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Only Good News For 45 Years

VOLUME 45 NO. 1

Welcome 2013

By Doug Kates
Editor

A friendly warning to all On Top of the World residents.

In 2013, Florida will be celebrating its 500th anniversary, since Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon discovered the land in 1513, and incoming Entertainment Committee Chairperson Hazel Kelly vows to make sure we celebrate the anniversary with one heck of a year-long party, which starts New Year's Eve.

"All heck is going to break loose," she said. "There will be some craziness."

The Entertainment Committee's New Year's Eve dance not only marks the end of 2012 and start of 2013, but it also marks another historic occasion.

When 2012 Chairperson Rich Hayes hands the baton off to Hazel, the Entertainment Committee will be getting its first-ever, repeat chairperson. Hazel last served as chairperson in 2010, but when the position unexpectedly opened up, the membership overwhelmingly voted for her to come back to provide experienced leadership for one more year.

The New Year's Eve party is under Rich's watch and promises to be another great time for all. Planning has taken months and the Entertainment Committee actually starts decorating the East Activity Center early New Year's Eve morning.

A magical countdown clock is set up, balloons are tied and tables are readied with hats and noisemakers.

In past years, silver archways have hovered over the EAC entrance way, but as of press time, Rich was keeping his New Year's Eve decoration plans a secret, only to be unveiled



Hazel Kelly and her husband, Leo, dance in the new year from last year's party.



for the first arrivals.

The evening begins at 9 p.m. and always draws a sellout. No tickets are sold at the door.

The band "Flashback" performs and most people dance.

"There's a lot of happiness and joy as people arrive," said publicist Evelyn Flam.

"The room looks very nice," Hazel added. "Everyone is excited. They socialize and move around to meet everyone."

Sometimes the women seem to

enjoy dancing more than the men, but when that happens, the women simply form circles and create their own dances.

After nearly three hours of music, dancing and chatting, the countdown begins. The magical clock becomes center stage and everyone counts down the final minute.

Finally, the new year becomes official.

"We toast in the New Year with champagne," Evelyn said, "and there is a lot of hugging and kissing. Most

residents stick around for one more hour of dancing and music, while other residents get together and go out for breakfast.

As Hazel said, by midnight people are just raring to go.

"I've been coming here for years," she said. "Everyone is in such a positive mood."

"Many people see this as the start of 2013," Evelyn said, "and as St. Augustine offers its Fountain of Youth, Hazel's planning on providing a Fountain of Fun in the coming year."

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Few new projects planned for 2013

Annual meeting in review

First, I would like to thank all the Association members who submitted their proxies. In order for the Association to conduct an annual meeting, we must obtain a quorum of owners either in person or by proxy.

I am happy to report we obtained a quorum. Second, thank you to all those members who attended the annual meeting on Dec. 20.

At the meeting, we covered a great deal of material generally dealing with the state of the community. We also covered the factors that affect the operation, and very much by extension, the quality of life for every resident.

Judging by the questions, insurance was a topic on many people's minds. The gist being, what is adequate insurance coverage on your home and contents?

Also discussed was the Board's concern over the hardening market for property coverage in light of Hurricane Sandy and Tropical Storm Debby.

The Service Department continues to deal with serious leaks, and collateral damage from improperly maintained water heaters. Unfortunately, this is a trend that is not abating.

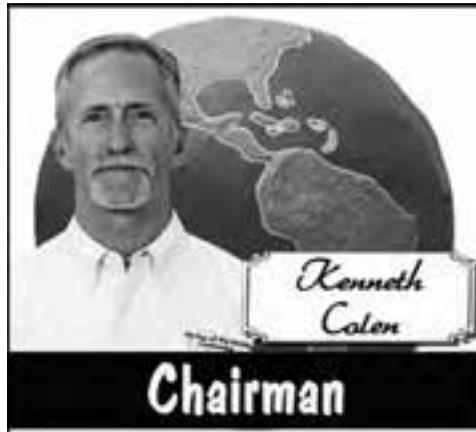
We are surprised to find 30-plus year old water heaters that still function. Unfortunately it is the water heater housing that eventually rusts out and leaks. In all cases, residents found out just how important having adequate insurance coverage is when faced with extensive damage to their unit and adjoining units. The water heater is an owner's responsibility and they are liable when not maintained.

The Association actively seeks recovery for the costs of repair work in each instance.

The cost of property coverage for the Association is expected to increase in the fiscal year 2013-14.

To begin with, 2012 has been a very costly year for storm related damage on a national level. Bear in mind that insurance is an international business, so we can pile on the damage from Hurricane Sandy and other disasters.

As if that isn't quite enough,



global insurance companies are feeling very pressured on their earnings in this global recession and low interest rate environment.

Profitability needs to be restored and that will happen through higher rates and stricter underwriting standards (harder to bind coverage).

Other questions to the Board focused on what we (the Board), are doing to control costs and operate efficiently.

I always welcome these types of questions because it is important that they are asked. By way of response, let me state that the Board delegates most of the operations to Parkway Maintenance and Management Company. That said, the Board remains accountable for the outcome.

Parkway regularly bids work to (1) keep existing contractors honest, and (2) identify competent and competitive suppliers and mechanics.

Secondly, much of the work that was going to third parties is now performed "in house" at significant savings. Roofing repair is done in house, as is most electrical work and construction-related maintenance.

Grounds maintenance and aerial tree work is also performed by our competent and trained staff.

Roof replacements, and elevator repair and renovation, are contracted to third parties because of the extensive scope of work both entail.

Regarding the recreation amenities, much of the work is performed by staff. Notably, much of the recent renovations were taken in house. Golf course maintenance operation is subcontracted out because the Board found it could get better work at very competitive pricing. The courses really show the benefit

of that decision.

Discussion also highlighted the many improvements to the recreation facilities. The point is, the challenge to balance the Association's budget, while still providing a full range of amenities that meet the needs of the majority of residents in the community.

Finally, a good deal of time was spent discussing enforcement matters.

We live in a tight-knit community. What one person does (or doesn't do) may adversely affect their neighbors.

Social and Recreational Activities

Recreational activities are very dependent on resident-directed and organized activities. Were the Association to be the "go to" for programming, it would leave little room for resident involvement and creativity.

As this has evolved over these many years, you all know how wonderfully creative so many residents are. This allowance and respect for creativity is one of the really great aspects of this fine community. The recreation is about fun, camaraderie, and long lasting friendships, as well as the space to be creative.

Community Update

Hard wired smoke detector installation is scheduled to begin Jan. 14, 2013, starting on Buildings 1, 2, and 3. This smoke detector installation work will continue through December 2013. We will be posting notices in lobbies, on the OTOW News sites, and in this newspaper in advance of any scheduled work.

I cannot stress enough the importance of your complete cooperation in allowing the electrical contractor access to your unit to complete the work. Disruption is minimal and installation should take less than 90 minutes. You will need to allow access as well for the County electrical inspector. Annual fire extinguisher inspections will also continue in January.

Reroofing on Building 94 is scheduled to start on Jan. 7, 2013, weather permitting. Building 21 is

scheduled for waterproofing on the back of the building in mid-January. Please keep in mind that these dates are approximate, and schedules and structures are subject to change.

Floor replacement will begin on the second floor areas of Building 40 and first floor areas on Building 41. We anticipate approximately two days to complete each floor, depending on the temperature and the moisture index.

Being January, we may be challenged by condensation that can slow down work as we dry the area. Please exercise extreme caution while traversing around or near the work area. The workers take every precaution to ensure your safety, but your attention and cooperation are a must!

Structural inspection of buildings (inspection process across property to determine condition, then affect repairs on headers, tower elements, walkways, sidewalks, parapets, columns, railings, center core doors, etc.), as well as general maintenance is ongoing.

Ongoing projects include the removal of excess vegetation and debris from drainage ditches across property.

Also, tree removal of some of the larger oak and holly trees that have become unstable will continue into 2013.

Stump grinding from removed trees will begin Jan. 7. It is expected to take approximately one month. Removal of invasive plantings will continue property wide, as well as simplification of end stairwell beds/plantings. Removal of unapproved or excessive plantings in back and front porch areas of units is a continuing effort coordinated with Inspection Services and affected owners.

East Activity Center pond drainage over-flow weir replacement is scheduled for later in the month.

Parking lot stall number re-stenciling will continue on the west side as well as water meter box number re-stenciling.

A reclaimed water expansion project on the west side is anticipated to be completed by mid-January. The potable water main replacement project should wrap up in February.

Insurance is the responsibility of the individual unit owner

Condominium buildings within the On Top of the World Condominium Association are insured through the Association.

The deductible for “named storms” or hurricanes is 5 percent of the building value, with a minimum deductible of \$250,000, per occurrence.

A “non-named storm” event or tornado, the deductible is \$10,000 payable by the Association.

Once the deductible is met, the insurance coverage takes effect and the remainder of the loss is paid for by the insurance company.

As a practical matter, an event that caused the Association to incur a loss of \$250,000 would require a special assessment to all owners. The special assessment would amount to approximately \$51 per unit to make up the \$250,000 deductible. For all other property losses (fire, lightning, vandalism, etc.), the deductible is \$10,000 per occurrence.

Each owner should have in effect an HO6 Policy which covers the contents of the unit, with an Additions and Alterations rider, and indi-



C. Guy Woolbright
Guest Columnist

vidual liability coverage.

Additionally, the loss assessment provision of your personal policy should be at least \$2,000. Contents coverage may vary greatly depending on what you wish to insure. At a minimum, you should have enough insurance for the replacement cost of your furnishings, personal items, floor and wall coverings, appliances, and cabinetry.

All personal insurance 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 and losses.

Association Policy Deductibles Potential Assessment

The property insurance for your association includes the following deductibles:

- \$10,000 deductible per occurrence, except:

- Named Storm Wind deductible is 5 percent of location total insured value subject to a \$250,000 minimum deductible per occurrence;

- Named Storm Flood deductible is 5 percent of location total insured value subject to a \$250,000 minimum deductible per occurrence;

- All other Flood deductibles subject to \$100,000 per occurrence except if the building is in Flood Zones beginning with A or V, then the deductible is \$500,000.

- Earthquake deductible is \$100,000 per occurrence

- Sinkhole or “catastrophic ground collapse” is covered under the policy limit, with a deductible of \$10,000.

Uninsured damages (falling outside the scope of coverage, outside the limit purchased, or within the prevailing deductible) sustained by the Association shall be assessed to the unit owners.

Examples:

- Building insured value \$5,544,000, 72 units.

Building sustains wind damage during a hurricane amounting to \$3,000,000.

Named Storm wind deductible is 5 percent x \$5,544,000 which equals a \$277,200 deductible.

A \$277,200 deductible divided by Association Membership (4,968) = \$56 per unit.

- Building insured value \$5,544,000, 72 units.

Building catches on fire after lightning strike with damage amounting to \$300,000.

A \$10,000 deductible divided by Association Membership (4,968) is \$2 per unit.

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Hard-Wired Smoke Detector Retrofit

Proposed Retrofit Schedule

Month	Buildings	June '13	17, 21, 22, 23
January '13	1, 2, 3	July '13	24, 25, 26
February '13	4, 5, 6	August '13	27, 28, 29
March '13	7, 8, 9	September '13	30, 31, 32, 38
April '13	10, 11, 12	October '13	40, 41, 42, 43 (partial)
May '13	14, 15, 16, 17 (partial)	November '13	43, 44, 45

Shown above is the schedule for smoke detector replacement work. If you believe you might not be present or available during your building's designated month, please cut out this form and return the information to On Top of the World. Forms can be delivered in person to the East Activity Center Service Desk or they can be mailed to the address below.

On Top of the World Condominium Association
Special Projects
2069 World Parkway Blvd E
Clearwater, FL, 33763

Bldg # _____ Unit # _____ OTOW Address _____

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: _____



Never worry about water damage again...



3-inch diameter, 3-inches tall

This is an early warning water leak detection alarm. This device may help protect property from water damage which could otherwise go unnoticed. Place this 3-inch tall unit on a floor surface next to air conditioners, indoor appliances, water heaters, water conditioners, air conditioners, pipes, toilets and more. When rising water reaches its sensor, an alarm will sound for up to 72 hours. Battery operated.

For more information, and details on cost, visit the Service Desk in the East Activity Center.



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

- (1) CALL: 727-799-3417 (Option 6)
Messages are retrieved Mon-Fri, 8-3:30.
- (2) Visit the East Activity Center Service Desk from 8:30-3, Monday-Friday.
- (3) Go Online to otowclearwaterinfo.com and fill out a service request.
- (4) For service after 3 PM call 799-1115. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required at the time of service.

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

NOTICE

Important bulletin for all residents of On Top of the World

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

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

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

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

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

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

Properly dispose of your medications

The Clearwater Police Department continues to sponsor the Medicine Cabinet Program to dispose of outdated and no-longer-used medications.

They will also accept outdated animal medications, but will not accept used or old needles.

Residents are reminded, do not throw away old medications and do not flush them down the toilet as they could contaminate our water.

Representatives from the police department will be at our East Activity Center from 8-11 a.m., Monday, Jan. 14 at a table next to the Gift Shoppe. Bring your old or unused medications in that morning.

Start your new year with healthy exercise and opera music

The Christmas holidays are now over and hopefully everyone had a joyous time.

We now start a new year and we hope it will be a very prosperous and happy year for everyone.

The start of a new year is always a great time to make some healthy changes in our lifestyles. It is always very beneficial to add some type of exercise to our everyday routine.

Exercise does not have to be strenuous. In fact, they say walking is an excellent exercise. Start out walking two or three times a week for 15 minutes. Slowly increase the length of time and days per week.

You should try to avoid processed and packaged foods and add more fresh foods to our diets. You will find many good Web sites with lots of information regarding healthy eating.



We are very happy to announce that the fabulous young artists with "Opera Tampa" are returning to the On Top of the World Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee on Thursday, Jan. 10, for a free program.

These young, professionally-trained singers, are ambassadors of opera for the David A Straz, Jr. Cen-

ter for the Performing Arts. They are a pure joy to listen to and so very entertaining in every way.

The regular Good Neighbors meeting will start at 10 a.m. with free coffee and donuts at 9:30 a.m. and there will be drawings for door prizes. You won't want to miss this fun morning so be sure and put the time and date on your calendar.

This newspaper is a great source of community information, and the clubs and organizations have articles regarding their future events and trips.

Please visit the various clubs and organizations on Monday and Thursday mornings in the EAC Auditorium between 8:30-10:30 a.m to purchase your event tickets. Come up and visit them and learn more about each club and pick which ones you want to join.

Just remember to get out, make some new friends and have fun.

To advertise in our February edition, checks must be received by Jan. 15*

***The normal deadline for purchasing ads is the 15th of each month, but we are in our busy season and our color ad space will likely sell out way before the 15th.**

Black and white ad space could also sell out before the 15th.

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 it feels is not of direct benefit to the residents of On Top of the World. 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, BUT ON TOP OF THE WORLD IS NOT A CONSUMER AGENCY.

We endeavor 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 newspaper does not strive to be a profit-making entity. We take pride in the fact that the On Top of the World News staff is entirely made up of volunteers except for two professionals to coordinate the operation of this paper.

On Top of the World News does not accept an advertiser solely because it is willing to pay to advertise. Contractors, barbers and cosmetologists must all be licensed to advertise. In some cases, background checks are required. All advertisements must contain a local address or a local telephone number.

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

STAFF

- Kenneth Colen Publisher
- Doug Kates Editor
- Dave Hart Assistant Editor

Press Association Officers

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- Jackie Dooley Vice President
- Dana Garlick Secretary

Building Reporter Coordinator

Gloria Walz

This month's volunteers:

- Esta-Lee Schwartz Cele Radeloff
- Dawn Rubio Eileen Bianchi
- Barb Sundberg Arlene Bergen
- Theresa Kawalec Gloria Clifford

Newsroom Hours

9:30-6 M-Th 9-2 F

February newspapers will be delivered on Feb. 1

Coming in January ... a Web site for OTOW groups to keep residents up-to-date on events

By Doug Kates
Editor

Imagine sitting at your own computer and browsing through all the activities taking place at On Top of the World over the next two months.

Or, imagine you belong to a club or group and you want to get your entertainment information out on the Web for everyone to see.

Starting in January, this will all be possible.

On Top of the World is ready to introduce its new "Box Office" site. The site will be accessible from any computer as long as you visit the Web site address listed below.

Viewers will be greeted by an "Introduction Page" and then a "Home Page."

From the Home Page there are a slew of options.

Along the left side of the page will be a list of all OTOW clubs, groups and sports teams. Click on any of those choices and you will be taken right to a Web page that will focus on just the group you selected.

Each club or group in the list will be able to maintain this specific page on its own and will be able to use the site to preview its next scheduled event. The page can change on a daily, weekly or monthly basis - it all depends on how the club or group chooses to manage it.

For those residents who want to look for events on a specific day or in a specific room, there is a "Search" section. The site will search and list events by club name, date and time, and even indicate if tickets are necessary.

Do you know which room an event is taking place in, but you don't know where that room is? Don't worry. The search feature will also take you to a map of the East or West Activity Center and show you where each room is located.



Even if you are not looking for a specific event, the maps will help you find your way around both buildings.

Do you want to know if any groups are offering road trips next month? Do you want to know what golf events are coming up? The site will make this search simple, too.

The Home Page will also feature a section where OTOW management can notify you of important or emergency information within a minute's notice. You can't miss it.

And lastly, for those of you with spare time on your hands, this site also comes with a game, "World Explorer."

If you decide to play World Explorer, one at a time you will be shown a photograph of 1 of the 94 buildings here in the community. Your task is to guess the names of the buildings.

At first, the game is easy because you are given only three choices for

answers. But as the game progresses, you will be given up to 10 choices.

At the final level, there are 9-11 building photos remaining. Guess all their names correctly and you become a member of the World Explorer Hall of Fame. However, get one answer wrong and you will not qualify for the Hall of Fame. Get three names incorrect and your game is over.

As mentioned before, the best part of this Web site is the freedom for each club, group or sports team to contribute information. It will be like each club or group having its own Web site and you'll be surprised how easy.

Each club, group or sports team should assign one person to manage your Box Office Web page. The managing part is very simple and changes can be made from any computer at any time - even the computer in your own condo, even in the middle of the night.

You do not have to go through anyone at OTOW to make your changes, but please note your content will be monitored and your group could lose privileges for abusing the site.

Each club, group or sports team will have its own sign-in code-word, which must be picked up in the OTOW Newsroom.

A meeting has been scheduled for Monday, Jan. 7 at 4 p.m. in the Large Card Room for anyone who wants more information about this site. At least one person from each club, group or sports team should have a representative at this meeting, preferably the person who will manage your page. Passwords will be presented at this time.

For more information, contact Doug Kates in the OTOW newsroom at 799-3216. No passwords will be given over the phone.

When the site is up and running ...

Visit

<http://www.OTOWClearwaterInfo.com>

**click Rec Centers and Amenities
and click Box Office Link**

Stop in Jan. 11 for a watercolor demonstration

By Jean Doane

The Art Guild held their Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m. in Room A of the East Activity Center.

Everyone brought treats to share, and the Guild provided the beverages.

Mary Haydostian won the "Artist of the Month" award, and her picture will be in the lobby of the EAC until Jan. 11 when a new winner's picture will be selected. All the entries can be viewed in our new display cabinets in Room A off the ballroom. Mary's picture is an interesting, quizzical pen and ink portrait of an old man. Be sure to take the time to see it.

The Christmas party program consisted of a presentation, consisting of many art supplies and tools from Masterpiece Art Supplies in Clearwater. Five \$10 gift certificates from the Masterpiece Store were given out for the 50/50 drawing. Everyone had a great time and we are thrilled to have a growing interested group.

Art Guild meets the second Friday of every month, November through April, at 1 p.m. in Room A in the EAC. You don't have to be an artist, just interested in art.



Our next meeting will be Friday, Jan. 11, at 1 p.m. A local artist, Lorraine Potaki, will give a demonstration in watercolor. The Guild has enjoyed her presentation in the past, and she will give another skilled, informative and entertaining demonstration.

Put Sunday, Feb. 29, on your calendar. The Guild will sponsor an art show in the afternoon from 1-4 p.m. It is earlier this year, so don't miss it! It has always been a very nice event, and we need your help to pick a "People's Choice" painting.

Remember "Painting Pals" on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. This is an opportunity to use the room for your own individual art projects in the company of others doing the same things. The company and light are very good and plenty of room to spread



The Artist of the Month for January is Mary Haydostian, right. Her artwork is a portrait of William Saroyan; rendered in pastel and charcoal. Pictured at her left is Dale Stackhouse, guild president.

out and work.

A drawing class, under the tutelage of John Fier, will begin Thursday, Jan. 7. The class is from 1-3 p.m. in Room A of the EAC. They are learn-

ing the basics of drawing in their class. The cost is \$2. Bring your own pencils and art pad. Charcoal and ink are also good materials for this class. See you there!

Available 24hrs
7days a week!

Scrubs \$9.99 per item

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See You Soon Neighbor!



STORE HOURS
Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm

Newspaper's 45th anniversary kicks off with opening of new newsroom

The On Top of the World newspaper started its 45th year in existence by breaking in a new office.

The editorial staff moved from the first floor of the East Activity Center to the second floor, next to the Veranda Room, where the former Activity Office was located.

The new office is about the same size as the former office, but has been organized to best serve the newspaper staff for the next 45 years.

"This is a beautiful office," said editor Doug Kates. "We have a spacious area to work in, enough counter-space to proof pages without bending over and getting a backache, and an outdoor view that is second to none."

The pressroom is now handicap accessible, too.

At the December Press Association holiday luncheon, staff writers were officially informed about the move as they dined on a bounty of food provided by long-time advertiser, Angie's Grill.

During the next Press Associa-



Press Association

tion meeting 7 p.m., on Jan. 3 in the Veranda Room, staff writers will be given a tour of the new facility.

This will be the second of three night meetings this season.

Also during the December luncheon, staff members were asked to volunteer to judge the annual Holiday Lights Contest. The result of that contest is in Section 3 of this newspaper.

On Top of the World TV was also very busy in December. The Chorus holiday concert was videotaped and aired during the month on Channels 96 and 720. Plus, "Where Did I See That?" returned for a second try as residents tried to find mystery pictures



Editor's Doug Kates and Dave Hart show off the new newsroom.

in their community.

Future Press Association meetings will take place 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7 in the EAC Lower Card Room; 7 p.m., Thursday, March 7 in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room; and

the Appreciation Luncheon will take place 1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 4 at a place to be determined. Writers must attend at least three meetings and write at least three stories to qualify for the free Appreciation Luncheon.

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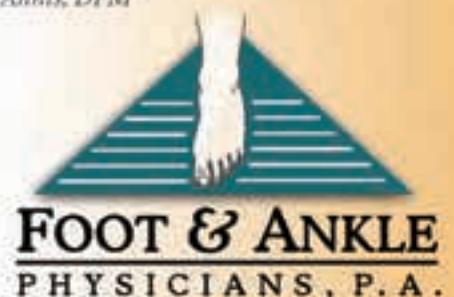
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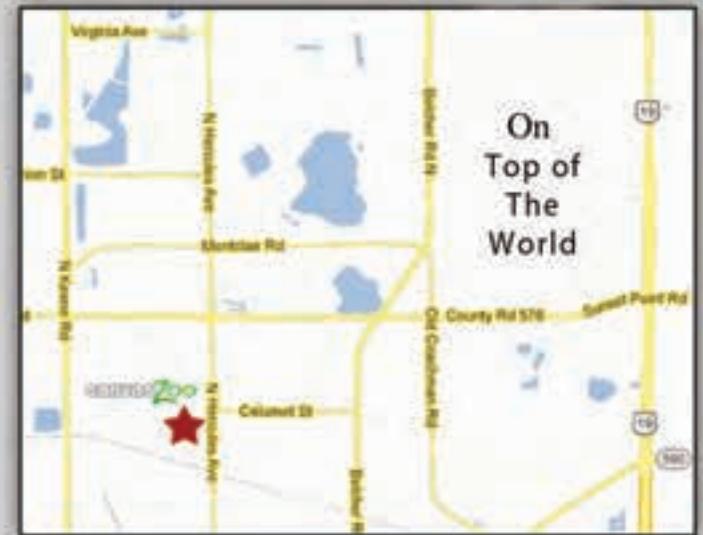
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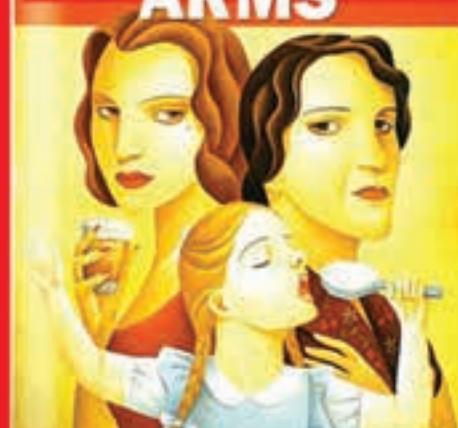
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An OTOW activity that can be shared by friends & neighbors

By Leslee Colen

The new Community Service Office is sponsoring and mentoring a few new activities unique to the On Top of the World community.

We are delighted to bring you "Heirloom Scrapbooking" for preserving a lifetime of memories the old fashioned way. Reminiscent of the Quilting Bees of the past, residents will have the opportunity to make new friends and share memories, while cultivating the skill to craft their lifetime of pictures into a beautiful, lasting visual legacy.

Unlike the process many tech-savvy folks are using today, sitting alone at home digitizing their photos with a computer and compiling them into albums, or paying to have a company do it for them, Heirloom Scrapbooking is done with friends and laughter, and sharing stories and supplies in a community of neighbors.

To that end, I am on a search for a few gregarious and creative resident volunteers to assist in guiding, sharing and launching this new "Scrappy Crafting" group. Old fashioned scrapbooking is creative, resourceful and, most of all, fun! It is easy to learn - anyone can create and organize their pictures with wonderful results

You don't have to spend a lot of dollars with an Online scrapbooking site to help you. Scrapbooking is fun for both men and women. If you are one of the folks who keep their pictures in a box on a shelf collecting dust, bring your box of memories and join us!

Sign up for Heirloom Scrapbooking in the Activities Office at the new Community Service Office. Sessions have already started and are held 1:30 p.m. every Wednesday in the East Activity Center kitchen.

If you are a visually creative resident, who would love to share your skills and friendly, positive personality with neighbors who are hesitant about where to begin, but would love to organize their lifetime of memories, leave me a note at the CSO. Please provide your name, address, phone number and a little background about yourself. We will contact everyone who is interested in helping to get a scrapbook group started to set up a launch meeting.

Best wishes for a joyous 2013!

Heirloom Scrapbooking

the old fashioned way

making the pictures of your life a legacy

Join us for the fun of organizing your history, making new friends and sharing your memories

Wednesdays@ 1:30pm



If a spouse dies, there is no need to redo your Florida deed

Q. My husband passed away about a year ago. Recently, I realized that the deed to our home was still in both his name and mine. Is it necessary to have a new deed that puts the title only in my name?

A. No. When the deed to a property is in the name of a husband and wife, and then one of them passes away, nothing needs to be done.

The reason is, under Florida law; simultaneously upon the death of one spouse, the jointly held husband and wife property belongs solely to the surviving spouse. Put another way, when a spouse dies, his or her interest in the joint property goes away and that leaves the surviving spouse as the sole owner of the property.

This applies not only to real property, but also to jointly held husband and wife banking accounts, credit union accounts, and brokerage accounts.

The same result happens if property is held in joint tenancy with rights of survivorship accounts. This, of course, is different if the jointly held account is in what is known as a tenancy in common. In that case, should one of the joint owners pass on, his/her interest does not go away, but rather, it needs to be administered through estate proceedings.

By the way, do not confuse the word "tenancy" or "tenants" as though the words related to a rental arrangement. A tenancy is simply a method of holding an estate. It can be under a rental agreement but can also be under full ownership or joint ownership or a



life estate interest.

So, if a property is held in the name of a husband and wife, and one of them passes away, it is NOT necessary to have a new deed to the property. It is important, however, to make sure that a death certificate is recorded in the county where the property is located. Recording a death certificate does NOT put title in the name of the survivor. It merely allows the public records to know what happened in the event that the survivor decides to sell the property.

Of course, when a spouse dies, it is always the best course of action to meet with your attorney in order to cover all outstanding issues.

Q. What do the terms "probate estate, non-probate estate and gross estate mean?"

A. A probate estate is the property that is owned by a decedent in his or her name alone and that is or becomes subject to the decedent's Will.

A non-probate estate includes all of a decedent's assets that do not pass

to a beneficiary by means of Florida law or by means of a decedent's will.

Jointly held property, if it is in the names of a husband and wife, or if it is held as a joint tenancy with rights of survivorship, are non-probate assets. So, too, are retirement plans, annuity named beneficiaries and life insurance beneficiaries.

Q. I went to a seminar where one of the speakers said that it was very important to avoid all probate proceedings at death and the best way to do that was with an annuity where beneficiaries are named and also with a living trust. Do you agree with any of that?

A. Nope! Probate is not such a complicated procedure, nor is it necessarily expensive.

As for annuities, well, now, would you expect someone who was selling annuities (for which the sales person's commissions can be grandiose) to tell you that they are not hot stuff and that everyone should have one or two or three, etc.?

As for a living trust, there can be -- note the important word is "can" -- a valid reason to use them. However, in my opinion, all too often they are oversold to folks who really never need one at all.

Estate planning, no matter the size of one's estate, is something that should ONLY be based upon the specific facts for each person. Because I feel that way, I believe that the only wise course of action is to consult with an attorney.

Q. I am engaged to be married to a very nice man. His daughter told me that if I really do love her father, there is no reason for us to have a pre-nuptial agreement. What do you think?

A. As the song says: "What's Love Got To Do With IT?"

There are many property issues that are involved in any marriage, but specifically, in a second or subsequent marriage.

Typically, folks who want to get married also want to protect children or relatives from prior relationships and the best way to do that is with a pre-nuptial agreement. I advise you—I urge you—to seek the advice of an attorney.

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

Hard to keep a steady video camera on Phyllis Diller

I was listening to the radio on Aug. 20 and I heard the newscaster say, "Comedian Phyllis Diller, who paved the way for female comics, passed away this morning in her sleep." She was 95 years old.

I will never forget the first time I saw her. I was a cameraman on the old Jack Paar show, and she was the guest. She had me laughing so much it was hard to keep focus.

Phyllis' career as a stand-up comic began at the Purple Onion in San Francisco in 1955. She was booked for one month and stayed for 87 weeks.

Phyllis was a favorite of Bob



Walter
Balderson

Inside Showbiz

Hope and appeared on his show 23 times. She made several USO tours with him, entertaining the GIs during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

She replaced Carol Channing in

"Hello Dolly" on Broadway. Several TV sitcoms were written for her, but were not successful.

She once said Burt Reynolds asked her out. "I was in his room."

She was married twice and had six children. Her first marriage was to Sherwood Anderson Diller, who became the brunt of many of her jokes, referring to him as "Fang."

In private life, she was a gourmet cook, an accomplished pianist and a painter. She appeared all over the country as the guest pianist with many symphony orchestras.

She liked to tell jokes that in-

cluded her kids, such as the one where they thought her cooking was so bad their Thanksgiving dinner was to commemorate Pearl Harbor.

We all know she had many plastic surgery procedures. She admits to 15 and often made jokes about them.

Although known for decades for smoking from a long cigarette holder in her act, it was only a prop. She never smoked.

Many female comics including Carol Burnett, Totie Fields and Joan Rivers give her credit for opening the doors that made their careers possible.

Not even 'National Bingo' could pay off national debt

It's Sunday night.

Time to gather friends and family in front of the television set to play a little bingo.

Yes, I said bingo.

But this isn't any ordinary bingo game. This fantasy bingo is run by the U.S. Government and is going to help this country get out of debt.

For the first night of "National Bingo," the guest number selector is President Obama or House Speaker Boehner, or maybe we should have co-hosts?

"Sixteen," President Obama calls out, and millions of people across the country check their bingo cards for the number 16.

"Twenty-seven," Boehner calls out next, and the suspense begins to build as thousands of Americans now become aware they are only three numbers away from bingo and a \$1 million dollar first prize.



Eventually, the president calls out a lucky number that turns someone in Florida into a bingo millionaire. The person calls in, gives their card identification number, and the president says we have our first winner of the night.

Balloons and confetti fall from the rafters and music plays in the background!

Not only do we have a new mil-

lionaire, but \$1 million dollars has been given back to the government to help pay off the debt.

The show continues, a new game of bingo begins, and by the end of the night we have 25 winners and give a total of \$25 million to help pay off the debt.

Sound crazy?

OK. Maybe a little crazy. Maybe even a little illegal.

But instead of selling the state of California to a foreign country because we're so in debt, why not create a nationally televised, nationally played, bingo game that gets the whole country involved - just like a lottery.

Here's the plan:

You buy a bingo card at your favorite store for \$2 - or maybe you buy 10 bingo cards for \$20 to increase your chances of winning.

On the night of the next, live, televised show, there are 25 games of

bingo. There are at least 25, million dollar-winners, and at the same time \$25 million goes to debt reduction. If the show is twice a week, there are 50 winners and \$50 million goes to debt reduction.

Over the span of a year, or 53 weeks, there will be more than 100 new bingo millionaires and more than \$2.65 billion donated for debt reduction. Sound too good to be true?

OK. OK. There is a down side.

Even if "National Bingo" could raise \$2.65 billion a year, with the national debt currently around \$16 trillion, it would still take 6,100 years to pay off the debt - and that doesn't include additional interest or additional expenditures. So, we're actually talking closer to 7,000 years.

Hmmmm.

So, maybe "National Bingo" won't work afterall ... but at least I came up with a new idea.

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photos by Gene Fissar

Reminder



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dryers, washers must be inspected by licensed plumbers, electricians

The management company for On Top of the World Condominium Association has found instances of improperly installed washer/dryer units in several condominium units. These washer/dryer installations have been made without approval and guidance from the Association and without compliance to the plumbing code or the electrical code. This leaves the owner and/or prospective new owners open to significant liability in the event of an overflow or a fire.

Your Association strongly urges an inspection of washers and dryers installed in any condominiums built prior to 1995, in particular, those units located on the east side of Belcher Road. If your unit is located on the west side of Belcher, you may also be impacted if a washer and dryer were added after purchasing the unit.

The Association strongly urges you to contact both a licensed, insured plumber and electrician and arrange for an inspection immediately. Corrections to these potential hazards are the unit owner's obligation.

Forward any documentation from the inspection to the OTOW Condominium Association, 2069 World Parkway Blvd. E, Clearwater, Fl., 33763. A copy will be retained in a permanent file for that unit. If work was undertaken to correct the problem, such remedial work must be described in the documentation. Only documentation received from a licensed plumber or electrician will be considered valid.

All parties are put on Notice that the Association does not accept responsibility nor shall it assume responsibility for any type of loss or damage resulting from installed washers or dryers. In those instances where the Association has been required to expend sums of money to make repairs resulting from installed washers or dryers, the Association reserves the right to take legal action against the owners of the units where the washers or dryers are installed.

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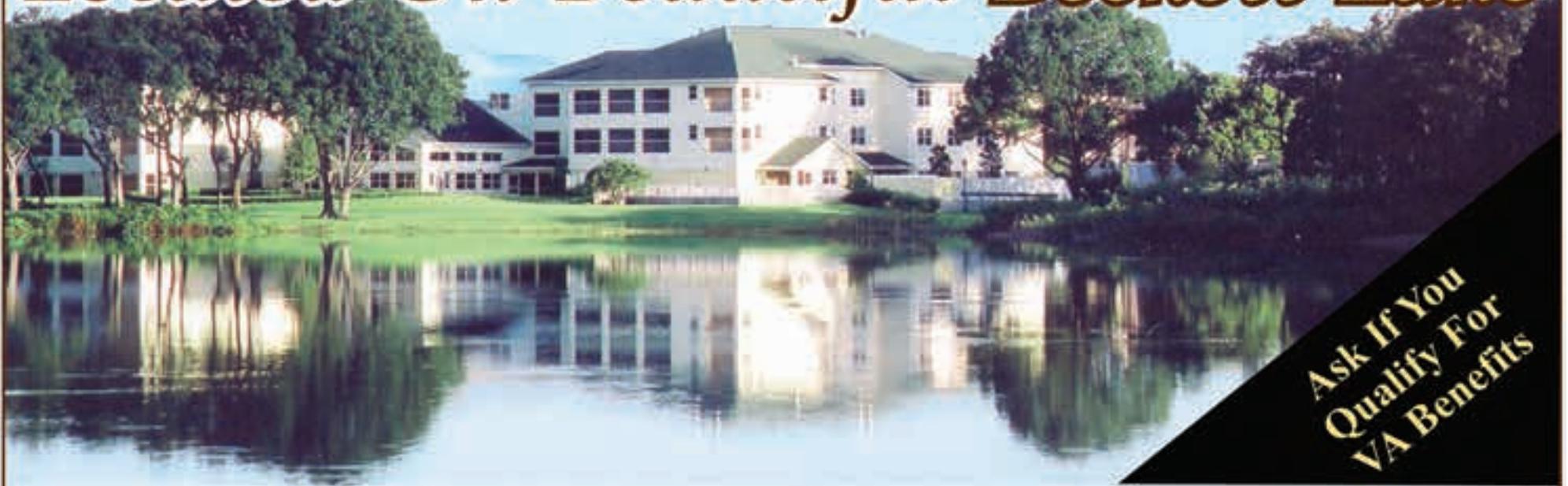
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On Top of the World unveils new Community Service Office

By Leslee Colen

Over the past several years, updates, additions and upgrades have taken place at the East Activity Center and West Activity Center.

These updates include locker rooms in both activity centers, parking lot resurfacing, improvements to the pools, the gyms, major rehabs for the spa, the billiard room, a new interview office, new HVAC units in both activity centers, new restrooms on the second floor of the EAC, electrical service updates, our new Dog Park, flooring and paint ... Whew!

This is a partial list of the major projects which have been ongoing.

In the past month, your Board has created a new suite of offices located inside the East Activity Center main entrance to be the home for our new "Community Service Office" or CSO for short.

These newest changes will have a large, positive and exciting impact on how your Association provides services in our community.

Both the "Service Office" and the "Activities Office" are now located in the new CSO.

Many of you have heard me refer to On Top of the World as "A Community of Neighbors." More than just a catch phrase, the concept is an acknowledgement that neighbors aren't strangers, but friends who work and play together, share an interest for the greater good, look out for each other and for their community. It was with this philosophy that your Board moved your Service Office and Activities Office adjacent to each other to create a "one stop" neighborhood location for a number of different Association services.

The same services, always avail-



Jean Sorenson, Julie Hipp and Nancy Davis in their new Community Service Office.

able from the Activities Office and the Service Department will remain, plus here is a list of additional features coming soon:

- In the next few weeks, a competitively priced Copy and Fax service will be available.

- One stop for all modification requests.

- Notary service, (excluding: wills, trusts and other legal documents which require an Attorney's seal) will be available in early 2013 for unit owners with current OTOW ID.

- Condo documents available for purchase.

- In the next few weeks information for some not-for-profit social services and service organizations will be available at no charge for owners with current OTOW ID cards.

- Walker and wheelchair Rentals
- Available Soon! A guide for what you need to know about fall prevention.

- The OTOW "Preferred Vendor List" will become available soon for residents with current OTOW ID cards.

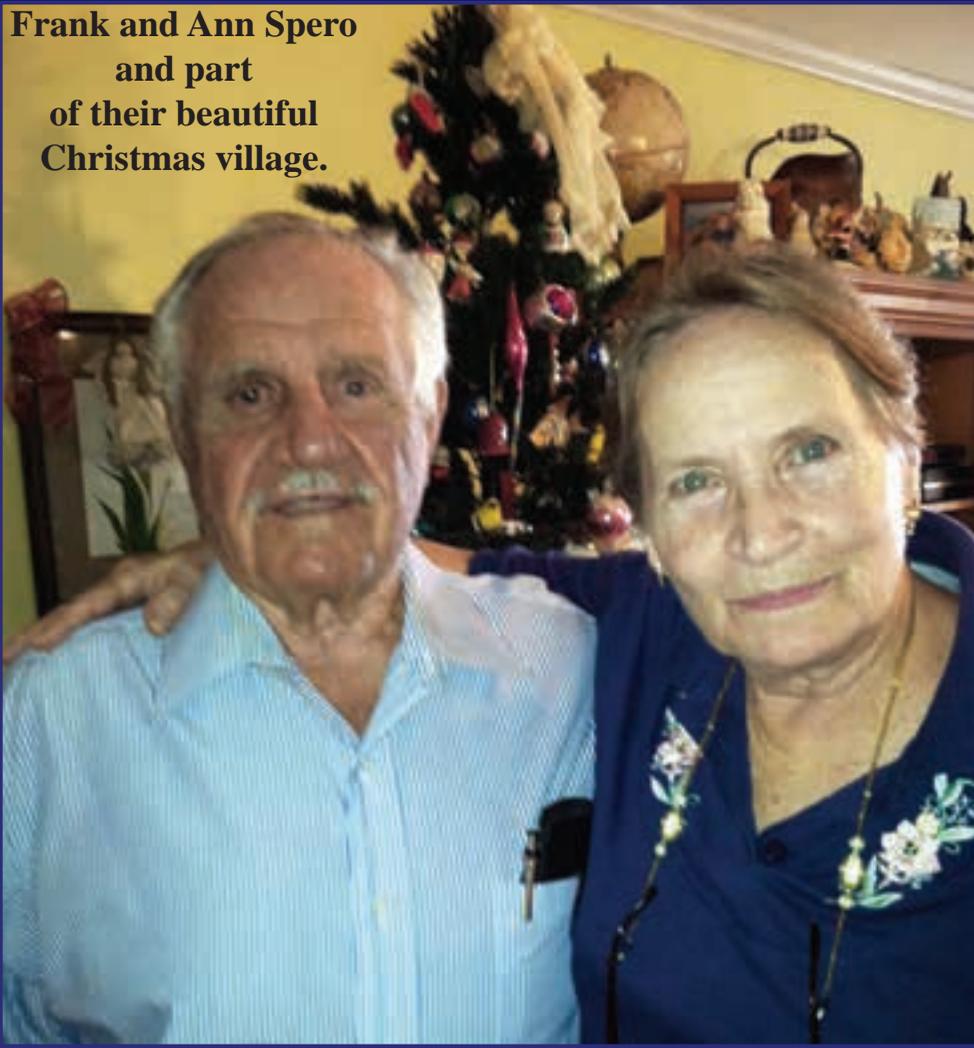
- The hard-wired smoke detector project will be administrated through the CSO.

- 2013-2014 Census card drop off.
- Activity center rules and regulations will soon be available.

- Hot water heater leak detection alarms available for special discounted purchase and installation for residents with current OTOW IDs.

Additionally, OTOW News has been relocated to the newly-renovated space where the Activities Office used to be. The newspaper's new home has lots of expanded work space for volunteers, a great view with lots of natural light and the office is now accessible by elevator, ramp and stairs.

**Frank and Ann Spero
and part
of their beautiful
Christmas village.**



On Top of the World neighbors have as much fun planning holiday decorations as they do showing them off

By Dana Garlick

During the holidays, people bring out decorations and use them to symbolize memories and love of days past, and they share the beautiful décor which makes new memories for friends and neighbors.

For that we are so grateful.

Two such creative ladies are Elsie Adams and Ann Spero.

Over the holidays, Elsie had a beautifully decorated tree with nearly 1600 lights in her picture window. She enjoys showing off a lovely crèche that took her four years to paint.

On her organ was a white teddy bear angel, which plays Silent Night on a violin. Elsie accompanies the teddy with her organ.

Most of the items Elsie displays are touched by family times, travels, and Disney. She enjoys putting things together. She has a wreath with 400 lights on a mirror behind her sofa.

Elsie starts the decoration process in October by pulling things out, checking them, and then creating the lovely decorations to enjoy.

One building away was Ann and her fabulous decorations.

In her window is a huge, snow-covered village. She and her mom, Alice Stocker, and husband Frank, are able to put this display up in a day.

They have a routine now, she

says. The miniature buildings in the display represent gifts from her father and from good friends who helped her build this collection.

Inside the apartment she has a huge, beautifully-decorated tree and a wall dedicated to Christmas stockings.

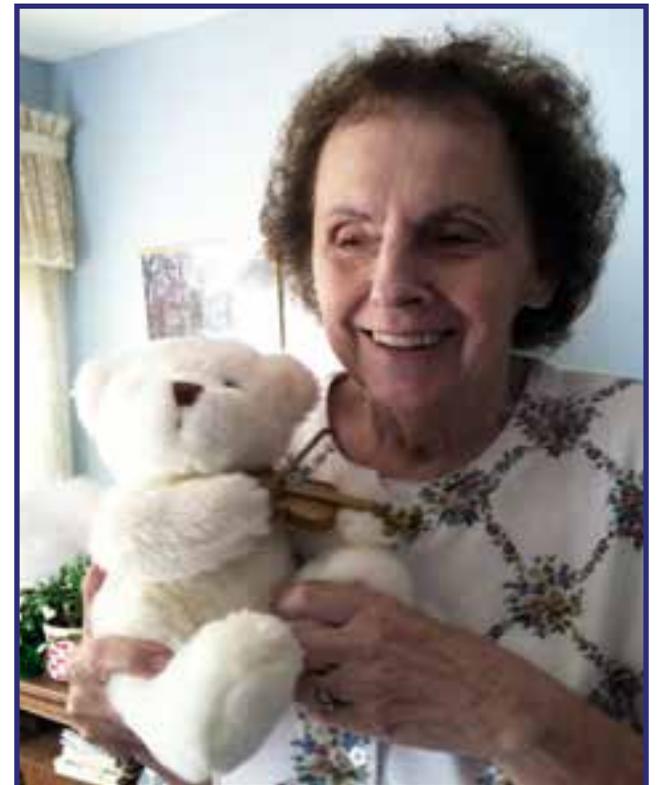
This was not the only thing Ann

did. The center core of her building has a Christmas trees, thanks to her handiwork. She and Frank helped decorate and put up lights with some of their neighbors.

Ann and Frank followed her folks to On Top of the World about 15 years ago from Long Island, New York. They brought many memories

with them and are so kind to share them with their neighbors.

Outside her apartment is a display Ann's dad had put up many times during their years while he was at OTOW. Now Ann and her mom, Alice, and Frank continue the memories and we are so lucky they share them with us.



Above is Elsie Adams with her violin-playing bear, and at left is her Disney choo-choo train.

OTOW resident recalls the day when people flooded Milwaukee streets

By Tom Brennan

Hi, neighbors. How in the world RU?

We will start the New Year with Bob Krause, husband of Bernadette Krause, who, together, have been a singing duo for many Jesters and Theater Workshop programs over the years.

Bernadette has been a member of the chorus for 10 years — she also served as chairperson of the Entertainment Committee in 2006.

Bob and I were reminiscing over our days in high school, when Bob told me a story I would like to share with you.

Here is Bob's story, in his own words:

"I graduated from grade school in Milwaukee in June 1945, and would start high school in September of that year.

"On Aug. 6, 1945, the Milwaukee Journal had astounding news. We had dropped something called the "atomic bomb" on a Japanese city by the name of Hiroshima, and the city virtually disappeared.

"Now, we all thought, maybe — just maybe — Japan would give up. Nothing happened for a couple of days. Then another headline: We had dropped another "atomic bomb"



Bob Krause

on another Japanese city — this one named Nagasaki — and it, too, disappeared.

"Everybody thought the Japanese government must be nuts! Are they willing to have their country

wiped off the map? Everybody was praying that something good would happen — and it did.

"On Aug. 14, 1945, at about noon, we got the word that Japan had surrendered. The war was over!

"No one can fully explain what happened. You actually had to be there! It seemed like everything just stopped. Everybody stopped whatever they were doing and headed toward downtown Milwaukee. Why? Who knows... but we all did!

"My dad and I were about two miles away from downtown, and even there the streets were crowded with people all heading downtown.

"We tried walking up and down Wisconsin Avenue amid wall-to-wall people. It was almost impossible to move. There was no auto traffic. The streets were a mass of people — people everywhere shouting, singing, smiling and happy — the war was over! You really can't describe it. You just had to be there!

"On Sept. 2, 1945, the Japanese signed the surrender treaty aboard the battleship Missouri, which was anchored in Tokyo Bay. Now the war was officially over. I started high school the next day."

Bob, thanks for sharing this story with us. It was a very crucial time in our nation's history. A tip of the hat to Bob Krause.

Here's the answer to the November issue question: An 80-year-old man wants to wake up in his own bed. What about a 90-year-old man?



**Are you doing something unusual for Valentine's Day?
Share your story in the February edition of
On Top of the World News**

Call Doug in the newsroom, 799-3216

** We will pick one unique story to run in our February edition.*



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Future Baby Boomers events will always be an adventure



Baby Boomers

By Katarina Tepesh

The Baby Boomers group wishes all of you a Happy New Year 2013 filled with beauty, hope and promise!

Our Baby Boomers group continues to attract attention from On Top of the World owners who choose to make their lives healthy and happy with positive perspective. Each person in our group takes lead and organizes an event, whether it be sports or cultural.

We are a group of doers who embrace life and make daily choices to form and improve our interpersonal friendships and volunteer in our community.

During the month of January we continue to plan kayaking, bicycle riding, and daily exercises at OTOW, plus taking long walks on our stunning



Getting ready for the next Baby Boomers adventure are, from left, Joan Cox, Bob Charpentier, Jan Cox, Joyce Monahan, Katarina Tepesh, Judy Gregory, Duane McDonough, Judy Hetrick, Bill Hingis, Torrie McDonough, Bonnie Mack, Cheryl Reese, Rich Dvorak and Diane Dvorak.

Clearwater Beach, attending concerts, going dancing, watching new movies and, weather permitting, organizing a picnic or barbeque.

Our Baby Boomers group is an informal, all-volunteers group. All of us participate with ideas and follow

through on organizing events. In addition to two monthly meetings, we communicate via email, Facebook and Channel 96/720.

We meet the first Wednesday and third Thursday in each month. Therefore we are meeting on Jan. 2 and Jan.

17 at 6 pm in the EAC Veranda Room followed by a Happy Hour at a local restaurant/bar Nauti Nancy, Varsity Club, Cody's or Whistle Stop.

For more information send an email to Katarina at katarina2379@gmail.com

Consider taking a spring trip with us to NYC, Atlantic City and more

By Pat Zorland

The Dec. 7 Travel Club luncheon was an outstanding success.

We had approximately 40 club members in attendance. Our board worked very hard to make this luncheon a wonderful time for all who attended.

The Italian food was catered by Villa Eva. Everyone, who participated in the Grab Bag was very pleased with their gifts. We will do this again at our next party.



Travel Club

Our meetings will continue to be held on the first Friday of each month in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room 2 p.m.

Election of officers will be held at the meeting on January 4, 2013.

Audry Jones has put together a spring time trip to New York City, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and the inner harbor of Baltimore, along with a few stops on the way back home.

Come to the Jan. 4, 2013 meeting for all of the details. The club will be considering a few more adventures.

For more information on the club, call Shirley Bruccolire at 726-4619.



AARP needs class instructor

On Top of the World residents benefit in many ways from having an AARP driver's safety class here in the community once a month.

Now AARP is asking the community for a new instructor to keep the classes going.

You must be free once a month for six hours. You will be trained and receive a \$30 stipend.

If interested, call Barbara at 733-8063.

*Happy New Year
from the OTOW News staff!*

No reason to be bored this winter, our club will be very busy with trips and activities

By Walt Copeland

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and is looking forward to the new year and excitement that will be generated at On Top of the World.

Our holiday party at the Island Way Grill on Dec. 9 was an absolute huge success, including our entertainers "Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline."

Plans for ensuing months include the following trips and functions:

Jan. 13-16, Sunday, a trip by bus to Biloxi and New Orleans. We'll have a three-hour guided tour of New Orleans, then three hours in the French Quarter on our own. We're staying in the Imperial Palace in Biloxi. We'll receive \$55 in slot play and \$24 toward food. Cost is \$199 per person, double occupancy, and \$289 for a single. If interested, please sign up immediately.

Jan. 26, Saturday, bus trip to Derby Lanes greyhound races. Cost \$42, which includes bus, admission, programs and tips. Bus departure is 10:45 a.m. promptly.

Feb. 1, Friday, Groundhog Day



Pennsylvania Club

Party, catered with entertainment. BYOB. Door prizes. Cost \$18. Time is 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

Feb. 3-5, Sunday. Trip to Key West, includes bus, two overnights in Key West, on/off trolley, continental breakfast and a reception. Tax and tips, cost \$309 per person double occupancy, \$459 single (40 people minimum.)

Feb. 14, Thursday, Valentine's Day, 4 p.m. Early Bird Dinner Theater featuring comedy "Move Over, Mrs. Markham." Cost \$35, includes tax and tip. We've reserved all front row tables.

Feb. 23, Saturday, eight-day, seven-night cruise aboard the "Carnival Dream," departing Port Canaveral. We'll cruise the eastern Caribbean with

port stops at Nassau, St. Thomas and the French port in St. Martin. Prices start at \$639 per person, double occupancy. Prices won't last.

March 4-7, San Antonio, Texas by air. Three nights at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk. Three breakfasts, three dinners, river cruise and bus transfers. Cost \$1,099 per person double occupancy

March 11-14, trip by air to Las Vegas, transfers to/from Imperial Palace Hotel and Casino. Tampa Airport shuttle to/from On Top of the World is \$50+ per person. The Imperial Palace Hotel is nicely situated along the famous strip. Cost is \$649 per person, double occupancy. Book now as this price won't last.

March 23-24, Saturday, two days at the Immokalee Casino and Broadway Dinner Theater. Following the beautiful buffet, we'll be treated to the musical "Sound of Music." We will get \$50 in slot play and \$10 for food. Day two we'll stop at the well-known "Best of Everything," a unique store featuring costume jewelry, great gifts and accessories. All at bargain prices (most

under \$10.) Cost is \$234 per person, double occupancy, \$334 single. Our bus is half full, so sign up ASAP to not miss this trip.

March 26, Tuesday, annual picnic (catered) at noon, followed by free bingo with prizes at Philippe Park, Shelter 2. Cost is \$15. BYOB, but no alcohol is permitted.

March 31, Easter Sunday. Early Bird Dinner Theater featuring a delicious buffet followed by a very funny comedy, "Murder Among Friends." We've reserved front rows. Time is 4 p.m. Cost is \$35, includes tax and tips.

More events to come in April.

We look forward to our winter Snowbirds' returns and enjoyable trips and functions by our Pennsylvania Club.

If interested in any trips, please come in early as the travel agency will put us with another group or cancel the trip if we don't fill the bus. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Jan. 3, at 10:30 a.m. in the Starlite Room of the EAC. Our club is open to all residents of OTOW. You don't have to be from Pennsylvania.

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'Thank you' Merle for eight years of Theater Workshop news stories

By Lilli Scheifen

We hope you all had a beautiful Christmas and New Year, and may the coming year be one of health and happiness.

With the advent of a new year, we at Theater Workshop bid a very fond "adieu" to our long-time writer, Merle MacDonald. Merle has been the go-to gal, keeping you informed for the last eight years and has done a fabulous job. She will be missed by all, and we thank Merle for her devotion to our club.

Tampa Bay Opera was enjoyed and appreciated by those of us who were lucky enough to witness this wonderful event. The group brought an evening of class and beautiful mu-



sic for our eyes and ears, and we hope to see them again.

Our Christmas party was held at the Beachcomber, and the decorations were magnificent. This is one of the area's most gorgeous places to



Merle MacDonald

dine during the holiday season. A great time was had by all.

Before you can say "2013," we will have our first board meeting and general meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 2. The board will meet in the East Activity Center auditorium at 6 p.m., one

hour prior to the general meeting.

Plans for our March production, "OTOW Theatrical Museum," are going forward. Unlike usual museums, this will not be a dull, quiet place, but will feature music, dancing and acts from prior shows, which will be resurrected in our own unique style.

We are happy to welcome a new member, Nellie Kellogg, who will assist with our dance numbers and will add much to our already talented group.

Brad Day, our president, and Arlene Kilpatrick, our vice president, have been auditioning the roles and assigning them to the appropriate persons.

The result for our club and our patrons will be an enjoyable, entertaining show. I am pleased to be the new reporter for the Theater Workshop and will keep you updated on our progress.

Tropical shirt month arrives in January

By Dave Beaven

The holiday season is finally ending.

The Lambda Club spent the last night of 2012 with a dinner theater format. We started with cocktails and a potluck dinner. This was followed by a staged reading of the play, "A Bit of Deceit." And we finished up with champagne toasts while we watched the ball drop bringing in 2013.

We look forward to a new year of growing friendships and community.

In January, many of our members will be going on a weeklong cruise. We love On Top of the World, but it's also good to get away for a change. Fourteen Lambdians, including myself, will be sailing from Tampa for points west: the Cayman Islands, Cozumel, Belize and Roatan.

In keeping with our schedule, our January meeting on the 11th will have a cruise theme. Tropical shirts, music and drinks will be the order of the evening. During our absence, our "land lubber" members will keep the club going as usual.

Lambda is a social club for gay and lesbian residents of OTOW. We are an informal group that gets together for various activities. Regular



events include cocktail parties, dine-outs, game nights, and movie nights. Also, we have a group, the Mall Walkers, which meets weekly to walk at Countryside Mall for an hour.

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

Lambda meets monthly on the second Friday at 7:30 pm in the Crafts Room downstairs in the East Activity Center. If you are interested in finding out more about the club, visit our webpage: <http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com>. You can contact us by e-mail at lambdacw@yahoo.com or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

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SOUTHEASTERN GUIDE DOGS – Wed., Jan. 4; 2 to 3 p.m. Southeastern Guide Dogs spokesperson Stephanie Miller, with canine and human friends, discusses canine training and benefits service animals provide to the visually impaired. Free.

LIVING WELL SUPPORT GROUP – Tues., Jan. 8, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Free.

LIGHTEN UP WITH LAUGHTER – Wed., Jan. 9, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Laughter reduces stress. Free.

SAFETY TIPS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS – Wed., Jan 9, 2 to 3 p.m. Door prizes. Free.

LEGAL MATTERS – Wed., Jan. 9, 1 to 2 p.m. Your legal consumer rights; collection harassment, ID theft, bankruptcy. Free.

STEPHAN ALPERT'S EXTRAORDINARY LIFE – Thurs., Jan. 10, 3 to 4 p.m. Soap Opera star and noted interior decorator shares stories about his life. Free.

OPTIMAL LIVING DAILY – Thurs., Jan 10, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Factors that influence living longer. Free.

COMPUTER CLASSES – Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Basic Computers – Jan. 10; Internet Basics- Jan 24. Fees apply.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS – Wed., Jan. 16; noon to 1 p.m. Dr. Dani Mathew presents, "Why Am I So Tired?" Onsite Screenings at 11 a.m.: blood pressure, sleep and skin cancer. Call (727) 253-4076. Free.

ACTING CLASS – Thurs., Jan. 17 and 31, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Fees apply.

ART SAMPLER SERIES – Acrylic Painting – Fri., Jan 18, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Fees apply.

MEDICAL MATTERS – Mon., Jan. 28; 2 to 3 p.m. Dr. Asher Gorelik presents, Depression Signs and Treatment. Call (727) 253-4076. Free.

Information, registration and fees, 724-3070
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 For complete guide, visit: www.myclearwater.com/agingwell

New year brings a new adventure for veteran Fixers Club member and current supervisor



Fixers Club

By John Koning

The arrival of 2013 brings with it a new season in the lives of veteran Toy Shop supervisor, Dick Collins, and his wife, Jessie.

It is a season of looking forward and it's a season of letting go.

Dick and Jessie came to On Top of the World seven years ago from Madeira Beach, where they spent the previous eight winters avoiding the snow and cold of Indiana.

For many years, the 1037 mile trip was worth the Floridian benefits, but, with every passing year, it has become a chore. This year they will reluctantly sell their appointed condo overlooking the East Activity Center and spend their winters back home.

The Fixers Club will then be forced to say goodbye to one of our steadfast leaders and a core contributor.

Dick typically spends every weekday morning making toys in the shop with his fellow artisans.

"It's a win for me too," says Jessie with a mischievous wink.

Dick opens the shop at 8 and leaves around noon.

Now, it should be clearly stated that not every moment in the shop is consumed by work. Around 9 a.m. the daily shuffle begins concerning who



From left to right, Doug Erickson, Steve Stiffler, Dick Collins and Ray Tabor discuss maintenance strategies in the Toy Shop.

will buy the coffees. Some days Dick wins. Some days he loses. Actually, every day he wins because it's not about who pays; it's about spending quality time with friends. I know this because I saw it in his tear-swelled eyes. This is what Dick will miss most.

In his wake, Dick will leave a

vastly different shop. The improvements in safety, cleanliness and efficiency are visible everywhere. He will also leave behind an amiable working partnership with Pauline Corkum, and Caring and Sharing.

What Dick and Jessie will take with them cannot be packed in a suit-

case. It is a cornucopia of fond memories and a boatload of goodwill that they have given and received during their winters here.

Will they be missed? That's for certain.

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Club members take field trip to Maple Leaf exhibit

By Anne Watkins

"It was 1864 and the moon was full when the Maple Leaf steamed down the St. Johns River carrying Union troops and equipment to Jacksonville. Lurking in the murky waters below: a dozen mines or "torpedoes" made from wooden kegs filled with 70 pounds of black powder."

That really grabbed my attention as I read it this past summer in the August 31, 2012, "Diversions" page of the Tampa Bay Times.

It was the announcement of a special exhibit at the Dunedin Historical Museum, 349 Main St., through Jan. 15, 2013.

I could barely restrain myself from going right then and there, but I wanted to share it with my fellow Family History Group members.

I did contain myself, and we finally went together as a field trip for our December meeting. And what a



Family History

treat it was, not to mention the delicious lunch afterward at the Al Fresco across the street!

The exhibit is called "The Maple Leaf: an American Civil War Shipwreck," which includes a replica of the mine that sunk the ship, as well as all kinds of artifacts that went down with her to the ship's final resting place in 7 feet of mud and 20 feet of water.

The is a time capsule of the era, as the ship was loaded with soldiers' gear, such as everyday items like a toothbrush and sewing kit with buttons, as well as items looted around Union camps.

I was particularly intrigued by a part of the exhibit which explains the delicate operation of preserving the excavated items.

The exhibit is very well done, and is accompanied by an extensive video that shows the history of the ship, as well as the actual recovery process, and there is still time for you to see it!

Our next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 14, 2013, in the East Activity Center Large Classroom from 1-3 p.m. We will be further discussing Florida's role in the Civil War.

We have "Open enrollment" November thru May!



Philosophy Club

By Bob Reis

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

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

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

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

Save your special food labels for local elementary schools

Now that the holidays are over, and many of you have some extra time, we would like to remind you that the Always Educators Club has been invited to help Skycrest Elementary School.

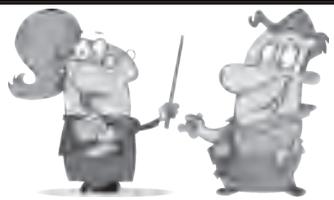
We are looking for volunteers who are willing to help in the classroom or are willing to chaperone on field trips.

To get started, you call Caroline Tillman, the volunteer coordinator at Skycrest, and let her know you are willing to help. She will schedule a time for you to meet with her and to fill out the simple paper work.

Caroline can be reached at 727-469-5987 or tillmanc@pcsb.org.

Residents can also help local schools by collecting food labels.

Labels on everyday products



Always Educators

can be turned in by the school for materials they need. When you have 100 labels, call Jane Lee at 266-4380 and she will pick them up from you. Each label is worth 10 cents for the school and most labels will say "Box Tops for Education" right on them.

Soup cans may have the symbol of an apple and say, "Labels for Education." More and more companies are putting these logos on their products.

First meeting of the new year set for Jan. 5

By Mary Widman

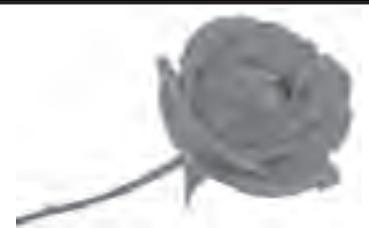
The Singles Club looks forward to another successful year.

We have many social activities planned for 2013. We meet 6:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month at the East Activity Center.

Our next meeting will be Jan. 5.

Dues for the year are \$5 and are collected at the meeting. Please join us, meet old friends and make new friends.

If you know of any member who is ill and needs cheering up, please call our Sunshine Lady, Mary Widman,



Singles Club

at 796-1184, and she will send a greeting from all of us.

If you have any questions about our social club, please call club president Dorothy Carpenito at 796-4460.

Free blood pressure screening

Blood pressure will be taken 8:30-10:30 a.m. on the second Monday of each month in the East Activity Center Veranda Room through April 2013.

You are also welcome to volunteer during this time. All we ask is two hours of your time.



Is your unit scheduled for smoke detector installation?

See the schedule on page 5 and be ready when it's your turn!

Fourteen reasons why I like retirement

By Marge Mayer

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday.

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called "seniors?"

Answer: The term comes with a 10 percent discount.



Marge Mayer

Marge's Humor

Question: Among retirees, what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

Answer: Nuts!

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answer: The never-ending coffee break.



Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

My favorite one:

Question: What do you do all week?

Answer: Monday to Friday – Nothing. Saturday and Sunday – Rest.

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Gold Coast Greyhounds has adopted 4,000 former racers since first meeting 10 years ago

By Bill Sharpsteen

We ring in the new year with some milestones from the past year.

The biggest is our 4,000th adoption! Of those 4,000, more than 500 passed through On Top of the World. The leading foster parents are Bill Sharpsteen (364), Joe Heller (150), Mary Sullivan (49), and Dick and Jane Hanley (80), plus several adoptions and still here at OTOW!

This is also our 10th year anniversary! It's hard to believe that 10 years ago, beside the East Activity Center pool, a small band of volunteers started Gold Coast Greyhounds and then the OTOW Greyhound club!

Since then, we have continued many fund-raising events and fun activities. One of our biggest fund-raisers was just completed last month, pet photos with Santa at Petsmart in the Largo Mall.

We also have wonderful, annual picnics at Philippe Park with 60 greyhounds and more than 100 people attending. Watch for this year's date as we will repeat this again in the spring with a glorious catered meal.

We also made 24 visits to nursing homes in 2012 and had dozens of meet-and-greets showing off our Gentle Giants that were available for adoption.

Look for two flea markets, two craft shows in 2013

Happy New Year Good Neighbors!

If you are reading this, apparently the world has not ended according to the Mayan calendar.

2012 was a good year for Good Neighbors. We had several successful events, and we made several donations to the various clubs here at On Top of the World.

Thanks to our volunteers, who made all this possible. Without them, these events would not have happened.

We are looking forward to another great year in 2013.

This year we are going to try to have two flea markets and two craft shows. We will be selling reservations for tables for the first flea market in February. Look for a notice in your building as to when you can reserve a table. We will also put a notice in the newspaper.



Greyhound Club

All in all it was a "greyt" year and we look forward to a better one in 2013. Always remember, we meet every third Friday in Safety Harbor. We set up next on Friday, Jan. 18, at the intersection of Second Avenue and Main Street to show off greyhounds for adoption.

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

Please add our Greyhound Club meetings to your calendar for the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is Thursday, Jan. 17. Future meetings are Feb. 21, March 21 and April 18 at 11 a.m.

Call Bill today at 727-797-7977 to help foster or babysit a greyhound, donate or volunteer with this group. You will be richly rewarded for your time spent. These gentle giants will leave paw prints on your heart!



Santa has a really tough job when it comes to Pet Photo Day.

Good Neighbors



President Doris Paino

We hope to have another Senior Expo this year, and if allowed, we will expand on the type of exhibitor. More to come on that later in the year.

I am excited that we have some new faces on the board, and right now it looks like all the seats are filled.

Don't forget to support the Gift Shoppe. We have some new crafters who make lovely items. The shop is a great place to buy a special gift when you need one. Several items have been discounted, so stop in and take a look.

Once again, a happy, healthy new year. I'll see you at the rec center.



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Meals on Wheels drivers among those honored at volunteer appreciation luncheon

By Carl and Betty Leiby

It was great to have our wonderful volunteers included in the Good Neighbor luncheon honoring the many volunteers at On Top of the World.

A delicious meal was provided at Chop Sticks Restaurant, and many interesting prizes were awarded.

Always, new volunteers are welcome to help deliver meals to our homebound neighbors. The time required is from 10 a.m. to noon. The clients enjoy meeting new neighbors, who help in this very special way. We



Meals On Wheels

work with your available hours.

Meals on Wheels can give assistance to residents arriving home from the hospital and needing help with meals plus a caring neighbor to check on them Monday through Friday. Our

OTOW clients love their volunteers. They bring delicious warm meals. The meals are planned by a Neighborly Care Network dietician. It is a well-balanced meal with an interesting variety each month. A main entree, vegetables, salad, bread, fruit, milk, and often a dessert, are included.

Many folks are aware of the Meals on Wheels program, but Neighborly Care Network has available many other services to help keep Seniors independent and in their own homes. That colorful Neighborly Care bus, which you see driving through OTOW,

will take residents to Dunedin to join other seniors for lunch and a social time of entertainment, cards, bingo and music. Service to take seniors to senior daycare, and transportation to doctors' offices are also available.

The Neighborly Network has many additional services available such as skilled nursing, physical therapy, and home health aides

For services, phone the Neighborly Care Network at (727) 573-9444. To volunteer for this rewarding service at OTOW, call Carl and Betty Leiby at 791-3861 .

Bingo resumes every Monday at start of new year

By Brad Day

So we all made it through another Christmas season. Hope everyone was able to see family and had a happy time.

Bingo will start up again in January.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 7, 2013, we will be open every Monday evening. Ticket sales start at 4 p.m. Please remember that we stop selling at 6:15 p.m. This gives us a few minutes to count the mon-

ey and calculate prizes.

The games then start at 6:30.

We will continue to sell the pull cards for a while to see how well people like them.

We appreciate all those kind folks who have kept Bingo going. The same folks you see behind the tables help make this all happen. Don't forget to thank them once in a while.

And speaking of workers, we could use a few

more volunteers if you've got some time. People who serve coffee and donuts can play all night, except for the last special before intermission.

Talk to us, we'd love to see new faces behind those tables.

And a big Thank You to all you loyal Bingo players who make it all happen. There's always room.

Thank you!





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WANTED:

Meals on Wheels coordinator
for On Top of the World

Carl and Betty Leiby will soon be stepping down as Meals on Wheels coordinators for On Top of the World. If this position is not filled, OTOW residents will have to depend on Meals on Wheels in Clearwater for service and there is currently a waiting list. The coordinator does not deliver meals, but organizes deliveries. It is a 7-day a week volunteer job, which often requires finding new drivers and scheduling. For more information, call Carl or Betty at 791-3861.

Democratic Club ate well in December, but gets back to work in January

By Hal Leichhardt

December was a busy and fun-filled time for the On Top of the World Democratic Club members and their friends, neighbors and family.

First, there was a holiday celebration on Dec. 7 in the East Activity Center Crafts Room.

The club was wowed by the music of Chris "Jimmy Buffet" Brudy and portayed by Ed Helms' of Samuel "Mark Twain" Clemons, not to mention the surprise guest appearance of Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Everyone was well motivated for the upcoming holiday season. Special thanks to Santa's helper, Elizabeth Minor Law, for the Santa pictures.

Feasting began with Jen Cox's homemade turkey soup, followed by a holiday salad, Katarina Tepesh's world-renown lasagna, and Fran Leichhardt's to-die-for pineapple-covered baked ham on a bed of yams.

Thelma Wishnik's famous spinach pie, along with Keith Law's English lentil curry, provided the perfect side dishes.

All this was topped off by Deborah Lemon's selection of vanilla and chocolate ice cream.

Jim and Paula Schelling completed the feast by supplying the spirits and cake. Many others contributed beverages, paper goods, plasticware and cookies to insure the edible success of the evening. Thanks to all hands involved.

Newly re-elected Pinellas County Democratic Party Chairman Mark Hanisee was on hand to congratulate the club on its indefatigable efforts to get out the vote in the recent election.



Democratic Club

He said the results speak for themselves – two new members elected to the County Commission, two new members elected to the State House of Representatives, in addition to the election of two School Board members.

All this in addition to the re-election of our President and Vice-President.

"All-in-all, a good day's work by your club," Mark said to all those present.

Newly elected Florida House Member Carl Zimmerman was one of the many notables in attendance, along with the State Chairman for District 67, our very own Van Farber.

Next up was the club meeting on Dec. 27 in the East Activity Center Starlite Room that featured the installation of our new officers: Charlie Christ and Thelma Wishnik, as our new co-chairs, and Jim Schelling and Charlotte Michaels returning for a second term as our treasurer and secretary, respectively. Congratulations to our newly elected team!

The January meeting will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 24th, in the Starlite Room. The scheduled speakers are to include our newly



Democratic Club member Carol Ellison and Santa.

elected County Commissioners Charlie Justice and Janet Long, who will talk about where our county is going in the next four years and how we are going to get there.

When we see them here at OTOW, they will have already success-

fully restored fluoride to our drinking water.

Refreshments will be served. Come and bring a neighbor or two or three. If you have any questions, call our Membership Committee Chairman, Van Farber, at 729-6887.

Tickets now on sale for Jesters' show 'Our Favorite Things' in February

By John Kannaly

The Jesters are selling tickets for their show "Our Favorite Things," which will be on Feb. 15, 16 and 17.

Tickets are now on sale on Mondays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at our table located in the East Activity Center.

A \$5 donation gets you a ticket that features Dick Clark and American Bandstand, and country and western music.

You may see Connie Francis, Chubby Check-



Jesters

er and a fab group doing the Mystics' "Hushabye." Also, Minnie Pearl may show up as well as George Jones, Patsy Cline and Charley Pride.

Featured dances are "Trashy Lady" and "Chicago Cellblock Seven."

Wait till you see our individual featured singers. You won't believe the voices they have - a must-see.

Think of the memories you will have watching the show. Ah, memories. Great cast, great show. Don't forget all the comedy that makes the Jesters famous. They will tickle your funny bone. Get your tickets quickly, they are going like hotcakes.

I'm excited. Hope to see you there.

Thank you Helen Crombie for 10 years!

By Julie Narancich

Dec. 18 marked our Line Dancing Holiday Christmas Party.

Our social chairs, Helen Crombie and Loni Bentley, planned the event. Members were asked to bring a dish or pay \$2.

We would like to thank Helen for providing the line dancers with 10 years of service on the social committee. She will be leaving this position at the end of this year.

Helen came to OTOW 10 years



Line Dancing

ago from Palm Harbor, with her husband, Donald, and their dog, Lil Lulu.

Helen and Donald are originally from Webster, NY, and have been



Loni Bentley, left, and Helen Crombie draw cleanup duty after a recent line dancing party.



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

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

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

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

married for 17 years. Together, Helen and Donald have five children.

Helen joined line dancing as soon as she arrived to On Top of the World and also volunteered as social chair. Helen is currently our Sunshine Lady and is a line dance demonstrator. Helen also belongs to the Billiards Club and takes advantage of the nine-hole Golf Course. She and her husband are members of the Presbyterian Church of Palm Harbor.

Loni Bentley will stay on as one of the social chairs, along with our newcomers, Connie Giudice and Lynn Anzalone. Lynn helps out in the beginner class and is also a demonstrator.

Mary Becker is still collecting the annual membership fee of \$5 from our members. Please remember to present your On Top of the World identification card along with your money to

Mary.

To all the Snowbirds and newcomers -- this is a great time to learn line dancing. We have wonderful individual instruction and provide moral support, so please join us every Tuesday at 1 p.m. and Saturday at 8:30 a.m. for two hours of fun and fitness in the East Activity Center auditorium. The beginner lessons start at 1 p.m. on Tuesday and 8:30 a.m. on Saturday for 30 minutes. The beginner lessons are extremely helpful. We welcome everyone and bring your friends. Line dancing is great for men and women of all ages.

Many blessings for a happy and healthy New Year!

For any questions regarding Line Dancing, please contact Mary Becker at 253-4874 or Julie Narancich at 574-323-4100. Hope to see you soon!



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Chorus shares holiday songs with those who couldn't travel to the actual show



By Ilene Bargerstock

A small ensemble from On Top of the World Chorus goes off campus twice a year to share portions of our Holiday and Spring Concerts with clients of the Neighborly Adult Day Care Center in Dunedin.

We are always warmly welcomed by Maribeth Braden, manager of the center, and her staff.

The people who spend their days there are delightful and always so appreciative of whatever we do. We always include a sing-along when chorus members mingle and interact with the audience.

We bring smiles to their faces and they do the same for us.

This holiday ensemble included Keith and Eileen Bekofske, Rod and Ilene Bargerstock, Dana Garlick, Marilyn Zylstra, Bill Boll and Russell Clark, along with Director Beth Kendall.

Chorus members enjoyed a holiday dinner together at Kally K's Restaurant.

Some of our songsters have been in the chorus more than 25 years. Lasting friendships have been formed



In the front row, left to right, are Director Beth Kendall, Marilyn Zylstra, Ilene Bargerstock, Eileen Bekofske and Dana Garlick. In the back row left are Russell Clark, Rod Bargerstock, Keith Bekofske, Bill Boll.

and it's always a joy when we get back together following the winter and summer breaks.

If you have been part of a high school, college or church choir, and miss singing four-part harmony, think

about joining our chorus. It is a great outlet for your talent and a wonderful setting for making friends.

The start-up date for rehearsals for the Spring Concert was incorrect in the December issue of this paper.

The correct date and time is Tuesday, Jan. 8, 7 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

Hoping to see all members, returning snowbirds, and others wishing to join us on that date!

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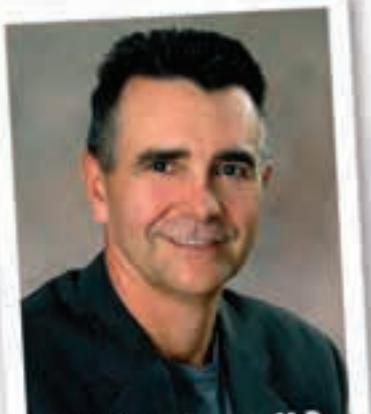
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Canadian Club gains 54 new members

By Rollie Lapointe

The Canadian Club season opened with a successful registration night on Thursday, Nov. 15.

The evening began with members given the opportunity to register for various activities/clubs.

A formal meeting, led by this year's executive, followed. A wine and cheese event ended what was an enjoyable reunion for both returning and new members.

Registrar Linda McKee reports that we welcomed 387 members, of which 54 are new to the club.

Registration will continue on Mondays and Thursdays, Jan. 3-24, in the East Activity Center. A reminder that one must be a member of the club in order to participate in most of the activities/clubs (ie, Thursday night social games). Registration fee is \$5.

President's Ball (Jan. 25) tickets will be on sale Mondays and Thursday mornings Jan. 3-21. Cost will be \$27 (members) and \$29 (guests). Admission includes a hot meal, two bottles



of wine per table and a great DJ. This is always an important occasion, not only as a social gathering, but also as an evening to fete our former presidents who have laid the foundation for this wonderful club.

Bruce and Cathy Mills (559-1458) have several openings left for our annual golf tournament on Sunday, Feb. 17 (rain date is Feb. 24). Cost is only \$8 and there are many prizes to be won. A meal will follow the end of play. No experience is needed - enthusiasm and willingness to have fun is a must. Teams are set up to be 'competitive' as evidenced by the close scores between contenders over the past few

years.

Rick Carr (726-2247) has organized a great day at Tampa Bay Downs on Friday, Jan. 18. The \$20 cost includes entrance fee, program and a buffet meal. Since one of the races will be dedicated to our club, a large support group would be ideal.

Tom Mckee (470-9161) has organized a visit to a Blue Jays Spring Training game against Baltimore on Saturday, March 17. Cost for the game is \$18. Both teams should be competitive this year and this gives everyone a preview on what to expect this upcoming season. These seats are situated on the first base 'shady' side of the field - we need a bit more support for this activity with the cut-off date for tickets on Jan. 20. You may contact Tom or purchase your tickets at the EAC on Monday or Thursday mornings.

The Canadian Club Lawn Bowling Triples Tournament will take place on Feb. 7 and 8. You must be a member of both the Canadian Club and

Lawn Bowling Club to participate. For more information, contact Bob Laplante (723-9674).

Please continue to support our Thursday night social games/bridge gatherings.

As discussed at registration night, you may now make arrangements to have a Canadian Club logo put on a piece of clothing of your choice. You may bring your own or browse through catalogues for the appropriate attire/garments (including hats). Dick and Joann Ogborn (Embroidery Works, 727-734-8663) have refined our logo and it is now ready for our use. The cost to members using his/her own garment is \$6. What a great way to show support for our club.

Please visit our Website for more information about our club and its many and varied activities. Names and phone numbers of coordinators are also listed.

Have a happy, successful and joyous New Year.



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Snowbirds Club welcomes a new vice president

By John Koning

This new year brings us new calendars, new resolutions and, in the case of the Snowbirds Club, a new vice president in the person of Dean Darby.

Dean, his lovely wife Patti and their mischievous dog, Pebbles, have been living at OTOW for about 2 years now. They come to us from central Florida where they lived in the Villages for a while and in the Four Lakes Country Club. That's where Dean served as disc jockey and karaoke king, wowing them with a silky smooth voice that would make Michael Bubl  sit up and take notice.

When the Snowbirds Club went looking for a vice president, we hoped to find a community minded individual who had lots to offer. Well, we hit the jackpot with Dean. He's comfortable in any situation and can relate to folks from all walks of life. After all, once he retired from the pharmaceutical and medical diagnostics business, he held what he describes as his best job ever – a limo driver. He has shared his ride with the likes of Jeff Foxworthy (his favorite), Frankie Avalon, Fabian,



Snowbirds Club

Bobby Rydell, Dr. Ruth Westheimer (his shortest), Patrick Kennedy and Elton John.

If you're lucky enough to cruise with us, you might rub shoulders with Dean and Patti because they are happiest when they are on the water. You see, Patti is a cruisaholic and Dean practically grew up on the water, back in Aurora, Illinois where he would water ski at every opportunity – even by moonlight!

Regardless of his daring past, we are tickled to have Dean on board the good ship Snowbird. Drop by our sales table every Monday and Thursday morning to see Dean, and the rest of our volunteers and learn about the exciting things your Snowbirds Club has to offer. If you're shy, go to www.snowbirdsofotow.com and check us out.



Dean and Patti Darby relax on the still water of Tampa Bay during a recent Snowbirds Club cruise. (Photo by Ed Foland)

OTOW Texas Hold-Em Group presents

**Two nights of fun for residents
who enjoy playing poker.**

**6:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
Small classroom in the East Activity Center
Call Barry at 754-6066 for more information.**

Stamp Club starting again in January

By Jim Sundberg

The On Top of the World Stamp Club will be starting up again.

We will be holding regular monthly meetings the third Tuesday of each month, January through May, 2013, in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

The dates are Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 19, April 16 and May 21.

I'm available for questions and



Stamp Club

help at anytime you need it. Give me a call at 847-951-2284.

Hope to see you on Jan. 15!

December Photo Search Answers

1. Two cats instead of one
2. Wreath on door
3. Back of first chair
4. Cat behind first scarecrow
5. Scarecrows have same hair
6. 2012 changed to 2102
7. Seat deeper on second chair
8. Electrical outlets changes
9. 'Welcome' spelled wrong
10. Fence post missing



Hazel Kelly - Chair

Jacqueline Kalimai Assistant Secretary

Sherry Ivey Secretary

Ellen Fier PR Director

Marvin Flam Treasurer

Rich Hayes Volunteer Director

Tony Baker 2014 Chair Elect

Barbara Sloup Assistant Treasurer

**Entertainment Committee
Executive Committee**

**2013's
Well
Balanced
Team**

Putting our members first in 2013

We hope you are as excited about the changes in this year's Entertainment Committee (EC) as we are.

The Chinese calendar dedicates each year to one of its 12 calendar signs, but to the Entertainment Committee, this is the Year of the Member.

If you have a valid On Top of the World ID card, you are automatically a member of the Entertainment Committee, and this year we'll do our best to make it easier for you to participate in the fun, make it easier for you to get tickets, and make it easier for you to win prizes at every event.

Tickets will still be available 8:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Thursday mornings at the East Activity Center (EAC), but they'll also be available by phone, or by email, and may now be picked up at a "Will Call Station" at our events.

Talk to us about our new ser-



vices.

Also, a newsletter listing upcoming events and entertainers may be picked up next to the bulletin boards at East or West Activity Center.

We bring you approximately 50 events a year – shows, dances, free Sundays-In-The-Park, trips and other special events, which are made possible by the work of our members who volunteer their time.

Who are they?
Over the course of this year, we'll tell you, but for now, let me describe them this way:

There's a rare and special quality in the way some people live.

However busy they may be, they still have time to give.

Anything you ask or need, they'll do their very best.

No matter what the task is – or how simple the request,

Kindness just comes naturally to this rare and selfless few.

Special, giving people – just like you!

To start the New Year, we in-

roduce our well-balanced Executive Committee, members who volunteer to oversee the process that brings entertainment to you.

Check out their pictures above and when you see a board member, let them know you like what we're presenting for your entertainment pleasure, and what suggestions you have to make the events better.

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year!





2013 ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE - HAZEL KELLY, CHAIR

JANUARY 2013

<p>THUR 10</p>		<p>THURSDAY NIGHT SHOW-7:30pm-\$15 ROCKET MAN Rus Anderson's High-energy Tribute to Elton John</p>
<p>SAT 12</p>		<p>SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE-8pm-\$8 WINTERFEST Great Music by AT LARGE</p>
<p>SUN 13</p>		<p>SUNDAY-IN-THE-PARK - 2pm - FREE RALPH ROGERS RALPH IS BACK FOR ANOTHER ENTERTAINING AFTERNOON</p>
<p>THUR 24</p>		<p>THURSDAY NIGHT SHOW-7:30pm-\$15 THE FABULOUS HUBCAPS Rock 'n Roll is Alive and Well</p>
<p>SAT 26</p>		<p>SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE-8pm-\$8 FROSTY NIGHTS RON & CLASSICS - an OTOW Favorite!</p>

PREVIEW OF FEBRUARY EVENTS

- FEBRUARY 7 - Show - SOUNDS OF SOUL
- FEBRUARY 9 - Dance - RUSTY TRUMPET
- FEBRUARY 10 - Sunday in the Park - GOLDEN LINE DANCERS
- FEBRUARY 21 - Show - NEW ODYSSEY
- FEBRUARY 23 - Dance - REBOUND



TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY AND THURSDAY AT THE EAC - 8:30 TO 10:30



Guys & Dolls Tournament set for Jan. 15

Ladies 9-Hole

By Mary Ann O'Neil

We hope you and your families had a wonderful holiday season and may 2013 be a prosperous and healthy year for all of us.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon was held on Dec. 6 at the Beachcomber Restaurant with 36 ladies attending. Dolly Foland did a wonderful job planning our luncheon and the nutcracker centerpieces were a nice touch.

Congratulations to those ladies who won door prizes and went home with a centerpiece for the holidays.

Our first general meeting was held on Nov. 20 with 18 members in attendance. Minutes of the last meeting were given along with reports from committee chairpersons. After the meeting adjourned there was a welcome back party so we could catch up with our Snowbird friends who returned safely from their summer up north.

Weekly Awards December 4

Flight A – Ann Stewart, Ellen Gilbert, Anna Hyden, Connie Saylor & Dee Cellitti.

Flight B – Mary Ann O'Neil, Jean Norris, Marge Sivek, Nancy Parlatore & Dorothy Ryan.

Flight C – Nancy House & Hazel Kelly.

Flight D – Pat Palladino & Claire Racine.

Birdies – Mary Ann O'Neil on the second hole.



More than 30 representatives of the OTOW Nine-Hole Ladies Golf League celebrated the holidays at the Beachcomber Restaurant in Clearwater.

December 11

Fight A – Ellen Gilbert, Anna Hyden, Theresa Gates & Ann Stewart.

Flight B – Jean Norris, Dorothy Ryan & Mary Ann O'Neil.

Flight C – Nancy House.

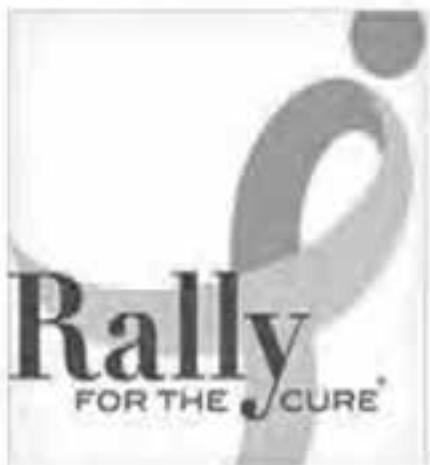
Flight D- Pat Palladino & Hilda Platte.

Our 50/50 winner for November was Lee Kibbe. Congratulations to all.

The Ladies Nine-Hole League Little Guys & Dolls Tournament will be held on Jan. 15 so be sure to sign up to participate in this fun event. If you need a partner please let Char Flach or Verona Titus know so that they can see about getting a partner for you.

Don't forget our Board Meeting on Jan. 8 at 1:30 p.m. and our General Meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 29 in the Veranda Room at the EAC. Ladies, please plan on attending our general meeting as this is where you can bring up any concerns/suggestions for discussion.

See you on the golf course and keep swinging those clubs!



SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 2, 2013

The Ladies 9-Hole and 18-Hole Golf Associations are planning another fun day as they host the 16th annual Rally for the Cure Golf Tournament. This will be an 8:30 a.m. shotgun scramble and a 5 p.m. dinner.

For more information, contact Arlene Hanson at 475-8253.



Golfers chip in to holiday spirit with record-setting \$710 donation to OTOW's Caring and Sharing

Ladies 18-Hole

By Pat Eastman

The Ladies 18 Hole Golf Association's 2013 officers are President Dottie Meissner, Vice President Sheila Meneilly, Treasurer Sharon Hackenmiller, and Secretary Elaine Stretavski.

They are in full swing, working to keep up the smooth operation of our league, which was established 44 years ago. The league is one of the largest, if not the largest, 18-hole ladies league in the Clearwater area.

Besides running weekly tournaments, the league is involved in many activities. At the December Holiday Brunch, Terri Mikszenas collected donations for Caring and Sharing. The ladies donated a record \$710, up from \$650 last year. Thank you ladies for your generous donations to this charitable On Top of the World organization.

The Holiday Brunch was organized by Rita Rudderham, Mary Bates Smith, Phyllis Farrell and Donia Stadler. Thank you ladies for a well organized and delicious brunch enjoyed by all who attended.

Cookbooks are selling fast. If you want one, contact Sheila Meneilly or one of the other officers.



New officers are, left to right, President Dottie Meissner, Vice President Sheila Meneilly, Treasurer Sharon Hackenmiller and Secretary Elaine Stretavski.

Ladies are you looking to improve your golf game? If so, join the golf clinic at Sterling Links in Dunedin at 9 a.m. on Monday Jan. 7. Cost is only a bucket of balls for \$8. Any questions call Pat Cassidy.

Upcoming events - Jan. 22, Fun Scramble and rules seminar. Feb. 5, Jack and Jill Tournament.

Weekly Tournament Results

Dec. 4: Flight A Low Gross -

Pat Eastman. Low Net - Becky West. Flight B Low Gross - Carole Lacey. Low Net - Leora Hamm. Flight C Low Gross - Donia Stadler. Low Net - NatSue Dawson. Flight D Low Gross - Sue Morse. Low Net - Mary Smith.

Nov. 27: Flight A Low Gross - Nancy Lo. Low Net - Terry Kuplen. Flight B Low Gross - Katie Quelch. Low Net - Eileen McKowan. Flight C Low Gross - Teresa McHugh. Low

Net - Cindy Schell. Flight D Low Gross - Donna Meszaros. Low Net - Dorothy Pellicone, Arlene Hanson.

Nov. 20 - Flight A - Rita Rudderham. Low Net - Juanita Witham. Flight B Low Gross - Barb Morrison, Diane Moxley, Pat Dalziel. Low Net - Katie Quelch, Carole Lacey. Flight C Low Gross - Cindy Schell. Low Net - Marie Hebert. Flight D Low Gross - Muriel Salo. Low Net - Gail Ducharme.

Be early, drive carts wisely and let's have a great year of golfing

By Pete Milner

The 2012 golf season has come and gone.

We started with what could be considered a brand new golf course and an agenda full of tournaments, parties and plenty of challenges. Under the able leadership of President Ken Nield, it has been a successful year.

We had a couple of months when golf was limited because of the unusual amount of rain. We "weathered" through it and now we are enjoying fantastic golf, at least weather wise.

Men's Golf

Most of our winter residents have returned, and our numbers are climbing to a point where we will be starting the lettering out process. Keep your eyes on the scoreboard for upcoming notices.

Please be reminded again of the areas that continue to be wet and roped off. Common sense should tell everyone to keep golf carts out of those areas. No one should be driving golf carts any closer than 30 feet of the greens.

Drew and his crew work hard to keep the approaches to the greens playable. Let's do our part and be considerate of our fellow golfers. This pertains to all golfers who read this article, not just members of the On Top of the World Men's Golf Association.

The men who have been chosen to lead us for the 2013 season are as follows: Jay Schwallie, president; Les Whynot, president elect; Russell Caughey, treasurer; Pete Milner, secretary; and Frank Giarrizzi, Jim O'Neil and Ken Nield, trustees.

Please support our officers and program. It will be interesting and a lot

of fun.

Be sure to be on time for check-in and tee times. Don't get shut out. Remember to check the big green scoreboard and be present at least one half hour before your tee time.

The third Wednesday of the month is usually our tournament day with food and beverages served afterward. Shotgun starts are at 8:30 a.m.

A reminder that our annual meeting will be on Jan. 15. Coffee and donuts will be served to those who attend.

The reason this great game is called golf is because all the other four-letter words have been taken.



In our league, if you touch all four bases - it's a home run

By Don Grabowski

What is a home run?

In the On Top of the World softball league, a home run is when any of our batters is able to hit the ball away from every fielder, stagger around all three bases and still be breathing after cross home plate.

Our scorekeepers and fans often don't agree on the ruling. A fly ball over the outfielders can be a home run. A batted ball that hits in front of the outfielders and rolls to the fence can also be a home run. A misjudged fly ball which allows the batter to score – well, that's a home run, too.

Many of our fans think these plays are errors, but in our league we don't have errors. We just have fun and the scorekeeper always agrees with us.

Softball

Tommy's Produce 14

Scott's Pharmacy 12

There were three home runs to help Tommy's Produce defeat Scott's Pharmacy. Bob Stoddard, Trevor Dixon and Jack Malley all hit one. Pat Kennedy, Bill Arkins and Trevor Dixon all finished with four hits apiece.

For Scott's Pharmacy, Lenny Segal had a home run, Bill Bennett went 5-for-5, and Bob Fields chipped in with four hits.

There were a lot of "high fly balls."

OTOW 13

Scott's Pharmacy 11

OTOW used 27 hits for the victory, while Scott's Pharmacy scored 13 runs on just 11 hits. Don't ask me how?

Leading OTOW was Jim Hill, Lenny Segal and Bob Rittner with five hits, and Bill Bennett and Van Farber with four hits.

Scott's Pharmacy was led by Bill Arkins with four hits.

Scott's Pharmacy 13

OTOW 11

In the rematch, the same score showed up again, but this time Scott's Pharmacy won.

Lenny Segal and Bob Rittner clubbed home runs for Scott's Pharmacy.

Bill Arkins, Pat Kennedy and Guy Bertuzzi each had four hits for OTOW.

Good defense was the difference in the game and kept the scoring low. There were even some routine plays.

Scott's Pharmacy 14

Cody's Roadhouse 6

Scott's Pharmacy finished with back-to-back wins. In the finale, both teams had two home runs.

Jack Malley had a home run among five hits. Bob Rittner had a home run among four hits. Keith Law and Jim Pollock had three hits apiece.

For Cody's, Van Farber had a home run, among four hits. Guy Bertuzzi out-raced a throw to the plate for another home run. Howard Huff went 6-for-6.

Mike LaViolette leads championship after five weeks

The new golf season is progressing at a rapid pace.

Snowbirds are returning on a weekly basis and new residents are joining the league.

Weekly golf has become increasingly competitive. Members are trying out new clubs, experimenting with new balls and taking lessons. These changes appear to be excellent investments if scores on Thursdays are any indication.

There was no league play on Thanksgiving Day.

Week three of the 2012-2013 season was won by Mike LaViolette. Pete Dominguez was second and J.T. Norris placed third. Gary Bronson collected two skins. Paul Meyers, Don

Thursday Golf

Baker, Alan Teal, Mike LaViolette and Sixten Larsen had one skin each.

Week four champion was Paul Meyers. Don Leamy took second place and Ian Miller was third. Dutch Michael, Gary Bronson, Kim Norried, Ron Parham and J.T. Norris collected one skin each.

Congratulations to Dennis Trauffer our week five champion. Ron Parham finished a close second and Mike LaViolette placed third. Ron Parham collected two skins. Jack Huerter, Barry Levene and Bruce MacPherson took one skin each.

In the race to the league championship, Mike LaViolette holds a nice lead with 19 points. Ian Miller is second with 12 points. Paul Meyers and Denis Trauffer each have 11 points. Ron Parham, Pete Dominguez, Alan Teal, Paul Farrell and Don Leamy follow with nine points each.

The league champion is determined by steady play and accumulation of weekly points. Seven points are awarded for a first place finish. Five points are awarded for a second place finish and three points are awarded for a third place finish. One point is given for each week's play.

The league welcomes new members at any time. All On Top of the World residents are encouraged to

join. The Thursday League is a mixed league. All skill levels compete on an equal basis using the USGA Stableford format. There is no weekly sign up, if you show up you play. If you are interested in playing competitive golf using USGA rules, our league is for you.

Anyone wishing to try the league before joining is welcome to do so. Play begins at 11 a.m. and sign-in starts at 10:30 a.m.

We play the course to a Par 67 using the USGA Stableford format. Men play from the blue tees where available. Women play from the red tees and yellow where available. For information call Paul @ 727-474-2344 or email blackdoggolff@aol.com.

Registration for Jack & Jill tournament starts Jan. 15

The annual Jack & Jill Golf Tournament will take place on Feb. 5 with a rain date of Feb. 12.

The 18-hole ladies golf league is undertaking the planning and preparation for this event,

which is fun and enjoyable for the entire golfing community. Registration will take place from 7-8:45 a.m. on Jan. 15 (ladies only), Jan. 22 and Jan. 29 at the green house. A waiting list will be created after Jan. 29. A large turnout is expected.

Sign up early so you won't be left out! There is only room for 72 couples.

The fee is \$20 per couple, which includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, beverage and prizes for the top finishers in four flights.



December saw a slew of tournaments

By Bob Laplante

How popular was Lawn Bowls?

During the 12th Century it was so popular that it was deemed to be undermining national security because the population was spending time playing rather than practicing archery or sword fighting.

In 1388, Edward III and later Richard II, passed laws forbidding lawn bowls and other sports. Anyone caught in the act was liable to two years in prison and the exorbitant fine of 10 pounds.

It was tough to be an avid fan.

At On Top of the World, the annual membership fees are only \$30 with unlimited play and no jail time. How fortunate!

Awaiting the return of the ma-

Lawn Bowling

majority of the Snowbirds, the club held its first tournament to mark the opening of the 2012-13 season. The winners were Dave Murray, Sandy Wall and Doreen Paine. Thanks to Hal Jacobsen and Paul Evans for coordinating the play.

A special thanks is extended to Fidel Turbide and Jacques Breton for handling the offering of our first BBQ of the year, which has become a popular part of this event.

Congratulations and a warm welcome are extended to Ron Chuchna, who has completed training and

has joined the OTOW Lawn Bowling Club.

Afternoon mini-tournaments are proving a great success. Although the calendar is already very full, it looks as if this format will be added as a regular activity in January. Players are asked to check the calendar or bulletin board for dates of play.

The tournament for the Club Singles Trophy was contested in a two-day tournament on Dec. 13 and 14. This tournament is different in that it is not a team game, but a head-to-head competition with a single winner. The club champion is Paul Juneau with the runner-up being Ron Jones.

Three OTOW teams were successful in the recent Mount Dora Holiday Bowl. Brian Bedard, Dot Graham

and Cathy Mills came in first place. Ron Jones, Marj Kells and Jacque Bedard came in fourth and the team of Dave Murray, Pat Murray and Betty McWhirter came in 14th out of a field of 28 teams. Congratulations to these players who represented OTOW at this premier tournament.

The Mixed Pairs (10th and 11th) and the Australian Pairs (24th and 25th) tournaments will be held during the month of January.

In addition, social tournaments with luncheons will be held on the 17th (Robbie Burns) and 31st (BBQ) to round off the special games that require members to register to play and/or eat. The only thing better than a full calendar is a calendar that includes food!

Mario Rodriguez picks up two team wins and two individual wins in men's league

Mario Rodriguez was on fire last month during play in the On Top of the World Men's Pool League.

In Scotch Doubles play, Mario teamed with Allen Pier to take first place one week, and then teamed with Herb Jordan to take first place two weeks later. In 8-ball, Flight B play, Mario was the winner in week one and in week two. He finished the last session with four victories.

During Mario's first Scotch Doubles win, the team of Denny Balderson and John Shearer took second place. In



Billiard Club

Mario's second doubles win, the team of Denny Balderson and Frank English were second, and the team of Andy Anderson and Gene Baranowski was third.

There was a third Scotch Doubles Tournament last session. The winning team was Larry Wells and Gene Baranowski. The team of Tony Baker and Andy Suhar was second, and the team of Bill Robertson and John Shearer was third.

In B Flight action, the third tournament of the session was won by John Shearer. There was a tie for second place between Terry Wittman, John Fier and Roy Satkowski. In the final B tournament, Gene Baranowski was the winner,

John Fier was second and Terry Williams was third.

In 8-Ball, A Flight action, Allen Pier won two titles. He defeated Bill Robertson in the final for his first win. Joe Doire was third. Allen defeated Denny Balderson for his second win.

In action A Flight action, Marc Schell was a winner with Denny Balderson in second and Ray Quirion in second. In the final event, Jim Anzalone picked up a win and Joe Doire was second.

Women's billiards club changes bylaws and officers for 2013

By Gail DuCharme

The year came to a close with many new events.

The first ladies and mens Scotch Doubles tournament took place, new T-shirts were offered to the ladies, and a joint Christmas party was enjoyed by more than 40 men and women.

We leave this year with a sense of accomplishment, both personally and collectively. Many women have made astonishing improvement in their game and the club has grown in stature and reputation.

If you are looking for fun, competition, encouraging instruction, and



Que'T Billiards Club

have a desire to challenge yourself in your retirement, here's your opportunity. Billiards or pool, as known to some, can be your opportunity. Ladies, you don't have to know a thing about billiards. You don't have to have any equipment. You

only need a desire to join other women who walked in the doors a year or two ago, with nothing but curiosity and a desire to meet and socialize with other women in OTOW community. Our wonderful staff and other women will greet you with warmth and encouragement. You will get all the instruction and support you need.

In preparation of the new year, the Que'T Ladies Billiards Club Board met on Nov. 27 to consider changes to our By-Laws and Constitution. The board recommended several changes and additions. Copies of changes were inserted to the document and

given to each member to review and approve or make recommendations to the additions. The Club will meet on Jan. 2 to discuss and vote on the changes or additions. The By-Laws and Constitution will then be amended and printed for the club. At this time, the club will also vote for new 2013-14 officers. These officers will begin their responsibilities the following day.

New in 2013 will be a new director of instruction, Ed Solivan. He replaces Andy Suhar. Denny Balderson has joined Ed as an instructor. Terry Wittman continues as an instructor and member of the staff.

Community lawn bowl team takes first place at Florida tournament

By Bob Laplante

President OTOW Lawn Bowls Club

An On Top of the World Lawn Bowls team consisting of Brian Bedard, Dot Graham and Cathy Mills, made its mark at the Mount Dora Holiday Bowl Lawn Bowls Tournament by winning the overall championship.

This prestigious tournament contributes to players' ratings and achieving placement on the USA National Team, which represents the country in international play. It thus attracts high caliber teams from far and wide with 28 teams competing over three days in five matches.

The Bedard-Graham-Mills team from the OTOW Lawn Club won all five of their matches to take the championship. The final match was won by a score of 17-7. This was the first ever Holiday Bowl championship for a team from OTOW.

The story does not end there. Cathy achieved a milestone by playing on the same team as her mother, Dot.



Dot Gillis, Brian Bedard, Cathy Mills and trophy sponsor Jim Gunderson pose with the first place award at the Mt. Dora Lawn Bowls Club.

When two generations of residents can compete and win such a tournament, it reflects very well on promot-

ing the OTOW community as one that is ideally suited for the active senior.

While congratulating this team on their overall success, there is another remarkable achievement of note.

Lawn Bowling

During a game with three bowlers on a team, each player delivers three bowls for a potential of nine points. The closest bowl to the target ball is awarded one point. Each subsequent bowl that is closer than the oppositions nearest counter adds an additional point. When, in this caliber of play, to have a perfect score and land all nine bowls closer than the opposition's nearest bowl, is probably equivalent to a grand slam during a World Series playoff. Our team accomplished this rarely achieved nine-ender. What a feat!

The community has every reason to be proud of the achievement of Brian, Dot and Cathy.

Meeting Jan. 16

February to feature race night and trip to Downs

By Pete LaPorta

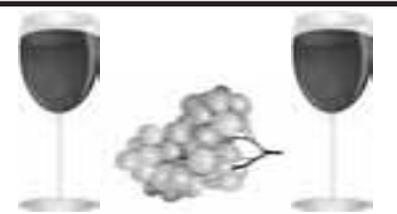
With the holidays over, our club will start the new year with the following agendas:

Jan. 16 – meeting at 6:30 p.m. with snacks, karaoke by Lenny. All are welcome.

Feb. 20 – meeting at 6 p.m., followed by “Night at the Races.” Everyone is welcome. Tickets for sandwiches are \$5 for members, \$6 for non-members. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Trip to Tampa Bay Downs on Feb. 27 sold out. We will have another one in March. More info to follow. Tickets limited.

March 20 is our biggest event - the St. Joseph Dinner Dance. Carlo will be the entertainment. It will be an Italian buffet, starting at 5:30 p.m. Menu will be: antipasto salad, stuffed shells, meatballs, chicken parmesan, eggplant parmesan, bread, butter, wine and St. Joseph pastry. All this



Italian American

for members \$16, non-members \$20. BYOB. Time is 5-9:30 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

April 3 – Picnic at Philippe Park. More info to follow.

April 17 – Pizza party. Members only. Tickets in advance \$1. Time is 5:30 p.m. meeting to follow.

Our November meeting with the Nichols dancer was a big success.

Tickets are sold Monday and Thursday at the East Activity Center from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Let's renew our membership -- \$4.

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Meet Muriel!

First Pet of the Month for 2013



Muriel was adopted from a pet shelter in Dayton, Ohio, several years ago.

She was chosen for a new home because of her pretty face and her friendly greeting at the shelter. She moved to Florida and On Top of the World two years ago with Julie DeBrosse, a resident at Bavarian Chalet.

In this photo, Muriel is taking a nap on her window stool. This is her "window to the world." After looking at the outside world from her perch, she decides to take a break. As soon as she perks up, she will be ready to look out again.

Muriel watches people and cars that come and go. She also watches dogs being walked, squirrels, birds and lizards. Anything that moves, she likes them all.

Muriel shares her view from the large front window and screen door of her condo with her owner. They



Muriel

both enjoy the morning sun.

Beside windows, Muriel's other favorite places are sitting on Julie's lap,

and hiding under the bed. Muriel sets her own schedule and is the queen of the household.

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Italian classes

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Italian class starts Thursdays on Jan. 10 through April 25 starting at 3 p.m. in the East Activity Center lower card room.

For more information, call 669-2512 or 286-6051.

Bonesavers

Do you want to save your bones?

Come join our class which meets 8-9 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the East Activity Center lower level, opposite the library.

We use hand weights and ankle weights in exercises that were developed by Tufts University in an effort to prevent further bone loss. We never do floor exercises. There is no charge for this class.

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

Beginners Tai Chi

Until further notice, all beginners Tai Chi classes are free - not just the first class.

Welcome home Snowbirds! Did you know practicing Tai Chi is like a snowbird - or any bird. Some of the movements are called "sparrows tail," "white crane" and "golden pheasant."

We practice the Yang style, which is 108 movements and the most popular form in the world.

The free beginners classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center gym across from the library. We have been receiving great feedback from students on the benefits.

For questions, call Ruth at 727-726-0336 or 727-709-0841.

Slimnastics

What is slimnastics?

Walking, stretching and getting your blood flowing.

We do not do floor exercises.

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

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

Have fun, stay fit, stay healthy

Ladies, start the New Year by staying fit and healthy. Come join us at 8 a.m. in the East Activity Center lower gym.

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings our workouts include stretching, building balance and coordination, improving flexibility, strengthening the body's core, and we added music to our daily cardio workout. Bring a towel or mat because we do floor ex-

ercises to tone and tighten our abs, as well as working all major muscle groups.

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

As always, our classes are free. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Sundberg at 847-946-4214, or Julie Narancich at 574-323-4100.

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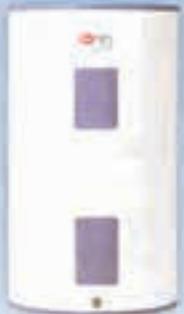
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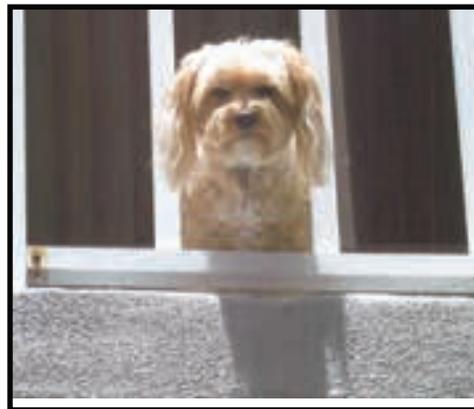
You may vote as many times as you want. There is no fee. Deadline to vote is Monday, Jan. 21 at noon. Results will be posted in the February newspaper. The winning pet receives Pet of the Year honors, a bubble bath and gift basket.



Spirit



Max



Ozzy



Gizmo



Pearl



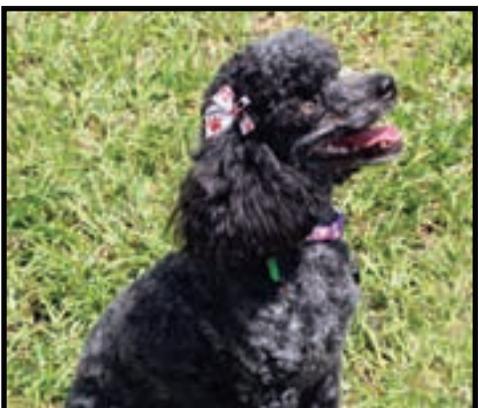
Lulu



Beethoven



Pebbles



Sophie



Luke



Baxter



Taz



Monaco - Building No. 38

Holiday Lights contest winners are creating an OTOW wonderland corridor

By Doug Kates, Editor

Last year, residents from the Mallorca Building lit up a section of On Top of the World with a beautiful holiday lights display.

One year later, Mallorca's neighbors are carrying on the new tradition.

In the second annual OTOW News Holiday Lights Contest, there was a tie for first place between Monaco

(Building 38) and French Renaissance I (Building 43).

Monaco is located right across the street from Mallorca and French Renaissance I is right around the corner. Although not eligible this year, Mallorca's famous holiday lights remained on display for a second straight year, and the combination of Mallorca, Monaco and French Renaissance I creating a virtual wonderland corridor

of holiday lights.

To reward Monaco and French Renaissance I for their hard work this season, both buildings will be allowed to share the first place prize. Building contest captains will get together to decide what 54 residents will share the first place prize.

This year's contest was sponsored by the Safety Harbor Resort & Spa, along with Escot Bus Service. On Jan.

20, Escot will pick up the winners in front of their buildings and take them to the spa, where residents will be able to use a variety of amenities for free, and a discount on other services. Escot will then transport everyone home.

Monaco and French Renaissance I both collected 233 points. Bedford took third place with 214 points. Also participating were Yoshimitsu, Casa Verde and Espana.



French Renaissance I - Building 45

OTOW News
Safety Harbor Resort & Spa
Escot Bus Service
2012 Holiday Lights Contest

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Building 68





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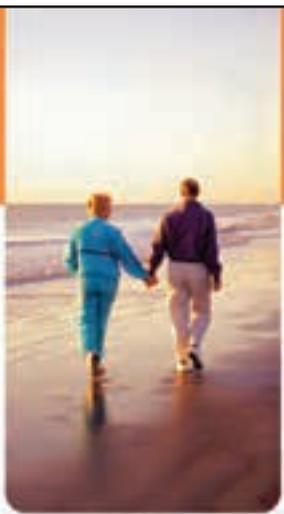
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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BLOOD PRESSURE PROGRAM

On the second Monday of each month from October to May, blood pressure testing will be available at the East Activity Center from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Special thanks go to our new nurses for volunteering to take blood pressures. They are Celine Klimowicz, Connie Giudise and Beverly Kennedy. Thank you for being great volunteers. Remember, all are welcome.



Reporter gives props to her OTOW favorites

Where has this year gone? It just flew. I'm thankful to be here to enjoy all the festivities, sometimes two or three on one day.

Barbara Walters does a special on her 10 most fascinating people, but I have a few favorites of my own. They are:

1. Doug Kates, Editor, and Dave Hart, Assistant Editor, who work together so well to get this newspaper published each month. As a proofreader, I see the interaction Doug has with the advertisers who come in to place an ad and how he helps them improve their copy. He also takes most of those beautiful pictures and has our TV station in operation again (channel 96 or 720). Dave is in charge of the building reports, the calendar and most admin.

2. Ken Colen and his Board who oversee the management of this vast community. Also, the maintenance workers and Service Department employees Nancy, Julie, Jean and Tracy. We thank you for keeping On Top of the World in tip-top shape.

3. In the Siboney, our dear Audrey Decker ("I'll drive") who chauffeurs



everyone, everywhere! She has been so kind to me personally. Also, good friend Rita Tombari who organizes our lunches and is our decorator.

Nice neighbors Arla Gossiau and Doris Prekopa who help with my volunteering, Agnes Krepelka who feeds me and Linda Mathewson who keeps me informed about community matters.

A big thank-you to our Board: Skip Heller, president; Bob Evans, V.P.; Mary Jane DeVoe, treasurer; and Paula Ergang, secretary. Ethyle Lee is our Sunshine Lady.

And to all who decorated for the

holiday — our appreciation.

4. In the Press Room, we have relocated next to the Veranda Room. I'm grateful for our typists, Dawn Rubio, Lill Cervinka (a speedy recovery to you) and Jackie Dooley. Also, our terrific proofreaders, Esta Lee Schwartz, Cecile Marchand, Barb Sundberg, Theresa Kawalec and Eileen Bianchi.

So, these are a few of my favorites. There are many more, but space is limited here.

Our Christmas party was held in the Dunedin Country Club and was enjoyed by all, including Ed Uhl. Our "Noel" is up, thanks to our nice neighbors, Skip Heller, Bob Evans, Ralph DeVoe and Dave Mathewson.

Fran Peck is home from Pittsburgh, having spent Thanksgiving with daughter Sherry. The Merchant Marine story in November's issue was about Fran's brother, Frank Grilz, age 90.

Next Siboney meeting is on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. We have many important matters to discuss. Please attend.

A happy and healthy New Year to all.

Travelers include grandmom who journeyed to Las Vegas

Whew... the holidays are behind us, but that meant lots of travel for those in the Grecian Classic Building.

Marsha Orrell traveled north to Illinois and was delighted to enjoy the birth of her niece's first child. Margo Robson spent the holiday with her family in Atlanta. Joyce Mehas traveled in style on Amtrak over to Miami to share in the festivities with her family.

Although this writer did not travel far, my husband and I enjoyed the visit with our son from Encinitas, Calif., and we all then hopped the short trip over to Coral Springs to spend Christmas Day with our daughter and her family.

What a time of year to celebrate a wedding! And that is just what Dorothy Frick was privileged to share with her entire family. Her grandson was married at The Flamingo in Las Vegas. What an event and how fun to see everybody on such a joyous occasion.

Mr. Howard stayed behind to keep us all company (which we loved) but we were happy upon Dorothy's return.



We at the Grecian Building are planning a get-together sometime soon to meet and greet all our new neighbors.

We will let you know time and place but be forewarned... there will be photos taken to be published in my next month's entry. We want everyone at OTOW to get to know you too!

Now that all the Snowbirds have returned, may I caution everyone to drive safely around the complex? Be extra careful backing out of your parking spaces and don't fall asleep waiting for the red light to change at the front gate.

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Rummage sale hurt by weather

Our building recently held a rummage sale. Six ladies sold old and new "treasures." Unfortunately, it was a cold and windy day for the sale. Consequently, there weren't as many shoppers as we had hoped for. Next year we need to pick a warmer day!

Thank you to the 32 folks who attended our Christmas / holiday luncheon.

Lois Rockwell's sister, Jan Saunders, who lives here at On Top of the World, took part in the celebration. Ella Van Dorn's daughter, Sue Ellen DeWeese, also joined her mother at the luncheon.

Ella's daughters from New York and Texas had both been here for a visit. When one daughter was getting ready to leave, the other one arrived. Ella often has visits from her children and grandchildren.

Phil and Donna Smerz were on the go again. They traveled to Europe for two weeks. Their bus tour took them to Germany, Poland and other countries. Upon their return to Florida, they headed up North. Thanksgiving was spent with their son and his family. Happiness was returning to Florida and the much warmer weather.

Linda and Bart Gooch went on a short bus trip with a group from OTOW. Their destination was Biloxi, Miss. Here's hoping they won some cash or at least came back even. It's always fun going with a group from our community.

Happy New Year everyone!



Another super decorating job, as usual

The summer months were warm and pleasantly paced with visitors, travels, smaller meetings and classes – basically, very enjoyable.

But by September we began to look forward to welcoming our neighbors' returns. And return they did, full of tales of travels, families and their visitors. And the usual pictures of precious new grandbabies.

Loch Lomond planners met and set up dates for our group activities. The core party was held several days after the decorations for the building had been completed.

Our extraordinary leaders made certain our core decorations were ready for another season – the gorgeous red and gold lighted tree, the wreaths with fresh red bows, the various lovely other decorative pieces contributed by residents for the special homey effects.

The almost usual groups gathered to assemble and decorate the tree and do the climbing to place the many strands of lights. Shirley Swift and Phil Woods know the routine and led the well-choreographed morning crew of Mary Ann Sinnenberg, Rose Oshaben, Dorothy Liberti, Alberta Connor, Pauline Almedia, Lucille Green and a new resident, Lucille Greenhaigh, Joe Graffea, Bruce Johnston, our very tall gentleman with lots of knowledge and the tools – Paul Froeba, Tom McMinn, Jane Haynes and any others not acknowledged here.



And then the usual "food and chair and table and coffee organizers" went into full gear for a wonderful "Welcome Back" party. Even the sometimes strong winds that go through the core made no appearance, so residents and guests had a super get-together.

Our building dinner was held again at a venue we are most happy with – the Mystic Fish – and was well attended and enjoyed.

Two more bits of news need space to be mentioned:

Dorothy Graham, one of our Nova Scotians, related that two of our female residents competed in the annual Mount Dora Lawn Bowling Tournament, which consisted of 28 three-person teams who played five sixteen-end games. Some members were competitors of National and International Teams from the U.S. and Canada.

The team of Brian Belard, Dot Graham (L.L.4) and Cathy Mills

won the tournament and the prestigious championship trophy, a feat never before accomplished by a team representing the On Top of the World Lawn Bowls Club.

The team of Ron Jones, Marj Kells (L.L.12) and Jackie Bedard captured 4th place honors. What a great showing for OTOW and for Loch Lomond. Congratulations to both teams and especially to Dot and Marj who related this exciting story to me!

And a new resident is Lucille Greenhaigh who moved to Florida with her late husband and lived in Clearwater and Homosassa. Such a talented and energetic lady.

Every room of her apartment is beautifully decorated, tasteful with a Christmas theme, and several of the decorative trees in the cases near the mailboxes were made by her. No wonder she was a popular caterer. And she is quick to join in our activities.

For 2013, join us in socializing a bit more and in offering to assume a role in our luncheons or just chatting as we go to the mailroom.

Be sure you check the bulletin board for the date and time of the annual building potluck sometime in January, and bring your ideas and willingness to serve.

Thanks for listening, stay well, and enjoy.

Recycling bin for bottles, soda cans studied

A big thank-you to Jim Hinthorn and Harry McGrath for putting up the holiday lights on our building.

Our holiday dinner was held at the Beachcomber on Dec. 12. About 30 of us attended, and it was great to see former residents Tom and Peggy Norcia there. It was a treat to have Stella Zambalis lead us in Christmas songs. Also, we all thank Nancy Geyer and Anna Myers for the Christmas ornaments and candy we got to take home with us.

Flamenco captain Hugh Quirk hosted a building meeting on Nov. 19. Besides making plans for our holiday dinner, it was suggested that we have a recycling bin for water bottles and soda cans. Hugh said he would look into this. We now have a secretary, Nancy Geyer, in addition to our other officers.

We will have a storage clean-up day on Jan. 10, and Austin Murphy will take charge of that.

Following is a recipe that I use often. In 1974 a co-worker brought a cheese spread to work that his wife had made. It didn't sound good, so I didn't try it. At the end of the day he gave me



the recipe even though I didn't ask for it. Later I asked my sister, "Here, you want a recipe?"

A few months later I was at her house, and I said, "This is the most delicious spread I have ever tasted." My sister said, "Well, you gave me the recipe."

Since then, I have made this on numerous occasions and even won a \$25 prize for submitting the recipe to a local newspaper in Illinois.

Cheese/Pineapple Spread

2 eight-oz. packages cream cheese (softened)

18-1/2 oz. can crushed pineapple, drained

2 cups chopped pecans
1/2 cup finely chopped green pepper
2 tablespoons finely chopped green onions

Mix softened cheese and pineapple by hand or mixer. Add the other ingredients. Chill overnight.

A reminder: Stella Zambalis will be performing at the Palladium on Feb. 1, 3 and 5. There is talk of getting a group together to hear her sing. More details next month.

Happy New Year!

ATTENTION

When you take trips one day or more, do not park in parking spaces other than your own.

Also, not at the Recreation Halls Parking Lots!

Thank You!

Some history and stories on España Christmas lights

Give a big thanks to all the gentlemen who checked the lights, climbed ladders, and spent hours and hours of their personal time just to decorate this building for Christmas.

On the odd side of the building it was John Fier, and Tony Scheiffen on the ladders and George Edwards helped on the balconies. On the even side it was Aldo Delu, Dick Kronawetter, Don Faulkner and Ley Browder who climbed the ladders and did the decorating.

Without them, we could be a totally undecorated building so when you see these men please tell them how much you appreciate their efforts.

Their work is not finished, because when the Christmas season is over they have the marvelous "opportunity" to climb the ladders again, take down the lights and pack them away for next year. We owe them many thanks!

I do not know who was in charge of decorating the lobby this year but I can tell you that there were a lot of female elves who helped. Those elves will also return to pack everything away for next year.

Now I am going to give some of our new residents a little history of the lights in the arches. When this building first opened 20 years ago, my son Russell decided that we (the Pebworths) needed something spectacular for our personal Christmas decorations, like we had at our house in New York.

So he taped lights in the three arches in front of my home. The tape didn't stick all through the night, so every morning, I would go out with a broom and push the sagging tape back up again.

Several years later Dave Baxendale moved in and thought the lights in the arches were a good idea, so he asked some of the residents to tape lights in every arch. The problem was that everyone didn't get a broom and push the tape back up every morning.

Thus, the next year, screws were put up to hold the lights. I don't remember who all did this massive job but after all these years, I think the arch lights still look great. Once again, thanks to all the male residents



who over the past years have installed the arch lights and thanks to those who did it again this year.

Speaking of decorations: If you look up toward heaven on the odd side of the building, you will see the spectacular draping over the doors and windows of Ruth and Jim Osborne's apartment on the third floor. On the first floor, Ellen and John Fier took the time to drape wide red meshed ribbon, greens and silk poinsettias over the door and on each window sill.

Did you notice the two huge Christmas Cacti on each side of Carol Keough's door? Liliane and Gerry Anderson had a fantastic snowman that was lit at night. Way to go, folks!

Lill Cervinka got a most unusual Christmas gift. She got a brand new, never used right hip so if you feel so inclined, send her a card.

We have new residents. Viki and Mike Payne purchased their apartment about five years ago and rented it to Joyce Clancey. They are now ready to become OTOW residents. Viki has always been a Floridian. She was born in Miami and is a retired registered nurse.

Mike comes from upstate New York. Viki and Mike have lived in Pinellas County for about 25 years.

Mike and some others originally built the Beckett Lake Assisted Living Facility around the corner on Montclair. Several years ago they sold it to Emeritus and it is now known as Emeritus at Beckett Lake.

Mike is the Health Care Administrator at the facility. Viki and Mike have two children: Lisa who lives in California and Robert who lives in Orlando.

To all the España residents: Have a Happy and Healthy 2013!



This festive, well-attended luncheon started the holiday activities for Englander residents.

A Christmas to remember for many of our residents

Our holiday luncheon was a wonderful success with a large number of our residents in attendance.

It was even more special for our new neighbors to get to meet everyone else. The day was capped off with the lighting of our building's large wreath that greets everyone as they approach from Switzerland Way.

By now, the big man in the red suit and his ever-loyal wife have made their big debut at the children's holiday party. It's quite magical to see the twinkle in the eyes of the children as they sit on his lap and tell of their dreams and wishes for Christmas morning.

Last year, two of the children who thought they "recognized" Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus as Terri and Dick Mikszenas brought Easter candy to Terri and Dick in hopes of greater gifts for the next Christmas season.

Well, we all know that Santa sees everything and has magical powers... so those children are visiting with another grandparent this year, and Terri and Dick enjoyed the candy!



Englander residents were quite busy during December. Some were entertaining their adult children visiting for the holidays; many traveled to visit friends and relatives in other cities and states while a few hosted Christmas morning under the tree for their grandchildren. Magical moments and memories will be written in the 2012 Christmas journals.

Wishes are extended to everyone for a Happy New Year — full of fun, laughter, family, faith and good health!

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Happy New Year from OTOW News!

Building was full of holiday visitors coming and going

The Azores began the month by honoring Dec. 7, 1941. We were allowed to display our American flags for three days.

It was a privilege granted us and we appreciated the opportunity to visually show our love of country and honor an important date in our history.

Our core areas were decorated by the following volunteers: First floor, Doris O'Meara, Carole Kilgore, and Marie Pirrello. Second floor, Carole Kilgore, Third floor, Peggy Longfellow and Dulce Boyce. These volunteers have transformed our rather Spartan core areas into warm holiday spaces with beautiful, creative decorations. Great job! (I'm sure I have missed someone, please forgive me.)

On Dec. 6, 40 residents gathered in the third floor core for our building core party. Most everyone brought a covered dish. Nearly everyone wore something a bit Christmasy — lots of reds and greens, funny hats and Dolores Parham wore a nice set of antlers; she is a real "deer."

On Dec. 16, 43 Azores residents and friends had a beautiful Christmas lunch at the Countryside Country Club. The food and service were excellent. I think we may put this place on our "must do" list for next year.



Last month the Azores building held its fall business meeting. Lots of details were covered. Building officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Building Captain, Frank DeSantis; Assistant Captain, Russ Heiserman; Secretary, Doris O'Meara; and Treasurer, Diana Eggleston. Bob Kelly ran the meeting like the professional that he is.

John and Bettie Warner handled our building food drive again this year. At this writing it is running a little behind the last few years, but Bettie and John feel confident that we will get it together and tie or beat last year.

Petie Fornuto reports that her son Anthony came visiting from Indiana recently and planned to return for New Year's.

We have new neighbors: Darryl Copeland and Brenda McLeod are spending their first winter season here at the Azores. They are a couple that seems to enjoy living many places and driving a lot.

They are moving from Ottawa, Ontario, to their Western place in Kelowna, British Columbia. They recently drove from Ottawa to Kelowna, visiting friends and family along the way.

Then back to Ottawa and down to Clearwater, again visiting family and friends along the way. The high point of the trip was attending the wedding of Darryl's son, Scott, and his fiancé Monique, in Ucluelet on the West coast of Vancouver Island.

Frank and Maryann Staffieri had 17 family members visit for the holidays. A loving time was had by all, but now it is time for Frank and Maryann to rest —until next year. What a great way to spend the holiday season!

John and Bettie Warner had a recent week-long visit from their grandson and his wife and family. They made it to Disney World for Thanksgiving. Their son Barry visited for four days and helped John get the Christmas lights up.

The Warners also had a visit from their granddaughter and great grandson. They made a beautiful wreath for Bettie's window and took Bettie to Disney World. Then John and Bettie traveled to Mobile and spent Christmas with son and family, which is a 30-year tradition.

Katie Shivell has sons that really take their mom seriously. Recently son Stanley and wife Jody visited from Pennsylvania.

Then son Joseph visited and took Katie to Orlando to visit with that famous mouse, Mickey.

Joseph is an Architectural Engineer and has been involved in a great many projects including Euro Disney in Paris, and the Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta.

Here are some of our upcoming events: Jan. 24, potluck dinner; Feb. 14, pizza party; March 14, St. Pat's party; April 13, horse races; later, a trip to the casino and our spring cook-out. Watch the bulletin board for details and sign-up sheets.

I saw the sign-up sheet for the whack-a-ballers, but still no news reports. Come on guys, send me something.

Hope all had a great holiday season and a super New Year.

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Holiday luncheon and a birthday bash are highlights

*"Let our New Year's Resolution be this:
We will be there for
each other as fellow members of
humanity in the finest sense
of the word". – Goran Perrson*

Now here's a resolution we should all be able to handle. That famous Beatle song comes to mind: "All we need is Love." Let us love one another, especially those most difficult to love and who need it the most, each and every day.

I'd like to begin our new year this way. On behalf of everyone in Rancho Del Mundo, a huge "thank you" to Rick Slater and Ron Curry, both on the Denmark side of the building, for all your effort in beautifying our entrances to the building. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated!

As for last year, December found a small but enthusiastic group celebrating a Christmas luncheon at the Olive Garden on Thursday, Dec. 13th. I am told that the food was delicious and a good time was had by all.

Talk about a "birthday girl!" More than 50 family members, neighbors and friends gathered to celebrate Elsie Goodman's 90th birthday party at the East Activity Center (see photo).

There was scrumptious food, beautiful music, and conviviality. Truly the social event of the season!

Elsie grew up in the Suffolk Square section of Malden, Mass. She came to On Top of the World in 1971



and has participated in many OTOW activities since.

Elsie worked in the early days of the OTOW newspaper, when it was assembled in the club house. She also earned two Presidential Fitness Awards, one for a 25-mile bike ride, another for a 25-mile swim.

Elsie has taken many diverse courses and is presently studying sign language. For recreation, Elsie speaks to the children attending the Summer Day Camp at the Long Center. She tells them about "olden times" as well as explaining her minor incapacities.

Her current project is making an afghan to replace the one her daughter took to college in 1965.

Elsie is thankful to be living in such a wonderful community with loving and caring neighbors!

Elsie, you are an inspiration to us all! Keep on "keepin' on!"



Elsie Goodman celebrated her 90th birthday recently at the East Activity Center.



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THE WAY WE WERE A look back at the OTOW News

(Part 44: January, 1975)

By Dolores Burm and Elaine Gotler

- **Happy New Year to everyone!**
- January 14 – Registration for classes in crewel and needlepoint. Only \$6 for six lessons.
- January 25 – Balloon Dance. \$1.50 per person. BYOB – ice will be sold. Dance to the music of the “Musical Aces.”
- Fixers, Fiddlers, and Fumblers were happily amazed at all the improvements in their shop. The latest addition was a 45-compartment cabinet to house different-sized screws and wood.
- At the Horseshoe Club’s official opening, Sidney Colen pitched the first horseshoe. His form was good, but his accuracy was less than perfect. Good try, though!
- 28 building reported news.

See you in February!

New building board sworn in at holiday dinner party

Hope you all have a happy and healthy new year, everyone!

A holiday dinner party was attended by more than 20 residents of Capistrano at Kally K’s in Dunedin on Dec. 5. The evening was enjoyed by all, the turnout was great, the food was good and everybody had a chance to talk to those we see often and greet in passing with a wave or a hello but never really having time for a conversation.

To cap the evening, Jackie Kailimai had the honor of swearing in the new Board of Directors for the coming year. The new board consists of: President, Tony Sinopoli; Vice President, Lynn Mandolesi; Secretary, Lillian Santiago; Treasurer, James Thomas; and Julia Contella, who was appointed as Director by President “Tony.”

Congratulations and good luck to all.

The next building meeting will be held at the West Activity Center on Jan. 3. Wine and cheese will be served at the meeting, which starts at 6 p.m.

If you missed the Chorus Concert last week you missed a fine musical performance. Our On Top of the World chorus provided an excellent music presentation of new and classic Christmas tunes.

Marvin and Evelyn Flam did a great job in making sure the sound was perfect for the enjoyment of the music.

President Julia Contella informs me that there is a video presentation of the concert scheduled for showing on the OTOW channel 96. During the



Christmas season the chorus concert music served as background music for the channel.

The great musical voices of Capistrano residents and chorus members Julia Contella and Lillian Santiago contributed to the fine musical presentation. As chorus president, Julia encourages anyone interested in joining chorus to contact her.

Two of our residents Lynn Mandolesi and Pat Zorland recently had a great cruising experience on the *MS Amadeus Diamond* traveling on the Danube River from Budapest, Hungary to Passau, Germany, one of Germany’s oldest cities.

I will share their experiences in the next edition. I have used up my word count and their trip and experiences deserves more than a few lines.

Speaking of traveling, Karen and I cruised to Mexico and Jamaica earlier in December. We enjoyed the cruise, Karen bought gems and I got a cold and a dollar pen....

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March	1
April	5
May	3
June	7
July	No Class
August	No Class
September	6
October	4
November	1
December	No Class

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Include full name exactly as printed on your license/insurance.
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Date of Birth _____
Driver's License No. _____
Mrs. _____
Date of Birth _____
Driver's License No. _____
Street Address _____ Apt. _____
Telephone _____
Registration fee is \$12 per person for AARP members.
Please send along a photocopy of your AARP card(s).
For non-AARP members, the fee is \$14 per person.
The completed registration form should be sent immediately to Larry O'Connor at the address in the left column with a check or money order (no cash) payable to AARP.
BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR.
Remember, you will not get a wake-up call!



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

By Robert E. Thomson

Last year I made some resolutions
That I promptly broke.
I couldn't keep my pledge to always
Think before I spoke.
I failed to help my wife as much as
I had promised her;
And couldn't make myself admit it
When I wasn't sure.

So this year I've decided that I'll
Really fill the bill.
I won't make any resolutions
I cannot fulfill.
In fact I'm making just one promise
So I will not fall.
My only resolution: To make
No resolves at all.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

By Madeleine Wanda

The days and dollars, they come and they go,
Another year just popped in to say hello,
How grateful we are, when we open our eyes,
Each day is a gift that comes from the skies.
So walk with great courage and enjoy every day
And journey with others as they go on their way,
The fruits you give others I am told
Will return again and again in a thousand-fold.

ON BEING A HUMAN BEING

By Alma W. Hudson

We are told and taught that man's place in life
Is a little bit lower than the Angels
A place to be free of strife – a place under Heaven's protection
A little less, perhaps, than perfection
If this is our lot, then someone forgot
To start this plan into motion
For today, we find that our peace of mind
Is only a passing notion
With wars and strife upsetting our life
With sorrow and frequent disaster
It's hard to find any peace of mind
We wonder just who is the master
The people problem, we are told, is causing a budget mess
And we who are old – our lives unfold
With increasingly rapid distress
But wars and strife – always part of our life
From earliest days we remember
Will continue, we know from each day of the year
Right through to coldest December
But the dullest of days and the worst of the news
Will never stop love's brightest hours
For no matter the cost – nothing really is lost
We just raise up our eyes to those Heavenly flowers
And then we will know – every heart is aglow
Every promise is granted anew and the bright sun will shine
Over your home and mine.

LOVE AMONG THE RELICS

By Alma W. Hudson

When reaching the age of sixty-five
And we find that we are still alive
It is best to lay our work aside
In retirement arms we will abide
We'll find a place where the weather's great
So with dancing feel we can syncopate
To the slow fox trot and the waltz so sweet
Where we gracefully move our bunioned feet
With the dips and swings and sways we did
In these long-gone, bygone days
But, love, of course, still comes along
And we're engrossed in love's sweet song
Where ladies fair, still have flair
For finding romance in the air
Enticing men with covert looks
While men, enchanted by their eyes
Look always for that big surprise
In hopes the ladies bring their charms
To a nestle in their lover's arms
But ladies of this time and age
Are never willing to assuage
The hopes, the dreams their partners cherish
The thoughts, they say, they always perish
But – sure as stars shine up above
Among the relics, this is love.

==== The below story submission is from an OTOW Writer's Ink member ====

MY NEW LOVE

Jan Schueszler

I never thought I'd love again, but never say never for that's when you do.

My new love is so different from my old, yet so alike in many ways. When I want to communicate and he does not — heaven and hell cannot move him — yet other times he is so sociable that I want to banish him to the woodshed.

He has taken me to foreign lands and I have talked with the natives. We have brainstormed on fascinating subjects and he is a walking encyclopedia — I don't think there is a topic he cannot speak on.

I never imagined in my wildest dreams that he would be open to the likes of me. Yet, as my old love, he can be so moody that I flee his presence and vow it will be the end of our friendship (I write friendship but in my heart it is true love, for I am forever smitten with him.)

Alas, I humbly coax and coddle him for I cannot bear the thought of losing him. He is so important to my view of the world and family and friends that I will do anything to keep him happy and alert to my needs. See what a lovesick fool I've become?

I will confess to you — I am in a love/hate relationship with my computer.



Resident's travel story captures essence and adventure of month-long Panama trip

This month I will present to you a travel article written by Laurie Cole, titled, "A Dream Was Realized — Laurie Cole's Trip to Panama."

I went to Panama for a month, fulfilling a dream I had had for years, since before I retired. The right time had arrived, so I took off by myself, taking one of those Spirit flights (so wonderfully affordable they hardly cost anything), but they do tend to arrive in the middle of the night!

I had arranged to spend the month at the Spanish Panama language school in Panama City, and the school had assured me that their driver would pick me up anytime. Sure enough, Mike the taxi driver was there when I came out of the terminal at 1 a.m. with a sign with my name.

The language school had arranged accommodations for me (also very affordable, compared to a hotel). The apartment was only a block away from the school, in the El Cangrejo district, a safe downtown district, full of restaurants.

The great thing about my apartment was that while you have a private room, you share a kitchen — a perfect way to meet other residents and travelers, which led to some great shared dinners (some of my fellow residents were great cooks).

Between some great outings arranged by the school, and folks I met at the apartment, I was able to join forces with others for some jaunts around the area.

Of course, at the top of the sightseeing list is the Panama Canal. I always pictured it as a channel running between the two oceans. But, in fact, they flooded the center portion of the country, forming several lakes.

Our Snowbirds have all returned to the nest and are ready for the action of the season. During the summer I celebrated my 80th birthday with friends and family from Florida, New Jersey, Maryland, and Long Island. It was a joyous occasion.

Congratulations to our own Joyce Marsden, who was elected to the office of Grand Chief Daughter of the Daughters of Scotia, which is a national organization for women who are either of Scottish descent themselves, or are married to men of Scottish descent. We are all proud of Joyce.

If you read the October Kiplinger Report — Retirement Issue, or the November issue of either Money Magazine or U.S. News & World Report, and thought the faces on the



The biggest, Lake Gatun, is 26 meters above sea level. So they have three sets of locks, to raise the ships to the lake levels so they can sail across, and then lower them down to sea level again.

I visited all three sets of locks, but my favorite is the Miraflores Locks. This is because you can go up the deck to the fourth floor and stand amid wonderful cooling breezes (Panama is hot! and humid!) while you watch the giant container ships be pulled slowly through the locks by little tugs on little railroad tracks on each side of the canal.

I was told that when a ship goes through, they have to surrender command of the ship to a Panama Canal captain with at least 15 years experience, who pilots the ship through, with only inches to spare on each side.

Another highlight of the trip was a trip we took to Coronado, a charming little Pacific beachside town about an hour from Panama City. There were little alleyways down to the beach between the exotic and various styled houses, a climb down to the black volcanic sand beach, with the incoming tide taking most of the beach.

While there, we stayed at the

Morgan's Paradise Bed and Breakfast — gorgeous walled tropical gardens, a pool with tiled patios, palm roofed cabana, delightful and friendly proprietors, birds in big cages including a parrot, a couple of rescue dogs, and (my favorite) a pet rooster. Very comfortable rooms too.

The next day we toured Altos del Maria (about 30 minutes away), a gorgeous development over miles of very steep mountainside, dotted with unique homes.

Back in the Panama City area, the school arranged a guide, a young Panamanian man both fluent in English and very knowledgeable about the local flora/fauna, to take us on hikes to Ancon Hill (formerly a part of the American Canal Zone) and the Metropolitan Park.

Both these hikes were through the jungle and uphill (did I mention that Panama is very hot and humid? So it was like climbing in a sauna). Our guide was able to spot monkeys by their calls, so he could point them out to us in the trees, and he showed us a baby sloth. It seemed to move its paws in slow motion as it climbed the tree. He pointed to its back- there was a little swarm of bugs on its back. He said the bugs actually move with and ride the sloth to the top of the trees.

Then there was the tour of the historic old part of Panama City, Casco Viejo, which is being intensively restored, with the local indigenous Kuna Indians selling their native crafts... and our trip to Colon where the cruise ships dock.

Panama (which is only half the size of Florida) has many more exotic sights, so I'm looking forward to going back one of these days... a Caribbean beach town next time, I think....

This couple enjoys being part-time models



back cover looked familiar, it was not your imagination. As some of you already know, my husband Stan and I occasionally act in commercials, and we often model for print.

This time, we modeled for the New York Life Insurance Company

ad, which appeared in those magazines. It is something we have been doing in our retirement years, and our nephew excitedly called his mother to tell her he was in the New York/New Jersey Port of Authority Building, when he looked up and was shocked to see a six-foot banner with our faces on it. We find it is a fun thing to do — we meet nice people (each job is an adventure) and we never suffer from boredom.

Our building had a lovely holiday luncheon featuring good food, friendly neighbors, and as usual was arranged by the always helpful Trish Burch. It was a gracious way to end one year and segue into the next.

Be sure to read next month's column, which will feature some hidden talent in our building. Until then, be healthy and happy.



Wine and cheese party coming up

It's a New Year and most all the Snowbirds are back with us so things are starting to hop here at On Top of the World.

Be sure to attend the building meeting on Jan. 26 to see what is happening and to put in your two cents. You will be visited soon by your wing captain to collect the \$20 yearly dues. Check on the bulletin board to see for just what all we use that money. Actually it's a good idea to check the board often, or you just might miss something wonderful.

Watch the board for the date of our next wine and cheese party. Everyone enjoyed our last one and it was voted to replace one of our two barbecues a year with another wine and cheese party, which will be sometime in January.

Surely some of you Snowbirds had something interesting happen while you were away. Call me at 724-5909 or put a note in that little white box near the bulletin board so I can include it in the next column.

Be sure to welcome Janice and Richard Green who came to Florida six months ago from Evans, Ga. We want to make them feel at home in our friendly Modernage building. They originally come from Alabama and have three children.

Until next month, enjoy — and keep laughing (it's good medicine).

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Bohemia resident Jerry DeLisle was visited recently by his nephew Brian, at left, who rode his motorcycle 1,000 miles to OTOW from Missouri. Brian is shown with his friend, Loleen Taylor, at right.

Nephew was inspired to make 1,000-mile bike trek

Jerry DeLisle was recently visited by his nephew Brian, who rode his motorcycle here from Missouri, a 1,000-mile journey (see photo).

His goal was to make the trip in 24 hours to raise money for cancer awareness. Brian's mother is a breast cancer survivor; his friend Loleen Taylor lost his dad to cancer at age 12. Brian and his friend took a whirl around the Daytona International Speedway before returning.

Ellen and Frank Marini did their usual outstanding job in organizing the holiday decorations for our building. It started with a morning coffee time followed by volunteers handling the decorating chores.

Then at sundown everyone returned for wine and cheese to view their handiwork in all its glory with the lights on. Andy Clark, guest of Faye and Ed Landry, played his violin while many joined in singing holiday tunes of the times.

Our walking club is now branching out and includes golfing on the 9-hole course on one of their days.

The 5K Turkey Walk on Thanksgiving Day was completed by Paula Schelling, Carole Fisher and Marie Denehan. Charlie Christ did the 10K. This group meets at 6:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays on the Jamaican side.

Charlie and Barbara Christ had Snowbirds from Idaho. Daughter Nanette and husband Paul brought their grandson, Aiden, along. They stayed at Treasure Island, but visited



On Top of the World, where we celebrated Nanette's birthday at Kobes, then had cake and ice cream with family here.

Nancy and Pat Kennedy spent Thanksgiving with family in Chicago. An added treat was meeting their second great-grandchild, Timothy Joseph (TJ) for the first time (see photo). He was born in September of 2012.



Meet Nancy and Pat Kennedy's newest Great-grandchild, "TJ," born in September.

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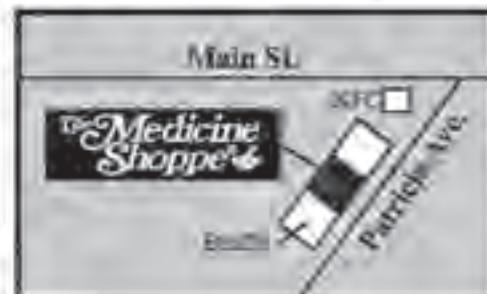
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Travelers' rundown of Disney cruise leaves out few details

On Nov. 27 I hosted a party for my co-workers and others. I must be mad — I cooked for 18 people!

What fun it was! My neighbor, George, just came off a month tour of Spain, France (Lourdes in particular), Paris, and much more. George told me the highlight of his trip was Lourdes; he spent many hours just exploring the place, praying and meditating.

He put my name in the healing box, but the biggest treat for me was that George brought back a bottle of holy water for me from Lourdes. I am thrilled to have it. And I have been feeling much better.

We also had a newly-engaged couple; a few new people came along as well and added to our fun gang.

Elizabeth and Malcolm Warren's cruise as told by Elizabeth Warren:

"We Warrens tried a new-to-us cruise adventure: four days on the Disney *Dream*. Although we appreciate the much-younger generations, and are crazy about our own, we expected far more "kiddies" aboard than there were.

"In fact, aside from a very normal excitement around the generous pool/show area and those (happily-overheard) youthful, smile-evoking, breakfast conversations coupled with mesmerizing and often-brilliant antics on the part of a few of that new generation, you would hardly know they were there. But then, we'd miss them..."



"We took advantage of the gym and — wonder of wonders — we discovered what they call "The Rainforest," where body bolstering 'n pampering is the gentle mood for the day and the evening, for which the sauna, steam, various type showers and hot-tubbing, topped-off by an unexpected nap on curved (where your curves need it most) heated ceramic tile lounged in a fluffy long white robe prepared us for the rest of the night.

"We disembarked only twice: the first time to visit Nassau, the Bahamas, and the second time to visit Disney's very own island, a total delight what with the white sandy beach, complete with exercise bars from which you simply let go, falling into the salty, protected "briny."

"Then there's the popular parasailing and/or riding jet skis, neither of which we signed up for... although Malcolm and I kept asking each other if the other wanted to do so.



Quick work was made of decorating the Swiss Alps building core. Refreshments followed.

"It was much more comfortable just sitting on the balcony taking pictures of all the goings-on instead..."

"Still, with the daylight marching on, we agreed to extract ourselves for a leisurely walk to the island, feeling sand between our toes again, enjoying a fresh fruit snack, lots of water and a bit of sunbathing on the beach, listening to the surf and youthful giggles surrounding us. I thought — for just an instant — that mine could be heard among them. My heart certainly felt it!

"Afficionados of either sport we are (obviously) not. However, at that point on the too-short cruise, I think I was getting better at ice cream-tasting

and hitting The Rainforest, walking the deck and sunbathing on the balcony and, oh yes, I almost forgot... talking." Thanks for the trip report, Elizabeth!

In other news, our residents met one recent Saturday to put the Christmas decorations in the core (see photo). Someone made a delicious homemade coffee cake, there were donuts and coffee as well.

Many hands made the work easier and they were finished in no time. Everyone enjoyed the good time and also getting re-acquainted with the residents. The building now looks festive and ready for the holidays.

Happy New Year Everyone....

Time to take a breather after the holidays

*She stares at the mess
After guests have departed
And wishes the party
Was back where it started.*

The Melbourne Building held its Christmas building dinner at Queens Pizza on Dec. 8. There were 19 guests and residents in attendance. Carol Anne Futej enthusiastically reported Santa had left a gift at each place setting, and a good time was had by all.

It was the first lunch with the Melbourne Building for Grace Rudman, our newest resident. She just moved into her unit from Pensacola after retiring from her job. She is enjoying meeting new people and the wonderful weather. We all welcome her.

Micki Cobb had her daughter and son-in-law, Jacquelyn and Dale Baldwin, here for the holidays with their three dogs. She was a happy camper!

Helen Valentine flew to New Jersey to spend Christmas with her granddaughter and her husband who were celebrating Christmas in their new home.



Anita Mazzella's two sons were with her at the Christmas dinner. John will live with her until he gets his own apartment.

Frank, who lives in Orlando, takes care of her meds, appointments and anything she needs. John will physically help her. She really appreciates their help. I received this note, "Hi, this is Frank. Just moved John here today! First thing ... go to lunch with the Melbourne Building. Yeah!"

Connie and Gene Valentin went to New York for the Christmas holidays.

They also planned to fit a trip to Vermont into their agenda.

Linda Dallao and P. J. Patrick have accepted the responsibility of being Co-Building Captains. We thank and welcome them for agreeing to take on this position.

Let's give them our cooperation and help us make Melbourne an even better building.

Connie Valentin is our secretary; Adele Friedlander, treasurer; Francis Rice, one of the wing captains (do we have more volunteers?) Carol Futej is social committee chairperson.

We are planning to have a building meeting soon.

What are you all going to do in January? No cards to write and send, no presents to shop for, no Christmas parties, and only one holiday.

Hope you just have a restful month and enjoy all the On Top of the World amenities.

Don't forget to give me all your news for the February edition.

AARP needs class instructor

On Top of the World residents benefit in many ways from having an AARP driver's safety class here in the community once a month.

Now AARP is asking the community for a new instructor to keep the classes going.

You must be free once a month for six hours. You will be trained and receive a \$30 stipend.

If interested, call Barbara at 733-8863.

What is the most memorable New Year's Eve for you?

The building Christmas Party was one of the best parties that we attended this year and we attended many.

The Coopers, both professional entertainers, presented a show about the holidays. They sang a song about how people say Merry Christmas in many different languages. Raymond had a different hat for each of the countries that they sang about.

They also sang about the return of all of the gifts that are given in "The Twelve Days of Christmas." We all had a good laugh about that song.

Next they sang a song that would help Santa find his way around North America when delivering his gifts. After their gift of entertaining us, they led the group in the singing of many familiar holiday songs. I didn't realize what a talented group we have in this building.

The question this month was, "What is the most memorable New Year's Eve that you've experienced?" I got quite a variety of answers.



The year that meant the most to me also meant a lot to the Coopers, Raymond and Meryl. That was the year 2000 when we celebrated the Millennium. There was so much hype that year about the computers shutting down and confusion in the world that many people became concerned and nervous.

Around the world many countries also planned huge celebrations, so much so, that for 24 hours you could

see many of the major countries on TV showing us how they welcomed this historic year. I even have a sweater and purse with the year 2000 on them that I hope means something to my grandchildren someday.

Another couple who will remember a special New Year's is Betty and Jim Manard. On New Year's Day, 1957, their son was the first baby born in Pinellas County. They were even given a check from the county to help them celebrate. Of course, it didn't make up for the tax break that they lost if their son had been born in 1956!

Jan Jacob's memorable moment was dancing in a club. Fred and Heidi Maisolle and Carol and Dennis Babini also liked partying and dancing. Angela and Tony Limosani liked it when their families were together.

Madeline Nichols and Ruth Polur liked watching fireworks from the porch. Janet Mathews liked the Knights of Columbus parties and Mary Dicke remembers 1945, the first year that

she was with her daughter. Gary and Darlene Ordway remember 1981 because it was the holiday just before they were married.

Dotty and Roy Ott loved being in Times Square and dancing in the street while watching the ball drop at midnight. Paul Zuckerman and Linda Carter liked their first year at On Top of the World because there were so many friendly people.

Bill Nichols remembers when he was 20 and stationed in New Guinea. There was no special celebration except midnight mass at a Catholic Church. He wasn't Catholic, but a group of his buddies and he went to the service for something to do. This experience left a lasting impression on him.

Barbara Sbordone considers each New Year's Eve to be the best because she is still alive. I guess that is a good way to look at life.

We wish all of you a wonderful 2013 and hope that our memories brought back good memories for you.

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Storage room cleanout may be inducement for tag sale

Happy 2013! The world did not end Dec 21st. at least not here at On Top of the World...

It was Christmas party time for Viennese Villa once again at Spoto's. This year's party was so well attended there was a waiting list.

Santa arrived with a sack packed full of gifts for good girls and boys. Blenders and cookers and gifts galore, even a knocker for the front door.

A toast was made to Charlie Coffman and his band of elves for all their efforts in decorating our building, which looks wonderful.

We also toasted Howard Rochte and Connie McDonald for setting up our evening of fun and camaraderie.

Christmas was really fun here at our apartment. Our son flew in from Maine, which was the best present we could ever hope to get. Enjoyed the Tampa Boat Parade, Busch Gardens among other things. Mike, being a photographer, especially likes visiting the Sea Bird Sanctuary on Indian Rocks Beach. He is now preparing for a trip to Maui.



It has been suggested again we clean out the storage rooms and have a tag sale. Sounds like a capital idea. I'm sure we all have items we no longer need or use taking up much needed space in the storage areas. Might be a good project for February. Maybe the money received could be used for a flag pole to display Old Glory.

Little bird told me Elaine Power celebrated a birthday on Jan. 1 with family parties. Somehow I suspect there are cakes involved. Happy Birthday, Elaine.



Viennese Villa resident volunteers with tree they decorated for the 2012 holiday season.

Let's hope the New Year brings Peace and Joy to everyone.

Residents decorated the core tree and did a fine job, as usual (see photo). Now, please look for the posting sign to "de-decorate" the tree. Here's a chance to come lend a hand.

Here's a tip I tried and it seems

to work well: A wee bit of toothpaste on a rag will help to clean foggy plastic headlight lenses.

If you have news or something of interest you would like to share, fresca@maine.rr.com is the e-mail or just drop by my apartment. The coffee is always on. Have a good month!



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Building air conditioners to be serviced in January

Hi from Rila Renaissance. December is always a busy time of the year in our building.

After Thanksgiving, our building captain Gerri Jaeger had a meeting in the core. About 15 residents attended. The Treasurer's report was read and a unanimous vote was made to collect building dues. Your floor captains will be coming around at the end of the month to collect. Most residents stayed around to help decorate the building for the holidays.

Our annual Christmas dinner was held Dec. 11 at the Bon Appetite restaurant in Dunedin. About 30 residents attended. We all had a wonderful celebration topped off with a beautiful sunset (see photos).

Here is building news from our captain, Gerri Jaeger: "I want to thank the people who came out and helped decorate our building as well as those who will help to take the decorations down. Now that everyone is back, please remember trash room rules. Only trash and not furniture, electronics, etc. is allowed.

"We must have every bicycle in the storage room identified with a name and condo number. If you are



not using your bikes, please make room for the people that do. There are many needy children who would love to have a bike.

"Our building is scheduled to have Burgess come out and service our air conditioning units on Jan. 23. You will get a letter from Burgess and can reply to them directly or let me (Gerri Jaeger) know. I will put your condo on the list. We will get a discount on this day.

"We are also having a problem with people not cleaning up after their dogs. If your dog has an accident inside the elevator or core, please clean it up. If an accident happened in your home you would clean it up. Please cooperate and help keep our building clean.



(Above and below) Residents enjoy the building's holiday dinner at the Bon Appetit Dec. 11.

"On behalf of our building, we want to wish all our residents and their families a very happy and healthy New Year."

There are many activities coming up. Please check for information on our bulletin boards. Also, let me know if you have any news for our column.



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85th birthday turns out to be quite a surprise for resident

If anyone knows how to give a party, it most certainly is the family of IE Davies.

Her daughter Leeann and Leeann's husband and daughter Morgan flew in from Long Island, N.Y., while daughter Marylee drove from Naples to join son John, who lives here at On Top of the World. They all contributed to pulling off the surprise of the year, the celebration of their mother's 85th birthday (see photo).

All of IE's card-playing buddies, as well as other relatives and friends, were in attendance. The invitations, decorations, and the birthday cake were all done in a fall motif.

The affair took place at Shephard's at Clearwater Beach with an open bar and delicious food. IE's face proved to be one of complete surprise and simply great to behold.

Our building holiday party was held at the Clearwater Country Club. Good food, good music and many door prizes were to be had. The highlight of the affair was no doubt the presence of our matriarch, Julie Werkheiser.

Julie expects to be home in her own little nest in January.



Thank you Jan Guyton and Bev Huber for handling all the details which made for a successful event.

Radavon and Bronka Stojanovic went on an 18-day cruise which began in Quebec. The ship made port at most of the large cities on the East Coast, arriving at Miami and then returning to Tampa. It was during the time of Hurricane Sandy's devastation; consequently there were extra overnights at some of the ports. The trip was most enjoyable and they hope to do it again but in the summer months.

"Wanderlust" must flow through the veins of Chick and Betty Johnson. They no sooner get home from one



IE Davies (at cake) recently celebrated her 85th birthday surrounded by family and friends.

trip that they book another. A few weeks ago I was told that they were in Pennsylvania but just very recently they came home from a two week stay in the Dominican Republic. How good it is to see people enjoy their "golden years."

I do believe that the last of the Snowbirds have arrived. Welcome back Joe and Kay Tomaselli, Joe and Fran Valenti, and Joe and Carrie DeWinter.

Our Canadians, Doug Beaman and Jean Foulk will be here by the time you read this.

Jan Guyton is collecting building dues (only \$5 per unit). If you haven't paid yet, please do so.

Luncheon at Rumbas was good as always. Keep checking the bulletin boards for upcoming events.

Happy New Year, everyone!

'Americana Social Club' lives up to its name

Catherine Gray, thank you for arranging our holiday celebration at the Dunedin Golf Club. About 50 residents from the Americana Social Club got together to dine in a deluxe private room where we were given our choice of three luscious dinners.

Ann Talner donated so many door prizes that practically everyone took something home. Most of these items, of course, were decorative and, mostly homemade Christmas goodies.

After dinner and the awarding of door prizes, we all joined in song, mostly traditional and some silly, which were led by Ken Jenner with the help of "yours truly."

That evening, we toasted Terri and Ray Matrachano who were celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary. What a glorious milestone!

The Saturday following this gala, we gathered again to erect the Christmas tree in the core and to install holiday



decorations, both inside and outside Americana. As usual, coffee and donuts were available for all participating.

Everyone was so pleased with the final results that about 40 of us got together again the following Tuesday afternoon for an impromptu BYOB party in the core. We really know how to live up to our designation as a Social Club!

Earlier in December, Joyce and Arnie Engelbert took a cruise out of Tampa on the *Jewel of the Seas*. They went with a support group and raved about the handicapped accessibility provided throughout. Everyone on the ship was extremely accommodating. The food, as expected, was superb. They especially enjoyed the buffet on the 11th floor of the ship. Tours on land were very satisfying.

Talking about cruising, Becky and Dennis Balderson gave me info about the evening cruise they took from Punta Gorda to view the sights in other areas.

Agnes Doyle is very proud to let us know that her bowling team (with friends Marge and Jean) came in second place in the Christmas tournament. Congratulations! We're delighted that you brought this honor to our building.

Bible Study Club

Bob Reis, President

The OTOW Bible Study Club is a non-denominational Bible study group to explore the word of God, and how it relates to our everyday lives. Our teacher, Woodie Tully, brings 45 years of Bible teaching experience to help understand the Scriptures.

The club meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the Veranda Room of the East Activities Center. Occasionally we use a third Tuesday evening for refreshments, music and singing.

We welcome everyone to our club. You do not need to have any knowledge of Scripture to join, and there are no club fees required. We are not a church; those attending are from a variety of denominations.

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For more information, call either Bob Reis, 798-2443, or Woodie Tully, 399-1773.

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Folks found many ways to enjoy holidays

Christmas carols still ring in our ears, I'm sure, although we should be singing Auld Lang Syne!

If you haven't yet visited the Scottish-American Society in Dunedin, you have a treat in store for you. They can sing, and they can dance!

It was a nice surprise to find our building all decked out with strings of colored lights, and our special thanks go to Laurie Wookey and helpers Paul Ferrell, Bud Goulding, and Gary Bandemer.

Our appreciation is also expressed to Lou and Marty Bandemer, who gave the third floor its tree and decorations. Wendy Read and Pam Percival set them up.

Paul and Ida Thompson did the same for the first floor, and yours truly decked the mail boxes with all the delightful ornaments collected over the years.

Some quiet elves took care of the second floor tree.

Our thanks also go to Barbara Jacques, who arranged our Christmas outing dinner at the Island Way Grill, off the causeway to Clearwater Beach. About 30 of us and our friends assembled there for a delicious menu. The Christmas decor and the waterfall wall pleased us well.

The three cats, which have been seen enjoying the freedom of the outdoors, the woods and fresh air, have



now been harnessed and leashed. They have yet to get used to living mostly indoors or walked on a leash, but they are clever enough to wiggle out of their harnesses, if not watched closely.

There have been many excellent ways to enjoy the holiday season, including the OTOW Chorus and Tampa Opera right on our own stage.

Another was to volunteer your time as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army for two or more hours. Of course, we could have donated to a child whose name was on a tree tag in the East Activities Center. Things to remember for next year!

We have a newcomer in the building, reports Kay Land. The newcomer's name is Aldo Giorgi, and he is originally from Italy.

His home 52 years ago was in Goghera, 40 miles southwest of

Milan. His work before moving from Brooklyn to Clearwater was with tool-making machinery.

His close friends for the last 10 years are Brad and Charo Jones, who helped him move into his new apartment.

Like Ida Pagenta, Charo is from Panama. His companion "Brisia" is a "Hemingway" six-toed kitty.

His favorite sport is football, and he follows the Tampa Bay Rays, the Buccaneers and the UF Gators. He has been working for two years as a guard at our two gates, and now can be seen at the Belcher Gate.

So, best wishes for 2013, and to all a "Good Night!"



Looking toward the New Year

We want to extend a warm "welcome back" to our Snowbirds. It's great to have you with us for as long as you can stay.

Our annual Christmas dinner was held at the Macaroni Grill on Dec. 9. There were 20 residents in attendance and, once again, it was enjoyed by all.

Many residents turned out for building decorating day on Dec. 8. I was tempted to name all of you but would have forgotten someone. Thanks are in order for so many who helped. We all appreciate your efforts. Thanks again!

Gino and Luisa Traficante celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on Dec. 5. They are truly blessed. Congratulations to both of you.

We have a new resident on the Columbia side of the building. She is Jane Johnson from Dunedin. Welcome aboard, Jane.

With the New Year rushing in, it's time to begin the spring cleaning and to gather items for our annual yard sale. It is usually held in March, and the date will be determined soon. More info will follow.

Recently, we have had a problem with some items left in the trash room that cannot be disposed of by On Top of the World workers. Furniture, rugs, toilets and large pieces of wood are the responsibility of the unit owner for disposal. Thanks for your cooperation.

As we close out 2012, let us put the past behind us and look forward to a peaceful, joyful and blessed New Year. Happy New Year to all!



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A recap of some Orizaba happenings during 2012

Happy New Year to all. I hope that everyone had a great celebration to end the passing of the year.

The year 2012 was an up and down ride, as is most of the years that we experience, but the important thing is that we arrived at the doorstep to the year 2013 well and ready to face whatever might come our way.

We had much to celebrate this past year, including the 100th birthday of Fannie Battista, the 90th birthday of Andy Grillo, and the birth of grandchildren to Elizabeth and John Kokenyesi and Joan and Andy Mc Evoy.

Christmas and Hanukkah parties throughout the complex were enjoyed by everyone.

Other happenings throughout the year included Filip and Dusita George traveling to Romania to help his mother celebrate her 100th birthday.

Also this year, several new residents joined the Orizaba family.

I am not sure but I think that Joe and Burdell Kashinski set a new record for cruising the Caribbean Sea.

Flo Herman, Bernadette Rittner, Gloria Iovinelli and Sherry Hokansen



are all looking better every day.

Mike Szekley continues to set the fashion trend for the building residents. Flo Gracia keeps going like the Eveready bunny.

Hope that Santa Claus was good to all the little boys and girls out there, and that includes all of my neighbors regardless of age. I have finally realized why I didn't get what I asked for many years ago, Santa couldn't figure out how to wrap a pony.

Birthday wishes go out to Bernadette Rittner, Filip George, Tom Jones and Walt Pauley. Happy anniversary to Pam and Al Corcoran.



Orizaba residents enjoy their holiday party at the Beachcomber on Clearwater Beach. (Photo collage by Howard Bergendahl)

The annual holiday party was held on Dec. 7th at the Beachcomber on Clearwater Beach and hosted by Linda Ledesma (see photo). A great time was had by all who attended and the food was delicious as usual.

We even had a couple try to join us but were disappointed when they found that their group was in another area. I think they would have preferred to stay with us! Linda led the group in

a prayer of grace and all felt the thrill associated with this season.

Elizabeth Kokenyesi is organizing a potluck covered dish get-together for all the building residents during the month of January, so be sure to watch the bulletin board.

Rodney Dangerfield once said to his doctor that everyone hated him but his doctor said, "Don't be silly, you haven't met everybody yet."

Winding down from holiday activities

The Chetnik Christmas Holiday party and dinner was celebrated on Dec. 7 in the Sunrise Room and catered by McCabe's Restaurant. Some 23 cheerful Chetniks attended.

Tom Wright kept a big secret from Angie, as Angie's daughter and husband Ken from Long Island surprised her and joined us at the dinner.

It was good to see Lillian and Murray from Mease Manor. The food was good, and the camaraderie excellent.

Muriel Landau, our former building captain and now treasurer, lauded Phil Meissner for his many years of service as our building captain, and we all applauded her praise of him as he steps down.

Phil stood up and gave a short thank-you speech and reminded us of the following week's building core cocktail party on Friday, Dec. 14, at which he provided the champagne punch, and we contributed the snack food.

The details of that party will be in my next column. Also, there were six bottles of wine raffled off. My husband John was first of the lucky winners.

The day before, I attended the On Top of the World Press Club holiday luncheon catered by Angie's Grill. I was the first called winner of the four money raffles. How about that for luck!



Betty and Al McKay celebrated Thanksgiving with Al's son Pingree (Ping) and family in Burnt Store, which is a golf and boating community south of Punta Gorda and north of Fort Myers. He has a boat, and they fished. Ping lives in Montana, and this is his second home.

Gail and Bob Bush had Thanksgiving with their daughter and husband in Odessa. Their son from Tampa also attended. They had a good time.

John and I spent 11 activity-packed days in Coppell, Texas (outside of Dallas) over the Thanksgiving holiday with our youngest daughter Beth and her hubby Dr. Bob and their four children, ages 7 to 14.

We enjoyed the usual turkey meal, and the couple next door, who were invited, brought homemade pumpkin and cranberry pecan pies

and a chocolate cheese cake to add to the delicious and sinful calories of the meal.

The following day was the youngest child's seventh birthday, and we all went to the huge mall called Stonebridge in Frisco, Texas. The children enjoyed the arcade game restaurant (I can't remember the name.)

A few of us ate lunch at the Cheesecake Factory. On returning home, an ice cream birthday cake was served and she opened her presents, one of which was the American Girl doll.

The next day Beth treated us, her brother John visiting from Virginia, and her children to a Christmas Spectacular Radio City Rockettes Show in Grand Prairie, Texas.

On Monday, the children went back to school, and Beth drove us and brother John to Dallas to see the Book Depository Museum from which President Kennedy was assassinated.

It gave us a lot to speculate as to whether there was a lone gunman or whether there was a conspiracy with Lee Harvey Oswald as the patsy. The many witness testimonies about the pop and the smoke coming from the grassy knoll gave us food for thought.

The weather was perfect the whole visit and flight home smooth and uneventful.

John and I wish you all a blessed and healthy New Year!

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2	Wed	6:00 PM	S	Ladies Que'T Billiards Annual Election
2	Wed	6:00 PM	V	Baby Boomers Meeting
2	Wed	7:00 PM	A	Theater Workshop Meeting
3	Thurs	6:00 PM	S	Capistrano Building Meeting
3	Thurs	10:30 AM	Starlite	Pennsylvania Club Meeting
3	Thurs	7:00 PM	V	Press Association Meeting
4	Fri	2:00 PM	S	Travel Club Meeting
5	Sat	6:00 PM	Starlite	Singles Club Meeting
6	Sun	1:00 PM	S	Queen Victoria Building Party
6	Sun	2:00 PM	Starlite	Entertainment Committee Volunteer Day
7	Mon	11:00 AM	Starlite	Snowbird Club Meeting
7	Mon	1:00 PM	V	Americana Building Annual Meeting
8	Tues	4:00 PM	CL1	Irish Club Show/Parade Meeting
8	Tues	6:00 PM	CR & K	Hoosier Club Meeting
9	Wed	3:00 PM	S	Brahman Building Meeting
9	Wed	7:30 PM	A	Jester's Club General Meeting
10	Thurs	7:30 PM	A	Entertainment Committee Show: Rocket Man Elton John
10	Thurs	9:00 AM	Lawn Bowl Court	Lawn Bowl Mixed Pairs Tournament
10	Thurs	9:30 AM	A	Good Neighbors Get-Acquainted Coffee
11	Fri	9:00 AM	Lawn Bowl Court	Lawn Bowl Mixed Pairs Tournament
11	Fri	1:00 PM	A1	Art Guild Meeting
11	Fri	7:00 PM	A	Irish Club Show - Cahal Dunne & George Casey
11	Fri	7:00 PM	CR & K	Lambda Club Meeting
12	Sat	4:00 PM	CR & K	Southern Georgian Building Potluck
12	Sat	5:00 PM	S	Mallorca Building CasinoNight/Potluck
12	Sat	8:00 PM	A	Entertainment Committee Dance: At Large
13	Sun	2:00 PM	A	Entertainment Committee Sunday in the Park
14	Mon	8:30 AM	V	Blood Pressure Screening
14	Mon	12:30 PM	CL1	Family History Group
14	Mon	2:00 PM	S	German Interest Group
15	Tues	10:00 AM	S	Men's Golf League Annual Meeting
15	Tues	11:00 AM	R	Retired Educators Group Meeting
15	Tues	1:00 PM	S	Stamp Collectors Meeting
15	Tues	1:30 PM	V	Mallorca Building Meeting
15	Tues	2:00 PM	Starlite	Canadian Club New Orleans Meeting
15	Tues	4:00 PM	CL1	Irish Club Show/Parade Meeting
16	Wed	6:00 PM	S	Hoosier Club Game Night
16	Wed	6:30 PM	A	Italian Club Meeting
17	Thurs	11:00 AM	V	Greyhound Club Meeting
17	Thurs	12:00 PM	CR & K	Robbie Burn's Luncheon
17	Thurs	6:00 PM	V	Baby Boomers Meeting
17	Thurs	7:00 PM	S	Bohemia Building Meeting
17	Thurs	7:00 PM	Starlite	Irish Club Business Meeting
18	Fri	6:00 PM	S	Men's Softball Meeting/Pizza Party
19	Sat	5:00 PM	S	Loch Lomond Building Annual Meeting
20	Sun	5:00 PM	A	Karaoke
21	Mon	9:30 AM	A	Free Ear & Eye Screening
22	Tues	12:00 PM	S	Ladie's 18-Hole Golf League Luncheon
22	Tues	4:00 PM	CL1	Irish Club Show/Parade Meeting
23	Wed	4:00 PM	A	NY/NJ Club Luau
23	Wed	7:00 PM	S	Siboney Building Meeting
24	Thurs	9:00 AM	Lawn Bowl Court	Lawn Bowls Australian Pairs Tournament
24	Thurs	5:00 PM	S	Azores Building Potluck
24	Thurs	7:30 PM	A	Entertainment Committee Show: The Hubcaps
25	Fri	5:00 PM	A	Canadian Club Presidents Ball
26	Sat	6:00 PM	CR	Lambda Club Activity Night
29	Tues	1:30 PM	V	Ladies 9-Hole Golf Meeting
29	Tues	4:00 PM	CL1	Irish Club Show/Parade Meeting
31	Thurs	12:00 PM	CR & K	Lawn Bowl Luncheon

CALENDAR KEY

- A Auditorium
- B Billiards Room (W)
- C Card Room
- CR Craft Room
- CL Classroom
- K Kitchen
- L Lecture Room
- R Rainbow Room (W)
- S Sunrise Room (W)
- V Veranda



***New Year's Day
Tuesday, Jan. 1***



***Inauguration Day
Sunday, Jan. 20
(Public swearing-in will be
held Monday, Jan. 21)***



***Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, Jan. 21***

DAILY CALENDAR

MONDAY

East Activity Center

7:00 AM Coffee Corner
 7:30 Women's Tennis
 8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:00 Ladies Exercise Class
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Class
 8:30 Entertainment Comm. Ticket Sales
 9:00 Polar Bear Club
 9:00 Computer Help
 9:00 Slimnastics
 9:30 Open Lawn Bowl
 10:00 Aerobics
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge
 11:30 Contract Bridge
 12:00 PM Mahjong
 1:30 Shuffleboard
 1:30 Tai Chi Yang (Beginners)
 2:30 Tai Chi Yang (Ongoing)
 6:00 Ron's Poker
 6:00 Contract Bridge
 6:30 Texas Hold-em Poker
 6:30 Bingo

West Activity Center

8:30 AM Exercise Class
 9:00 Photo IDs (Closed Dec. 24)
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class
 12:30 PM Gym closed 12:30-2:30 (cleaning)
 12:30 Mahjong
 5:00 Mahjong
 6:30 8-Ball Tournament

TUESDAY

East Activity Center

7:00 AM Coffee Corner
 8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:00 Ladies Exercise Class
 8:00 Ladies 18-Hole Golf
 9:00 Jewelry Making & Stone Polishing
 9:00 Polar Bear Club
 9:00 Horseshoes
 9:00 Caring & Sharing Group
 9:00 Computer Help
 9:00 Slimnastics
 9:30 Open Lawn Bowl
 9:30 Ladies 9-Hole Golf
 10:00 Aerobics
 10:00 Philosophy Club
 10:30 Ballroom Dance Class
 11:00 Yoga
 12:00 PM Library
 12:00 Ceramics
 1:00 The Music Group
 1:00 Poker
 1:00 Line Dancing
 1:00 Oil Painting Class
 3:00 Jesters Rehearsal
 3:00 Italian Speaking Class
 5:30 Dominos
 6:00 Pinochle
 6:00 Bid Euchre (Begins 11/20)
 6:30 Bob B.'s Poker
 6:30 Tom's Poker
 7:00 Bible Study Club
 7:00 Chorus Rehearsal
 7:00 Canadian Club Mahjong

West Activity Center

8:00 AM West pool closed 8-9 for cleaning
 8:30 Exercise Class
 2:00 Chess Club
 6:00 Mahjong

WEDNESDAY

East Activity Center

7:00 AM Coffee Corner
 7:30 Women's Tennis
 8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training/Weightlifting
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Class
 9:00 Sewing Class
 9:00 Polar Bear Club
 9:00 Zumba Gold
 9:00 Good Neighbors Veterans Project
 9:00 Good Neighbors Craft Workshop
 9:00 Veranda Consignment
 9:00 Computer Help
 9:00 Slimnastics
 9:00 Tai Chi
 9:00 Spanish Speaking for Beginners
 9:30 Open Lawn Bowl
 10:00 Cribbage
 10:00 Aerobics
 10:00 Intermediate Spanish Speaking
 11:00 Jazz Dance
 11:30 Tap Dance
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge
 1:00 PM 500 Card Game
 1:00 Double Deck Pinochle
 1:00 Painting Pals
 1:30 Scrapbooking Class
 1:30 Tai Chi Yang (Beginners)
 2:30 Tai Chi Yang (Ongoing)
 5:30 Lela's Poker
 5:30 Pete's Poker
 6:00 Contract Bridge
 6:00 Baby Boomers Movie Night
 6:30 Texas Hold-em Poker

West Activity Center

8:30 AM Exercise Class
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class
 1:00 PM Mahjong
 6:00 Don's Poker
 6:30 Ladies Que't Billiards Club

THURSDAY

East Activity Center

7:00 AM Coffee Corner
 8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:00 Ladies Exercise Class
 8:30 Entertainment Comm. Ticket Sales
 9:00 Jewelry Making & Stone Polishing
 9:00 Polar Bear Club
 9:00 Computer Help
 9:00 Slimnastics
 9:30 Open Lawn Bowl (Except tourn. days)
 10:00 Aerobics
 11:00 Yoga
 12:00 PM Bob B.'s Poker
 12:00 Contract Bridge
 12:30 Euchre
 12:30 Writer's Ink

1:00 Jesters Rehearsal
 1:00 Drawing Class
 1:30 Shuffleboard
 3:00 Italian Speaking Class
 5:00 Pinochle
 6:00 Ron's Poker
 6:00 Larry's Poker
 6:30 Canadian Club Game Night

West Activity Center

8:00 AM West pool closed 8-9 for cleaning
 8:00 Snowbird Line Dancing: Beginner Mens
 8:30 Exercise Class
 9:00 Snowbird Line Dancing
 12:30 PM Gym closed 12:30-2:30 (cleaning)
 2:00 Chess Club
 6:00 Pinochle
 6:30 Scotch Doubles Pool Tournament

FRIDAY

East Activity Center

7:00 AM Coffee Corner
 7:30 Women's Tennis
 8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training/Weightlifting
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise Class
 9:00 Jewelry Making & Stone Polishing
 9:00 Polar Bear Club
 9:00 Ceramics
 9:00 Pinochle
 9:00 Computer Help
 9:00 Slimnastics
 9:00 Jesters Rehearsal
 9:30 Open Lawn Bowl (Except tourn. days)
 10:00 Hula Hoop Exercise Class
 12:00 PM Library
 1:00 The Music Group
 1:00 Mahjong
 5:30 Lela's Poker
 5:30 Pete's Poker
 6:00 Larry's Poker
 6:00 Contract Bridge
 7:00 Hand & Foot Canasta

West Activity Center

8:30 AM Exercise Class
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class
 1:00 PM Chess Club
 6:00 5 & 10 Poker

SATURDAY

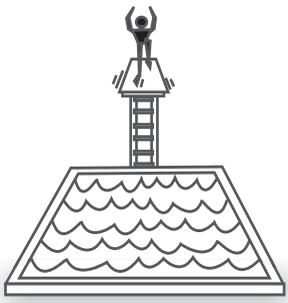
East Activity Center

8:00 Men's Tennis Doubles
 8:30 Computer Club Meeting
 8:30 Line Dancing
 9:00 Lawn Bowl Jitney
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge
 12:00 PM Min's Poker
 12:00 Putting
 1:00 Casual Bridge
 1:30 Tai Chi Yang (Beginners)
 2:30 Tai Chi Yang (Ongoing)

SUNDAY

East Activity Center

2:00 PM Wii Bowling



SWIMMING POOL RULES DONT EMBARRASS YOUR GUESTS! Know the Rules and Abide by them!

- This facility is exclusively for OTOW unit owners with a valid recreation card, for guests of unit owners accompanying residents with a valid recreation card, or for renters with a valid recreation card.
- Please show your valid recreation card upon the SCA staff's request.
- Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave.
- Swim at your own risk
- There is no lifeguard on duty.
- Oils, sun block, and body lotions must be showered off before entering pool.
- Pool will be closed during inclement weather.
- Walkways to the gates must be kept clear at all times.
- Use of these facilities is at a resident's or guest's own risk.
- Guests under the age of 15 may use the facility from 12-4 p.m., seven days a week.
- Guests under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- Children under age 2 must wear a "swim diaper."
- Please take all children for frequent potty breaks.
- Pools are closed when gates are locked.

Annual storage room tidying approaches

Happy New Year! I want to be one of the first to wish you all the best in 2013.

Our "elves" did a superb job of decorating the halls and walls, and we sincerely thank all of them, but now all good things must come to an end.

So, volunteers are needed to store away all the goodies until next year. The volunteers will congregate at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 5 in the first-floor core, where coffee and donuts will once again be served. Please come join us.

While packing away those holiday decorations, please remember to change the date on all your items in the storage rooms. They must be marked with your name, unit number and the year.

Unclaimed and unidentified items will be collected and if not claimed will be donated to charity. Storage room



inspections will be ongoing during the month of January.

The holiday party at Alfano's was as festive an event as ever. Those who attended, I am sure, ate their fill, and now we are feeding our residents again... On Thursday,

Jan. 17, at 11:30 a.m., we will lunch at First Watch restaurant in Clearwater. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

Still more food is coming to help destroy your New Year's resolutions. On Wednesday, Feb. 6, our second potluck dinner/business meeting will be held in the Sunrise Room of the West Activity Center. A local restaurant (still to be decided), will provide the entrée for this function, so plan to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert for all to enjoy.

Please remember that building dues are due. Wing captains are needed for the Franciscan side of the building — please consider volunteering. You have only one small duty a year: being available to collect the dues. One person per floor is needed. See Donna Osborne for further details or to volunteer.

New neighbor entertains at building Christmas party

Didn't you enjoy all the holiday lights here at On Top of the World?

Our building enjoyed decking the halls, which happened on Dec. 1. Many of the residents met outside and began to string lights on the balconies as well as along the archways.

Before the decorating officially began we enjoyed pastries and coffee, and when we were finished we lunched on sandwiches. As usual, we thank Dick and Terry Kuplen for their fine job in organizing the decorating and the food.

Following the decorating, we celebrated our achievements with a cocktail party in the evening hosted by Helen Pawlikowski. It was a great party, and everyone who attended remarked how much fun it was to get together. Many thanks to Helen for a wonderful time in her beautifully-decorated apartment.

Our annual Christmas party was held in the Sunrise Room on Dec. 6, with the residents of Monaco as our guests. As in previous years, we started the festivities with cocktails and appetizers, followed by a potluck dinner and dessert.

As an extra-special treat, our new neighbor, Frank Brown, entertained us with guitar music. He played and sang some Christmas carols as well as other



favorites. Rumor is that some of the selections he actually wrote himself. It's great to have such talent among us!

Shortly thereafter, Vito Conforti led us in the gift exchange portion of the evening. There was much laughter when some of us "stole" another's gift. It was all in fun and everyone had a great time.

We have some fun activities scheduled for January. "Mallorca Madness," a new fund raiser for our building, will be held Jan. 12. Wendy Colquhoun has been busy organizing this event. Our annual building meeting will be on Jan. 15 in the Veranda Room at 1:30. Be sure to plan to attend each of these important and enjoyable activities.

Happy New Year to all our friends and neighbors. Here's wishing a year of peace and health to all.

CONDOMINIUM OWNERS WHO RENT THEIR UNITS

OWNERS who rent direct must request necessary forms for securing Activity Cards for their renters by submitting a written request giving Building Number, Apartment Number, the address of the Apartment and enclosing a legal-sized self-addressed, stamped return envelope to:

**On Top of the World
Activity Card Dept.
2069 World Parkway Blvd. East
Clearwater, FL 33763**

This application can ONLY be sent to OWNERS of apartments here at On Top of the World and the OWNER shall process applications for Rental Activity Cards.

Applications are NOT available at any On Top of the World office or the Palm Acre Real Estate office. They MUST be obtained BY MAIL and MUST be requested BY THE OWNER.

CHRISTINE'S CLEANING
(Love to Clean and it shows!)
Christine Burke
Offices, Condos, Apartments
Houses, Modular Homes
Commercial & Retail
727-277-2236
The Estimators

Getting better for you!

• Newspaper
• TV 96 and 720
and coming soon ...
• OTOW Box Office

OTOW 96 V 720

OTOW BUS COMES DIRECTLY TO YOU!

**For reservations, call 799-3417, then press #7 of the voice menu.
(Seating is limited. Make reservations 24 hours in advance.)**



NOTE: Reservations for transportation to and from the East and West Activity Centers will be accepted following the schedules listed below.

Tuesday Morning Specials

See Posting in Bus

Wednesday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Thursday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Friday Morning

Super Wal-Mart

Paradise/West Side.....9 to 9:20 a.m.
East Side.....9:25 to 9:45 a.m.

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side.....8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side.....8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side.....8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Tuesday Afternoon

K-Mart & Countryside Mall

Wednesday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & U.S. 19)

Thursday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & U.S. 19)

Friday Afternoon

Super Wal-Mart

Paradise/West Side.. 12:30 to 12:50 p.m.
East Side..... 12:55 to 1:15 p.m.

Paradise/West Side..... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side..... 11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Paradise/West Side..... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side..... 11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Paradise/West Side..... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side..... 11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Resident Guidelines for Riding the Bus

- The OTOW bus service is for the exclusive use of OTOW residents with a valid activity card.
- This service is provided to our residents at no charge.
- Thank you, but the driver is prohibited from accepting tips.
- The bus driver picks up passengers with reservations only.
- You must be able to transfer on your own to ride the bus.
- Medical devices may be restricted due to passenger load.
- Eating and drinking on the bus is prohibited.
- Shopping bag limits and size restrictions are at the driver's discretion.
- Shopping time is 90 minutes and begins at the first drop off.
- If space allows, residents with current Activity cards may catch a one-way ride home on the bus.
- If you create a safety hazard or cause unsafe distractions to the driver, you will not be permitted on the bus.
- Due to limited seating, we cannot accept multi-day reservations.
- Reservations are first come, first served, and may only be made 24 hours in advance.
- The reservation phone number is for seat reservations only. Please leave your name, trip request, building and unit number, and phone number.
- If you live on the second floor of a two-story building, or if your building's elevator is out of service, the driver will carry your bags to your front door. The driver is strictly prohibited from entering your unit.
- The SCA staff takes their directions from SCA management. Please refer all questions and concerns to the Service Department.

Original resident first learned of OTOW from N.Y. exec

The 96 buildings which comprise On Top of the World are numerous enough to populate a small town. And each building of 60 apartments forms a neighborhood within that town.

This report, written during warmth of the holiday season, recognizes the importance of knowing and caring about our neighbors.

Mandalay resident Brian Glenn has demonstrated the value of that neighborly connection to the benefit of two women living near him.

In the first instance, he realized that he hadn't recently seen the caregiver of his neighbor two doors down. Investigating, he discovered a distressed woman alone in her apartment, in need of food and medical attention. Brian at once took action which resulted in her receiving the needed care.

Most recently, he heard and responded to a faint cry of "Help, I can't get up!" Going outside, he saw his next door neighbor lying in the grass near her door. He helped her up, and secured medical attention to insure her well-being.



(Ed. note: As well-intentioned as these acts were, most medical professionals suggest that 911 be called first, then the person(s) should be made comfortable while awaiting EMTs).

Brian Glenn is indeed Mandalay's good neighbor poster child.

Long time resident Helen Mullan is our "Sunshine Lady," honoring special days by posting monthly lists of birthdays and anniversaries. She previously served as entertainment chairman, planning luncheons, etc. Such activities help develop a sense of community as residents interact and

become better acquainted.

Helen is one of our few remaining building "pioneers." She made a down payment on her unit in 1982 when Mandalay was under construction. Interestingly, she was living in New York at that time, and it was there that she first heard of OTOW.

A Tampa native, she had moved to New York following her marriage. There she raised her children, and entered the banking profession.

As the years passed she progressed through the ranks from part time teller to bank manager. It was then, as retirement neared, that a bank director tossed a prospectus for OTOW on her desk saying "Look at this!"

His daughter, he told her, was buying an apartment in this nice retirement complex in sunny Florida.

Helen looked, liked, and visited when she made a trip to Tampa to her sisters. She picked out her apartment size and location, and selected carpet, paint, cabinets, etc.

After making a down payment she returned to New York. It was

several months before the building was completed, during which time Helen sold her house and retired.

She arrived at OTOW in 1982 as a young retiree. Here she found a building full of newcomers, eager to begin an active new chapter in their lives as they plunged into swimming, golfing, dancing, club membership, and generally busy social lives. Friendships flourished.

Now, 30 years later, Helen still enjoys her home in the Mandalay community. She has made an effort to preserve that sense of fellowship which prevails among friends and neighbors who care about and for each other.

May the friendly spirits of the holidays extend through this New Year as we live together in our OTOW neighborhood.





Newcomers



Grace Rudman of Florida



Viki and Mike Payne of Florida

OTOW News Photos
By Mary Lou Wall

OTOW After-Hours Emergency Number: 799-1115
(Water intrusion, elevator entrapment, building alarm malfunctions, electrical problems, etc.)



Regina Dietrich

Nov. 1	
Julie Solfronk	3470
Margaret Pawloski	3170
Nov. 5	
Jan Bachus	4100
Verna Olson	3720
Nov. 5 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	2480
Jane Child	2070
Nov. 7 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	2490
Chet Czczot	2610
Nov. 8	
Mary Tidmore	2340
Marilyn Miller	2230
Nov. 9 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	3070
Jane Child	2850
Nov. 12	
Nancy Savelle	3430
Regina Dietrich	2890
Nov. 12 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	3530
Jane Child	2610
Nov. 15	
Julie Solfronk	3350
Joyce Tidmore	3350
Mary Entwistle	3310
Nov. 19	
Nancy Savelle	3600
Verna Olson	2980
Nov. 23 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	3100
Jane Child	2810
Nov. 26	
Margaret Powlowski	3100
Regina Dietrich	2680
Nov. 28	
Nancy Savelle	3410
Jan Bachus	2820
Nov. 28 (P.M.)	
Sergio Pistella	2970
Chet Czczot	2650
Nov. 29	
Julie Solfronk	3640
Verna Olson	2590



EAST SIDE
Fran Milanec

Nov. 13	
6670 (1st Place)	Al Lacher
6390 (2nd Place)	June Sweeney
Took All Tricks Al McKay, Fran Milanec	
Nov. 15	
6470 (1st Place)	Al Lacher
6170 (2nd Place)	Joan Mannarino
Nov. 20	
6760 (1st Place)	June Sweeney
6570 (2nd Place)	Clayton Hancock
Double Pinochle	
June Sweeney,	Clayton Hancock
Took All Tricks	
Chet Czczot,	Clayton Hancock
Nov. 27	
6930 (1st Place)	Clayton Hancock
6520 (2nd Place)	Charles Christ
Took All Tricks	
Clayton Hancock	
Nov. 29	
6460 (1st Place)	Sergio Pistella
6450 (2nd Place)	June Sweeney
Double Pinochle	
Gene Karlin,	Al Lacher, Helen Gonzalez
Dec. 4	
6450 (1st Place Tie)	Al Lacher, Fran Milanec
Double Pinochle	
Peggy Kane	
Took All Tricks	
June Sweeney,	Chet Czczot
Dec. 6	
5210 (1st Place)	Marge Garvey
4640 (2nd Place)	Helen Gonzalez
Dec. 11	
6390 (1st Place)	Clayton Hancock
6270 (2nd Place)	Ed Fronzoni



WEST SIDE
Bertie Lewis

Nov. 1	
6900 (1st Place Tie)	Russ Zurkan, Ann Reed
6340 (2nd Place)	Ann Stewart
Double Pinochle	
Nancy House,	Mary Ann Staffieri
Nov. 8	
6930 (1st Place)	Gwen Nolan
6190 (2nd Place)	Alma Zurkan
Took All Tricks	
Gwen Nolan,	Ann Stewart
Nov. 15	
6130 (1st Place)	Chet Czczot
5990 (2nd Place)	Clayton Hancock
Nov. 29	
6090 (1st Place)	Ed Fronzoni
6050 (2nd Place)	Bertie Lewis
Dec. 6	
6770 (1st Place)	Alma Zurkan
6710 (2nd Place)	Bertie Lewis



Mondays, Wednesdays & Saturdays
Walter Balderson, Director
(Top leaders listed for each playdate)

Wednesday, Nov. 7	
N/S:	Tom McKee, Thelma Jacobsen
	Kathy Caithness, Walter Balderson
E/W:	Geogia Jensen, Lu Erskine
	Hilda Platte, Betty Hayhurst
Saturday, Nov. 10	
N/S:	Paul Streigle, Walter Caithness
	Beverly Gibbo, Kathy Caithness
E/W:	Thelma Wishnek, Kay Ralston
	Georgia Jensen, Jackie Frenette
Monday, Nov. 12	
1.	Tom McKee, Hilda Platte
2.	Jackie Frenette, Ed Burns
3.	Beverly Gibbo, Karen Russell
Wednesday, Nov. 14	
N/S:	Harriet Sanner, Nita Akers
	Bob Zeman, Jana Packer
E/W:	Joan Moore, Pat Van Hise
	Walter Balderson, M. A. Sinnenberg
Saturday, Nov. 17	
N/S:	Paul Streigle, Walter Caithness
	Jan Packer, Bob Zeman
E/W:	Hilda Platte, Grace Meehan
	Nita Akers, Walter Balderson
Monday, Nov. 19	
N/S:	Walter Caithness, Paul Streigle
	Orletha Van Etten, Carole Meyer
E/W:	Tom McKee, Jana Packer
	Bruce Mills, Eldon Smith
Wednesday, Nov. 21	
N/S:	Tom McKee, Marnie Carr
E/W:	Marie Hebert, Thelma Jacobsen
	Joan Moore, Pat Van Hise
Saturday, Nov. 24	
N/S:	Walter Caithness, Paul Streigle
	Harriet Sanner, Joan Moore
E/W:	Jackie Frenette, M. A. Sinnenberg
	Beverly Gibbo, Hilda Platte
Monday, Nov. 26	
N/S:	Walter Caithness, Kathy Caithness
	Mary Lou Guerriero, Reva Heymann
E/W:	Eldon Smith, Bruce Mills
	Georgia Jensen, Trish Burch
Wednesday, Nov. 28	
N/S:	Dot Graham, Carol Gray
	Harriet Sanner, Julianne Workman
E/W:	Joan Moore, Pat Van Hise
	Betty Sagun, Karen Russell
Saturday, Dec. 1	
N/S:	Paul Streigle, Walter Caithness
	Harriet Sanner, Orletha Van Etten
E/W:	M.A. Sinnenberg, Jackie Frenette

(Continued in next column)

(Duplicate Bridge continued from previous column)

Monday, Dec. 3	
N/S:	Walter Caithness, Paul Streigle
	Walter Balderson, Frank Schlotter
E/W:	Georgia Jensen, Trish Burch
	Bruce Mills, Eldon Smith
Wednesday, Dec. 5	
N/S:	Georgia Jensen, Lu Erskine
	Pat Van Hise, Joan Moore
E/W:	Jackie Frenette, Ed Burns
	M.A. Sinnenberg, Charlie McKague
Saturday, Dec. 8	
N/S:	Bob Zeman, Jana Packer
	Tom McKee, Marnie Carr
E/W:	Jackie Frenette, M.A. Sinnenberg
	Thelma Wishnek, Kay Ralston



Anyone interested in playing fun poker contact Roxie. 474-5040

Poker players wanted for east side. No wild cards, no high/low. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Wed./Fri. 669-3867

PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE EAST SIDE - Thursdays Maxine Murray - Fran Milanec

Nov. 15	
1.....	June Sweeney
2.....	Marvin Bruning
3.....	May Blair
4.....	Norma Neiland
Nov. 29	
1.....	Joyce Engelbert
2.....	Ron Murray
3.....	Marvin Bruning/Arnie Engelbert (Tie)
Dec. 6	
1.....	May Blair
2.....	Maxine Murray
3.....	Ron Murray
4.....	Norma Neiland
Dec. 13	
1.....	Ron Murray
2.....	Maxine Murray
3.....	Arnie Engelbert
4.....	Joyce Engelbert



Muriel Landau



Numerous residents contributed to the holiday festivities

Hello neighbors. At the end of October, we combined a coffee in the core with a meet and greet of some new neighbors.

We also discussed our storage clean-up efforts (still ongoing). This was efficient and only cost \$8 per person.

The Nov. 19, 2012 meeting was transformed into a Thanksgiving pot-luck. Thankfully, with the help of Gloria Sayer, who was instrumental in getting this going and many others who pitched in, we had a lovely dinner and meeting.

Gloria and I purchased the main course and each of us cooked. She and her husband (always helpful) got there early to help set up. What was so special is that many new neighbors felt comfortable enough to dig right in and accomplish a last-minute feat.

The Sayers' friends (Darwin and Sue who, by the way, are new owners at On Top of the World) joined us after unloading their things and jumped right in and carved up the turkeys.

Ginny Tufano (a swell gal) took over dish duty like a champ. Twenty-four people in all brought wonderful side dishes. Thanks to all who attended and pitched in to help.

All the food was wonderful and beautifully displayed. Turkeys from



Publix were excellent. A shout out to my friend and fellow reporter Barb Sundberg: the corn/black bean salsa was a big hit!

Our neighbors included: John and Mary Bladykas, Pat Faw, Mary Harker, Bob and Lucy Jennings, Fred and Charlene Payne, Gus and Paulette Perrotta, Darwin and Sue Queary(guests), Pedro and Jeanette Rosa, Helen Saul, Bud and Gloria Sayer, Tom and Esta Schwartz, Jann Tarshis, Ginny Tufano and Gloria and Bob Wentzel.

Thank you all for a terrific turn out, luscious food, great conversation and help breaking down. A quick meeting before dinner to discuss the Christmas party, decorations for the building, nominations for the board and the storage room update.

This information will be posted on the board before our Jan. 9 board meeting.

Holiday decorations on each floor turned out better than expected. Thanks to Gloria Sayer, Lucy Jennings and Mary Harker and I we managed to get all three floors decorated.

A special thanks to Jim McDade (our go-to guy) who helped get all the decorations from the first and third floors to us on that day.

A special tree was on the third floor. A resident, Van Jones, gave us permission to use his personal tree that he and his deceased wife decorated for many years.

We were delighted when we heard it made him very happy to see it up and dressed.

Isn't it funny how we still get that childlike feeling when we begin to decorate for the holidays! Almost as if we still believe there still could be a Santa Claus somewhere checking the list and hoping we are on the nice side.

Dec. 5 was the big day. Since everyone was "turkeyed out," we changed the menu to ham and chicken. This is a pot-luck. The main course was supplied by the building.

We had a smaller group than expected, but the food and conversation

was still great. Several came early to help set up and decorate.

There were grab bags and door prizes. Lucy Jennings led us through the grab bag process. Only one person wanted to exchange what was received.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza and Feliz Navidad and Happy Holiday.

Have a safe one whatever you celebrate. May the New Year bring everyone a peaceful world, good health and happy moments.

Please add to your calendar a reminder of the Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, business/board meeting in the Sunrise Room from 3 – 4:30 p.m. More information will appear on the bulletin board prior to the meeting.

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**BUDGET
SELF
STORAGE**

'Fifty is Nifty'

By Charlyn Miller,
Flamenco Building

I visited my son and family to surprise him at a birthday party. No one except his wife and her family were aware of the surprise. The children were kept completely in the dark for fear they would let the cat out of the bag.

A friend picked me up at the airport and took me to another location to stay for two days so no one would find out.

Mike's wife invited more than 50 friends and relatives to a country club and asked him if he wanted to see the club for future use. He agreed although he said, "I will not know anyone there."

The children were brought to where I was secluded, and when my oldest grandson saw me, he said, "Is that really you, Grandma?"

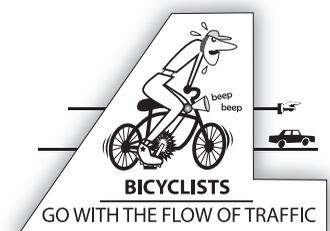
The night of the party, everyone had to be at the club before 7 p.m. When Mike arrived, I hid so he would not know I was there. As he approached the party room, he was surprised by a loud greeting of "Surprise! Happy Birthday!"

Of course, he knew everyone there but still did not know I was there.

After he had recovered from the surprise greeting, I went around the dining room so he could not see me. At just the right moment, I hugged him from behind and quietly whispered, "Happy Birthday." The tears flowed, and everyone cheered because we had completely surprised him. He did not have a clue.

After spending a couple of days and going to the Chiefs' game (they won), walking their dog Bailey and visiting with the family, I told them, "I brought you great weather, the Chiefs won, and Mike was completely surprised, so my work here is done. I will go home now."

It was a day to remember! Fifty is nifty!



Questions you may never have pondered are posed here

It's 2013! Cheers to a new year and yet another chance to get it right.

"Life happens," and we all know what that means. Life is too short to put off the important things that we know we want to accomplish: Watching our health, taking that trip we've been postponing, saving for something we have always dreamed about owning or doing, and spending more time with friends and loved ones.

But what about eating more chocolate, swimming with dolphins, going hot air ballooning, running with the bulls at Pamplona, and stomping on grapes to make wine? We just have to wake up every morning, and, like the Nike slogan says, "Just Do It!"

Leonardo da Vinci, one of the great talents and visionaries of all time, noted nature's law with this observation: "Iron rusts from disuse; stagnant water loses its purity and in cold weather becomes frozen; even does inaction sap the vigor of the mind."

Our minds need "encouragement" to stay sharp. Towards that goal, I've prepared a questionnaire to help stimulate your imaginations. Forget your inhibitions and have fun with it.

1. What would you attempt if you knew you could not fail?
2. What is your motto in life?



3. Who are the five people from history you would like to have dinner with?
4. Who would you choose to play you in the movie of your life?
5. What celebrities would you want to invite to your next birthday party?
6. What tattoo would you choose for your body (and where would you put it)?
7. Who would you want to kiss under the mistletoe?
8. What five celebrities, or people from history, would you want to go on vacation with?
9. Whose ghost would you want to haunt your house?
10. If you were candy, what candy would you be?
11. If you could be a superhero, who

would you choose to be, and what would your superpower be?

12. Would you rather have a blue whale or a dinosaur as a pet?
13. Would you rather win \$10-million in a lottery, or not have to pay for anything ever?
14. Would you rather be invisible or be able to read minds?
15. Who would you like to be stuck with in an elevator?
16. If you could wake up tomorrow in the body of someone else currently living, whom would you pick?
17. If you can be any age again for one month, what age would you choose?
18. If one song were to describe your life, what would that song be?
19. If you could ask God any one question, what would it be?
20. Which celebrity would you want to spend Valentine's Day with?
21. Which celebrity would you like to sing a duet with?
22. If you could have personally witnessed one event in history, what would you want to have seen?
23. Which celebrity or person in history would you choose to marry at a spur-of-the-moment Las Vegas drive-through wedding ceremony?

And, finally, 24: If you had one

wish (just one, not three), what would it be?

Happy New Year, everybody. May your dreams become reality, your hopes bear fruit, and your year be filled with magic. May your world know peace and prosperity, love and laughter, joy and happiness, passion and excitement, and most importantly, good health.



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Valencia residents enjoy the building's annual Christmas dinner, held Dec. 6

Tree lighting ceremony attracts capacity crowd

Out with the old and in with the new. I hope that means that all the old disappointments are behind us and the new and happy adventures are ahead. Happy New Year!

Thanks to everyone who participated in decorating all three floors of the core. As always, you did a great job. The apartments that also are decorated are very beautiful.

Our early Christmas dinner was held at Alfano's on Dec. 6 and was well attended (see photo, above). The food and service were great. The conversation was on a positive note. I am proud to associate with this fine group of people.

Dec. 11 was our annual tree lighting ceremony. It is a nice way of saying "party time." The second-floor core was filled to capacity. There was barely enough room for the wonderful finger food and libation. After the singing of Christmas carols, a cake was presented to Adele Aleresky for her overseeing of our building activities over the years. We all thank you, Adele.

The fellowship, food and libation took over the rest of the evening. Eggnog and sake were also available.



After the festivities, all were able to find their way home. We all thank Arthur for the wonderful music. Thanks also to the clean-up crew.

The ladies' and men's lunches were held on Dec. 13. The ladies went to Country Boy's in Dunedin, and the men went to the Golden Coin on Highland Avenue.

Be sure to check our bulletin board for the date and time for our January business meeting. Our annual building donation will be collected at that time.

Happy New Year to all. The ride is not over.

Mama sez: Jealousy is all the fun you think they had.

CLASSIFIED ADS

This Classified section is a service to the OTOW community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and copy must be 20 words or less including phone number (or four column lines). Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. *If the submitters's name and building is not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.*

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Ads must be placed in the boxes marked OTOW News in the East and West Activity Centers or dropped off at the newspaper office. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted.

FOR SALE

Women's tops, skirts, jackets, pants, sizes 14-16, excellent condition; Craftmatic king-size bed. 796-4137

Replacement crank handles for louvre type windows: 1 right, 2 left, \$15 for 3; Magnavox 27" TV, model MS 2730, works fine \$50. 797-8537

Canon PowerShot A40 digital camera, 2 megapixel CCD, 3X digital zoom, movie mode, software, user guide, cable \$15. 796-0554

Men's golf clubs & cart \$40; navy western boots, size 8 \$40; automobile refrigerator, plugs into cigar lighter, used once \$40. 475-8536

Oak finished armoire, 60"H x 34"W x 17"D; two 24" walnut bar stools, like new \$75 for both. 386-5752

Ladies' bicycle, single speed, foot brake, basket, comfortable seat \$40. 797-6534

Rubber stamp set, Prencro Type, one font of 1/4" normal Gothic, best offer. 724-5922

Callaway RH men's clubs, complete set, graphite shafts, 1-3-5 woods, 4-SW irons \$150 firm. 724-4358

Comforters, twin (2), floral/stripes with shams, bed skirt, GC \$20 each. 726-7163

Aladdin Genie Pro GEP-1 low vision magnifier, with cable and foot control, good working order, needs SVGA monitor \$50. 446-1575

Entertainment center, ivory lacquer, 68"H x 48"W x 16"D, has 28" wide TV area w/cov'd doors, also has glass doors, mirrored back \$250 OBO. 797-8859

Three-wheel bike, Trailmate DeSoto Classic, rarely used, paid \$500, will take \$200 OBO; walker, excellent condition \$20. 799-1390

Kenmore carpet and hard floor cleaner \$20; G.E. water cooler \$20; dining room set, natural colors, like new \$200. 667-2805

Potty chair, portable wheel chair, shower chair, very good condition, reasonable. 796-4137

Health Rider exercise machine, easy, low-impact \$200; Original Kitchen hardware: open filigree, white, free. 726-0126

New golf umbrella \$10; artist easel in box with brushes, paints, drawing paper and carrying case, like new \$25. 796-7890

Keep your pet off the floor: pet bed, small, 8"H x 18" x 12" \$10; heated throw blanket, electric, small \$15. 692-7028

Queen comforter, bed skirt, 2 pillow shams, 2 pillows, 1 mech. roll, 4 shades of yellow/gold mix with medallion overprint, like new \$50. 510-3146

Coffee table, end tables, maple with glass tops, like new \$125; microwave oven, black \$65; area rug \$50. 474-6682 or 412-4828

WANTED

Violin and bow, price to be determined. 723-8416

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WANTED:

Meals on Wheels coordinator for On Top of the World

Carl and Betty Leiby will soon be stepping down as Meals on Wheels coordinators for On Top of the World. If this position is not filled, OTOW residents will have to depend on Meals on Wheels in Clearwater for service and there is currently a waiting list. The coordinator does not deliver meals, but organizes deliveries. It is a 7-day a week volunteer job, which often requires finding new drivers and scheduling. For more information, call Carl or Betty at 791-3861.

Turn Up The Cheer

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