

**Irish Club Parade  
might be the biggest  
one ever.**

See page 25



**Jesters ready for  
2023 show  
'Vegas Vibes.'**

See page 32 & 33



**OTOW residents  
witness refugee rescue  
at sea while on cruise.**

See page 45



# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

February 2023

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Volume 55

No. 2

## Dorado residents decorate for Mardi Gras in January so they are ready for Fat Tuesday in February



Dorado resident Mary Ann Christian says Mardi Gras is a celebration like no other. After all, when can you join a thousand other people dressed in elaborate costumes dancing in the streets and throwing beads from their balconies?

Well, that how it's done for a few weeks of the Mardi Gras celebration in her home town of New Orleans.

Here at On Top of the World, we don't throw beads from our balconies, but many of our residents do attend parades and parties sponsored by the local restaurants and chambers of commerce events.

A few of our Dorado residents decided this year would be fun to decorate our building reflecting the celebration of Mardi Gras, which officially ends on Feb. 21.

Keeping with the event colors of gold, green and purple, we gathered beads, masks and other momentos to decorate the first floor core quite elaborately.

We had a lot of fun and learned new things about the event, such as meaning of the colors: gold stands for power, purple for justice and green for faith.

Though Mardi Gras began as a religious holiday observed before the fasting season of Lent, it has become more than just a single day celebration. It is weeks of carnival-like partying which began on Jan. 6 (12 days after Christmas). It is not a national holiday, but it is celebrated by thousands of people each year.

The word Mardi Gras refers to a cele-



Getting ready for two months of Mardi Gras are, left to right, Amir Azmy, Ann Brown and Edwina Schick. In the back row are Lois Darling, Sharon Wadel, Mary Ann Christian and Ellie Gardner.

bration while at the same time it is a French phrase meaning "Fat Tuesday."

One may ask, what is Fat Tuesday?

Fat Tuesday is the last day of the Mardi Gras celebration. It always ends the day be-

fore Ash Wednesday - the day that fasting begins for the season of Lent, and leads up to Easter Sunday.

Back in the 1800s, people were encouraged to eat a lot of fatty foods before the

fasting began. One can see how that day got its name.

To Dorado residents, be watching in your email for upcoming building events and future get-togethers.

## Pet of the Year voting ends in a tie

Mr. Mittens and Luigi will have to share the honor as On Top of the World Pet of the Year.

After nearly 200 people across the world placed two votes apiece online, 395 total votes were submitted and Mr. Mittens and Luigi both finished with 53 votes.

After consulting with the event sponsor, Woof Gang Bakery, it was determined that both pets will be considered co-Pets of the Year and both will receive a \$50 gift certificate from the Clearwater/Dunedin shop.

This is the first time in the 10-year history of this event that there has been a tie.

Both pets will hold the honor for 2023 and both are eligible to be in the Irish Club Parade on Saturday, March 4, and march with the Press Association.

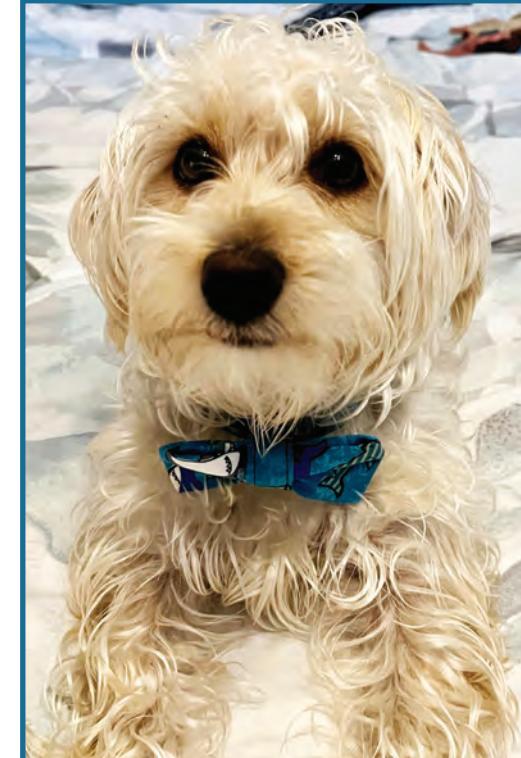
Mr. Mittens was Pet of the Month for September. He is owned by Jim and Irene Piper of the Chetnik building.

Luigi was Pet of the Month for October and is owned by Paul and Kathleen DiLauro of the Queen Victoria building.

Roxie, a Goldendoodle from the Victorian building, took third place with 40 votes. She is owned by Joan Walton and Tim Carr.



Mr. Mittens



Luigi



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#13964-02/23



## FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

**Wednesday, February 8**

**3-7 pm**

**East Activity Center  
Back Parking Lot**

## Be aware of road closures on March 4

# Please get refamiliar with state-wide bicycle laws and our community guidelines

Come out and join in the fun on Saturday, March 4, for the Irish Club annual parade.

As a reminder, World Parkway Boulevard East will be blocked off for 90 minutes from 9:30-11 a.m. Do not attempt to drive on World Parkway during the parade, do not make repairman appointments or have food delivered during this time.

Please notify friends and family not to visit your condo during these hours.

As a reminder, World Parkway will be blocked at all road crossings along the parade route. Barricades will not be removed once the parade starts. Be sure to plan for this should you need to exit the community.

Remember, driving on lawns to avoid roadblocks is not permitted so please plan ahead! Help us keep the parade safe and entertaining for everyone. Enjoy the fun!

### Bike Laws Review

When residents hit the open roadways of the community, it is important to operate your bicycle safely and in accordance with the law.

Obey community rules. Ride in designated bike lanes and understand the "biking" rules of the road.

Bicyclists have the same right to use the roadway as motorists and that includes the right to expect safety and care from others.

This also means bicyclists have a duty to obey all the same traffic rules and regulations as motorists.

The following list outlines some basic rules and regulations for operating a bike on a roadway under Florida's bicycle law.

- Left turn: Extend the left hand and arm horizontally to the left side of the bike.

- Right turn: Extend the left hand and arm upward or extend the right hand horizontally to the right side of the bike.

- It would be improper/illegal for a bicycle to be ridden in a bike lane against traffic. Bicyclists on the roadway must follow the same rules as a vehicle. Residents must ride on the right side of the roadway and obey all of the traffic control signs and signals.

- Bicyclists must obey all traffic controls and signals.

- Bicyclists must use a fixed, regular seat for riding.

- The number of riders/passengers on any bicycle is limited to the maximum number for which the bike was designed.

- Bicyclists must ride as closely as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway. Exceptions exist in a few circumstances: when passing, when making a left turn, during action to avoid road hazards, when travelling the same speed as all the other traffic, or when a lane is too narrow to safely share with a car.

- While the law does not clearly define who has the right of way, bicycles are considered vehicles in all 50 states, so it's best for the cyclist to assume vehicle status and obey motor vehicle traffic laws and stop or yield for pedestrian.

This is all about safety. It is important to remember that because cars and bicycles share the same roads, it is up to bicyclists and motorists to treat each other with care and respect while sharing it.

For additional information on state bicycle laws, please visit: floridabicycle.org for details. And, always remember to be safe, wear light colored clothing, use bicycle reflectors and to always – have fun!

### Community Road Rules

As a reminder, it is important to pay attention to "no parking" areas throughout the community.

Please do not park and/or block the front entrance under the awning at the East Activity Center. This is a designated fire lane that must be kept clear for emergency vehicles.

Also, be sure to obey directional signage posted in the parking lots. All parking lots are a one-way design.

If you ride a bicycle, please park and lock them appropriately. Bicycle racks are provided at the East and West Activity Centers. Please utilize these designated areas for bicycle parking and never chain your bicycle to handicap signage or any community fencing.

### Leaks, Damage and Insurance

Considerable damage can and does frequently happen as a result of improperly maintained heating/cooling units (HVAC).



**Community Update**

It is absolutely essential that you have your unit serviced annually and repaired immediately when not functioning properly. Failing to do so puts you, and potentially your neighbors, at risk from damage from flooding.

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. This leaves you, the owner, open to significant liability in the event of an overflow or fire.

Because leaks typically happen while you are away from home, the resulting damage and restoration costs can be extensive.

Failing to be adequately insured in one of these instances leaves you at risk for high dollar losses. It cannot be stressed enough that it is your obligation, as the owner of the unit, to maintain or replace malfunctioning components. It is also your obligation as the owner to ensure you have adequate insurance on your personal property and on that portion of your condo not insured by the Association's master policy.

As a reminder, everything from the paint on the wall in is yours. The floor coverings, cabinetry, appliances, plumbing above the finish floor, air conditioning, windows and doors, and other components are all the responsibility of the individual owner to insure.

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). Proper insurance coverage will help save you large out-of-pocket expense when damage occurs.

Speak with your insurance agent to be sure you have appropriate coverage in place and that it is adequate. And don't forget about bidding competitively through ChallengeMyRate.com

### West Activity Center Swimming Pool

You spoke and OTOW listened: The West Activity Center swimming pool is currently closed for the installation of a pool heater. Adding the heater will allow residents to enjoy swimming at the West Side even in the colder season!

We also are taking this opportunity to have the pool resurfaced, which is part of maintenance every couple of years, and getting the drain grates in the deck replaced.

The project is tentatively scheduled to be completed by mid-February (but as with all projects, this depends on various factors, like weather, contractor schedule and material availability).

View our official Clearwater website ([otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)) for any updates.

Also in 2023, management plans to implement electronic card readers for access control to the pool areas on both sides. These cards are the same electronic cards that are currently needed to access the fitness center and are available at the Community Service Office for a small fee.

Please bring your valid activity card when applying for it.

### Did You Know?

The On Top of the World Remediation Department is experiencing a large number of occurrences of residents who have been less than cooperative in making necessary repairs to leaking plumbing fixtures within their unit. These leaky fixtures have damaged the interior of their unit as well as surrounding units and common elements.

Understand, that as the unit owner, you are required to maintain your unit in good, presentable, clean, sanitary and operational condition and repair at all times. This in-

cludes all mechanical and electrical systems in the unit, including HVAC, plumbing, supply and drain lines, fixtures, water heater, washer/dryer (if any), ice maker water lines and valves (if any), carpentry, cabinetry and wall finishes.

In other words, if it is broken – just fix it! Failure by an owner to make the necessary repairs will mean the Association must take enforcement action against the owner responsible for the source of the problem.

### Hydro-Jetting Project

A tentative schedule has been established for the community-wide Hydro-Jetting Project, however, it is dependent upon ease of access into units and will be weather dependent.

Should weather or other delays occur, notices will be sent out via an OTOW Rave Alert. Be sure you are signed up to receive alerts prior to project commencement.

Notices will be posted in each building up to two weeks prior to the scheduled start date. For Phase II, which began in January, 46 units have been jetted.

More specific scheduling information is available on page 7 of this newspaper and on the OTOW community website at [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com) under the "General Information" and "Hydro-Jetting Project" tabs.

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

An email address has been established at: [cjljettingproject@otowfl.com](mailto:cjljettingproject@otowfl.com).

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

### Community Service Office Information

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

The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted. If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff is working with someone else. Please be patient. Calls and voicemails will be responded to during normal business hours.

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

The goal of the CSO is to make an initial assessment of the request and to determine if it is an emergency or non-emergency.

Once the matter is assessed, a plan to resolve will be made and work scheduled.

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

From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request. It is not necessary to report service requests more than one time.

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

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

### Service Request Line

If you are unable to visit the Community Service Office, the OTOW phone number to submit a service request is 727-683-6981. Please call this number to submit a service request only for a general building matter in the common areas only. Please do not leave health-related emergency information on the service request line. For a life-threatening emergency, please dial 911.

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

### After Hours

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

For all other inquiries regarding general issues or questions that are not service related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office.

### OTOW Alerts

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

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

This is without obligation or cost to you. Your email and cell phone numbers are secure, never shared, and never solicited.

Alternatively, you may visit the Community Service Office to apply.

OTOW-ALERTS provides advance warning of severe weather events as well as other matters of critical concern to the residents of OTOW Clearwater Condominium Community.

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

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## There are still ways to get assistance with Summit Broadband hook-up

# TV connections should be completed by late February

### Cable TV and Internet Update

As of Dec. 28, 2022, the Summit construction teams have completed splicing of the network to all buildings.

From here, individual units are connected to the active fiber at the individual owner level.

The Launch Team is continuing to reach out to residents impacted by rescheduling of initial service connection. As of Dec. 26, 2022, there were 998 residents connected. By the end of January that number is estimated to include another 2,300 installed units. By the end of February, as the project nears completion, that number should increase by another 1,029 connections.

If you get stuck, or have a technical question and wish to speak with someone, we recommend using [Summitbb.com](http://Summitbb.com). This will take you to a site where you can text-chat with a live representative. It is much faster than waiting on hold.

Installation has, not unexpectedly, had its glitches. Initially, there was a weeklong delay following a cut main fiber line in Polk County. Summit Broadband recovered from that and went right back to work making residential connections in On Top of the World. Still they experienced some missed appointments and reschedules.

To maintain our quality of life and the peaceful nature of our community, the Management Company also asked that no outdoor work be done after 6 p.m., as it may cause disturbance for residents. Further, it was asked that the last appointments of the day not be scheduled after 6 p.m.

Summit Broadband has been very accommodating and flexible in working with residents and the Management Company. Aside from the frustration of waiting on the "cable guy," the feedback from residents has been very positive over the professionalism of the installers, the ease of learning the new remote control operation, and the quality of the channel line-up.

Some other concerns we've been following is a glitch in the DVR not recording the full time as set by the owner. Also, we've had reports of video freezing, but audio continues. Summit Broadband was aware of these mainly isolated problems and worked on a resolution. I am pleased to report that both the DVR glitch, and the syncing of voice and video, has been successfully resolved as of Jan. 17. These were addressed by Summit Broadband's engineers with some signal balancing and fine tuning of equipment within the video head-end.

There were also isolated reports of issues with the Closed Captioning not functioning. To date, that has also been resolved.

No installation of this magnitude will ever be entirely glitch free. The point is that Summit Broadband is listening and diligently working to resolve any challenges.

Once all startup challenges are resolved, there may be some lingering individual unit issues that require a service call to resolve. Summit Broadband is committed to sticking with this until it is right. Summit Broadband stated that their call center responsiveness average speed to answer (ASA) has since been cut in half, meaning calls are being answered and responded to two times faster than previously reported.

If you have older TVs that are not digital, you will need to purchase a digital to analog (DTA) converter. Best Buy or Amazon sell these little devices that make your dumb TV smart again so you can enjoy the Summit Broadband line-up.

If you are measuring speed, make sure you measure it at the router (first point of entry). Any other point will likely give you slower speed because the system is working and using bandwidth, as it should. If measured at some far point in the apartment the speed will drop somewhat because of the intervening hard surfaces.

If you have floor to ceiling mirrors (as once was the style), this is a real signal killer. Who knew the silvering could be such a signal blocker. But even then, speeds are still plenty strong to support most activities.

If you are transferring your phone over to Summit Broadband, it is imperative you do not cancel your existing phone service until your phone is installed by Summit Broadband. A disconnected phone cannot be transferred.

In addition, if you have telephone service through Summit Broadband, even though it is complimentary for a period of time, you will be billed for federal, state, and local fees and taxes. The taxing authorities always get their tax levy.

Otherwise, if you signed up for added programming outside of the fixed offering available to all residents, you will be billed for those added services.

The community TV channel, 901, should be in service by the time you read this article. As of the week of Jan. 23, Summit completed running the necessary fiber and worked the remainder of the week getting all equipment installed.



**Chairman**

Summit Broadband will address individual building conduit covers and any remaining painting as building fiber optic installs gets completed. Any landscaping restoration and any remaining conduit items will be addressed as the installation winds down.

Summit Broadband will be hosting the Jolley Trolley in the annual Irish Club Parade. Look for more information on page 25 of this newspaper.

### State Senate Bill 4D

Senate and House Committees have begun meetings and planning for the legislative session beginning in March, but no bills on this horrible law have as yet been filed.

We did hear from Representative Kim Berfield that she has been receiving letters about the condo bill. Good job and thank you to everyone who has taken the time to let the Pinellas County legislative delegation know about this matter!

If you haven't yet written any of the Pinellas delegation, please do so. You can find a sample letter and legislator contacts at:

<https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/senate-bill-4-d-surfside-legislation-facts/>

It is essential that our legislators work urgently to fix the problems created by State Senate Bill 4D, which will dramatically increase the cost of condominium fees for everyone at OTOW Clearwater.

Your association is concerned that this will making condo living too expensive for many of our residents, particularly those with a fixed income.

At this point you may be thinking, "what is the hit we can expect?"

The best answer is that the Board does not anticipate adding new, mandatory reserves into the next budget. The statute requires that a reserve study be conducted by a third party first. While the process has begun to find a credentialed consultant and structural engineer capable of doing such a reserve study on our community, I can safely say that those expenses will be a line item added to the new 2023-24 fiscal year budget.

Again, if you have not already contacted our state legislators to express your dismay regarding this legislation and the burden that it places on condo owners, please do so.

More information is available at:

<https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/senate-bill-4-d-surfside-legislation-facts/>

### Lease Extension Reminder

The Board recently received a few questions regarding lease extension and how residents can learn more about this matter.

As a reminder, 81 buildings at On Top of the World-Clearwater have leasehold units. The leases were originally sold for a term of 99 years, but with OTOW now more than 50 years old, it is time for many residents to extend their lease in order to protect the value of their unit and to ensure that lenders would be comfortable with the remaining term of the lease.

When you sign the Amendment, your lease will be extended until June 30, 2019.

There is no additional payment required to extend your lease, no change in the way lease dues are currently being collected, no change in the amount of your lease dues, and no impact on your property taxes or insurance.

Additionally, the lease extension includes that annual increases are limited at \$6 per year. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/leasehold-first-amendment-request/>

In addition, you can send any questions to [leaseFAQ@clw-info.net](mailto:leaseFAQ@clw-info.net) and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

### Looking Ahead to a better 2023 Painting/Waterproofing

The painting contractor will continue working on rear facades in the community with buildings 1, 2 and 6 being next on the list for February.

As always, the contractor will be using high-reach equipment in the main parking areas and possibly in the surrounding secondary lots requiring residents to relocate their personal vehicles as necessary.

Bulletins are posted by the contractor in advance of the work so please keep an eye on the building's bulletin boards for details.

As always, please use caution in these areas while the improvements are underway and be aware that inclement weather can affect these approximate start dates.

### Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

Building 60 is next up on the schedule for roofing system improvements with work crews from the state-licensed contractor scheduled to arrive at the building sometime in mid-February, pending county permitting and the timely delivery of materials from suppliers.

The contractor will begin the staging of materials in advance of the work as usual, so residents should watch for bulletins requesting the relocation of personal vehicles from building parking lots. This is needed to allow for the safe and efficient operation by the contractor.

Bulletins will be posted in the building coordinating the contractor's activities during the project's duration. Weather permitting, this improvement project should wrap up within a three-week time frame. As always, please observe all cordoned off areas in the interests of safety.

Building 90 is the next project scheduled for walkway and stairwell railing improvements with the project currently in the permitting process. The anticipated start date, as this article goes to print, is early-February, however, notices will be posted on the center core bulletin boards once the date is finalized.

Projects of this scope usually take 4-6 weeks to complete due to the nature of work and detail involved.

In keeping with all maintenance projects and work zones, we ask that residents please be aware of skilled technicians in the area and avoid cordoned-off areas in the interests of everyone's safety.

February will also see the return of a state-certified life-safety vendor as the community's annual fire extinguisher inspections begin on Feb. 7. In all, more than 1700 extinguishers will receive structural integrity and operational readiness inspections. This ensures that if there ever were to be an emergency requiring fire suppression, that the extinguisher would be charged and ready for the task.

It's also important to reference that the Management Company also performs periodic observations of equipment throughout the year in order to have repairs or replacements effected as needed. Bottom line is that should the equipment ever be needed, rest assured it will be at the ready!

### Hydro-Jetting Project

Information regarding the Hydro-Jetting Project may be found on page 7.

### Recurring Reminders for All Community Residents

Inspection services representatives will be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproofing coatings during the current improvement cycle.

The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules. This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied.

If for some reason you were not at home when this work takes place, you may contact the Community Service Office and schedule a follow-up visit by the coating vendor. We appreciate your cooperation in making this project a success across the community.

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

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

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

Please remember that items tagged in common areas may be removed and disposed of without further notice.

Please help make your community safer by complying if you receive a violation tag/door hanger. Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

### Personal Insurance on Your Condo and Contents

Fire events or water damage are caution-

ary reminders for each resident to check in with your insurance agent and make sure the insurance coverage on your unit and contents is adequate.

If you feel "lucky" and go without insurance, or believe you can self-insure any loss, please reconsider. The cost of repair or reconstruction, as well as loss of use (being homeless pending restoration), may well exceed the value of your condominium many times over.

It is the obligation of every owner to insure the contents of their unit, including loss of use coverage. Loss of use coverage will allow your carrier to provide you living and lodging expenses should you become displaced. Displacement after a fire may be between 6 and 18 months!

This is a good point to segue into the limits of coverage that individual unit owners may wish to have. Contents coverage may vary greatly depending on what you own. As a basic point though, you need adequate limits to cover furnishings, personal items, floor coverings, appliances and cabinetry.

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

Please remember, another benefit of an HO6 policy is the personal liability coverage. Should you be the cause of a water leak or a fire event that damages adjoining units, you may be held liable for their damage, as well as any damage to the Association's area of responsibility between units.

The undervaluation of your contents may cause you a significant loss, but most likely will not bankrupt you. If you do not have personal liability coverage, you could lose all of your assets if you cause damage to units around you and you are not adequately insured.

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

With respect to flood (rising water), earthquake, and flood resulting from a named storm, all loss, damage, and/or expense arising out of any one occurrence shall be adjusted as one loss, and from an amount of each such adjusted loss there is a \$100,000 deductible.

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

Besides casualty insurance, other steps to protecting your home are testing your smoke detector regularly and having an operable BC fire extinguisher at easy reach. Read the extinguisher operating instructions when you first purchase the unit and at least twice a year thereafter is also recommended.

The Community Service Office has handled numerous major leaks from improperly maintained water heaters. The replacement and maintenance of water heaters is the responsibility of the unit owner. In all cases the owner found out how important having insurance is when faced with paying for the extensive damage to their unit, the adjoining units and the Association property between the units. The Association will seek reimbursement from the unit owner for its repair work in every instance.

Damage to your vehicle while it is parked in the community is not covered by your HO6 policy. State law requires you to maintain a policy on your automobile. The prudent owner will purchase comprehensive or other than collision coverage that pays for damage to a vehicle from incidents other than a collision, including fire, theft, windstorm, vandalism or flood.

It also covers damages caused by falling objects or from hitting an animal.

### Feeling Flush? Think First!

The Management Company has recently been called out to deal with a range of plumbing blockages.

Upon investigation of the several incidents in December, they found grout, washcloths, small hand towels, adult diapers, cat litter and "flushable" wipes.

Get the point?

The only thing flushable is human waste and toilet paper. Everything else is NOT flushable (even so called "flushable" wipes, which may flush, but don't break down and cause some dandy blockages).

A sewerage backup can cause real problems and damage to ground floor neighbors. Please be responsible and mindful of your first-floor neighbors. Flush only human waste and toilet paper.

# Be aware of scammers trying to buy your condo, get personal information

By Kenneth Colen

It seems like a day doesn't go by that I don't get a card in my mailbox to the effect of "Urgent that You Contact Me! I'll buy your home."

My first thought isn't printable. I'd like to believe this sort of scam violates Florida law. The jury is out on that, I suppose.

There's another part of this scam.

Perhaps, many of you have seen it.

In this one, there's a message on your phone that so and so is in the neighborhood and is looking to buy your home and the condition of it doesn't matter.

If you answer the card, or if you return the phone call, the scammer knows you are interested. You become the "mark" and then they will prey.

If you received either of these scams, and that's what they are, you have possibly been contacted by someone who either wants personal information or who wants to buy your home cheaply and flip it for a large profit. They make it sound like its quick and easy money by offering cash for a quick sale of your home or condo.

"Cool" you may think, but hold on a minute. A sales price isn't mentioned. How do you know what your home is really worth?

The prospect of easy money fast and probably without a commission may be enticing, but how do you know if this is a real deal or just another scam to obtain pri-

vate and personal information from you — which, by the way, is what it is.

For that matter, how do you know what your home is really worth on a true real estate market?

How would you feel if you left \$20,000 to \$40,000 in real value on the table?

This unfortunately happens often.

It is common that homeowners, often seniors, find themselves enticed into selling their homes for below a fair market value. Scammers are not stupid. They know that seniors are often easy prey.

According to the Florida Attorney General's office, retirement communities are targets for these predatory home-buying practices for many reasons. We may become frail from illness and need to move to a care facility. Maybe you've lost a spouse and can't bear to be in the home you shared together. Maybe medical debt is a burden and you see no other way to get living expenses before going on to Lord knows what.

Oftentimes, these "fast money buyers" employ deceptive or high-pressure tactics to cheat an owner out of their home or to obtain personal and private information.

I recently read a story of a woman in a downtown Atlanta neighborhood who refused to sell, despite repeated offers. The aggregator reported her to the city for code violations. Finally, after being dunned by multiple

warnings from city code enforcement, and lacking the funding to make the necessary repairs, the woman relented and sold for a below-market price. The home shortly thereafter was sold for multiples of what she was paid.

Flipping is the term for this practice and this is the goal to begin with: fast money.

It takes some patience and restraint, but your real estate may be your most valuable asset. Know its value.

Of course, the most reliable way to value your home, and also to sell it, is to work with a reputable real estate brokerage firm and establish an estimate of market value based on recent sales of comparable properties. This is fast and most brokers will do it as a courtesy.

Of course, you may be asked to sign a listing contract for the sale of your property. But that's fair if you are serious about wanting to sell. And if you are not serious, why would you ever be talking to these scammers.

Finally, a broker-moderated sale may take a little longer (not by much in this market!), but you can be comfortable that you are not leaving value on the table.

If you get a mailer, ignore it.

If someone leaves a phone message to the effect that he or she is in the neighborhood and wants to buy your home, do not respond.

Scammers are all over us these days. Be careful, be alert and don't be afraid to ignore these calls and letters.

## West side getting a pool heater

On Top of the World listened to residents on the West Side. In January and into February, a project is taking place at the West Activity Center swimming pool which includes installing a pool heater and resurfacing. The date the pool will reopen will be announced on the official Clearwater website otowclearwaterinfo.com.



## Summit Broadband Dates to Reschedule Services

**Summit will be on-site at the below dates and time frames. These are not meetings. These times are for individual residents who experienced a service affecting issue during the install and need to reschedule the installation of services or those whose appointment did not occur as scheduled.**

**Those who have not yet scheduled, or have service-related question, should call this number – 1-877-678-6648**

Location	Weekday	Date	Time
Safety Harbor Room	Wednesday	2/1/2023	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Monday	2/6/2023	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Tuesday	2/7/2023	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Wednesday	2/8/2023	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Monday	2/20/2023	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Tuesday	2/21/2023	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Safety Harbor Room	Wednesday	2/22/2023	9:00 am to 4:00 pm

In addition, there will be IPTV Workshops for Resident installed with Summit Services. The Workshop sessions are RVSP only. Resident will receive an email invitation the Thursday following their installation to the next scheduled Workshop.

## Back in the building

Elvis was back in the building and oh did On Top of the World residents enjoy the show. More than 400 people sold out the Auditorium as Dwight Icenhower returned in January with another tribute to Elvis. Dwight was here just before the pandemic started and his previous show was videotaped and replayed several times during the pandemic when we could not have live shows. This show was also taped and will be aired at a later date.

(Photo by Doug Kates)



### EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

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

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

Please update once a year.

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

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Bldg #: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

OTOW Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure one person living nearby has spare keys to your condo and vehicle.

List below who is holding your spare keys.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bldg # \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



**On Top of the World Bingo Marathon**

**Saturday, April 8, EAC Auditorium**

- Games start at noon
- **Advance Ticket Sales Only**
- No tickets will be sold at the door
- Lunch Provided – Coffee all day
- \$30 per person – No Refunds

**Tickets can be purchased on Mondays, 4-6 pm  
before regular bingo, or**

**Thursdays, 8:30-10 am, at our information table  
in the East Activity Center Auditorium.**

**Purchase 6 or more tickets together  
and you can reserve an entire table  
for neighbors or friends to play together.**



## Identity Theft Awareness Week

**Thursday, February 2, 2023**

**10:30 AM-12:00 PM**

Are you concerned you may be a victim of identity theft?

Want to know where Florida ranks in the nation for identity theft?

What should you do to safeguard your personal information?

For answers to these questions and more, join

Pinellas County Consumer Protection in recognition of

Identity Theft Awareness Week on Feb. 2.

An investigator from Pinellas County Consumer Protection will explain the different types of identity theft, the various techniques thieves use to steal your information, and what steps you should take to safeguard yourself.

Free resources on the topic will be available.

Free event. Open to all residents.

**East Activity Center  
Auditorium**



# Hydro-Jetting Project

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

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

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

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

OTOW Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bldg # \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (key return): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative name: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative address: \_\_\_\_\_



## EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN



In case of FIRE or other BUILDING EMERGENCIES,

Parkway Maintenance and Management,

and your On Top of the World Condominium Association, would like you to know that every OTOW resident should have their own plan.

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

People visiting Mount Rushmore  
read OTOW News

So can you! Visit:  
[otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)



# Four good information seminars coming to On Top of the World in February

## Identity Theft Awareness Day

You are invited to attend Identity Theft Awareness Day with Investigator Anna Marie Fiallos and Deputy Charles Skipper on Thursday, Feb. 2, in the East Activity Center Auditorium from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Are you concerned that you may be a victim of identity theft?

Want to know where Florida ranks in the nation for identity theft?

What should you do to safeguard your personal information?

For the answers to these questions and more, join Pinellas County Consumer Protection in recognition of Identity Theft Awareness Week.

Anna Marie will explain the different types of identity theft, the various techniques thieves use to steal your information, and what steps you should take to safeguard yourself.

Free resources on the topic will be available.

This event is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

## Avoid Probate Without a Trust with Attorney Gerald Colen

Are there important ways to plan your estate and the distribution of assets without having the need for a living trust?

Yes, there certainly are ways.

On Friday, Feb 24 at 10 a.m., in the East Activity Center Largo Room, attorneys Jerry Colen and his law partners, Rachel Waggoner and John Beck, will be here to discuss some of the methods that are available for estate planning, without the need for a trust.

Jerry, Rachel and John will stay to answer your questions, as well.

Registration is required. To register, email [general\\_activity@scalcw.com](mailto:general_activity@scalcw.com), reference the lecture and provide your name, building number, unit number and phone number, or leave the same info in a voicemail at 727-799-2734. Deadline to Register, Thursday, Feb 16.

## Laughter for Wellness

Join Laughter for Wellness with Kelly Siegel on Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 2-3 p.m., in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

Laughter is based on the scientifically proven concept that the body cannot differentiate between intentional or voluntary laughter and real laughter to receive the same physiological and psychological benefits.

Anyone can laugh for no reason without relying on humor, jokes or comedy, and one can feel the benefits on the very first session!

According to the concept of breathing, your exhalation should be longer than your inhalation so that you can get rid of stale air from your lungs. Laughter, as a form of ex-



## Events & Activities

ercise, is a great way to exhale longer.

Laughter can be initiated as a body exercise in a group and with eye contact and childlike playfulness. It quickly turns into real and contagious laughter. Residents will learn how to create their own joy and have fun doing it.

Kelly has a Certification in Laughter Wellness and she leads several groups of seniors in our surrounding community and now On Top of the World.

Residents may sit or stand while engaging in these activities.

To register, send an email to [general\\_activity@scalcw.com](mailto:general_activity@scalcw.com), reference the "Laughter seminar" and provide your name, building number, unit number and phone number, or leave the same info in a voice-mail at 727-799-2734. Deadline to Register, Monday, Feb 27.

## One Blood

The Big Red Bus will be here at the East Activity Center North Parking Lot (near Lawn Bowls) on Thursday, Feb. 9, from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Residents can register at Nancy's Bulletin Board at the [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) website, in the Community Service Office or just show up that day.

All donors will receive a One Blood long sleeve T-shirt and a \$20 e-Gift Card, plus a wellness checkup, including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse, and cholesterol screening!

Take this opportunity to save lives!

See flyer below to learn how to register, or you can also just show up that day.

Thanks to your support, we had a successful day on Jan. 12! OneBlood received 21 On Top of the World donors and successfully collected 20 units! We saved a total of 60 lives!

As per our OneBlood rep, OTOW makes such a big impact in our community and they are so grateful for all of you. The January honor roll is as follows:

Catherine Palermo, Debra Clarkson, Hope Tera, James Whitmer, Jay Basinger, John Henry, Joshua Anderson, Karon Brown, Kenneth Hill, Maritza Zeno, Michael Lenzi, Michael Palermo, Naomi Kelly, Phyllis Miller, Ramon Tatge, Richard Brown, Sharon Gratias, Sheila Lemon, Stanley Stock, Suzanne Jensen and William Fournier.

fill out the online Facility Request form.

To do this, visit our official website: [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com), click on "Community Activities" and "Forms" and select the SCA Online Facility Request form. Complete and sign the form with your mouse or finger, click and click submit.

(Works better if you use Google as your browser).

3. An acknowledgement receipt will be sent in an email or phone call.

Paper forms are still available and can be picked up and dropped off in the Community Service Office where the Activities Manager has a mailbox.

1. Please complete the paper form outside of that busy CSO office and then drop it off.

2. An acknowledgement receipt will be sent in an email or phone call.

## Activity Card Renewal

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

When renewing your activity card, or getting a brand new one issued, please remember to bring with you a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport, and a current piece of mail indicating your name and On Top of the World property address.

Activity cards will not be punched or processed without proper identification and address verification.

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

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

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

## AARP Foundation Free Tax Aide

As announced several years ago, the number of AARP volunteers has declined and therefore OTOW is no longer a host site for taxes.

The good news is, we have many nearby locations for your convenience. Here are a few:

### CLEARWATER COUNTRYSIDE LIBRARY

(in person by appointment only)  
Call (727) 562-4970  
2642 Sabal Springs Dr.  
Clearwater, FL, 33761-3100  
Monday, 10:00 am - 01:45 pm  
and Friday, 12:00 pm - 03:45 pm

### DUNEDIN COMMUNITY CENTER

(In person, no appointment necessary)  
1920 Pinehurst Rd.  
Dunedin, FL, 34698-3111  
Thursday, 8 am - 11:45 am  
Friday, 8 am - 11:45 am

### LARGO LIBRARY

(in person, no appointment necessary)  
120 Central Park Dr.,  
Largo, FL, 33771-2110  
Monday, 9:45 am - 3:00 pm,  
Wednesday, 9:45 am - 3:00 pm,  
Friday, 10 am - 3 pm  
Saturday, 10 am - 3 pm

### TARPON SPRINGS LIBRARY

(in person, no appointment necessary)



# DONATE BLOOD

**On Top of the World**

**Thursday, February 9**

**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

All donors receive\*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **OneBlood Long Sleeve T-shirt**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

**Fact:** A single car accident victim can require 100 pints of blood.

Appointments are encouraged, please visit [oneblood.org/donate-now](http://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use sponsor code 27515

ID REQUIRED

\*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit [oneblood.org/details](http://oneblood.org/details).

**oneblood** Share your power.

## OTOW Farmer's Market



Upcoming Farmer's Market Dates

**Feb 15**

EAC, 10 am - 5 pm



Fresh Produce Grown Locally

# OTOW Community Activities Calendar

## February 2023

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Farmer's Market, Wednesday, Feb. 1, 10 am - 5 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 am - 5 pm, East Activity Center  
 Moving and Grooving Cruise Party: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 5-8:30 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Identity Theft Awareness Day: Thursday, Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m., East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Food Truck Night: Wednesday, Feb. 8, 4 - 7 pm, East Activity Center Back Parking Lot  
 Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee, Thursday, Feb. 9, 8:30 - 11 a.m., East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Irish Club Show: Thursday, Feb. 9, 7 - 9:30 p.m., East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Jesters Show: Friday, Feb. 10 and Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, Feb. 12 at 2 pm  
 Canadian Club Dance: Wednesday, Feb. 15, 5-10 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Jerry Colen presentation "How To Avoid Probate," Friday, Feb. 24, 10 - 12 am, East Activity Center Largo Room (free, registration required)  
 Good Neighbors Association Winter Clothing Drive: Friday, Feb. 24, 11 am - 1 pm, Pavilion  
 New York-New Jersey Club, Mama Mia, Thursday, Feb. 25, 6 - 9 pm, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Laugh Yoga: Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2 - 3:30 pm, West Activity Center, Belleair Room

### CLUB AND GROUP EVENTS

Art Guild Acrylic Painting, 1 - 4 pm, Thursdays, EAC Largo Room  
 Art Guild Board Meeting: 3 - 5 pm, Thursday, Feb. 2, EAC Largo Room  
 Art Guild Painting Pals: 1 - 4 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Art Guild Dali Museum Presentation: Thursday, Feb. 23, 2:30 - 4 pm, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Baby Boomers Group: Meetings, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 1 and Thursday, Feb. 16, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: 10 am - 1 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Bible Study: Fridays, 2 - 3 pm, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Billiards (8 Ball): 6:30 - 10pm, Mondays and Tuesdays, West Activity Center Billiards Room  
 Billiards (Scotch Doubles): 6:30 - 10pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Billiards Room  
 Billiards (9 Ball): 1 - 3 pm, Fridays, West Activity Center Billiards Room  
 Bingo: 6 - 10 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Canadian Club Happy Hour: Friday, Feb. 24, 4:30-7 pm, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Caring & Sharing: 9 am - 12 pm, Tuesdays, Kitchen/Clearwater Room  
 Ceramics: 10 am - 2 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room  
 Coloring Book Group: 12 - 3 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Computer Club: Computer Help, 8:30 - 10 am, Wednesdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Computer Club: Meetings, 8:30 - 10 am, Saturdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Cornhole: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Democratic Club: Meeting, 2 - 3:30 pm, Thursday, Feb. 9, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Democratic Club Happy Hour: 7 - 10 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 1, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Democratic Club Board Meeting: 2-3:30 pm, Thursday, Feb. 23, East Activity Center Clearwater Room  
 Entertainment Committee Board Meeting: 10 am - 12 pm, Thursday, Feb. 2, EAC Crystal Beach Room  
 Entertainment Committee Dance: 7:30 pm, Saturday, Feb. 18, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Entertainment Committee Show: 7:30 pm, Thursday, Feb. 16, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Entertainment Committee Sunday Meet & Greet: 2-4 pm, Sunday, Feb. 19, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Fletcher Keyboard Lesson: Mondays, 10-11 am, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Good Karma Book Club: 10 am - 12 pm, Thursday, Feb. 16, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 High Vibe Tribe: 7 - 9 pm, Thursday, Feb. 9, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room  
 Irish Club Parade Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 7, 3 - 5 pm, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Italian Classes: 10:30 am - 12 pm, Fridays, Dunedin Room and Ozona Room  
 Keyboard Club, Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm, East Activity Center Clearwater Room  
 Knitting Group: 9 - 11 am, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Lambda Club: Social, 6 - 10 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 14, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Learning To Dance with Noland: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Line Dance Club: 1 - 3 pm, Tuesdays, 8:30-10:30 am, Saturdays, East Activity Center Auditorium  
 Line Dance Club Practice: 7 - 8 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Moving and Grooving Line Dancing: Tuesdays, 9 - 12 pm, 1-4 pm Fridays, East Activity Center Auditorium (Extra day Feb. 22 6-9 in Auditorium)  
 Philosophy Club: 10 - 11:30 am, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Ping Pong: 10 am - 3 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Pray for America: Meeting, 10 am - 12 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Press Association: Meeting, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Thursday, Feb. 2, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room  
 Republican Club: Meeting, 7 - 9 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 14, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Social Dance: 1 - 3 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Snowbirds Line Dance: 8:30 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, EAC Auditorium  
 Texas Card Game Club: 3 - 10 pm, Friday, Feb. 17, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room  
 TOPS: 9 - 11 am, Fridays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room (please note new room)  
 Theater Workshop Board: 6 - 7 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 1, General meeting 7-8:30 pm, WAC Belleair Room  
 Travel Club: 2 - 4 pm, Friday, Feb. 3, East Activity Center Oldsmar Room  
 Vegan Group: 3 - 5 pm, Friday, Feb. 10, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Veterans Group: 2 - 4 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 1, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room  
 World Quilters: 8 am - 2 pm, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room  
 Writers Ink: 1 - 2:30 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room

### CARDS AND GAMES

Bid Euchre: 6:30-9:30 pm, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room  
 Blackout (Canadian Club): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Cribbage: 10 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room  
 Dominos: 5:30 - 8 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Ozona Room  
 Double Deck Pinochle: 1 - 3:30 pm, Sundays and Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room  
 Duplicate Bridge (Beginners): 9 am - 12 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room  
 Duplicate Bridge: 11:30 am - 4 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room  
 Duplicate Bridge: 11 - 3 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room  
 Euchre Club: 6-8 pm, Fridays, Dunedin Room  
 Ladies Bunco: 6:30 - 10 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 14, West Activity Center Learning Lab  
 Mahjongg: 1 - 4 pm, Fridays, West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room  
 Mexican Train Card Game (Dominos): 1 - 5 pm, Thursdays, Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Alonzo's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Mondays, EAC Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Barry's Group): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room  
 Poker (Bob's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Carol's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, EAC Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Laura's Group): 6-9 pm, Fridays, East Activity Center Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Tom's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Wednesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room  
 Poker (Richie's Group): 6 - 8:45 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room  
 Samba Hand/Foot Canasta: 6 - 9 pm, Thursdays and Fridays, EAC Ozona Room  
 Samba: 12:30 - 3 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center, Ozona Room

### EXERCISES

Aqua Aerobics: 9-10 am, Monday through Friday, East Activity Center Swimming Pool  
 Bonesavers: 8-9 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room  
 Co-Ed Exercises: 10-10:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Hatha Yoga with Marilyn: 10-11:15 am, Mondays, West Activity Center Belleair Room  
 Hatha Yoga with Marilyn: 10-11:15 am, Thursdays, East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Ladies Exercise: 8-9 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance: 12-1 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10 am Saturdays, EAC Exercise Room  
 Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance Light: 1:15-2:15 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 Saturdays, EAC Exercise Room  
 Moving & Grooving Broadway Bound: Starts Feb. 5, 11 am - 12 pm, in the EAC Exercise Room  
 Slimnastics: 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room  
 Tai Chi Flow 108: 3:15-4:15 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Tai Chi Qigong: 3:15-4 pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays East Activity Center Exercise Room  
 Zumba: Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 9-10 am, West Activity Center Belleair Room

**Irish Club Parade Meeting**  
**Feb 7, 3 pm**  
**Clearwater Room**

**Pickleball**  
**3:30 - 6:30 pm,**  
**Monday through Friday,**  
**9-12 pm, Sundays**

**Shuffleboard**  
**4 - 6 pm, Monday - Wednesday**

**Tennis Club**  
**7:30 am - 11 am,**  
**Monday through Saturday.**  
**4:30 pm, Sundays**

**BUILDING EVENTS**

Flamenco Tuesday, Feb. 21, WAC Belleair, 5-8 pm  
 American Gothic Tuesday, Feb. 14, EAC Kitchen, 6-8:30 pm  
 Mandalay Saturday, Feb. 18, EAC Kitchen, 11:30-2:30  
 Valencia Tuesday, Feb. 7, WAC Belleair, 5 - 9 pm

### FACILITIES

**Library**  
 10 am to 12 pm, Mondays  
 1-3pm, Wednesdays  
**Woodshop**  
 8 am-4 pm Monday-Thursday  
 8 am-12 pm Friday  
 (membership required)

**Fitness Center Hours**  
 7 am to 9 pm, Monday through Saturday  
 9 am to 8 pm Sundays  
 (closed 12:30-2:30 Mondays and Thursdays)

**Swimming Pools (May through Sept)**  
 Monday-Saturday, 8 am to 8 pm  
 Sundays and Holidays, 9 am to 8 pm

**Swimming Pools (Oct through April)**  
 Mondays-Saturdays, 8 am to 6:30 pm  
 Sundays and Holidays, 9 am to 6:30 pm

### PAVILION

Azores: Saturday, Feb. 4, 12-2:30 pm  
 Lawn Bowls: Tuesday, Feb. 14, 12-3 pm  
 Tennis: Saturday, Feb. 25, 10 am - 1 pm



There was a Farmers Market scheduled the date this newspaper was distributed to residents. If you missed it, there will be a second date this month on Wednesday, Feb. 15. Fresh fruit and vegetables will be sold in the morning and afternoon in front of the East Activity Center.

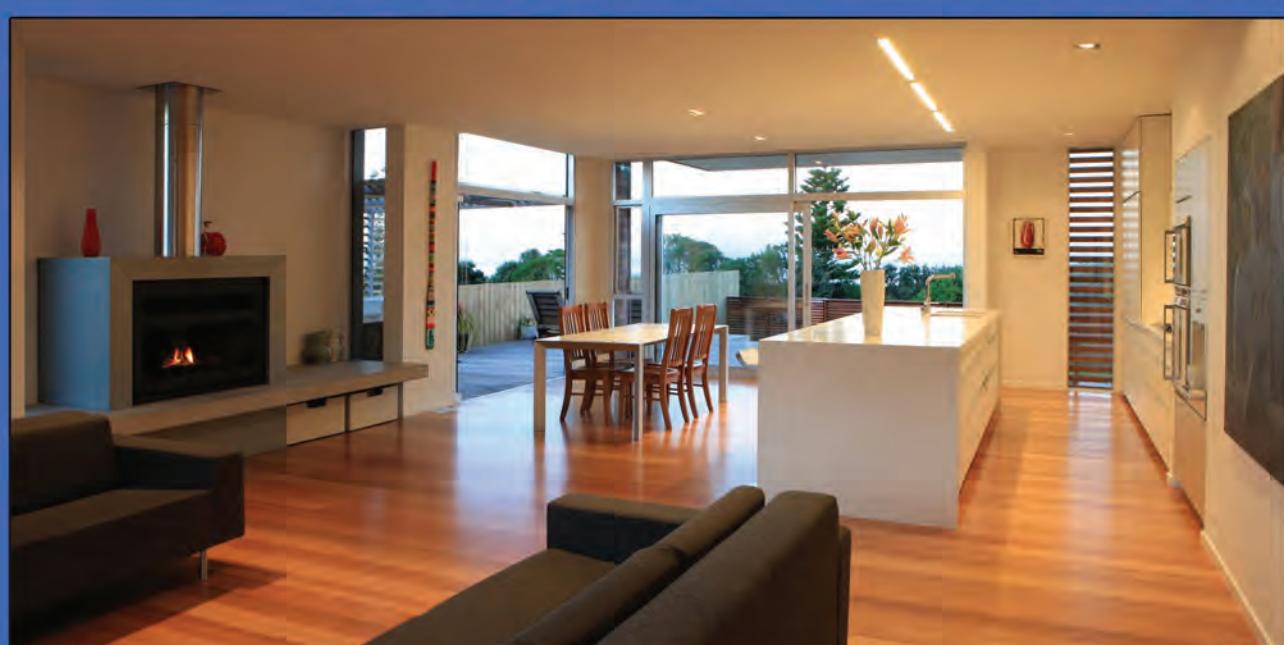
(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)



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Pictured at left is a beach scene painting by Kerry Waltz and on top is a sunflower painting by Nancy Cohen.

## Art Guild members invited to a Dali Museum presentation then a road trip to St. Petersburg

By Julie Awot

The Art Guild was pleased with a nice jump in membership in January.

Welcome to both new and returning members.

Our Thursday afternoon acrylics class is in full swing. In fact, we had to add another table to the room last week for new participants. Our fabulous instructor, Rosemarie Lugg, has her hands full. The more the merrier, we still have room.

The class meets on Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

Our first membership meeting of 2023 was Jan. 13. We had an enthusiastic crowd. We enjoyed a watercolor demonstration by Kerry Waltz.

Kerry managed to produce a beautiful painting while simultaneously answering many questions from the members.

The On Top of the World community is so fortunate to have such wonderful talent accessible to us.



Our next general membership meeting is on Friday, Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. We will be hosting painter Nancy Cohen.

Nancy is a still-life painter. She is classically trained in the Chiaroscuro style of the Old Masters.

Chiaroscuro is the use of strong con-

trasts between light and dark. It adds drama and volume to a painting.

Nancy's creative process draws attention to familiar items. Her contemporary Chiaroscuro style translates those familiar items into objects full of mystery and magic.

I encourage you to check out her website, [nancycohenstudio.com](http://nancycohenstudio.com).

A Dali Museum tour, which was rained out on Dec. 15, has been rescheduled. The new date is Thursday, Feb. 23.

The agenda remains the same. Meet in the EAC Largo Room at 3 p.m. for an informative slide show. At 4 p.m. leave for the museum. At 5 p.m. meet at the museum and tour.

If you had not previously signed up, but are interested in the outing, the cost is \$15.

Please email the Art Guild at [otowartguild22@gmail.com](mailto:otowartguild22@gmail.com). Put Dali in the subject line. You must contact us no later than Feb. 7 to insure your spot.

The Art Guild's most important event is

our annual Art Show and Sale. This year the show is on Sunday, March 26. That seems like a long way off, but we are busy preparing already.

We have space for 20 exhibitors. If you are interested in showing your work, you must register by March 10.

This is a juried Art show which adds to the excitement.

Write to [otowartguild22@gmail.com](mailto:otowartguild22@gmail.com). Put Art Show in the subject line and we will make sure you have all the necessary information.

For those of you who just want to come look at all the talent that lives here, there will be a 50/50 drawing and some delectable snacks.

In the meantime, beauty surrounds us and the creative spirit dwells within us all. Why not join the Art Guild and let your creativity flourish?

## On Top of the World Official Clearwater Website [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)



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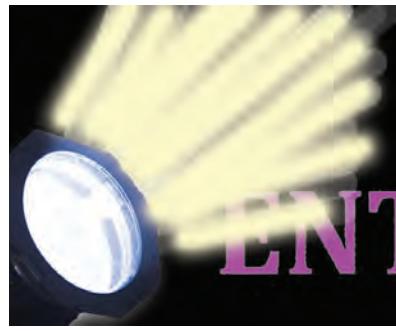
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## Celebrating 50+ Years ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

# If you are a Beatles fan, you must get tickets for The Ultimate Paul McCartney Experience

By Mary Ann O'Neil

On Jan. 19, Elvis was once again in the East Activity Center and what a show! If you missed it, you missed a night of great entertainment.

As usual, Dwight Icenhower gave us a wonderful performance that made us feel like Elvis was really back in the building!

Our first dance of 2023 featured the TC and Sass Band, which was well attended, and everyone was out on the dance floor showing all their moves. This band played a lot of '80s music, which brought back memories. Some of you were probably familiar with this band as they play locally.

On Thursday, Feb. 16, come catch the show, "The Ultimate McCartney Experience." This is America's No. 1 Paul McCartney, Wings and Beatles tribute band. This show is more than a concert. It's an experience - an authentic tribute that starts with left-handed, sounds-alike, looks-alike Tony Burlington as Paul McCartney. Tony plays the iconic Hofner violin bass. He is backed by the talented McCartney Project Band that recreates Sir Paul's music note for note. They even have their own "Linda."

You will recognize every song as they recreate the best of The Beatles and the monster hits of Wings.

Saturday, Feb. 18, is our Sweetheart Dance featuring The Southshore Cruiser Band. This band has performed here in the past and they bring back classic songs of the '50s and '60s.

We will have two raffles during the dance. Red paper hearts will be available for you to purchase for a dollar each. Yes, you can purchase as many hearts as you like. You will need to write the name of your sweetheart (guys and gals) on the heart, which will be placed in a special sweetheart raffle box. There will be a drawing during the band breaks.

The hearts can be purchased 8:30-10:30 a.m., Monday and Thurs-

day mornings at the Entertainment Committee information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium, or from 7:30-8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the dance.

Whether you already purchased your tickets for the dance, or you are buying tickets at the door, you can still purchase a heart.

You must be present to win the raffles.

Bring your sweetheart to the dance, and while you are at it, why not get your friends and neighbors to come out for an evening of fun. You can always reserve a full table so that everyone can sit together.

Please dress appropriately and remember no shorts allowed at our dances unless indicated.

Our next Sunday Meet & Greet will be Feb. 19, 2-4 p.m. We will have horse races so be sure to bring your dollar bills to bet on your favorite jockey and horse. This is a free event and we provide light refreshments at the end, so be sure to stop by and join the fun.

Remember, our shows and dances are reserved table seating, so if you want to have a great seat, purchase your tickets early.

The dances and show tickets are reasonable and at a fraction of the cost charged elsewhere for the same entertainment.

Shows are \$20 and dances are \$10.

So, get your friends together and come out for an evening of fun! We provide ice and coffee throughout the evening. All events are bring your own beverage and bring your snacks as well.

Ticket sales for shows and dances are Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:30 p.m. at the East Activity Center Auditorium.

If you have any questions regarding shows or dances, please call (727) 449-9243 or (215) 431-4799.

On behalf of the On Top of the World Entertainment Committee, it is our pleasure to bring entertainment to our community.



## The Ultimate Paul McCartney Experience

## Monthly Calendar ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



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



### FEBRUARY

- 16      Ultimate McCartney Experience (7:30 pm, \$20)
- 18      Southshore Cruisers - Sweetheart Dance  
(7:30 pm, \$10)
- 19      Sunday Meet & Greet, Horse Races, 2 pm

### MARCH

- 16      Comfort Zone - Gloria Estefan Tribute Show  
(7:30 pm, \$20)
- 18      The Impact Band (dance 7:30 pm, \$10)

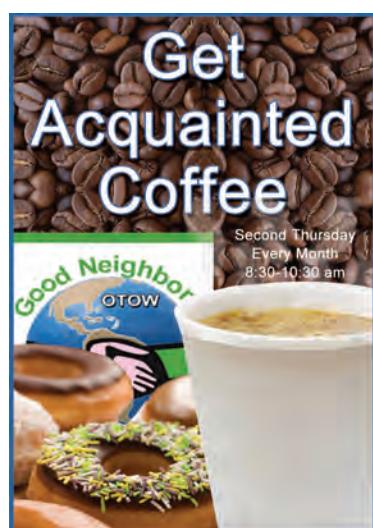
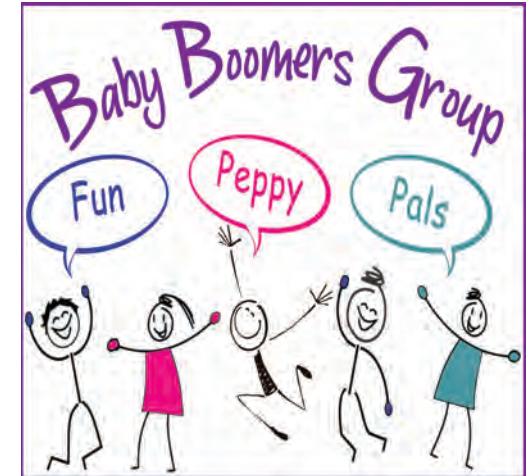
### APRIL

- 13      Florida Bee Gees (show, 7:30, \$20)
- 15      Over The Edge (dance, 7:30, \$10)

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



The On Top of the World Baby Boomers group enjoys activities inside and outside of our community. For more than 10 years, group members have made priceless friendships and memories. On New Year's Day, some braved the fog for our annual, magical, gratitude pilgrimage to Clearwater Beach, followed by a trip to the yummy Palm Pavilion restaurant. Some of us love to bike and enjoy togetherness on our beautiful local trails. If you would like to meet up to enjoy some of these fun activities, come to a Boomers meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room on the first Wednesday or third Thursday of the month.



## Thursday, Feb. 9 EAC Auditorium

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



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Expires February 28, 2022

# Is your dog protecting your condo or sounding an alarm every time a squirrel runs by?

By Dave Beaven

One of the things that On Top of the World is well known for is its tolerance of dogs.

In fact, it's a principal draw for people to buy here. It was for my mother who moved here in 1998 when she found out that OTOW would allow her to have her Chow mix dog as a pet.

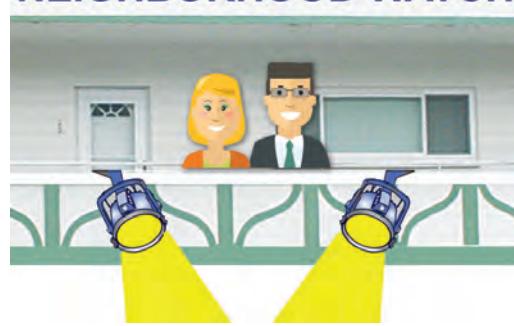
And so it goes for the many people walking about with all kinds of breeds, from tiny Chihuahuas to even a Great Dane.

Let's face it. Dogs are great company. They are devoted to their owners and they make good watch dogs by barking to alert the household when a stranger is about.

But dogs are very much like children. They look to us for food, shelter and guidance in how to act. By following some basic guidelines, you can ensure that you and your dog are good neighbors in your building.

Walking. Every dog needs to be walked to do its business. Best to do this in common areas away from your neighbor's landscaping. And always clean up after your dog.

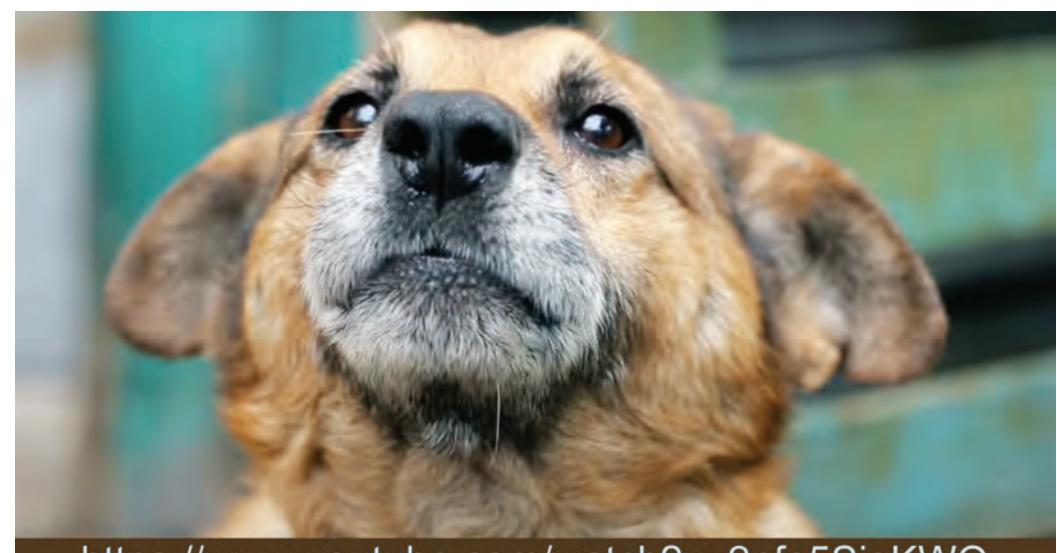
## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Also, the dog needs to be leashed. A loose dog can run away or get in fights with other dogs or even bite a resident. These can have serious consequences for both you and your pet.

Barking. When a dog barks at intruders, it is a good thing. When a dog barks constantly, it's a nuisance.

In multi-residential buildings, like we have here, barking dogs can be a real bother to your neighbors. There are ways to train your dog to control this behavior. A good resource to check out is:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nfo5SigKWQ>

<https://youtu.be/2nfo5SigKWQ>

To conclude, OTOW is a great place to live for its human and furry residents. By be-

ing a considerate pet owner, you do your part in making sure that it stays that way.

For more information about our local Neighborhood Watch group, go to: [areawatch2020.blogspot.com](http://areawatch2020.blogspot.com)

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**OTOW  
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# Pet of the Month

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Coco became a new resident at On Top of the World last August.

Instantly, she met some wonderful pet friends.

Coco, 12, lives with Roger and Pam Shockley in the Victorian building. She is a chihuahua.

Coco is formerly of the midwest and has endured many cold, snowy winters. She does not want snow here.

She is at peace with Florida's beautiful weather. It is a great place for a senior dog to settle down.

Coco has many great neighbors who are friendly and always say hi. She loves short walks and her favorite pastime is watching people golf.

Coco hopes to become the Pet of the Year for 2023.

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



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

Reservations are first-come, first-served, and can be made from 7 a.m., Monday, thru 1 p.m., Thursday, for any day(s) in the **current** week. However, NO reservations will be accepted after 1 p.m. for the next day to ensure the morning roster can be prepared before staff leave for the day. When making multiple reservations for your week ahead, please ensure careful planning to prevent the need to cancel. To cancel a ride, please call the bus line as early as possible. You must present your valid activity card before boarding. Please be visible to your bus driver outside your center core.

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

**\* DAY TRIPS**

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Second Wednesday - Downtown Safety Harbor / Pier  
Third Wednesday - Clearwater Beach  
Fourth Wednesday - Tarpon Springs

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8:30 AM - Clearwater Mall (OTOW Bus)  
12:15 PM - ALDI & Salvation Army (OTOW Bus)

### TUESDAY

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

### WEDNESDAY

8:15 AM - Sprouts (OTOW Bus)  
8:15 AM - Walmart (Neighborly Care)  
10:00 AM - DAY TRIP EXCURSION \* (OTOW Bus)  
11:00 AM - Walmart (Neighborly Care)

### THURSDAY

8:15 AM - Publix (Neighborly Care)  
8:15 AM - CVS Dunedin / Winn Dixie (OTOW Bus)  
11:00 AM - Publix (Neighborly Care)  
12:15 PM - Clearwater Mall (OTOW Bus)

### FRIDAY

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

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



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# Coming up next ... Estate Planning



In February, Jerry Colen discussed the Homestead Exemption in front of a large group of residents in the East Activity Center Largo Room. He said Homestead is just one reason why Florida is one of the best states to live and retire in.

Coming up in February, Jerry will be back to discuss estate planning with residents.

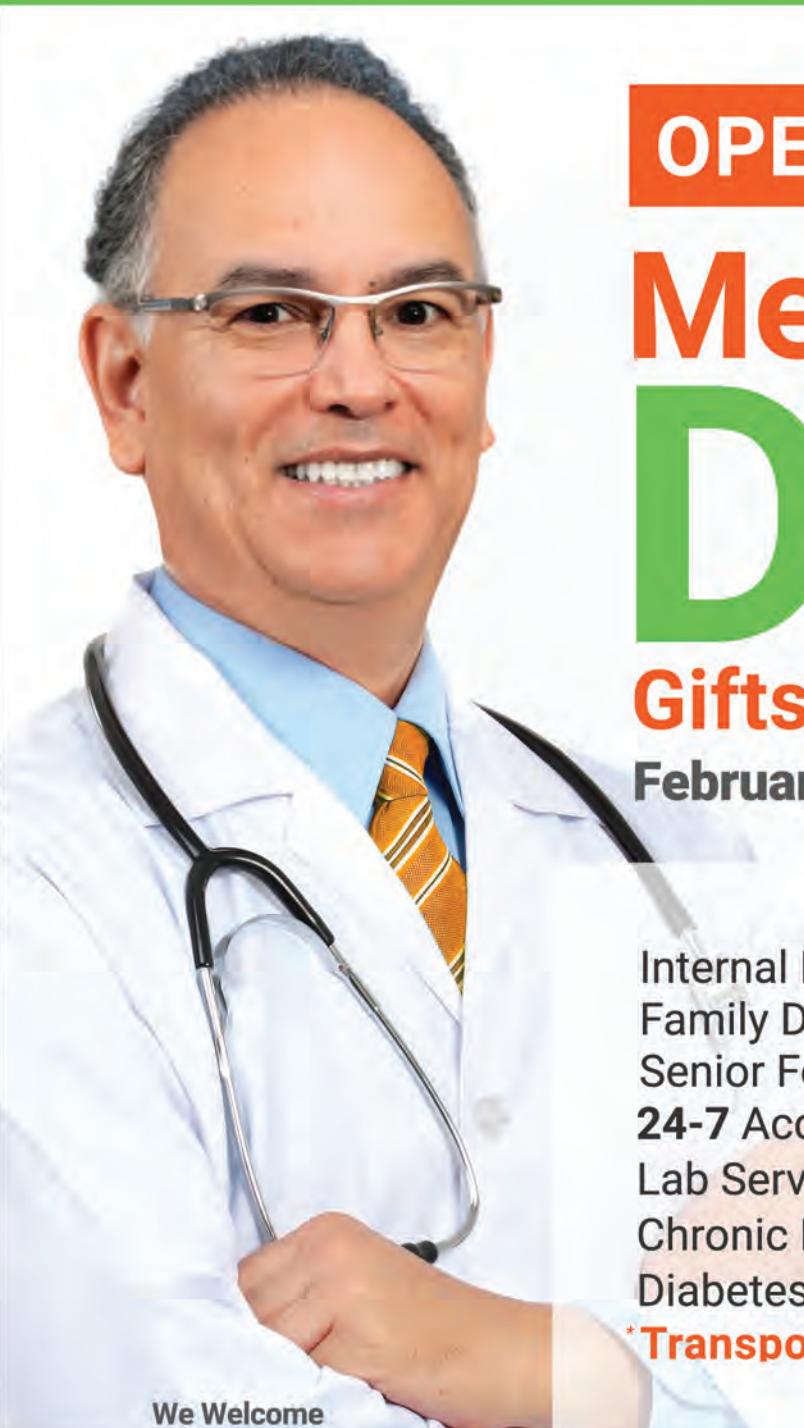
Are there important ways to plan your estate and the distribution of assets without having the need for a living trust?

Yes, there certainly are ways.

On Friday, Feb 24 at 10 a.m., in the East Activity Center Largo Room, Jerry and his law partners, Rachel Wagoner and John Beck, will be here to discuss some of the methods that are available for estate planning, without the need for a trust.

Jerry, Rachel and John will stay to answer your questions, as well.

Registration is required. To register, email general\_activity@scaclw.com, reference the lecture and provide your name, building number, unit number and phone number, or leave the same info in a voicemail at 727-799-2734. Deadline to register is Thursday, Feb 16.



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Next Delivery Date

March newspapers will be delivered on Wednesday, March 1.

To advertise in our March edition, payments must be received by February 15.

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

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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**Press Association Volunteers This Month:**

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

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## Important Phone Numbers

Community Service Office

727-683-6981

Activities Office

727-799-2734

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off

727-799-3417 Option 6

Emergency After Hours/Weekends

727-799-1115

# You are reading OTOW News, but newspaper staff wants to know why your neighbor is not

You just started reading this article, which means you are one of the many people who reads On Top of the World News every month.

But chances are, you know someone in our community who has never read this newspaper or believes there is no reason to even open it up.

For the 80-some people on the Press Association staff, this bugs us. And we would like to do something about it.

At the Press Association meeting in January, staff discussed what we can do to our community newspaper to get more people to read it. The entire staff works very hard to produce informative and positive stories, plus beautiful photos, but not a month passes without hearing someone say, "I didn't even know we have a newspaper" or "I've never read it."

Our staff wants to know why?

OTOW News has strict guidelines: Positive stories only. That's not going to change.

There are no political stories, no obituaries, not even ads for funeral homes or life insurance.

When you open up this newspaper, you won't find one story, photo or graphic that will make you frown or think negatively.

We've been doing it this way for 55 years.



## Press Association

So, under the same guidelines, what kind of content can we add to this newspaper that will convince the most humbug person to pick it up?

Do we need more stories about what's going on outside our community? Are community news, club stories, local sports and building reports not enough?

Do we need specialized columnists?

Do we need to write more about what is going on in Pinellas County?

More than 20 staffers attended the January meeting and club President Tom Butcher

said he is frustrated listening to people admit they don't even know we have a community newspaper.

How could this be? We were even featured in the Tampa Bay Times!

Editor Doug Kates said the entire staff writes wonderful stories and those who don't read our paper are missing out on great community news. But he agrees, there could be more readers.

How can you help?

Obviously, you are reading this story, and we thank you.

But sometime this month, you are going to meet someone who doesn't read our newspaper. Could you ask why and share your insight with someone on our newspaper staff. We have 80 staffers. It shouldn't be tough finding one of them. They will provide your information to Doug or Tom to evaluate.

Also at the press meeting in January, staffers began making plans for a pizza party in March. At the time of the meeting, discussion was open to find a pizza vendor because no pizza restaurants have advertised with us in many years. But 15 minutes after the meeting ended, representatives of Nunzio's Pizza & Pasta walked into the newsroom ready to take out an ad. Doug prefers supporting

businesses that support our newspaper. He has asked staff to try this new Bronx-style pizza place and get back to him.

The Irish Club parade is coming up in March. Doug asked how many people in attendance were willing to represent the newspaper. The show of hands was disappointing.

Doug said he wants a minimum of 10 people, including two who will carry the banner. If 10 out of 80 don't volunteer, the club will sit out this year.

Doug also proposed purchasing new T-shirts for the parade marchers and the entire staff. The shirts could be worn year-round. Ordering the shirts will depend on club interest.

The annual Appreciation Dinner is set for Thursday, April 6, at Philippe Park. Already, 24 staffers have qualified for the dinner. There are nine more staffers who only need to attend one more meeting and two staffers who only need one more story to qualify. There could be more than 35 people qualified this year.

The next Press Association meeting is Thursday, Feb. 2, 1:30-2:30 p.m., in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room. The March meeting may be moved to the Pavilion.

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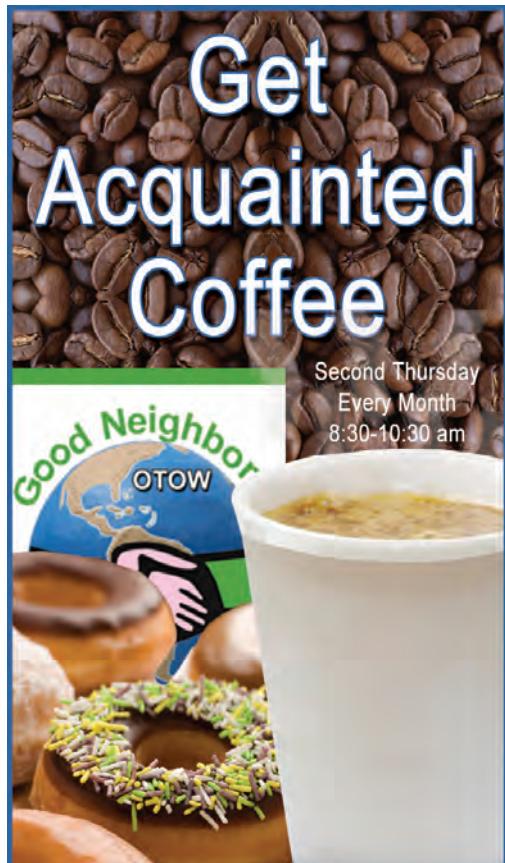


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## Gonna need more donuts with chocolate

At the Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee in January, chocolate donuts were a hot item.

At least one time, the question was asked, "Do you have any more with chocolate?"

With so many people in attendance, chocolate went fast.

Nearly 100 people attended the monthly tradition at On Top of the World. People received one free donut and one free cup of coffee. Others met with club representatives, purchased tickets for upcoming events and even got help with computer problems.

Entertainment for the morning was provided by Fletcher Music Center. Joe Fontechia played an electronic keyboard and performed a variety of songs to please the crowd.

It was like being in a concert hall.

Seven new residents were introduced and welcomed. Community announcements were made and raffles held.

In February, the guest entertainer will be Carla Hines, who was originally scheduled to perform in November, but Tropical Storm Nichol had other plans.

Carla, weather permitting, will be here to sing Motown tunes, songs from the heart. Bring a sweetie because there could be opportunities for a slow dance or two.

Get Acquainted Coffee will take place Thursday, Feb. 9, with club information tables opening at 8:30 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be served at 9 a.m. Community announcements and introduction of sponsors will follow, then entertainment and raffles.

If you are new to our community, please attend and get a warm welcome. Your picture will be taken and featured in the March newspaper.



Above, Good Neighbors Association volunteers pass out donuts and below, Joe Fontechia of Fletcher Music Center plays keyboard to entertain the crowd.

(Photos by Doug Kates)



Rene Foley  
of New York



Greg Basheda  
of Virginia



Elana Gross  
of New Jersey



Ken and Eleanor Tupper of Florida



Michael Buzzell and T. Scott Concannon of Maine

(OTOW News Photos by Mary Lou Wall)

# Welcome New Residents



The Salvation Army Heritage Brass Band

# The Salvation Army Winter Concerts

**Sunday, Feb 19, 6 PM, FREE**  
**The Salvation Army Heritage Brass Band**

**Saturday, March 4, 7 PM, FREE**  
**Canadian Music & Performing Arts Group**



Asbury University Salvation Army Student Fellowship Band

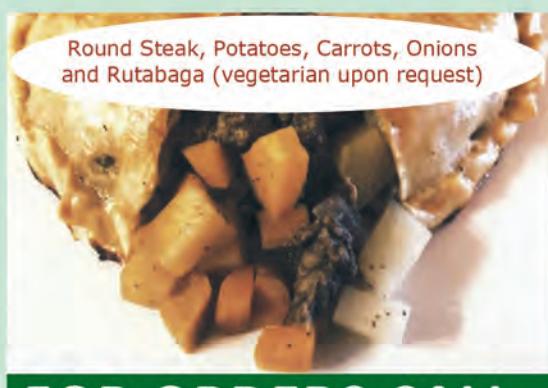
**Sunday, March 12, 6 PM, FREE**  
**Asbury University Salvation Army**  
**Student Fellowship Band**

All three concerts at The Salvation Army, 1625 North Belcher Rd, Clearwater, FL, 727-725-9777

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**Pick-up location:** The Salvation Army  
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# ACTIVITY REPORTS



## Irish Club parade could be one of the biggest ever - look for clowns, witches, mermaids, musicians and more

By Barbara Rice

Leprechauns are leaping with excitement over the lineup for the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The On Top of the World parade will step off on Saturday, March 4, at 10 a.m.

Irish Club members are busy planning the March celebration for the 27th year.

Old and new parade participants have already sent in registrations saying, "We'll be there."

And the fun will not end when the last parade entry marches by. A party will follow in the East Activity Center back parking lot. Free beer will flow along with free pretzels from the Irish Club. Live music and dancing will be plentiful, too. Food will be available for purchase courtesy of the Good Karma Café and, there will be a lot of green!

New residents may be surprised when they awaken on the morning of March 4. Musicians may be tuning up outside their windows. Floats will arrive. Convertibles and golf carts will be decorated. Dogs will sport costumes. Dancers will be practicing steps. Classic cars will cruise in.

These are clues to stake out a spot on the parade route. Plan ahead and invite family, friends and grandchildren to share the day.

The parade marches down World Parkway Boulevard East. You will want to be below Irish Lane to see every parade entry.

Entries will begin to line up at the upper end of World Parkway Boulevard at the corner of Netherlands Drive. The side streets from Netherlands Drive down to Irish Lane will be used to line up the five parade divisions. The divisions will feed from the side streets onto the World Parkway Boulevard parade route and then march down the boulevard past the EAC.

A reviewing stand will be at the three-way intersection on World Parkway Boulevard. Denis O'Doherty and Carmel LeBlanc will announce entries.

If you enjoy smiling, be ready. There will be clowns. A parade-favorite, we will have clowns in vehicles and clowns walking the parade route.

The well-known Shriners will make their first appearance in our parade. The Pinellas County Jeep Club, Scottish Highland Dancers, Finley's Irish Pub, Dancing Witches of Dunedin, Tampa Bay Ukuleles, Northeast High School Junior ROTC, and Sunny SunStar (a leprechaun-size talking ambulance) are also some of the first-time entries.

The parade would not be complete without the iconic St. Andrew's Pipes and Drums Band of Tampa Bay.

The Clearwater High School Marching Band has promised music, too.

Patriotism is important in the parade. The OTOW Veterans Club will escort our neighbor veterans, including two from World War II.

A spot will be reserved next to the reviewing stand where club's members can watch the parade together.

A visiting Honor Flight Crew will also chaperone veterans to be in our parade.

Some returning favorites to the lineup include a Weeki Wachee mermaid and the sword-toting Celts of Dunedin.

Kaylee, the scooter-riding dog, will be here.

East Lake High School Drama Club students and OTOW cyclists, Bob and Kim Stackpole, will be back.

Many OTOW clubs are parade hits. Look for entries from our very own dancers, bikers, dog owners, golfers, performers and more.

The World Quilters are piecing together a creative first-time entry.

The Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers are heading from the woodshop to the parade route for their first time.

All clubs, and individuals, are invited to join the parade. A completed registration form is required. It will be used to help plan the lineup or-



### Irish Club

der and announce you from the reviewing stand.

Convertibles make the parade special! If you own a convertible and can drive participants in the parade, please let Tom O'Riordan or Colman Weir know.

Also new this year, residents on the West Side can get a ride to the parade by jumping on the Jolley Trolley. Summit Broadband has agreed to sponsor the trolley, which will pick residents up at their West Side buildings from 9:30 a.m.

You can also ride the OTOW shuttle bus from the West Activity Center.

The cost of putting on the parade increases each year. Donations were generous last year and will be again appreciated.

Irish Club will sponsor an evening of entertainment on Feb. 9. Paul Duffy is a talented musician, singer and storyteller. He will be joined on stage by Darin Graves, an accomplished fiddler, in the EAC at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$18 for guests. Proceeds will help fund the parade.

A gala of green will precede the parade on March 2 at the Irish Club's annual St. Patrick's Day dinner dance in the EAC at 5 p.m. Music will be by Joe and Fionnula Burke.



A parade favorite, clowns, will be back for the March 2023 parade.

Cost is \$30 each.

Tickets for Paul Duffy's show and the dinner dance may be purchased on Monday and Thursday mornings in the EAC from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Tom O'Riordan, parade chairman, can be reached at 845-664-0504 or [tj050659@gmail.com](mailto:tj050659@gmail.com).

Colman Weir can be reached at 914-584-3370 or [Colman.weir@yahoo.com](mailto:Colman.weir@yahoo.com).

Other parade committee members are Mary Lou Wall, Barbara Rice, Rose Mulhaar, and Martin Forde.



New at this year's parade will be the Dancing Witches of Dunedin.

At approximately 9:30 a.m., Saturday, March 4, the Belcher Road gate to On Top of the World will be closed to incoming traffic on the East Side, as will side roads that connect to World Parkway Boulevard East. Roads will be closed until the conclusion of the parade - about 11 a.m. If you live on the East Side, plan now! If you have to go to work, leave early. Do not make an appointment with the air conditioner guy or plumber. Roads will be blocked and will only be reopened for emergencies.

# If you try Moving 'n Grooving one time, you will keep coming back



By Hope Tera

Like other On Top of the World clubs, Moving 'n Grooving has officers, but as wonderful as those folks are, the reality is, our members are the heart and soul.

This club was started with a leap of faith.

Remember the film "Field of Dreams" with Kevin Costner? The main tag line was, "If you build it, they will come." It was referring to a baseball field.

We hoped the same type of thing would happen with our startup club. And we've been thrilled with the response so far.

We adore our members. Each brings a warmth and energy to the group. We don't have the space in this article to share what's special about each one, but here are just a few...

- Michael Finnimore, an English chap, enjoys the activities we offer. To express his gratitude, he often creates authentic (and homemade) English cucumber sandwiches and shortbread for all to enjoy. Yum!

- Anne Gullickson is a warm and charming gal who helps guide the line dance students in class. And she occasionally jokes and pranks members, all in good fun. The dance floor is her "happy place."

- George Kelbatyrov is quite a character, recently surprising our group at a social event we hosted. He got up onstage, then did an improvised dance in an adorable costume his wife, Olga, created for him. He had the crowd in stitches.

We love how our members feel comfortable sharing some of their special gifts with our group. And we are grateful for their many contributions. You are all welcome to



Moving 'n Grooving not only has club officers, but also personalities. Meet George Kelbatyrov, Anne Gullickson and Michael Finnimore.

come meet Michael, Anne, George and the rest of our group.

How about trying some line dancing classes with Margaret LeTourneau?

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

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

Looking for a gentler workout? Then a cardio dance light class might fit the bill.

If you just want to have some friendly competition, cornhole might suit you. No

cornhole is not a line dance. It is another group we created! The schedule is listed below.

Members of our club receive monthly calendars, showing dates, times and locations for our activities. If you would like to receive a copy of our monthly calendar for February, please contact Hope at 914-217-9206 or email her at movingandgroovingotow@gmail.com.

The Moving 'n Grooving Club is always welcoming new ideas and new beginnings. If you'd like to check out an inclusive

line dance, cardio dance and cornhole club that teaches to all levels, guarantees great fun, and promotes an atmosphere of kindness and creativity, please contact Hope at 914-217-9206 or you can email her at movingandgroovingotow@gmail.com.

Come to any of our activities to try them out. You can also learn more about our club on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). Look for our logo.

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

## LINE DANCING SCHEDULE

### EAC Auditorium

#### Tuesdays

(no class Feb. 7, Feb. 21)

9 - 10:20 am - Levels 1 and 2

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Levels 3 and 4

#### Fridays

(no class 2/10)

1 - 2:20 p.m. - Levels 1 and 2

2:30 - 4 p.m. - Levels 3 and 4

## CORNHOLE

### West Activity Center Belleair Room

#### Mondays

1 - 3 p.m.

## CARDIO DANCING

### East Activity Center Exercise Room

#### Mondays

12 - 1 p.m. - Regular Class

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. - Cardio Dance Light

#### Wednesdays

12 - 1 p.m. - Regular Class

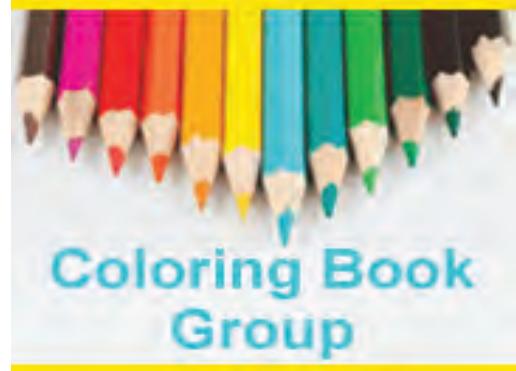
1:15 - 2:15 p.m. - Cardio Dance Light

#### Saturdays

9 - 10 a.m. - Regular Class

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. - Cardio Dance Light

# Coloring books can come in a variety of skill levels - pick one and join us



By Elsie Paulan

The holidays are long past, but I am pleased to report I got some new coloring books.

Personally, I prefer easy to medium difficulty in my book choices so I lucked out. My new ones are perfect.

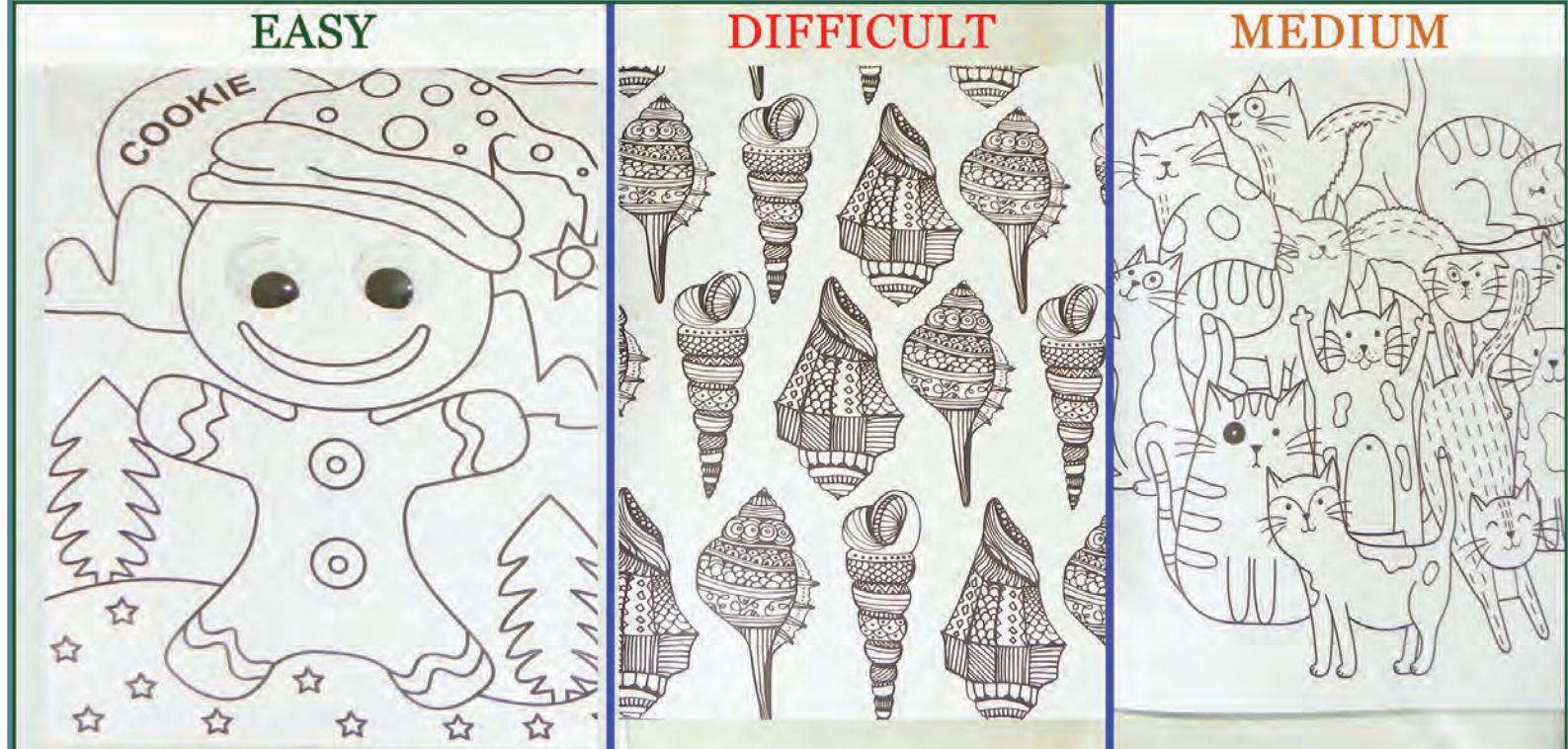
I already had some difficult ones to do, but medium difficulty is my favorite choice.

Coloring is supposed to be relaxing. For me, the easier ones are the most relaxing.

Pictured on this page are samples of easy to more difficult - at least for me. The one on the left is easy, in the middle is difficult and on the right is medium.

Thinking about joining the On Top of the World Coloring Book Club?

We have some medium-type supplies



Pictured above are three different levels of difficulty for coloring book designs.

At left is easy, center is difficult and right is medium.

available, so you can join us, but of course, if you got some gifts of your own, bring them over to the East Activity Center Crys-

tal Beach Room on Wednesdays from noon until 3 p.m.

We come and go depending on how the

fingers hold up, and the conversations are lively and fun.

See you there.

# To have fun in 2023, you must join the Travel Club



By Janice Berman

Do you know the secrets to happiness? Well, I don't know all of them, but I do know a few of them.

The biggest secret to happiness is the joy one gets when they participate in the Travel Club. Our recent trip to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino was a good time because regardless of whether you won money or donated money you spent the day among friends.

Club President David Berman told a joke to start us off in the right mood. Our granddaughter Nicole came on the trip and was doing well winning on a slot machine so she sent us a text that said "I'm winning so stay away so you don't mess me up."

We all laughed at the end of the day when she had to admit she ended with a loss, but at least we were not to blame.

We wish to thank retiring treasurer Phil Meissner for all the work he has done for the Travel Club. Phil, we expect to see you on the bus.

Now we welcome Barbara Novak as the new treasurer for 2023. Barbara is joining David Berman as president, Linda Keebler as vice president and me, Janice Berman, as secretary.

I want to welcome all the new members and say hello to the returning members.

As vice president, Linda says without you, we would not have a club. If you have not renewed your membership for 2023, you must do it as soon as possible to continue to receive Linda's emails. In February only current members will receive updates.



There are many volunteers to help you sign up for Travel Club trips and provide you with information. Just stop by our Information Table on any Monday or Thursday morning from 8:30-10:15 a.m. Helping above, left to right are Barbara Novak, Shirley Crowder, Phil Meissner and Linda Keebler.

Confirmed day trips are as follows:

Feb 8 - St Petersburg trip to The Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement. Guided tour includes a stop at the Sunken Gardens.

March 9 - we travel to Myakka City to see the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions of Austria.

April 12 - we will be in Sarasota to visit

the Big Cat Habitat and Gulf Coast Sanctuary.

We are currently working to confirm everything for the rest of the year. Please come to our club information tables on Monday or Thursday morning from 8:30 to 10:15 and check out what is available or to submit your request for the group to consider.

There is also information about cruises available and Gerri Jaeger is normally at the table on Monday mornings to answer questions.

Our next meeting is Feb. 3 at 2 p.m. in the EAC Oldsmar Room.

This is your invitation. Come participate in the OTOW Travel Club with us and grab

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# Stop at our information table on Feb. 2 to reserve your seat at Day at the Races



By William Peterson

The holiday season is now over and of course we hope that you all are looking forward to the events that the Italian-American Club will hold in 2023.

We closed 2022 with our annual Christmas party luncheon and our members found it to be a great time. Many members rated it "top notch."

Then we opened the new year on Jan. 18 with our Taste of Italy dinner dance catered by Mama Felice.

We are happy to say that the club has started the year with 156 members. We gained an influx of 60 new members thanks to the On Top of the World fall festival which was held in November of 2022.

We have added some new events in 2023 and sincerely hope that they will attract many more new members. We also hope that our existing members will look forward to attending something new.

To that extent, we hope that A Day at the Races at Tampa Bay Downs will be a fun day for everyone.

The event will take place on Friday, Feb. 3. The ticket you purchase will include clubhouse admission, a racing program and



There is no mistaking this as Taste of Italy night for the Italian-American Club. If you were a member of the club, you would have been in line with these folks getting ready to grab a scoop of Mama's best. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

a wonderful buffet lunch with a variety of food choices.

In addition, you will be sitting in a reserved section to watch the races, or why not wander down to see the horses saddled and race along the rail.

So, try not to miss out on this exciting day. On March 14, we will hold our annual

St. Joseph Dinner Dance catered by Mama Felice. This event is one that members look forward to every year.

Our final event of this season is our Farewell Ice Cream Social to be held on April 12. For more detailed information on cost and menus for the events, visit us at our information table on Mondays and Thurs-

days in the East Activity Center Auditorium from 8:15-10:15 a.m. or visit us online at the OTOW Box Office ([otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)).

Remember that volunteers are always welcome at our table and for each event.

You don't have to be Italian to join our club. However, you must have a valid Activities Card.

## Food and clothing drive set for Feb. 24

By Susan Trost

Good Neighbors Association is looking forward to our upcoming events.

Our Get Acquainted Coffee is always the second Thursday of the month. The next one will be Feb. 9 from 9-11 a.m. Please join us to share a cup of kindness and meet and greet our residents.

Our next Food and Clothing Drive will be on Friday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the East Activity Center parking lot by the Pavilion.

You are encouraged to drop off unused or slightly used clothing and food that will not spoil. Your donations are appreciated. You don't even have to get out of your vehicle.

Music bingo is coming back! The date is Sunday, March 5 from 2-5 p.m. Tickets will be \$7 for bingo and \$6 for a meal. Tickets will be available starting Monday, Jan. 23, at our information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium and sold every Monday and Thursday from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Our Flea Market and Craft Show will be on Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. We will be selling tables at our information table every Monday and Thursday at the East Activity Center. Tables will be sold starting on Monday, Jan. 23 for \$15 or two tables for \$25.

Thanks to all who have supported the Good Neighbors Association for so many years. As a reminder, everybody in this community is a member of the Good Neighbors Association!



Our association recently elected new officers for the 2023 year. Susan Trost was elected president; Cheryl Pollock elected first vice president; Roger Nicolls second vice president; Margaret Knight secretary; Mark Blair treasurer and Therese Berry hospitality officer.

Please stop by our information table on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center to meet our team and find out what is new and exciting coming up for us this year.

## Historic Wedding Dresses



Presented by Leigh Ann Brown  
**February 11, 2022 at 1:00PM**  
 Join us for lunch and enjoy a unique presentation exploring the history of women and wedding dresses.  
**Tickets \$25**

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# Rosie Multari Line Dance Workshop open to dancers in all three line dance clubs, plus guests



By Dale Stackhouse

On a recent Wednesday morning, Snowbirds Club line dancing was halted and several members were called to the stage.

Sue Pall, Dale Stackhouse, Dolly Foland, Jan Soltys, Jan Springer, Rebecca Ryberg and Debbie Mayo were thanked for their efforts as teachers, guest teachers, or for helping as guides on the dance floor, and were presented with personalized cards and beautiful flowers.

Much credit also must be given to those who work behind the scenes, collecting donations, writing the cards, and selecting the gifts. It was greatly appreciated.

A reminder to mark your calendars for the Rosie Multari line dance workshop on Wednesday, March 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

Dolly Foland's classes for that day will be cancelled, but Ed Foland's 8:30- 9:30 a.m. class will proceed as normal.

Come and spend an enjoyable time with Rosie. The workshop is free to any line dancer wearing a membership lanyard from any of the three community line dance clubs.



Honorees, left to right, are Sue Pall, Dale Stackhouse, Dolly Foland, Ed Foland, Jan Springer and Rebecca Ryberg. Missing was Debbie Mayo.

The cost is \$10 for guests.

Another event on our calendar is our Vietnam Vets Recognition Party on Wednesday, March 30, at 5:30 p.m., in the EAC Auditorium.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a U.S. holiday observed annually on March 29 to recognize veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War. The date was chosen because on March 29, 1973, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) was disbanded, and the last U.S. combat troops departed the Republic of Vietnam.

Tickets for the party, which includes mu-

sical entertainment and a light meal, can be obtained at the Snowbirds Club information table in the EAC on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:30 a.m. They are free to all veterans and widows of veterans, and \$10 for all other residents.

We hope you will attend the party and pay tribute to these brave men and women... a great opportunity to say "Thank you for your service."

Other upcoming events are the Adults at Leisure series at Ruth Eckerd Hall, and a couple of dinner theater outings.

On Friday, Feb. 3, is the play "Birthday

Club" at Ed Fletcher's Early Bird Dinner Theater, and the last play for this season is "Mom's Gift" on Friday, March 10.

Ed says it is the only place he enjoys dining where there are tablecloths on the tables.

The salad bar, main courses and desserts are all prepared in the onsite kitchen of Banquet Masters.

But the main reason for attending is that the shows keep you laughing and that is refreshing in these changing times.

The combination of tasty food and good entertainment makes it a good deal at \$50 per person.

## If you have a secret writing style, come and share it

By Lori Gottshall

February – a month for lovers – in this case, lovers of good writing. Now that all of our Snowbirds have returned, Writers Ink members are looking forward to more of the quality works we so enjoyed in January.

A political commentary with finger pointing inward rather than outward was good food for thought.

A colorful imaginary tale of the Old West gave us a brand new "folk lore legend" to smile at.

A perfectly rhymed poem gave us a special view of meditation.

And some journaling stories helped our writers vent about travel difficulties and family angst.

The writing tricks that made these pieces catch our attention can be learned. Using colorful descriptions of what was seen brings a story to life. Incorporating a phenomenon of nature to highlight a thought process awakens the reader's own memory of that aspect of nature – thus enriching the writing subliminally.

The same impact can be achieved with patriotic symbols, family values and pop culture, for examples.

What chord does "red, white and blue" strike with you?

Maybe you have a few writing tricks up your sleeve that you would like to share with us.

We are always eager to learn from others.. There is no "season" for joining this group. Any time is a fine time. Just show up on Thursday afternoons at 1 p.m. in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room. Bring several copies of a sample of your work to share with the group or come empty-handed to listen and see how it goes.

A few rules: We read our own work out loud without any introduction or explanation, except if this happens to be an extract of a much larger piece. After the reading, the other members of the group make comments or questions about the writing technique or style or phraseology. Finally, the writer gets to respond to the questions and consider the recommendations which might have been made. We try to save longer conversations about interesting topics, but not the actual writing work, for later.

Hope to see you there soon.



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You will easily spot a veteran in March 4 parade.

## OTOW Veterans will be waving flags at Irish Club parade

By Pamela Rosenblatt

Speaking first hand, I can say you'll never see a more fun-loving group of people in a parade.

All branches of our U.S. Military will be represented at the Irish Club Parade on Saturday, March 4.

We'll be honored by the presence of our resident World War II veterans. You won't miss them because they will be riding in convertibles and proudly waving U.S. flags, Irish flags and handing out beads.

Other veterans will be in golf carts. Those who are able, will be walking the entire parade route.

Let's not forget our team of neighbors and friends who work hard all year for the Veterans Group. They'll be sporting festive attire and waving flags, too.

For those veterans and neighbors who cannot participate in the parade, that's OK.

We have a shaded, cordoned off area on the parade route for your viewing and cheering pleasure. Be sure to bring a comfy chair, beverage and snack to share.

To ensure you don't miss the fun, sign up to join at the Veterans Group information table on Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

If you want to be a part of the excitement, consider joining us during the planning process. Our first planning meeting will be held at 3 p.m. following our Veterans Group Coffee Social.

West Central Florida Honor Flight will be our guest at the Veterans Coffee Social on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 2 p.m. in the East Activity Kitchen. There will be a question and answer period. There also will be an opportunity to sign up to attend a flight or even meet and speak with someone who has attended the remarkable experience. The upcoming flights this year will be on April 25, June 13, Sept. 12 and Oct. 24.

Remember, your veterans need you. One and all are welcome to attend and join in the good times. Patriots are always welcome.

**OTOW**



**Veterans Group**

## Chorus accepting new singers on Feb. 6 and Feb. 7 for spring concert

By Sylvia Rieder

Did you read the fabulous full-page article about our holiday singalong in the January newspaper?

What a show!

Now On Top of the World Chorus is preparing to wow everyone again with our spring concert on Saturday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 2, at 3 p.m.

Our new season began on Jan. 10 with an invitation for new singers to join us. Everyone who loves to sing is qualified. No need to audition.

Wives, bring your husbands and enjoy some couple fun time.

We had several new singers join us at our first meeting, including two men whose manly voices were sorely needed in our group.

Come on folks. Join us. Exercise your vocal chords and have some fun.

Our goal is to spread the joy of singing and to entertain others.

We're looking forward to more new faces at our Monday, Feb. 6, and Tuesday, Feb. 7, meetings. If you are interested in joining us or learning more, please attend one of those dates.

Every Monday we rehearse from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m., both days in the East Activity Center Oldsmar Room.



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Yvonne Courtney is your cornhole greeter.

## Not only is cornhole fun, but you feel welcome

By Margaret LeTourneau

If you're familiar with the expression of having a "Girl Friday" you might understand the significance of having a "Girl Monday."

Yvonne Courtney is my indispensable "Girl Monday."

From our first day of cornhole way back in May, Yvonne has volunteered every Monday as our friendly greeter and organizer.

She is not only responsible and reliable, but she is also a delight to have on our team!

Yvonne, who moved from Ohio to On Top of the World 25 years ago, has three children and 16 grandchildren.

She likes to volunteer because she enjoys the inclusivity, the variety and the constant social fun that the Moving and Grooving Club offers.

Why don't you give cornhole a try and come meet our one and only "Girl Monday."

Cornhole is played every Monday from 1-3 p.m. at the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

Let's keep moving and grooving to stay healthy!



## Free bridge lessons in February

This is your chance to learn how to play bridge - and it is free!

Do you know anything about the card game of bridge?

Would you like to learn a fascinating game for fun and to keep your mind sharp?

Omar Sharif said, "Many games pro-

vide fun, but bridge grips you. It exercises your mind. Your mind can rust, you know, but bridge prevents the rust from forming."

If you have ever wanted to learn to play bridge, or have played in the past but forgotten how, or never quite got the hang of it, here is a good way to do it!

Free introductory bridge lessons will take place on Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25, from 9-10 a.m. in the Ozona Room located on the lower level of the East Activity Center (across from the gym).

For questions, you may send a text to Laurie Cole 586 569-1023.



# Tickets still available for annual Friendship Dance on Feb. 15

By Connie Stanley

January was an active month for Canadian Club members after the holiday season.

On Wednesday, Jan. 11, 20 members enjoyed a buffet lunch at Tampa Bay Downs followed by an afternoon of excellent horse races!

We won't delve into who won or lost the most prize money but a great day was had by all!

Thanks so much to John Henry, event coordinator, for his diligence in arranging this event.

That following Saturday, Jan. 14, 34 members benefited from a new outing for our club. At 4 p.m. we enjoyed a lovely dinner at Ed Fletcher's Early Bird Dinner Theater and were entertained by the "Birthday Club" performers on stage.

The production was written by Phil Olsen: Five women get together for their birthdays, each with her own story, to drink, celebrate, commiserate, and support each other as they negotiate through marriage, work, divorce, births and kids, while solving the problems of the world.

When one of them admits she went out with another's husband, the vodka hits the fan!

We enjoyed and celebrated the ups and downs of friendship in this humorous romp. The show was comedic and very humorous! As a new addition to our calendar, we anticipate doing this again as a future event on the club calendar.

On Friday, Jan. 20, we held our first happy hour-karaoke of the season in the West Activity Center Belleair Room with "Les N More" hosting from 4:30-7 p.m.

We had a great turnout; the buffet snacks were enjoyed by all and a few "Share the Wealth" cash prizes were won!

There were a lot of volunteer singers, dancing and fun enjoyed by everyone! It was such a fun evening that we may try it again on Feb. 17.

February kicks off with the club's Lawn



Bowl Triples tournament on Feb. 1. Cathy Mills, coordinator, will report the results or you can go to the lawn bowls website at: <https://otowlawnbowlingclub.com/Pages/calendar.htm>

Our club's Friendship Dinner-Dance, celebrating our Canadian and American rapport and companionship, is Wednesday, Feb. 15. Bring your own cocktails (beverages). We will begin at 5 p.m.

Mama Felice will be serving a roast beef dinner menu at 6 p.m. Lydia and Harold Côté are selling tickets at our club information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium Mondays and Thursdays until Feb. 9 so don't forget to get your tickets!

Cost for members is \$35 and non-members \$40. Come on out and join us in your red, white and blue!

Many thanks to Doug Kates, OTOW News editor, for the logo above for the Friendship Dinner-Dance.

Our Golf Fun Day will be Sunday, Feb. 19 with a rain date of Feb. 26. The fee is \$12 per person, which also includes a box lunch as well as beverages. The format of play will be "Best Ball" for which the rules will be distributed by each captain.

Teams will be three or four players with a 7:30 a.m. start. No skill level is required as the focus is on fun and fellowship with some camaraderie thrown in!



**Canadian Club Social Games**

**BLACKOUT**

**Year Round**

**Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:30 PM  
West Activity Center Belleair Room**

Coordinator Tom Jamrozy is available to train new players at 5:50 p.m. each Thursday, followed by practice games from 6-6:30 p.m. and regular games running from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Bring your own beverage of choice. Must have a valid activity card.

We will have a Share the Wealth draw so bring a few dollars to buy tickets for a chance to win a cash prize.

Golf Carts will be available at a cost for those who need them. Please reserve with Harry Morrison.

This event is open to guests who purchase a golf pass for \$20. The cut-off date is Feb. 17. Harry is the event coordinator and can be reached at: 778-771-4886 or via email: [morrisonharbar@aol.com](mailto:morrisonharbar@aol.com).

Our happy hour-karaoke will be Friday, Feb. 17 in the West Activity Center Belleair Room, West Activity Center Belleair Room from 4:30-7 p.m. Please bring a few dollars to purchase Share the Wealth tickets for a chance to win a cash prize and it's bring your own beverage of choice. So come on out and join in the fun and bring your singing voices.

Next up, our club will again participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 4. If you want to participate,

please email or call Jackie Cornett Small at [jcornettsmall@gmail.com](mailto:jcornettsmall@gmail.com) or 502-594-2444 or Connie Stanley [stanlec62@outlook.com](mailto:stanlec62@outlook.com) or 727-475-8888. We'd love to have you join us sporting some red and white with a sprig of green!

For any questions about becoming a club member, please contact Susan Cober, our registrar at 727-754-6063 or email her at [susancober@rogers.com](mailto:susancober@rogers.com).

Many Snowbirds have flocked back to OTOW and many were playing Blackout on Thursday, Jan. 12. We had 55 players/members, which is very encouraging as the Blackout group is growing.

Tom Jamrozy reported they had a great evening with a lot of fun. You have to be a club member to play. The cost is only \$5 to join and you don't have to be Canadian or need a passport – just a valid activity card. Bring \$1.25 in quarters to play on Thursday nights.

## Popularity convinces Vegan Group to become a club

By Ronald A Baltrunas

Six new residents joined the new On Top of the World Vegan Group bringing our total membership number to 26.

Veganuary was introduced as a worldwide attempt to get others to try vegan for the month of January.

We discussed a very informative article from Yahoo news that showed how veganism, or a strong shift towards it, is necessary to reduce deforestation, pollution, over fishing and production of greenhouse gases that are degrading the Earth.

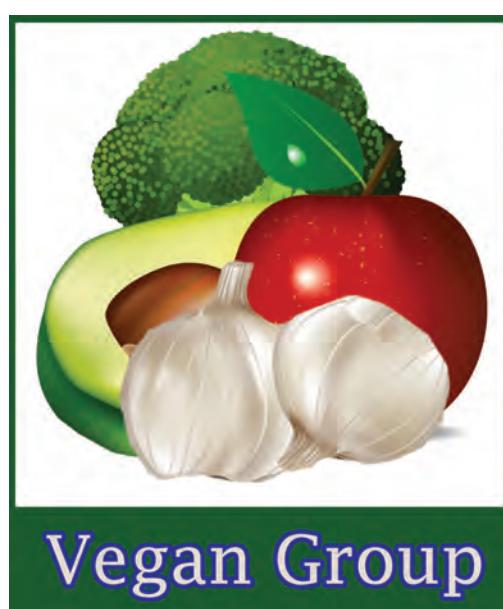
For this article visit:

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/vegan-climate-change-010014492.html>

We noted that centenarians are the fastest growing segment in the United States and a common thread is eating whole food plant based diets.

There was agreement that we should have eating activities, like potluck dinners, samplings of specialties and food preparation instructions. We thought about ways to introduce others to plant-based alternatives to animal foods.

We decided it was time for our group



to become a club. We will do the paperwork and elect officers in the next meeting that will be Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. in the Learning Lab.

We will continue our planning for future eating activities and socializing. For more information email [Vegans10@yahoo.com](mailto:Vegans10@yahoo.com)

For further information on veganism visit [Vegansalvation.com](http://Vegansalvation.com)

## Barry's Poker Group offers hold'em and other games two nights a week

The original On Top of the World Texas Poker Club is up and dealing again.

This club was originally formed in 2011 for residents who wanted to play for nickles and dimes. Today the group is known as Barry's Poker Group.

Our group plays according to player preferences. We will put tables together if we have enough players for hold'em. We will also have tables open for "Dealer's Choice." This can include real poker games, such as five- and seven-card stud, five card draw, or Omaha and Texas style. We do not play wild cards or crazy games, such as baseball, bingo, crisscross or escalator.

Our group plays year-round and is open to anyone with an OTOW Activity Card. Residents may bring house guests. We play Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center Ozona Room. Just show up and sign in by 6:20 p.m.

Maybe you will go home with a dime or two.

Questions? Please call 727-358-2051.

## BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

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

Bible Study



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

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

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

Come join us and study the Bible.

**Canadian Club Friendship Dinner - Dance**

**Wednesday, February 15**

**EAC Auditorium**

**5:00 pm Cocktails; BYOB ~ Ice Provided**

**6:00 pm Felice's Roast Beef or Chicken Dinner**

**Followed by Dancing - DJ Jody!**

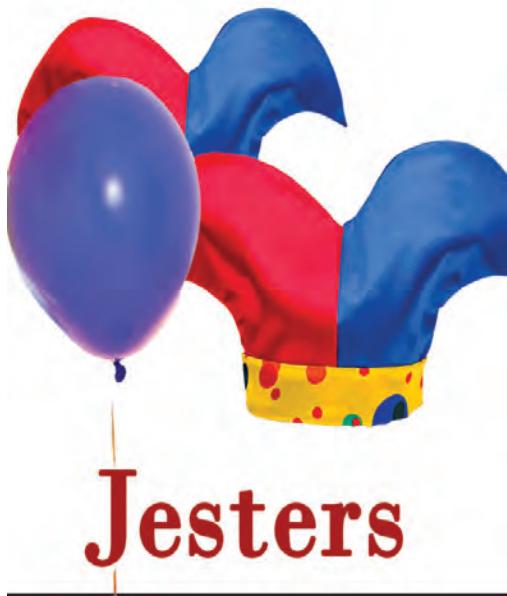
**Tickets on sale: EAC Mondays & Thursdays**

**January 23 thru February 9**

**Members: \$35.**

**Non-members: \$40**

# OTOW theater season starts in February



## Jesters' Vegas Vibes in our Auditorium

By Robyn Kumar

It's here! It's here!  
It's finally the showtime weekend you've all been anticipating.

The Jesters will be performing their exciting show, "Vegas Vibes" on Friday, Feb. 10 and Saturday, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 12 at 2 p.m.

Our show will have everything you would love to see in a two-hour extravaganza.

We will have appearances by famous singers from the past, such as Frank Sinatra, Doris Day, Connie Francis and, of course, Elvis.

### First Up

## Jesters' Vegas Vibes in our Auditorium

We will have performances by famous singers from the present like Bette Midler, Elton John and Ed Sheeran.

For those of you who love to see dance numbers, we'll have that, too. In fact, we will be performing the hustle, country line dancing and even an East Indian dance.

It will be hot, hot, hot!

Finally, for you comedy fans, we will have appearances by Minnie Pearl, Joan Rivers and the great Carnac the Magnificent.

The Jesters show will be performed in the auditorium. In case you haven't had a chance to purchase your tickets, they are

available at our club information table on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:30 a.m. If for some reason you can't come to our information table, tickets can also be purchased at the door on the days of our performances.

Many Jesters members have been working very hard to produce this show. We do it to entertain our wonderful On Top of the World community. We certainly hope you will give us your support by purchasing tickets and getting the word out because you know our productions are always "Jest For Fun!"

## Think of our March show as taking a cruise with a variety of entertainment



By Maxine Sutcliffe

Now that the holidays are behind us, we need to talk "show, show, show."

Think about going on a cruise – you look forward to a vacation – you might want to buy art, gamble in the casino, relax on deck, see a theatrical production or even meet someone new – whatever you look forward to, you will see it all.

From Friday, March 10 – Sunday, March 12, Theater Workshop will take you cruising with "Oceans Away."

On Top of the World residents have enjoyed wonderful shows sponsored by the Entertainment Committee already in 2023. Now it's our very own residents – our friends and neighbors – who are performing "in the community, for the community" to bring amusement and enjoyment.

Although we are the last shows, Theater Workshop, is not the least. Rehearsals are well under way to bring comedy, music, dance and glamour.

Want a quick preview? There will be a duet "You Belong to Me," a solo performance of "My Way," the cruise officers marching to "Beyond the Sea" and a Bob



Cast members from the 2023 Theater Workshop show rehearse a scene from the 'Raining Men' dance. Theater Workshop's spring show will take place in March. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

Fosse dance from Chicago.

Lots of hours are invested by an enthusiastic group of your fellow residents, but honestly, it is hardly work when you're having a lot of fun.

Just come prepared for a good time, support us by your presence and cruise "our way."

Ticket donations are a mere \$5 and are

available at the Theater Workshop information table Mondays and Thursdays in the East Activity Center Auditorium from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

We aim to make you smile, make you laugh and take you on a sentimental journey. Join in and you may even bring on a nostalgic tear, but overall our intention is clear - we want to warm your heart.

Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the Crystal Beach Room, in the EAC from 3:30-4:30 p.m. This will follow immediately after Act I rehearsal that day (not at our usual time 6 p.m. or venue West Activity Center).

Socializing and refreshments will be available, as usual.

## Mary Jane Lofton steps down after 10 years as treasurer

By Deborah Russell

The January 2023 meeting of the Ronald Reagan Republican Club was informative, new business was discussed and plans were put into action including an agenda for the next two years.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. by President Carl Turner.

Jim Bjorgo offered a moment of prayer and The Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, and the National Anthem was sung by all, a cappella, led by Jesse Tiamson.

Refreshments were served throughout the meeting, free to members, and we had a 50/50 drawing with a winning of over \$30.

New members were recognized and new officers were elected and approved.

Karen Tatge was nominated and approved as treasurer, after Mary Jane Lofton announced her retirement from the position. Mary Jane held the position of treasurer for the last 10 years and we thank her for her faithful, steadfast service!

Ann Messina was nominated and approved for secretary.

Edwina Schick will continue to be our club photographer.



We are so blessed to have such talented volunteers!

Karen mentioned the St. Patrick's Day Parade, on March 4, and the need for volunteers and a convertible car.

Jesse Tiamson mentioned the length of the parade is just one mile and anyone who would like to participate on foot or by other assisted means is welcome to join us.

The next Republican Club meeting will be the second Tuesday of the month, which is Feb. 14 at the West Activity Center Belair Room from 6-8 p.m.

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# 2023 JESTERS present VEGAS VIBES

Frank Sinatra, Doris Day,  
Connie Francis, Elvis,  
Bette Midler, Elton John  
and more.

Friday, Feb. 10 & Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7:30  
Sunday, Feb. 12 at 2:00

Tickets on sale 8:30-10:30 am, Mon, Thu, EAC Aud



# New York-New Jersey Club membership is at an all-time high and we are active year-round



**New York - New Jersey Club**

By William Peterson

Members of the New York-New Jersey Club are happy to say that we closed out 2022 on a positive note.

We now have one of the largest memberships since the club began.

All of our events were attended by almost every member and everyone truly thought that it was one of our best years ever.

We want to take this time to thank each and every resident who helped by being a volunteer, not only during each event, but at our information table in the East Activity Center. Our success could not have been achieved without each and every one of you.

We look forward to your continued support in 2023.

On Monday, March 27, our club is hosting our annual barbecue in the Pavilion from noon until 3 p.m. We will have hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill with all the trimmings, plus potato chips, water and coffee will be served. Bring your own beverage of choice. The cost will be \$10.



The New York-New Jersey Club is preparing to march in the Irish Club parade on Saturday, March 4 at 10 a.m. Come support the club and everyone in the parade. (OTOW file photo by Tim Amdor)

## Southwest Night.

On Thursday, Nov. 30, from 5-8 p.m., our club will host our traditional Ugly Sweater Party. Get out that ugly sweater and help make this event full of fun. Get ready to strut your stuff and show it off. We promise a night to remember and a way to start the holiday cheer.

Our DJ will be playing all of your holiday favorite songs and of course other music as well.

You don't have to be from New York or New Jersey to be a member of our club.

All you need is a valid On Top of the World Activity Card.

For further information on our club, please visit our information table in the East Activity Center on any Monday or Thursday from 8:15 until 10:30 a.m. One of our hard-working volunteers will be there to answer all your questions and help you to purchase a ticket for any of our events.

No tickets will be sold the night of events.

If you are interested in joining our club or being a volunteer, you can sign up as well.



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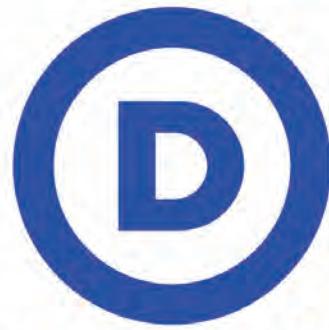
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# Democratic Club members attend 'freedom, vote' rally in St. Petersburg



## Democratic Club

By Joanne Cordes

Happy Presidents'Day(Feb.20) from your On Top of the World Democratic Club.

This holiday, celebrated on the third Monday of February, is to honor all persons who served as presidents of the United States.

Since 1879, it is also a federal holiday honoring George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and was the first U.S. president.

Several of our club members started the new year by attending a "Jan. 6 Justice: Our Freedoms, Our Vote Rally" at beautiful South Straub Park in St. Petersburg. This well-attended event was to emphasize that we must protect our elections by protecting voters, election officials, and a free and fair process.

The guest speaker was County Commissioner Rene Flowers.

See if you can find our members Jim and Pat O'Beirne, Don Ladner and Katerina Tepeh in the picture? Your clue: hats or signs.

During our club's January meeting, we focused on new business – the most important being the proposal of new officers. Nominations will take place at the February meeting and then officers will be installed during the March meeting.

Four of our five officer positions are



Four members of the On Top of the World Democratic Club attended a 'Jan. 6: Our Freedoms, Our Vote Rally' in St. Petersburg.

willing and able to serve another year, and one of our board members, at-large, is offering to serve in an officer role.

Our team is strengthening.

We also will have pizza and soft drinks during the March meeting to celebrate our 2022 accomplishments.

Expanding on new business at the January meeting, we also formed a committee of three volunteers – Abby d'Oronzo, Anna Foss, and Joanne Cordes -- to review our bylaws for practicality and potential revision.

Moving on to more fun things in the new business category, we discussed the upcoming On Top of the World Irish Club parade on March 4. We had great fun deciding on music, attire and handouts. Put it this way: you'll know we're a part of this community. So, watch for our banner.

If you want to check out our club activities, stop by our information table on Mondays in the East Activity Center Auditorium (look for our mascot, Victor, standing proudly on the tabletop). Please note, we do not have an information table on Thursdays.

If you're already a club member, stop by to hang out and share some good old liberal views with your friends.

Our next meeting is Feb. 9 at 2 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab. We'll have a formal nomination of club officers.

Also, on Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. in the EAC Largo Room, we'll gather for our monthly happy hour -- to mingle informally and talk politics. We may also have a table for creating parade decorations. Bring your own beverages plus a finger food to share. Any and all Democrats living in OTOW and having a

valid OTOW activity card are welcome, club member or not.

You can always visit us on [www.worlddemclub.blogspot.com](http://www.worlddemclub.blogspot.com). This is where you will find the most current information and you can check our calendar for upcoming club events.

We are also on the Box Office at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com).

You can also visit our Meta/Facebook page at On Top of the World Democratic Club, Clearwater, to learn about local political events or add commentary to current events.

Yes, there is a Democratic Club at OTOW and we are happy to meet you, to listen to what you have to say, and to have you join us in "holding to our principles to make a better community for all."

## Lambda turns East Activity Center into a cruise port with tropical foods, beverages and entertainment

By Bruce Lovett

Cruises, cruises, cruises!

That's all everyone seems to talk about this time of the year.

Well, being a member of Lambda is like being on a cruise 365-days every year, so to start this year, we actually created a cruise itinerary.

Like any good launching, our club started with a New Year's Eve Bash at 12:01 a.m. with a baptism by champagne. Our fearless captain, Dave Beaven, many of the crew and a number of the passengers had "set sail."

Our first "port" we visited was on Jan. 13. We turned the East Activity Center into a tropical paradise for guests.

Guests arrived to the soothing sounds of steel drums and were met with drinks containing those cutie little tropical umbrellas and all sorts of finger foods.

Later the buffet was opened where everything from fried chicken and parmesan meatballs to exotic desserts were available.

Cruises and buffets seem to go together. Lambda Island was a hit.

Prior to Jan. 13, club members got together for a walk. A sizeable group hit Clearwater Beach for a Wednesday constitutional and lunch afterwards.

A week later, a larger group landed at Phillip Park, a beautiful setting overlooking Old Tampa Bay. They had a quick bite in a pavilion before heading out to burn those calories.

Of course, we also golfed in January



with our pro Marcel L'Herrier. We golf every Monday.

For February, our fearless captain has decided to mix things up. This is a month known for hearts, chocolates, and carnival-style parties. He is turning our cruise ship into the Lambda love boat and we are heading towards New Orleans for Mardi Gras.

To be sure I give you all the necessary information, this event will be Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m., in the East Activity Center Largo Room. The event will be Feb. 14 in honor of Cupid's special day and on a Tuesday because that is the day traditional Mardi Gras parties are held.

So wear something red for Valentine's Day or wear gold, green or purple for Mardi



Lambda Club residents felt like they were on a cruise ship as January's meeting featured umbrella drinks, steel drums and exotic desserts.

Gras colors. And don't forget the infamous Mardi Gras beads. Bring extras to throw at the crowd in hopes someone takes off their shirt.

Hurricane punch will be served and the smooth sounds of Dixieland Jazz will be heard in the background.

Bring something Cajun for the pot luck buffet, but go easy on the spice. You have got to keep your audience in mind.

Or bring something romantic. The choice is yours.

And like any cruise ship events, our parties are always subject to change and many more may be added. So be sure to check our weekly online blog.

Lambda is a club that serves the LGBT population at OTOW as well as their neighbors and friends. Should you wish further information about the club, go to our Web page at [lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com](http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com).

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

## Patrick Delcore gets first ace

Congratulations to Patrick Delcore, who had his first hole in one while playing with Ray Tatge and Gerrit Wiersma on Dec. 21, 2022.

Pat moved to On Top of the World a year ago from Wisconsin. He tries to golf at least four days a week and is so very happy for the Florida weather. Way to go, Pat! Hope you have many more!

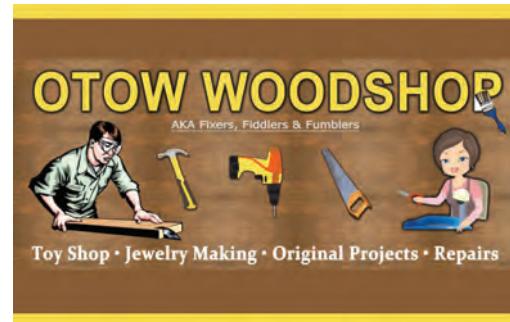
## Ping pong open to everyone Tuesday-Friday in the West Activity Center

The On Top of the World Ping Pong Club continues to have fun Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

Ping pong is played from 10 a.m. to noon. There are extra paddles for new players. Everyone is welcome.

There will be singles and doubles tournaments in February. Stop by for exact dates.

# Did you know we have a wood shop, toy shop and jewelry-making group all in the East Activity Center?



By Jesse Tiamson

I overheard someone say, "I didn't know we have a woodshop."

That gave me this idea to reintroduce the On Top of the World Woodshop, officially known as the Fixers, Fiddlers & Fumblers Club, to new and veteran residents of our community.

And at the same time let everyone know a new set of board officers has been chosen for this year. Early last month, the general membership elected the following:

Jesse D. Tiamson, president; Jose Miranda, vice president; Henry Santos, treasurer; Judy Bosnyak, secretary; Joyce Monahan, assistant secretary; Loyd Cunningham, immediate past president and three-year trustee; James Calamas, two-year trustee; and Ronald Cree, one-year trustee.

Robert Patrick remains to be the head of the toy shop and Charlie Fuhr remains to be the head and instructor for the Jewelry-making group.

We are all unpaid volunteers.

It is important to note that the Fixers Club consists of three sections, namely, the woodworking shop, the toy shop, and the lapidary, where gemstones are cut, polished and faceted for mounting on jewelry and other things.

We are a 501(c)(3) private non-profit club that operates within the OTOW community.

We are open for membership to individuals with valid OTOW Activity Cards, full-time or seasonal residents, and \$35 annual membership fees which we use for supplies, tool replacement, maintenance, and liability insurance.

We are located on the ground floor of the East Activity Center next to the swimming pool. The woodshop is open Monday



Fixers Club members, representing the toy shop, jewelry-making room and traditional wood shop, were on hand at the Fall Festival last November.

to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Fridays 8 a.m. to noon only.

The jewelry-making room is open Monday to Friday from 1-3 p.m.

Membership to the Fixers Club allows members to use all three sections.

We are a group of individuals who share a love for woodworking. We don't all have the same style or skill level, but we do share the desire to leave our world a little better than we found it. We do this by making and donating toys to kids who are underprivileged or handicapped.

We do not make anything for personal profit and we do not provide a condo repair service. When possible, we will do repairs on wood products brought to the shop by OTOW residents. Donations from those projects are used to purchase material for toy making and for the purchase and maintenance of shop equipment.

We run the shop on an honor basis.

When you become a member, you get a bright, efficient and air-conditioned place to make things and repair things for yourself and for your families.

The shop provides power equipment, hand tools, glue and sandpaper to use in the shop. Power and hand tools are available to borrow for home use on a daily and weekly basis.

Members are responsible to work safely and follow all shop rules and club bylaws.

For the uninitiated, training is available for the safe operation of power equipment. Members working unsafely will be counseled and stopped if necessary.

Members are expected to leave the shop as clean as or cleaner than they found it.

The toy shop is the place where the fix-

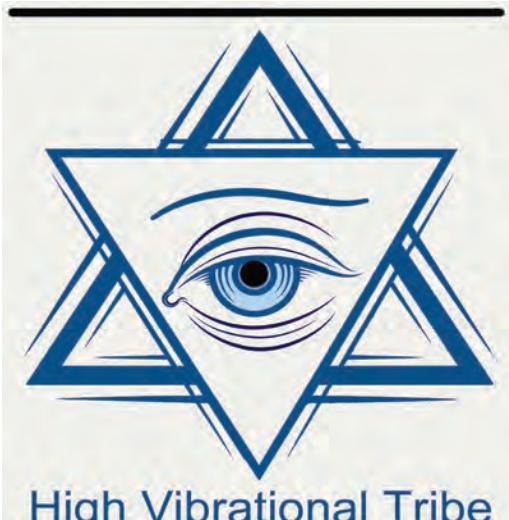
ers, fiddlers and fumblers had their beginnings in the late 70s and it is the engine that powers the club to this very day.

The time, energy and creativity of this tiny army of volunteers feeds the machine that so many fixers enjoy for our own benefit.

For the first time in the recent history of the club, as the brainchild of its current president, the club participated in the Fall Festival and Craft Show. In this upcoming St Patrick's parade on March 4, we will be there to march with the other OTOW organizations.

If you are interested to know more about us, drop in during the hours mentioned above and also on Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. when we have our club information tables at the EAC Auditorium.

# Learn about hydrogen water at the High Vibe Tribe meeting in February



By Laurie LeClaire

I am happy to announce that anyone from the On Top of the World community is invited to attend this month's High Vibe Tribe informative meeting presented by resident guest speaker Bill Houser.

I first met Bill while he was playing his "Mr. Fun" music in the backyard of the Granada building. Over the years he has offered what he calls hydrogen water to anyone willing to try it.

Bill's morning meditation has changed since using this product. Even his two dogs greet him for their morning drink, at 3 a.m.

Bill initially learned about adding hydrogen from a YouTube video hosted by Naomi Whittle in an interview with Dr. Ohta from

Japan entitled, "Hydrogen, Japan's anti-aging miracle."

I enthusiastically believe that this subject is one that people all over the world need to learn about.

Oxidative stress (\*) is what health professionals say can cause many illnesses.

Bill plans to pass out free samples and discuss all the health benefits he has learned. In addition he will discuss the fourth phase of water using Far Infrared technology. So I advise anyone curious to attend and get some free samples.

Anyone interested in metaphysics, or just curious about our High Vibe Tribe club, is welcome to attend our once monthly meetings held in the Clearwater/Kitchen

Room in the East Activity Center on the second Thursday evening of each month. You may contact me at otowoowoo@gmail.com or leave a message at 727 265-1671.

(\*) Wikipedia: Oxidative stress reflects an imbalance between the systemic manifestation of reactive oxygen species and a biological system's ability to readily detoxify the reactive intermediates or to repair the resulting damage.

*(OTOW News is not promoting the use of hydrogen water - just providing information on the club's next meeting)*

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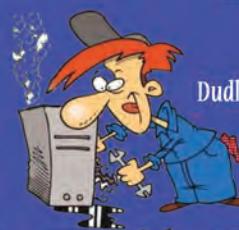
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## People in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Read On Top of the World News  
while trying to find their bicycle in a parking lot.



## Feb. 17 and March 17 dates set for upcoming Texas Card Game Club tournaments



The Texas Card Game Club ended the year with their final tournament in December.

There were 12 players, and each player brought a dish to share with the group.

There was a new member who joined our club bringing the total membership to 48.

Each month, the final four players divided the prize pool evenly. In January they were Joe DeChiaro, Mike Marsh, Arthur Pacillo and new-comer Jeannie Logan.

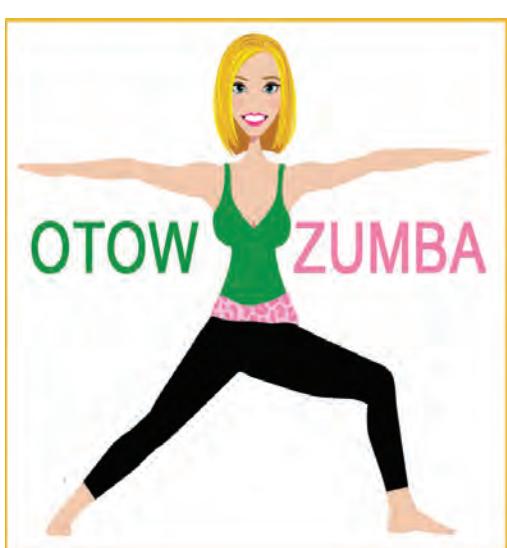
The next two Friday tournaments of 2023 will be held on Feb. 17 and March 17.

Anyone interested in playing, please send an email to: joegdechiaro@yahoo.com for more information.



A look in at Texas Card Game Club action from February.

## End the week with a Zumba party



Want to join a Zumba party?

You are in luck. There is one every Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning, 9 a.m., in the West Activity Center Belleair Room through April.

Join instructor Carol Downer. Men and women are welcome, but you must have a valid activity card. This class appeals to all levels of Zumba, including chair, gold, low intensity and high intensity.

It's your class. Make it your desired workout. Carol will provide motivation, moves and music. This class is licensed by Zumba and SilverSneakers. The class is free but donations are accepted.



Carol Downer, right, leads a Zumba class in the West Activity Center Belleair Room. Her classes are Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings through April.

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*This event is open to anyone who would like to have some fun and also donate to a great cause.*



# SPORTS

## This is the time of year when fun, competitive tennis tournaments are taking place at the Pavilion



Every year the On Top of the World Tennis Club hosts tournaments in February for their members.

After playing social tennis throughout the year, members get to compete in friendly matches in four different tournaments. The tournaments are Open Singles, Mens's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

Members will play one set. The first player or team to win six games will win the set.

Tournament play will be held on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings starting



A men's doubles match taking place at the Pavilion tennis courts.

on Tuesday Jan. 31 and ending on Friday March 3.

The first four weeks will be a round robin format and the final week will feature

semifinal and final matches.

Anyone is welcome to come and watch, but only paid club members with an updated activity card will be allowed to participate.

Anyone interested in joining the club and participating in the tournaments, please send an email to: joegdechiaro@yahoo.com for more information.

## OTOW softball players have five tools

By Bob Rittner

Jim Tiano received a special award at the On Top of the World softball winter banquet for his "kindness and thoughtfulness in connecting us to each other, by conveying good cheer and encouragement when most needed."

It helps, too, that he is an alert ballplayer, always hustling to get outfield hits back to the cutoff person, and showcases a solid defensive and offensive force.

Leo Durocher coined the phrase, "Five Tool Player" to describe the then-young Willie Mays, who could hit, hit for power, run, field and throw.

But Leo missed one other key trait. Willie was also smart and dedicated to alert hustling.

We are senior citizens, but in different degrees from the professional greats, we share those characteristics.

Often in senior softball, the most exciting play is on defense. It is there that we may overcome age and infirmity to do something unexpected for people our age.

Examples abound. Some highlights this month:

Catcher Kathi Finley twice had to stretch the limit while holding a foot on the plate to catch a long throw from the outfield grass nabbing a runner at home.



One such catch culminated with a play in which outfielder Jim Tiano hustled to cut off a drive in the gap and hit the cutoff, Ralph Scunziano, perfectly. Ralph spun around to throw a beebee near enough for Kathi to reach.

Other defensive gems include: Jim Costello raced in from left field to make a shoestring catch on a sinking liner.

Karen French reached high to pick off a liner, then tossed quickly to first base to get a double play on a runner who never thought Karen had a chance at the ball.

Wayne Pall made a short hop grab-worthy of gold glove star Keith Hernandez.

Catcher Bob Fields' quick reflexes allowed him to catch a tipped foul ball behind home plate.

Rookie Don Mandeville, in his first game, made a spectacular over-the-shoulder grab of a sharp liner and then got a critical hit in the last inning.

Shortstop Joe DeChiaro dove to his knees to snag a low liner just before it and he hit the ground. He got up unassisted. Joe showed his all-around game with a homer in his next plate appearance.

Hitting of course tends to dominate people's view of the game and we get plenty of that, too.

In a game their team won by nine runs, Scott Ryberg, Bob Ballentine, Bob Dembinski, Lenny Segall, Joe DeChiaro and Charles Kovarik each went 3-for-3 with Joe hitting two triples and Lenny driving in five runs.

Rookie Rodger Hillier smacked a bullet past the third baseman that led to two runs for his team.

Roger Martel returned from vacation with a perfect three-hit day, including a double slashed deep to left.

And then there is Bob Dembinski, already a dominant power hitter, but recognizing that fielders bunched up in left field,

taught himself to hit to right and capped his effort with a two-homer game past the right fielder.

As for the mental part of the game, we are always happy when a player demonstrates alertness, as Kathi Finley did around second base. As a play developed, with players unsure where to throw the ball, she hustled from her position to cover the bag leading to an out.

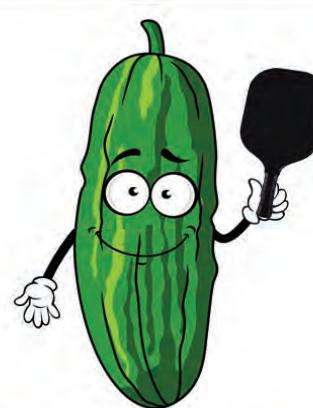
Two great joys in baseball are the dramatic ending and the breakout performance.

The first was provided by George Morgan in the ninth inning of a 9-6 game when he launched a three-run homer to tie the game. The game ended when Lance Wilson preserved the tie with a catch of what appeared to be a winning homer in the bottom of the inning.

The breakout performance was by Mary Anne Benuzzi, whose brilliant defense at second base included a throw home to prevent a score, a spectacular grab of a vicious smash she turned into an out and her own two hits, including a double. She also showed off her wheels and alert play, thus all five tools, taking an extra base to get into scoring position.

So while none of us are Willie Mays, en masse we demonstrate the five tools he embodied.

## Pickleball players put down their racquets for a cruise



By Kathy Ahrens

Our On Top of the World Pickleball Club enjoyed a wonderful cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean Serenade of the Seas.

Over 50 residents attended.

We were given a cocktail party and even got together for a group picture. We sang ka-



More than 50 residents took part in a Pickleball Cruise to start out 2023.

raoke and danced the night away.

Congratulations to Karen Walker and Chris Shyne for winning first prize in our most recent pickleball tournament.

Kathy Ahrens won a medal for the yes and no game. Bob Pugliese and Lisa Ros-

somando won a gift basket for the love and marriage game.

We are already planning our next cruise get-together for 2024! This cruise will be open to On Top of The World residents and their guests.

Stop by our pickleball courts and give it a try. We have instructors on Mondays from 3:30-6:30 p.m. We play Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m.-noon. Everyone is welcome. Call Kathy at 727-804-1827 for more information.



## Not too late to sign up for Jack and Jill

### 18-Hole



### Ladies Golf

The Ladies 18-Hole Golf League is sponsoring a Jack and Jill Tournament, Feb. 7 (rain date Feb. 14) at the 18-hole golf course at On Top of the World.

The committee met to iron out the particulars as there are many details to discuss and finalize before the event.

Co-Chairpersons Terry Kuplen and Sheila Meneilly, and their committee, run a tight ship so we know it will run very smoothly.

We always have a great turnout and we are so appreciative of all the support given us from both men and women.

More information will be forthcoming in the March newspaper regarding the winners of the Jack and Jill Tournament.

We are so fortunate to have two beautifully-maintained courses, an 18-hole and a 9-hole golf course. Thank you to Corby Ratclif, Todd Six and their staff for all they do.

To join the On Top of the World Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association, contact Joy Walker, membership chairperson, at



It takes many volunteers to make the annual Jack and Jill Tournament successful. Above is the committee. In the front row, left to right, are Co-Chairperson Terry Kuplen, Karen Beaver, Sherry Ivey, Co-Chairperson Sheila Meneilly and Suellen Dowe. In the back row are Gloria Sayer, Maureen Stewart, Donna Osborne, Mary Beth Devine and Becky West.

585-703-0757, or send her an email at joy.walker131@gmail.com.

To join, you must have an updated activity card and the dues are \$35 a year. Please come join us!

Chairperson for the month of February is Donna Osborne. You may call Donna at 727-726-6550 or send her an email at donnaosborne347@gmail.com to sign up for golf or to cancel if you have already signed up and can't play that day.

I would like to share the weekly awards (net score) from December and January. Congratulations to all the winners.

Our Eclectic Tournament was finished on Jan. 17. Awards will be announced next month.

### December 20

Flight A: Becky West 67, Kim Norried 70, Dorothy Graham 73, Gloria Sayer 73. Flight B: Donna Osborne 66, Nancy Lo 68, Cindy Schell 70, Terry Kuplen 70. Flight C: Rose Mulhall 63, Natsue Dawson 72, Suellen Dowe 73. Closest-to-the-pin Becky West No. 9, Carole Lacey No. 15. Chip-ins Becky West No. 11 and No. 15.

### January 3

Flight: Gloria Sayer 64, Verna Lundgren 68, Becky West 69. Flight B: Rosemary Sabatino 62, Donna Smerz 66, Cindy Schell 66, Terry Kuplen 70. Flight C: Linda Rice 61, Natsue Dawson 61, Rose Mulhall 66, Joan Yorkery 66, Arleen Hanson 68. Closest-to-

the-pin Becky West No. 9, Donna Smerz No. 15. Chip-ins Joyce Majewski No 6, 10 and 13; Natsue Dawson No. 15, Carole Lacey No. 2 and Terry Kuplen No. 10.

### January 10

Flight A: Ursula Taylor 64, Kim Norried 67, Gloria Sayer 69, Becky West 69, Joyce Majewski 69. Flight B: Nancy Lo 66, Rosemary Sabatino 67, Donia Stadler 70. Flight C: Joedie Albert 59, Linda Rice 64, Rose Mulhall 65. Closest-to-the-pin Sherry Ivey No. 9, Nancy Lo No. 15. Chip-ins Rosemary Sabatino No. 1, Kim Norried No. 12.

Happy Valentine's Day to all.



Above, members of the OTOW 9-Hole Ladies Golf League show off their new league shirts. The color is heliconia.

Below is the logo, which was designed by newspaper editor Doug Kates and perfected by shirt creator Ava Cioli.

## If you see a heliconia-colored shirt, it belongs to a 9-hole golfer

By Paula Ergang

Did you know that heliconia is a bright tropical plant? It's also the shade of pink that the Ladies 9-Hole Golf League has chosen for their new golf shirts.

In the fall, Ava Cioli undertook the task of getting new shirts for our league. After choosing heliconia from samples Ava brought, we had to choose colors for the new logo which Ava designed and fine-tuned with help from our own newspaper editor, Doug Kates.

Shirts were ordered and delivered before Christmas. Merry Christmas to us! And now, as you can see from the picture, we have a warm, colorful presence on the course on these cool Tuesday mornings.

You might be seeing more and more pink as our league continues to grow. We just added two more players after they got their handicaps. The more the merrier and that means more of us participating in the weekly play and events.

Most Tuesdays we play low gross/low net scores. Other Tuesdays may be a special event.

The first special of 2023 was on Jan. 10, which was closest to the pin on hole No. 4. Carroll Harris was the closest with her long drive. Congratulations Carroll!

We held a Best Ball Tournament on Jan. 17. We won't know which foursome had the lowest, winning score until Chairperson

### 9-Hole



### Ladies Golf

Marilyn Lisbon makes that announcement at our spring luncheon.

Jan. 31 was our end of the month Wine and Nine with snacks after play.

Special events coming in February are 3 Clubs and a Putter Valentine's Day Tournament on Feb. 14. Give your pink shirt a rest and wear red.

Our two-day flight tournament is Feb. 21 and 23. The last day to sign up is Feb. 14 and you have to play both days.

Then our Wine and Nine is Feb. 28.

Phew! This is going to be a busy month,



but wait until you see what's coming in March.

If you're interested in joining our league and the fun, call Carroll Harris at 432-528-8684 or come to the little green house at 8:30 a.m. on the 9-hole course Tuesday morning.

Here are scores from recent weeks:

### Dec. 13

#### Count Odd Holes Only

Flight A: Kathy Aherns, Anne Jarvis; Flight B: Diana Anderson; Flight C: Carole Whynot, Sheryl Barbin, Marge Sivek; Flight D: Theresa Gates, Celeste Pert, Sheri Blaa, Sarah Fergas, Ava Cioli; Birdies: Anne Jarvis No. 2

### Dec. 20

#### Low Gross/Low Net

Flight A: Gilda Gambacurta, Anne Jarvis; Flight B: Diana Anderson; Flight C: Carolyn Lust, Sheryl Barbin, Linda Graff; Flight D: Carroll Harris, Ava Cioli, Mary Ann O'Neil

### Jan. 3

#### Low Gross/Low Net

Flight A: Gilda Gambacurta, Marilyn Lisbon, Ann Stewart, Kathy Aherns; Flight B: Anne Jarvis, Wendy Colquhuon, Diana Anderson; Flight C: Linda Graff, Carole Whynot, Lois van de Bogart; Flight D: Carroll Harris, Ava Cioli, Sarah Fergas; Birdies: Kathy Aherns hole No. 5; Carroll Harris and Linda Graff both chipped in for their birdies on hole No. 4.

### January 10

#### Closest to the Pin Hole No. 4

Flight A: Marilyn Lisbon, Gilda Gambacurta; Flight B: Wendy Colquhuon, Anne Jarvis; Flight C: Carole Whynot, Betty Gerkin; Flight D: Marge Sivek, Carroll Harris, Mary Ellen Makowski, Mary Ann O'Neil, Sarah Fergas; Birdies: Marilyn Lisbon hole No. 2; Closest to the Pin hole No. 4: Carroll Harris



# SPORTS

## 2022 was practice - 2023 our scores will drop

By Barney Hanrahan

We have reached 2023 and have survived all the frustrations that 2022 offered.

Now we look forward to another new year and hopefully upgraded scores.

The following results finish 2022 and starts our 2023 year. Good luck to everyone.

**Dec. 14, 2022**

### Flight A

First Place: Bill Whipps, 60, Gary Sandine, 61, Ed Sixon 63, Tom Petit, 64, Stanley Doran, 65.

### Flight B

First Place: Andy Polselli, 62, Pete Gagnon, 62, Mike Schuyler, 63, Doug Silver, 63, David Johnson, 64.

### Flight C

First Place: Barry Laverne, 60, Martin Forde, 61, Joe Johnson, 63, Guy Bertuzzi, 63, Bob McGrogan, 63.

## Men's Golf

### Flight D

First Place: Ronald Murray, 62, C.J. Messina, 62, Henry Rejman, 63, Harry Crawford, 65, James O'Neil, 65.

**Dec. 28, 2022**

### Flight A

First Place: Jim Anzalone, 64, Lester Wyknot, 66, Nilson Saladin, 68, Tom Petit, 69, Stanley Doran, 70.

### Flight B

First Place: Ron Lafond, 60, Pete Gagnon, 68, Dave Hansford, 69, Doug Silver, 70, Andy Polselli, 71,

### Flight C

First Place: Harold Cote, 60, Joe Iacobaccio, 64, Barry Laverne, 62, Ed Fox, 68,

John Abbot, 69.

### Flight D

First Place: Alex Miller, 62, Phil Perez, 64, Ronald Murray, 65, C.J. Messina, 65, Henry Rejman, 66.

**Jan. 4**

### Flight A

First Place: George Mead, 63, Barry Pelham, 63, Jeff West, 64, Roy Monteith, 64, Stanley Doran, 65.

### Flight B

First Place: Dave Hansford, 64, Ron Lafond, 66, Daniel Morey, 66, Jay Schwallie, 66, Mike Smith, 67.

### Flight C

First Place: Barry Laverne, 57, Joe Iacobaccio, 61, Gerald Morrisette, 61, Dick Pasco, 66, John Abbot, 66.

### Flight D

First Place: Dan O'Sullivan, 57, Harry

Crawford, 58, John Gill, 60, Jim Mutschler, 61, Ronald Murray, 62.

**Jan. 11**

### Flight A

First Place: Ed Sixon, 62, Barry Pelham, 62, Jere Keiser, 63, Jim Curl, 63, David Saccone, 64.

### Flight B

First Place: Joe Johnson, 60, Mike Smith, 63, Martin Forde, 64, David Johnson, 64, Tom Sullivan, 66.

### Flight C

First Place: John Abbot, 64, Bill Gambacurta, 66, Guy Bertuzzi, 67, Bill Mooney, 68, Ken Nield, 68.

### Flight D

First Place: Tim Palmquist, 59, Dan O'Sullivan, 62, Bob Ellis, 64, Alex Miller, 64, Jim Mutschler, 64.

## Bruce McPherson leads league after eight weeks

After eight weeks of play, Bruce MacPherson leads Bill Whipps and Harry Barbin by 10 points for the Friday Mixed Golf League Championship.

### Results

#### January 6

We played the split course today, the entire nine-hole course plus Nos. 1 through 4 and Nos. 14 through 18 on the 18-hole course.

First place was Ken Smith with a plus 10. Second place Mike Tomaselli with a plus 9. Third place was Harry Barbin with a plus 7. Fourth place was Pete Cosgrove with a plus 7. Fifth place was Ron Reeves with a plus 7.

## Friday Golf

There was a match of cards at plus 7.

Closest to the pin on the nine-hole course on hole No. 1 was Bill Whipps, on hole No. 2 was Pete Cosgrove, on hole No. 4 was Bill Bernard and on hole No. 6 was Gary Sandine.

On the 18-hole course, on hole No. 3 was Brian Kreilach, on hole No. 15 was Tom Pettit and on hole No. 16 was Gary Herr.

Skins were recorded on the nine-hole course by Joe Wisinski on No 2, by Don Hahs on No. 4, by Doug Silver on No. 8

Skins on the 18-hole course were No.

3 Brian Kreilach and on hole No. 16 Bill Whipps.

Low Gross was Harry Barbin with 60.

The Friday Mixed Golf League was created to provide OTOW men and women with a venue for competition using the USGA rules of golf. Our league uses the USGA Stableford scoring format, which is a Quota Point system used by many leagues throughout the country. In this format each player has a point quota and they try to play

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

We play every Friday, weather permitting. The Championship season is November through April. Summer and fall golf continue May through October.

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

## OTOW Bowling



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If you are a member of the On Top of the World Bowling League, you would have been feasting on goodies over the holiday season. But it is not too late to join. If you are interested in bowling with other residents, call Maple Lanes for more information or just show up.

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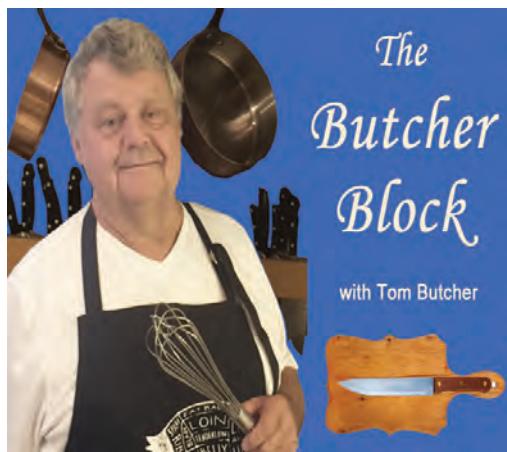
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# Creole and Cajun New Orleans-style Cooking



If you love food, then New Orleans is the place to go.

Cheryl and I have been there more times than you can count. I just go there for the great food. Some of our favorite restaurants are Mother's, Commander's Place, Court of Two Sisters, Gumbo Shop, Arnaud's and, of course, Brennan's for Sunday Brunch, where you have to top off your meal with their famous Bananas Foster.

You also have to stop by Pat O'Briens for a "hurricane" or two and take in the dueling piano playing.

There have been many famous chefs come out of New Orleans. Three of them are Paul Prudhomme, Emeril Lagasse and Dooky Chase.

Defining New Orleans' cooking are the terms "Creole" and "Cajun," words whose meanings have been transformed over the years.

"Creole" generally refers to anything native to New Orleans. Traditionally, it described a person of French and Spanish roots born in the colonies. Recently, it has come to also include African in that mix. When referring to food, it refers to more sophisticated city cooking, typical New Orleans.

"Cajun" describes cooking from Southwestern Louisiana, the legacy of the Acadians, descendants of French Canadian communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick expelled by the British in the middle 1700s.

Rich, hearty and often spicy are the characteristics of Cajun cooking.

With other ethnic influences playing a part in both types of cooking, the lines separating these two culinary styles have become as fuzzy as the outer skin of the green spindly okra.

Because of its French and Spanish heritage, New Orleans is a predominantly Catholic city. The trinity, a religious representation of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has deep religious meaning. So it's no wonder that onion, celery and bell pepper, the three primary



Seafood Gumbo cooked right at home.

ingredients of Creole/Cajun cooking, are nicknamed the Trinity.

To me, one of the great things about cooking Creole or Cajun style is that almost all the ingredients you need can be found right here in Florida.

Also the prep and cooking time is very short.

I believe that some dishes, after a few days, taste so much better. It gives all the ingredients time to blend together.

Also, some of the dishes are very simple to make, i.e. red beans and rice. This is a Monday tradition in Cajun country.

The top culinary banana dish, Bananas Foster, was created in New Orleans in 1951.

Bananas Foster is the king of New Orleans desserts and a testimony to the culinary originality of a young Ella Brennan, fondly known as the "grand dame" of New Orleans cooking.

In a flourish to create a new dessert for a visiting dignitary, Ms. Ella commandeered the kitchen at Brennan's on Royal Street and combined bananas, sugar, rum, and fire with a bit of finesse. Voila - a culinary star recipe was born.

Another two famous items are Po Boy

and Muffaletta sandwiches at Central Grocery on Decatur Street.

Last, but not least, you have to go to Cafe Du Monde on Decatur street for Beignets and dark roasted Chicory coffee for breakfast.

The two most popular Creole/Cajun dishes are Jambalaya and Gumbo.

Jambalaya is primarily a rice dish with andouille sausage. As far as Gumbo goes it can be made with andouille sausage, chicken or seafood. Any kind of smoked sausage can replace andouille sausage.

## Jambalaya

### Ingredients

- 1 pound chicken thighs, bone in and skin on
- 1 pound andouille sausage, thinly sliced
- 1 cup instant white rice
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1/2 medium onion, diced
- 1 teaspoon seasoning salt
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon red chili flakes
- 4 cups chicken stock
- Garnish with Parsley

### Directions

In a medium saucepan, add the chicken thighs and cover with chicken stock by 1 inch. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer until the chicken is tender, about 30 minutes. Strain the chicken in a colander, reserving the stock for later use.

Let the chicken cool completely. Remove all the meat from the bones and discard the skin and bones.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine the chicken meat, seasoning, and andouille sausage, rice, carrots, celery and onion, seasoning salt, garlic powder, chili flakes, and 2 quarts of the reserved chicken stock.

Pour the mixture into a 9-by-13 inch baking dish. Cover and bake until the rice and shrimp are cooked through, about 25 minutes.

## Bananas Foster (Brennan's Recipe)

### Ingredients

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 4 bananas, cut in half lengthwise
- 4 tablespoons banana liqueur
- 1/4 cup rum
- 4 scoops vanilla ice cream

### Directions

Melt butter in a skillet over an open flame. Add the sugar, cinnamon, and banana liqueur and stir to mix. Heat for a few minutes, then place the halved bananas in the sauce and sauté until soft and slightly browned. Add the rum and allow it to heat well, then tip the pan so that the flame from the burner causes the sauce to light. Allow the sauce to flame until it dies out, tipping the pan with a circular motion to prolong the flaming. Scoop the vanilla ice-cream in a bowl. Then lift the bananas carefully out of the pan and place four pieces over each portion of ice-cream, then spoon the hot sauce from the pan over the top.

### Wines

In general, fruity wines with smooth tannins match up well with bold assertive flavors such as tomato based sauces and heavily spiced dishes, while wines with high acidity like some Sauvignon Blancs and French styled Chardonnays match up well with foods that have rich creamy sauces and subtle flavor.

## Seafood Gumbo

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 8 ounces andouille sausage, sliced 1/4 inch thick
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 2 ribs of celery, diced
- 3 tablespoons garlic powder
- 2 tablespoon seafood seasoning, such as Old Bay
- 2 teaspoons dry thyme
- 6 cups chicken stock
- 1 28 ounce can crushed tomatoes

8 ounces crab claw meat

salt and pepper

1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 cup of white rice

Garnish with parsley

### Directions

Heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil in a large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add the andouille and cook until brown, about 5 minutes. Remove to a plate, leaving the fat behind.

Reduce the heat to medium. Add the remaining 3 tablespoons oil and the flour and cook, stirring until the

roux reaches a light blond color, 5 to 6 minutes.

Add the onions, peppers and celery, and cook until the vegetables have softened, about 5 to 8 minutes.

Add the garlic powder, seafood seasoning and thyme. Cook for 1 minute.

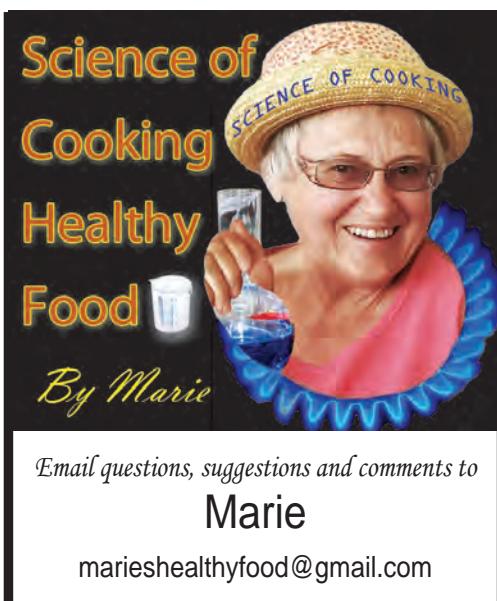
Add the tomatoes, chicken stock and the cooked sausage, stirring until the roux is dissolved. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer, and cook for 45 minutes to allow the flavors to develop.

Add the shrimp and crab claw meat and cook for 8 minutes.

Season with salt and pepper.

Serve cooked over white rice.

# Homemade, fresh raspberry muffins for your valentine (red as a rose)



Love is sweet.

Our culture celebrates Valentine's Day by giving gifts of sugary foods. But love is never having to say, "I'm sorry I spiked your blood glucose."

This column features a healthy Valentine raspberry muffin to please those you love.

Most store-bought muffins are full of sugar and simple carbs. They can be packed with added sugar and low in fiber, sending your blood sugar levels on a rollercoaster.

To control the sugar, your best bet is to make healthier ones at home.

## The Health Value

Red is the customary Valentine's Day color. Raspberries fit the theme, plus they come into season just in time for Valentine Day.

As a bonus, chemicals responsible for their ruby hues are awesomely healthy lycopene and anthocyanins.

Now that's a way to show your love!

Brown sugar in this recipe is often assumed to be a healthier choice versus white sugar. The difference is minimal.

The primary differences are taste and color. Brown sugar imparts a rich caramel hue. It has an intense toffee-like taste due to its molasses content. These attributes make it a preferred choice of sweetener when baking desserts.

Oats are an excellent healthy ingredient that reduce the amount of flour needed. Oats offer more fiber and minerals than flour. They have a lower fat, carbs, sugar and glycemic value than flour. (1)

## The Science

### How to handle oats?

You will love the crunchy texture of oats. Old-fashioned rolled oats are the best choice, but quick-cooking oats work, too.

Avoid instant oats because they are pre-cooked, powdery flakes. (2)

Without providing time to pre-soak the oats, the batter will be WAY too thin and it will not rise. Plus, soaking oats creates a thicker and creamier batter, so the muffin is more moist, tender, and flavorful.

### How to get that nice, puffy muffin?

Over-mixing the batter causes toughness. To minimize over-mixing, mix wet/dry ingredients in separate bowls as they require different degrees of mixing.

For example, it is important to mix dry ingredients very well. This is because baking powder and soda are leavening agents that are activated during the mixing process.

Also, avoid the electric mixer which results in over-mixing.

### Why use yogurt?

Plain Greek yogurt bumps up the moisture which is quite desirable. Do not be tempted to substitute flavored yogurts. They



come with added sugar and too much liquid.

### Why use fresh berries?

Use raspberries fresh for best results. Frozen raspberries don't work well in this recipe because the batter is thick. They get too mushy and runny in the mixing stage.

Why must baking soda and baking powder be fresh?

Baking soda is alkaline and reacts with acidic ingredients like vinegar, lemon juice, yogurt or molasses to produce carbon dioxide.

Bubbles of carbon dioxide create leavening in your batter. Fresh baking soda is key - otherwise, chemical reaction won't take place and a flat muffin is the result.

Generally baking soda lasts for two to three years sealed in its original container. Once opened, it will keep for at least six months.

Even when buying brand new baking soda, it's a good idea to test it before using. You don't know how long the package has been on the shelf at the market or how it's been stored.

There is a quick and easy trick for testing the potency of your baking soda. (3) Add 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda to a small bowl. Add about 1/2 teaspoon of white vinegar or fresh lemon juice to the bowl.

The acid and base should react imme-

dately.

If the mixture fizzes and bubbles up aggressively, the baking soda is in good working order. If it barely fizzes or not at all, it's past its prime.

Baking powder is a mixture of baking soda and a dry acid, such as cream of tartar, and perhaps some cornstarch to help keep the two separate and dry. It, too, needs to be fresh in order to leaven the batter. The easiest way to test baking powder to see if it still works is to put some in a small bowl and add some water to it. If it foams, it's still good. (3)

## Raspberry Oat Muffins Ingredients

- 1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats, uncooked
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar packed
- 1/3 cup oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 large egg, warmed to room temperature
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1-pint fresh raspberries
- 1/2 cup coconut flakes

## Instructions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Combine wet ingredients: Mix brown sugar and oil. Add yogurt, vanilla and lemon juice. Stir the egg, then add to mix. Lastly, add oats and stir well. Set aside for 10 minutes for rolled oats (5 minutes for quick cooking oats).

While oats pre-soak, place greased jumbo paper liners in a 12-cup large muffin pan.

Mix dry ingredients: In a separate large bowl, add flour, coconut flakes, salt, baking powder and baking soda. Mix well until no clumps.

Combine wet and dry ingredients: Create a well in the center of dry ingredients and slowly begin pouring wet ingredients into the center. While pouring wet ingredients, stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Do not overmix.

Fold berries into batter, stirring only 2-3 times.

Fill liners 2/3s full (this is easy with a cookie scoop!). Grace the top with a sprinkling of oats. Bake for 20-25 minutes. Cool in the pan for 5 minutes, then remove muffins from the pan and cool completely on a cooling rack.

Wait 24 hours before tasting muffins. You can resist nibbling, my dear chefs! Time is necessary for complex flavors in these delicious muffins to blend.

Makes 10-12 muffins.

## CREDITS

- 1 foodstruct.com
- 2 simplyoatmeal.com
- 3 www.simplyrecipes.com

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

Past Recipes Can Be Found On The Box Office  
[otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)

# B.E. F.A.S.T.

## To Reduce Stroke Impact



### Balance

Sudden loss of balance



### Eyes

Sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes



### Face

Sudden facial weakness or drooping



### Arms

Sudden weakness or numbness



### Speech

Sudden slurred speech or difficulty speaking



### Terrible Headache

Sudden onset of a severe headache

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SECONDS

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\*On average

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# COMMUNITY REPORTS



Pictured above is what a raft looked like after 16 people were evacuated and brought aboard a cruise ship in December. The small craft was on the seas for five days before the cruise ship's crew came in for a rescue. At right shows the raft was very crowded.



## Christmas rescue at sea and OTOW residents were there to witness the sincere actions

By Theresa McAllister

Sailing the high seas aboard luxury cruise ships has been my passion for the past 40 years, but this past Christmas, something happened I would never even have imagined could take place.

On Dec. 23, everything started out normally.

My husband, Chuck, and I boarded the Celebrity Constellation in Tampa. It was the holidays and the decorations and festivities on board were second to none. This year was especially exciting since our 10-night cruise was to cover both Christmas and New Year's.

Christmas Eve was scheduled as a full day at sea and we were headed toward San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The weather was beautiful and it was the perfect day to relax and get to know the ship and the crew.

But at approximately 12:45 p.m., all activities were interrupted with a message from

the bridge. The captain made an announcement that the ship would be turning around due to an emergency about three miles out from the ship's current location.

We had no other information at that time, but assumed that everything was under control.

Our estimated location at that time was midway between Marathon Key, Fla., and Matanzas, Cuba.

Shortly after the announcement, Chuck and I looked off the starboard (right) side of the ship and we noticed a small, raft-like boat afloat with several passengers on board.

Little did we know what was about to unfold.

At 1:15 p.m., our cruise ship pulled alongside the small craft and began rescue operations.

Rescue ladders were lowered and life vests were provided to those on the raft. By 1:52 p.m., Captain Yannis Berdos and his team had made a successful rescue at sea!

Once safely onboard, 13 men and three women were given medical attention, food and clothing. The ship's staff even provided Christmas gifts to the rescued boaters before they were escorted off in San Juan. Each of the refugees thanked the crew members as they left.

To better understand what happened, you must be familiar with International Maritime Law and the humanitarian obligation the ship's crew was to honor. The law states the ship's crew has a humanitarian obligation to render assistance to those under distress at sea without regard to their nationality or the circumstances in which they are found.

We watched in disbelief as all of this took place ... from the rescue at sea to the disembarkation.

As we watched, several of our fellow passengers were asking how and why the refugees would attempt this trip by sea.

Why would anyone set out in a small

boat adrift at sea for five days - with no food or water for three of those days.

My only response was "desperation" and hope for a better life. Each day is a second chance...this day was their second chance!

Witnessing humanity at its best gave me pause. That moment ... that day ... changed my life forever.

My New Year's resolutions came easily and did not include dieting or those things we readily forget. Rather, they were heartfelt and simple:

(1) Thank God each day for the blessings He has bestowed on us.

(2) Stop taking things for granted and appreciate what we have.

(3) Pay it forward to those less fortunate and show compassionate empathy toward others.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year and a year filled with hopeful reflections and meaningful resolutions!

# Ten-year reporter's final column and all the memories that carry on



Austrian Alpine has many wonderful residents and in recent years I have had the privilege to write about many of them in this newspaper.

This is my final column, but I am leaving with some wonderful memories - many from the stories I have written.

As building coordinator, co-coordinator and newspaper reporter, I'm happy to have participated in and reported on the outings, events, parties, coffees and building changes with my neighbors.

Perhaps the biggest change I saw in our building, from bad habit to good habit, was the cleaning up of our building's four storage rooms. Approximately three condo owners stored their stuff in three "stables," excuse me, storage rooms. The fourth storage room was used by renovators to throw away garbage.

Jan Stiffler and 12 volunteers took on the task of decluttering those storage rooms. A year and a half later - what a difference! Each resident was given a clearly-marked 2 foot by 3 foot space on clean floors.

Now under Bob Young's direction, we have a yearly system for cleaning our storage rooms.

Kevin Lewis, from On Top of the World Inspections Division, noted that Austrian Alpine had a successful storage room cleanup because the residents wanted to do it and many volunteers helped out.

Congrats to everyone who was involved.

Laughter is an essential bond between residents and Austrian Alpine has had lots of laughs over our livelier residents in the news.

I wrote stories about Blanche Mahrle as



Austrian Alpine has had some wonderful building volunteers over the years. You can tell a happy volunteer by their smiles. As you can tell, our building has been blessed.

a Rosie the Riveter in Washington; how to break down a cardboard box in three easy steps with Pat Sheridan; and how Virginia Donlon trekked across the Florida Cracker Trail in a covered wagon.

(I had to read "A Land Remembered" by Patrick Smith to truly understand Virginia's journey).

Through interviews, I learned about our adventurous travelers, Jan and Steve Stiffler, camping across Alaska; George and Norita Evans and their dog, Beethoven, camping with friends; Pat and Beverly Gallagher snapping pictures of a Grizzly Bear in Alaska; Marilyn Whelan traveling all over the globe, and Don Schlough finding really cool rocks and dinosaur poop out west to make jewelry.

Other columns I wrote included interviews with OTOW residents that were educational, to say the least.

I started a monthly column featuring second generation residents living at On Top of the World. Who knew there were enough

second generation residents to fill two years of newspapers!

At one point, Cele Radeloff, another reporter, and I, each had interviews and pictures in the same monthly spread.

"Recycling Right" was a good way to get the recycle facts from Pinellas County to our residents. I wrote several educational articles to tell people how to recycle the correct way.

I was one of the founders of the former Healthy Living Club, and enjoyed writing stories from healthy living classes hosted right here in the community.

Our newspaper editor, Doug Kates, created a beautiful logo for our club. The logo appeared with each column and we had shirts made with the same logo.

My husband, Joe, and I have been coming to On Top of the World since 1986 when my in-laws bought the lovely place I have called home. In small, positive steps, relationships and changes resulted in the community we live in today.



Kathleen Santosuoso started a Healthy Living Club column in this newspaper when the club existed several years ago.

It is truly those little things that added up into a bundle of bright memories that I will carry with me into my next journey.

## Irish Club Parade, Saturday, March 4, 10 am

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**On Top of the World**

# 25 Years Ago

**February 1998**

Shalom Club: Our Shalom Club will continue to bring to our membership meaningful and worthwhile programming in 1998, as we have done in the past. We will have a new group of officers filling the positions of leadership. They will be elected and installed at our annual meeting on Feb. 22, 1998, at 12:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 20967 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Cost per person is \$13 (includes tax and gratuity). We will be soundly entertained by "Ragtime Annie and her Five Strings." A reminder that February is the month we remember President's Day and Tu-B'Shevat (Jewish Arbor Day).

Canadian Club: The Annual Canadian Club Golf Tournament will be held Feb. 7 and 8, 1998, at the On Top of the World Golf Club, and for those golfers who have been consulting their Canadian Club Program of Events. For more information and to sign-up (if you haven't already), contact John Gray. A reminder about Entertainment Night on Feb. 27, 1998. Apart from awarding lawn bowls and golf awards, Bob Gwynne-Timothy has some first-class entertainment arranged. More details in the next issue of the OTOW News.

OTOW Shuffleboard Club: Registration for shuffle boarding is open all year long. You can join in the fun at any time. The games are played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 1 p.m. during the winter months. The fee is \$5 per year for each member. Equipment is supplied by the club. Recent three-game winners were Charlie Martin, Dave Fraser, Teddy McKillip, Ed O'Brian, Robert Kissinger, Gar Emmons, Ed Hayes, Bob Reeves, Jim Lutz, Tom Bradley, Ed O'Brien, Norm Thayer and Rose Marie Starr.

Ladies 18-Hole Golf: Congratulations, Ann Dillon, for your hole-in-one Jan. 20 on the 15th hole. Our golf association now has 209 paid up members. We appreciate all of you. Don't forget the Wine and Cheese Dance that will be held March 1, 1998. Tickets are \$6 each. Ladies, when on the course, please expect to start play only at designated tee times. This helps to ensure a pleasant outing for all golfers.

Alsace Lorraine Building: February's Valentine's Day celebrates a month of love. Let us remember our neighbors and share our love. Some of us had visitors during the holidays. Bill and Dorothy Godfrey were pleased to have their elder son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter from New Brunswick, Canada, with them for the Christmas holidays. The weather was not too cooperative, but they did get to play golf and tennis, take a trip to Busch Gardens and, of course, do a lot of shopping. We welcome newcomers Bonnie and Don Howell. Bonnie is the sister of our building captain, Flo Barnes. The OTOW Press Association treated us reporters recently at the Clearwater Country Club. Many thanks – it was a great event!

Royal Dutch Building: First of all, I want to give a big thanks to Murray Shuster for lighting the Menorah candles in the lobby. He has done this for many years now and continued the practice again this year, for which we are grateful. For those of you who are not familiar with this practice, one candle is lit each of the eight nights of Hannukah until they are eventually all lit. So, Murray, stay well and continue doing as you have been doing for the past years. We have a few new residents in our building. I have not had the chance to meet and interview them but as soon as I can, I will do so.

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# Nearly 30 Rural French residents went out for lunch - one came home with the best seat in the restaurant



By Jim LeBlanc

What goes up must come down. Unfortunately, that was our Christmas and holiday decorations.

Due to the front of our building getting power washed and painted starting on Monday Jan. 2, down came the decorations. Boxed up and back in storage. This was done sooner than we expected. Thanks to all who came out to help with this job.

Our January building luncheon was held on Thursday, Jan. 12, at Benedict's Restaurant in Dunedin. A good crowd of 29 neighbors joined the luncheon to enjoy good food and good company.

Big thanks to Sue and Bruce Personius, who planned and organized this luncheon. At Sue's request, a generous \$15 Benedict's gift certificate was donated to the luncheon by the restaurants owner. This certificate was



Rural French residents dined at Benedict's Restaurant in January. Under one of these chairs was a \$15 gift certificate.

hidden under one of the chairs. After lunch was eaten, the announcement was made about the prize. We all checked under our chairs and the lucky winner was Janis Gurath.

Our February luncheon will be hosted by Building President Ed Fox. The luncheon will also be an opportunity for Ed to hold a building meeting. He has an agenda he'd like to discuss with us. Try to attend. This will be the perfect opportunity to be informed of any building information first hand and ask

any questions you might have.

This is also the time of year where the building dues will be collected. Check our bulletin board for more information and the signup sheet.

While in the core, enjoy the beautiful Valentines' Day decorations put up by Randy Matney and Carmel LeBlanc. Hopefully that will inspire you to spoil that special somebody in your life. If there is nobody right now, use the day and spoil yourself. You de-

serve it.

As our building reporter, I'm always looking for stories to print. If you have anything fun or of interest that you'd like to share with others, contact me and we'll make it happen.

Also, if you'd like to take over and become our building reporter, contact me and I can fill you in on the job.

As always our newspaper only prints good and happy news.

## Birthday party



French Renaissance resident Goca Kranenberg celebrated a milestone birthday on Friday the 13th at Johnny's Italian Restaurant. Guests attended from a variety of buildings. In the front row, left to right, are Carol Sawyer, Goca Kranenberg and Ann Zajac. In back are Pat Brennan, Lynn Castanza, Donna Mitrani, Dana Garlick, Lepa Buck, Sue Cimmino, Faith Beebe, Fran Fairfield and Cheryl Lindback. One week later, Sue Cimmino went right back to the same restaurant for her birthday.

(Photo by Michael Leonard)



**Always be  
ready for  
cold winters  
in Clearwater**

OTOW resident Margaret Whitaker was ready for the cold winter evenings in January. She learned you do not need a fur coat to keep warm, just a furry dog. Don't worry. They both stayed warm this way.

(Photo by Susan Feder)

# How do I get a great-quality WiFi signal throughout my entire condo?



## Computer Club

By Mike Wood

How do I increase the power of my current condo Wi-Fi connection?

This question has been around since 1985 when Wi-Fi first came to fruition. As technology has progressed, so have the options available to answer this question.

A Mesh Wi-Fi extender / booster or Mesh repeater system could very well be the answer to your dilemma.

A router's ability to give you perfect coverage over your entire house may not always be possible. Certain building materials, large spaces, and other varied technology equipment can disrupt your Wi-Fi signal and interrupt your connection.

So what do I need?

According to signalboosters.com, "Just like extenders, boosters and repeaters both need to be wirelessly connected to a router and plugged into a wall outlet to improve the Wi-Fi coverage area. Wi-Fi mesh extenders or repeaters capture your network's existing signal and rebroadcast that same signal into the desired areas. On the other hand, unlike extenders or repeaters, Wi-Fi boosters capture your network's existing signal and boost or amplify it for better coverage."

Experience has shown us that mesh extenders seem to work better most of the time in buildings constructed like those here at On Top of the World, especially when working with the new Wi-Fi – 6.

At OTOW, because most routers are



OTOW Computer Club members Mike and Charlie Wood answer questions for residents about computers and Wi-Fi boosters at the January Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee.

placed in the rear of the condos, depending on the location of your devices, line of sight plays a big part in your signal strength from the router to the device. The same will apply to the placement of a booster or mesh extender.

We haven't yet found a one-item-fits-all device, mainly because every condo (like its owners) is different. Wi-Fi technicians rec-

ommend putting the booster or repeater (whichever works best for you) on the same side of the condo as your router, line-of-sight is most preferable. This will help alleviate signal drop between the router and the booster / repeater and thus, give you better reception throughout your condo.

The best way to decide what device will suit your needs is either through trial and er-

ror or do some research on the internet to get some other professional opinions for your circumstances.

Wi-Fi extenders and mesh repeaters are available at most stores that deal in computers, televisions or smart home devices. They range in price from approximately \$50 to well over \$200, depending on your needs based on your situation.

## Pizza party welcomes home Snowbirds and new residents

Aloha and Happy Valentine's Day to all the wonderful Polynesians.

On Thursday, Jan. 12, we gathered together in the first floor core for a second, and more successful, welcome home pizza party!

Many new faces were present and a delightful addition to our community.

There were more than 30 in attendance and the pizzas, pop and desserts were plentiful so no one went away hungry.

The camaraderie was evident and everyone appeared to have a good time.

On Friday, Feb. 3, the group outing is to Fletcher's Early Bird Dinner Theater for a performance of "Birthday Club" and the yummy buffet supper. This is at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person.

Looking forward to March. We are hoping to have a possible boat cruise out of delightful Dunedin, with an early bird dinner at the Bon Appétit Restaurant and Bar.



As always, keep your eyes open on the bulletin board for this and other possible activities as they are arranged.

If you have any ideas for events, please let Jay Jarvis or Susan Miller know. We are always on the lookout for fun things to do. Until next time... be safe!

Polynesians hosted a welcome home pizza party in January and got reacquainted with their many Snowbird friends and new residents.

## She said 'yes'

By Kathy Ahrens

What started out as a holiday barbecue gathering at the Pavilion turned into a surprise proposal.

Two Austrian Alpine residents, Lisa Rossomando and Bob Pugliese, got engaged while the party was going on.

Bob got down on one knee and proposed.

It was a wonderful surprise for all.

Bob and Lisa met one evening at an American Legion Post and since have been inseparable. They realized they have a lot in common, including singing karaoke, ballroom dancing, playing pickleball and cruising.

They even joined Kathy Ahrens and Lenny Segall on a pickleball cruise.

We wish them many years of happiness. They love living here at On Top of the World.

Happy Valentine's Day to all.



Bob Pugliese and Lisa Rossomando

**Irish Club Parade Saturday March 4 10-11 am**

Please be aware that several roads will be closed to traffic on the East Side

# What started with a simple meal has turned into building neighbors creating positive social gatherings

By Charlie Wood

So, why is it that some buildings always seem to be busy?

For some buildings, it may be going out to local restaurants to eat on a regular basis. Others seem to have fantastic decorations, not just at Christmas time but seemingly all year round. Other buildings go on day-trips together. Some get together for barbecue dinners.

So, what do all of these buildings have in common?

Teamwork!

Yes, it takes a team to get lots of building residents working together to plan and carry out fun and entertaining events.

Such is now the case at the Rizal building.

For several years, it seemed that our building had been in survival mode. The only time we all got together was to decorate for the holidays.

Well, all that has changed and all it took was an idea from a couple of motivated and



creative folks moving into the building.

It all started with a summer afternoon potluck meal. So much fun was had by those who attended that several discussions took place shortly thereafter about what to do next and when.

Several fun, food-based gatherings later, along with great seasonal autumn and

holiday building decorations, the "Creative Team" is starting to grow into quite a fine group of motivated and dedicated residents.

What started out as Ray and Robbin Klaver now also includes Jerry and Lisa Esposito.

New residents Irving Hernandez, Ramon, Marylou Laboy and Susan Hasell are contributing their labor and food for building gatherings.

For the first time in the last five years, all four building wings have wing captains to help Mike Wood and me with building coordinator tasks at Rizal.

These new wing captains are Ray and Robbin Klaver and Joe Vecino. Heck, even Mona Markey stepped up to help out as the building's first assistant treasurer.

Best of all, they weren't recruited, they volunteered.

So much is now going on at Rizal that folks are asking what they can do to help.

One such resident wrote an anonymous check to the building decorating fund and

asked how he/she could help. The excitement is contagious!

The best thing about this simple team concept is something from which we can all learn. First, putting together a building creative team will mend fences and help mere neighbors become friends. Then, the more activities your building creative team can put together, the more people will want to be a part.

The more people who get involved results in learning more about our neighbors, which ultimately makes our little corner of On Top of the World a safer place to live.

You see, now, instead of all the condo families keeping to themselves and not even knowing anything about their next door neighbors, we are getting acquainted, recognizing our habits, making friends and looking out for each other.

Wow, looking out for and taking care of our neighbors ... isn't that what community is all about?

Well, it is at Rizal!

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# President of ladies golf league and president of Entertainment Committee are both Villa residents

Our persons of the month are Carroll Harris and Karen Safee.

Carroll hails from Texas, where she taught school and was a principal. She is an avid golfer and president of the ladies golf league. Her other hat is Viennese Villa treasurer.

Carroll shares her time with two guys - Fred Schick and Boss ...the four-footed king of the roost.

Our second person of the month is Karen, who is from Pennsylvania. She says that she was a "stay at home mom" which included president of baseball leagues for the state of Pennsylvania.

Karen now puts that expertise to work being president of the Entertainment Committee, which is a huge undertaking. All those fabulous decorations for dances and shows are all under Karen's tutelage, not to mention bringing in the entertainment.

If that's not enough, she can bake!

Oh boy can she bake!

I've been fortunate enough to enjoy some of her kitchen creations.

Karen shares her life with two great guys Kirk, our building captain, and son, Danny.

We at the Villa are indeed fortunate to have these ladies as neighbors and friends.

The Summit Broadband install went quite smoothly for our building. Wayne Edwards arrived at the appointed time and did a great job.

Learning a new remote control is a learning curve, but I am getting coaching from my son, Mike. Eventually, I will master it.



While Mike and his wife, Colleen, were here, they treated Dana Garlick, Pat Brennan, Chris Tuttle, Lynn Costanza and I to a great dinner at Coopers Hawk in Tampa. If you enjoy wine, Coopers Hawk has an enormous selection.

Mike, with his camera in hand, visited some of the fabulous parks in the area, including John Chesnut Park being a particular favorite.

Mike's weather photos of lightning from Dunedin were recently featured on WFLA-TV in a weather segment.

Now, as you read this, Valentine's Day is approaching. Best to have candy and reservations made for that special someone.

Well, that's about all there is for this month. Until we meet again. Best wishes to all who celebrate birthdays and/or an anniversaries. Stay safe.

Carroll Harris, left, and Karen Safee hosted a Christmas tree cocktail party in late December for everyone in the Viennese Villa building.

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# How many neighbors can you fit into one condo on New Year's Eve?

Carly Layton decided to have a New Year's Eve party at her New World French home and invited most of the neighbors.

A lot of neighbors attended as you can see by the photo, which was taken by Theresa Shave. She is also the closest person to the camera.

A fine spread was laid out - no shortage of good food. It was bring your own beverage, but extra drinks were available.

The party turned out great and some of the new neighbors made a surprise visit.

Theresa and her husband, Bob, originate from Michigan, and enjoy winter stays in Florida.

Theresa kindly gave all the Wing Angels a bottle of wine in appreciation of our work for the building. That was a lovely surprise.

Pictured at right, New World French residents gather at Carly Layton's home for a New Year's Eve party.



Happy New Year!

## French Renaissance has an outdoor writer



French Renaissance I - 45



Joe Fleckenstein

This month we are focusing on Joe Fleckenstein, who is enjoying his time at On Top of the World with a gorgeous view of the 18-hole course.

Joe was born in Pittsburgh and lived in Redding, Pa., most of his adult life. Now he is a Snowbird from Silver Spring, Md.

He has one son in Dallas, Texas.

He has lived here since October 2022.

Joe has had an exciting life. He has been an active skier all his life, hunted for wild turkeys and used to write for an outdoor magazine.

He has published a dozen articles and written short stories in a variety of other magazines.

As if that is not enough, he published

three books - a novel, a book for electrical engineers and a short story.

You may have guessed that Joe is a retired electrical engineer.

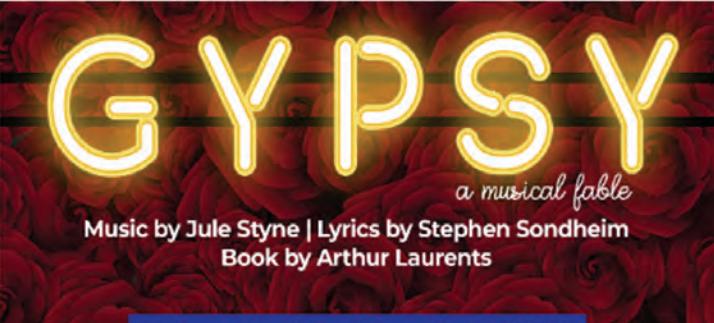
If you would like to find out more about him, you can visit his personal website: [www.writerjef.com](http://www.writerjef.com)

He also tells me he used to play tennis. I told him he could play with the Tennis Club Mondays through Saturdays, 8-11 a.m. So can you!

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# AROUND THE BAY

Entertainment by Laurie Fischer

## Some of your favorite entertainers from the past are in the bay area throughout February

The holiday season may be over, but entertainment around the bay continues in full force.

Opening on Feb. 16 and running until March 5, Francis Wilson Playhouse in Clearwater presents "Gypsy!"

This great musical is based on the 1957 memoirs of striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee, which focuses on her mother, Rose, whose name has become synonymous with "the ultimate show business mother."

The brassy musical features the classic songs "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "Together Wherever We Go" and "Let Me Entertain You."

### Ruth Eckerd Hall (Clearwater)

Feb. 2 and 3: Blue Man Group premieres in Clearwater for a limited engagement on their new North American tour.

It's everything you know and love about Blue Man Group — signature drumming, colorful moments of creativity and quirky comedy — the men are still blue but the rest is all new!

Feb 7: For the last five decades, REO Speedwagon has been one of the most electrifying live rock shows on the planet! This band has sold more than 40 million albums around the globe.

Feb 11: Roger Daltrey Rock Icon and The Who founding member, Roger Daltrey, returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall for the first time since 2017. Roger's hit songs with The Who include "My Generation," "Pinball Wizard," "Won't Get Fooled Again," "Baba O'Riley" and "You Better You Bet."

Feb 13 - 15: John Mellencamp has touched the hearts and souls of music listeners and influenced American culture with enduring songs such as "Jack and Diane" and "Hurts So Good."

Feb 17: Motown artists, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame members and Grammy Lifetime Achievement winners The Temptations

and The Four Tops are returning to Ruth Eckerd Hall for a night of classic Motown hits, harmonies, flashy wardrobes, and original choreography.

Feb 18: Dancing with the Stars returns when your favorite dancers from this iconic television series hit the stage with an all new show, which takes the costumes, pageantry and competitive fire of the hit ABC show on the road and features some of the program's most popular participants.

Feb 22: The Beach Boys will be performing a career-spanning range of material from their early surf rock classics to masterpieces like "Wouldn't It Be Nice" and "God Only Knows" to later hits including "Kokomo." The Beach Boys remain legendary.

Feb 24 and 25: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, "Oh What A Night" The Grammy-nominated, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees and the original "Jersey Boys," return by popular demand to Ruth Eckerd Hall. Two spellbinding shows will include such classic songs as "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man," "Rag Doll," "My Eyes Adored You," "Who Loves You" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You."

Feb 26: Welcome Sarah MacLachlan and special guest Vanessa Freebairn-Smith. Sarah's unparalleled ability to craft finely tuned lyrics has led to an enduring career as one of the most beloved artists of the past three decades.

### Mahaffey Theater (St Petersburg)

Feb 1: Rick Springfield has worn many hats as an entertainer and performer. He is the creator of some of the finest power-pop of the '80s and a Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter. He has sold 25 million albums and scored 17 U.S. top 40 hits, including, "Jessie's Girl," "Don't Talk to Strangers," "An Affair of the Heart," "I've Done Everything for You," "Love Somebody" and "Human Touch."

Feb 5: Welcome Patti La Belle. As time continues to evolve, the soulful songbird's name has become synonymous with grace, style, elegance and class. Belting out classic rhythm and blues renditions, pop standards and spiritual sonnets have created the unique platform of versatility for which she is known and revered.

Feb 17: "Mania: The Abba Tribute" will be in town. From London's West End to Las Vegas, Mania: The ABBA Tribute remains the world's No. 1 touring ABBA tribute show. In an exhilarating, two-hour recreation of one of ABBA's most memorable concerts, Mania brings to life the flamboyance of the '70s.

Feb 20: With a body of work spanning seven decades, Deep Purple has helped pioneer and define the hard rock genre while progressively moving into new areas, both keeping their sound fresh and attracting new fans to the legions who have remained loyal since the band's inception.

### Straz Center (Tampa)

To Feb 5: "Tina – The Tina Turner Musical" is a celebration of resilience and an inspiration of triumph over adversity. This new musical reveals a comeback story like no other — of a woman who dared to defy the bounds of racism, sexism and ageism to become the global Queen of Rock 'n' Roll.

Feb 9 - 11: Jim Gaffigan is a six-time Grammy-nominated comedian, actor, writer, producer, two-time New York Times best-selling author, two-time Emmy-winning top touring performer and multi-platinum-selling recording artist. He is known around the world for his unique brand of humor, which largely revolves around his observations on life.

Feb 15 - April 8: Shear Madness is the screwball hair-salon-whodunit that everybody loves. Audiences figure out the crime by following the clues and even questioning

the suspects. Clues change every night, so audiences never know who the murderer will be until the end of the show. It has been seen by more than 12.5 million people worldwide.

Feb 16: Andrea Bochelli (appearing at Amalie Arena) returns to the United States for his beloved Valentine's Tour. The world's most romantic voice will present an evening of soaring arias, crossover hits and famed love songs in honor of the Valentine's season.

Feb 21 - 26: After 25 years, Chicago is still the one musical with everything that makes Broadway shimmy-shake: a universal tale of fame, fortune and all that jazz, with one show-stopping song after another and the most astonishing dancing you've ever seen. No wonder Chicago has been honored with six Tony Awards, two Olivier Awards, a Grammy and thousands of standing ovations.

For On Top of the World sports fans, the Tampa Bay Lightning continue another successful NHL season. Upcoming home dates are Feb. 7 versus San Jose, Feb. 9 versus Colorado, Feb. 21 versus Anaheim, Feb. 23 versus Buffalo and Feb. 28 versus Florida.

Starting Feb. 25, Major League Baseball spring training is back and will continue to the end of March. Come out and watch! The Toronto Blue Jays play in Dunedin, the Philadelphia Phillies play in Clearwater and the New York Yankees play in Tampa.

*(This column is only intended to make residents aware of upcoming events in the Tampa Bay area. No business or entertainer in this column paid to have their information printed. Information was taken off the internet and in some cases published as posted on the net.)*

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## If you live in Loch Lomond, your birthday will get recognized

Love is in the air!

It's February!

Can you feel it?

Well, maybe not literally, but many of us are feeling the love by the presence of our Snowbird friends.

OK, so we do have to put up with a lot more traffic and longer lines at the check-out and at the gas station, but it's nice to see your neighbors again.

Go ahead. Admit it. It's hard to miss the valentine displays that popped up the week after Christmas.

Let's start by wishing Audrey Hamilton a Happy Birthday this month. We should also remember two birthdays that we missed in December. That would be MaryAnn Sinnenberg and Lucille Greenhalgh.

Many happy returns MaryAnn and Lucille. Yes, dear new neighbors, we are playing catch up with our Loch Lomond tradition of sharing birthday greetings. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for updates.

No years. Just day and month, thank you. FYI!

Did you know that February has historically been a busy time for politicians?

(Now, now, I heard that snicker, but hold on.)



Here's the scoop.

Six Amendments were ratified in various Februaries through the years. They relate to the appointment of judges, voting, taxes and more good stuff.

As you can imagine, that's more information than we can accommodate here, so I've posted the complete and exciting list on the bulletin board.

A few social, get-acquainted gatherings are in the planning stages for our building. We have quite a few new neighbors to meet and get to know at these upcoming events.

## Bohemians usher in 2023 and make plans for next 11 months

Forty Bohemians ushered in the new year at Jack Willie's Bar, Grill & Tiki in Oldsmar.

After dinner, many of the group retired to Mike and Jutta Lane's condo to continue the revelry and say hello 2023.

January is the building's annual meeting month. At this meeting we say goodbye to our old officers and elect new. We congratulate: Ralph Ledesma as our new president, Victoria Vorie as vice president, Jenny Fowler as treasurer and Paula Schelling as secretary. We wish them well as they navigate their new positions.

Tuesday, following the building meeting, the Social Committee met to establish the calendar of events for the year. What makes this special is monthly restaurants are selected, each holiday is planned out, a cruise date is selected, as well as unique events that are planned, such as day at the races, a pumpkin-carving contest and our well known Bohemifest.

The 2023 building cruise, which departed in late January, saw 23 residents and seven of their friends, depart on the Norwegian Dawn from Tampa for the Western Caribbean. From what was reported, they had a wonderful time and are looking forward to next year's cruise.





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# Karen Hector has three loves and one is singing with our Chorus



I had the chance to reconnect with one of our most interesting neighbors during our last Old World Spanish building holiday party.

If you ask Karen Hector what three things in her life bring the most pleasure, her answer will come easily and swiftly: Singing, needlework, philanthropy.

They have all been a huge part of her life and are still.

Karen thrives on variety. In fact, the main reason that Karen moved to On Top of the World, is because of the variety and number of activities offered.

When Karen made the decision to buy a condo in this area of the county, the realtor's first showing was in a community where every building was white and looked the same.

"This will never do" was the phrase that prompted the realtor to then show her OTOW.

Since moving to OTOW in January 2014, Karen has participated in a number of activities – bridge, dance, pool exercise and more. But her one, most important "artistic hobby" is singing and Karen loves her time in our OTOW Chorus.

Karen also sings in her church choir at Faith United Church of Christ in Dunedin, so her strong soprano voice is well-practiced.

Another of Karen's artistic hobbies is needlework, all techniques of knitting, crocheting and Tunisian handwork to create sweaters, scarves and shawls.

Karen is a part of the shawl ministry at her church. And in past years she owned a needlecraft shop where she led classes from beginning to advanced.



Karen Hector, left in the front row, sings with the On Top of the World Chorus during its holiday concert in December.

(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

Her interest continues and she tries to participate in the annual Vogue Knitting Live convention, held this year in February in New York, NY.

Yikes, now that's dedication to your craft!

As committed as Karen is to giving the gifts of her time and talents, she also is passionate about helping to make life better for others. In the past and for many years, she was a dedicated teacher. Even now, she tutors – full time on the internet, six days a week until 1 a.m.

And in recent years, Karen has found a unique way to combine her interest and talent in needlework together with monetary funds -- via KIVA, an international nonprofit to crowdfund loans to unlock capital for the financially-underserved.

Karen makes small dollar loan donations to KIVA with the specific intention that the dollars go towards indigenous women so they may start a small needlework business to support their families.

Karen's making a difference in the lives of many, while furthering creative talents in

the crafts that she cares about so much. Altogether – her time, talent and treasure – meets today's understanding of philanthropy.

After my recent chat with Karen, it seemed to me that singing is the bright star in Karen's life. It brings such pleasure to her and to others. And our OTOW chorus is a great way to make that happen.

Also, as I see it, the best way to ensure our community chorus remains as alive as Karen's love for it, is to support it with our generous donations.

## Special Presentation: Laugh Yoga Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2 - 3 pm West Activity Center, Belleair Room

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**FOOD TRUCK  
NIGHT  
January 2023**



Residents and guests filled every table during Food Truck Night on Jan. 11. Main courses included seafood, hot dogs, tacos, barbecued ribs and Philly cheesesteaks. This was the first Food Truck Night with Baton Roux in attendance. Residents were able to order Louisiana-style meals. Some guests simply stopped by for a cold, adult beverage.

(OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)



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# Sixty-seven years of marriage includes 30 years at OTOW and a modeling career

February is a very special month for Arlene and Stan Berger.

They will be celebrating from the beginning of the month all the way to the end of the month.

They will celebrate 67 years of marriage on Feb. 4 and then Stan turns 93 in late February.

Arlene and Stan were teenagers when they first met. They lost several years in between when Stan attended college in Massachusetts and then joined the Army.

They reconnected when Stan was in the service and became engaged before he left for Korea.

Upon his return home, they married and had two children. They bought homes, New York City, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. Today they have six grandchildren and have been Snowbirds at On Top of the World for 30 years.

During their retirement years, Arlene and Stan were active in many community activities and various sports. One activity they became involved in was not anything they would have ever dreamed of ... acting and modeling!

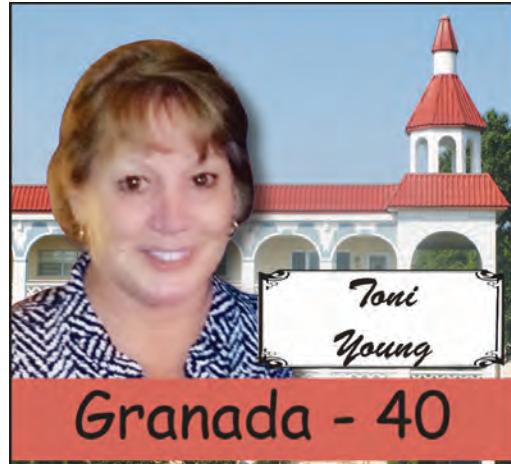
For more than 20 years they were very active as a couple in many commercials and modeling.

The picture on this page shows them in an advertisement they posed for in Time Magazine.

They say, "retirement years offer many surprises, pleasures and rewards!"

Residents from our building had a beautiful day at Tarpon Turtle last month with our monthly building luncheon buddies.

We had a great turnout of 14 people. We missed some of our regulars, but gained sev-



eral newcomers.

Thank you for the good time!

Next month we will meet at Rhodies Restaurant and Pancake House, 2475 N. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, at noon on Feb. 13.

Tom Jamrozy will be our leader for our upcoming road trip on March 5 to Tampa Bay Downs. We will have an exciting day of horse racing, brunch, bets and good times.

Please watch the bulletin board in our core for details and contact Tom for payment and questions.

Don't forget our "Meeting on the Green" every fourth Thursday of the month. 4-5 p.m. It's a great way to socialize and keep up with building gossip, share news and meet neighbors.

Contributing suggestions to make things better are always welcomed topics. Bring a chair, your favorite beverage, and ideas to share. We will let you know each month the day and itinerary.

Birthdays for January were Ruthie Mc-



Stan and Arlene Berger hold a photo that was part of an ad that appeared in Time magazine.

Mullen and me, Toni.

Please let me know of any anniversaries, birthdays, or any other news to help me keep

you informed! Text me (770) 313-1450.

Until next month, be blessed and let not your hearts be troubled!

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## Classifieds

Any On Top of the World resident with a valid Activity Card can place one classified ad in OTOW News each month. You are limited to 40 words, which includes your phone number. You may not use OTOW News classifieds to sell vehicles, your condo, bedding, or anything valued at \$500 or more. You may not use this section to find a roommate, rent your condo and for dating services. Classifieds can be dropped off in the newsroom during business hours or placed in our drop box in the Crystal Beach Room. Classifieds cannot be submitted over the telephone.

### LADIES BIKE

For sale: Ladies bike. 1 year old. 26-inch, Blue Drifter. Sun bicycle. Six speeds. Paid \$700. Asking \$350 or best offer. Only used 20 times. Includes rear-view mirror, basket, lights, helmet and lock. Call (207) 505-1517.

### GOLF CLUBS AND BAG

For sale, golf clubs and bag, including 1, 3 and 5 woods, 3-9 irons, pitching wedge and sand wedge. Sun Mountain bag in good condition. \$135. Also a Futura by Titleist putter. \$180. Call Duane at (319) 377-4550.

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For sale, set of ladies golf clubs with bag and three-wheel pullcart. Asking \$350. Right handed. Grand Slam XT. Write to Marina at vivamarina24@gmail.com.

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(3) GO ONLINE to otowclearwaterinfo.com.  
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## OTOW CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

To ensure timely delivery of On Top of the World mailings, please use this change of address form. This form will allow for permanent or temporary change of address. This form may be dropped off at the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center or mailed to:

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Unit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Don't forget to notify the United States Post Office of the change!**

**(Submit new form upon return)**

# Shuffleboard starts year with new board, new hours and new tournaments

By Tim Lewis

There have been many changes to the On Top of the World Shuffleboard Club since last spring when we went on our summer break.

In November, the six shuffleboard courts at the East Activity Center were stripped and refinished with a low maintenance surface. Thank you OTOW for investing in this endeavor.

There has been a bit of a learning curve for returning players as the new surface plays differently than the old courts.

In December, we came together for our annual meeting and elected a new board of officers. Elected to office were Tim Lewis, president; Art Chaikin, vice president; Beverly Patterson, treasurer and Mark Legin, secretary.

We have built up our membership to about 30 people and welcome new players who are looking for a fun, competitive activity.

Jan. 9 was our first tournament of the new season. It was an individual (as opposed to team) competition with 18 participants.

After the elimination rounds, the three finalists played for the championship.

Winning the competition was Kelley Lewis. Richard Lagasse finished second and Art Chaikin was in third.

Congrats to the finalists for a well-played tournament.

We will be having a doubles tournament in February. Look for details on our bulletin board along with any other club news.

Our club gathers regularly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. (Time may vary as weather gets hotter, and will be posted on our bulletin board near courts as well as this newspaper.)

We welcome OTOW residents who are non-members to play shuffleboard with the group one time, with no strings attached, before making any decision to join. If you wish



Pictured above is a group photo of everyone during play in January. At right are the top three finishers in a Jan. 9 tournament. Left to right are Treasurer Beverly Patterson, Art Chaikin (third), Kelley Lewis (first) and Richard Lagasse (second).

to join the club, the annual dues are \$10.

If you are an OTOW resident who has your own equipment, you are welcome to play anytime the courts are available. During club hours, club members have first priority to the courts.

For more info, call or text Tim Lewis 207-441-3472. See you on the courts.



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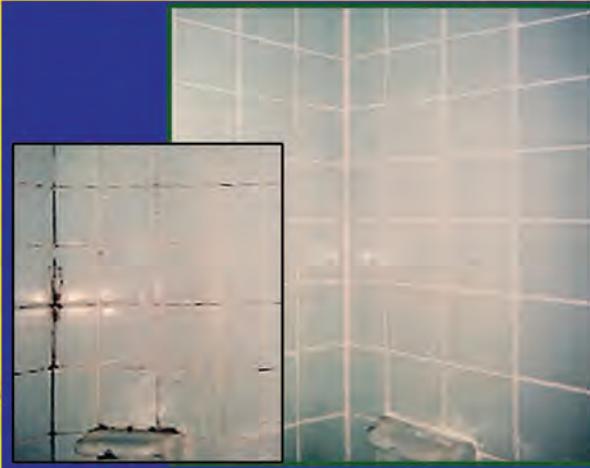
*Ruth Pittman, Instructor*

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**Tile & Grout  
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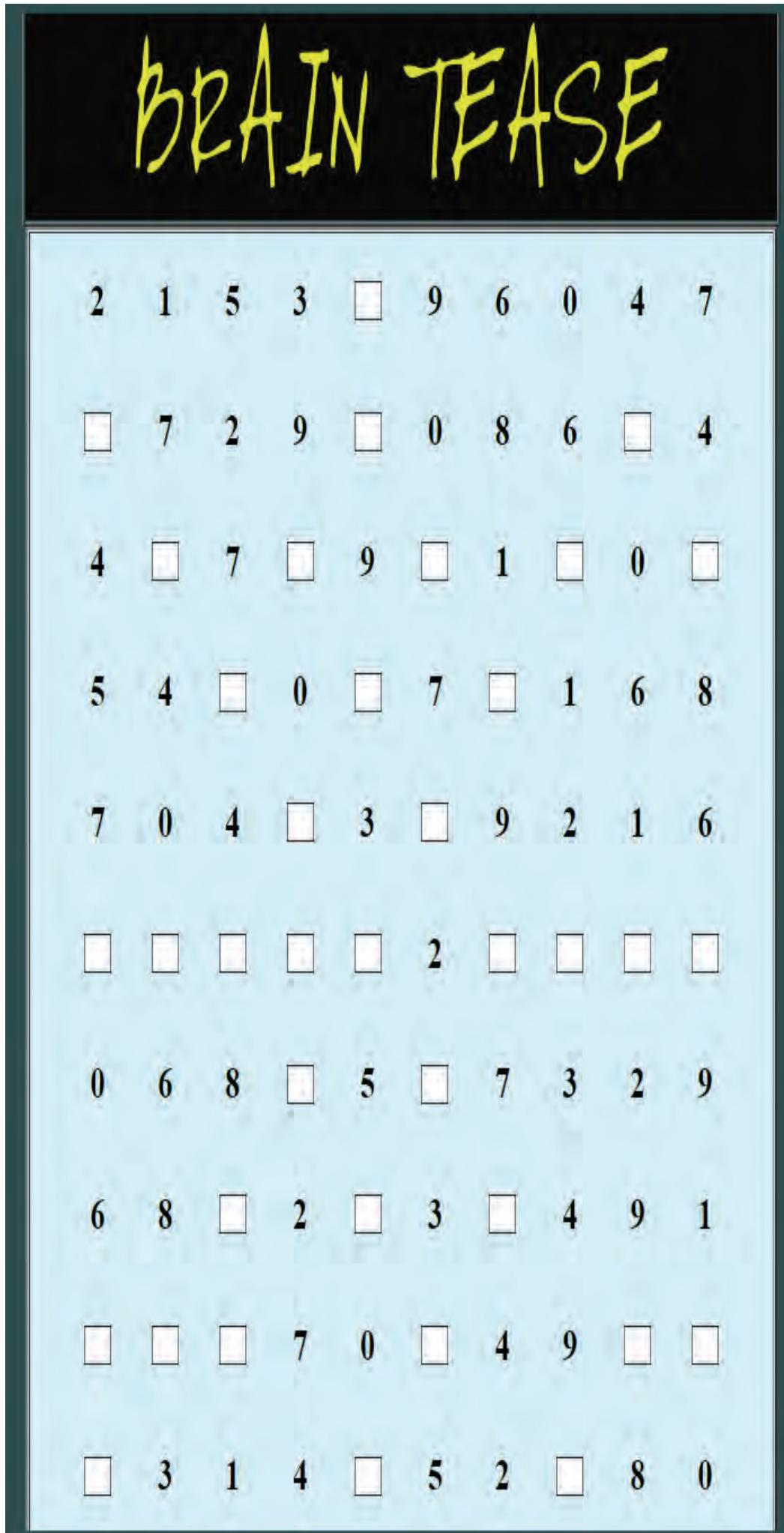
With this coupon.  
Not valid with any other discount.  
Minimum \$250.

**CALL NOW! Grout Tech** **727-768-6828**

We are a family business - bonded and insured - License #C11060

Services available 7 days a week

Services available 7 days a week



**OTOW NEWS WORD MIX**

Unscramble the six words listed below.  
If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word of the month.  
If you cannot come up with the secret word of the month, then redo at least one of the six scrambled words.

D	P	I	R	A		
E	A	M	R	B		
L	N	E	Y	I	C	
N	S	T	S	U	E	
L	A	T	M	E	A	
I	H	N	C	M	E	A

**SECRET WORD**

Last month's scrambled words: House, organ, reflex, nimble, eastabl, takeout. Secret Word Last Month: hornet

## OTOW LIBRARY

### NEW BOOKS

“Dreamland” by Nicholas Sparks  
 “The Christmas Spirit” by Debbie Macomber  
 “Long Shadows” by David Baldacci  
 “Triple Cross” by James Patterson

**Join the library for \$5.**

Used Books for sale: 3 for \$1. Special books 10 for \$1.  
 Also free books. Membership not required for free books.  
 Hours: 10 am-12 pm Mondays, 1-3 pm Wednesdays

## Good Karma Book Club

10 a.m., Thursday, February 14  
**“Matrix”**  
 by Laura Groff

10 a.m., Thursday, March 16  
**“Time Is a River”**  
 by Mary Alice Monroe.

All of our meetings take place in the EAC Crystal Beach Room  
 For more information, see our Webpage on the Box Office:  
[otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com) - look for our link

Need more information, write to [Jslantz1948@aol.com](mailto:Jslantz1948@aol.com) or call 727-754-3823

# Free Activities

**All Year Round!**



**Aqua Aerobics Classes**

If The Outdoor Temperature Is Over 62 Degrees, We're Exercising

Need a fun way to exercise?  
Join our exercise classes each morning.  
All are welcome. Classes are free.

9-10 a.m., Weekdays, East Activity Center Swimming Pool

## Social Dance Lessons

Social Dance Lessons will continue. Instructor Fred Mills allows his students to pick the dances to learn and there are a ton of dances to choose from. He will teach Cha Cha, Foxtrot, Hustle, Rumba, Salsa, Swing, Waltz and more.

Fred's classes are open to all residents with a valid activity card. Social Dance takes place every Thursday afternoons, 1-3 p.m., in the West Activity Center Belair Room.

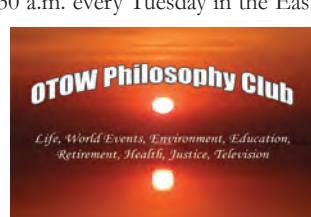
## Shuffleboard Club

Mondays, Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays  
starting at 4 pm

## Philosophy Club

The On Top of the World Philosophy Club is meeting again. The group will get together from 10-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

Join us for interesting and lively conversations. Each week is a different subject. You may come just to listen. You may volunteer to present a topic, but we do not discuss religion or politics. Please be respectful of different values. Coffee, water and tea are available. Everyone must wear a mask.



**Bible Study**  
**2 pm, Fridays**  
**Crystal Beach Room**  
**All denominations welcome**

**tops**  
"Take Off Pounds Sensibly."



Meets 10-11 a.m. Thursdays in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

We are very motivated to help you if you want to lose weight. We are a friendly group and usually go out for a healthy meal after our meetings. Because we are a part of a national club, we charge \$37 per person for yearly national dues. Please come to our meetings at no charge for one month to try us out.

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



The Bonesavers exercise group meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-9 a.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

We use hand weights and ankle weights, a towel and a chair.

If you want to try it out, just come over and borrow the weights we already have available.

Men and women are both welcome.

## Ballroom dance classes



Ballroom dance classes will take place at 1 p.m. every Monday in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

The instructor is Noland Shade, who teaches beginner dancing to help couples learn how to dance socially.

Dance lessons are taught at a slow pace so anyone can learn how to dance over time.

No pre-registration is necessary. Simply show up and learn.

## Free bridge lessons in February

Would you like to learn to play Bridge? This is your opportunity.

Free introductory Bridge lessons on Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 9-10 a.m. in the East Activity Center Ozona Room. For questions, you may send a text to Laurie Cole at 586 569-1023.

## Mah Jongg players wanted

Wanted: Mah Jongg players to fill in at our afternoon games. We play Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1-3:30 p.m. in residents' condos. Please call Libby at 727-669-1486. No experience needed!

## Billiards

9-Ball Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

8-Ball 6:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays

## Ceramics

Thursdays

**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Clearwater Room

## Pray for America

Saturdays

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Crystal Beach Room

## ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

*ciao*



Free Classes - All Levels Welcome – Dunedin Room EAC

**Fridays 10:30 to Noon - January 6 through March 31**

For more information call (813) 494-4627 or (586) 247-7574

## Experienced Mah Jongg players wanted

Are you ready to toss your tiles again? If so, there is a group of experienced Mah Jongg players that meets each Friday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. in the West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room.

We mainly adhere to the National Mah Jongg League guidelines with just a few variation.

No sitting at home in your room wishing you were playing Mah Jongg! Bring your lucky Mah Jongg card and join us Friday afternoons. We look forward to seeing you. If you have questions, please stop by the Palm Harbor Room before our games begin.



**SPONSORED  
BY**



# **West Side residents get a ride to the parade!**

**NEW!**

**to the annual Irish Club Parade.**

**On Saturday, March 4,  
between 9 am - 9:30 am,**

**the famous Jolley Trolley will be picking up  
residents in front of West Side buildings  
and taking them to the parade  
on the East Side. No charge!**

**From 11 am - 12 pm, the Jolley Trolley  
will also be taking people home.**

**WATCH FOR THE TROLLEY!**