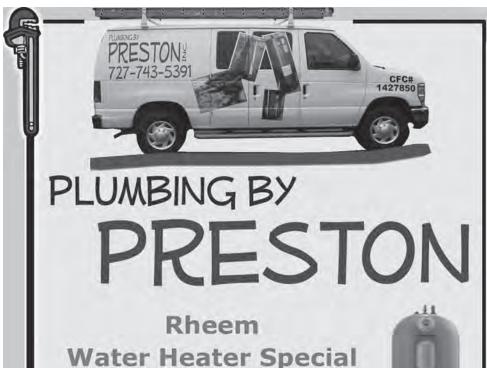




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The Press Association held its first morning meeting in January and nearly 30 people attended. Above, editor Doug Kates goes over some important information.

(OTOW News photo by George Swiderski)

Press Association gets congratulations on a wonderful January newspaper

How long did it take you to read the entire January 2015 On Top of the World newspaper?

That was the question editor Doug Kates asked everyone who attended January's Press Association meeting in the East Activity Center Veranda Room on Jan. 8 - the club's first morning meeting in recent history.

The question Doug asked was actually a compliment to everyone involved in the production of the January newspaper. The 80-page spread featured articles by seven columnists, 21 club stories, 25 building stories, eight sports stories, two very good front cover feature stories, coverage of the 2014 Craft Show, results of the 2014 Holiday Lights Contest and a preview to the 2014 Pet of the Year contest.

"There is no way anyone could have read this entire newspaper in one day," Doug said to his staff. "A couple days, maybe. Better yet, a week. There was so much stuff in it. This was one of the best newspapers we have put out in recent years."



Press Association

And for a compliment to all the hard work, there were also 85 different advertisers.

Cover to cover, the newspaper was very successful, which was a good way to start the new year.

In business matters, the Press Association discussed its recent holiday luncheon and made suggestions for the 2015 holiday luncheon. Plans will be discussed further over the summer.

Doug reminded reporters the general rule over the winter months is one photo per building story or one photo

per club story because there is so much content that has to be squeezed into one newspaper. The rule is different for feature stories and cover stories, where two or three photos can be used. During the summer months, there is a little more room for flexibility.

In other business, Doug said there was a need to establish a rule for active building writers. Prior to January's meeting, there was no rule stating whether a reporter can claim to be a building writer even if writing no stories.

Doug suggested the rule should read, "If a building has not had a story published over a period of 12 months, then the writer's position for that building should be considered open."

There were 27 people at the meeting and 25 voted to approve the rule. A two-thirds approval vote was required.

In a future edition of the newspaper, a list of open building writer positions will be published.

Lastly, Doug approached the Press Association about its meeting time. Currently, meetings take place at 1:30 p.m., every first Thursday of the month, in the Large Card Room. However, Doug recently learned that time and room is also shared by Contract Bridge, which leaves the room to accommodate the Press Association.

Doug asked press members if they would object to a new time, place or day so the bridge players could meet every Thursday without having to leave for a press meeting.

Everyone agreed, but now the challenge is to find a day, time and room which is available and accommdates the most amount of people.

The Press Association has already scheduled its regular time for March and April. A change would not occur until at least May.

"It would be nice if all our building writers, club writers, sports writers and staff could all meet at the same time each month," Doug said. "I know this is almost impossible, but we will work hard to see what is best."

The next meeting is 1:30 p.m., Feb. 5 in the EAC Large Card Room. The March meeting will be a pizza party. The Appreciation Luncheon is April 2.

Hot Dogs are coming back to the Irish Club parade!

The Good Karma Café will be serving hot dogs in the East Activity Center back parking lot after the annual Irish Club parade on Saturday, March 7. There will be a small fee. Beer and pretzels will be given away by the Irish Club free of charge. The parade starts at 10 a.m. Join us behind the EAC at about 10:45 a.m. See you there!

There was a lot of monkey business when one morning television show broke into history

Back in the early days of black and white TV, one of the shows had an ape as co-host.

In 1952, there were only three networks – ABC, CBS and NBC. There was no early morning TV.

So on Jan. 14, 1952, NBC came on the air with the Today Show starring Dave Garroway.

Dave had a late night radio show in Chicago before NBC brought him to New York to begin the Today Show.

One year later, ABC and CBS began televising a morning show opposite the Today Show.

As the ratings began to slip, NBC decided they had to make some changes and they hired J. Fred Muggs, the ape, as Garroway's co-host.

J. Fred Muggs caused the show many problems. Even though he was a very smart monkey, he was tempera-



Walter Balderson

Inside Showbiz

mental and had a habit of throwing tantrums. Members of the cast and guests had been bitten.

Dave referred to him as "the nasty little monkey" and hated working with him. He was accused of provoking the monkey and causing him to go into tantrums.

Muggs was a favorite over at Mad Magazine and was featured regularly until he bit the editor and never appeared in the magazine again. He also appeared on the cover several times.

After all, he was a major TV star with his own line of books, comics, games and other assorted merchandise

As J. Fred got older, he became even meaner. He was dropped from the show in 1957 after he went berserk too many times and viciously bit comedienne Martha Raye.

After Muggs was terminated from the show, there was a lawsuit. The

owners of the monkey sued NBC and Dave Garroway. Nothing became of that suit.

It is said that Muggs was very intelligent and knew when the camera was on him, seeing the red light. He would throw his tantrums and then run out of the range of the camera.

Dave always ended the show with his hand up saying "Peace." It appears that peace only came for Dave when the show ended.

OTOW-TV 96/732 SPECIAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

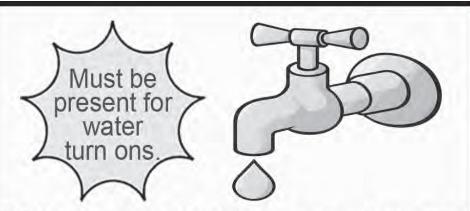
(shows start about 8 p.m.)

Feb. 6: Jesters 2014 show

Feb. 13: Theater Workshop 2013 show

Feb. 20: Chorus 2013 spring concert

Feb. 27: 2014 Irish Club parade



Did you know there are 4 ways to turn your water on or off?

- (1) CALL: 727-799-3417 (Option 6) Messages are retrieved Mon-Fri, 8-3:30.
- (2) Visit the East Activity Center Community Service Desk from 8:30-3, Monday-Friday.
- (3) Go Online to 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.

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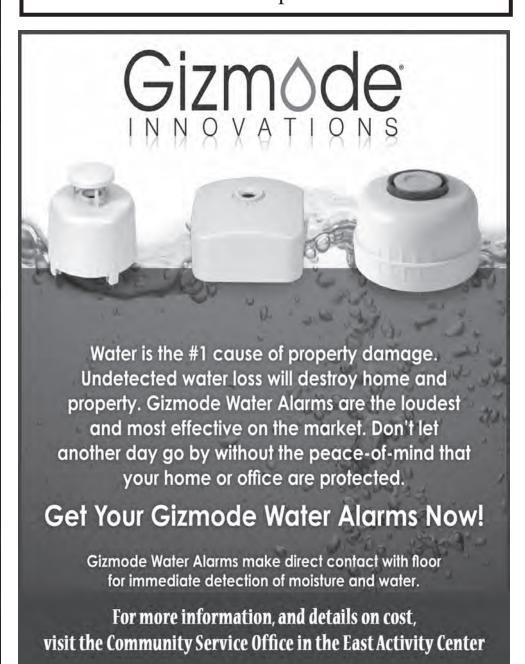
There is now a 2-hour service window for water on requests.

For example, if you request water turn on at 3 p.m.,

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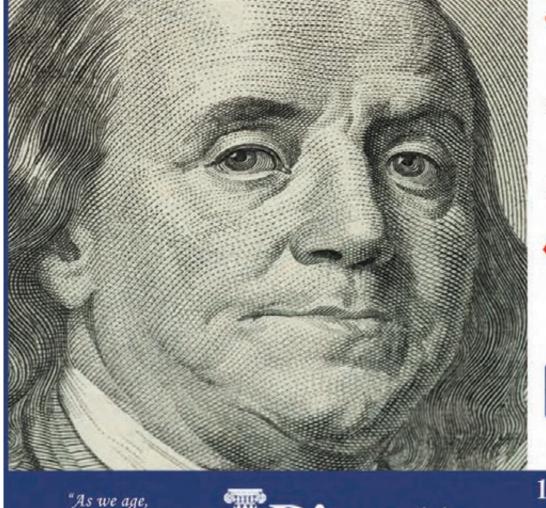
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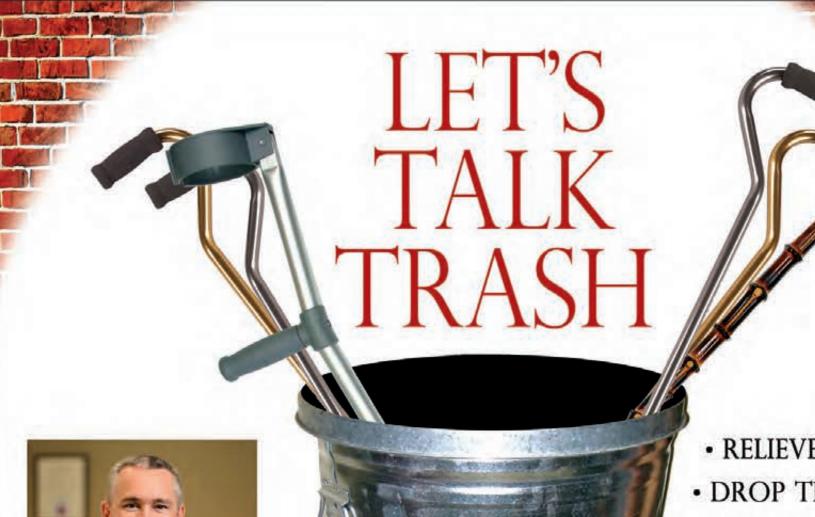
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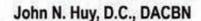
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ACTIVITY REPORTS



Pet of the Year was love at first sight on the Web

By Doug Kates

Four years ago, Carolyn Provenzano was surfing the Internet looking for the perfect puppy for her daughter.

When Carolyn spotted a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel at a shop in Kentucky, it soon became clear this dog was destined to become a part of the family.

But then ... the daughter decided she didn't want a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel.

Suddenly, Carolyn didn't know what to do.

Day after day, night after night, sometimes even at 2 a.m., Carolyn would turn on her computer just to see that precious puppy in Kentucky waiting to find a good home.

Then one day, Carolyn couldn't wait any longer. She flew to Kentucky, picked up the dog for herself, and returned to On Top of the World with the newest member of her own family.

Introducing, Sasha Anna Bella, the 2014 OTOW Pet of the Year, as elected by online voters.

"I saw Sasha's eyes on the Internet and said 'I have to get her," Carolyn said in January, shortly after Sasha received a free bubble bath from Barks and Bubbles and a gift certificate from Pet Supplies Plus - both sponsors of the yearly contest.

"I got up two or three times a night and pulled up her picture," Carolyn added. "I said, 'she has to be my baby."

More than 170 people voted online. Sasha received 40 votes for first place. Ella-Bella, a kitty cat from Valencia, took second place with 33 votes and Starr, a Cockapoo from Avila I, was third with 27 votes.

Carolyn is a former press agent for former Presidents Ronald Regan and George Bush. When it came time to start a voting campaign for Sasha, Carolyn said she was ready.



paign," she said.

Carolyn went online encouraging all of Sasha's friends to vote.

At the same time, the owner of the 2012 Pet of the Year, Helen Holding, was telling everyone in the Dorado Building to support one of its own.

Everything came together.

The day after the contest ended, Carolyn said people were calling her trying to find out who won. She said she was spending so much time on the phone, "Sasha was getting mad at me because I wasn't paying attention to

Now the Dorado Building has two champions in the past three years and Carolyn will be celebrating her 70th birthday just days after this article is published. She said it will be the best birthday present she could ask for.

Sasha, like third place winner, Starr, are both therapuetic dogs. They both visit nursing homes and cheer up people who need smiles.

If everything goes to plan, Sasha's next visit will be the Irish Club parade March 7.

She is currently on OTOW-TV -"I know how to conduct a cam- you can watch her taking a bath!

Above, Lynn Hutchins of Barks and Bubbles, left, and Kristin Barry of Pet Supplies Plus, right, present Sasha Anna Bella with the 2014 Pet of the Year certificate. Carolyn Provenzano, the owner, proudly holds her puppy. Below is Sasha getting dried off after her free bubble bath in January. (OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)



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procession, live
entertainment, shopping
and our meatball and
cannoli eating
contests...FUN for the
ENTIRE Family!













Meeting fills up with individuals wanting to learn about DNA

By Anne B. Watkins

We had to keep scrounging in other classrooms in order to produce enough chairs to hold all our attendees at the January meeting!

DNA proved to be a very popular topic, and our presenter, Shirley Perry, was very knowledgeable on the subject.

She said all our DNA is 99.9 percent the same, so our differences are actually figured on the other 0.1 percent.

DNA has been useful in finding biological parents in adoptions, ethnic backgrounds, and the children of sperm and egg donors.

However, it will not give you a family tree, and it can only detect relat-



Family History

edness, not exact relationships.

You are still going to need to confirm your ancestors through locations and the standard documents, such as birth, marriage, and death certificates, when possible.

The three main types of DNA testing are: on the Y chromosome, which traces the direct male line only; mitochondrial, which traces the direct female line; and autosomal, which traces both male and female lines.

You receive 50 percent of your DNA from your mother and 50 percent from your father, but after five generations, or your third great grandparent, you share very little DNA, and after about your third cousin, you may not share any DNA at all.

There are three main companies who do DNA testing for the public: FTDNA, Ancestry, and 23andme.

The first is the only one that still does Y testing, while the other two do

autosomal

All three can be done for less than \$400, as the price keeps going down all the time and specials are offered regularly.

Once you have your raw data from one or all three, then it can be uploaded to GEDmatch, for free, to do some interesting comparisons.

Lineage societies are just beginning to accept DNA as an addition to prove ancestry, and we all agreed that, with so many new compositions of families, DNA will be the indispensable genealogical tool of the future.

Our next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 9, in the East Activity Center Computer Room from 1-3 p.m.

Jesters' "Celebrating America"
Feb. 13 and Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. • Feb. 15 at 2 p.m.
East Activity Center auditorium







Lee Catalfomo

Doug Erickson

Earl Shettel

Henry Santos

Jim Calamas

Jose Miranda

Photo by Don Jones

New board in place and membership is up

By Doug Erickson

At the annual meeting of the Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers Club, our out-going president, Jose Miranda, said, "We have had a great year with 113 members. Many improvements were made and a miter saw, shop sander, and a second lathe were added.

"I would like to thank everyone who helped me this past year. There are too many to mention by name. Now it is my pleasure to turn the baton over to our president for this year, Jim Calamas."

Jim accepted, saying, "It is a privilege to serve as president this year. I have been a member since 2006 and have witnessed much growth in membership and many important shop improvements. I believe that we are fortunate to belong to the Fixers club as a way to express our individual woodworking talents and also to serve the community by repairing various items.



Fixers Club

"I ask you all to feel free to express any concerns and or suggestions for the betterment of our club. My hope is, with your help, to measure up to the leadership we have had in the past. I look forward to another year of innovative and challenging projects."

The board consists of Jim, Lee Catalfomo as president-elect, Doug Erickson as secretary, Henry Santos as treasurer, and trustees Jose Miranda, "It is a privilege to serve as president this year. I have been a member since 2006 and have witnessed much growth in membership and many important shop improvements. I believe that we are fortunate to belong to the Fixers club as a way to express our individual woodworking talents ..."

- President Jim Calamas

Earl Shettel and Steve Stiffler.

Doug reported volunteers are caring for tools and taking the lead in developing information for training videos. The 35 members joining us last year indicates the need for ongoing instruction. It is planned to have 10 training tapes produced this winter. Don

Jones is the audio-visual director and is doing the voice-over commentary.

Comments during and after the meeting dealt with the friendship, helpfulness, cohesiveness, and safety concerns of members.

We believe that attitude is as important as a well-equipped shop.

Volunteers Needed For



Meals on Wheels

Two hours a week is all it takes.

For more information,

contact Sandi at 573-9444



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Healthy, fun water exercises with a friendly group of people. Everyone is welcome. Classes are free. If outdoor temperature is above 62, we will be there.

For more information call 797-1168

Baby Boomers keep on cruisin'

By Ron Clement and Penni Telleck

As the ranks of the retiring Baby Boomer generation continues to grow, so do the number of those participating in the On Top of the World Baby Boomers Club.

Our last meeting had the highest attendance in the history of the club. This can be attributed to the fact that we really do not spend that much time meeting.

Whether we are peddling, paddling, swinging a golf club, shaking a leg at a sock hop or just spending time enjoying each other's company, we keep on actively cruising through life.

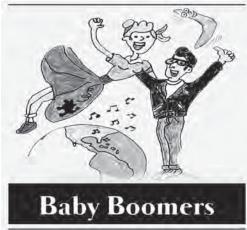
Speaking of cruising, 24 of us recently returned from seven days on the Norwegian Sun. The itinerary included ports of call in Rotan, Honduras, Belize, and Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico.

On land, Boomers were free to snorkel, hike, kayak, shop, tour museums and pyramids, sail on the America's Cup, or just sample the local sights and cuisine.

We were acquaintances when we started the cruise, but we returned as true friends.

The cruise was unforgettable.

Back on the mainland, a bunch of us enjoyed the NFL playoffs right



through the Feb. 1 Super Bowl.

We each cheered for our hometown teams, but rivalries subsided and camaraderie won out as the better team won or the other's rival lost. In the end, a great time was had by all.

Come on out and join in the fun. We have lots more to do.

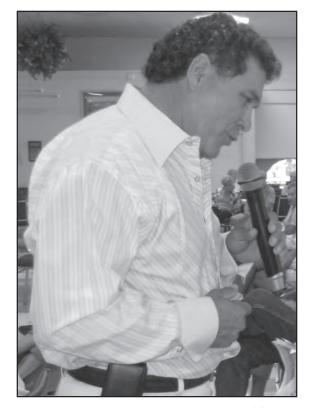
We continue to be a very active group that participates in activities and events suggested and planned by our members, such as day trips, cruises, biking, kayaking, golfing, dances, potluck dinners, local festivals, concerts, dining, wine tasting, and much more.

The On Top of the World Baby Boomers Club meetings are the first Wednesday and third Thursday of every month, 5:30 p.m., at the East Activity Center Starlite Room.



Baby Boomers aboard the Norwegian Sun.

Bravo returns



Singer, Louie Bravo, will return to On Top of the World on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 9 a.m., to entertain residents during Good Neighbors' Get Acquainted Coffee morning. Cost is free. Coffee and doughnuts are free. There are also raffles.

New Good Neighbors' board hopes to improve everyone's living experience

January 2015 started off with rousing attendance at the Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee on Jan. 8, with well over 160 residents in attendance.

What a super start to the new year.

The new board of directors for the Good Neighbors Association was introduced: Jim Bjorgo – president, Roger Nichols – first vice president, Maureen Bjorgo – second vice president, Doris Paino – third vice president, Gene Paino – treasurer, and Sue Salmarri – secretary.

All of the officers look forward to helping our residents enjoy their living experience here at On Top of the World.

Please stop at the Good Neighbors table outside of the Gift Shoppe Monday and Thurs-



President Jim Bjorgo

day mornings from 8:30-10, introduce yourself, and let us know what we can do for you.

We have set the dates for a number of anticipated events for 2015 as follows:

Our Spring Flea Market will be Friday, March 20.

Our Clothing Drive will be Oct. 16-18.

The OTOW Senior Expo will be Saturday, Nov. 14

Our fall Flea Market will be Saturday, Nov. 21.

Our annual Craft Show will be Saturday, Nov. 28.

Sales of tables for the two flea markets and the craft show will begin 30 days prior to the event with the price to remain as was in 2014. As additional events are planned, we will post notices as needed.

With the help of Vice President Maureen Bjorgo, we are reviving the Good Neighbors Building Representative program with the next meeting of all who wish to help in this endeavor to be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 10 a.m. in the East Activity Center Starlite Room.

Please make 2015 your year to be part of the Good Neighbors Association; it's for everyone here at On Top of the World.

Red Hatters inviting you to the excitement

By Charlyn Miller

Everything old is once again new! When I moved to On Top of the World, I was looking for a "Red Hat" club which I belonged to in New Port Richey. After two years, someone introduced me to the "Hattitudes of OTOW."

I was more than excited to join and enjoy the companionship and friendliness of this select happy group. Our oldest member just turned 91 this January!

Now, every first Saturday of the month, I can see several "Red Hats" gathering for lunch and another exciting venture.

The group has grown to around 18 or 19, depending on the day and circumstances. We always meet for lunch at some interesting "new" establishment to exchange happenings, discuss topics and, of course, to eat and have fun.

We have gone to Safety Harbor



Red Hatters enjoy a holiday dinner at Bon Appetite in Dunedin.

Spa, The Lucky Dill, Longhorn Steakhouse, and probably the best time of all was Bon Appetite for Christmas lunch.

Each member was given a "special" holiday menu and a Christmas ornament to take home. Lots of pictures were taken and a good time was

had by all.

After we have eaten, we do exciting things. We have visited a nursing home and an art museum. In November we enjoyed the Clearwater Orchestra and were formally recognized.

Our Red Hats filled a whole row and all Red Hats were visibly recog-



Hattitudes

nized

This year we plan to do more exciting things, perhaps take in a dinner theatre, go to the horse races, the casino and who knows what we will do this new year!

We are always looking forward to each other's company.

We will meet at the Olive Garden on the first Saturday for lunch and plan events for the upcoming year. If you would like to join, call 243-3685 or a "Red Hatter" you may know.

Girls just want to have fun!



Ellen Gilbert is February's line dancer of the month.

(OTOW photo by John Koning)

Winds of change are blowing at line dancing

By John Koning

Legendary song-writer, Bob Dylan, could have been talking about the 2015 season at the line dancing club when he wrote, "The times they are a'changin."

Whenever we embrace change there are certain things we can count on. They are small things like doubt and even a little conflict, but mostly we can look forward to increased energy, excitement and opportunities for real growth. What we need in changing times is a guide to keep us on course and steer us through the rough spots.

Ellen Gilbert is the keel that keeps the line dancing association sailing on course and moving forward. That's because Ellen has a rich history of guiding the club. She was club vice president for five years before acting as club president for the



Line Dancing

last two while Georgia Jensen was unable to do so.

Ellen has also lent her organization skills and energy to Ladies 9-Hole Golf League and her Valencia building, where she served as treasurer.

Years ago, Ellen was an educator in the elementary school system

and she contributed her vision and strength to building a horse camp and riding ring in Pasco County for 4H and the Girls Scouts of America.

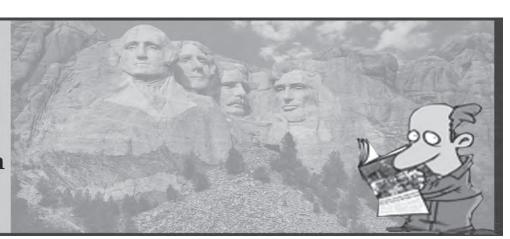
Ellen, a proud mother of two and grandmother of four, is a product of Kalamazoo, Mich. She came to Florida in 1968 after a winter visit that confirmed what she already suspected – Florida is the best place for a sports enthusiast and outdoor person like her to live.

Ellen is in love with line dancing and is dedicated to improving her knowledge and skill. She works tirelessly to move our program forward and we are grateful for her dedication.

To learn more about line dancing, visit our Website at sites.google. com/site/otowlinedancing or stop by the East Activity Center auditorium on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. or Saturday mornings from 8:30-11 a.m.

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Show promises to maintain Theater Workshop tradition of quality, entertaining performances

It is amazing how a person can start with just a premise and turn it into an interesting, entertaining ve-

This is what our director, Will Peterson, is doing.

Will is creating a show with singing, dancing, humor and a story.

"Sailing With the Love Bug" is such a wonderful production. We have begun our rehearsals and it hasn't taken us long to get into the swing of things.

We do our parts by using our talents under Will's direction to complete the circle, and Voila! An evening for our audiences to enjoy.



Theater

Love Bug!

A short time ago, some thought that we should change the name of We have all been bitten by the our club to give us a name more indic-

which highlights our local talent and puts on a show once a year.

But after much soul-searching, the club voted that we should keep our original, historical name: The Theater Workshop.

We are proud to be the original and longest running theater group at On Top of the World. We will endeavor to provide a history of the club and our purpose, along with those who were there in the beginning and who paved the way for us.

So, for now, and for the foreseeable future, we remain as we are.

Our show "Sailing With the Love Bug" is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Friday,

ative of what we are: a theatrical group March 13; 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 14 and 2 p.m., Sunday, March 15.

> Tickets are now on sale, and for those who want or need special attention (family attending or those with mobility problems), accommodations can be made. We aim to please, so just let us know.

> It is never too late to sign up for the Workshop as we welcome one and all.

> Mondays and Thursdays are signup times, 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the East Activity Center, and our regular meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. also at the

> Our board meets at 7 p.m. before the monthly meetings.

'Celebrating America' arrives Feb. 13-15

The Russians are coming!

The Russians are coming! And so are the Irish, the Italians, the Germans and the Greeks!

From all the four corners of the OTOW Globe ... they are coming to America and appearing on our very own stage at the East Activity Center.

"Celebrating America" will take place on Friday, Feb. 13, and Saturday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 15 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are just \$5 and are good for any performance you decide to at-

"Celebrate America" is the Jesters' 36th annual extravaganza presented live and in living color.



From the moment the lights go on, to the attention-grabbing opening "Zorba," to the "Happy" grand finale, you will be enthralled by a treat!

Tickets are available at the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings while the supply lasts. Questions, call Donna at 797-5341.

Please turn to pages 36 and 37 for a two-page, pull out, special section focusing on this year's On Top of the World theater season.

Paul Duffy show Feb. 6

By Rose Mulhall

The goal of our club is to provide fun and entertainment, and the audience certainly agreed that Ken McBride's show on Jan. 9 accomplished both.

He got rave reviews all around, with a great mixture of songs ranging from Danny Boy to Sweet Caroline, and also included his amazing Phantom numbers.

Thank you to all who attended, club members and guests, and especially a big thank you to all who helped set up and clean up afterwards, which contributed to a very successful night.

We are looking forward to presenting The Paul Duffy Variety Show on Friday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Paul, a gifted musician, and storyteller, hails from Dublin and now resides in Sarasota, and has been in entertainment since he



Irish Club

began playing sax for the popular "The Miami Show band" at the age of 17. He will be joined by Greg Holt, a renowned fiddle player, from Nashville.

Our St. Patrick's Dinner Dance will be held on Tuesday, March 3, at 5 p.m. The dinner will consist of corned beef and cabbage, baked chicken, carrots, mixed vegetables and dessert. "Felice" will cater the event.

Tickets are available Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the EAC.



Bask in the splendor of Biloxi and New Orleans



Snowbird Club

By John Koning

If you have to ask why the Snowbirds Club is going to Biloxi again this year, you have probably never been there.

Biloxi, Miss., is a charming multi-cultural melting pot, with a year-round schedule of exciting celebrations, set against a backdrop of sugar-white sand beaches.

Biloxi is celebrated for great fishing, a staggering array of championship golf courses, museums and historic sites, tantalizing seafood restaurants, and all the excitement of 24-hour non-stop casino

That's why we're going back.

Biloxi is not exactly next door so you should book a trip that is worry free and entertaining. That's why you will want to go with the Snowbirds Club from March 23 - 26.

The trip will be escorted by Ed and Dolly Foland, who are experienced at chaperoning groups of On Top of the World residents by charter bus, by air and even by sea.

While on board our late model char-



Even hungry Snowbirds are no match for New Orleans' legendary muffaletta sandwich

fun activities to pass the time.

If Biloxi is not enough adventure for you, we offer a narrated tour of New Orleans, including The French Quarter, for the cost of a nice restaurant meal.

Visit www.snowbirdsotow.com for

ter bus, you can sleep, chat or take part in more details or stop by the sales desk other than Bobby Vinton, who will be in Monday and Thursday mornings.

> If you want to stay closer to home, the Strawberry Festival beckons. It is a Florida tradition for a very good reasons – it always delivers a feast for the senses. This year we planned our trip around the arrival of none

concert. You will have to buy a separate ticket to see Bobby or you can come for the festival alone. It's your choice.

Whatever you choose, we thank you for choosing the Snowbirds Club. It's your club for travel, adventure and fun!

Must show coupon before service.

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

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



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I can't tell you the number of times I have spoken with patients with complex dental problems who believed that their teeth could not be restored. Thanks to my training and experience, I have been able to successfully treat hundreds of such patients, many of whom are your neighbors at Top of the World. In many cases this can be done more affordably than you might imagine.

So if you think that dentures or implants are your only options, come in for a complimentary consultation. We are conveniently located just a short drive from the west entrance to Top of the World.



Call for a complimentary consultation today!

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(Fessler Center)



Last month marked the 40th Canadian Club Past Presidents Ball. Each year past presidents gather to be recognized and pose for pictures. This was the crowd of past presidents at the 2014 Ball last year.

Celebration marks 40th anniversary for Canadian Club

By Rick McLauchlan

On Jan. 28, the Presidents' Ball was held to honor those who served as President of the On Top of the World Canadian Club.

The event marked the 40th year that the club has been active.

This annual, formal event was hosted by President Shirley Hunter and her husband, Ian, and provided those of us who attended with a unique historical review of the club's activities over the years by virtue of a visual display.

Members and guests enjoyed an excellent meal, which was topped off by a chocolate fountain on the dessert table.

This was a terrific evening which highlighted the club's goal to provide a fun and social atmosphere for the residents of OTOW.

Those who wish to join the Canadian Club should please call Linda McKee at 727-470-9161. The only requirement is that you are in possession



of a valid OTOW Recreation Card.

Social games continue in the East Activity Center Large Card Room on Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Our new monthly event this year, Happy Hour/Cabaret is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 13 at 4 p.m. in the Large Card Room with a Valentines theme.

The OTOW Canadian Club Golf Tournament is scheduled for Feb. 15 at 8 a.m. (shotgun start). Please con-

New This Year Monthly Happy Hour/Cabaret This Month: Friday, Feb. 13 at 4 p.m. Large Card Room

tact Ian Hunter at 727-239-8086 to sign up.

Tom McKee has tickets for the Blue Jays versus the Phillies. Game time is 1:05 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, and tickets are available. Please contact him at 727-470-9161

Wednesday, March 4 at 5 p.m. in the EAC Starlite Room. Tickets will be available on a special date Friday, Feb. 13 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the EAC auditorium and regular sales Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 10:30 otowcanadianclub.com/

a.m. commencing Feb. 16 through 26, which will be the last day for purchasing tickets.

Keep informed regarding happenings at OTOW and your club by going to the following webpages:

http://www.ontopoftheworld-Spring Fling will be held on news.com/clearwater/news.php for the OTOW newspaper.

> http://www.ontopoftheworldnews.com/EACBoxOffice/

> And our own Webpage at http://





Travel Club not worried about a little climate change - join us and see



We're not sure if Marilyn Whelan is smiling in this photo or if her teeth are chattering from the cold...but she sure looks like she's having fun! (Photo by Terri Mikszenas)

By Terri Mikszenas

No one can ever say our Travel Club members are not adventurers!

One day, more than 50 club members were dining at the Gulf of Mexico at our club's fabulous Christmas dinner, and the next day we were wearing parkas and strolling through the Gaylord Palms Disney Ice at 9 degrees with a noticeable wind chill!

The holiday season may have ended, but we'll never forget the sight of the six deer that crossed in front of our bus, the beautiful 40-foot high Christmas tree at the Wilderness Lodge, or the two million pounds of hand-carved ice sculptures.

We had a big crowd at our first meeting of the new year. It's wonderful to see so many paying their 2015 dues so soon - our membership is growing quickly - and everyone is ready to pack their bags and get on the road!

Many club members attended the January Lunch Bunch with the intent of getting to know one another for possible trip roommate matches. The February Lunch Bunch will travel to



Travel Club

Tampa for Ethiopian fare at the Queen of Sheba - why not join them!

Although our Ringling Museum trip has been sold out, you may still be able to see San Antonio, Texas, or visit the Cassadaga Spiritualist Community in April, and have your very own private reading by a certified medium.

Stop by our table on Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the East Activity Center for details about these trips.

Please join us at our meetings - the first Friday of each month in the East Activity Center Starlite Room. Our meetings begin at 2 p.m., but please come early to sign in and see where our travel team is planning to take us next.

Singles Club pizza party set for Feb. 7

By Mary Widman

We wish to welcome everyone to our club here in the new year 2015.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7, with a free pizza party at 6 p.m., followed by our regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the East Activity Center.



Please join us to hear the plans for the upcoming months.

Dues for membership are \$5 per year and are due at our February meeting.

If you have any questions about our Singles Club, please call Dorothy Carpenito at 796-4460. We meet the first Saturday of every month in the EAC.

Guests are always welcome, so join us and meet some old friends and make some new friends during our social hour. Hope to see you all there.

February features races

By Jerry Kaplano

Welcome to 2015 and another great year for the Italian American Club.

On Dec. 14 we had a wonderful turnout for our Christmas brunch at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa. Everybody had a great meal and a good time

Our next big function was our pulled pork dinner and dance on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

On Feb. 6 we will go to Tampa Bay Downs. There are a limited number of tickets available at \$23, first come, first served.



Italian American

On Feb. 19 we will have a meeting at 6 p.m. with coffee, followed by "Nite at the Races." Choice of sandwiches are Italian or American. BYOB. Cost is \$5 members \$6 non-members. Admission is free.

Thanks to all the members who helped make the past year a success.



Art
Show & Sale
Sunday
Feb. 22
1-4 pm
EAC
Auditorium
FREE ADMISSION

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FREE LUNCH

Exclusively for residents with chronic knee pain



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You will learn:

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Feel free to bring a guest. Seating is limited. Adults only. If the line is busy please call back.

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Tuesday February 10 Noon

2680 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater

Presented by Dr. Michael A Lampe D.C.



Reservations Required
Please RSVP to

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symptoms of
back pain, depression,
osteoporosis,
and osteoarthritis.
I can help you improve
your balance, manage
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increase strength.



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Condo Watch



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Knitting Group has dedicated leadership

By Phyllis Butler

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group meets every Wednesday morning from 9-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center Veranda Room.

It has been meeting there for many years. I know that I joined the group in the late 80s at which time there were more than 30 members. We are a lot smaller now, (also a lot older), but we are still creating lap robes and shrugs and delivering them to nursing home patients and veterans.

We operate under the auspices of Good Neighbors, and receive financial support from them, as well as from the Coffee Corner. We really appreciate their help.

Our leader is Helen Duranti, who took over the leadership of the group in the early 90s and has faithfully continued ever since.

years of service.

We both kn while we don't to other with prob

In addition to her leadership duties, she delivers to the nursing homes and still continues to crochet items to contribute. She has made many con-



tacts outside our group that use products that we don't, so when we receive donations with yarns that we cannot use, she makes sure that they go to people who can use them.

We really appreciate her many years of service.

We both knit and crochet, and, while we don't teach, we do help each other with problems and/or difficult patterns.

If you knit or crochet, we would love to have you join us in our efforts and our fellowship.



Helen Duranti

Newconners (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)



John and Alice Powers of Indiana



Marge and Herb Sutton of Arizona



Michele and Norm Vince of Toronto



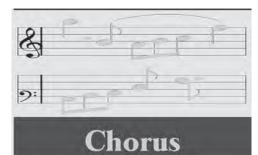
Petra Gonzalez New York





In case you didn't know ...

Men are allowed to sing in chorus, too!



By Ilene Bargerstock

The On Top of the World Chorus has a few good men.

They are Ernie Rogers, Les Ermold, Rod Bargerstock, Jim Salta and Ken Jenner.

We are so proud of them! This is Ken's 33rd year with the Chorus.

Ernie, Les, Rod, Jim and Ken have faithfully stayed the course and most recently performed in our Christmas concert with 21 women.

Did I mention the word "courageous?"

I was reminded of a song I once heard, titled "A Few Good Men."

When I entered the wonderful world of the Web to find it, there were several versions, one of which had a chorus better suited to my purpose than the one I had in mind.

The lyricist was John "Dropkick"

Are you thinking football player? Wrong!

He was a professional wrestler in the 1940s with a special move that earned him the nickname.

He wrote:



Ernie Rogers, Les Ermold, Rod Bargerstock, Jim Salta and Ken Jenner.

and sing, stand up and be counted. . . . Together we shall sing.

Rise up and be counted. Sing it Rogers and Hammerstein. loud, sing it proud."

This describes our fearless five who would appreciate having a few more good men (or better still, a lot more men) to "stand up and be counted" in our spring concert scheduled for March 28 and 29.

We will perform songs of well-

Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, George M. Cohan and

These will be timeless melodies and lyrics you will surely remember.

If you are a returning Snowbird or someone new to our community, it's not too late to participate, but you must act now!

Rehearsals are Mondays, 10-11 a.m. in the East Activities Center

"Join us in a song. We shall rise known American composers, such as Large Card Room and Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. in the EAC auditorium.

> Come give it a try! You will receive a warm welcome. Oh, and that goes for women as well!

> To all of you who attended one of our Christmas performances, we thank you! One woman said she has been here 17 years and has not missed even one of our concerts.

> We enjoy what we do and appreciate the encouragement of our loyal fans.

Lambda presents opportunity to tie the knot

By Dave Beaven

February is a month for romance, valentines, flowers, candy, and greeting

That's a lot of energy (and money) spent on love.

And why not?

If you can't beat 'em, might as well join 'em.

Which brings us to the Lambda acs, anyone? I'm not telling! Join us. It Club's monthly social. On Friday, Feb. might change your life. 13, at 7 p.m. in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room, we're having a Red Party. Attendees are asked to dress in red, of course.

There will be love songs playing non-stop. The bar will be serving the cocktail of the night - Cupid's Arrow. One sip and you'll be smitten. You can count on our members to bring some delicious tidbits to share. Aphrodisi-



Lambda

Carrying on this romantic theme, of particular interest to our members recently has been the change in the marriage laws in Florida. We have gay couples in the club who were legally married in other states, except that when they drove across our state line, they became single again under the law. But that's all changed with the court ruling to allow same sex marriage. Now our out of state members' married status is recognized here, and Florida same sex couples can tie the knot in their own home state.

To celebrate this, the Lambda Club will have a wedding officiant at our February social on the 13th. For any couple who wants to marry or to LGBT residents in the OTOW comrenew their vows, they will be able to do that at no charge.

of this are asked to RSVP to the club. Note that to marry, a marriage certificate is a legal requirement. There is a three-day waiting period for that. Contact the Pinellas County Court Clerk for details. Wishing everyone a month filled with love.

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, game nights, etc. 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 munity, and we also welcome participation by other OTOW residents who Couples wishing to take advantage 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. Or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

Christmas season always brings back wartime memories for Battle of the Bulge survivor

For many of us, the recent Christmas holidays have already faded into a distant memory, but for On Top of the World resident Matthew (Matt) Midura, there is one Christmas Day in particular that will never be forgotten for as long as he draws breath.

Matt was a 22-year-old member of the Tenth US Infantry Regiment on Christmas Eve, 1943. He was hunkered down in a foxhole in the Ardennes Forest area of Belgium. He and his comrades were on the verge of annihilation at the hands of the German war machine and had been that way for weeks. Thousands of them were already dead. The survivors were cold, they were dirty and they were scared. Many prayed for divine intervention.

Their battle, the legendary Battle of the Bulge, was named to describe the distortion on wartime news maps as Hitler attempted to break through the Allied Front using 200,000 troops and nearly 1,000 tanks. It was Hitler's last major offensive.

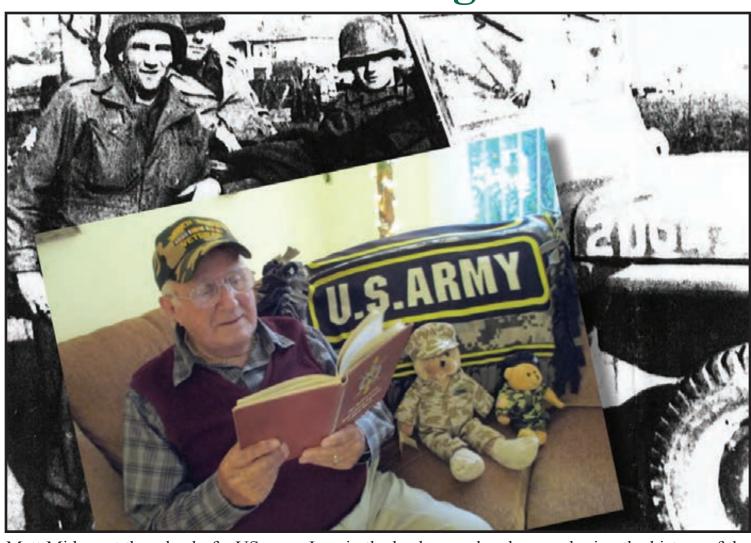
British Prime Minister Winston Churchill called the battle, "... undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the (Second World) war."

Just when things looked most dismal for The Tenth, the prayers of desperation were answered on Christmas morning when the cold gray clouds parted and the sun warmed their filthy faces. They looked to the skies where squadrons of US bombers droned overhead enroute to German supply depots.

The faulty intelligence reports had been corrected and the momentum of the battle swung in favor of the Americans. The German war machine faltered and ultimately failed in May of the new year.

Three and one-half years earlier, Matt had been the teenaged drummer for Pete Midura's High Hat Orchestra and loving it, but Uncle Sam had other plans. Matt was drafted and wound up in basic training in Biloxi, Miss. He was then shipped off to Ireland where he met his commanding officer, General George Patton, who took him to Normandy to follow up the D-Day Invasion 48 hours after the initial landing.

When asked if Patton was really as "colorful" as he is portrayed in print and on film, Matt gave a mischievous smile and nodded. Patton desperately wanted that illusive fifth star for his collar, but his reckless mouth, and Five Star General Eisenhower, held him back.



Matt Midura at the wheel of a US army Jeep in the background and remembering the history of the Tenth in the forground



Most of us can only imagine how dark and disturbing life was as a WWII soldier, but Matt prefers to tell lighter stories. He was once punished with kitchen patrol (KP) when he drove off in a command Jeep instead of waiting two hours in the cold for a superior officer.

During his tour of KP punishment, he was asked to guard two German prisoners. Matt decided to give them each a knife to help him peel the potatoes. When a "Full Bird" Colonel saw what he had done, he chastised him again. The Colonel obviously didn't share Matt's self confidence.

Matt also smiles when he recalls their surge through Europe. As each house was captured, it was customary to search it. While other soldiers might be on the lookout for gold and silver, Matt was looking for a clean place to go pee and tissues to blow his nose. He had no idea how much he would miss his hankies.

Matt made it through the entire war without major injury, but peacetime was not as kind to him. Following the German surrender in 1944, while transferring two soldiers in a Jeep, their vehicle was broad-sided by a German woman in a truck. Matt's two passengers were ejected and killed. He suffered six broken ribs and spinal contusions. As Matt lay on the ground, unable to breathe, two Polish deposed persons reassured him, supported him and called for medical aid. He spent the next seven months hospitalized.

Now, at 90 years old, Matt Midura has seen many Christmas Days, but his Christmas in the foxhole was one he will never forget.

You can almost feel his gratitude as his eyes sparkle and the past comes alive again.

Battle of the Bulge Fact Box

From Wikipedia Locations: Belgium, Luxembourg, and Nazi Germany.

Result: Decisive Allied victory, German operational failure.

Belligerents: United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, Belgium, Luxembourgish resistance, Germany.

The Battle of the Bulge began Dec. 16, 1944 as Hitler planned an offensive with the primary goal to recapture the important harbor of Antwerp. The battle severely depleted Germany's armored forces on the western front which Germany was largely unable to replace. German personnel and Luftwaffe aircraft also sustained heavy losses.

The phrase "Battle of the Bulge" was coined by contemporary press to describe the way the Allied front line bulged inward on wartime news maps and became the best known name for the battle.



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March 13-7:30, March 14-7:30, March 15-2:00

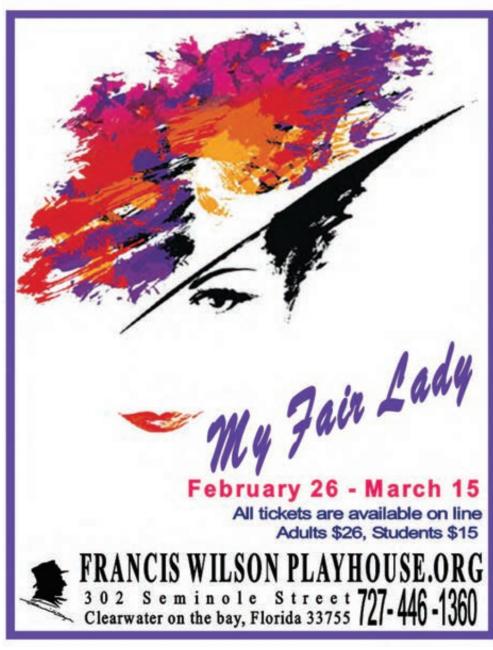


I here are more than just passengers on this cruise. There's a love bug on board and one bite is all it takes!

The love bug doesn't just find new love. It enhances love that already exists. Find out what happens on this March cruise.

Monday and Thursday mornings, 8-10:30 a.m., in the auditorium









Pennsylvania Club tries to win money at horse races to pay for trip to Atlantic City



Pennsylvania Club

By Walt Copeland Our trip to Tampa Bay Downs was

A few of us were photographed with the winning jockey of the third race, Ronnie Allen, Jr. The photo includes Jim Dwyer, Ronnie Allen, Miriam McCarty our vice president, Bridg-

enjoyed by all.

Our next meeting will be on Feb. 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center

et Dwyer and Maurice Richard.

On Jan. 29 was our Ground Hog Day dinner and was also enjoyed by

On Wednesday, Feb. 11, we will have our Victory Casino Cruise. It has sold out. We have a group of hopeful winners

On Saturday, Feb. 14, we'll celebrate at the Early Bird Dinner Theater at 4 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person, including tax and gratuity. After dinner, we'll enjoy a comedy "Caught on the Net."

On Sunday, Feb. 22, we'll enjoy John Timpanelli and group who will present musical excerpts of "Hello Dolly," Round trip transportation will be by plush limousine. Dinner and show at the Jewish Community Center is \$47.



Representatives of the Pennsylvania Club join jockey Ronnie Allen Jr. in victory circle following a win aboard In The Wild Clover at Tampa Bay Downs in January. Photograph courtesy of John Duca/SV Photography

Many of you enjoyed John Timpanelli, who performed a partial show at our Dec. 7 Christmas party at the Island Way Grill.

On Thursday, March 5, our membership meeting is at 10:30 a.m. in the EAC.

On Tuesday, March 17, we will be at the Broadway Palms Matinee Show and buffet for "West Side Story." Cost is \$89, which includes road trip transportation via limousine.

Date Change: On Wednesday, March 18, we are planning a trip to Atlantic City via air to Harrah's Hotel Casino, four days and three nights, \$249 per person, double occupency, and \$286 for a single. Transportation to and from Tampa's airport is not included.

On Thursday, April 2, we will have a membership meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the EAC.

On Sunday, April 5, we will go to

the Easter Early Bird Dinner Theater for \$35 per person, including tax and tip. Time is 4 p.m. Buffet and comedy "Hot Bed Hotel."

On Sunday, April 12, we will travel to the Broadway Palms Dinner Theater (matinee) for "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." Cost is \$89, including road trip via limousine.

In April we will also have a picnic at the EAC for members only. Exact date will be announced later.

Luau with Chinese food planned

By Jane Lee

Get out your little grass skirts, your muumuus, and your Hawaiian shirts, and join the New York-New Jersey Club on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. at the East Activity Center.

The cost is \$10 for members and \$13 for non-members.

You will enjoy Chinese food from Oriental Buffet, and best of all, you will be able to party with your friends and enjoy a fun-filled evening of good food and music with "Ron and the Classics."

Get your tickets on Monday or Thursday mornings at the East Activ-



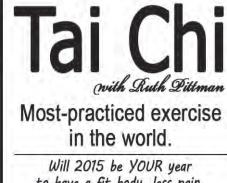
ity Center. Tickets will be sold until Feb. 23.

At the January meeting, new officers were elected and sworn in. They were Sue Fleming, president, Michael J. Mikulski, vice president, Jane Lee,

secretary, and Laura O'Connor, treasurer

Sue Fleming has planned the March meeting for March 25. Someone from S & S Casino Tours will tell the group about a trip to Atlantic City for \$249 for four days. The theme for March will be casinos in Atlantic City.

The club is always looking for new members who like to have fun and who will participate in the various activities that they have planned. Come to the luau or the meeting on March 25 even if you are not from NY/NJ. Membership is open to all who live at On Top of the World.



to have a fit body, less pain, more energy, better balance? Gain Muscle, Reduce Fat Give Tai Chi a try it works for men and women.



Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 1:00, EAC gym. Questions? Call (727) 726-0336



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MEXICO

7-day | October - December 2015 Roundtrip Los Angeles

Interior: \$549* Balcony: \$799*



CARIBBEAN

7-day | October - December 2015 Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale and Houston Interior: \$549* Balcony \$799*

7-day | March - April 2015 Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale and Houston Interior: \$379* Balcony: \$579*

MEXICO

7-day | March - April 2015 Roundtrip Los Angeles Interior: \$469* Balcony: \$749*

CALIFORNIA COASTAL

7-day | March - May 2015 Roundtrip Los Angeles and San Francisco Interior: \$449* Balcony: \$749*

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

15-day | March - April 2015 LosAngeles, San Francisco or Vancouver, B.C. Interior: \$1,199* Balcony: \$1,999*

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN MEDLEY

10-day | March - April 2015 Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale Interior: \$999* Balcony: \$1,499*

CARIBBEAN & WEST COAST GETAWAYS

3- to 5-day | March - April 2015 Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale and Los Angeles Interior: \$199* Balcony: \$349*



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Join us for a game of pinochle

By Charlie Christ

On Top of the World residents have fun playing pinochle Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the East Activity Center.

We usually arrive between 5-6 p.m. and play Kings in the Corner while waiting for the rest of the gang.

Pinochle begins at 6 p.m. and ends sometime before 9 p.m.

The majority play single-deck with partners, but we also play 3-, 5- and 6-handed double-deck pinochle, depending on how many show up.

It's party-time when we welcome the Snowbirds in December and when they depart in the spring.

If you know the game, please feel free to join us. If you want to learn the game, or need a brush-up, drop in on Thursdays at 4 p.m. and take as many lessons as you need.

Call 727-754-6749 or 796-7488 for more info.



Seated at the table, left to right, are Paul Gettz, Fran Milanec, Ed Fronzoni and Gwen Nolan. Standing from left to right are Gene Karlan, Ruth LeRoy, Charlie Christ, Kay Nelson, Sergio Pistella, Peggy Rogers, Maxine Milanec, Maxine Murray, Bertie Lewis, Betty McKay, June Sweeny and Kathy (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates) Reed.

Stamp Collectors' meetings resume in new year

By Jim Sundberg

The wait for the 2015 Stamp Collectors first meeting was well worth it.

Show and tell items were a big hit, such as leather and wooden postcards from the early 1900s through the 1960s that were found in collections I went through last year.

We experienced the kindness of others. Ira Wolf's presentation of

stamps brought back from Germany by his dentist were very impressive. Also special was the overwhelming surprises brought to me by friends, Maria and Helmut Mader, returning from Austria, and Dorothy Churchill's nephew traveling to China on business.

What makes the hobby exciting for all of us is sharing the stories of the hunt, no matter where it takes us, as well as meeting people with similar interests. It never gets old.

the 3 "Fs" - fun, facts and philately. The next meetings are Feb. 3, March 3 and April 7 in the Sunrise Room at the West Activity Center

from 1-3 p.m. For more information, contact Jim Sundberg at 847-951-2284.



Contributions from OTOW Club, Writer's Ink

"Men and Women" By Mitch Greenman

As a man I often seek An answer or solution My lovely wife Instead looks for Emotion's absolution Perhaps that's why We're told to try To give our seed That hardwired need One of each persuasion

But we have found We're not bound To this ancient equation Evolution's plan For modern man Allows for modification

"The Lucky One" By Cathy Curran

"Hey, Honey, how many calories are in chocolate chip cookies? The iPad is on the counter and my diet app is open."

"Come on, Santa, there's a million different kinds of cookies that will be put out for you in December. You can't possibly remember the calorie count of all of them!"

Mrs. C. was getting worried. She'd nagged him to lose weight because his red suit was tight. She'd expected opposition, but to her surprise, he became addicted to dieting like some people became addicted to Doritos.

"The kids won't even recognize you, you know. You have to stop. No one wants a skinny Santa."

"I can always use a pillow to plump



Writer's Ink

myself up. Watch!"

He scooped the pillow off the sofa and held it to his stomach. "How's this?" he asked, grabbing her and giving her a bear hug.

She wrapped her arms around him and started to cry.

"Oh, Santa, you don't know how much I miss your belly! Look at yourself, you weigh less than two hundred pounds! The kids will think you're one

of your helpers."

She sobbed uncontrollably.

"You're taking this way too seriously."

"Is it really that bad, Honey? I thought I looked good." Bushy eyebrows raised as he looked into her eyes. "Don't you think I'm sexy?"

"Maybe, if you were someone else, but not Santa. Sexy is your belly keeping me warm at night. Sexy is watching your belly shake like jelly when you shout 'Ho Ho Ho."

"You know, maybe you're right. Heck, I'm probably the only person in the whole world who doesn't have to diet! What am I doing?"

She patted his stomach and smiled.

"Come with me. It won't take long to get you back in shape. I have fresh baked cookies waiting in the kitchen."

In February we will continue to discuss ways to improve election results

By Charlie Christ

At our January meeting, Donna Lukas led a discussion on "Five Ways To Improve Election Results."

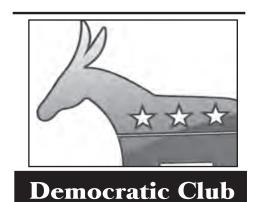
First was to make a survey to determine our priorities for future elec-

Second was about disseminating information at election time.

Third was to have a list of organizations with Websites that provide political information.

Last was how to overcome "big money" influence.

The discussion will be continued



so fellow Democrats are urged to attend, listen, and share for our mutual benefit.

Ballots were distributed for election of the 2015 officers of our club as follows:

Co-chairs Donna Lukas and Betsy Steinman, Treasurer Jack Starr, Secretary Mary Skaarer, Parliamentarian Jim Schelling.

Final results for election of offimeeting, so all members have until then to vote.

for 2015 to be eligible to vote. Please fill-in the form below as soon as possible to vote, and also so our club can

operate successfully for the 2015 year.

We will complete our discussion, revise the bylaws, continue election of officers, and discuss volunteering at the next meeting. It will be held on Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center Starlite Room.

View OTOW-TV channel 96/732, cers will be announced at our March our Website, or call 754-6749 for further info.

Dues can be mailed to OTOW Members must pay their \$12 dues Democratic Club, c/o Charlie Christ, 2361 Jamaican Street, Unit 11, Clearwater, Fl., 33763.

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- Clearwater Windows & Doors
- West Coast Awning

Air Conditioning and Heating

- Air Doctor
- Bay Area Heating & Cooling

Flooring

- Home Depot
- Midway Services
- KAS Construction

Plumbing

- Midway Services
- Roy White

Water Restoration

- Paul Davis
- Service Masters
- Advanta Clean

This list does not, in any way, guarantee nor endorse the product used, or the performance of the vendor. It does provide you with a list of licensed and insured vendors who meet On Top of the World standards and are in compliance with Pinellas County codes and permitting.

Interior Painting

- Paint Services
- Midway Services
- KAS Construction

Electricians

- Tardiff Electric
- Live Wire Electric

Air Vent Cleaning

• Service Tech Corporation

Dryer Vent Cleaning

• Dryer Vent Wizard

Junk Removal

- Junk Removal Joe
- Got Junk?

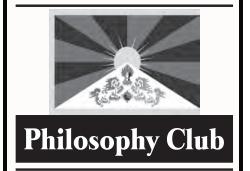
Concrete Patios

- Birges Concrete
- Paul's Masonry

Cabinets & Interior Renovations

KAS Construction

This list could change monthly.



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.

> **OTOW-TV Channels** 96 & 732

This should fill your yearly quota for celebrity tabloid facts

For those of you who enjoy reading Star Magazine, and/or the National Enquirer, while waiting to check out at your local supermarket, this month's column is dedicated to you.

Tiger Woods' real first name is Eldrick; Chevy Chase's real first name is Cornelius.

Mel Blanc, who played the voice of Bugs Bunny, was allergic to carrots.

Until 1974, Jack Nicholson thought his mother was his sister, and his grandmother was his mother (a journalist, who researched Nicholson's past, informed him about the truth).

James Cameron, of Titanic fame, was a truck driver before he made it in Hollywood; also, the filming of the movie 'Titanic' cost more than the Titanic itself.

Nicole Kidman suffers from 'lepidopterophobia,' an intense fear of butterflies.

The stage where the television sitcom Friends was shot was said to be haunted.

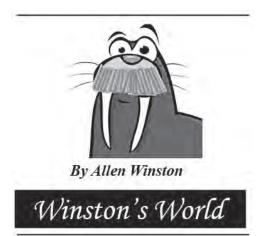
The ruby red slippers in the movie The Wizard of Oz were sold at auction for \$660,000.

George Clooney owns a pet pig named Max.

For the 1939 movie "Gone With the Wind," 1,400 actresses were interviewed to play the part of Scarlett O'Hara.

Warren Beatty and Shirley Mac-Laine are brother and sister.

Walt Disney named Mickey Mouse after Mickey Rooney.



Actress Lisa Kudrow is a pool shark.

Before her success as a comedienne, Ellen DeGeneres considered becoming a professional golfer.

Tommy Lee Jones and Al Gore were freshman roommates at Harvard.

Harpo Marx was fully capable of speaking.

Hedy Lamarr (gorgeous, sexy, and apparently brilliant) patented an invention for a radio guidance system for torpedoes which was used by the allies in WWII.

The title role of the 1971 movie "Dirty Harry" was originally intended for Frank Sinatra. After he refused, it was offered to John Wayne, and then Paul Newman, before finally being accepted by Clint Eastwood.

Oprah Winfrey's production company "Harpo," is Oprah spelt backwards.

As a teenager, actor Matt Damon, earned extra cash by being a sidewalk

break-dancer.

Singer Mick Jagger was once a his cottage cheese. porter at a mental hospital.

Pierce Brosnar

Actor Stephen Baldwin worked in a pizza parlor. Jean-Claude Van Damme delivered pizzas. Bill Murray made pizzas. Madonna worked at Dunkin' Donuts.

Julia Roberts worked in an ice cream parlor, Queen Latifah worked at Burger King, Andie McDowell and Quentin Tarantino worked at McDonalds, and Jennifer Aniston worked as a waitress in a burger café (by the way, Jennifer Aniston's original name is Jennifer Anastassakis).

None of the Beatles knew how to read music.

Jackie Chan's mother was an opium smuggler and his father was a spy.

Charlie Chaplin once entered a Charlie Chaplin look alike contest and lost

Johnny Depp travels with his Capt. Jack Sparrow costume ("Pirates of the Caribbean") to make impromptu visits to sick kids in hospitals (fyi: Disney's first choice to play Jack Sparrow was Jim Carrey).

Whoopi Goldberg's real name is Caryn Elaine Johnson.

When Britney Spears books into hotels she uses the name "Allota Warmheart" so that nobody will recognize her.

Truman Capote, the man who wrote "Breakfast at Tiffany's," had the middle name of Stucklefuss.

Sandra Bullock is allergic to horses.

Richard Nixon liked ketchup on his cottage cheese.

Pierce Brosnan once worked with the circus as a fire eater.

Jean-Claude Van Damme learned to speak English by watching "The Flintstones."

In the year 2000, Pope John Paul Julia Roberts worked in an ice II was named an "Honorary Harlem am parlor, Queen Latifah worked Globetrotter."

Halle Berry's stunt double, in the movie "Cat Woman" was in fact a man.

Drew Carey once worked at a Denny's.

Cleopatra's real name was Auletes. Burt Reynolds is a Cherokee Indian.

Bob Hope and Billy Joel were both once boxers.

Michael Jackson tried to buy Marvel Comics in the early 1990s so that he could play Spider-Man in his own movie.

Sean Connery turned down the role of Gandalf in "Lord of the Rings" because he didn't understand the script (who did?).

Judge Judy makes \$47 million per year, which translates into just over \$900,000 per workday (she works 52 days per year).

Zsa Zsa Gabor is the great aunt of Paris Hilton.

And finally, Queen Elizabeth II has a rubber duck in her private bath.... with an inflatable crown.

Don't ya' just love the world of celebrity?

OK, time to check out.

If you're single on Valentine's Day, don't worry - there's always chocolate

Let's face it, Valentine's Day is something everyone dreads sometime.

If you're single, there's all the unnecessary pressure to have a date – that you know.

If you're happily single, being alone on Feb. 14 is supposed to be a letdown.

You say you don't care, but nobody believes you.

If you give an adult card you might be rejected especially if it's so romantic they can hardly stand it. Say something honest, funny and heartfelt.

Order a heart-shaped pizza – no one will ever turn that down.

Take advantage of the fact that it's acceptable to gorge yourself on choc-

Marge Mayer

Marge's Humor

olates.

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

We say, "Roses are red, violets are blue. Sugar is sweet and so are you." The cards are covered with hearts or a dove.

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

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

What did the Valentine card say to the stamp?

Stick with me and we'll go places.

What did the boy bird say to the ed?) girl bird on Valentine's Day?

Let me call you Tweet Heart!

Valentine's Day is only a few days away.

Remember to break up before then and save money.

What did the chocolate syrup say to the ice cream?

I'm sweet on you.

Who sends a thousand Valentine cards signed "Guess Who?"

A divorce lawyer.

Words fail me! (Anyone Interested?)

Great body, sharp mind, sexy voice and they're just a few of my good points.

EXECUTE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Shows are entertaining and safe

By Marvin Flam

Our 45th year is off to a great start with a busy January!

Two shows, two dances and the free, monthly "Sunday-In-The Park" were all well attended.

Those who were part of the large audiences had nothing but praise and thanked us for the wonderful and fun time that they had and are looking forward to the rest of the exciting show, dance and Sunday-In-The-Park lineup for 2015.

Our great crew of volunteers work tirelessly to assure that the entertainment experience will be the very best that is possible. From planning to booking to ticket sales of each event. From stage set up to auditorium decorations to ushers and to ticket takers, these volunteers make sure that the entertainment experience will be the best and the most fun.

The volunteers are your friends and neighbors, so if you have any questions or need any help just chat with them.

Recently, I have been asked about our policy regarding seating arrangements. First, let me tell you that we take great care in ensuring that each event will be pleasant, safe and secure for our audience. We have an emergency evacuation procedure in the event of an emergency. And by the way, we have been fortunate to not have had an emergency situation.

We have a policy that complies with the Federal and State ADA regulations. The ushers will assist each guest with regard to the use, storage and placement of wheelchairs, walkers and other physical aids. The aisles must be kept clear at all events.

The seats and tables must not be moved and seats must remain attached.

In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of the

ushers and volunteers. If you have any special needs, please discuss it with us and we will do our best to accommodate your needs and concerns. The policies that we have are there to ensure that all our guests have a wonderful and safe experience.

Follow us on your building bulletin boards and activity center bulletin boards, on OTOW-TV channels 96 or 732, and Box Office (OnTop OfTheWorldNews.com).

We look forward to personally greeting each of you at the EAC auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 A.M and at all our events.



Atlantic
City Boys
will be here
Thursday,
Feb. 19.

Rebound will be back in the EAC auditorium on Saturday, Feb. 7.



EXECUTE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



FEBRUARY 2015

FOR INFO: 797-1761 OR EMAIL: entcom2014@gmail.com



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THURSDAY NIGHT SHOW - 7:30 PM - \$15 AT THE DOOR

KILLER Bs

BRIAN GURL & BAND'S TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL, BARRY MANILOW, AND THE BEATLES!



SAT

5

FEB

SWEETHEART DANCE

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE - 8 PM - \$10 AT THE DOOR

MUSIC BY REBOUND

COME ENJOY THE TRIBUTE TO LOVERS



SUN

FEB

SUNDAY-IN-THE-PARK AT THE EAC - 2 PM - FREE

SUNDAY-IN-THE-PARK

CLOUD 9

FREE LITE REFRESHMENTS - TO WIN AT RAFFLE, YOU NEED A TICKET



CLOUD 9

THUR

FEB

19

THURSDAY NIGHT SHOW - 7:30 PM - \$15 AT THE DOOR

ATLANTIC CITY BOYS

"NON-STOP TALENT, INCREDIBLE ENERGY AND UNLIMITED EXCITEMENT!" SAY THE REVIEWS



BACK WITH

SAT

FEB

21

MARDI GRAS DANCE

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE - 8 PM - \$10 AT THE DOOR

RUSTY TRUMPET BRINGS US THE MUSIC OF MARDI GRAS & MORE



TRUMPET

PREVIEW OF

MARCH

EVENTS

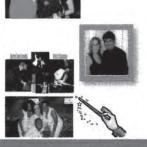
MAR 5 - THU SHOW - JOEY DEE SHOW

MAR 7 - SAT DANCE - WEARIN OF THE GREEN - BITTER-SWEET

MAR 8 - SUNDAY-IN-THE-PARK - HUGH TURLEY - MAGICIAN

MAR 19 - THU SHOW - TOP 10 ROCK 'N' ROLL REVUE

MAR 21 - SAT DANCE - SPRING FLING- THE MIX





Now that the new lawn bowl facility is ready - bring on the tournaments!

Lawn Bowling

By Bob Laplante

The Lawn Bowl season has finally begun.

The rinks are fairly good, but they need a bit of traffic to compact the surface.

Fortunately, there are a lot of bowlers who are anxious to get out and play in order to provide this traffic.

On the first day of play, the club was one player short of the maximum number able to play at a time. Every day since has had a healthy complement of members enjoying their favorite past-time.

The first tournament of the year, the mixed pairs, was coordinated by Dave Murray. The four teams who topped the ranking were Ray Allard and Nicole Pelletier-first, Norm Chandler and Joan O'Connersecond, Greg and Linda Middleton-third and Dave Murray and Marj Kells–fourth.

A great way to start the season!

The Canadian Club Triples is scheduled for Feb. 5 and 6 and is open to players holding membership in both the OTOW Canadian Club and the OTOW Lawn Bowls Club. Teams will be randomly assigned, but those wishing to play must sign-up. As teams must be an even number, preference will be given to



those in order of signing-up.

The Valentine's Tournament will be held on Feb. 12 and followed by a luncheon.

The 4-3-2-1 Triples Tournament is scheduled for the Feb. 19 and 20.

The annual theme party honoring Past Presidents will be held on Feb. 26. As the theme is "Chinese New Year" so we can expect an oriental influence to be reflected throughout the evening.

Barb Lenzi may be contacted for tickets or approach

anyone at the Lawn Bowls Club to leave your name and number and someone with tickets will get back to you.

As the club now has access to the lawn bowls courts, the training of new bowlers is underway. If you are interested in trying the sport, sign up at the courts and a trainer will be assigned to introduce you to the rules and protocol as well as practice in performing the activities that will occur during play. It's a great way to stay active in the best spirit of life at On Top of the World.

First there was a party ... then golfing

By Pat Eastman

Although better than December, the streak of bad weather on Tuesdays continued in January.

Only two tournaments to report on in this issue.

The flight winners for Dec. 16 were: Flight A - Pat Eastman, Diane Moxley, Carole Lacey. Flight B - Dot Graham, Dale McMinn. Flight C - Kay Satterlee, Elaine Stretavski. Flight D - Jackie Woloszyn, Muriel Salo.

For Jan. 6: Flight A - Pat Eastman, Becky West, Donna Smith. Flight B -Leora Hamm, Marie Belliveau. Flight C - Kay Satterlee, Gwen Lemke. Flight D - Cindy Schell, Joyce Monahan.

On Jan. 13, the Suncoast Hospice charity tournament, under the direction of Fran Zaloski, was to take place, but again rain postponed a Tuesday event. However, the lunch went on as planned with salad, pasta, meatballs, cannolis, and plenty of raffles.

The many raffle winners went



The original date for the Suncoast Hospice Golf Tournament was rained out, but the food lines were still open. Golfers line-up at the catered buffet. The tournament took place the following week.

home very happily.

The big winner was Suncoast Hospice. The raffle donations brought in a lot of cash. Hopefully, this year's total will be a substantial donation check for Suncoast Hospice.

Our league currently has three women who donate their time as Suncoast Hospice volunteers. They are Gail DuCharme, Pat Cassidy and Pat Eastman. The three women total almost 30 years of service.

Ladies 18-Golf

You may have seen on television that the parent company of Suncoast Hospice is now Empath Health. Suncoast Hospice has not gone away, but in order to better serve the community, Suncoast Hospice and its family of programs created Empath Health, an integrated network of care.

Empathy reflects concern and understanding for others. Thus, the name ---Empath Health.

Upcoming events

Feb. 2: board meeting, 9 a.m. kitchen EAC.

Feb. 4: general meeting, 9:30 a.m., Sunrise Room WAC.

Feb. 10: Jack and Jill tournament, rain date Feb. 17.

March 9 and 10: Handicap Tour-

March 25: Spring Luncheon at Clearwater Country Club.



League has interesting agenda for 2015

Men's Golf

By Pete Milner

2015 has started on a good note.

On Tuesday, Jan. 6, our Men's Golf Association held its annual meeting at the West Activity Center with 52 members attending.

There was plenty of lively conversation and some good ideas brought

President-elect Jim O'Neil did a good job of setting everything up and there was plenty of good Army coffee and donuts to go around.

President Marc Schell has put together a good agenda for 2015. There is something interesting for all members. Please keep your eyes on the scoreboard for additions and changes to our schedule.

I can't stress enough the importance of checking in for play and signing up for the following week at least one-half hour before your tee time, so that you won't loose your tee time for

Golfers head out to their assigned starting holes about one-half hour be-



From left to right are Pete Milner, Russell Caughey, Lester Whynot, Marcus Schell, James O'Neil, Jay Schwallie and. Ken Nield.

fore tee time and we don't want to end up with five golfers on one hole.

I, personally, don't think it's an unusual or unreasonable request to show up on time and comply with the rules and to show some courtesy for your fellow golfers.

On Dec. 12, 2014, Nilson Sabadin

hit a hole-in-one on the 124-yard 15th hole. He used his pitching wedge. Jim Anzalone, Gerry Morressette and Roy Monteith were the lucky guys in his foursome to witness this amazing feat. Great shot Nilson, well done.

We have decided to stick with shotgun starts for the immediate future. Please watch the scoreboard for changes, which could occur from week

If you would like to volunteer to assist in the shack, please see Jack

Wishing you all good golf and dry socks for 2015.

Bruce MacPherson, Bill Gambacurta, Steve Yauk, Garry Patrick earn weekly honors

The league's plans for tournaments have been dashed on several occasions due to the weather, but we anticipate completing everything by season's end.

"Scrambling Man" Bruce MacPherson took first place honors in a tie-breaker with Steve Yauk on week five. Ada Culbertson was third. Bill Higgins had the low gross score. Only three skins were taken by Don Sorensen, Ada Culbertson and Bill Cook.

Week six play was held on the first day of 2015 and our neighbor from the north country, Bill Gambacurta, recorded a great round and narrowly edged out John Maloof who placed second. Don Dorris took third place. The low gross round was recorded by Don Hunter. Paul Meyers, Bill Gambacurta, Garry Patrick, Don Dorris, Don Hunter and Golda Gambacurta

Thursday Golf

all had one skin each.

On the worst weather day to date, cold and very windy, Bruce MacPherson persevered to become week seven champion and take low gross honors. Playing in the same group Gary Sandine narrowly edged out Mike LaViolette who placed third. Only three skins were taken by Bruce MacPherson, Don Baker and Clyde Hershberger.

Long drive competitions were held this week. Gilda Gambacurta, Fred Schick and Gary Sandine all won their divisions. Dick Kronawetter won closest to the pin honors.

No sunshine again on week eight. The damp conditions made scoring

difficult, but Garry Patrick was able welcome to join the league. The league to finish in first place. Bill Gambacurta continued his steady pace to second. Dennis Trauffer was third. Paul Meyers took low gross honors. Don Leamy, Don Dorris, Gary Sandine, Doug Oleksy and Don Hahs collected

The points race to league champion has Bruce MacPherson in the lead with 20 points. Bill Gambacurta is tive golf using USGA rules, our league second with 16, Don Hunter and Gary Sandine have 15 points. Ron Parham and Ian Miller 13. Bob Maynard 12. John Maloof and Steve Yauk have 11 points each. Four other members have 10 points. This year will be a shoot-out with the quality of competitors.

The Thursday Golf League welcomes new members at any time. All On Top of the World residents are is looking for more women to join, so please don't be shy.

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

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 competiis for you.

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

For information, call Paul at 727-474-2344 or email blackdoggolf@aol.com.

Also, please visit our spot on the OTOW Box Office club page.



First Scotch Doubles tournament of the new year goes to winners Dennis Balling and John Shearer

The first Scotch Doubles Tournament in the new year was held on Jan. 8. The team of Dennis Balling and John Shearer took first place honors. After an exciting playoff, Mario Rodriguez and Norm Theriault captured the second place spot with the team of Andy Suhar and Joe Ventimiglia claiming third place.

On Jan. 15, they played Scotch Doubles with the team of Dennis Balling and Charles McKague taking first place. After a playoff between the team of Joe Doire and Nick Sapienza and the team of Dave Williams and Terry Wittman, Joe and Nick edged out Dave and Terry for second place. Dave and Terry settled for third.

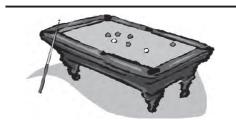
On Thursday, Dec. 18, the Scotch Doubles group played singles with Don Sorenson capturing first place and Ian Hunter second place in the A Flight. Nick Sapienza claimed first place with Mario Rodriguez taking second place in the B Flight.

No tournaments were held on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Eight-ball tournaments wrapped up in 2014 and started five days later to start 2015.

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014, in B Flight, a playoff was held between Ron Baltrunas and Nick Sapienza, Nick edged out Ron for the first place slot. Ron had to settle for second. No playoff for third place was held between Charles McKague, Ray Quirion and Don Sorenson.

On Monday, Dec. 22 in A Flight, Joe Doire easily captured first place winning all but one game. No playoff



Billiards

was held for second and third places between Denny Balderson, Dan Kane, Allen Pier and Dave Williams.

On Tuesday, Dec. 23 in B Flight, a tiebreaker was played between John Fier and Mario Rodriguez. John took first place honors with Mario settling for second. No playoff was held for third place between Charles McKague, Don Sorenson, Joe Wisinski and Terry Wittman.

On Dec. 29, Dan Kane easily took first place in the last tournament of 2014 for the A Flight. Allen Pier took second place, and after a playoff between Denny Balderson and Norm Theriault, Denny claimed third place.

On Dec. 30 in B Flight, Charles McKague walked away with first place, Ray Quirion took second place with John Shearer settling for third.

On Jan. 5 in A Flight, Don Sorenson edged out the field by claiming first place. No playoff for second and third places was played between Dan Kane, Allen Pier and Dave Williams.

On Jan. 6, the B Flight held a playoff for first, second and third places. Dennis Balling took first place, Barb Sundberg second place and Ian Hunt-



Scotch Doubles leaders from Jan. 8 are pictured above. From left to right are Andy Suhar, Joe Ventimiglia (third place), John Shearer, Dennis Balling (first place), Mario Rodriguez and Norm Theriault (second place).

er settled for third place.

On Jan. 12 in A Flight, Joe Doire walked away with first place, Dave Williams claimed second place with Norm Theriault took third place.

On January 13 in B Flight, Nick Sapienza captured first place, Terry Wittman claimed second place and Ian Hunter settled for third.

hats were off to Ed Ramirez who edged out the field to claim first place. Frank English settled for second.

place honors with Joe Gora claiming

second place.

On Dec. 30, Dan Kane took first place once again with Ed Ramirez taking second place.

On Jan. 6, after a playoff between Dan Kane and Don Sorenson, Dan took first place with Don settling for second place.

On Jan. 13, once again Dan Kane In 9-ball on Dec. 16, 2014, our took the first place slot with Tony Baker claiming second place.

Bring your recreation card, get in on the action and have some fun in On Dec. 23, Dan Kane took first these heavily competitive tournaments. We use the round robin format.

Golfers asked to wear red on Feb. 10

By Vayna Cormier

We had a very good meal served at the Suncoast HospiceTournament.

Lots of nice prizes also.

Great thanks to all the organizers of the event.

Here are the weekly awards for December.

December 16

A flight - Laypa Buck, Jean Norris.

B flight - Connie Saylor, Marge Jacobs, Doris Prekopa.

C flight - Marge Sivek, Sue Liesch, Karen Johnson.

D flight - Guendi Kenny, Romy

Ladies 9-Golf

Brady.

Birdies - Jean Norris and Connie Saylor on No. 2, Anna Hyden on No.

We will have a Valentine's theme on Feb. 10. Lets all dress in red for the

Don't forget to register for the Flight Tournament, Feb. 17 and 24.

Please check your booklet for Tuesday games.

Love is in the air for all of us.

GOLF INSTRUCTION

JOHN HAYES - PGA GOLF TEACHER

At the Chi Chi Golf Range

(Head north on McMullen Booth Road, between Hwy. 580 and Curlew Road)

On the Web, look up www.johnhayesgolf.com for rates, ladies clinic schedules and other information.

> Call (727) 692-4679 to book a golf lesson.





SPORTS



Five healthy reasons why you should play tennis

By Mike Tomaselli

Our On Top of the World tennis season has been in full "swing" for a couple of months now.

The courts are in great shape, with lights available on court one for those of us who can't make the usual morning 8 a.m. open doubles tennis.

Come join us!

If you have not played tennis, racquetball, squash, handball or pickle ball, and are looking for a fun workout to get or stay in shape, the following info is published by the USTA on their Website regarding the positive health benefits of these sports.

Tennis

And of course, the fun and social aspect should not be overlooked

Its historic moniker has been the "sport for a lifetime." But is this really true?

According to world-renowned scientists from a variety of disciplines, there is no doubt that tennis is one of the best sports for you to play.

Here are the facts:

1. People who participate in tennis three hours per week (at moderately

vigorous intensity) cut their risk of death in half from any cause, according to physician Ralph Paffenbarger who studied over 10,000 people duringa period of 20 years.

- 2. Tennis players scored higher in vigor, optimism and self-esteem while scoring lower in depression, anger, confusion, anxiety and tension than other athletes and non-athletes according to Dr. Joan Finn and colleagues at Southern Connecticut State University.
- 3. Since tennis requires alertness and tactical thinking, it may generate new connections between nerves in

the brain and thus promote a lifetime of continuing development of the brain, reported scientists at the University of Illinois.

- 4. Tennis outperforms golf, inline skating and most other sports in developing positive personality characteristics according to Dr. Jim Gavin, author of The Exercise Habit.
- 5. Competitive tennis burns more calories than aerobics, inline skating, or cycling, according to studies on caloric expenditures.

Next month we will take a look at 34 specific reasons why you should consider playing tennis regularly!

Twice, softball games finish in ties

By Bob Rittner

There is a cliche that baseball brings a new hero every day.

Perhaps a cliche, but it does accurately describe our league. True, some players excel regularly, but everybody has the spotlight on occasion.

Cody's 12, Scott's 12

Fourteen diehards braved fog and chill to play a half-field game.

Newcomer Don Marsden elevated the league's talent level average with sparkling shortstop play and stunning power that produced two doubles and a home run. His Scott's teammates, Fred Walters, Allen Bendert and Bob Rittner, each contributed four hits. Fred also homered.

For Cody's, Jim Kemp's homer was part of his five hit day while Paul Fice was four for four. In the ninth, pitcher Tony Caputo maintained the tie by retiring the last batter with the winning run on third base.

Scott's 8, Cody's 8

of the eighth on Roger Hebbler's two the game. Neither team could score in newcomer Don Kelly, after which Jim bottom of the ninth for the win

Softball

the ninth.

For Scott's, Joe Maley blasted two towering doubles among his four hits, Don Marsden hit for the cycle, and Tony Caputo also had four hits.

Cody's was led by Jim Kemp's home run among his four hits and four hits by Paul Fice and Roger Hebbler.

Cody's 16, Scott's 14

Down 16-3 in the last inning, Scott's Pharmacy rallied furiously pounding 13 hits, including five doubles and a home run, before stranding the tying run on second base.

Cody's scored multiple runs in every inning, led by four-hit days by Jim Kemp, Paul Fice, Allen Bendert, Bill Lepping and Bob Stoddard, who homered and doubled.

But with two outs, Scott's come-Cody's tied the game in the bottom back stunned spectators who anticipated a quick end. Instead, three conPollock kept the inning alive with a clutch single.

Chris Ferrugia, Joe Maley, Pat Kennedy and Bob Rittner each followed with his second hit of the inning to pull within two, but a line drive to shortstop Paul Fice ended the game.

Scott's 17, Cody's 8

Jim Pollock smashed four sharp line drive singles, driving in four runs to lead the rout. Lenny Segall's two home runs and Tony Caputo's four hits contributed as well.

For Cody's, Paul Fice's consecutive hit streak reached 26 before ending on a screaming ground ball directly at a fielder. Guy Bertuzzi starred for Cody's with two doubles and a triple among his four hits while Bob Fields made two outstanding catches in the outfield.

Cody's 9, Scott's 12

Two home runs by Scott's Lenny Segall offset homers by Paul Fice and Jim Kemp of Cody's as Scott's led most of the game. But after Cody's scored three to tie the score in the top RBI hit which gave him five RBIs for secutive singles led to a grand slam by of the ninth, Scott's roared back in the

Cody's 6, Scott's 13

Cody's scored in just three innings, while Scott's overwhelmed them by scoring in every inning, led by five hit days from Chris Ferrugia and Lenny Segall, each homering as well. Scott's Bill Bennett was four for four.

Cody's sluggers could not muster their customary fire power, managing only two extra base hits, although Bob Fields was four for four.

Scott's 5, Cody's11

Over seven innings, Scott's could muster just one run.

Cody's airtight defense was led by Allen Bendert, who hauled in two potential extra base hits near the outfield fence, first baseman Joe Farrell, who scooped everything thrown his way, and Paul Fice, who played flawless shortstop. Paul added two doubles and a triple while Ken Graham had four hits to boost the offense.

Scott's broke through with four runs in the eighth, highlighted by Lenny Segall's three run triple, but Cody's held firm in the ninth putting Scott's down in order.



Jack 'n Jill Golf Tournament Feb. 10 at the OTOW 18-Hole Course Rain date: Feb. 17



On Nov. 10, 2014, Vincent DiCostanzo used a driver to score a hole-inone on the 16th hole of the On Top of the World course.

The 149-vard shot was witnessed by William Boy.

Everything promoted on this page is free!



Slimnastics

We meet 9 a.m. every weekday morning. Walking, stretching, getting the blood pumping. We meet in the EAC gym.

Polar Bears

Healthy, fun, water exercises for everyone.

Week days, 9-10 a.m., in the East Activity Center swimming pool as long as the outdoor temperature is above 62 degrees.

There is no charge.

Free social dancing

Social dancing every Thursday from 1-3 p.m in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room. All OTOW residents are cordially invited. We meet to learn, practice and enjoy partner dancing. Classes are free.

Bonesavers

Bonesavers continues to meet all year round.

We meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8-9 a.m. in the East Activity Center Large Card Room.

We use hand weights and ankle weights in exercises designed by Tuft University. Our exercises help prevent bone loss. We cannot grow new bones, but we can exercise to try to stop further loss.

Men and women are both welcome to attend our classes. We never do floor exercises and our classes are always free.

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

Fat Burning Workout!

Our new Fat Burning Workout class takes place 9 a.m., Tuesdays, in the East Activity Center Large Card Room.

Men and women are welcome. Bring water and a towel. Be prepared to have fun and burn a ton of calories. No floor exercises.

We exercise to music every weekday morning

Hello Ladies! Come join us at 8 a.m., Monday through Friday, in the East Activity Center gym. Music will get you moving. It's a fun way to start your day and meet other ladies interested in staying fit.

Our exercises include stretching, building balance and coordination, improving flexibility, strengthening the body's core, weight lifting to improve muscle tone, and cardio workouts to music. Each day we work different muscle groups with a different routine so you won't get bored. Also, bring your hand weights to our strength training/weight lifting classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We've added a cardio circuit workout with weights on Wednesday morning, as well. Bring a towel or mat because we do floor exercises at the end of each class.

In addition to the above, come try our new fun fitness workout on Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Large Card Room right after the 8 a.m. class.

SCOTT L. RAY, D.O. JUDITH L. EVANS, D.O.

RICHARD J. MacDOUGALL, PA-C • FATIMA MUSIC, ARNP • CHRISTOPHER L. PLOMATOS, ARNP

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Everyone could use a happy heart in February

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- Active/Deep FX[™] Fractional Laser for Wrinkles
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- Botox® Cosmetic
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- Phototherapy

AND THE TREATMENT OF

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- Broken Blood Vessels
- Warts
- Spider Veins
- Port Wine Stains
- Hemangiomas
- Other Birthmarks
- Stretchmarks

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Performed by University Trained Board Certified Physician Susan S. Roper, M.D. The FIRST to bring Thermage, Active Fx and Laser Toning to the Tampa Bay Area.



Riley Robert Naylor is very special.

It was in Gasport, NY, where Sue Naylor "interviewed" several cock-a-poo puppies. They were beautiful, white, with splotches of apricot champagne-colored splotches.

The cock-a-poo owner asked Sue whether she wanted a male or female. Sue said, "We've always had males for some reason." And immediately the owner mentioned, "we have one in the house. The kids are playing with him."

Whereupon the future Riley Robert Naylor made his entrance, biting and tussling with a grandchild.

For Sue, it was love at first sight!

Riley's trainer said he was the smartest puppy she had ever seen because he learned everything on the first try.

Turns out, he became house-broken in less than a week - only that long because it took Sue a while to understand him. By the back door there was a chain hanging down, which he immediately learned to bat when he had to go out.

Riley makes Sue laugh at least 30 times a day - you see, he has a well-developed sense of humor - and is absolutely brilliant.

Every time Sue buys him a toy, she gives it a name. All she has to say is, "Where's Ozzie? Or get Friskie" and Riley arrives with it tucked safely into his mouth, ready for a game.

Sue and Riley have been together more than seven years and hopefully will see many more together. Sue and Riley live on Sumatran Way.



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 boootss@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)





BUILDING REPORTS



Sisters share common interests at OTOW

I want to introduce two neighbors who are sisters, Ginny Chilcote and Karen Green.

One of them, Ginny, was featured in a story in January about the "Four Virginias" from the New World French building pictured next to their mother.

Karen Green and her husband Joe purchased their apartment February of 2011. Karen has a BS degree from the University of Texas at Dallas and an MBA from Penn State. She is a CPA who, in 2008, decided to switch from working in industry to teaching accounting at a community college.

She and Joe met on a blind date and dated for a long time until he proposed on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. They honeymooned in Europe and went to Paris and Barcelona for 10 days. They realized what they had in common was that they both loved to travel, golf and follow the Phillies. Golf actually brought them together and they "Travel to Golf."

Joe Green is from W. Chester, Pa. He is a lawyer and practices in Montgomery County. He attended St. Joseph's University and received his law degree from Villanova University in Radnor Township in Philadelphia.

They decided to purchase their apartment here to be close to her mom when able to get away.

They love it at On Top of the World for the amenities and the dog park especially. They have two beautiful Portuguese Water Dogs named Molly and Dora. They are well-behaved pets who love the walks around the neighborhood. They really love their cousin, "Sunshine," who now lives next door.



Ginny Chilcote is a wonderful new addition to our building along with her dog Sunshine, a sweet and well-behaved pet. She and her sister Karen are wonderful neighbors and fit in to our open and friendly atmosphere.

While visiting her sister here once, Ginny decided to make the move to Florida for the warm climate and to be near her mom. During her stay, an apartment right next door became available and, having met many of the neighbors (whom she loved), decided it was the perfect match for her and Sunshine. Ginny purchased her apartment in September, 2014.

Ginny is a retired teacher who taught for 33 years in Southern Huntington County High School, and taught high school Spanish and English. She received her bachelor's degree at Ursinus College in Collegeville Pa., and a master's degree at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. She studied abroad for one semester at Salamanca University in Spain.

Ginny took a summer job at a local community center as a lifeguard to help with school expenses.



(Left to right) Karen Green sitting with Dora and Molly (on the floor); Ginny Chilcote with Sunshine in front of her.

A fellow by the name of Leroy would sit outside the pool area, eventually asking her for a date. They dated for a year. When she returned from Spain, he was waiting for her when she got off the plane and proposed to her. They married a year later. They spent their honeymoon in Wildwood N.J, and it was the first time LeRoy had seen the ocean.

Leroy was a machinist and laser operator for Case New Holland Company, which manufactured farming equipment. He was also a volunteer EMT and fireman.

They have two sons. One is an Air Force Senior Master Sergeant stationed at Elmendorf AFB in Anchorage Alaska with his wife. The other son is single and works for Cigna in Pittsburg, Pa.

One of Ginny's goals is to travel

to all 50 states and light a candle in each one for her late husband. She has visited 10 states so far.

Ginny and her sister Karen come from central and eastern Pennsylvania. Their mom had 10 children: eight girls and two boys. There are 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren in the family.

In April, there was a large reunion in Pennsylvania in a rented house for their mother's 85th birthday.

We are so glad they chose the Brahman Building.

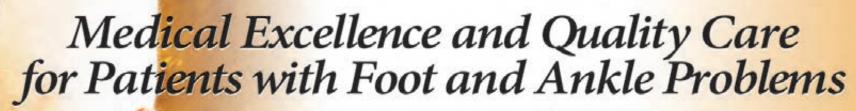
Happy Valentine's Day, everyone!

Photo by Esta-Lee Schwartz

Watch OTOW-TV Channels 96 and 732







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Dr. Edwards is Board Qualified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and is an Associate, of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.



This shows part of the crowd at the Roman Byzantine building dinner. This is a great way to get re-acquainted with neighbors from the opposite side of the building.

Monthly luncheons may be in the works again

Our building dinner (see photo above) was organized by Gwen Nolan.

Every now and then we get to reacquaint ourselves with our neighbors from the opposite side of the building. An announcement was made at the dinner that Gwen would like to restart the monthly luncheons. Anyone who is interested can book a restaurant and post the information in the core.

I explained to everyone that I would be updating our building phone list. It would be helpful to have phone numbers, emergency contact information as well as the name of the person who has a key to your condo. Once the list is completed, everyone will get a copy.



Thank you to Debbie Bonomo, Shirley Miller, Dolores Kopack, Linda Gooch and myself for not only putting up the Christmas tree, but taking it down.

"Till We Meet Again"

A little bit of rhyme for an interesting change

I've written this column for over 10 years, in On Top of the World's paper it appears;

Many people have come and gone, their stories I have told for so long.

If you have some to add to the list, (maybe some I shouldn't have missed),

Give me a call and fill me in, to miss them would surely be a sin.

(Call Gloria at 724-5909)



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Time to think about cleaning out your storage rooms

Valentine 's Day is almost here! The building meetings were delayed due to chilly weather until after press deadline.

Storage rooms remain a very big issue. If your "stuff" has been there a long time, you might be wise to arm yourself with bug spray when doing your inventory. Some unwanted critters may have infested your items.

Fire and safety codes dictate what is safe to store — if in doubt, check with the Community Services Office. On Top of the World is cracking down on storage room violations. If they do the cleaning, we must pay.

Social activities will soon be back on track along with the warmer weather. The Polar Bear swimmers have even canceled a number of classes this season due to the cool weather. If it's 62 degrees at 9 a.m., we swim!

Steve Mazurik and Orrin Fanter's welcome mat for northern pals and family is getting well used by escapees from winter's blast. Steve's brother, sister, brother-in-law and sister-in-law have kept the broilers and grills of local restaurants busy.



Speaking of escapees, as you can see by the photo above taken by our son Mike Leonard, we celebrated (if you want to call sitting in sub-zero temperatures celebrating) New Year's at the old Maine homestead. It's always great to return to our warm weather!

The lobster boat in the sea smoke awaiting her captain and stern man to start the day hauling traps — yes they haul year round in Maine. When you fuss about lobster prices, remember this picture. This phenomenon occurs when sea water is much warmer than the air. The air was –9 degrees and the water was around 45 degrees.



Maine lobster boat enveloped in "sea smoke," a phenomenon that happens when sea water is much warmer than the air. (Photo by MIke Leonard)

Among the activities available at OTOW is a little gem: the Genealogy Society. Anne Watkins is the president. There is always an interesting subject or field trip scheduled. If you enjoy history or are trying to track family history here is the perfect club.

Please see the paper for a schedule of meeting dates and time.

Remember: Flowers, candy and dinner out are all wonderful Valentine's gifts to give... and receive, too!

Send news to fresca@maine. rr.com. See you in March.

Copies of the OTOW News are available in the lobbies of the East and West Activity Centers.



Costs aside, Valentine's Day is usually worth it

Can it really be the month of February already?

The time of red and white, little pink hearts, cupid and sweet nothings. The month of Valentine's Day, which is always on the 14th, plus this year it is on a Saturday. This day of love is when the most candy and flowers are sold all year.

This day can be shared with a friend or a loved one, wife, husband, or your significant other.

There are many ways to celebrate: one is the giving of flowers, such a simple idea — wrong. You go pick out the flowers thinking the job is done, then you go to pay. Here comes the tricky part. First the price of the flowers you picked so everything is just fine – wrong. Flowers are one price.

Then you need a card to show you care, then the taxes. Just as you're about to pay, right there on the counter is a small heart-shaped box of candy – not just any candy but chocolate. So the clerk said, "Would you like that in a gift bag?" You of course say yes. When leaving the store you think, "what have I done?" But remember, it is Valentine's Day.

How about going to a nice place to eat? You think something nice but not



too costly. You see this ad that states "two meals for a very good price," so off you go. When arriving, you did not read the ad right but since you're already there you just go ahead and order.

Dinner is over and the bill arrives. You look at the bill and think, "You've got to be kidding!" Dinner for two, drinks, tip and taxes. You're thinking, "Do I have enough cash or do I put it on my card which equals my whole month's budget." Then you look up and see the one you're with just smiling, and you think "Happy Valentine's Day."

This month we are also honoring some of our great presidents.

Hawaiian Towers would like to welcome all our new residents. Aloha!

On Top of the World Years Ago

A look back at the *OTOW News* (February, 1990)

By Cele Radeloff and Esta-Lee Schwartz

- The Organ Club met the third Thursday of every month. Vera Beerbower wrote the newspaper article. She stated, "The way we approach the organ and the keyboard are very different. The techniques used will make a piano player into an organist."
- The Jesters Show for that month was the "Big Showboat Frolic" on Feb. 17. Directors were Helen Travis and Ilse Sporbeck. Helen made the scenery in her living room and added lights for the first time.
- The Married Women's Club met on Jan. 12. Virginia Dean reviewed two books. Kay Gordon was the club president. Luncheon catered by Dino's Restaurant and held in the card room. Cost was \$7.
- The Christmas Lights committee awarded winners for 1989. First prize went to the Azores building, second prize went to South Seas and the third prize went to Swedish Traditional.
- The longest tennis match ever played at On Top of the World was during the men's tennis matches in February, lasting two hours, 59 ½ minutes. It was between the Lions and the Bears. Roy Lee and Ed Lambert played Art Royson and Bert Wilson. The score was 8 to 6 in favor of Roy and Ed.
- The Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers completed the project making 1041 toys in 1989. It was an all-time record. This compares to 600–700 made in previous years.

Building meeting set for Thursday, Feb. 19, at EAC

I'd like to welcome all new owners and renters to the Grecian Classic building and hope you all enjoy the great activities offered at On Top of the World and our Florida weather.

Although, we have had some Arctic-type weather lately, it's still better than being in the land of snow and extreme temperatures.

I would like to mention that there will be a Grecian Classic building meeting upcoming. All condo owners, rent owners and renters are invited to attend the meeting, which will be held on Thursday, Feb. 19, at 10 a.m. at the East Activity Center. Please mark your calendar and watch the bulletin board for more information.

Also, this is an opportunity to meet and greet your neighbors and address any issues concerning the building.

Our neighbor, George Kolitsas, is involved with this year's Jester's production, "Celebrate America," to be



performed at the East Activity Center Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13 and 14, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5. If interested, you can purchase tickets directly from George, who lives on the Australia side.

If anyone has an event to share, please don't hesitate to contact me at 727-725-1623.

Happy Valentine's Day to all residents of Grecian Classic!

On the Air: OTOW-TV Channels 96 and 732



Holiday season packed with trips and visits

Well, the "Noel" sign is down, thanks to Skip Heller, Ralph DeVoe, Joe Farrell and Mike Foy.

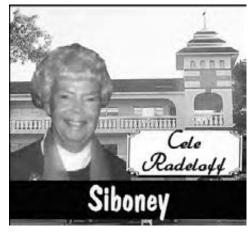
The Core looks bare now that our tree has been dismantled and ornaments stored away by Pat Heller and Audrey Decker. Now on to Valentine's Day!

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 visited in Baldwin, Md.; Rita Tombari visited sons in Arizona and Texas; Skip and Pat Heller spent Christmas in Virginia with very bad weather; and Sue Rausch celebrated with her son and family in Hawaii.

I visited in New Jersey and Long Island. Each year we play some sort of game. This year we had to bring a clue as to what is our favorite movie. For example, a box of chocolates – "Forrest Gump." Or, a lollypop and tap shoes – Shirley Temple. It was fun!

Several neighbors had out-of-town visitors for Christmas. Ethyle Lee's daughter and her husband arrived from Tennessee, and they invited Mary Jane and Ralph DeVoe for Christmas dinner. That's what the holidays are all about – togetherness!



Laura Evans, our former neighbor, who is visiting from St. Louis. She will be traveling on to Ft. Meyers for a six-month stay.

Thirteen of us met at the Red Lobster and to our surprise, Laura presented each of us with a beautiful sequined notebook and pen in a drawstring bag to match. First, she told a story relating to the gift, and we're to keep a daily diary of both good and bad things in our life. It was good to be with Laura again – always the very interesting lady!

I visited with Fran Peck as her condo has been sold and her daughters and her grandson were packing up her belongings. One of the daughter's husband also helped. Fran and her late husband moved here in 1995 from We had a lovely reunion with Pennsylvania, but she is now residing in

Allegro in Tarpon Springs. Her address is on the bulletin board.

We enjoyed the Thursday evening show, "Showtime," and loved seeing all the seats filled. Attendance was good and everyone joined in the singing.

"Sunday in the Park's" sponsor was my dentist, Dr. A. Sampson, and I heartily recommend him. Many On Top of the World residents are his patients, and he is only five minutes away!

The Drama Club of Countryside High School put on a very different show for us, but it's wonderful to see the young people performing and how we all envy their marvelous memories. Ah... youth!

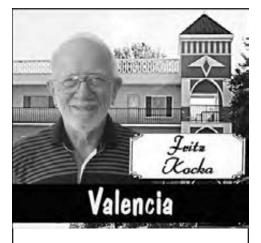
We all enjoyed Barbara Lemieux's grandson who will be off to New York in June for College Cap 21, and we wish

Many thanks to Sue Watlington for the new telephone lists found on our bulletin board. We also thank Diane Richardson for her help.

Our next Siboney monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the Sunrise Room at 7 p.m.

Nine months until our building's 30th anniversary!

Happy Presidents Day and happy Valentine's Day to all.



New building officers are introduced

Our first meeting of 2015 was held Jan. 6 at 4 p.m. in the Sunshine Room.

It was well-attended. It was opened by Ellen Gilbert, and then turned over to our incoming building captain, Valerie Martin. She in turn introduced the treasurer, Debbie Roth, and secretary, Donna Hahnan. The dues were collected and the month's activities were discussed.

The balance of the evening was spent eating and discussing how we as a team can improve.

We all gave thanks to Adele Aleresky and Ellen Gilbert for their many years at the helm.

The January ladies' luncheon was held at Tiffany's in Palm Harbor. The men's took place at Perkins on U.S. 19 and Curlew Road.

Mama sez: When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.









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So come visit your recreation center and enjoy a cup of coffee at your Coffee Corner!

Oldest Mandarin resident celebrates 101st birthday

The oldest resident of our building, Bill Pallait, is now a year older, setting the stage for his annual surprise birthday party on Dec. 16.

Thirty residents of the Mandarin Building gathered at Ed and Dolly Foland's condo for the big event. Mary Garrett provided the birthday cake to honor Bill on 101 years (see photo). Don't tell Bill, but plans are under way for the third annual surprise birthday party next year to celebrate 102 years.

The cake was large and Bill was happy to fill some take home containers so that he could continue celebrating by sharing cake with his friends the following week.

Bill is a Snowbird and spends his summers in his home state of Connecticut, then flies to the Mandarin Building in October and spends the winter here with his daughter, Linda Bouley. Bill is an original owner.



He and his wife Emily enjoyed 68 years together before she passed in 2008.

The Ladies Luncheon Group went to one of their favorite places for the first lunch of 2015. As usual, they enjoyed BJ's located nearby at Countryside Mall.

A dinner for all of the building



Residents of the Mandarin building celebrate Bill Pallait's 101st birthday with a party and all the trimmings. Bill is the oldest Mandarin resident. (Photo by Ed Foland)

residents is being planned for February. Place, date and time will be posted on the bulletin board.

The annual business meeting was held on Jan. 22 at the West Activity

Center with good attendance from owners and renters. The results of the election and other topics discussed were placed on the bulletin board for all to read.

Various committee chairs and volunteers announced

We had a wonderful holiday party
— Trish Burch thanked Karen and
Bill Johnson, Barbara Humphrey and
Pat Dalziel for all their assistance.

We cannot thank Trish enough for all that she has done for our building. Each attendee supplied a dish and everything was delicious. I don't like broccoli, but I unknowingly ate it because I didn't recognize it as it was prepared. I enjoyed it so much that I went back for seconds and asked Karen for the recipe!

We had a very congenial group and there was a raffle which included 21 donations by Mike Spodek. Thank you Mike for the donations, which were very much appreciated. New resident Peg Talak was introduced and was a most welcome addition.

Barbara Humphrey spoke to us about the necessity to bring new people into the fold. New volunteers and ideas are necessary. As a result of Barbara's comments, Peg will now lead the Sunshine committee, Joyce and Les Marsden will lead the golf activities, James and Lee Seymour, Martha Simmons and Peg Talak all volunteered for Christmas decorating. Janette Lashua, Joe Barbieri and Pat Dalziel also signed up to help.

Dascilda and Hector Allen went home to enjoy the holidays with their Brooklyn family; Peg and friend went on a cruise; and our grandchildren



came down to spend the holidays with the family.

The Edwards family celebrated Judy and Tammy's birthdays in a very special way. They went on a "Johnny Long" airboat ride, then on to St. Cloud and Forever, where Tammy and Jay ziplined, followed by a trip to Celebrations, where the area is covered by artificial snow during the holiday season.

As if that was not enough, they then went to St. Augustine where they rode on the Christmas trolley, and they then went to visit family in Port Orange.

Last, but not least, they managed to squeeze in some sightseeing in Mt. Dora before finally heading home. This was all accomplished in one week.

Until next time, we leave you with this final thought: "You may fail many times in life, but you are not a failure unless you give up."

Reporter hits the big '90' with expansive celebration

Surprise! I was happy to celebrate my 90th birthday while 12 of my "Happy Hour Bunch" neighbors sang, enjoyed my wife's pumpkin cake and wished me many happy returns.

But that was only the beginning. That Sunday, following the church service, my wonderful wife, Barbara, treated 65 of us to a fabulous buffet luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.

Following a reading of some thoughts about life, the gifts were opened, while we all enjoyed a beautiful birthday cake designed to feed the masses. All in all, Barbara sure knows how to celebrate and throw good parties!

Who knows, some of the gang may still be around to help celebrate my 100th!

The Bohemian Walking Group arrived home from their sojourn to Biloxi. Hopefully, they'll be rested and fit enough to hit the trail once again soon.

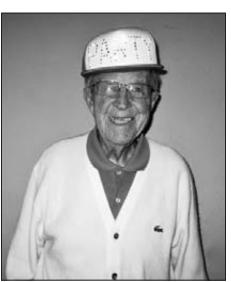
Twenty Bohemians enjoyed a recent night on the town at Beef O'Brady's.

A huge "thank-you" to all who showed up and removed the building holiday décor. Many also enjoyed the morning coffee time.

Well, some have gathered for the Super Bowl somewhere. Please let me know about that. The same for "A Day at the Races," since I had family obligations on both occasions.

I plan to attend our building meeting and will give everyone the scoop on that.





Reporter Charlie Christ celebrated his 90th birthday recently with a big celebration (including this cool party hat).

Enjoy your life here everyone, and please let me know about your celebrations — birthdays, anniversaries, visits, travels, etc. My phone is 754-6749. I'll write about them so others may enjoy them with you. Thanks!

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Birthday greetings to new member of '90 years' club

Hope everyone is getting ready for Valentine's Day — a nice gift for the one of your affection will do very nicely.

There was a significant turnout of residents in memory of longtime resident and friend, Andrew Grillo. It was nicely done and greatly appreciated by the family.

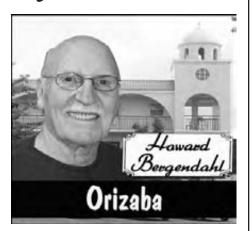
A welcome goes out to our new residents. We have had a few new arrivals to the Orizaba location. Soon Flo Gracia and Jackie Blair will be contacting all residents for emergency information.

When you are approached, please cooperate so that we can have emergency contacts for all residents. Andy McEvoy is working on a new phone list and we will try to have it printed up soon.

I had the pleasure of participating in the holiday party put on by the Dorado building and hosted by Pete and Cheryl Milner. A good time was had by all and the prizes given out were outstanding.

Jackie Blair is hosting the monthly luncheon for our building and all should watch the bulletin board for particulars. This is also a reminder that every Wednesday the men of the building meet for breakfast. Anyone interested in joining the group is invited to just show up in the first floor core between 8:50 and 9 a.m.

The weather this month has been quite chilly, but nothing compared to what is happening in the rest of the country. My son called one day from Cleveland where it was 8 degrees — that is cold!



Birthday greetings go out to Ed Fournier who joined the 90-years club. I have it on good information that he will be going flying to celebrate his birthday.

I recently had company visiting from up North. We went to lunch at the Hyatt Hotel on Clearwater Beach and really enjoyed the view from the Plaza Deck. It gives a nice vision of the beach.

Received an email recently that supposedly contained entries from church bulletins:

- 1. "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale, a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands."
- 2. "Next Thursday will be tryouts for the church choir. They need all the help they can get."
- 3. "Please place your envelope in the collection basket along with the deceased person you want remembered."
- 4. "The Associate Minister unveiled the Churches new campaign slogan last Sunday. I upped my pledge. Up yours."



This shows a few of the 17 neighbors who enjoyed coffee and donuts at the condo of Beth Dentinne and Jerry Thomas following removal of the building holiday decorations.

Coffee and donuts hit the spot in condo get-together

First we have to thank Beth Dentinne and Jerry Thomas for taking down and storing away all the decorations without any other help.

We had our first coffee and donuts get-together on Jan. 10 (and it was really chilly). We were invited to Beth and Jerry's home and had a good time talking and laughing and seeing some of our residents who were away quite a while (see photo above).

Despite the cold weather, the outcome was satisfying. Seventeen residents and friends showed up. Thank you both Beth and Jerry for giving us such a comfortable shelter!

We are planning a potluck on Feb. 14 at lunchtime and hope everybody will join. Watch the bulletin board for details. It should be a nice Valentine's Day for all of us.

We have company from Germany. My husband Heinz Scheibe's stepson is visiting from Berlin, Germany. He came

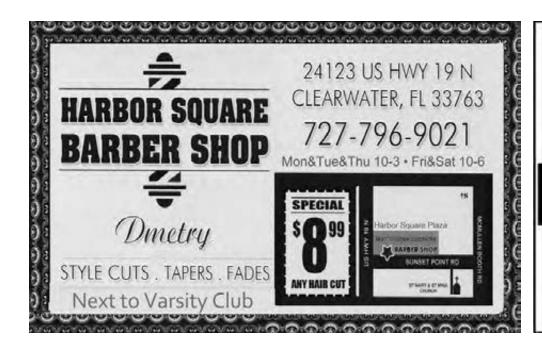


at the end of November and his wife followed in January.

We took exciting bike rides together and went to the Dali Museum. Next on the agenda is a visit to Sarasota to see the mansion of John and Mable Ringling. The surrounding park is also worth an enjoyable stroll.

We love to have company. It gives us the opportunity to do things we normally don't do alone.

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It has been my observation that no one goes through life without some kind of woe or mishap.

Thus I report of my having tripped over a small stand in my living room, resulting in a fall. I came out of this with a "shiner" and other minor injuries and neck pains.

I write of this to urge all of you who live alone to belong to some group of a "Life-Line"-type alarm company who will answer the call at the press of a button in time of an emergency. I have had to call on this service twice now. I do want to thank all of my friends who visited me, sent flowers, cards, etc.

I have not done too much socialization these past few weeks, and so I am certain that I may have missed some important events.

John and Gwen Briggs entertained many of their friends at a pizza party held at their home on New Year's Day afternoon. Two days later they set out for their home in



Manitoba, Canada. Although they no longer will have a nest of their own to come to, I know there are many of us who would welcome them for a visit.

Joe and Fran Valenti arrived from Michigan in time for the holidays, and the wind that blows Mike Caramara above the universe came through Clearwater, and so we have the pleasure of listening to his interesting stories.

Take care, everyone.

Some special Feb. days you may not know about

Happy Valentine's Day to all the wives, mothers, sweethearts and friends.

Valentine's Day is a good day to visit Busch Gardens or another Florida amusement park for a hug and a kiss on the Ferris wheel. (Valentine's Day is also Ferris Wheel Day.)

Those of us from the frozen North nervously wait for Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, to emerge from his winter quarters on Feb. 2. Legend had it if Phil saw his shadow there would be another six weeks of wintery weather.

Groundhog Day is a major event in Punxsutawney, Pa. Elementary schools throughout the New York and Pennsylvania area used to make a big production of Groundhog Day mainly because the little people were tired of boots and mittens and heavy coats.

Capistrano has been pretty quiet, some grumbling about minor items like overflowing trash, people not recycling properly and not enough recycle bins, dog owners not picking up the poop, nothing serious — the usual stuff.

I know a number of the trash movers and they are out early to get the stuff to the curb. I say hats off to these folks, they do a good job.

I notice there have been a lot of



new faces around the building lately. If you are new to On Top of the World and Capistrano, welcome! I will try to make contact with all the new residents of the building so we can formally introduce you thru the paper.

If you notice a lot of umbrellas on the 5th of the month it is because it is Umbrella Day. And lots of people will be walking their dog on Feb. 22, Walk Your Dog Day. (These are getting boring. Seems like time for someone to step up and take over this reporter's job. Anyone interested, let me know.)

Happy New Year to all our Chinese friends. Chinese New Year is Feb. 19 this year. If you see me on February 18, wish me happy birthday, it is going to be my 75th!

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New residents are barbecue judges, wine connoisseurs

Our newest neighbors, Cheryl and Tom Butcher, from Pacific, Mo., are truly a class act.

Imagine setting the ring tone for your cell phone to "O Sole Mio!"

Both Cheryl and Tom are wine connoisseurs and gourmet chefs, especially in the barbeque genre. As certified master judges for the Kansas City Barbecue Society, they are qualified to travel all over the country judging fellow barbecue enthusiasts' cooking.

In order to qualify as a master judge, you have to take a 52-question test and get 95% of the answers correct. But that is just the beginning. You also have to cook with a barbecue team who is, no doubt, judging your efforts, plus you must judge 30 contests with some degree of know-how and accuracy in order to be eligible.

The four main meat ingredients for barbecue contests are chicken, ribs, pulled pork, and brisket. Take your pick; any and all will do. Of course, it is the cooking techniques and individual sauces that make all the difference.

Both contestants and judges can find a list of all contests in their newsletter called "The Bullsheet."



Wouldn't you like to meet the person who thought that up? Pure genius.

As their newly-acquired condo was being completely renovated last spring under Cheryl's guidance and expertise, my dog, Riley, would often enter through the open door to check on the workmen's progress. During one of those forays I noticed a large wine refrigerator which I see is now set to 54 degrees and houses at least 30 bottles of wine.

It has taken many years and extensive travel for the Butchers to accumulate their techniques and insights into the cultures and wines



Featured residents Cheryl and Tom Butcher in front of their very unique digital fireplace. (Photo by Sue Naylor)

of the world. Their travels have taken have to offer added to their collective them to the vineyards of France, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Quebec, Victoria BC, California, the Niagara Falls area, and even the Finger Lakes of New York State.

In France alone they visited four regions: Bordeaux, Burgundy, Provence, and the Rhone area.

Transatlantic cruises partaking of the bounty in food and wine that they

appreciation of the finer things in life.

Much of the inviting ambience of their new living room area is further enhanced by a digital fireplace which shows dancing flames in various colors (see photo). It is a remarkable new home for the talented Butcher family.

Yes, Judy, you are right. Cinderella did not live with any dwarfs. We all know it was Pocahontas.

Resident hosts productive Mallorca building meeting

Our small two-story building is almost full!

Most of the Snowbirds are back, we have two new renters, and some of our residents are staying longer this year than in other years. It's good to have so many people back!

The Christmas decorations take-down was a quick and painless experience. Many thanks to Dick and Terry Kuplen for organizing the event and for rewarding the workers with coffee and Danish. It's amazing what we'll do for food!

Our annual building meeting was originally scheduled to be held in the Veranda Room, but it was noted that because of the difficulty accessing the room, several residents had decided not to attend. The meeting venue was changed to Maureen and Jim Finguerra's apartment, and almost all the residents attended or had a representative attend. It was agreed that this was better for all, and Maureen and Jim agreed to host the meeting at their place next year.

At the building meeting our treasurer, Dick, spoke about the cost of the Christmas lights and how some people had expressed a concern regarding the expense.

After a discussion, Dick assured us that as long as he has help from the Mallorca family he would be pleased to continue to lead the decorating process. A motion was approved that we would continue to decorate the



building with the lights that make our building so lovely.

Also at the meeting, Elizabeth Poelcher agreed to be our Good Neighbors representative. Thank you, Elizabeth. If she has not contacted you regarding your emergency contact phone numbers, please be sure to seek her out. She is doing a great job, and we all know how important these emergency numbers are.

A big thank-you goes out to Jim Rudderham for agreeing to be our secretary next year, and a big shoutout to Ginger Currier for once again stepping up and taking notes at the meeting this year. It makes life easier when we all pitch in and help.

Be sure to watch the bulletin board for upcoming events. We are a social group, and we like to socialize with our friends and neighbors.

VISIT THE OTOW NEWS WEB SITE www.ontopoftheworldnews.com



Featured couple reveals their secret to a long marriage

Wow, the year just started and we're already into February!

Make sure to sign up for our Valentine's Day luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. at Queen's Pizza on Belcher Road. Details are on the bulletin board in the core. All are welcome!

Cupid's arrow doesn't always strike on Valentine's Day, but sometimes comes around when you least expect it. Such was the case for two of our residents.

In 1964, Frank Scalzo, a college student at the time, was taken by the lovely Antoinette when he went to a Halloween costume party they attended. They did not know each other, but Frank, who was fully disguised in costume, asked Antoinette, also dressed for the occasion, if she'd like to go out. She, being curious as to how Frank looked without makeup, agreed.

After their first date at an Italian restaurant, the couple (who were both raised in Italian households in different sections of Utica, N.Y.), continued to date.

They married two years later in a big Italian wedding on Thanksgiving weekend at St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church. Thereafter, Thanksgiving was always celebrated as a grand family event including both families.

During their busy married years,



Frank and Antoinette shared household responsibilities while raising their daughter and three sons while both holding full time jobs.

They believe that "the best thing you can give your children is independence," to quote Frank.

After retiring as a probation officer for the county, Frank also watched their young grandson while their daughter worked.

He even found time to write a book, of which they painstakingly printed every page at home and for which he paid a bookbinder to cover and bind! In "Go, I've Got You All In My Heart," Frank recounts the stories his parents and grandparents told him as he was growing up, as well as stories from Antoinette's family, complete

with photographs from both. What a special labor of love to hand down to their children!

When Antoinette, a paralegal for a nonprofit refugee resettlement agency, retired in 2007, they sold their townhouse and headed to sunny Florida, settling at On Top of the World in 2011.

While they miss family up North, happily they have two sons and their families close by. Their oldest grandson, who will graduate high school in June and their granddaughter still live in New York. Another grandson is on the way, due May 12. Antoinette has two sisters living locally, as well.

Their love of family and each other is most apparent when you speak to these two wonderful people who will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary next year!

Over the years, aside from family, they have managed to make time to enjoy many things together, including discovering an affinity for attending auctions and antiquing.

They also enjoy visiting Atlantic City, especially walking on the boardwalk with the breeze, breathing the cool ocean air.

They now like to go to the movies; Antoinette is also a big TV trivia buff.



Featured residents Frank and Antoinette Scalzo on their wedding day in 1966.

They play Scrabble and card games, attend shows, and most of all, love their visits to New York, and trips to Disney World without the kids! Of course they love having the family together as often as they can.

Their secret to a long and happy marriage? "Laugh a lot." Antoinette advises. "He always keeps me laughing."

"Laughing is the best," says Frank, "Laughter, love, and faith. It works!"



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Happiness surrounds the arrival of couple's first grandchild

Mary and Dick Stump welcomed their first grandchild, a little girl, who was born on Dec. 13.

She weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Mary and Dick hurried up North to be with their daughter and son-in-law for the birth. It was a special holiday for the Stumps with the new addition to their family. The fun is just beginning!

We want to extend birthday wishes to Jill Urquhart on Feb. 6. Her husband, Harry Urquhart, will be celebrating his birthday on Feb. 10. Happy Birthday also to Gerry Wilhoite on Feb. 19



and Mike Crittendon on Feb. 26. Have fun celebrating and enjoying your special day!

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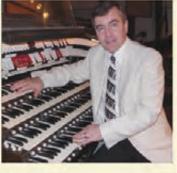


Nicholas Martin returns to the Kirk for another show Saturday, February 14, 2 PM



Kirk Of Dunedin Christian Church - Jerry Rittenhouse, Pastor 2686 Bayshore Boulevard - Dunedin, Florida 34698 www.kirkorgan.com - www.kirkchurch.com

Nicholas Martin is well-known throughout the States and the world. He has planned an



incredible line-up of songs to play. We are excited about his return to the Kirk!

Ticket Sales Office Open
9:30 am - 2:30 pm Mon-Thur
and 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Fridays
Tickets also may be purchased online
at www.kirkchurch.com

Saturday afternoon, Feb. 14 - 2 PM All Seats Reserved \$15.25 Ticket Office 733-5475

Mexico City trip was filled with memory-making events

I think 2015 is going to be a very good year for English Tudor!

Saturday, Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. was the date and time for taking down the holiday decorations. When Jo Ann Dameron was brewing fresh coffee and putting pastries on a plate to take to the core at 10 a.m., two volunteers, Gilda Gambacurta and Judy Etherton, had started early and every single decoration was taken down from the lobby and the outside wreaths on the building. How refreshing to find volunteers who take pride in their building, whether it is six months a year or 12 months a year. Thank you Gilda and Judy for really getting into the volunteer spirit!

Our residents set a new record for our holiday annual food drive by donating 166 pounds of non-perishable food and one turkey.

One of our residents had a very special year end trip.

Cecile Sangiamo and her daughter, who lives in Tampa, spent a week in Mexico City recently. They spent three nights at the Hyatt Regency in the swanky Polanco district and then moved to the Majestic Hotel overlooking the Zocalo in the heart of México City.

It was during Our Lady of Guadalupe festival week, and they were overwhelmed by the massive influx of people to the city.



The Majestic Hotel is a relic from an earlier age with live elevator operators and hand-operated openable windows. The 1930's terrace dining area is still in operation. They took breakfast there each morning overlooking the bustling square below with a view ofthe Presidential Palace and the Metropolitan Cathedral.

They toured the Casa Azul, home of artist Frida Kahlo; Tlatelolco: the Plaza of three cultures; Teotihuacan: Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon; and spent the better part of one day at the Museum of Anthropology.

Thank you for sharing your trip with us, Cecile.

Our outing for the month was Johnny's, a favorite of our residents. Be sure and watch the bulletin board for upcoming events.



Cecile Sangiamo and daughter Maria Sangiamo stand at the lobby elevator of the Gran Hotel in Ciudad de Mexico. They spent a week in Mexico City recently.









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So grateful to those who help the building

Congratulations and thank you to the residents of Loch Lomond for the successful holiday season and welcome back core party.

We have experienced a number of big changes in the last couple of years, but many have risen and more are needed to keep things smooth and pleasant.

Our annual building potluck is scheduled soon (as I write), and I am going to assume we had our usual enthusiastic turnout. Minutes of the business meeting will be published and posted on the bulletin board, and it's important that each resident take a couple of minutes to carefully read these minutes. On occasion we have suffered some vandalism to posted information or removal of messages. Please, do discourage this kind of behavior. We are adults and encourage adult respectable behavior in our homes.

It is wonderfully busy at the activity centers, and many of the faces I see are new ones. Becoming acquainted or joining a variety of activities is easy as long as you have that activity card with you. The social season is on!

Many residents, while not entering the contest, did some really charming things for their windows, doors or patios. In fact, we have many who year-round are very creative with their individual units. Do stroll around "our



property" once in a while. And our core is always appropriate to special days or weeks.

A couple who are always busy traveling, visiting relatives, or dancing — are Liz Bohl and John Velchoff. Shortly before Christmas they took a Norwegian Line Bahamas cruise to celebrate the November birthdays of both and to do Christmas shopping.

While waiting for the dancing to begin, they spotted a young (five years?) pretty little girl in a long fancy dress (flower girl type), tiara on her head, approaching the dance floor.

As Liz and John began to dance, this precious child approached them and wanted to join in. Of course, she became a member of their twosome and enjoyed several turns around the floor. When the music stopped, their threesome received a standing ovation from the other guests. Quite a thrill for that little girl.

It's impossible to give special recognition to those who have carried more than their fair share of the responsibilities needed to keep a 70+unit condo organized, but Sophia Kugeares has stepped into many critical moments, and she and Phil and Linda Woods, Lee Greenhaigh, and Lyle Johnson are never not engaged in some activity or other as are Anne and Jack Casey. At our building meeting, I hope we communicated some of the changes we have undergone.

Remember, before all the holiday eating, we had a monthly Lunch Bunch - the Woods reserving the place, and Phil posting time and place, and sign-up spaces. If you are available, it's fun. Do sign so reservations can be accurate.

Call me at 754-6646 and leave me your number. I hope to see you in many busy places.



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.

Don't forget those little Valentine's candies

February is the month we think "Love is in the air."

Just recently, an announcement was made at my church of an engagement made during the holidays and probably a wedding could follow soon.

Everyone wants to be loved. There are many kinds of love and we learn first from our parents how to love and be loved.

As I write this, a thought comes that some readers may not have happy and loving memories of family; however the fact remains our first knowledge of love comes from our parents. After all, if it weren't for our parents' love for each other none of us would be here.

The story was told many times in my family of how my parents met and fell in love. After my mother's sudden passing, I recognized my father should love again. When he met and fell in love 100,000 pounds of the candy hearts again my heart leaped with joy. They every day from mid-February to January have celebrated 43 years of marriage.

This month, many cards, flowers and candy will be given as



we express love to one another on Valentine's Day.

One of the sweetest ways to say "I love you" comes from a candy company named Necco. Since 1866 their sayings have been found on little pieces of heart-shaped candy. The company boasts of producing about — billions of candy hearts!

The little savings reflect our country and culture. Over the years,

some sayings have been dropped by the company and new sayings added, especially after the American public was invited to participate in an online survey to decide on phases of love. The winners included such sayings as "Tweet Me," "Text Me," "Soul Mate" and "Me+You." There are also the classic expressions such as "Love Me," "Kiss Me" and of course, "Be Mine."

So gentlemen and ladies, get out early to the store and buy a card and some candy before the supplies are gone. Happy Valentine's Day!

Rio Riviera continues to enjoy monthly early bird dinners. Check the core bulletin board for a sign-up sheet and information. Thank you Rene Holley for arranging these times.

This past year has been another year of many changes in our building. We have had neighbors who have departed in one way or another, and new residents who have moved in. Look for future articles on these new neighbors.

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Applications are NOT available at any On Top of the World offices or the Palm Acre Real Estate office. They MUST be obtained BY MAIL and MUST be requested BY THE OWNER.

OTOW After-Hours Emergency Number: 799-1115 (Water intrusion, elevator entrapment, building alarm malfunctions, and electrical problems)

Calendar of Monthly OTOW Activities — February 2015

2	Monday	9:00 AM	Ladies 18-Hole Golf Meeting	Crafts Room-Kitchen
2	Monday	11:00 AM	Snowbirds Club Meeting	Starlite Room
2	Monday	10:30 AM	Entertainment Committee Board Meeting	Veranda
3	•		Hoosier Club Meeting	
3	•		Jesters Rehearsal	
3	•		Stamp Collectors Meeting	
4	•		Baby Boomers Meeting	
4	•		Theater Workshop Meeting	
4	•		Ladies 18 Hole Golf Meeting	
4	•		No.83 Dorado Meeting	
-	•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
4			Theater Workshop Board Meeting	
5	•		Art Guild Board Meeting	
5	•		Pennsylvania Club Meeting	
5	•		Jesters Rehearsal	
5	,		Entertainment Committee Show	
5	Thursday	1:30 PM	Press Association Meeting	Large Card Room
5	Thursday	1:00 PM	No.6 Grecian Classic Meeting	Veranda
6	Friday	2:00 PM	Travel Club Meeting	Starlite Room
6	Friday	6:00 PM	Irish Club Meeting	Auditorium
7			Entertainment Committee Dance	
7	Saturday	5:00 PM	No.87 Delhi Meeting	Sunrise Room
7	•		No.54 Brittany Farmhouse Meeting	
8	•		Entertainment Committee Sunday In The Park	
9			Health Screenings Blood Pressue Screening	
9	•		German Interest Group Meeting	
	•		·	
9	•		No.85 Espana Dinner	
9	•		Family History Meeting	·
10	•		Jesters Rehearsal	
10	,		Billiards Social	
10	,		No.90 Queen Victoria Dinner	
11	•		Jesters Rehearsal	
12	Thursday	1:00 PM	Jesters Rehearsal	Auditorium
12	Thursday	5:00 PM	Democratic Club Meeting	Starlite Room
12	Thursday	9:30 AM	Good Neighbors Get-Acquainted Coffee	Auditorium
12	Thursday	12:00 PM	Lawn Bowlers Meeting	Crafts Room-Kitchen
13	Friday	1:00 PM	Art Guild Meeting	Art Room
13	•		Canadian Club Ticket Sales	
13	•		Lambda Club Meeting	
13	•		Canadian Club Social	
13	•		Jesters Show	· ·
	•		Jesters Show	
14	•			
15	•		Jesters Show	
15	•		Canadian Club Golf	
16	•		Chorus Meeting	
18			Italian Club Social	
18	•		No.43 American Gothic Meeting	
18	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Hoosier Club Game Night	Veranda
19	Thursday	9:00 AM	AAA Driver Course Class	Starlite Room
19	Thursday	7:30 PM	Entertainment Committee Show	Auditorium
19	•		Baby Boomers Meeting	
19	•		No.6 Grecian Classic Meeting	
20	•		AAA Driver Course Class	
21	•		No.37 Melbourne Meeting	
21	•		Bldg. 39 White Elephant Sale	
	•		Entertainment Committee Dance	
21	•			
22	,		Art Guild Show	
25	•		NY-NJ Club Meeting	
25	•		No.89 Siboney Meeting	
26	•		Lawn Bowlers Social	
27	•		Ladies Exercise Social	
28	Saturday		Sensational Seniors Meeting	
			Lambda Club Social	

Groundhog Day Monday, Feb. 2

Valentine's Day Saturday, Feb. 14

Presidents Day Monday, Feb. 16

Ash Wednesday Feb. 18

Chinese New Year Thursday, Feb. 19

Daily OTOW Activities

MUNDAY
7:00 Coffee CornerCoffee Corner
7:30 TennisTennis Courts
8:00 Ladies Exercise East Side Gym
8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Large Card Room
8:30 Ent. Comm/Club Ticket Sales Auditorium
9:00 Slimnastics Exercise East Side Gym
9:00 Zumba DanceLarge Card Room
10:00 Aerobics ExerciseEast Side Gym
10:00 Chorus Rehearsal Large Card Room
10:30 Ballroom Dancing ClassAuditorium
11:00 Contract Bridge Yellow Room
11:00 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room
11:30 Theater Workshop Rehearsal. Auditorium
12:30 Mahjongg Game Rainbow Room
1:00 Art Guild Oil and AcrylicsArt Room
1:00 Tai Chi Exercise East Side Gym
5:00 Mahjongg Game Rainbow Room
5:00 Poker Group
6:00 BingoAuditorium
6:00 Poker Group
6:00 8-Ball TournamentBilliards Room
TUESDAY
7:00 Coffee Corner
7:30 TennisTennis Courts
8:00 Ladies Exercise East Side Gym
8:00 AARP Free Tax Service Yellow Room
9:00 Spanish Speaking Class Starlite Room
9:00 Snowbirds Club Salsacize. Sunrise Room
9:00 Slimnastics Exercise East Side Gym
9:00 Fat Burning Workout Large Card Room
10:00 Aerobics ExerciseEast Side Gym
10:00 Philosophy Club MeetingVeranda
10:30 Line DancingAuditorium
11:00 Yoga East Side Gym
12:00 CeramicsCrafts Room-Kitchen
1:00 Art Guild Chinese Paint BrushArt Room
1:00 Line DancingAuditorium
6:00 Euchre Cards Starlite Room
6:00 Chorus RehearsalAuditorium
6:00 Tai Chi ExerciseEast Side Gym
6:00 Mahjongg Game Rainbow Room
6:00 PinochleLarge Card Room
0.00 Tillocille Large Card Noom

MONDAY

6:00 Poker Group Poker Room
7:00 Bible Study MeetingVeranda
WEDNESDAY
7:00 Coffee Corner
7:30 TennisTennis Courts
8:00 Ladies Exercise East Side Gym
8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Large Card Room
9:00 Sewing ClassStarlite Room
9:00 Good Neighbors CraftsCrafts Room
9:00 Slimnastics Exercise East Side Gym
9:00 CribbageLarge Card Room
9:00 Knitting GroupVeranda
9:30 Zumba Gold ExerciseAuditorium
10:00 Aerobics Exercise East Side Gym
11:00 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room
11:30 Theater Workshop Rehearsal. Auditorium
1:00 Art Guild Painting PalsArt Room
1:00 Mahjongg Game Rainbow Room
5:30 Poker Group Poker Room
6:00 Poker Group Yellow Room
6:30 Ladies QueT BilliardsBilliards Room
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THURSDAY
THURSDAY 7:00 Coffee CornerCoffee Corner
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6:00 Scotch DoublesBilliards Room					
FRIDAY					
7:00 Coffee CornerCoffee Corner					
7:30 Tennis Courts					
8:00 Ladies Exercise East Side Gym					
8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Large Card Room					
9:00 CeramicsCrafts Room-Kitchen					
9:00 Slimnastics Exercise East Side Gym					
9:00 Zumba DanceLarge Card Room					
1:00 Theater Workshop RehearsalAuditorium					
1:00 Mahjongg Game Rainbow Room					
1:00 9-Ball TournamentBilliards Room					
5:30 Poker Group Poker Room					
6:00 Poker Group Yellow Room					
SATURDAY					
8:30 Line DancingAuditorium					
11:00 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room					
1:00 Theater Workshop RehearsalAuditorium					
SUNDAY					
12:00 Scrabble Club Yellow Room					
12:30 PinochleSmall Classroom					





Art Show & Sale Thursday Feb. 26 1-4 pm **EAC** Auditorium FREE ADMISSION



We've missed you!

"Catholics Come Home" is a warm and welcoming invitation to any "away" Catholic. Join us Feb. 19 at 7 p.m.

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New resident is now much closer to sister

We have several new neighbors at Rila Renaissance, and over the next few months I will be writing and introducing them in this column.

One of our new neighbors is Sue Pemberton. Sue grew up in Pittsburgh, Pa., where she met her now-late husband Douglas. They both went to Point Park College in Pittsburgh. Sue was a purchasing agent for several large hospitals.

She and her husband then lived in North Carolina, where she became a real estate residential agent. Her husband handled commercial real estate transactions. Most of their work was in North Carolina except when he travelled.

Douglas was responsible for setting up franchises for Great Clips for the southern region from Florida to New Jersey. Sue had many opportunities to travel with him, which she totally enjoyed.

Sue moved to Florida 1½ years ago. She is no stranger to On Top of the World. Her sister, Nancy Hoyt, has lived on Australia Way for the past 17 years. Sue rented an apartment nearby her sister for a year (see photo). She was lonely where she lived before, because most of her neighbors worked.



She moved to OTOW less than a year ago. Sue lives with her cat, Mr. Bitsy, who is a fuzzy ball of fur.

Sue loves it here since there is so much to do and see. She will be starting classes in clay pottery and weaving in nearby Dunedin.

Welcome Sue to our building. We are happy to have you here!

Some of the building representatives will be collecting building dues for \$5. This will happen the first week in February. We look forward to seeing you. Please remember when you bring down cardboard boxes; please break them up before you put them into recycle. Otherwise, they take up too much room. Thank you for your cooperation.



New neighbor Sue Pemberton poses with her sister, OTOW resident Nancy Hoyt.

Thank you for your stories so far. Our neighbors love reading about the families, trips, new grandchildren, special birthdays etc. Please send more to me. My phone number is on my memo on the bulletin board or leave in the white mailbox under the bulletin board in the core.

We want to wish all our neighbors a Happy Valentine's Day and a fun President's Day weekend celebration.

SWIMMING POOL RULES DON'T EMBARRASS YOUR GUESTS!

Know the Rules and Abide by them!

- This facility is exclusively for OTOW unitowners with avalid 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 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.

Welcome two more new OTOW couples

After the quiet of summer and early fall, it was a pleasure to feel the pace quicken.

There are many activities and socializing going on, and the holiday parties and celebrations were fun. Now that the holiday season is over, we have some other reasons to enjoy the time. One such reason is that we are welcoming two new families to Mandalay.

Skip and Irene LaBel moved into the apartment that Gerry and Pat Anctil used to live in. The Anctils had put a lot of energy into improving that apartment (such as putting in new floors), and the LaBels made a point of saying how pleased they were with the apartment.

The LaBels are from Manchester, N.H. They are both retired, but Skip has a new part time career. He officiates at baseball games. He had played as a young man, but is having a good time coming back to it as an umpire.

Irene's hobbies include crosstitch and/or crocheting. They have a large home back in New Hampshire but



are wondering what they should do about it, since they have the Mandalay apartment as well as several time shares in Aruba which they have been going to for years, and they have long-established friendships there.

Joyce and Rick Metzger make up the other new family. They are from Ontario and are both retired. Rick has been retired for some years, but Joyce has just retired. Their home up North is deep in the wild where they often see bear and moose

They love living here. They both enjoy physical activity such as

walking and working out and both like to play golf.

They have two friendly dogs and two beautiful cats. The dogs look alike, but one is a Saluki and one is a greyhound.

Rick has begun playing baseball in an Indian Rocks Beach league and, discovering Skip La Bels' similar interest, has invited him to join in and play as well.

Several residents have had family visiting them. Cecily and Bill LeStage's daughter spent a week with them and they had a good time going to restaurants, having company and just relaxing and enjoying each other's company.

My son and daughter-in-law managed to arrange his business demands to spend a long weekend with my husband and myself. We were very glad to see them. My son loves to fix computers and/or other technical problems for us (which is much appreciated). We too had fun eating out and going places.

BLOOD PRESSURE PROGRAM

On the second Monday of each month from September through April, blood pressure testing will be available at the East Activity Center from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Special thanks go to our nurses for volunteering to take blood pressures. Remember, all are welcome.

A Note For Dog Walkers

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

Be sure to always clean upwhile walking your dog.





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Indulging in February's warm, sunny, activity-filled days

This is the month I look forward to in Florida.

During February up North, the days were only a little shorter than in Florida, but the days came one after the other with very little sunshine.

Call it the lake effect or the northern hemisphere or just the "blahs," but February was the month that recorded the most days of sickness, the most cases of depression and the most days dreaming about a nicer climate.

Well, here we are in Florida with regular sunshine, day after day. Did I mention that there is no snow in Florida?

I have more than one reason to look forward to February this year. For the 15 years that we have lived in the Dorado Building during the winter months, we have been discussing renovating the kitchen to satisfy the cook in our small family of two.

Well this is the year! As I write this, the kitchen is being renovated and the place is in a bit of a mess as the work proceeds, on schedule, to be finished before you read this.

Therefore I look forward with eagerness to the Florida days of sunshine, full days of activity at On Top of the World (see photo), a happy

Thank You! we seemly a



wife, great meals (as always) that she will prepare with a new zest for cooking and a generally much-improved quality of life. Oh yes, did I mention — no snow in Florida?

We had a very successful holiday party at Sea Sea Riders, hosted by Cheryl and Peter Milner and attended by a number of our residents and their guests.

Plans were announced for a February party and a farewell to Snowbirds party in April. Thank you Cheryl and Peter for your ongoing work to keep our community vibrant and enjoying life together. Watch for further information on the bulletin boards in the Dorado Building.



As an example of winter season activities here in Florida, OTOW residents are shown playing golf during a recent Canadian Club golf tournament. (Photo by Don Jones)

Other notices that should be brought to the attention of the Dorado readers of this article were mentioned at our recent press club meeting. For example, the OTOW television station is available to all who have Bright House cable on channels 96 and 732. Tune in to see reruns of OTOW featured events and shows.

It was also pointed out that the 80page January issue of the OTOW News was one of the biggest and best editions ever published, with more opportunities for residents to read more ads than ever before, more articles from columnists and more features of interest.

Congratulations to Editor Doug Kates and Assistant editor Dave Hart and the many volunteers who make it all happen.

"Today is your day. You're off to great places! You're off and away." (From the Dr. Seuss book "Oh the Places You'll Go")





New board of officers will take over soon

A Valentine thought...
The little things are most worthwhile —
A quiet word, a look, a smile,
A listening ear that's quick to share
Another's thoughts, another's care.
Though sometimes they may seem quite small
These little things mean most of all.

Carol Futej reports that 18 people enjoyed a very pleasant time and good food at Cody's on Saturday, Jan. 10.

Our February get-together will be after Valentine's Day. So watch the Melbourne Building bulletin board for details and sign up. We miss you when you don't!

Helen Valentine had friends visiting from North Carolina: Mary and David Duggan. Helen and Mary taught for years in their hometown, Harrisville, N.Y. They had a good time catching up on all the news.

Ruth LaHoy returned from Michigan, leaving behind 2-degree temps. Her granddaughter came with her to help her settle in.



Connie Valentin left for New York in November for her grandson's tonsillectomy. She helped her daughter for over a month and then went to spend time in Hopewell Junction for the rest of her stay. She returned home on Jan. 9. She says it was wonderful being with daughter and grandson, but glad to be back.

She's here! Born Dec. 22, my first great-granddaughter. Welcome!

t-granddaughter. Welcome!
The building is in the process of

electing a new board to take care of building needs. Lee Sciarra has agreed to be building captain and is busy lining up people to serve with her. They will be setting up a building meeting soon for all to come and get acquainted with the nominees. Watch the bulletin board for details.

By the way, our building bulletin board is at the end of the first-floor core. The board by the elevator is for On Top of the World notices only.

Also by the Melbourne board is a mail box where I have asked everyone to write out and drop their new items for this column before the deadline.

I like it in by day 10 of each month. I couldn't believe that someone at dinner did not know it existed. Read the notices and use that mail box.

February has lots of special days: Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and Presidents Day are among them. For a short month it is a busy one. Enjoy each day.



Remembering a special OTOW Valentine's Day

By now you all know that I am a history buff.

Feb. 14 is Valentine's Day. Most Valentine's Day customs are connected with romance. People send cards, flowers, candy, etc. In the United States, Valentine's Day became popular in the 1800's. Many of the early cards were handmade and hand painted.

I have a wonderful memory of Valentine's Day. It involves kindness and consideration. Twenty-four years ago, I lived in the Casa Verdi Building here at On Top of the World.

During the February monthly meeting then, the building captain called several women to the front. I happened to be one of them. He said that women with spouses or significant others would be receiving flowers or candy for Valentine's Day and that Casa Verdi would like to present these widows with a rose. Yes, each of us received a long-stem red rose. We were all surprised that our building thought of us. I will never forget that night.

The Espana Building's potluck dinner will be held on Feb. 9 in the Sunrise Room. The signup sheet will be on the bulletin board. Incidentally, volunteers are needed for setting up the room.

When the painters painted the front of the building last fall, I asked them when they were going to paint the sides and the back. They told me in March, so watch for the notices and be ready to clear your patios.

Happy Valentine's Day to you all!

Look for upcoming Valentine's party

All the holiday festivities are now over, and we all have our own good memories from the endless holiday parties, funny antics and the great home-baked goodies.

Shirley Crowder was busy making that delicious sugar cream pie, and like all of us, she was hurrying to finish before the family came.

Princess helped deliver Christmas cards and candy canes. Bennie (Jim and Dee Hinthorn's dog) and Princess (my furry friend) dressed as Santa and Mrs. Clause; however, they did not deliver presents, only looked for the "big" treat. We managed to get a couple of cute pictures, too.

Elaine Whaley and Deborah Allen went to Virginia for a few days and decided they would become permanent residents instead of Snowbirds. Good for them! Dick and Charlotte Smedley traveled north for the holidays and came back soon after Christmas. I guess they had had enough of that white stuff.



It is good to see Jeannie Grant back from the north. I love her beautiful flowers that I can enjoy from my family room. Thanks, Jeannie.

Sally Morgan and I had the privilege of seeing "Phantom of the Opera" on its last day, Jan. 4. A great way to start the New Year! We stopped to have a bite after the show and then came on home. I managed to cough most of the night and found out I had pneumonia – not a way to start the New Year! I am well

again and looking forward to an exciting and healthy year.

So — now it is another new year, a time to renew, make and break resolutions and look forward to nice weather and good health. The ladies met for lunch on the 22nd where we once again enjoyed another good meal and told each other the things that we enjoyed since our last cookie bake.

Remember, February is heart month. Have a heart and give a heart. Don't forget Valentine's Day! (I heard there is a Valentine party being planned!)

A cheerful friend is like a sunny day! I shall not be gloomy as long as the sun shines!

Until next month, Charlyn Miller, your reporter.



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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Sandy Heimel says her dog, "Otis," just recently down from Wisconsin., is having a ball at OTOW chasing squirrels, lizards and assorted other "wildlife." (Photo by Terri Mikszenas)

Take time to celebrate this, the 'month of romance'

Sometimes the stork just gets it wrong... but in this case, he had the correct name, just the wrong state.

Marc and Cindy Schell observed a stork from their front door here at On Top of the World. The stork had arrived!

At the time, they laughed and said, "Guess he's lost!" Amazingly, two days later, their son and daughter-in-law "Skyped" to announce that they were the ones having the baby.

The new baby will be the fourth grandchild for Marc and Cindy and will be well-received in June by his 12-year-old big brother. Congratulations to grandparents Marc and Cindy!

"Otis" Heimel was in town during the holidays. It was his first trip to Florida, his first long car ride and his first time meeting his neighbors at the Englander (see photo at top).

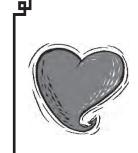
Otis, who usually lives in Wisconsin in a newly-developed community, had never seen a squirrel and certainly never seen our little lizards. What fun he



had pulling his owner, Sandy Heimel, around the community searching for his new friends.

February celebrates Valentine's Day, Presidents Day, Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, and finally, the end of the football season. 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.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE OTOW NEWS

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 Nu	mber:		Snowbind
Date Leaving OTOW H	ome:		20-20-00
You may mail th	Complete a new form in the future if your return date is unknown at this time.		

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.

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.

Wednesday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)
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.

Thursday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)
Paradise/West Side......8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side......8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Thursday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)
Paradise/West Side....11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side......11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Friday Morning

Super Walmart

Paradise/West Side......8 to 8:20 a.m. East Side...... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

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.

The latest and greatest from the gang at Azores

Special thanks to Doris O'Meara, Tom and Marie Pirrello, Carole Kilgore and Peggie Longfellow for carefully putting away the decorations until next year. If I missed someone, forgive me.

We started the New Year with the first ever college football championship game. Ohio State pretty well clipped the wings of the Oregon Ducks. Guess this will become a standard January happening to determine a college football champion. As you read this, the Super Bowl game will have been played. More snacks and chips — my belt gets shorter every year!

Jim Williams is winning most of the big pots at our Tuesday night poker game.

Carmel Tomich sent over my favorite dish, cabbage rolls. Thanks, these have to be the tastiest morsels this side of heaven.

On Jan. 17, 25 Azoreons held a welcome back Snowbird "get-togather" at Sunset Point Grill. Great food and service, with time to visit. A lot of snow and ice stories from those hearty folks that chose to experience that sort of thing. Think I will continue to enjoy our mild way of life here in Clearwater.

One of the few people that have discovered my inbox, Petie Fornuto, reports January visits from her sons and their wives and a granddaughter. Their visits are always a special treat for their mom, Petie.



Sy Mackey's son visited a few days from New Hampshire. He just needed to thaw out. They went to Orlando where they got to visit a few hours with Sy's daughter on work assignment there.

Sy's son had a great time unlocking the mysteries of Sy's new iPad.

Gordon Fowlie ask that I remind everyone of the day at the track. We will go Saturday, March 28. The cost this year is \$21, but you can probably win many times this amount by careful betting. Believe that?

I reported our building captain as Kathy Ford last month. My apologies. The building captain is Katy Gerritt, married to Ford Gerritt.

Keep an eye on the bulletin board. Lots of stuff planned for this spring. If you happen to have a bit of news for me, please slip it in my inbox. Thanks.





CLASSIFIED ADS

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

Kimball piano; CD player with floor speakers; reclining exercise bike; sewing machine cabinet w/chair. Make offers. 260-318-6700

Two framed prints 22" x 18" (giraffe and zebra), new \$100, both for \$25; O-Duster robotic floor cleaner, new in box \$20. 726-3101

RCA TV, 1991, works OK, free to haul away. 726-8210 or 449-8413

Twin 4-poster bed, good condition, mattress \$60; coffee table, wood w/glass insert, excellent condition \$60. 717-372-2493

Golf bags: Ladies, eight zippered pockets, 14 dividers \$20; man's stand bag, new \$10. 726-6550

27" Sony flat-screen TV with remote, works fine \$50. 797-8537

Leather loveseat, double recliner, brown, 1-year-old \$300; two matching bookshelves, 24"W x 59"H, brown, very sturdy, excellent \$50 for both. 614-9686

Carpet, 1,000 sq. ft., light blue, jute back, two huge rolls, freshly-cleaned, 25¢ per sq. ft., or all for \$250 OBO. 223-8193

Two nice bikes, man's & woman's; over 75 LP records, 1960s thru '80s; Bissell cordless vac; misc. other items. 210-7692

Men's golf clubs, complete set with bag \$15, good for beginners. 799-1261

Electric scooter chair \$100. 804-1827

Men's golf bag with zipper-top club cover; clubs (irons, woods, putter); includes golf cart \$75 for all. 725-3769

Lighted hutch \$100; bar-b-que (propane) \$90; patio table w/2 chairs \$20; microwave (small) \$20. 269-9699 or 303-3652

Golf cart, 2-wheel \$10. 266-4078

Carpet sweeper \$5; Mikasa china \$25; cut glass bowls; aloe plants; 78-rpm records; upholstered swivel chair; antique white desk. 799-3086

Health Rider exerciser; set of 4 folding chairs; flower pictures; shell pictures; shell lamps; gold flatware (service for 12). 797-6630

Mink jacket, size small to medium, light color, price negotiable; 3-speed ladies bike w/basket and rack, negotiable. 791-4526

Drexel Heritage French Country walnut dining room table w/6 chairs \$500; pink Radio Flyer metal tricycle (for your grandkids) \$75. 223-8756

Hide-a-bed sofa, chair, ottoman and 2 lamps \$150; apartment size electric dryer \$50; Rubbermaid storage shed \$40; rack for wine bottles \$40. 726-5032

Golf pull cart \$10; bowling ball and bag \$10. 799-2532

King-size comforter set includes comforter, bed skirt and 7 matching pillows \$50; decorative mirror 30" x 24", gold w/shelf.

Make offer. 725-0753

Golf club set; metal file cabinet; walker; comfortable living room chairs; king bedspread, gold color; leaf blower; wet/dry vac. Cheap. 726-4571

Set of original On Top of the World sliding closet doors \$50 OBO. 724-991-3850

WANTED

If you have a kayak stored at the OTOW boat storage and are interested in renting it, please call. 816-508-7886

Dell laptop AC power supply (rated output 90W). 812-2421

Sewing machine with cast iron base, any condition. 717-586-1008

LOST & FOUND

Lost in vicinity of building 56, small black cat, tail is bent at tip. Has a chip. Call 726-8210 or 449-8413

Missing: Missent Christmas parcel, wrapping paper has black moose motif. If sent to you by mistake, call 326-3720

Found in OTOW Newspaper office around the beginning of January: Personal notebook, horse theme on cover, approx. 7" x 9" in size. 799-3216

OTOW After-Hours Emergency Number: 799-1115

(Water intrusion, elevator entrapment, building alarm malfunctions, and electrical problems)







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A Five Star Resort You'll Call Home







Remember that wonderful feeling of being on vacation? Pampered. Relaxed. Ready to have fun. That's the Stratford Court lifestyle. The gracious service and luxurious amenities are like those of a five-star resort - yet you get to call it home. Meet new friends. Take a class. Have a blast at the pool. Or just count your winnings after an excursion to the casino! It's like a vacation that never ends.

Experience the Vacation Lifestyle!

- · Chef-prepared meals
- · Happy Hour with live entertainment
- Abundant social activities
- Distinctive restaurant-style dining
- Exercise & wellness programs
- Heated pool & hot tub
- · Spacious rental apartments
- Local transportation
- · Caring, long-term staff
- · Warm and friendly community

STRATFORD COURT OF PALM HARBOR



45 Katherine Boulevard, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 • 727-787-1500 • www.stratfordcourtofpalmharbor.com





Assisted Living Facility #7774

