



EAC Rocks in New Year

Entertainment Committee welcomes new chairperson as baton is passed on stage

The clock will tick down on the Entertainment Committee's New Year's Eve celebration and the celebrants will toast in the New Year with champagne and the traditional Auld Lang Syne song.

Hazel Kelley, the 2013 Chair, will pass her title on to 2014 Chair Tony Baker, and, if past is a prelude to the future, a crowd of more than 400 people will cheer.

A formal crowd, in all their finest glitter, is expected to have a ball at the New Year's Eve Party. They'll bring with them good food and drink, and enjoy an evening of dancing to the music provided by Flashback.

Best of all, friends and neighbors will share the festivities. They'll dance the night away, and in the background will be laughter and popping balloons.

When asked to look back on her time as chair, Hazel said she was pleased with her group's hard-working volunteers. Under her term, the Entertainment Committee was able to carry on the 40-year tradition of enriching the lives of OTOW residents by providing 12 shows, 18 dances and free monthly Sundays-In-the-Park.

Tony praised the performance of the 2013 Committee, but also noted that community support is necessary to keep things going into next year.

He is looking forward to an exciting year when residents will not only be presented with a great new lineup of entertainment, but will have increased opportunities to come to the party and join in the fun.

Whether you attend the traditional New Year's Eve party or not, Hazel and Tony would like to wish everyone everyone at On Top of the World a very joyous and prosperous New Year!



Pat and Frank Massaro celebrate New Year's Eve with a dance in the East Activity Center auditorium. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)



**The staff at
Palm Acre Real Estate
would like to wish all of you
a Healthy & Happy
New Year!**

Annual meeting in review and upcoming projects

First, I would like to thank all of the Association members that submitted their election ballots.

In order for the Association to conduct an annual meeting, we must obtain a quorum of owners either in person or by proxy/ballot. I am happy to report we obtained a quorum.

Second, a "thank you" all members who attended the Annual Meeting on Dec. 19. We covered a great deal of material, including the state of the community, the factors that affect the operation, and the quality of life for every resident.

At the meeting ballots were counted for your board. Receiving the most votes were Kenneth Colen, Sharon Licata, Philip Faranda, Virgil Ratcliff, Leslee Colen, C. Guy Woolbright and Gail Sanders.

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?

The Community Service Office continues to deal with serious leaks, and collateral damages 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, the 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 responsibility and their liability when not maintained.

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

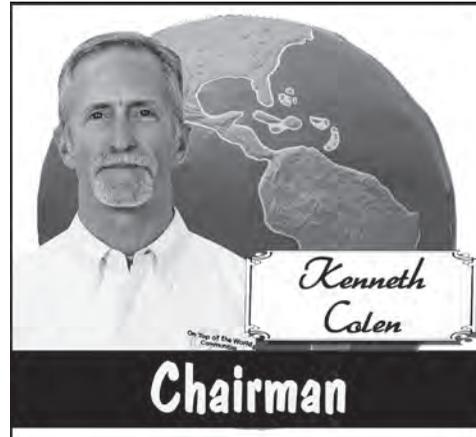
The cost of property coverage for the Association moderated in fiscal 2013-14. This was surprising given the storm season of 2012.

Bear in mind, insurance is an international business, so we can pile on the damage from Hurricane Sandy and other disasters.

Your Board believed it was prudent to reinvest these insurance savings into community projects, including accelerating the replacement of walkway railings found to be not in compliance with current building standards; continue the replacement of non-compliant smoke detectors; and resurfacing work around the community pool decks.

Other questions at the Annual Meeting focused on what your Board is 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 competent and trained staff. Roof replacements, elevator repair, and renovations, 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.

The 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 at the Annual Meeting 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 preventative measures that you, as a homeowner, can take to reduce your exposure to water/mold damage. We live in a tight knit community. What one person does (or doesn't) do may adversely affect their neighbors.

Social & Recreational Activities

Recreational activities are very dependent on resident-directed and organized activities. If the Association was 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 creativ-

ity 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

Painting/Waterproofing: Buildings 54 and 65 will have new front façade paint coatings applied in January. Remember, all start dates are approximate and inclement weather may affect scheduling.

Flooring replacements in the center cores are continuing on schedule. Building 80 is scheduled for second and third floor improvements in January.

Utility contractors will continue replacing the potable water lines servicing individual units during a two stage improvement project that began in October 2013. Once again, these improvements will affect buildings 1 through 10, and the project is scheduled to be completed sometime near early February 2014. Buildings 6, 7 and 8 are scheduled for January and early February 2014.

January will also bring railing improvements to buildings 2, 4, 15 and 16. Licensed contractors will be replacing or adding aluminum components to the walkway guardrails and stairwell handrails, so please exercise caution in the areas where these improvements are being made. The majority of these railing projects are estimated to last 2-5 weeks, depending on the scope of the work and the size of the structure.

Ongoing construction projects are as follows: Curb lines will continue to be restored during the month of January. Please exercise caution and slow-down in areas where workers are making these improvements. Flagmen may temporarily stop traffic if the situation warrants.

Sidewalk panel replacements will continue throughout the year ahead, as will header and window sill repairs.

A project to restore the decorative stucco on the front façade of Building 31 will also commence in January. This project is anticipated to last 60 days. Crews will be utilizing high-reach lift equipment and residents may be asked to temporarily relocate their vehicles while this work is underway.

The structural inspections and correction program (an inspection process by the management's construction department that affects repairs on headers, tower elements, walkways, sidewalks, parapets, columns, railings, center core doors, etc.) will be in full swing again in 2014.

As building's age, more detailed inspection and assessments are required. Timely reporting of maintenance matters by residents is helpful to the continuing success of this program.

Compliance inspections, by the In-

spection Services division of the management company, are ongoing. These inspections address the overplanted or unmaintained landscape, or unauthorized additions around all building common areas. Please keep in mind that the condominium association requires a modification request for any landscape alterations. Many times decorative lighting, rocks or borders, or landscaping is installed without the advance approval of the Association. This may result in the removal and disposal of the items at the resident's cost.

Clutter enforcement is another item which requires constant monitoring by the management company. This includes the tagging and removal of excessive furnishings placed in the center core, walkways, and end stairwells areas. Remember, much of the material placed in these areas may actually violate the Life Safety Code as a result of impeding building access ways. Code requires a clear, unimpeded path of travel in the event of a necessary evacuation.

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

The management company continues to report the older style awnings in disrepair or with weak attachment points. As noted in prior articles, the "clam-shell" awnings do not meet building code for wind resistance. Fortunately there are new products that do. If you have an awning, please arrange for its inspection through the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center.

Power sweeping, a process by which building parking lots are swept via heavy machinery, will commence in January. Buildings that will be affected will receive notices in advance to allow residents to temporarily relocate their vehicles. Most parking lots will be completed within one day or less.

Building 29 is scheduled to have the roof system replaced in January 2014. Please be aware that this work will require that areas of the parking lot are closed for multiple days at a time. Residents may park their vehicles in visitor spots in adjacent lots or along the road while the lot is temporarily closed. Notices will be posted in the building advising residents of these temporary closures.

Asphalt Paving and resurfacing projects will commence in May of 2014.



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

Press Association Officers

Yvonne Courtney, President

Jackie Dooley, Vice President • Arlene Bergen, Secretary

Gloria Walz, Reporters Coordinator

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

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

NEXT DELIVERY DATE

February newspapers will be delivered on Jan. 31

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This month's volunteers:

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

Newsroom Hours

9:30-6 Mon-Thur, 9-2 Fri

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

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- (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.*



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New gate adds convenience to Paradise



By Doug Kates
Editor

Paradise residents now have easier access in and out of their private section thanks to new gates that were installed in early December.

With the help of modern technology, the new gates can read bar code stickers on automobiles. The stickers eliminate the need for Paradise residents to stop, roll down windows and type a secret code.

Paradise residents can now drive slowly up to the gate, their bar code will be scanned, and the arm will automatically lift.

Paradise residents who were not able to attend the mobile registration event in December, and are in need of a sticker, can visit the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center to schedule an appointment.

Hassan Farhat, left, and Sheldon Russell, of Florida Door Control (FDC), install a new gate device at the Paradise section of On Top of the World. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

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good

grand opening coming soo

By Dessa Barabba and Leslee Colen

Perhaps you've seen the signs for "Area 51" on the lower level of the East Activity Center?

Maybe you've heard all the different thoughts about what might be coming, or maybe you've had a few thoughts of your own?

Well, without further ado, On Top of the World would like to announce the January 2014 grand opening of the Good Karma Café coming to the space previously occupied by the old library.

What is the Good Karma Café you ask?

Well, that's a very good question.

The Good Karma Café is a state-of-the-art, fully-equipped marketplace that is both convenient and affordable.

Created by the Community Service Office, in partnership with Good Karma Vending, the cafe will offer fresh and frozen food items, beverages, a gourmet coffee station, ice cream and yogurt treats, and convenient take-home "heat and eat" meals.

Plus, a sundries section will feature snacks from top name brands, such as Doritos and Lays, and include other dry foods, such as popcorn and peanuts.

There will be a variety of breakfast items, including Pop-Tarts and pastries.

Well, what are some fresh food options you ask?

Another good question!

You will find various wraps and different sandwiches. There will be fresh salads and fresh fruits. The take-home "heat and eat" meals will offer such choices as chicken with wild rice, and vegetables, homemade meatloaf and mashed potatoes, or traditional lasagna.

You will also have your choice of convenient fresh and frozen "take home items" such as hamburgers, burritos, Hot Pockets, breakfast sandwiches and White Castle sliders.

The café selections you'll find are affordable and among the healthiest and freshest available.

Healthy options include protein bars, baked chips, and zero-calorie beverages-just to name a few!

A gourmet coffee station will be a fully-equipped coffee bar where you can choose from a regular "cup-a-joe" to specialty flavors. You can even kick it up a notch and select a custom-brewed cappuccino, espresso, latte, hot coco, or keep it simple with a cup of tea.

Once you've decided on your drink, you can customize it with flavors.

Just in case you decide you would rather have a cold drink, you can choose from such popular selections as Fanta, Coca Cola, Yoo-hoo, Pepsi, Gatorade, assorted milks, and much more.

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Café ice cream will offer such popular brands as Mars and Blue Bunny!

Purchasing your items is easy and convenient. Use your credit card, debit card, or create a personal account. The café comes fully equipped with a state-of-the-art touch screen payment kiosk for self-checkout.

Not computer savvy?

No worries.

Our kiosk associate will be available to assist you.

The kiosk associate will also assist you with setting up and making deposits to your account. The process is very quick and easy.

You can also stop over to the Community Service Office and they can assist you.

If you prefer, with a computer and Internet connection, you can set up your account or deposit funds online from home.

There is also a free app available for download, so you can even pay with your smartphone!

karma

n to the east activity center



(picture simulates products available at cafe)

In order to access the cafe, each customer will need a Good Karma Information Purchase Card that will be used to identify you as a resident or employee of On Top of the World. On the back of your new card is an area for you to enter your building and unit number for quick reference. You can get your Good Karma cards at the Community Service Office, Monday through Friday, during normal business hours.

The Good Karma Café will be open for business seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and if that isn't enough - there's more: Good Karma lives up to its name!

The slogan "doing good by doing good" means that 20 percent of all net annual profits are given back to local organizations, including food pantries, homeless shelters, and animal welfare organizations.

Good Karma Vending works with several community outreach programs to help the needs of children and families that are less fortunate. We believe in personal involvement and the concept of giving back to others, paying it forward in the hopes of assisting those who wish to overcome personal struggles.

On Top of the World and Good Karma Vending believe that with your help the "Good Karma Giving Back Program" can and will make a difference in the lives of others by donating a portion of your purchases to benefit such charities as Feeding America Tampa Bay - truly keeping the good karma flowing by giving back with every snack!

So watch for our grand opening signs coming soon and make sure to come down to the Good Karma Café to share in good coffee, good food, and good karma!



Audrey Lerigo, left, is this month's Artist of the Month. She proudly displays an 'Alaskan Black Wolf' watercolor painting she created. Presenting Audrey with this month's ribbon is Dale Stackhouse.

Art Guild members get a special lesson in colored pencil art

By Toni Mattz

Our December Art Guild meeting and Christmas Party was well attended with 31 members and one guest.

Melissa Miller Nece, a signature member of the Colored Pencil Society and instructor at Dunedin Fine Art Center, gave a demonstration on ideas and techniques that can be used in colored pencil artwork. Melissa answered questions posed by the members.

At each meeting, any Art Guild member can bring in one of their paintings for Artist of the Month voting. This month Audrey Lerigo won with the most votes for her watercolor painting of an Alaskan Black Wolf. This winning painting will hang in the display case located in the East Activity Center entryway. The remaining paintings, plus others, will be hung in the Art Room display cases.

John Fier has an ongoing drawing class at 1 p.m. on Thursdays. The nominal fee is just \$2. If you are a member of the Art Guild, or would like to join, then you will be most welcome to attend. Just bring a drawing pad, a pencil, and a big eraser -- just kidding!

Helen LeRue, a most-welcome new member, conducted two work-



shops on using crayon art to help bring out emotions and creative boundaries. Those in the workshop had a great time ... check out our art room bulletin board for the masterpieces!

Our annual Art Show and Sale will be held Sunday, Feb. 23 from 1-4 p.m. Please mark your calendars for this exciting event of artworks on display by our many talented Art Guild people. More on this show to follow next month.

The next meeting of the Art Guild will be Friday, Jan. 10 at 1 p.m. The program will be a Pastel Painting demonstration given by one of our favorite painters, Lorraine Potocki.

If you are interested in art, then why not come as a guest and enjoy the fun!

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On Top of the World. CLEARWATER GOLF CLINIC

SHORT GAME PITCHING

Friday, January 17th

10:00 a.m.

Please arrive @ 9:50 a.m. to check in.

\$20.00 per person (cash)

Minimum 10 people

Maximum 20 people

Instructors for these clinics will include one or more of the following, depending on participation.

Matt Hibbs, PGA Director of Golf
Denise A. Mullen, LPGA Head Golf Professional
Russ Smith, Apprentice Assistant
Logan Stringer, Apprentice Assistant

Registration Deadline is Monday, January 13 @ Noon

Any questions, contact **Corby Ratliff** at the OTOW Golf Shop

No turkey or ham for Press Association



When you think of traditional, holiday meals, the first thoughts that come to mind are turkey, ham and sausage.

Well, the Press Association decided to change gears for its holiday luncheon in December. They called upon The Green Mint, a past advertiser, to provide a special Asian luncheon to break up the holiday mood.

More than 30 writers, staff and proofreaders attended the luncheon, which consisted of a special combination beef, chicken, noodles, rice, vegetables and sweet tea.

A variety of desserts were available and Buildings Coordinator Gloria Walz sang a holiday carol.

During the luncheon, editor Doug Kates reported that the annual Holiday Lights contest had already surpassed more entries than all of last season when buildings were competing against other buildings. This year, for the first time, it was changed to condo against condo with judging done on the Internet.

Results of this year's contest appear on the first page in the second section of this newspaper.



Press Association President Yvonne Courtney assists writers and staff with a holiday luncheon buffet in December. (OTOW News photo by George Swiderski)

Doug reported that 72 people attended the November writer's workshop, which was a record for recent history. He said it was great to see a large turnout and see many new faces.

At the workshop, writers were taught how to format dates in their stories. Doug said there must have been some confusion because reports for the January newspaper had many new errors not written before.

In review, if a report uses a month, by itself, in a story, the entire month is written out - never abbreviated.

If a month is followed by a date,

the month is abbreviated. The only exceptions are March, April, May, June and July, which are never abbreviated under any circumstances.

Also pointed out, dates are never connected with a "th," "rd," "nd," or "st."

The following three sentences are all correct:

"The Press Association meeting in January will be at night."

"The next Press Association meeting is Jan. 2."

"The Press Association has scheduled a special March 6 meeting, tenta-

tively set for 5 p.m., in the West Activity Center."

During the luncheon, writers were asked to note that the January meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the East Activity Center Veranda Room. The February meeting will be 1:30 p.m. in the EAC Large Card Room and the March meeting will indeed have special guests to help writers with their interview skills.

No one on the staff will want to miss the March meeting. Details will follow in the February newspaper.

Next defensive driving course is Jan. 16-17, 9-noon in the East Activity Center Starlite Room. A registration form appears on page 29 of this newspaper. Forms must be submitted to the newspaper office by Jan. 9. Charge is \$15 and is payable before the first class.



Beware of scam claiming to be an IRS agent investigating fraud

SCAM ALERT: The Internal Revenue Service is reporting that there's a scam going around where the caller identifies himself/herself as an agent for the IRS and then claims there is some fraud involved with your income tax return.

If you ask the caller to give you a call back phone number and an IRS badge number, the caller will give them to you.

If you call back the phone number, whoever answers will say it's the IRS.

DO NOT BELIEVE ANY OF THAT!

It's a scam.

The correct way to handle this situation is take down the return phone number and the badge number, but call the IRS directly at 1-800-366-4484. **DO NOT CALL PHONE NUMBER THE CALLER GIVES YOU.**

Just hang up and do it immediately! Don't you dare call back on that phone number. Instead go to the IRS Website. It's www.IRS.gov.

If, however, you don't use a computer, then call the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at this number: 1-800-366-4484.

Under no circumstances should you provide any personal information to a caller like that. Please pass this on to friends and family.

Q. A friend of mine told me that if I have a living trust and put my home in it, I could lose my homestead exemption. Is that true?



A. I am really glad you asked. It's a good question. Although readers of this column will know that I am not a fan of living trusts in many estate planning situations, my answer to this question is NO!

You will not lose your homestead exemption if you have a living trust, so long as the trust is properly drafted and provides that you, as the Grantor are allowed to obtain the homestead exemption.

Q. What's the difference between an Elder Law attorney and an Estate Planning attorney?

A. In my opinion, there is a difference, but not a lot. An Elder Law attorney might be more comfortable with welfare assistance issues and perhaps with drafting durable powers of attorney that have specific provisions for authorizing the Agent to handle welfare assistance matters.

Of course, a good Estate Planning Attorney should be able to help with those issues as well.

Q. A few years ago, I added my longtime boyfriend to the deed to my property. Well, we broke up and now I want his name off my property. My attorney says the boyfriend has to sign a deed to that effect. Do you agree?

A. Yes, I agree with your attorney. And it should be a deed properly prepared by your attorney, and not one prepared by your friend, and it should not be one of those silly store-bought things that it seems to me never really get filled out properly.

Q. Why do you put these "scam alerts" in your Is It Legal column?

A. Wow! I'm surprised by a question like this.

I'm also surprised at myself for even answering it!

I include these scam alerts for a couple of reasons. The most important is that I care about the folks who do me the kindness of reading my column. I also worry that no matter how hard we all try, there's some scam artist, someplace, who might be sophisticated enough to cause us to answer him with personal information.

Sometimes, some of those folks get downright nasty and that can scare us.

So, I want to warn as many people as I can reach to be on the alert. I can assure you that many folks who are highly educated and sophisticated have been taken in by scams. I'm doing what little I can to warn my read-

ers. That's why I include scam alerts.

Oh, yes! Please read the scam alert I wrote at the top of this column.

Q. I recently met a nice, younger lady who I would like to take on a Caribbean cruise with me. Is there any reason why I should not do this?

A. Well, I imagine it depends on the age of the younger woman.

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



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Pearl Bailey gave 'Hello Dolly' new life

When "Hello Dolly" was nearing the end of its long run on Broadway, the producer was looking for one more person to take over the leading role for another few shows.

He found that person in Pearl Bailey.

She caused an immediate sensation, and the show continued to run for another three years, thus becoming one of the longest running shows ever on Broadway.

Pearl Bailey was born in Newport News, Va., and made her singing/dancing debut at the age of 15. After winning first place in a local contest, she won a similar contest at the famous Apollo Theatre in Harlem.

During a Lincoln's Day special on



**Walter
Balderson**

Inside Showbiz

NBC, we were sitting in the audience during a break when Pearl was told she had a phone call. When she returned, she told us it was President Nixon inviting her to perform at the White House.

Even though she was a life-long Republican, she performed at many

functions for both parties.

In 1970, she was proclaimed "America's Ambassador of Love" and represented her country many times at the United Nations and abroad.

During her professional career, she lived in Manhattan and was a passionate fan of the New York Mets. She sang the National Anthem at game five of the World Series in 1969.

She received many awards during her long career, including a BA degree in theology from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

RCA released a second album of "Hello Dolly" with Pearl Bailey and an all-black cast. She also had an enormous hit with "It Takes Two to Tan-

go" with RCA.

Her movie career included the lead in "St. Louis Blues" and one of the leads in "Porgy and Bess."

She once said, "I laugh when people refer to me as an actress. Actually, I tell stories to music."

Pearl was married to her second husband, Louie Bellson, until her death. They had one child of their own and one adopted.

Pearl Bailey, Ambassador of Love, was scheduled to give an important address at the United Nations on Aug. 24, 1990. However, that was never to be. She died of heart failure in a Philadelphia hospital on Aug. 17 - just seven days earlier.

FLOW Bus returns to OTOW Jan. 17

The Florida Licensing on Wheels bus (FLOW) will return to On Top of the World on Friday, Jan. 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the East Activity Center back parking lot. This is a great chance to renew your driver's license without leaving the community.

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NOTICE

Important bulletin for all residents of On Top of the World

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

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

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

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

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

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

Can you imagine 12 flight delays in one seven-hour time period?

If you remember, the last time I wrote about my mother and her air traveling experiences, she was stranded at a cold, snowy airport in Bradford, Pa., waiting for a delayed flight home to Jamestown, N.Y.

Turns out, the flight was eventually canceled due to weather, and the passengers had to pull their financial resources together to rent a vehicle and drive home, instead of fly.

The airline did nothing to help.

Fast forward now a couple of years to my mother's most-recent trip to Clearwater to visit me and my brother for Thanksgiving.

My mom's flight from Jamestown to Tampa (via Cleveland) was as smooth as could be. No problems whatsoever.

And the first leg of her trip home, from Tampa to Cleveland, was as smooth as could be, too.

But wouldn't you know it, something still had to go horribly wrong.

My mom's flight from Cleveland to Jamestown was supposed to leave at 3:30 p.m. and arrive at 4:25 p.m. My sister was going to pick up my mom at the airport and drive her home. End of story.

However, an announcement was made at the Cleveland airport that my mom's flight to Jamestown was delayed because the plane scheduled to take her there was stranded in West Virginia with mechanical problems.

Now, in a nutshell, here is what happened over the next 10 hours.

While sitting at the airport, waiting for her flight to Jamestown, there were 12 different delay announcements.

Not one announcement.

Not two announcements.

Not three announcements ... 12!

I provided you with a chart in case you don't believe me.

Each time my mom's flight was de-



layed, I received an email notification. The first notification came at 2:04 p.m., which announced the 3:30 flight had been postponed to 4:19 with an arrival time of 5:14 instead of 4:25.

Now, try to follow me. I will attempt to make this as simple as possible.

At 2:24, my mom's departure time was rescheduled for 4:49 p.m.

At 3:09 p.m., the departure time was rescheduled for 6:49 p.m.

At 5:05 p.m., the departure time was scheduled for 7:20 p.m.

At 5:37 p.m., the flight was canceled and a different airplane was being sought.

At 5:49 p.m., the departure time was scheduled for 7:43 p.m.

At 6:37 p.m., the departure time was set for 7:20 p.m. (yes, moved up!)

At 6:50 p.m., the departure time was set for 8:35 p.m.

At 7:32 p.m., the departure time was set for 11:23 p.m.

At 7:58 p.m., the departure time was set for 10:30 p.m. (yes, moved up again!)

At 8:44 p.m., the departure time was set for 10:55 p.m.

And at 9:02 p.m., the second airplane was canceled!

Has anyone ever had a flight delayed 12 times and then eventually can-

Announcement Time	Departure Time	Arrival Time
2:04	4:19	5:14
2:24	4:49	5:44
3:09	6:49	7:44
5:05	7:20	8:15
5:37	Canceled	
5:49	7:43	8:40
6:37	7:20	8:17
6:50	8:35	9:32
7:32	11:23	12:20
7:58	10:30	11:27
8:44	10:55	11:52
9:02	Canceled	

celed?

Well, guess what?

The airline told my mom to purchase a hotel room and try again the next day!

The nerve!

Instead, my mom and three other fed-up passengers, pulled their money together to rent a van to drive back to Jamestown - a two and one half hour road trip on dark, winter roads.

Deja Vu?

One of the four passengers was a New York State politician, who led the charge - do you think he was mad?

Another passenger was a guy who graduated from my high school two years before me - he volunteered to drive.

The third passenger ended up being a neighbor not too far from where my mom lived.

By 12:30 a.m. (not 4:25 p.m.), my mom was finally dropped off at her house and was finally home.

What's the worst part about this story - besides the way the whole situation was handled?

Look at the data I provided on departure times. At no point throughout the delay could the passengers leave the gate area - delays were strung out over minimal time periods. Passengers

were told not to go far away from the gate because the delays were only 30 minutes more, or 40 minutes more, or in two cases, the time was actually moved up.

The passengers, literally, sat and waited hoping the next announcement was a boarding call.

Instead, my mom sat at the Cleveland airport for seven hours waiting for two planes that never came, then she waited another hour as a rental van was purchased and luggage retrieved, and then she rode in a van nearly three hours home.

Was that the worst part?

Or how about this?

After all was said and done, the airline gave my mom \$7 for dinner and a \$100 voucher on her next flight.

Am I crazy, or does that actually add insult to injury?

Is there a bright side?

Yes.

My mom, who, by the way, is 83, is closing in on a world record - most flights home that ended in a van, in the middle of the night, on winter roads.

Seriously, how many people can honestly say their flight home ended in a van full of other passengers?

It's happened twice now to my mom.

Who will be crowned OTOW's 2013 Pet of the Year?

Your votes will decide!

See page 48

for a list of candidates and voting instructions.

look for our voting box link at ontopoftheworldnews.com



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FOURTH PLACE
PAT STEVENS - MELBOURNE



FIFTH PLACE
MARGE JACOBS - SWEDISH TRADITIONAL

The third annual OTOW News Holiday Lights Contest took place in December with anyone voting online for their favorite decorated individual condos. The pictures above represent the top vote-getters in the contest. Results will be official after each unit passes inspection. Voting was based on the view from outside, with an emphasis on lights, originality and holiday spirit. Voters were asked to ignore lawn decorations because it gave first-floor units an advantage over upper floor units. Next year there will be two divisions. First place wins two days and one night at the Safety Harbor Resort & Spa. Second through fifth places receive gift certificates from the Sunset Point Grill. There were 31 entries in this year's contest.

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From left to right, Past President Marnie Carr and Rick, Rollie Lapointe and Claudette, Tom McKee and Linda, Bob Laplante and Jocelyne, Harry Morrison and Barb, Rob Orchard and Jill, Winston Pineau and Billie are being acknowledged by 2012-2013 President Andy McEvoy.

Golf tournament, President's Ball approaching in January

By Rick McLauchlan

To date, we have registered 325 members, including approximately 32 new members.

Thirteen of these new members attended our first New Members Coffee and Information Session on Dec. 2. New members learned about our mission and upcoming events, and they shared a bit about themselves, like the location of their home.

Canadian Club registration will start again on Tuesday, Jan. 7, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium, and again each Monday and Thursday.

Our annual Christmas party was



Canadian Club

held on Dec. 4. More than 200 members and guests celebrated with an excellent turkey and ham dinner, and danced the evening away.

Later in the evening, the On Top of the World Canadian Club Singers, under the direction of Nicole Pelletier, led the merrymakers in some Christ-

mas carols and ushered in the Jolly Ole Man himself, who entered transported on a scooter and stayed for pictures.

A very hearty thank you is sent out to Shirley Hunter and all her volunteers, who assisted in the preparation and clean-up of this event.

Social games continue on Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center Large Card Room and the Kitchen and Craft rooms. This year, cribbage has been added to bridge and blackout. Instruction lessons for cribbage are offered by Vayna Cormier and Rodney Jones. Contact them at 727-386-5575 or just show up on Thursdays.

The OTOW Canadian Club Golf Tournament will be held at 8 a.m. on Feb. 16 at the OTOW 18-Hole Course. For information contact Bruce Mills at 727-559-1458.

Remember, always carry your Recreation Card.

The President's Ball will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 29 in the East Activity Center auditorium. Tickets are \$27 for members and \$29 for guests. A special sale day is scheduled from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Jan. 7 in the EAC Starlite Room. Sales will then continue Thursdays and Mondays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. from Jan. 9 until Jan. 27 in the auditorium.

Roaring '20s Party and mystery set for January 22

By Jack Casey

Hope you had a wonderful Christmas or holiday, and are looking forward to a New Year's celebration.

What better way to begin 2014 than to reaffirm your membership to the New York/New Jersey Club and continue on a year of fun and entertainment.

As I mentioned in earlier articles,

as of November my board position was over. Anne and I agreed to stay on until a volunteer(s) would fill the position(s). In order for the club to continue, it is important for someone to show an interest in taking over the available board positions. Please contact me if you have any questions. Time is running out.

I also want to remind everyone

about Wednesday, Jan. 22 when we have our Roaring '20s dance at 6 p.m. It is sure to be a fun-filled evening. Bobby Palermo will be the entertainer, Felicia's will supply the food and there will be a mystery to intrigue you.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you for my last activity as club president.



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Opera Tampa returns to OTOW Jan. 9

Good Neighbors



President Doris Paino

Happy New Year, everyone!

It is hard to believe 2014 is here already. It seems the older we get, the quicker time flies, so enjoy yourself.

That is what I try to do.

The big event this month is Opera Tampa is going to be here on Good Neighbor Thursday. That is Jan. 9, so save the date and come on out.

Opera Tampa always put on a great performance. If you read this, pass the word to your neighbor. I hear too often that people weren't aware of an event. Apparently they don't read the newspaper or check the community TV channel. The best advertising is word of mouth. Pass it on!

In February, the Jesters are going



Opera Tampa is back for another free show.

to perform, so keep that in mind. It will be fun!

I am looking forward to a new and

great year.

So come on out and get involved; we need new people to volunteer.

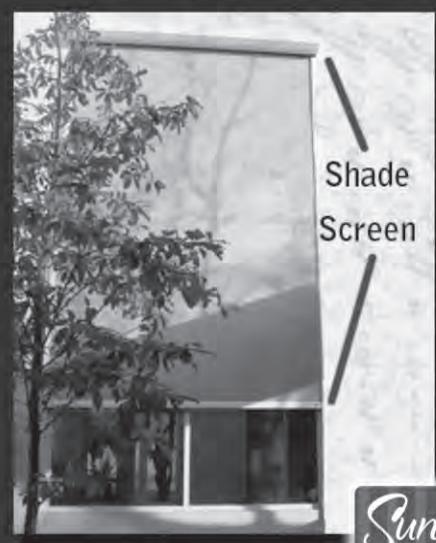
Remember, we start serving coffee and donuts at 9 a.m. on Good Neighbor Thursday.



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A Boomers sailing crew.

Boomers sailing into the new year

By Rita Kress

We have added a new activity to our list - sailing.

One of our favorite members, Dan Burnstein, has acquired a new boy toy and has invited all of our members to share in his excursions.

Dan has a 28 foot sailboat, which, of course, cannot fit all of us at one time, but about a half dozen of us will fit at any given moment.

Dan will put a notice on our Boomers' Website for anyone who wants to sign up for a ride - first come, first serve, but all are welcome aboard.

I joined Dan, and other members, on a recent excursion, and not only is he a competent captain of his boat, but also is a great trainer. We were all trained on the day-to-day operation of his vessel and helped out in the many maneuvers that were necessary for a successful sailing journey.

Dan was so gracious to allow me to personally steer his boat through the markers and canals. It was a great experience which I will not forget.

A big thanks goes out to Dan for sharing many good times and his boat with all of us!

The Baby Boomers Christmas Party was held Dec. 18 and, as always, was fun with excellent food. Santa made his appearance for picture taking, we sang and danced, and exchanged white elephant gifts. Door prizes topped the evening.

Our next large event will be a Valentine's Dance, with the awesome voice of Louie Bravo. The awesome night of dancing will be Feb. 11, from 5-9 p.m., in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be bought at our meetings, or contact



Baby Boomers

Rita at 727-600-8529 for advance purchase. Tickets are limited, so get yours before they are all sold out for this very popular entertainer.

Our meetings are held the first Wednesday and third Thursday of every month, at the East Activity Center Veranda Room at 5:30 p.m. Because of New Year's Day, our next meetings will be Jan. 8 and Jan. 23.

Note: The new time is a change from our usual time of 6 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the Baby Boomers Group is welcome to the meetings and should bring their current On Top of the World Recreation Card. There is no membership fee. We are a very active group. Some of our activities include biking, kayaking, dancing, and sailing.

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

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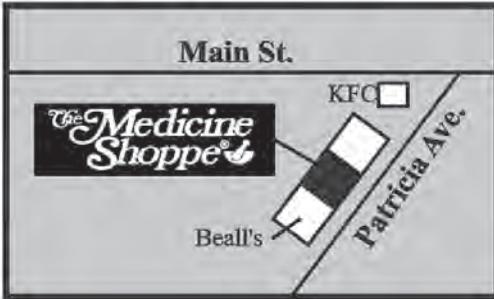
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New batch of racing couch potatoes ready for adoption and warming hearts



Greyhound Club

By Bill Sharpsteen

It's hard to believe we are moving into our 11th year of educating the public to adopt racing greyhounds - also known as 45 mile per hour couch potatoes. In 11 short years we have placed over 4500 greyhounds in their loving forever homes.

We have a lot of greyhounds to adopt and need foster homes!

Another class of 12 greyhounds graduated Dec. 6 from the Hardee Correctional Facility. There wasn't a dry eye in the place as the prisoners, some of them lifers, said how much this eight-week greyhound training program meant to them. The greyhounds actually live in cells with the prisoners.

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

We will have about 80 greyhounds and 150 two-legged handlers in attendance and there will be no barking! Please save the date and let Bill know if you are interested in attending.

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



Greyhound Club President Bill Sharpsteen holds Enzo the greyhound, who made a new friend at Santa-picture weekend in December. The greyhounds annually assist Santa.

Walkers are always welcome.

Always remember, Greyhound Club members meet every third Friday at Third Friday in downtown Safety Harbor. We set up next on Friday, Jan. 17 at the corner of Second Avenue and Main Street to show off greyhounds for adoption.

We also continue to visit sev-

eral ALFs in the county each month to bring cheer to their residents with our "Gentle Giants!" Please add our OTOW Greyhound Club meetings to your calendar for the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be Jan. 16 at 10 a.m.

Call Bill today 727-797-7977 to help foster or babysit a greyhound

for a day to a week, or adopt a greyhound, donate, or volunteer with this group. You can also like Gold Coast Greyhounds on Facebook to keep up-to-date on events! You will be richly rewarded for your time spent. These gentle giants will leave paw prints on your heart!

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Singles Club

Time for new members and renewals

By Mary Widman

As we enter into 2014, we wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year.

We here at the Singles Club are looking forward to the installation of our new president, Nancy McMillan, who will be installed at our January meeting, 6:15 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 11 in the East Activity Center crafts room.

Our meetings usually are held the first Saturday of the month, but because of the Martin Luther King holiday, it has been moved to this new time.

We urge all members to attend this special occasion. This is also the month for new members and membership renewals. Dues are \$5 for the year.

If you have any questions about our club, call Dorothy Carpenito at 796-4460. You may also turn to OTOW-TV channels 96/720 for more information on upcoming events. We are also on the Box Office Website.

If you know of any member who is ill and needs some cheering up, please call our Sunshine Lady, Mary, at 796-1184. She will send a card from all of us.

Hope to see everyone on Jan. 11.

New books have arrived

By Katy Gerritt

Happy New Year!

2013 was an eventful year for the library. We completed a move to our new location in the former Blue Room on the lower level of the East Activity Center.

We love the new space and so do our returning winter visitors. We are looking forward to 2014 and what it will bring.

We have added lots of new titles in recent months and are trying to obtain what our readers enjoy.

Some of the latest books include, "Sycamore Row" by John Grisham, "Moonshell Beach" by Jo Ann Ross, "Stella Bain" by Anita Shreve, and "The Death of Santini" by Pat Conroy. These are all in regular size print.



OPEN HOURS

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

Library News

New large print books include "Dust" by Patricia Cornwell, "King and Maxwell" by David Baldacci,

"Takedown Twenty" by Janet Evanovich, "The All Girl Filling Station" by Fannie Flagg, "W is for Wasted" by Sue Grafton, "Thankless in Death" by J.D. Robb, and "Starry Night" by Debbie Macomber.

We are also continuing our First Friday specials every month. Specials vary each month so stop in to see what we are offering.

Our sale books are primarily made up of donations, so if you have some recent books that need a new home, we would be happy to accept them. All of our sale proceeds go towards the purchase of new books.

Our hours are Monday morning 9-12, and Wednesday and Friday from 12-3 p.m.

Stop by and say hello!

Basic Italian

Do you want to learn some basic Italian conversation and grammar rules?

Get familiar with the history, geography and culture of beautiful Italy. Listen and sing Italian songs.

The classes will be held once a week. They are free of charge and will start on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the East Activity Center computer room. The last class will be on Thursday, April 24, 2014.

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

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Happy New Year

To all of our friends and clients at On Top of the World:

**Thank you for selecting SHIPS-N-TRIPS as your travel agency.
We strive to make all of your journeys an ultimate experience.
On behalf of our staff, we wish you all a happy holiday,
bundles of joy, and good health for the New Year.**

Bill

DAVID

KRIS

PORCIA

LINDA



FLASH DEALS FOR LAST MINUTE TRAVEL

Call for weekly promotions

- Princess Cruise Sale - Reduced deposit of \$100, special 'DEALS' and pricing for Alaska & Europe
- Holland America Cruises from Tampa- Special fares for seniors.
- Royal Caribbean - *Special On Top of the World* – March 1st 8-day sailing Independence of the Seas (limited space)
- Winter/Spring departures from Tampa* Carnival Cruise Lines*Holland America*Royal Caribbean*Norwegian Cruise Lines
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A new year brings a new Fixers president



Fixers Club

By John Koning

As we ring in another new year, the Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers Club welcomes our new club president; our new head honcho; the big kahuna.

His name is Joe and he comes to us from across the pond.

By "across the pond" I mean Tampa Bay, of course.

Joe Miranda is no immigrant, but a Florida boy through and through. He was born and raised in historic Ybor City, a district of Tampa named for Vicente Martinez Ybor, a Spanish-born cigar manufacturer, who set up shop in a marshy area northeast of downtown. Vicente then proceeded to fill his factory with hundreds of Cubans, Spaniards and Italians.

Joe is the son of an immigrant mother, who came here from Cuba at the age of 3, and a father who crossed "the pond" from Spain at age 10.

Joe's dad supported his family as a chef, and his mom, stereotypically, was a cigar maker until she bore and raised their family of three boys and two girls.

The Miranda family was a close one and remains that way to this day.

Every Saturday morning, almost without fail, Joe and his wife, Sue, get together for breakfast with his remain-



Incoming new club president Joe Miranda.

ing three siblings and their families and friends at the Tropicana restaurant in Ybor City.

Joe met Sue, a transplanted Virginian, when he was a shoe store manager in Clearwater. She worked for the Woolworth company, right next door. They married and raised two sons, both of

whom have served their country. One is retired from the US Army and the other has 20 years service in the Navy.

Joe is the ultimate fixer, or should I say fumbler? He calls himself a Jack of all trades and master of none.

Joe brings many talents in his "presidential tool box," not the least

of which is his desire and ability to make things work.

"I just want to help things run smoothly," he says simply.

That's just the attitude we were looking for big guy!

Read more about our club at www.fixersfiddlersandfumblers.com

Brazilian Embroidery Class

9:30-noon,
Monday, January 27
EAC Craft Room

Pre-Registration Required
By Monday, January 20
Contact Cheryl at 424-3279



Cost \$18
includes
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(Palm Harbor)

Happy New Year from the OTOW News staff!

New Year's resolution is to provide you with a top-quality show in March

By Lilli Scheifen

Our Christmas/Holiday Party was enjoyed by all, with good food and camaraderie.

Theater Workshop wishes you all a very Happy New Year!

Since our January 2014 meeting falls on New Year's Day, our club will formally meet again in February.

The meeting held on Dec. 16 gave us details for our upcoming show,

"Swingin' with the USO," and we will be meeting for rehearsals as indicated on that day.

If there are any changes, members will be notified by phone.

It is exciting to begin the preparations for our March production, and we are sure the finished product will be one we can be proud of.

We have a few New Year's resolutions regarding our show. We must solemnly promise:

emly promise:

(1) No physically hogging the stage and no flinging your arms out so the person behind you cannot be seen.

(2) No drowning out the other singers, especially if your voice would not pass the first elimination on "American Idol."

(3) No putting "Whoopee Cushions" on chairs in which unsuspecting actors will be sitting while on stage. We cannot halt the show to explain that it is only a trick and not the other alternative.

(4) No "hamming," turning a 30-second speech into a filibuster any politician would admire.

And last, but not least: (5) We will do our best to entertain you to the fullest with our show "Swingin' with the USO."



Theater Workshop

Don't forget to stop and visit our table every Monday and Thursday at the East Activity Center, 8:30-10:30 a.m. We will provide you with information about our club and tickets for our upcoming shows (March 14, 15 and 16). We would love to see you.

Ta, Ta!

General meeting set for Jan. 15

By Jerry Kaplano

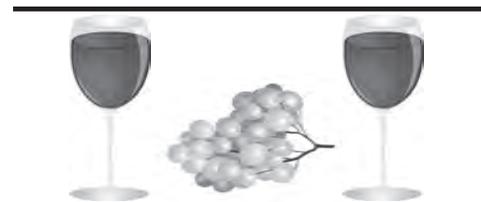
Our holiday Christmas party was a huge success.

"Denise with a Twist" was great!

Thanks again to the New York/New Jersey Club for the collaboration to make this possible. Also, thanks to everyone who helped.

Our wine and cheese party, which followed our Nov. 20 meeting, was also successful. The Nichols dancers were great as usual.

Don't forget our general meeting



Italian American

on Jan. 15, followed by entertainment and refreshments. BYOB.

We would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy new year.

First parade meeting scheduled

'Ireland's Happy Man' here on January 10

By Mary Skaarer

Once again, another year comes to a close, and I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and a happy New Year holiday.

Our Christmas party, which was held on Dec. 13, was a big success with more than 75 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and dancing. Our raffle of Christmas presents provided entertainment during a break in the dancing.

I look forward to many more fun events in the upcoming season for Irish Club members.

Our very own "Ireland's Happy Man," Cahal Dunne, will entertain us on Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at the East Activity Center with his wonderful Irish wit and song.

A business meeting and social gathering is scheduled for all members at 7 p.m., Jan. 10 in the EAC Starlite Room. Please come out, renew your membership, and enjoy some refreshments and Irish camaraderie.

Our very first Saint Patrick's Day parade meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 4 p.m. at the EAC computer room. All involved parties are expected to attend to discuss parade plans and ideas.



Irish Club

The Ken McBride Concert (Our own Phantom of the Opera), will be held at 7 p.m., Feb. 13 at the EAC. Based on his past performances, you can be sure a good time will be enjoyed by all.

Please mark your calendars for the above dates and secure your tickets early for the Ken MacBride Concert, since this is a popular event.

As always, you can purchase tickets every Monday and Thursday at the EAC from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Concert tickets cost \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Check out our Web site, www.irish-club.com, and the OTOW Box Office Website for event notices. I will also keep you informed with our TV ads appearing on channels 96 and 720 to keep members and non-members alike well informed.

Year Anniversary

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OTOW Exp 1/31/14

Horseshoes league play starts in January



Horseshoes

By Bo Craddock

On Top of the World's Horse-shoe Club will be starting up in January with league play each Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m.

The league will continue through April.

League Officers for the 2014 season are President Dick Knight, Treasurer Jerry Rice and Secretary Gerald Smith.

The pits are located behind the East Activity Center adjacent to the tennis courts.

The 2013 season champions were Roy Monteith, who took first place; Sam Bryant in second place and a tie for third place by Wade Candler and Bo Craddock.

Anyone interested in joining the league should contact Jerry Rice at 727-726-3025.



Practicing at the horseshoe pit.

Lambda will bring Caribbean to OTOW on Jan. 10

By Dave Beaven

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

One extra nice thing about the New Year is that we get a break from all the celebrations that occur over the holidays.

For our club members, it was like a marathon getting through the concerts, cocktail parties and potluck dinners, but it was a happy marathon.

Of particular note was our progressive cocktail party which sent Lambdians through three different condos. Our gracious hosts were able to show off their holiday decorating efforts while our members showed off their culinary skills in the dishes they



Lambda

brought. All in all, it was a very full holiday season.

Our first social of the New Year will be on Friday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. We will be meeting in a new location – the East Activity Center Art Room. The theme for the party is Calypso. Many people go on Caribbean cruises during January. Well, we'll bring the Carib-

bean to On Top of the World.

Attendees will be encouraged to don cruise wear: flowery shirts, shorts and sandals. The sounds of steel drums will be in the air. The bar will be serving rum punch. All you will have to do is close your eyes and envision swaying palm trees. (Actually, we're in Florida, so you just need to look out the window to see palms!)

Hope to see you there, or at one of our other functions.

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

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

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

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

Vote online for the 2013 OTOW Pet of the Year
Vote as many times as you want from Jan. 10-12
Visit: ontopoftheworldnews.com for a link to the poll.
See page 48 in this newspaper for a list of candidates.

We're going to Fort Myers and the Gasparilla Parade in January

By Walt Copeland

We can't believe another year has passed us by, although it was eventful and enjoyable.

Our Christmas party was well attended with great food, nice gifts and wonderful entertainment.

Activities for the coming year include a fantastic two-day trip to Fort Myers on Jan. 15 and 16. We'll attend the Broadway Palm Theater for a luncheon buffet, followed by the famous musical "South Pacific."

In the evening, after checking into our hotel, we'll visit the Seminole Mystery Train for dinner, a ride and a show.

The following morning, after breakfast, we'll drive to the river and board a paddlewheel boat for a lun-



Pennsylvania Club

cheon cruise. On our return trip home, we'll stop at the Edison-Ford Museum. An absolutely fantastic two days.

On Jan. 25 we've arranged a bus trip to Tampa's Gasparilla Parade. Prior to the parade we'll have lunch. We'll then be treated to bleacher seating with restrooms nearby. This will be a fun trip with beads and all.

On Sunday, Feb. 2, we'll again cele-

brate Ground Hog Day with a catered dinner and entertainment. It will be at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center.

Our February meeting will be on Thursday the 6th at 10:30 a.m. in the Starlite Room.

On Feb. 8 we'll travel by bus to the dog races for a matinee, including lunch, programs, admission, taxes and tip at a cost of \$38 per person.

Also in February, we'll travel to Florida backroads and waterways for an exciting two days that will include the bus, a cruise and casino trip, a very nice motel and tips and taxes. Please refer to our flyer.

On Friday, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, we'll visit the Early Bird Dinner Theater with some front row seating

to the play "Lend Me a Tenor."

We've selected a cruise for five days and four nights aboard the Carnival Sensation. We depart on March 2 from Port Canaveral. The cost is \$399 per person/double occupancy and includes roundtrip bus, tips, port fees and taxes. When you can cruise to Freeport and Nassau for less than \$100 per day, it's a super deal. Also, we get a \$50 shipboard credit.

We have many more events. Please stop by our table on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. for flyers of future trips. You don't have to be from Pennsylvania.

As you can see, we have a lot of fun, and it's membership renewal time so please re-sign.

Computer Club offers basic classes this winter

By Roger Reynolds

President of the Computer Club

The On Top of the World Computer Club is planning to have computer classes during the winter months.

Many of our members are new to computers, or are challenged by their computer. The first step to learning about your computer is knowing what operating system it uses.

The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the East Activity Center Large Card Room. Don Lewis will lead a tutorial on the Windows 7 operating system on Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Phyllis King will lead a tutorial on the Windows 8 operating system on Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25. Additionally, Bob Evans will present a single class on March 4 about "Using Tablet Computers."

Participants in these courses are for Computer Club members. If you want to attend the classes, but are not a member, you can join the club with a \$20 membership fee. Register your membership with Tony on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-10 a.m. at the EAC Computer Room, or at our regular Saturday morning meetings from 8:30-9 a.m. in the Large Card Room.

The fee for the courses on Windows 7 and Windows 8 is \$10, however, the fee will be refunded to you if you attend all four classes.

As always, bring your OTOW ID to prove your OTOW residency when participating in an activity at the OTOW facilities.



On Top of the World Computer Club

www.otowcc.com

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

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

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

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

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

Who will be crowned OTOW's 2013 Pet of the Year?



Your votes will decide!

See page 48

for a list of candidates and voting instructions.
vote at ontopoftheworldnews.com

Sales staff will answer all your questions



Snowbirds Club

By John Koning

What really happens at the Snowbirds' sales desk?

I thought I knew everything there is to know about the Snowbirds Club sales desk until one fateful day when extra salespeople were needed and I stepped in to help out.

That's when my real education began.

First, may I say, our sales team is just a little bit looney for volunteering for this assignment?

The atmosphere on Monday and Thursday mornings is best described as bedlam. There is a seemingly endless flow of polite, yet focused individuals and groups who each have unique and specific desires.

They are there to join a few of the excursions or to take in some of the shows we offer.

The pace can be overwhelming.

The simplest solution to this human barrage would be to offer fewer events to our members, but where do we start cutting?

Do we limit the number of cruises offered?

What would our avid cruisers do?



Sandy Sanborn (left), Doris Hammond and Linda Gooch anchor the Snowbirds Club.

(Photo by Ed Foland)

Would they take up knitting?

We could reduce the number of charter bus tours, but that would just clutter up the streets of On Top of the World with Snowbirds looking for someplace to go!

We could stop offering shows at Fletcher's dinner theater and Ruth Eckerd Hall, but what would our entertainment addicts do, watch Jeop-

ardy?

The only Snowbirds Club activities that don't require tickets are our free dancing classes. The trouble with that is that each aspiring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers needs to be signed up as a member. You have one guess as to where that happens. That's right. At the sales desk.

There is only one solution to the

problem as I see it. We need to thank the dedicated and slightly crazy members of the sales desk, and pray that they don't come to their senses any time soon.

Visit www.snowbirdsofotow.com for lots of information about our activities or stop by the sales desk Mondays and Thursdays and talk to our friendly sales-people.



OTOW 55-And-Over Driver's Safety Course



Next classes are January 16 & 17 in the East Activity Center Starlite Room

(please fill out one form per person. completed forms must be dropped off in the Customer Service Office by Sept. 6)

(please fill out one form per person. completed forms must be dropped off at the newspaper office by Jan. 9)

Your name:

Date of birth:

Driver's license number:

Street address:

Building number:

Telephone:

You must bring a check for \$15 to first class. Make check payable to AAA.



The On Top of the World Chorus performs during its holiday show in December. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

Chorus ends holiday concert with tribute to former director

By Ilene Bargerstock

Reflecting on good memories is one of the rewards of this great holiday season.

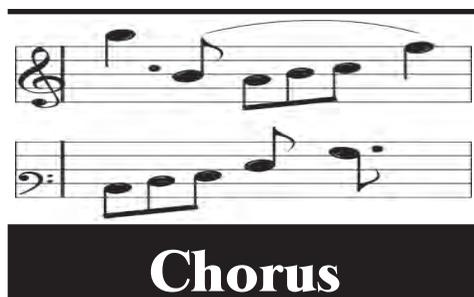
The On Top of the World Chorus closed its December holiday concert by singing from a handwritten score of lyrics and music put together in 1978 by then director, Louise Kelly.

Our president, Julia Galpin Contella, suggested the words be printed here as a post-Christmas gift to those of you who know Louise and want to keep a copy in remembrance of her.

Louise directed the Chorus 25 years of the 44 years it has been in existence. We still have 11 active members, who sang under her direction, and have fond memories of those years.

Our current director, Beth Kendall, was the piano accompanist when Louise retired and Beth has been directing since then.

We are grateful for all of our sponsors, especially Domino's Pizza, who



provided pizza for our audience members.

Most of all, we are thankful for the OTOW residents, who faithfully support us every concert season. Your words of encouragement keep us going!

Rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. in the East Activity Center when we begin preparations for our spring concert to be held March 29 and 30. New members are always welcome. Regular rehearsals are Mondays 10-11 a.m. in the EAC large card room and Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. in the EAC auditorium.

Here's wishing all of you a happy and healthy New Year!

On Top of the World it's Christmas

By Louise Kelly

On Top of the World it's Christmas.
With all of the world we share
the laughter, the fun.
We are as one with people everywhere.
On Top of the World it's Christmas.
With all of the joy it brings
to villas and castles and chalets and such.
We find everyone sings the carols, the folk songs.
All countries have loving memories to impart.
Throughout all the world it's Christmas.
And all of the love we share could spill over and cause us all
to pause in prayer for peace, in longing for peace,
for peace and joy everywhere.

December Photo Search Answers

1. Length of blue skirt

2. Strap on sandal

3. Belt on first jeans

4. Belt on second jeans

5. Different bear in first jeans

6. Belt color on third jeans

7. Extra flower on fourth jeans

8. Woman in background missing

9. Extra leaf over fourth jeans

10. Green tile on floor missing

CLIP N' SAVE



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Largo Lions Club 17th Annual Spotlight Series

monday monday A Mama's & Papa's Tribute



"monday monday" is an eye catching, vocally amazing and exciting tribute to "The Mama's and The Papa's and so much more!"

Monday, January 13, 2014

The New Odyssey



"The New Odyssey," a group that takes command of some 30 different musical instruments creating an incredible assortment of musical styles you must see and hear to believe!

Monday, March 10, 2014

ALL SHOWS ARE 2 PM AND 7 PM

Alter Eagles - The Definitive Eagles Tribute Band



"Alter Eagles, the most authentic tribute show to "The Eagles" have won over countless numbers of fans nationwide with their tight vocal harmonies and exquisite re-creation of those classic songs of the 70's.

Monday, February 10, 2014

Yesterdayze



"Yesterdayze" is a baby boomer's dream band! Relive all your favorite memories with the tunes performed by

this high energy 60's group.
Monday, April 7, 2014

2014 Season Tickets:

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- Individual Ticket \$22.50
- Group 10+ \$19.50

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LargoArts.com or www.largolionsclub.org

Prices and schedule subject to change. The City of Largo adds a \$3.50 handling fee per ticket.

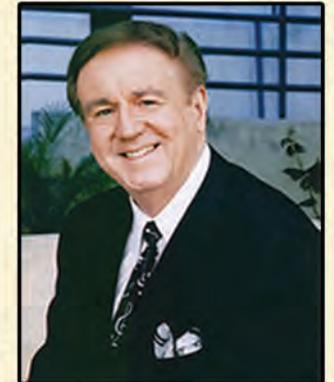
Thank You! We are truly grateful to our sponsors:



Lawrence Welk organist, Bob Ralston, returns to the Kirk of Dunedin



Bob Ralston is well-known from his days as organist on the former Lawrence Welk television show. Bob is planning another incredible afternoon concert! Don't miss it!



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and 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Fridays

Saturday afternoon, Jan. 18 - 2 PM All Seats Reserved \$15.25 Ticket Office 733-5475



Loretta Gilkey and her daughter, Carole Lacey, embrace each new day as it comes.

Strength and longevity run in the family

Carole Lacey is still a young woman by anyone's standards but those who know her expect that she will be around for a very long time to come.

That's because, in the perpetual debate over what shapes us more - nature or nurture - Carole seems to have all angles covered.

When you consider Carole's nature, or genetics, you need look no further than her mom, Loretta Gilkey. Loretta, who was born in 1910, is an impressive 103 years old. With the exception of her fading memory and the odd nap during our interview, she doesn't show her age.

A few years back, the University of Pittsburgh planned to study Loretta and her family's remarkable genetic prowess, but they were never able to corral Loretta, her older sister Marie, and her younger siblings, Earl, Beatrice and Marian, the youngster of the bunch, who is in her 90s.

Perhaps the university should look no further than Loretta, who is quite frank about the secret to her personal fountain of youth. Her prescription

Getting to Know You

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

by John Koning

for longevity is a diet of hot peppers and wild mushrooms. In fact, during her Snowbird days, the date of fall migration for Loretta and her husband, Ira, was dependent upon the mushroom harvest. If friends asked when they could expect her to arrive at On Top of the World, Loretta would say, "Not until I've picked my wild mushrooms."

In the winter of 1985, two years after Carole's dad passed away, she moved her mom to On Top of the World and the pair split their time between Florida winters and Pennsylvania summers.

When Loretta came to purchase her condo on Ecuadorian Drive, she packed the cash in her purse. But first, Loretta and Carole stopped at Stude-

baker's for refreshments. During the return to OTOW to complete the purchase, Loretta realized she had left her purse behind at the restaurant. Carole made a desperate dash back to Studebaker's in hopes that her condo payment would still be there. They had 58,000 happy reasons to go back.

The Studebaker's incident wasn't the last time Carole looked after her mom's best interest, and that brings us to the other factors in Carole's life that seem to promote longevity. It reads like an advertisement for a long and healthy life:

"Stay active, care for others and laugh a lot."

Carole laughs a lot. She also golfs a lot. She plays 18 holes at least twice a week and plays poker whenever she

can get out.

Carole has three ladies who volunteer to come and care for Loretta when she goes out. Carole is determined that Loretta will stay with her as long as she is able to care for her mom.

After Carole's retirement, she moved herself and Loretta down to Clearwater permanently into a well appointed, ground floor unit near the East Activity Center. Now Loretta can get around as much as she wants and it gives Carole the opportunity to get out of the house while remaining close to her aging mom.

When I asked if Carole takes good care of her, Loretta's face lit up with pride,

"Yes, she sure does!"

That motherly compliment sums up the nurture part of Carole's longevity quotient, and it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out where she learned it.

Whatever may come, Carole and Loretta are sure to embrace it with their positive attitudes and uncompromising passion for life.



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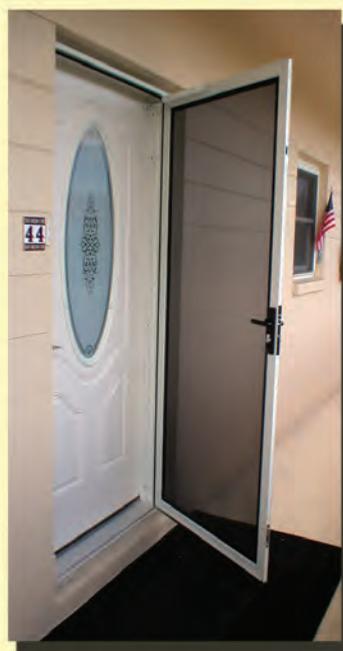
These specially-priced packages have been created for On Top of the World residents and represent a sample of services that may be provided. Additional services can be arranged to meet individual needs on an hourly bases at usual and customary rates. Two-hour minimum required.



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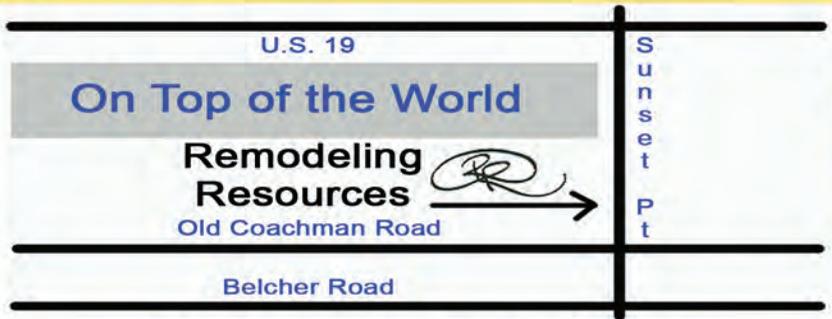
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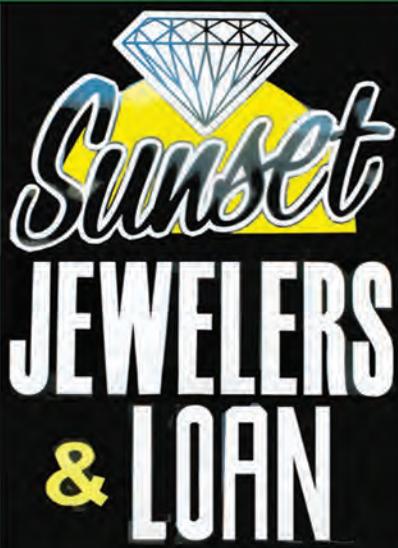


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Award-winning dance instructor to visit On Top of the World in February

By Julie Narancich

Line dancers celebrated this wonderful time of year with a Holiday Party on Dec. 17. We have had a great year and look forward to 2014.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Ira Weisburd to On Top of the World on Feb. 18 from 1-5 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

Ira is an award-winning, internationally recognized choreographer. He travels the world teaching his dances. He won this year's Male Instructor of the Year Award at the 2013 Dancers Choice Awards in Las Vegas and is



Line Dancing

now being nominated for two Crystal Boot Awards and Beginner Dance of the Year.

Tickets for the Feb. 18 event are only \$15 to OTOW residents and are being sold by the Line Dancers from 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays in the

EAC auditorium.

The Snowbirds Line Dancers are also selling tickets at the West Activity Center on Thursdays beginning at 9 a.m.

Mary Becker is collecting our annual membership fee of \$5. Please remember to present your On Top of the World Recreation Crd, along with your money, to Mary.

Please join us as any time is a great time to learn line dancing. We have wonderful individual instruction and provide patience and 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.

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 invite you to bring your friends. Line dancing is great for men and women of all ages.

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!

Wishing all of you a healthy and happy New Year.

Democratic Club plans to get involved in pre-election publicity

By Charlie Christ

Great News!

Our Democratic Convention representatives have returned from Orlando and reported that former governor Charlie Crist is our chosen candidate for next governor of Florida, and Alex Sink will run as our representative for the U.S. Congress.

It now becomes our challenge to be active and do all we can to make them both winners in the next election.

We had a good crowd at our recent pizza party and raised enough funds to help us get organized for the action that will be required to contact everyone and take the necessary action required to be an effective club here at On Top of the World.

Phil Compton, from the Sierra Club, attended our September meet-



Democratic Club

ing and filled us in on the Green Light Pinellas drive to promote rapid transit in the bay area. The plan was adopted in 2013 and will be on the ballot next year.

Bus service will be greatly improved, we will have 50 percent less CO2, and 50 percent less nitroxen oxide when it is approved.

For our recent luncheon at Sunset Grill, we heard Stephen Sarnoff, president of the Communication Workers

of America, speak on his plans to run for the 13th District seat in the Florida Legislature.

What a great turnout for our Thanksgiving feast.

Stephen Sarnoff asked for our help in assisting with his campaign for the Florida legislature and John Mark introduced himself as a candidate for the Clearwater City Council.

There was a problem arranging for Charlie Crist, the Democratic choice for governor, to attend, but the other Charlie Christ was there to fill in.

Board members, Charlotte Michaels, Jim Schelling and Hal Leichardt, along with my wife, Barbara, and Hal's wife Fran, served the delicious meal which everyone enjoyed.

Thanks to all our members for answering the call and doing their part to make it all a success.

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Clyde is first Pet of the Month for 2014



My name is Clyde and I live in the Espana Building with my two owners Jackie and Jerry Dooley.

I was rescued in December 2009 at the age of approximately 14 months. My owners had not had a pet for almost 30 years and I was lucky to be chosen for this wonderful task.

I am part Daschund. I don't like the outdoors, but I am very comfortable staying inside all of the time. I do have to be walked occasionally and I love strolling by the lake on the West side.

On these walks I like to visit with two buddies from my building, King and Cruiser. Sometimes we meet up with the newest little one in our neighborhood, Sadie.

There is a little girl in my building who has taken my fancy, but most of the time I ignore her as she growls at me, very loudly.

Life is good here at OTOW and I have found a warm and friendly home to live and enjoy my "doggie days in Florida."



Clyde

Each month, OTOW News, Walgreens and Pet Supplies Plus are featuring a Pet of the Month in this newspaper. Any pets living at On Top of the World are eligible. To enter your pet, email one clear, color photo to bootss@tampabay.rr.com and tell us what makes your pet special. If you don't have email capabilities, drop off your photo and information to the newsroom. You must include pet's name, owner's name, building and age. Only one pet per household can win each year. The winner will receive (1) 8x10, (2) 5x7 and (4) 4x6 photos from Walgreens on the corner of Belcher and Sunset Point roads. You will also receive a \$10 gift card from Pet Supplies Plus on McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater. If you are the winner this month, bring the newspaper and your original color print to Walgreens to receive your prize, and stop by the newsroom to pick up your gift card. Each monthly winner becomes eligible for Pet of the Year honors in January. We are currently running low on entrees, so if you've never entered your pet in the contest, now is the time to do so! Good luck!

Who will be crowned OTOW's 2013 Pet of the Year?

Your votes will decide!

Online polls will be open Jan. 10-12.

Vote as many times as you want for your favorite Pet of the Month from 2013.

Find a link to the voting area by visiting ontopoftheworldnews.com.



**For pictures of all of this year's candidates,
see page 48 in this newspaper.**



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A little sleuthing can uncover anyone's past

By Anne Watkins

Fran Fairfield told us about memories of a time before there was an On Top of the World.

She said she used to come to this area when she was just a girl, and she remembered, especially, a remarkable woman, whom she visited with her family.

The woman's name was D. Dort Smith, and Fran has spent the last month scouring the area's archives to try to find something more about her, with little success.

Fran did, however, remember where the woman lived, and it was just west of here, down Sunset Point Road, near the present Pinellas Trail.



Family History

The Trail was a railroad line then, where cars full of fragrant fruit passed by the Smith property.

D. Dort had five acres, where she had her own grove with enormous or-

anges, as large as seven pounds, Fran recalls.

In the wild, snake-infested part of the property, there were rumored to be Tocoboga Indian mounds.

Fran's husband, Hal, while doing his own sleuthing, stopped at the gun shop at Sunset Point and Douglas just before the Trail, where people confirmed Fran's story by noting the road is very narrow at that particular place, having never been widened, due to the supposed presence of Indian mounds.

What was amazing to Fran, as a child, were the stories D. Dort told about being born in California in the 1880s and having to hide in storm cellars during Indian raids.

In her 20s, the woman rode horseback eastward across the plains, stopping at the camps of now subdued Indians and making marvelous sketches of them.

She eventually married, and ended up in Florida, where, in the 1940s, she began an Osceola Festival to honor the famous Seminole leader.

Today Osceola Festivals are held all over the State of Florida.

Fran's family got word that D. Dort Smith died in 1957, a forgotten pioneer, except for the memories of a child.

Our next meeting will be Jan. 13, 2014 in the East Activity Center Computer Room from 1-3 p.m.

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- Roy White

Water Restoration

- Paul Davis
- Service Masters
- Avanta Clean

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

Interior Painting

- Paint Services
- Midway Services
- KAS Construction

Electricians

- Tardiff Electric
- Live Wire Electric

Dryer Vent Cleaning

- Dryer Vent Wizard

Junk Removal

- Joe's Junk Removal
- Got Junk?

Concrete Patios

- Birges Concrete
- Paul's Masonry

Cabinets & Interior Renovations

- KAS Construction

This list could change monthly.



Philosophy Club

Express your views

By Bob Reis

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

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

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

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

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ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

2014 starts with music and dancing

My wife Betty and I would like to wish everyone at On Top of the World a very Happy New Year.

I am excited about being your chairman for 2014 and will do my very best to serve our community.

I have a great line-up of shows and dances for your entertainment. We start the year off with The Marlins - four brothers who are great singers and very talented musicians, who play more than 20 musical instruments. This is on Jan. 9.

Following that, we have a Saturday dance featuring The Satellites, Florida's premier oldies band, who will get you up dancing to their great music. This is on Jan. 11.

On Sunday, Jan. 12, for Sunday in the Park, we have "Pal Joey" Olivo, who performs his renditions of Old Blue Eyes himself.

On Thursday, Jan. 23, we will bring back, by popular demand, Sounds of Soul. This explosive group performs high energy hits of Motown with fantastic vocals.

And for our Saturday dance, we

**Tony
Baker**



Chairperson

have Rebound, who are great crowd pleasers performing hits from the '50s and up.

On Sunday, Jan. 5 at 2 p.m., we have our volunteers meeting. All present volunteers are requested to attend. Anyone who wishes to become a volunteer should also attend. The Entertainment Committee really appreciates all our volunteers. They deserve a good pat on the back for their efforts this past year.

So come to the East Activity Center on Mondays and Thursdays between 8:30-10:30 a.m. to purchase tickets for the above events.



Pictured above is incoming chair Tony Baker, and his wife, Betty. At right is past chairman Rich Hayes, 2013 chair Hazel Kelly and 2014 chair Tony Baker during baton passing ceremonies last year. This time Hazel will pass the baton to Tony.



ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



2014 ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE – TONY BAKER, CHAIR

JANUARY 2014

For information call (727) 474-2999

<p>SUN 5</p>		<p>Special <u>Entertainment Committee</u> Mtg – 2pm <i>All volunteers are requested to attend</i></p>
<p>THUR 9</p>	<p>Thursday Night Concert Series - 7:30pm - \$15 The Marlins <i>A brotherly musical event with over 20 instruments</i></p>	
<p>SAT 11</p>		<p>Saturday Night Dance - 8pm - \$10 at the door The Satellites <i>Florida's premier oldies band</i></p>
<p>SUN 12</p>	<p>Sunday-In-The-Park - 2pm - Free "Pal Joey" Olivo <i>Performs his renditions of Sinatra</i></p>	
<p>THUR 23</p>		<p>Thursday Night Concert Series - 7:30pm - \$15 Sounds of Soul <i>High energy hits of Motown with superior vocals</i></p>
<p>SAT 25</p>	<p>Saturday Night Dance - 8pm - \$10 at the door Rebound <i>Crowd pleaser performing 50's and up</i></p>	

PREVIEW OF FEBRUARY EVENTS

- February 6 - Jimmy Travis - Concert
- February 8 - The Suncoast Band - Dance
- February 9 - Jerry Chase - Sunday-In-The-Park
- February 20 - Vinnie Talarico - Concert
- February 22 - The New Travelers - Dance
- February 28 - Sonny LaRosa – Cabaret

Tickets On Sale Monday & Thursday At The EAC – 8:30 to 10:30



League membership grows and communication to golfers improves

The membership of the Thursday Golf League continues to increase.

The additional participation comes with the usual growing pains, and in order to make sure weekly play runs smoothly, we have initiated a couple of changes.

Providing timely information is a necessity, and with the help of the On Top of the World Men's Golf Association, we will now be able to post league schedules and results. The Men's Golf association has graciously provided us with space on the bulletin boards located near the first tee. We are most thankful for their kindness.

Our members can now view current standings at their convenience.

A second change will be the weekly sign in. We are now asking all golfers to sign in by 10:30 a.m. This small change will assure timely starts and less confusion during special events.

Last month saw a lot of very com-

Thursday Golf

petitive play and here are the results:

The week three winner was Vic Ruggiero, second place was Clyde Hershberger and third place was Don Baker. Low Gross went to Clyde Hershberger. Vic Ruggiero, Clyde Hershberger, Barry Levene and Gary Ordway all had one skin each.

Week four saw Paul Farrell take first place honors. Pete Dominguez was second followed by Dick Kronawetter in third. Low gross winner was Paul Meyers. Don Baker, Dick Kronawetter, Don Leamy and Paul Farrell all had one skin each.

Bill Gambacurta took first place in week five. Dennis Trauffer was second and Mike LaViolette placed third. Clyde Hershberger took low gross honors. Bruce MacPherson collected

two skins. Paul Meyers, Dick Kronawetter, Bill Gambacurta and John Maloof all had one skin each.

In a replay of the previous season's four-person scramble, nine teams vied for this year's scramble title. The winning score was 11-under par posted by the team of Don Hunter, Gilda Gambacurta, John Maloof and Bob Maynard.

Six teams posted a score of 9-under and several tiebreakers were used to determine the next three places.

The team of Dick Kronawetter, Roger Guyton, Bill Gambacurta and Gary Ordway placed second. The team of Paul Meyers, Patti Cook, Gary Sandine and Jim Stiffler placed third. The team of Duane Hinrichs, Don Leamy, Ron Parham and Dennis Trauffer placed fourth.

Our next special event will be a two-person alternate shot tournament on Jan. 3.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Membership fees now due for 2014

By Pete Milner

Another year of great golf has begun.

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, our election of officers was held and a new slate of officers will take charge of our association on Jan. 1, 2014.

Elected officers are President Les Whynot, Vice President Marcus Schell, Treasurer Russ Caughey, Secretary Pete Milner, Trustee Jay Schwalie, Trustee Ken Nield and Trustee Jim O'Neil.

The board would like to thank Frank Giarrizzi, who is going off the

Men's Golf

board after 15 years of service to the association. Thanks Frank for a job well done.

A reminder to all of our members that 2014 annual dues will be due before you can sign up for golf in 2014. There was no golf on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, so if you come to sign up for golf on Jan. 8, bring \$31 with you - \$30 for your 2014 dues and \$1 to play as a walk-on.

If you sign up to play golf as a rider and then find out, for whatever reason, you can't make it to play, you must come to the golf shack and remit \$6.50 for your rider to pay for his golf cart. If we can get a rider to take your place, you will have your \$6.50 returned.

There is, generally, one board member in the shack at 6:30 a.m. on men's golf day.

If you see Golf Association Secretary Pete Milner, and you would like something special pertaining to the association included in the monthly

newspaper article, make sure you tell him before the first of the month so he can include it.

More and more of our seasonal golfers are returning for the winter months and the schedule will undoubtedly get more crowded. Soon, we will probably be going to lettering, so please pay particular attention to the scoreboard for scheduling of any kind.

The On Top of the World Golf Association board would like to wish all of our members and their families a healthy and prosperous New Year.

First meeting of new year is Jan. 21

Hope to see you at the first meeting of the new year for stamp collecting.

Stop by the West Activity Center

Sunrise Room on Tuesday, Jan. 21 starting at 1 p.m.

Bring any show-and-tell items, along with recent acquisitions, and ask

questions for us to work on together.

Meeting dates are Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 18, April 15 and May 20, 2014.



Stamp Collectors



SPORTS

OTOW resident can now look out her window each day and say, 'yup, I aced that hole'

By Pat Eastman

Elaine Stretavski's view from her back door is of the On Top of the World 18-hole golf course.

In the past, she could look out and marvel at the beautiful course, but since Dec. 6, she now looks out and sees a fond memory.

Elaine was playing with Maureen Stewart when she recorded a hole-in-one on the 15th green - right behind her condo.

The shot was Elaine's first ever hole-in-one. Maureen has witnessed three now at OTOW.

Congrats, Elaine on your first ace!

The Ladies 18-Hole Golf Association's 2014 officers have been very busy performing their duties.

The officers are President Sheila Meneilly, Vice President Elaine Stretavski, Secretary Wendy Colquhoun and Treasurer Sharon Hackenmiller.

The members thank you for all your efforts to make our league the best it can be.

At our Holiday Brunch, more than \$500 was collected for Caring and Sharing, a charitable On Top of the World organization. Thank you Jackie Woloszyn for collecting the donations.

Also donated to the charity were newborn hats crocheted by Becky West.

The brunch was organized by Marie Belliveau, Becky West and Leora



2014 officers l to r Secretary Wendy Colquhoun, President Shelia Meneilly, Vice President Elaine Stretavski, Treasurer Sharon Hackenmiller

Hamm. Thank you ladies for a well organized and delicious brunch enjoyed by all who attended.

There have been quite a few Tuesday highlights in the past few weeks.

One Tuesday, Terry Kuplen had nine straight fours on her first nine holes. Valerie Varnell had five birdies in 18 holes. Pat Eastman shot an even-par 65, which happens to be her age.

Joyce Monahan had her lowest round ever, ending with a 62 net. Brenda McLeod had her first birdie with a nice three on 18. Brenda is a new member who I'm sure will be getting many more Tuesday birdies.

Arlene Hanson shot her first round in the 80s and just missed a four on 12 by two inches. After a putting tip, Linda Rice has been on a winning streak. April Glenn had a record score

on hole three.

Upcoming events

Jan. 21 - Fun scramble and rules seminar.

Feb. 3 - Board meeting 9 a.m. EAC.

Feb. 4 - Jack and Jill Tournament -- rain date Feb. 11.

Feb. 5 - General meeting 9:30 a.m., WAC.

18-hole Ladies Golf

Recent Tournament Winners

November

12: Flight A-Pat Eastman, Sharon Hackenmiller. Flight B-April Glenn, Diane Gervais, Linda Rice. Flight C -Kay Satterlee, Nanette Rudolph. Flight D-Marie Herbet, Elaine Stretavski, Joyce Monahan.

19: Flight A-Pat Eastman, Sharon Hackenmiller. Flight B-Diane Gervais, Linda Rice. Flight C-Kay Satterlee, Nanette Rudolph, Pat Daiziel, Pauline Jones. Flight D-Marie Herbet, Elaine Ellis.

December

3: Flight A-Pat Eastman, Donia Stradler. Flight B-Katie Quelch, Gwen Lemke, Margaret Hachey, Linda Rice. Flight C-Fran Zaloski, Cindy Schell. Flight D-Arlene Hanson, Maria Im,

Jack & Jill Golf Tournament February 4



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

With the golf season in full swing, the OTOW Ladies 18-Hole Golf League is now undertaking the planning and preparation for their annual Jack and Jill Golf Tournament which will be held on February 4 (Rain Date—February 11). A large turnout is expected for this popular event, which is organized each year for the fun and enjoyment of the OTOW golfing community. Registration forms are available to 18 Hole Ladies Golf League Members only.

Registration dates have been set for 2 Tuesdays and 1 Wednesday in January as follows:

- Tuesday, January 21st
- Tuesday, January 28th and Wednesday, January 29th
- between the hours of 7:00 – 9:15 a.m. at the green house (golf course)
- Registration form can be picked up at the Green House on Tuesday, January 14th.

Last day for registration is January 29th, if space is still available.

A waiting list will be created after the tournament is full.

The registration fee is **\$20 per couple**, and it entitles each Jack and Jill to 18 holes of golf, a lunch with beverage of choice, and prizes for the top finishing couples in each of four flights. **We are encouraging those who wish to play to sign-up early!** In past years, couples who were interested in playing and waited until the last minute to register found themselves placed on the waiting list. We have openings for only 72 couples because we want the participants to enjoy the day with play moving along at a good pace.

Members of the Ladies 18 Hole League find **your** Jack, form your partnership, register and come out and join us on February 4th!



OTOW Golf Tournament 8:30 am - April 1

All OTOW golf league members welcome.

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

We are planning a fun day. You can arrange your own team.

Sign-up sheets will be available beginning in February. There will be a luncheon after the tournament with raffles and prizes. Lunch tickets are \$7 and you may bring a guest.

This tournament benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. For more information, call Linda Rice at 669-7853.

SPORTS

Snowbirds get a chance to appreciate new courts by seeing video of this summer's repair work

By Bob Laplante

A busy fall, and an even busier winter, is anticipated for On Top of the World Lawn Bowls members.

A general meeting was recently held with minutes posted on the club's bulletin board. Members approved the calendar for the year and all positions were reported as being filled.

A video depicting this past summer's repairs to the greens was shown.

The magnitude of the repairs was exemplified by the picture of 32 bags of surface replacement resting on the side of the courts, each weighing 2,800 pounds. That makes a total of 81,600 pounds of new surface.

The first tournament of the year was won by the team of Clarence Poirier, Rick Carr and Mack Rutherford. Thanks to Hal Jacobsen and Fidel Turbide for coordinating the play and BBQ.

A Thanksgiving Turkey Bowl game was played with the team of Brian Bedard, Sandy Wall and Wally Colquhoun taking first place. The coordinator was Wendy Colquhoun, who initiated this successful new event.

A Holiday Bowl was won by Brian

Lawn Bowling

Bedard, Norm Chandler and Charlie McKeague. Thanks to coordinators Hal Jacobsen and Denise Dion for organizing the play and food.

The club's Singles Championship had Ron Jones earning his name on the trophy with Sandy Wall coming in second and Paul Juneau placing third. Bob Laplante coordinated the tournament.

Training of new players is underway under the coordination of Margo Smith. People interested in learning may contact her by leaving your name and phone number at the Lawn Bowl courts.

January will see the hosting of a New Year's levy on Jan. 1, the Mixed Pairs tournament on Jan. 9 and 10, the Robbie Burns tournament on Jan. 16 and the Australian Pairs tournament on Jan. 23 and 24. A Fun Tournament and BBQ will close off the month on January 30.

Regular bowling is suspended on those days so members are encouraged to sign up to play in these events.



Pictured in the middle is the On Top of the World 2013 Lawn Bowls Club Singles Championship, Ron Jones. At left is second place, Sandy Wall, and at right is third place, Paul Juneau.

Why are players at times all dressed in white?

A tradition in OTOW lawn bowls is that all tournaments are played wearing "whites." Dress for social games is Florida casual and special theme

games encourage compliance with the theme. Red and green for Christmas, red for valentine's day, and green for St. Patrick's day are examples.

The closing fun day event is anything goes!

Annual OTOW tennis tournament is around the corner, so become a member and play today

By Joe Spahalski

Join the On Top of the World tennis club in January and get a \$100 coupon for free play at the East Side tennis courts.

Of course, play is free anyway, so the only thing the coupon is good for is a picture frame.

Now that I have your attention, let's move on!

Drum roll please!

Drum roll again!

The OTOW tennis club is proud to announce Pauline Jones has been named the lucky winner of a Tampa Bay Rays afghan, crocheted by Ann

Tennis

Haskel. Boy, was Pauline happy and surprised with the treasure she received.

It was like an early Christmas gift.

Speaking of Christmas, did you still get that excited feeling when you woke up on Christmas day.

I am getting those excited feelings right now, but it has nothing to do with Christmas. Soon it will be time for the tennis clubs' annual tennis tournament.

ment.

The rules on most of the events (singles, men's and women's doubles) have been changed to make this tournament the most competitive ever.

You need to check out the bulletin board by the courts for details.

A special new event, never been used before, will be initiated. This is called team tennis. Play will consist of three-person teams that will combine skill, strategy and point accumulation in order to win.

Time to sign up will be soon. Keep checking the bulletin board for all the rules.

Sign up for as many events as you desire. You must be a member of the tennis club to compete. New members are welcome. Membership enrollment forms are available at the bulletin board.

The election of officers was held in November. The winners were Joe Spahalski, president; Harry Morrison, vice president, Walter Balderson, treasurer, and Ann Haskell, secretary.

A welcome back picnic was held near the tennis courts. Mixed doubles was the event of the day. It was a great opportunity to play tennis with many different members.

Bingo Returns In January - Volunteers Needed



Gene Baranowski collects two wins in December



Men's Billiards

Gene Baranowski had a successful month in the Men's Billiards League.

On Dec. 2, Gene started out with a B Flight victory in the eight-ball league. Charles McKague was second and John Shearer was third.

Three days later, Gene teamed with Bill Robertson to win the Scotch Doubles Tournament that night.

The team of Nick Sapienza and Sharon Balling was second, while the team of Terry Wittman and Bob Ellis was third.

Back in the eight-ball league, Andy Anderson was victorious in A Flight on Nov. 18 with Denny Balderson placing second and Joe Doire placing



B Flight: John Shearer (third place), Charlie McKague (second place), Gene Baranowski (first place)
A Flight: Allen Pier (first place), Jim Anzalone (second place), Nick Sapienza (third place).

third.

In B Flight, Joe Ventimiglia picked up the win, and Ed Ramirez, Nick Sapienza and Barb Sundberg all tied for second.

On Nov. 25, Tony Baker claimed the A Flight crown. Ian Hunter was runner-up and Marc Schell was third.

In B Flight, Andy Suhar was the winner, and Ed Ramirez, Terry Witt-

man and Barb Sundberg tied for second.

On Dec. 2, the A Flight title went to Allen Pier, followed by Jim Anzalone and Nick Sapienza.

In nine-ball tournament play, on Nov. 19, Ron Blaettner captured first place with Hugo Orantes claiming second.

At the Nov. 26 tournament, after a playoff game, Joe Ventimiglia edged

out Ron Blaettner for first place.

On Dec. 3, Frank English took first place with Ian Hunter claiming second place after another playoff.

Nine-ball takes place at 1 p.m., Tuesdays, in the West Activity Center Billiard Room. Bring your recreation card, get in on the action and have some fun using the round robin format.

Women have been making billiards history since the 1890s - now it's your turn to shine

By Penny Page

Did your mother or grandmother play pool?

Don't be so quick to laugh as images of them in a smokey pool room dance through your head.

Like you, some people think that women in the pool room is a fairly recent occurrence....not so!

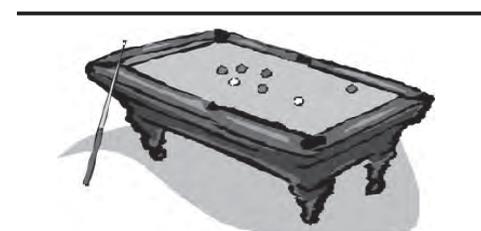
Women have been playing pool since the game became popular in the 15th century.

I did a little research and here are a few women who caught my eye.

Since the 1890s, there has always been at least one prominent woman professional on the scene.

- May Kaarlus, a spectacular turn-of-the-century trick-shot artist.

- Ruth McGinnis, started playing pool at age 7. She toured with Willie Mosconi in the 1930s and could best most men.



Quiet 'T Billiards

- Dorothy Wise, winner of the first five U.S. Open tournaments for women. She was the first woman to be made a member of the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame.

- And my favorite, Jean Balukas, who has dominated women's professional pool during the 1970s and 1980s. A child prodigy, who first earned fame when she was 6 years old by playing in an event at Grand Central Station. She rebelled against the dress code for women and many people think of her

as the equivalent of Billie Jean King.

Jean was named Billiard Congress of America Player of the Year five times and was the youngest person given entry in the BCA Hall of Fame.

As we begin the new year with resolutions, why not consider joining the women's pool league on Wednesday nights?

We are a group of women determined to master this sport and are fortunate to have some of the best coaches to help us be successful.

It doesn't matter whether you are a novice or a pro. You will have fun, meet some terrific women from our community, and most of all, you will discover a new way to add to your pleasure of life!

If you would like to know more about our league, you can contact our president, Becky Balderson, 727-674-1733, becky@beckybalderson.com.



Jean Balukas using a bridge in 1966. Photo by John Bottega, courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs.



Due to players shortage, three teams played one game

Adaptability is crucial for the On Top of the World softball league. So when only 13 players appeared one day in November, we divided into three four-player teams, one official pitcher and rotated batting, infield and outfield teams.

OTOW scored 11 runs, Cody's Roadhouse scored 10 runs and Scott's Pharmacy scored five runs.

Sparkling defense dominated the game. For OTOW, Bob Fields raced to the right field line to catch a sinking fly ball at his knees. Carmelo Costa made a fine shoestring catch of a knuckling line drive to left. Gary Burgett had a home run among his eight hits for the winners.

For Scott's, Sam Macaluso made several fine catches in the outfield. Paul Fice hit a grand slam in the last inning, suggesting that Scott's simply ran out of innings. Their hitters were victimized by great defense and many hard-hit "at-em" balls.

For Cody's, Bill Bennett made a spectacular over the shoulder running catch in center field, then doubled the runner off first. Bill Arkins assaulted the pitcher with nine hits, including four doubles.

Softball

Scott's Pharmacy 16, OTOW 15

Hugh Quirk doubled in a ninth inning-run to cap a five-run rally putting OTOW up by two runs, but Bill Arkins drove in Scott's winning run in the bottom of the inning.

Gary Burgett's outstanding catch in deep center field proved critical as it prevented two OTOW runners from scoring.

OTOW 13, Cody's 13

The story of the game seemed to be OTOW building a five-run lead and Cody's creeping back.

But Cody's never caught up.

In the bottom of the ninth inning, Bill Arkins' fifth hit put two runners on with two outs for Bob Rittner, who tripled to drive in Cody's tying runs for the exhilarating tie.

OTOW was paced by Bob Fields with five hits. Allan Bendert and Joe Maley contributed stellar outfield play. Lenny Segall homered.

OTOW 16, Cody's 15

Cody's parlayed a triple and six singles into five, ninth inning-runs, but Hugh Quirk's single, Lenny Se-

gall's double and Allan Bendert's single broke the tie in the bottom of the inning.

Trevor Dixon's brilliant shoestring catch ended a Cody's scoring chance.

OTOW 6, Dunedin Elks 3

Alert baserunning, timely hits and airtight defense defined this rematch.

With two outs in the bottom of the first, Bob Rittner singled. Lenny Segall also singled, but a bobbled relay allowed Bob to advance to third from where he scored on Paul Fice's single.

In the third inning, Bill Bennett singled and moved to second on a fielder's choice. On Henry Buyny's hard single into right field, Bill rounded third base, recognized slow reactions in the Elks' defense, and streaked home, while Henry raced to second from where he scored on Greg Zimmer's single.

OTOW's last two runs scored in the sixth inning, again due to opportunistic baserunning by Chris Ferrugia and Tony Caputo.

The Elks' powerful hitters were frustrated by shortstop Lenny Segall and middle infielder Paul Fice, who vacuumed up one hard hit grounder after another. Greg Zimmer tracked down numerous fly balls down the left

field line, making tough plays look like easy outs.

OTOW, 17, Dimmitt 16

Howard Huff's screaming line drive single drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning to overcome Bob Stoddard's game-tying grand slam in the top of the inning.

The league's errorless streak almost ended when several fly balls eluded outfielders, but the league ruled that freakish wind gusts, not human error, caused the problems.

Dimmitt 13, Cody's 12

Despite heroic defensive play by Cody's Greg Zimmer and Trevor Dixon, Dimmitt prevailed.

Greg angled back and leapt for one brilliant, overhead catch, then somersaulted to the ground and held on.

Trevor made a marvelous back-handed catch of a sinking line drive and later judged a short fly perfectly, only to be barreled into by the hustling second baseman, yet he too held on.

But in the bottom of the ninth, Bill Arkins' two-run double scored Bob Howell and Pat Kennedy to secure the win for Dimmitt.

Three-game winners

By Marge Sivek

Happy New Year to all of our residents at On Top of the World from the Shuffleboard Club.

We have to remember to write 2014 on all our correspondence.

The Shuffleboard Club is planning a breakfast at the Farmer Boy Restaurant in January.

The following people won three games during November.

Nov. 4: Kasy Linkenwich, Larry Henderson, Virginia Butler, Ed Stengel, Debbie Welker, Jean Rogers.

Nov. 7: Bob Rittner, Ray Scott, Ray Willis, Ed Stengel.

Nov. 11: Inez Linkenwich, Ed Stengel, Virginia Butler.

Nov. 14: Trudy Willis, Bob Rittner, Ed Stengel, Larry Henderson.

Nov. 18: Kasy Linkenwich, Bob Rittner, Ed Stengel.

Nov. 21: Marge Sivek, Charlie McKague, Larry Henderson, Jose Pereira.

Nov. 25: Jose Pereira, Larry Henderson, Ed Stengel.

Nov. 28: Inez Linkenwich, Bob Rittner, Virginia Butler.

Nov. 31: Kasy Linkenwich, Bob Rittner, Ray Willis.



Shuffleboard

NOW
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Wii
Bowling
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Sundays, 2 p.m., EAC Large Card Room



Start of new year is a time to reflect

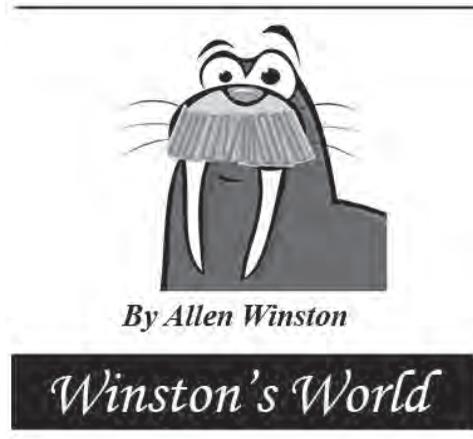
We enjoy looking back on the past. We count our blessings and give thanks for a lifetime of wonderful memories, a lifetime of holding onto the things we love, the things we are, the things we never want to lose.

Today we celebrate the future, with all its promise.

We look forward to 2014 bringing us a year of happiness, good health, laughter, joy, the winning lottery numbers, peace, a miracle or two, and the creation of a whole new bunch of wonderful memories. Still, how can we ever forget...

Gregory Peck, Charlie Chaplin, Janet Leigh, Marlon Brando, Bea Arthur, Ricardo Montalban, Michael Jackson, Paul Newman, George Burns, Jack Benny, Irving Berlin, Leonard Bernstein, the Three Stooges, Albert Einstein, Aaron Spelling, Mel Allen, Rod Serling, Benny Goodman, Eddie Cantor, Danny Kaye, Milton Berle.

Howard Cosell, Red Buttons, Mel Blanc, Walter Winchell, Andy Hardy, Louella Parsons, Sid Caesar, Alan King, Gilda Radner, Fred Astaire, Sammy Davis, Jr., John Steinbeck, Abigail Van Buren, Artie Shaw, Marilyn Monroe, Ethel Merman, Norma Shearer, Tony Curtis, Elizabeth Taylor, Peter Lorre,



Ed Wynn.

Edward G. Robinson, Judy Holliday, Dinah Shore, Zero Mostel, John Garfield, Buddy Hackett, Michael Landon, Jonathon Winters, Roger Ebert, Dick Clark, Whitney Houston, Andy Rooney, Jack Klugman, Charles Foster Kane, Larry Hagman, Esther Williams, Jean Stapleton.

Annette Funicello, Phyllis Diller, Archie Bunker, Jane Russell, Neil Armstrong, Betty Ford, Dennis Hopper, Harriet Tubman, Anne Frank, Winston Churchill, Rosemary Clooney, Erma Bombeck, Jackie Gleason, Walt Disney, Mae West, Abbott & Costello, the Marx Brothers, Bob Hope, Red Skelton, Laurel & Hardy.

George Carlin, Doris Day, Ozzie

& Harriet, Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Perry Como, Nat King Cole, Orson Welles, Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda, Cary Grant, Kathryn Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Fred MacMurray, Austin Powers, Burt Lancaster, Rin Tin Tin, Ava Gardner, Charles Laughton, Myrna Loy, James Cagney, Alec Guinness, Rosalind Russell.

Greta Garbo, Hedy Lamarr, Carole Lombard, Clark Gable, Ginger Rogers, Vivien Leigh, Rita Hayworth, Lana Turner, Jane Russell, Deborah Kerr, Stewart Granger, Ray Bolger, James Dean, Veronica Lake, John F. Kennedy, Audrey Hepburn, Grace Kelly, Natalie Wood, Farrah Fawcett, Gary Cooper, Alfred Hitchcock, John Lennon, Joe DiMaggio, John Wayne.

Gene Kelly, Bette Davis, Claudette Colbert, Bing Crosby, Yul Brynner, Charlton Heston, Lucille Ball, Ted Williams, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Ronald Reagan, Ernest Hemingway, Margaret Sanger, Eleanor Roosevelt, Norman Rockwell, Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss), Arthur Miller, Joan Crawford, Leo Durocher.

The Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie Robinson, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Norman Bates, Harry Houdini, Louis Armstrong, Joe Louis, Secretar-

iat, Howard Hughes, Babe Ruth, Wilt Chamberlain, Mickey Mantle, Ben Hogan, Jack Lemmon, Susan Hayward, William Holden, Burt Lancaster, Steve McQueen, Buster Keaton, Olivia de Havilland, Natalie Wood, Cole Porter, Boris Karloff, Agatha Christie.

Redd Foxx, Johnny Carson, Andy Griffith, Ray Charles, Anthony Quinn, Scarlet O'Hara, Judy Holliday, Dean Martin, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Eddie Fisher, Bruce Lee, Coco Chanel, Johnny Cash, Jesse Owens, Rocky Marciano, Michael Crichton, Vince Lombardi, Lassie, Peter Sellers, William Powell, Jean Arthur, Bridget Jones, Charles Bronson, Bobby Darin, Don Ho, Duke Ellington, Marlene Dietrich, Errol Flynn.

They may be gone but never forgotten. Yesterday is but today's memory, and tomorrow is today's dream.

The earth is said to be about 4.5 billion years old. Yet, we celebrate the birth of every New Year as if it is a novel occurrence.

As the earth nonchalantly continues to spin around the sun, let us remind ourselves that life on this planet is one of those miracles that we can never fully comprehend.

Happy New Year, everyone.

Healthy exercise and eating tips for 2014

Diet tips for the new year

I had a diet shake for breakfast, another for lunch, and for my workout I chewed a bag of Tootsie Rolls.

I was going to wake up early to go jogging, but my toes voted against me 10 to 1.

I'm trying to fit 30 minutes of exercise into my schedule. Today I took 120, 15-second walks.

My doctor told me to start my exercise programs slowly. Today I drove slowly past a store that sells sweat pants.

What fits your busy schedule? Exercise one hour a day or dead 24 hours a day?

Dieting makes me feel weak and too tired to exercise, but snacking gives me enough guilt to fuel a workout.

I told the waiter I was going to order a broiled, skinless, chicken breast,



but to bring me lasagna and garlic bread by mistake.

For a healthy alternative, I asked the waiter to wrap a cheeseburger, French fries and fruit pie in a low-fat tortilla to go.

The healthiest part of the donut is the hole, but, unfortunately, you have to eat the rest of the donut to get there.

Potato chips aren't rubbery and blubbery like fat. They're crispy and

crunchy like lettuce which proves they are a diet food.

My exercise routine lasts an hour and a half – 15 minutes cardio and 75 minutes talking myself into it.

Instead of calling the toilet a john, I call it the "jim." That was, I can say I go to the "jim" twice a day.

I can't drink alcohol on my low carb diet, so I just have a couple shots of gravy with a twist of bacon.

To melt your waistline, eat your pizza very very hot.

Eat a pint of ice cream to reduce your cravings for sweets.

Chewing burns more calories than not chewing.

The best way to lose weight is to have your stomach stapled over your upper lip.

With health tips like these, you are going to be so thin in 2014.

Spanish, French classes here

A new, five-week, learning Spanish class and a new, five-week learning French class will take place starting in January.

A starters Spanish class will take place starting Jan. 7 from 10-10:50 a.m. and an intermediate class will take place 11-11:50 a.m. Both classes will take place in the Yellow Room.

A starters French class will take place starting Friday, Jan. 3 from 9-9:50 a.m. and an intermediate French class 10-10:50 a.m.

The language classes have a \$40 fee due at the first class. No refunds will be offered after the second class.

The instructor is Dolores Rollins, who is a certified Spanish/French Teacher.

--

Anglais pour les Francophones. Commencant 1/3/2104 a 11-11:50 heures dans la chambre jaune pres de la bibliotheque, \$40 pour 5 semaines. Pas de restitution apres la deuxieme semaine.

Everything advertised on this page is free!



BULLETIN BOARD

Polar Bears

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

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

Slimnastics

What is slimnastics?

Walking, stretching and getting your blood flowing.

We do not do floor exercises.

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

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

Morning exercises

Make those New Year's Resolutions count by joining us at 8 a.m. in the East Activity Center lower gym room.

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

Bring a towel or mat because we do floor exercises. Each day we work different muscle groups. Also bring your hand weights to our strength training/weight lifting classes on Wednesday and Friday mornings while we work on improving muscle tone. We have incorporated music to our daily cardio workout.

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.

Bonesavers

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

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

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

Bridge and pinochle lessons

We have approximately five different Pinochle groups in existence at On Top of the World.

We have just as many Bridge-playing groups here, too. You can check this newspaper or the hallway listings to see the variety that are offered.

If you want to learn how to play Pinochle or Bridge, or simply brush up your game, you might consider taking lessons.

Pinochle lessons will be offered 3:30-4:30 p.m., Tues-

days and Thursdays, in the East Activity Center Large Card Room.

Lessons will cover single deck, double deck, cut-throat (3-handed), fives and sixes.

Contract Bridge lessons will be offered 3:30-4:30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the East Activity Center Small Card Room.

No preregistration is necessary for either class. Just show up or you can call 754-6749 for more information.



Pictured above are burlesque dancers Joanne Merick, Phyllis Brooks, Donna Ryan, Sherry Ivey, Sue Carlson and Betty Baker.

February show will contain music from some of your most memorable movies

By Marvin Flam

“Fifty Shades - The Musical Mystery” presents 100 years of movie music, such as “Welcome to Burlesque” and other memorable ones.

The final rehearsals for the Jesters 35th annual musical variety show are moving forward with excitement, enthusiasm and dedication by all the Jesters, who are singing, dancing, telling jokes or are behind the scenes.

Showtime performances are Friday and Saturday, Feb. 14 and 15, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m.

It’s amazing all the great music that came from movies which are still in our lives today.

The audience will recognize the music in our show and enjoy the terrific performances. And the storyline woven through this show is a murder mystery.

Who done it?

The lead detective, Lt. Charlotte Chan, (Pat Sprouse) and The First Sargeant, (Carol Muntzenberger), with help from several famous movie detectives, will solve this mystery.

About 50 Jesters members will



be a part of the cast. The remaining members will be busy writing and directing, coordinating the sound, lighting the stage and auditorium, helping design and make the costumes, help with the makeup and special effects, prepare and print the program, sell and take tickets, and usher and welcome the audience for the show.

General admission tickets are \$5 and are available in the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the Jesters table.

Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the West Activity Center Sunrise Room for the next Jesters’ general meeting. All are welcome and we provide coffee and refreshments.



Joanne Merick, Donna Ryan, Phyllis Brooks, Sue Carlson and Betty Baker will entertain you during the February show.

Coming in February
OTOW Theater Season Preview

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2013 OTOW Pet of the Year candidates

Polls open Jan 10-12. Go to ontopoftheworldnews.com to vote!

(vote as many times as you want)



Muriel



Sugar 'n Spice



Tasha



Bandit



Bridget



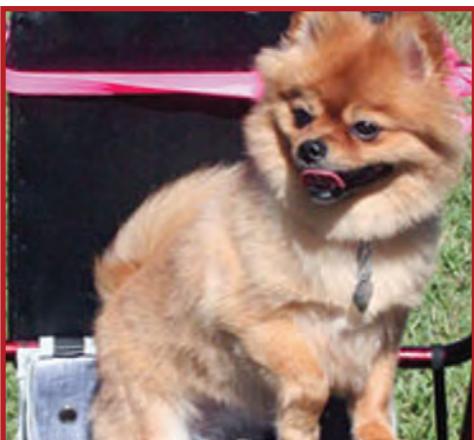
Bud Bully



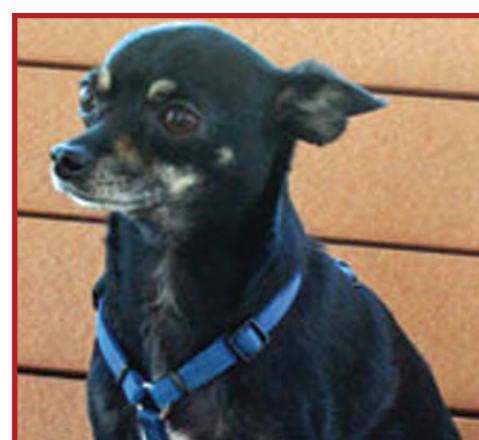
Frankie



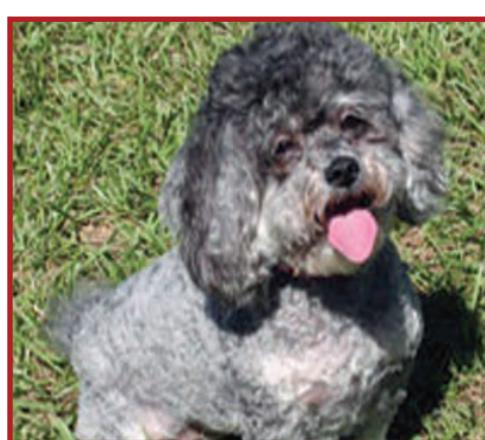
Dyna



Peaches



Rocky



Miss Tara



TJ



History and culture rediscovered on Gulf Coast tour

By Pat Zorland

On Dec. 1, 2013 we left on our adventure to New Orleans, better known as the “Big Easy.”

It may have been a bit early in the morning when we left, but everyone (all 34 of us) were all bright-eyed, bushy-tailed and ready to hit the road.

Within the first hour or two everyone knew one another and we were on our way to the first rest stop and then on to lunch.

Audrey Jones, our fearless leader, and her book full of information, along with our bus driver who (lucky for us) had driven this route many times were able to locate a restaurant that could accommodate a large group for lunch on a busy Sunday.

Lunch was in Biloxi, then on to our overnight accommodations and



dinner. The next day we were in New Orleans and checked into our hotel for the next four days. There was so much to do, see and learn about the history and culture of New Orleans (see photo below).

There were sightseeing trips, lunches and dinners in local restaurants every day and a big dinner/dance in nearby Metairie, La.

After leaving the Big Easy for home we stopped in Mobile, Ala., for



Travel Club members pose in front of the battleship USS *Alabama*, permanently anchored in Mobile Bay, Alabama, as a memorial to those who served and sacrificed during World War II. Later they toured the submarine USS *Drum*, berthed nearby.



Travel Club members enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of the French Quarter during their recent trip to New Orleans.

a tour of the battleship USS *Alabama*, lunch, and a tour of a submarine, the USS *Drum*. We were also able to look at a few vintage planes located around the base. The weather was a little chilly but we all managed to stand together for a group picture (see photo above).

Then, we were again on the road for home. Lucky for us, we were ahead of the cold weather. When we arrived home, the warm weather and sunshine greeted us with open arms.

The group could not attend the meeting on Monday, Dec. 6, but I understand all who did attend had a very nice time, along with a small Christmas party.

The Lunch Bunch will resume their once a month events (look for a get-together in January).

For 2014 we have in the planning stages a few one-day trips, of which

the first one is on Jan. 15. This will be a visit to the Tampa Bay History Center. We are looking to put more one day and overnights on the 2014 calendar.

Then in April, we will be on the road again to New York City; October will see us in San Antonio; and in November, a trip to the Biltmore Estate, in Ashville N.C.

For information on what is happening, we are at the Travel Club table located in the East Activity Center on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30–10:30 a.m.

Our monthly meetings are held the first Friday of each month. Also, we can be found on Channel 96 and on the On Top Of the World Web site called the Box Office. Stop by and say hello and catch up on what is new and exciting.

Photos by Dick Mikszenas



Happy New Year!
It's always nice to start
the new year on a clean
and fresh note!
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Our celebrity
Jordan Haller, age 12

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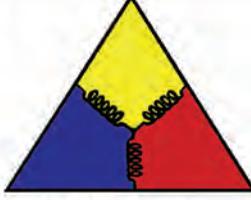
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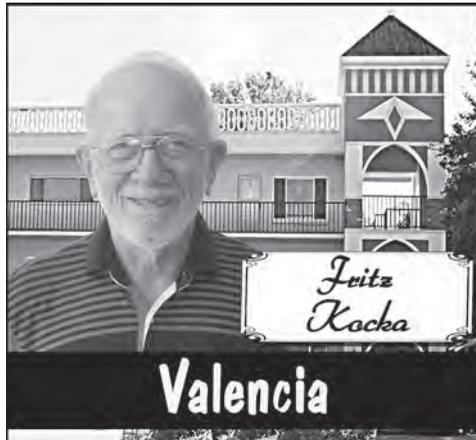
40-plus resident 'singers' attend fun holiday sing-a-long

The old man "13" was dragged off the stage by the sweet young baby "14" when the clock struck midnight on Dec. 31. Let the good times roll! Look to the future — there is still a lot of living to do.

John and Ann Casas have moved to another area in Clearwater that will make their day-to-day living much easier. They were original owners of a Valencia condo and they will be missed. Good luck to them both.

Our dinner on Dec. 5 at Johnny's Restaurant on Hwy. 590 was well-attended (see photo at far right). The food and service were excellent as usual and the dipping sauce just added another star.

On Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m., our annual Christmas sing-a-long took place in the second floor core of the Valencia. (Now I know why we have only two residents singing in the On Top of the World Chorus — but 40 people tried!)



Residents brought their favorite finger food, while the house supplied the libations, both regular and high test. A half-gallon of sake was available for sampling.

The icing on the cake was Art tickling the ivories for over two hours of Christmas music. We also thank our French Canadian visitor on the third floor for the impressive solar display.



Valencia residents enjoy a recent dinner out at Johnny's. (Photo by Valerie Martin)

Our Christmas dinner was held on Dec. 12 at 4 p.m. at Alfano's Restaurant on Clearwater-Largo Rd.

Watch the bulletin board for the

date and time of our January business meeting. You may be surprised!

Mama sez: A clean conscience is usually a sign of a bad memory.

Building holiday party enjoyed by more than 50

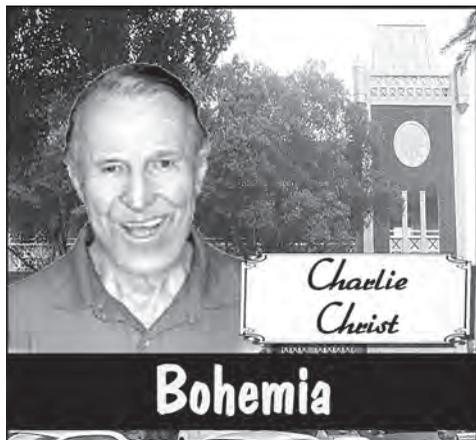
We had a great Bohemia-fest organized by Paula and Mike. It featured bratwurst with sauerkraut, German potato salad, beer and wine, and huge chocolate-macadamia cookies.

The games of horse racing, ball can toss, clown toss, toilet paper in the toilet toss, ring bottle toss, and pull the lollipop. We donated over 100 lbs. of food to the food bank and the soup kitchen.

Our Bohemian Walkers Club and I completed the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day. It was a mite chilly — but the exercise kept us warmed up.

Carol DeLisle joined Shirley Golding, Maria Denehan and her sister Lucy on a "Cruise to Nowhere." She reported that "It was like nothing I've ever done before."

Shirley said "It was four sweet and delightful days at sea with only one stop." Sounds like that one stop



was the "nowhere." No one seemed to remember it enough to mention it to me.

Many helped with our holiday décor following a morning coffee. Fran Leichhard contributed a beautiful hand-crafted skirt for the tree in our core room. We celebrated with a lighting ceremony that evening featuring wine and cheese.

Tammy Harkins had a visitor, Tommy, from Jamaica, who recommended the Half Moon Resort. She is helping him obtain materials for his church. He saw our Avocado tree and said Jamaicans love to eat them for breakfast. We pray ours will return next year so that we, once again, may eat them anytime we please.

Over 50 Bohemians celebrated the holidays together at the Clearwater Country Club. Some won baskets assembled by our Bohemian Walking Club. Winners were: Shirley Golding, doggie basket; Sue Branham, wine basket; Jean Mashal, beer basket; Mike Lane, wine basket; Jim Schelling, wine basket; Nancy Kennedy, Christmas goodies; and Louise MacKenzie, knitting basket.

Emmy Volenberg recited poetry as we ate dessert and sipped coffee. What a wonderful way to start this memorable time of the year!

Attention Dog Walkers

When picking up after your dog, do not throw plastic bags down the storm drains. This is against the law. Be sure to always clean up while walking your dog.

Help us protect residents from the 'grandparent scam'

Within the past two years, individuals featured in this newspaper were contacted by phone that a grandchild was in jail and needed bail money.

The callers had the correct names of the grandchildren, the correct towns and the correct grandparents' phone numbers. However, the phone call was a

scam to try to get the grandparents to fork out large sums of cash. Investigators believe the scammers may have read this newspaper online to gather information.

Since the first such incident, the OTOW News is requesting that building writers no longer list the names and locations of children or grandchildren in stories. All

residents should be aware that this is a common scam everywhere — not just at OTOW.

If you get a call that a family member needs money, ask questions and double-check the information. Try to check on the whereabouts of the child in question yourself. If it sounds suspicious and you think it may be a scam, call the police.



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Yoshimitsu

Pair goes to Germany for birthday

Birthdays are always fun, but Bob Anderson knows how to celebrate big! He and a friend, who is a fellow train collector, were invited to a birthday party in Langewiesen, Germany.

The party was for Helmut Konig, a steam locomotive engineer who also celebrated 40 years operating all kinds of locomotive engines in Germany.

They then spent several days in Berlin visiting hobby shops and purchasing model trains. And finally, a visit with another train collector living in Ursenbach near Heidelberg. While there, they visited several train shows where they made more purchases.

In between those visits, they did manage to appreciate the beauty and scenery of Germany while enjoying many home cooked local cuisine *und* beer!

Hope you all enjoyed the giant star and icicle lights as you headed north on World Parkway Boulevard from the Belcher entrance. Thanks to Bob Anderson, Helmut Mader, Ron Magnussen, Joe Malandro, John Schinn, Jim Sundberg and Harry Urquhart for decorating our building this holiday season.

The holidays are over and we begin another year here in Paradise. Blessings to all for a happy and healthy New Year from your friends and neighbors in the Yoshimitsu Building!

Birthday wishes this month to Maria Mader and Fran Magnussen both on Jan. 3 and Elizabeth Asselta on Jan. 12.

Building is gearing up for seasonal activities

It's busy times greeting and catching up with one another as we meet after the summer hiatus returns us once again to the warmth of On Top of the World.

Thanksgiving visitors added to the recent joyous occasion, and we now continue merrily on our celebratory jaunt of Christmas shopping. So little time to tend to the to-do list, but somehow we wend our way through as we work out details, huffing and puffing along the way. It is amazing to note how the creative exercise of the mind can accomplish results but still sap our energy!

Our condo residents are already looking forward to an activity schedule to occupy their leisure time in the New Year. Plans are underway, and we soon will be posting notices on our bulletin board to keep everyone informed. Our Christmas dinner on Dec. 11 at Kally



Royal Chateau

K's was the first event. We dined well and toasted the holiday season as we greeted and enjoyed being with one another again.

We are so happy to learn that Chuck McNaull is doing well.

Ruthe Meyers is still in high spirits over her recent trip to Las Vegas and Denver. No monetary funds from Vegas returned with her, but she is still

exulting in her experience in Denver where her nephew is chief architect in charge of renovations to the century-old Capitol building.

Ruthe donned a hard hat and viewed the city from the Capitol's dome after having hardily climbed 22 flights of 10 steps each, and she is still in awe of the splendid undertaking that is now taking place.

The eight inches of snow on leaving Denver for her return flight to Clearwater was miniscule in relation to her hard-hat experience!

Please note that when we are awaiting our mail and are looking for the signal that it has arrived, it is George Shorrock we can thank for his undertaking the daily mission of placing the flagpoles on our front lawns to inform us.

Input on news items for this column would be appreciated. Thank you.

English Tudor has a new slate of officers

As of this writing, English Tudor has had a building meeting and potluck cookout.

Our building chairman, Eloyd Baldwin, opened the meeting with information on the storage areas holding goods that belong to residents who no longer live here.

The date is yet to be determined, but a committee will be going through the storage areas to see what can be moved out. Regulations on what can be put in the garbage room were also discussed. Residents of our building must pay to have unwanted items moved out.

At an earlier meeting, Eloyd had asked for another captain and assistant as he wanted to retire. Roy Satkowski offered to help. During the year Roy talked to several people about being part of the board.

Eloyd asked for a vote on the new candidates and it was unanimous: Roy Satkowski as building captain, and Steve Jenkinson as co-captain, Ann Haskell as secretary and Kay Tenuta as treasurer.

Eloyd adjourned the meeting and Roy called the meeting to order to present Eloyd with an engraved plaque for his 20 years of service.



English Tudor

Roy told attendees the list of new events planned for the rest of the year and then adjourned the meeting.

Eloyd and his officers, Peg McDonough and Kay Bettis, got a lot done during his years here such as the interior of the core, some landscaping jobs. The building is in fine shape. They will be missed, but the new officers live here full time and will be readily available for any situation.

At the potluck cookout each attendee brought an entrée and a side dish. Grills and grill personnel were available to cook the entrees. The event was twofold. Resident Ann Milo was celebrating her 90th birthday on the



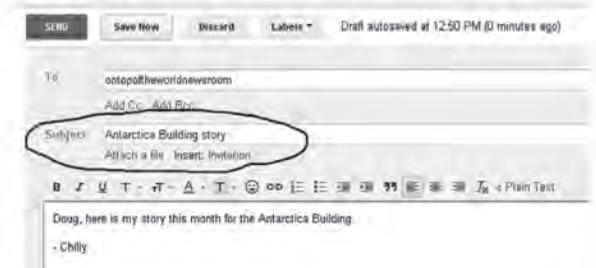
English Tudor resident Ann Milo celebrated her 90th birthday at a recent building potluck event. Her son is shown with her.

same day. Ann's son and his friend were able to attend the cookout too.

Joann Dameron ran a 50/50 raffle and gave three door prizes. The 50/50 raffle was won by Ann's son's guest who donated her winnings back to the Social Club to help offset the Christmas luncheon, which was held Dec. 8 at the Clearwater Country Club. Twelve attendees toasted the season with good wishes for the year to come.

Attention OTOW News writers ...

When submitting your stories to the newsroom by email, please put the name of your building, group or sport in the subject line of the email.



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Reporter Sally Simmonds (second from left) and other volunteers were part of a crew that helped serve the homeless recently at St. Petersburg's St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen.

Sense of holiday satisfaction comes from helping homeless

"Heaven goes by favor. If it went by merit, you would stay out and your dog would go in." — Mark Twain

Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. Let's have a great New Year! Holidays are exciting and fun if you have loved ones and family members with you on these special days, but if you don't, not to worry, there are plenty of things you can do to make it a wonderful holiday.

A group of my friends and I went down to St. Vincent de Paul Kitchens in St. Petersburg and helped get a meal ready and served it to 200 people.

I work at a certain place (which shall remain nameless), but we give free samples, and these people can well afford anything they want to eat and cook. They will push, shove and verbally tell others where to go.

On the other hand, the homeless people we served at the Kitchen had nothing, but they came to the meal orderly and thankful. There was no pushing and shoving to get to the food — more importantly, they were all grateful for the meal.



The photo above shows our crew of helpers. We hope to do this about once a month. It is very gratifying to help those who are less fortunate. The joy of helping the less fortunate brings about a wonderful feeling within yourself and your spirits soar from the feeling of it.

Cooking tip: Did you know that bread turns brown when toasted because the sugars within it caramelize with the heat? This reaction is also what gives toast its flavor. Just a little trivia.

A big OTOW welcome to new residents of Flamenco

Feliz Año Nuevo, Gott Nytt År, Ein Glückliches Neues Jahr, Bonne Année, Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku, Felice Anno Nuovo, Buon Anno! However you may say it, Happy New Year!

Flamenco building friends celebrated together with a holiday dinner at Heilman's Beachcomber restaurant. Many thanks to Anna Myers and Jim Hinthorn for the arrangements, little poinsettia plants, and ornaments made by Anna's sister.

We welcome new residents Oswaldo Gomez and Maria Hernandez. It is a pleasure to see their smiling faces here! They recently moved here from San Antonio, Texas, and chose Clearwater because a dear friend lives nearby and suggested this area as a great place to live.

Oswaldo works at Best Buy and Maria works at AmeriLife Insurance. They have jumped right into making our building attractive as they helped decorate with lights and wreaths for the holidays. Thank you both!

Do you know who in our midst was a fighter jet engine technician, owned a dress shop for many years, and also helped train the friendly dolphin Flipper? (Hint, it's a woman.) Well Jane Wigley is the multi-talented individual who accomplished all those things.

Jane, originally from the Trenton, N.J., area, went into the Marines and served during WWII as a sergeant repairing airplanes.

She later moved to the Miami area when her parents retired there. She became head of Guest Services at the Miami Seaquarium, where where



she helped with TV dolphin star "Flipper." She met many celebrities there such as Esther Williams and Fernando Lamas.

Later she relocated to the Washington, D.C. area, near where she had served in the Marines, and opened a dress shop.

Eventually Jane came back to Florida, settling in Clearwater for retirement. Jane has enjoyed long walks around the On Top of the World lake and pond where she is recognized and loved by many of the tropical birds who reside there!

Ladies take note: We will be planning a ladies luncheon at the Wildflower Cafe in southern Clearwater for sometime in late January. Watch the bulletin board for a sign-up sheet!

As we move into winter, we are thankful for the beautiful environment and climate that is our home here in Clearwater, especially as we see the weather map of the country that lately has our lovely Florida as the only complete state with above freezing temps. Take notice as you are out and about and give thanks for your surroundings!



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Building meeting stresses emergency info, storage rooms

Hello from Rila Renaissance. We have some very important information about our building that was discussed at our meeting on Saturday, Nov. 30.

At that meeting, coffee and donuts were served. About 17 people attended. The treasury report was read by Sherry Ivey and there were no corrections necessary.

Our building captain, Gerri Jaeger discussed the condition of the storage units on each floor. She is asking that we only use four feet of space, which is the rule from On Top of the World's Community Service Office. There are some residents who have not been able to store in the units due to a lack of room. If everyone reorganized their spaces, we can have room for them. Gerri appreciates everyone's cooperation in this matter.

Everyone in our building should give an emergency phone number to the building captain and to the Community Service Office. It is important that they also know who has your key in case of an emergency in your apartment when you are not home.

After the meeting, most of the residents who attended stayed around to help decorate. We thank everyone for



their help and we thank them in advance for helping take down the decorations after New Year's Day.

We also discussed the collection of building dues from each condo. It was unanimously voted to collect \$5 from each unit. This will be done the first week of February.

On Dec. 4, our building had its annual Christmas Dinner at the Bon Appétit Restaurant in Dunedin (see photo). We had 18 residents attend the dinner. There was great food, good company and a beautiful sunset to top off the night.

Please check the bulletin boards for information from the



Some of the Rila Renaissance residents at the Christmas dinner on Dec. 4 at Bon Appétit.

building captain or the Community Service Office.

We hope all our residents and their families have a special Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

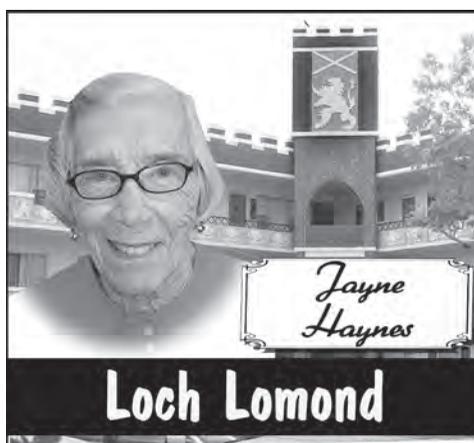
It has been a pleasure being the reporter for our building these

past years. I am looking forward to reporting future stories. If you have any interesting news about a great trip and pictures of the scenery, new births, graduations, birthdays, anniversary, etc., I would love to share the experiences with our readers.

Organization was the key to a successful decorating effort

How lovely our building looked with its tall, tall tree dripping with gold and red balls and the treasured small animals and figurines, many of which have been passed down through the years, placed around the core. Lights shone around the top of the walls, and the mailbox area was topped with handiwork. Outside, around the second and third floor balconies were placed large wreaths, all wearing fresh new red bows.

Our building leader, Sophia Kugeares, had planned the dates of varied events and had seen that details were published on the bulletin board. We had a small but organized group on two Saturday mornings, and things happened. Two new residents, Ann and



Jack Casey, stepped right up and helped a lot. Marie and Paul Froeba had just returned, but Paul, with his tools and his expertise with the lights, made sure they were safely working.

On Saturday night, Dec. 7, a core party enjoyed a non-windy night to welcome one and all back to the fold. Delicious snacks and beverages added to the chatty group. Many had just returned, so much conversation was expended in trying to "catch up."

The Froebas appeared in their long red robes and Santa hats which they have had for 20 years. Their guest was their daughter who was just here for a few days but truly enjoying the weather; she lives in Colorado and had left -17 degree weather.

Sherry Ladell and Shirley Swift had arranged a beautiful fall foliage corner in the core representing the fall season and the harvest bounty. That

stayed up 'til the day after Thanksgiving and then gave way to the tree. Sherry, Shirley and Enid Goodman do such a fine job of seeing that we have an appropriate theme in the core all year. Thanks, ladies.

A walk around our building is beautiful. It is great to see so many friends again.

Please attend the annual Loch Lomond potluck meeting on Jan. 24 and meet and greet old friends and new. Plan to attend, bring your ideas and your spirit of volunteering. We need and enjoy one another.

My wishes for health and happiness and friendship.

Special guests and family make for lovely holiday meals

The best thing that happens in November is the traditional feast that takes place on Thanksgiving Day. I do believe that everyone in our building had someone to share with the day and meal.

To be sure, my own abode was one of the happiest, inasmuch as my daughter, Ginny, came from Todd, Pa., to visit for a week. Aside from just plain enjoying her company, she was good enough to help me put up my holiday decorations and to prepare for her favorite meal (turkey filling, and gravy and all the delicious sides and desserts). There were seven to sit at table.



My granddaughter and her hubby, along with Shirley and Craig Brown and our Canadian friend, Case Bastmeyer,

were those I shared with and with whom I had a most enjoyable day.

Another group gathered at the home of Bob and Connie Saylor. Connie's daughter and her fiancé, along with Ginny and Lenny Tousignant, Gene and Reta Carney, and Gin Upton were the guests. Those of you who know these people can visualize the joking and laughter that went on.

There is always someone from our building to thank. Kudos to Gin and Reta for placing the renovated ribbons below the handrails and decorating the core. We certainly have a lovely tree and a handsome Father Christmas to

welcome anyone to our building.

Most thanks go to Pat Volheim for all the hours she spent on the phone and Internet, as well as visits to Kally-K's, to arrange for our Christmas party. It was a great success with 40 people attending and we all had a great time.

Our last luncheon was held at Sweet Tomatoes. Please note that our meeting time has been changed to the fourth Monday of the month from the second. Time and place will be posted on the bulletin boards as well as other important news that might arise.

Happy New Year, everybody!

Reporter has special reason to enjoy the Christmas season

We survived Black Friday and Cyber Monday and were launched into the hustle and bustle of December. Seemed like everything moved at warp-speed as the month took off rushing toward Christmas and the New Year.

At the Azores, we kicked off with a core party on Dec. 5. More than 40 residents gathered in the third floor core bringing all sorts of delightful covered dishes. Maryann Staffieri ordered the southern fried chicken and with the help of a few volunteer elves got the whole affair organized. The food was really super and the visiting fantastic.

After we had our fill, we were lead by Bob Kelly and Petie Fornuto in singing Christmas carols — we were loud and sometimes in tune, a glorious way to end a day.

Before I go further, I will make a comment or two about last month's spaghetti dinner. Before this event I never thought of spaghetti as a gourmet dish — just a tasty tummy filler. The spaghetti sauce prepared by Maryann was the best I have ever tasted and this evaluation is shared by most all the folks that attended. I'm including a photo (at right) of Maryann at the ready with her fantastic spaghetti!

Dec. 7 rolled around with permission to fly our American Flag for three days as a way of



remembering a day in our history that transformed this nation from a farming country in a depression into a high-volume manufacturing country, producing military equipment at an unprecedented rate.

A country that sent its young off to war — while we at home supported them through rationing programs, scrap metal drives and a host of other activities. "Rosie the Riveter" won the war!

Marie Pirrello and Petie Fornuto decorated the tree on the first floor, plus they hung a lot of other decorations. Carole Kilgore decorated the second floor core and other elves decorated the third floor core. Great job! Thank you.

On Dec. 15, well over 30 Azoreans, dressed in our finest, gathered at

the Countryside Country Club for our annual Christmas luncheon. The accommodations and service were excellent. The food was great! I think it was better than last year, which was really hard to top.

I love Christmas and all the goings on this time of the year — it is just great! (Of course, having my birthday on Christmas Day has nothing to do with my feelings for this time of year...)

Katie Shivell recently attended the British Virgin Island Wine and Food Festival as the honored guest of her grandson, William. He is one of the festival's organizers and has an extensive background in marketing world class resorts.

Katie was overwhelmed at the beauty of the islands and the graciousness of the people she met. She was surprised by the tall mountains and the steep and winding roads... the size of the boulders also impressed her.

Darryl Copeland and Brenda McLeod have returned to spend the winter months with us. They are both full of energy and enjoy a good time. Brenda has volunteered to be our building treasurer. Thanks, Brenda! She is the lady to see to pay your building activity fee.

My ace reporter, Petie Fornuto, was visited by her son Anthony and his wife Tracy and her grandson and his wife. They had a great family time at the Christmas season.

Happy New Year and don't forget the pot luck dinner Jan. 23.



Maryann Staffieri prepares her popular, delicious spaghetti and sauce at a recent building spaghetti dinner. The dish is one of the reporter's favorites.



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Granada

Residents are ready to resume winter activities

We ended the year 2013 with a lovely holiday party with many residents involved in making it a success.

*We ate, drank and made merry
to everyone's delight
We started early, and continued
'til it was nearly night,
The food was really quite delish
For that, we must thank Trish,
Then came the big surprise
I couldn't believe my eyes,
And here, I really must pause
Would you believe Chris came as
Santa Claus?*

We also wish to thank Marilynne and Maria for their beautiful building decorations.

Now that the holidays are behind us, and our "birds" are all safely settled in their nests, everyone can again resume their winter activities.

Stan and I proudly joined our son and daughter-in-law at our granddaughter's graduation from Florida State University. Our grandson, who also attends, joined us at the ceremony, as well as the family celebration which followed.

Read this column next month to learn all about a new neighbor. Until then, remember to be there when people need you. Stay well.



Mandarin

How far north of On Top of the World do you have to live to be called a Snowbird? Is it north of Orlando? Is it anyplace north of Florida? Is Georgia far enough north? Well, the residents of the Mandarin building call Doris and Robert Hammond Snowbirds as they spend their summers in Cummings, Ga., and their winters at OTOW. They have been doing that for 15 years.

Robert says he first met Doris in the Jacob's Drug Store soda fountain in Atlanta in 1955. They were married after a three-month courtship despite cries of opposition from friends and relatives to the effect that a relationship of such a short duration could not last. What can those critics say now, as they have been married 58 years, have a married daughter and three grandsons living in Maryland?



Mandarin residents Robert and Doris Hammond (seated holding hands) celebrate 58 years of marriage on a recent Snowbirds Club cruise. (Photo by Ed Foland)

Robert worked for the postal service and retired in 1992 as Director of Operations at the Washington, D.C., Post Office. Doris worked as an office manager in radio, TV and building and development.

They both enjoy traveling, especially cruising, and have traveled to many places since they retired. They celebrated their anniversary on the world's largest cruise ship, *Allure of the Seas*, with other members of the OTOW Snowbirds Club.

While shopping for the perfect unit to move into at OTOW, they found two separate units with their favorite floor plan for the same amount.

They chose the Mandarin building because the store rooms were neat, clean and every condo had a designated storage space.

The next business meeting is in the Sunrise Room in the West Activities Center at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan 12 with food and entertainment. Dues are due.

Capistrano says goodbye to long-time resident

Happy New Year, everybody! During the holidays, we listened to the XM radio in the car during our travels and one of the stations played oldies Christmas music like Jo Stafford, Lennon Sisters, Patti Page, Al Martino, Perry Como and many others. Those names sure brought back many fond memories. Karen asked who Jo Stafford was...

If you like music from the past, you can type in a song or an artist on the Internet and most of the time you can play or download their music.

If you see Sam Contella on Christmas day, also wish him a happy birthday! Sam was honored at a Celebration of Life party December 7 at the West Activity Center. Sam's many friends, relatives and neighbors in attendance had a really enjoyable time.

In addition to the DJ, Julia's granddaughters entertained the guests with a performance of a dance routine



Capistrano

from one of their dance recitals.

The residents of Capistrano were a busy lot during the month of December. On the same weekend as Sam's party, a record number of residents attended the annual holiday dinner held at Kally-K's.

At the conclusion of the evening, the new officers of the building association were installed. Outgoing President Tony Sinopoli presented

Lynn Mandolosi with a farewell gift from her neighbors at Capistrano.

Lynn is relocating back to New Jersey. Lynn was joined by her many neighbors for lunch on Monday, Dec. 9, at Chopsticks Chinese buffet. Many of the folks at Capistrano are feeling very sad that Lynn is leaving us. We wish her well and hope she can visit often.

A recent weekend included attending the Bucs vs. Bills football game with friends from Buffalo, who flew to Tampa for the game and to warm up. Unfortunately for Bills fans, the Bills got trounced by the Bucs.

I enjoyed an unexpected meeting with my brother who drove in from Naples to attend the game.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas wherever you were.

If you like popcorn, pop some on Jan. 19, for that is National Popcorn Day.

Have a happy and healthy New Year.

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THE WAY WE WERE A look back at the OTOW News

(Part 56: January, 1976)
By Dolores Burm and Elaine Gotler

- Happy New Year 1976!
- Sidney Colen reported at the December annual meeting that 95% of condo owners voted to retain the Board of Administration.
- Trips to look forward in the future include the following: May 1, Spring Discovery Cruise to the Caribbean (7 days, \$500-525); March 3-9, Bermuda Golf Holiday (\$625 includes everything); June 7-29, 23-day tour of the Bicentennial Trail from DC to Maine (\$895).
- Theater Workshop presented a Bicentennial Tribute on Saturday, Jan. 31, and Sunday Feb. 1, at 8 p.m. A donation of \$1 enabled you to see "A Past To Remember, A Future to Mold."
- 32 buildings reported their news.
- State clubs that reported news were Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Canadian, New England, New York and Metropolitan, which included Virginia, West Virginia, D.C, Maryland and Delaware.
- Grab your favorite partner! Beginners' Square Dance instruction started on Jan. 8 and continued every Thursday from 3-5 p.m. in the auditorium.

See you in February

It's everyone's responsibility to care for garbage rooms

Subject: Garbage room woes. Our garbage room has gotten out of hand folks. Garbage needs to be bagged. Loose. TV's, old microwaves, discarded chairs, mirrors — you get the point — do not belong in the garbage room. Either pack it in the trunk of your car and haul it to the dump, or hire someone to do it for you.

Thanks to everyone who helped make our building look festive over the holidays. The draping of lights over the balconies was so pretty, the lobby area was a work of art, and those who decorated their windows added icing to the cake. The spirit of the season was certainly displayed in the Fujiwara building.

Watch for sign-up sheets on the lobby bulletin boards for our



monthly dinners. If you have a favorite restaurant you would like to share with the rest of us, let Mike Pizzorusso know.

While you are enjoying our cooler winter weather, remember to keep a song on your lips and love in your hearts.



Connie McDonald, Russ Lamesfield and Rosalle Borselli refinished the bulletin boards and decorated the walls of the building core, two of a number of recent improvements.

New look: bike room, mail boxes, bulletin boards

Hello 2014! Best wishes to all celebrants of birthdays and anniversaries in January.

In late November, Dom Bucella was feted with a marvelous birthday party with friends and a surprise visit from daughter and family who flew down for the occasion. The evening was sheer delight, with fun, food, music and cake. Dancing helped with the calories!

Our thanks to chief "elf" Charley Coffman and his merry band who decked Viennese Villa in festive holiday lights. It looks great. Where they get the energy is beyond me.

Have you noticed the new look to the core? Connie McDonald and company refinished the bulletin boards and decorated the walls (see photo).

Dom was in charge of painting the post boxes and bench. This crew could hire out. Thanks, everybody, for a great job!

Jim Sheppard tackled the bike room. Actually can get a bike out of there now. (Maybe hooks for the lighter ones would make access even easier.)

Speaking of housekeeping, Jeff Page and crew do a nice job maintaining our neighborhood.

The On Top of the World Chorus (of which our own Les Ermold is a member) presented a lovely Christmas concert. They did a rendition of the Nutcracker that was simply grand.



The sing-along lead by Dana Garlick was a lot of fun as well.

Congratulations to Marion and Gary Fuller, who recently welcomed a new grandbaby to the family.

"Polar bears" love the pool and the morning aerobics workout is marvelous. The chairs give exercise as well, as the few remaining comfortable ones are carted around the pool to that "perfect spot" whenever one is empty. The only persons not eagerly awaiting the promised more suitable seating for seniors are the local chiropractors!

Will have a report on our Christmas party next month. Until then, have a good month. Remember, e-mail any news fit to print to fresca@maine.rr.com or stop by for coffee.

Hint of the month: Dip the cut end of unpeeled banana in sugar to prevent browning.

NEWSPAPER IS ON THE WEB

The OTOW News is online, and you can easily download and view the complete current issue, as well as issues from the past 12 months.

The first thing you do is go to otowclearwaterinfo.com. Then click on the "Community Information" link at the top of the page. Then scroll down to the OTOW Newspaper banner. Just below that is the Clearwater Press Association heading. Click where it says "Click Here." At the Press Association site you will see a thumbnail image of the current issue's front page. Directly underneath is a "Click Here" link.

Be sure to bookmark the link. You may want to send the link to your family and friends up North so they can keep up with all the happenings at On Top of the World.

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ANOTHER DAY

By Alma W. Hudson

Another day has passed away
 A day of joy and sorrow
 A day of work and rest and play
 And there'll be more tomorrow
 Some days are long, some days are short
 Some days fly by in breathless haste
 While others stretch – each hour a waste
 Of time that cannot be replaced
 When days are gone they're gone forever
 They can't come back, oh, no – not ever
 So take each day and use it well
 Plan out each hour
 'Cause time will tell
 Just what you've done to make the world
 A better place in every way and
 Never just another day.

WISDOM

By Madeleine Wanda

Love (one another).
Council — Listen, then advise.
Understanding — Accept the fact everyone is different and everyone
 doesn't look the same.
Fortitude — The ability to endure problems as one appreciates pleasures.
Knowledge — To learn something new every day.
Piety — Ask the good Lord for His blessings and thank Him for every day.

THE NEW YEAR

By Alma W. Hudson

The New Year has arrived
 We are so glad to see it here
 I'm sure 2014 will be as nice
 As our great former year.

We are all responsible
 For the way things go
 So let's be overly sharp
 And please all we can.

I'm sure we all know
 True friendship is the best
 So let's work hard
 And put it to a test.

Friendship is like fine china
 Very rare and priceless
 With the sincere hope
 It will never be broken.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2014

Madeleine Wanda

Two young birds sitting on a tree
 One was heavy.
 The other said, "You take care of the young ones
 And I'll take care of thee."
 There is no beginning and no end
 Time marches on and nature blends
 I saw the young one fly away
 And I thank God for another day.



The submission below is from an OTOW Writer's Ink member



“DAWSON'S DRAWINGS”

By Marshall Greenman

Is it me or are today's children different from us? Their interactions with computers have opened up the world of information and interaction in a way that I am not sure I understand. As a child I remember learning and interacting in a linear and mechanical sort of way. Our desks were lined up in rows and we were taught to see interaction and even relationships in that same way.

When I watch them playing games on their computers, they seem to have a more holistic vision. Things in the periphery of their screen affect their behaviors in a way that I am unable to grasp. Information itself seems less solid. Everything changes at a more rapid rate and seems to be more amorphous.

The last time I was in Arkansas visiting my kids I spent a lot of time trying to pull them into the world of here and now, but they kept gravitating back to their computers where they seemed more comfortable. I encouraged writing, thinking and drawing games in an attempt to find out how they thought and maybe encourage what I considered to be a deeper way of thinking.

We were all sitting around the dining room table with pads of paper in front of us and I suggested we draw each other. Dawson, my grandson and I were the most interested. He had mentioned in one of his earlier “what do you want to be” conversations, that he considered being an artist. That was before the “Stand-up Comic” or “Air Force Pilot” that currently interests him. At one point in our visit he took me into his bedroom and pulled a portfolio from under his bed and showed me his collection of drawings.

He was eight at the time. He is now a much more mature nine-year-old, but the difference, even at that early age, in our reality became apparent to me. I drew a straightforward picture filling the page with my attempt to capture his physical appearance. He, on the other hand drew a picture of me which captured something of my essence, but included our environment as well. The picture I was drawing of him was included in his work.

That is interestingly like Asian art which places human beings as part of reality, rather

than the focus of it. My little grandson, who has only rarely been out of the state of Arkansas, lives in a multi-cultural world. Perhaps it is my son's influence. He was born in Spain, and raised in an Indian ashram, but I wonder if all of the kids today live in a larger universe than we did. They are in instant contact with the entire world every day. There is so much information available to them through media, internet and computer games. They can interact with people from across the globe at the touch of a button. My son is in contact with people from the ashram where he was raised who are now spread out all over the world. He plays computer games with people he has never met.

My grandson is a genius, of course, but is he part of an evolutionary process? Is there a new world order growing under our very noses? Not everyone gets it, but the place of the nerd in our world has changed considerably from when I was one. Brains and creativity are starting to compete for attention with athletic ability. Maybe “I coulda been a contenda.”

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Malagueña residents got into the holiday spirit early

The holiday season kicked off with the monthly Malagueña Ladies' Luncheon, which was held Nov. 20 at Ruby Tuesday's in Oldsmar. Twelve ladies attended, including some newcomers to the building as well as returning Snowbirds. Everyone enjoyed the terrific food and great conversation.

These luncheons are held the third Wednesday of every month, organized by a different resident, who selects the restaurant. This is a great way to get to know your neighbors and to try out new restaurants. All Malagueña ladies are encouraged to sign up for this fun monthly outing. Information and signup sheets are posted on both bulletin boards.

Several residents decorated their condos for Christmas. The DeMichaels and several others put up lights and other decorations. Ron and Carol LaFrance went all out again this year with their festive display, which includes several inflatables, Santa in an outhouse, and a giant penguin.

Trees in the yard are strung with lights, a lighted archway and candy



canes line the walk. Ron says they started with just a few lights and added more each year until now they have about 4,000 lights.

When asked, Ron stated that they do it because "The gift is in the giving, and no matter if you have a single candle or many, we are all the light." I can't think of a better holiday message. You can't help but feel happy when you see their display at night. Thanks to Ron and Carol for this wonderful gift.

There was a wonderful turnout of Malagueña residents at the "Holiday Get-Together" on Dec. 12, in the festively decorated first floor lobby



Malagueña residents enjoy a festive holiday get-together on Dec. 12.

(see photo above). Organized by three residents (Paula Castagno, Anna Hyden, and yours truly), the event was a resounding success. About 40 residents enjoyed snacks, cookies, cider and wine while they chatted with their neighbors.

Folks from different wings of our large building mingled and got to know

each other. This was the first Malagueña event of its kind in a few years, and the response was so great we hope to have more social events in the future.

Several residents expressed an interest in organizing our building residents and possibly having a meeting after the holidays. Check the bulletin board for building events and outings.

Many thanks to our building decorators

I hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday and New Year celebration. It is hard to believe it is 2014 already.

Resolutions or affirmations are always tough at this time. Sometimes we reach those goals and often we do not.

I recently saw a bumper sticker that said, "Be kinder than necessary." I thought about this quite a bit and realized that this is something everyone could attain!

Therefore, that is my goal for this year. I still need to take off the pounds, finish my projects and organize even more, but these goals are ongoing and might continue to collect dust. How about you?

Thank you to Gus Perotta, Rosanne Moon, Lucy Jennings, Mary Harker, Verna Delahunt, Patty and Pat Hayes, Jim McDade, Bob Jackson, Sue Viscount and Gloria Sayer, who took the time to help decorate the cores on all three floors.

Gloria also provided the sweet breads for a snack to go along with the coffee and tea provided. The cores look beautiful. They also provide a warm feeling of the holiday season when



you enter. Look forward to seeing everyone again when taking them down and packing them up. Check the bulletin board for the date. Please let me know if I omitted anyone.

More folks decorated the outside this year and Brahman building on both sides look wonderful.

More Snowbirds stayed over the holiday than before and it was good to see the change that brought about. Maybe next year's awards will be ours!

We did support some of the vendors who offered coupons on the Website and were happy with them. I would encourage all to go to the site, ontopoftheworldnews.com; choose the second logo on the page (for

Clearwater), then scroll down to the newsboy, then click on Box Office; click and follow instructions to open the page, and then scroll down to the section that says Box Office coupon page. Click on that to open.

Follow the instructions to print the coupons. These are in addition to the ones in the newspaper. If anyone needs help, call me.

Our regular business meeting is Jan. 8, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Sunrise Room. On the agenda is selection of board positions: building captain, wing captains, treasurer, secretary, event coordinator, selection of monthly activity person and sunshine person.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or are willing to keep your position another year, please let me know. We need people to volunteer to keep the building active all year not just during the season.

In addition, we will be deciding on the date to collect the building dues.

It is important we have enough people attend to be able to vote on these items. If you have any issues to add to the agenda, please let me know.

May you all have a great start to the New Year.

Bible Study Club

Bob Reis, President

The OTOW Bible Study Club is a non-denominational Bible study group to explore the word of God, and how it relates to our everyday lives. Our teacher, Woodie Tully, brings 45 years of Bible teaching experience to help understand the Scriptures.

The club meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the Veranda Room of the East Activities Center. Occasionally we use a third Tuesday evening for refreshments, music and singing.

We welcome everyone to our club. You do not need to have any knowledge of Scripture to join, and there are no club fees required. We are not a church; those attending are from a variety of denominations.

Every first-time guest receives a complete copy of the Bible to keep as their own.

For more information, call either Bob Reis, 798-2443, or Woodie Tully, 399-1773.

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Festive holiday dinner included spectacular sunset

Happy New Year to one and all!

The past year seems to have gone by faster than the preceding ones, but it seems that way every year. I love the spirit of the holiday season but the hustle and bustle tire me out a lot quicker than in the past.

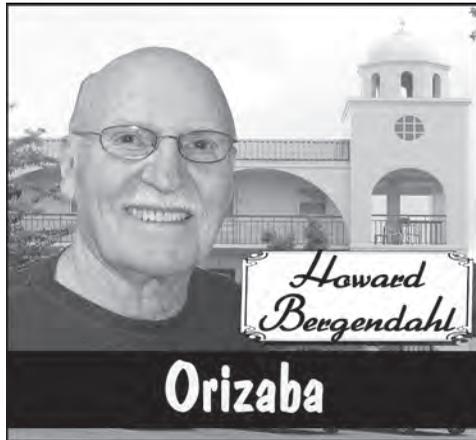
The buildings and the individual units that decorated for Christmas were outstanding. Some were better than others, but everyone who did something deserves a serving of gratitude.

I miss the excitement of having young children around and the enthusiasm they display. Recently, I was shopping in K-Mart and really enjoyed the kids running around the tree section and the toy displays. Some of the excitement may be missing in my age group, but it is definitely alive in the younger set.

Flo Gracia called me a while ago



Orizaba residents "dig in" at holiday dinner.



to tell me that a mysterious Santa Claus had left an anonymous gift for her. A gift card was slipped under her door and she is sure that it had to be from Mrs. Santa Claus, because Flo doesn't have a chimney for the big guy in red to climb down.

The show put on by the Entertainment committee to end the 2013 season was, in my opinion, the best of the year. Anyone who attended the show seemed to be in accord that the New Dawn Singers were outstanding and really caught the spirit of the season.

Has anyone noticed how much light is in the apartment during the night? I got up the other evening and walked around the unit and found the following: the microwave has an



This colorful sunset awed diners at the Island Way Grill. (Photos by Howard Bergendahl)

illuminated clock, the computer along with speakers, printer and routers have lights, the television cable box is lit up, the clocks in each room have displays of the time and the cell phone is on charge. I think there is more light displayed in my apartment during the night than in the daylight hours! Nightlights seem to be a thing of the past...

The Christmas holiday, monthly luncheon was held at the Island Way Grill and was a great success (see photos). A large turnout of residents

added to the excitement of the season. Buses supplied by the restaurant made the trip that much more enjoyable.

Song sheets were distributed and voices raised in what could pass as harmony made for a pleasant occasion.

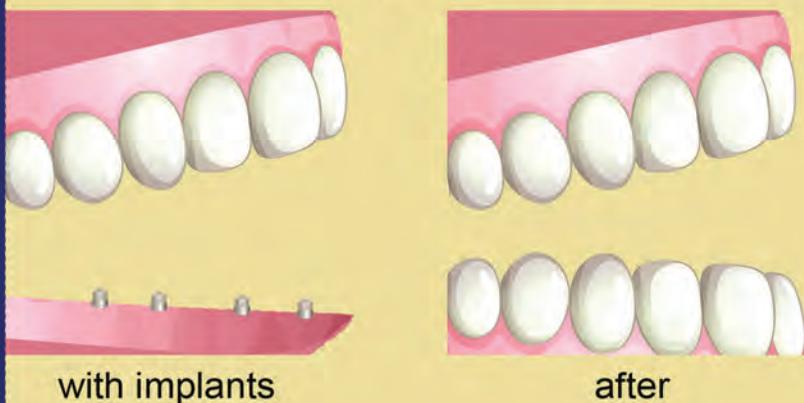
Thanks to hostess Katy Marsh for her selection and all the building residents for a really fine turnout and the Island Way Grill for good food and atmosphere, including a beautiful sunset.

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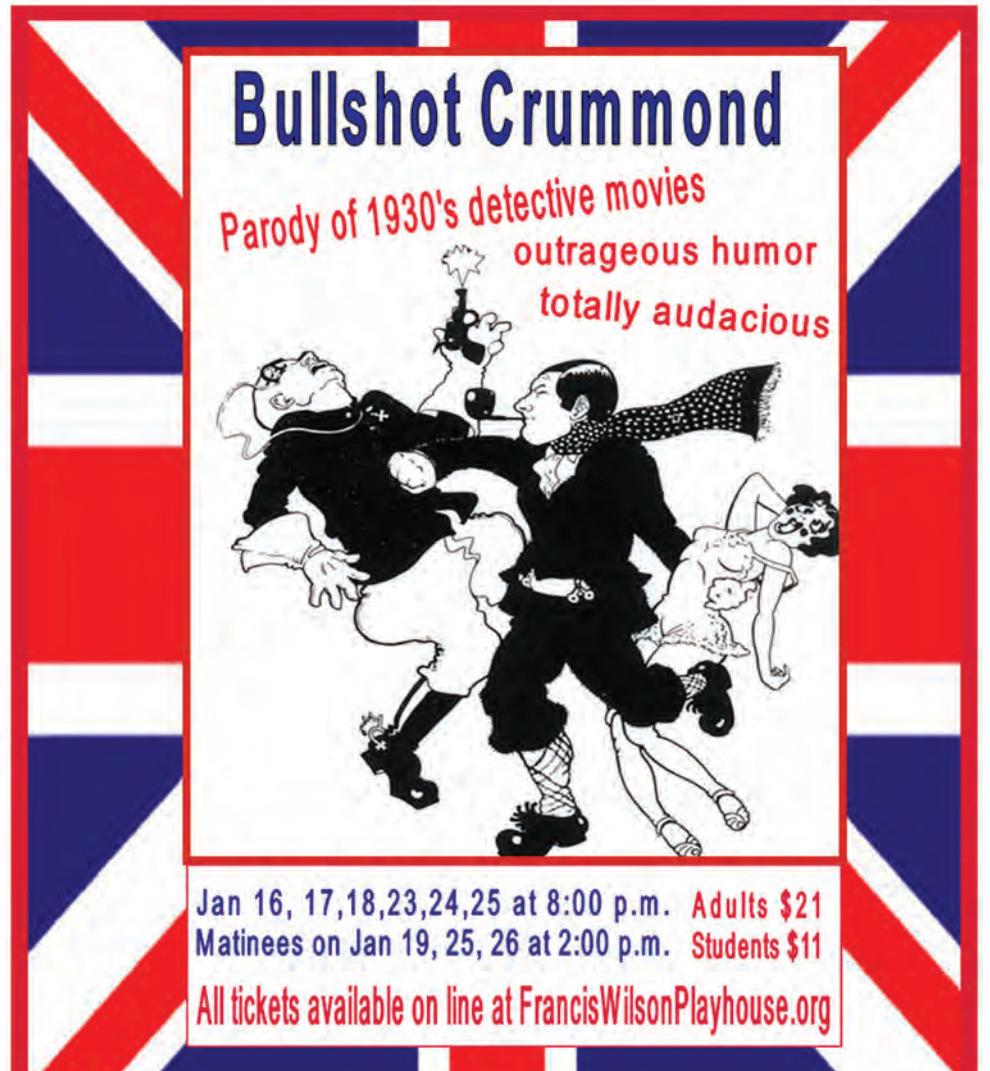
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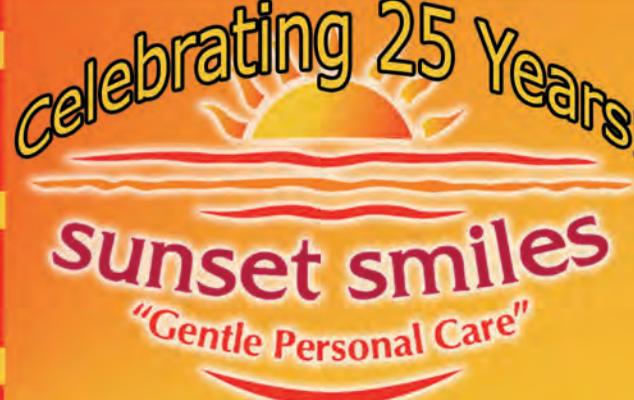
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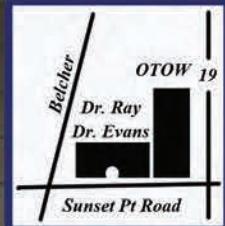
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Featured couple epitomize the North American farmer

I saw a bumper sticker recently that read "Farmers Feed Cities" — of course they feed cities and are critical in so many other ways for our economy and existence in cities. City dwellers and those of us raised in cities should ponder this thought and say thanks for dedicated farmers. Agriculture is a major industry in the United States and of course in Canada.

Here, I want to introduce and thank a retired couple who have spent their lives on farms in Canada.

Dorado residents David and Catherine McKinnon were born and raised on farms and grew up in "small-town" Ontario, Canada. They have roots that date way back. Their families arrived in Canada on the same boat from the Isle of Tyre, Scotland.

Educated in one-room school houses, they remained in the farming community. They took over the farm purchased by David's great-grandparents in the 1860's.

Although skilled in other areas, farming was the main emphasis



throughout their lives. Catherine is a trained nurse and David is a skilled big-machinery operator and was involved in road construction. They are avid gardeners and love antiques. Their interests divide here as Catherine likes to look at antique furniture and furnishings and David likes looking for old tractors and cars.

Retiring and living at On Top of the World became their goal after visiting friends of the family here and finding an opportunity to purchase.

After a very active life of farming and nursing, they have handed the farm over to their son Dan and his wife Leslie, who stay in Canada to continue the family legacy.

David and Catherine enjoy the beautiful weather and the many activities here in Florida. Catherine enjoys the OTOW Polar Bear club and swims daily for exercise, while David enjoys walking many miles each day. Both appreciate the freedom and safety to walk day or night and the many activities available to residents here.

They are pleased about the closeness of things to see and do after living 18 miles from things on the farm for so many years. Therefore, they like to sightsee in the area now that they have the time to do it.

They have three married sons and one grandson. Son Dan McKinnon and his wife Leslie are on the farm and living in Ontario. Son Brad McKinnon and his wife Morgan have one son and live in Ontario. Another son, Eugene McKinnon, a Presbyterian minister,



Catherine and David McKinnon

and his wife Katie live in Virginia, here in the U.S.

I thank and welcome a very friendly couple into our community and salute their dedication to farming. We should thank farmers more often for what they do and what they have done for all of us. Farmers do indeed feed cities!

Dorado Residents are reminded to come to the holiday party at Sea Sea Riders in Dunedin on Friday, Jan. 3. Cocktails at 6 p.m., with dinner orders at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Reporter celebrates 10th anniversary of her column

Happy anniversary to me! When I opened the template to begin this article, I realized that this month marks the 10th anniversary of my writing this column for the Englander building. It's been fun, but 10 years is a long time for only one person to write our building's news column; so if one of our residents is interested in taking over, please let me know... I would welcome the change.

Hope you are all preparing to enjoy the New Year and blessings of the season. It's time for the New Year's resolutions, the diets, the new exercise regimes, de-cluttering and closet cleaning. Of course, it's also January, so it's time for January birthday cakes for Esther and me, tail-gate parties, Super Bowl parties and the usual dissolving of the resolutions, diets and exercise regimes - not to mention all those after Christmas sales that seem to fill up those closets once again. It's just a vicious cycle, isn't it!

Dick and I recently took a trip to The Villages and stopped by to say a quick hello to former Englander residents Ernie and Joanne Kilgore. Unfortunately, Joanne was not home, but a very healthy Ernie was happy



to see us and told us how much they loved being back in Florida after their move to Washington state. They send their regards to their former Englander neighbors!

Nineteen of us enjoyed getting together at Bon Appétit Restaurant in Dunedin for our Christmas luncheon. The food, the view and the company got us all into the holiday spirit and joy of the season — and made it possible for everyone to catch up on each other's holiday plans and activities.

As we close out this year and look forward to the next, we count our blessings and wish you all a happy, healthy and laughter-filled new year!

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Calendar of Monthly OTOW Activities — January 2014

1	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Baby Boomers Meeting	Veranda
2	Thursday	7:00 PM	Press Association Meeting	Veranda
2	Thursday	10:30 AM	Pennsylvania Club Meeting	Starlite Room
3	Friday	2:00 PM	Travel Club Meeting	Sunrise Room
5	Sunday	5:00 PM	Karaoke Singing	Auditorium
6	Monday	6:00 PM	No. 82 Capistrano Meeting	Sunrise Room
6	Monday	11:00 AM	Snowbirds Club Meeting	Starlite Room
6	Monday	1:00 PM	No. 24 Americana Meeting	Auditorium
7	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Canadian Club Ticket Sales	Auditorium
7	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Hoosier Club Meeting	Crafts Room
8	Wednesday	3:00 PM	No. 74 Brahman Meeting	Sunrise Room
8	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Jesters Meeting	Auditorium
9	Thursday	9:30 AM	Good Neighbors Get-Acquainted Coffee	Auditorium
9	Thursday	9:00 AM	Fixers Club Meeting	Crafts Room
10	Friday	7:00 PM	Irish Club Show	Auditorium
10	Friday	1:00 PM	Art Guild Meeting	Art Room
11	Saturday	8:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Dance	Auditorium
12	Sunday	4:00 PM	No. 75 Mandarin Meeting	Sunrise Room
12	Sunday	2:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Sunday In The Park	Auditorium
13	Monday	2:00 PM	German Interest Group Meeting	Sunrise Room
13	Monday	8:30 AM	Entertainment Committee Blood Pressure Screening	Veranda
14	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Euchre Game	Crafts Room
15	Wednesday	7:00 PM	No. 47 Bohemia Meeting	Sunrise Room
15	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Italian Club Party	Auditorium
15	Wednesday	2:00 PM	No. 39 Mallorca Meeting	Veranda
16	Thursday	6:00 PM	Baby Boomers Meeting	Veranda
16	Thursday	10:00 AM	Greyhound Club Meeting	Veranda
16	Thursday	12:00 PM	Lawn Bowlers Luncheon	Kitchen
16	Thursday	9:00 AM	AAA Driver Course	Starlite Room
17	Friday	5:00 PM	Ladies Exercise Party	Sunrise Room
17	Friday	7:00 PM	Irish Club Meeting	Starlite Room
17	Friday	9:00 AM	AAA Driver Course	Starlite Room
20	Monday	9:30 AM	Good Neighbors Free Eye & Ear Testing	Auditorium
21	Tuesday	1:00 PM	Stamp Collectors Meeting	Sunrise Room
21	Tuesday	11:00 AM	Ladies 18-Hole Golf Meeting	Sunrise Room
22	Wednesday	6:00 PM	NY-NJ Club Meeting	Auditorium
22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	No. 89 Siboney Meeting	Sunrise Room
23	Thursday	5:00 PM	No. 50 Azores Potluck	Sunrise Room
23	Thursday	7:30 PM	Entertainment Committee Show	Auditorium
23	Thursday	2:00 PM	Democratic Club Meeting	Starlite Room
24	Friday	5:00 PM	No. 49 Loch Lomond Meeting	Sunrise Room
25	Saturday	8:00 PM	Entertainment Committee Dance	Auditorium
25	Saturday	6:00 PM	Lambda Club Game Night	Crafts Room
25	Saturday	6:00 PM	Sensational Seniors Meeting	Sunrise Room
26	Sunday	5:00 PM	Karaoke Singing	Auditorium
27	Monday	4:00 PM	No. 39 Mallorca... Cards	Sunrise Room
28	Tuesday	2:30 PM	Ladies 9-Hole Golf Meeting	Starlite Room
29	Wednesday	5:30 PM	Canadian Club Party	Auditorium
29	Wednesday	5:00 PM	Hoosier Club Dinner	Sunrise Room
30	Thursday	10:00 AM	Mens 18-Hole Golf Meeting	Sunrise Room
31	Friday	6:00 PM	Softball Party	Sunrise Room

*New Year's Day
Wednesday, Jan. 1*

*Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, Jan. 20*

*Chinese New Year
Friday, Jan. 31*

Daily OTOW Activities

MONDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium
 7:30 Tennis (Women's)..... Outdoors
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room
 8:00 Ladies Exercise East Side Gym
 8:30 Exercise Class West Side Gym
 8:30 Ent. Comm/Clubs Ticket Sales ... Auditorium
 9:00 Photo IDs..... Auditorium
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim East Side Pool
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 9:00 Library Library
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class West Side Gym
 11:00 Dancercize East Side Gym
 11:30 Contract Bridge Yellow Room
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room
 12:30 Family History Meeting Computer Room
 1:30 Shuffleboard Outdoors
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced..... East Side Gym
 6:00 Bingo Auditorium
 6:30 Men's 8-Ball Tournament... Billiards Room
 6:30 Contract Bridge Large Card Room

TUESDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:00 Ladies 18-Hole Golf..... Outdoors
 8:30 Exercise Class West Side Gym
 9:00 Jewelry Making..... Lapidary
 9:00 Photo IDs..... Auditorium
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 9:00 Caring and Sharing..... Crafts Room
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim East Side Pool
 9:00 Horseshoes Outdoors
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 9:30 Ladies 9-Hole Golf..... Outdoors
 10:00 Spanish Speaking Class..... Yellow Room
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 10:00 Philosophy Club Meeting..... Veranda
 10:30 Ballroom Dancing Class Auditorium
 11:00 Yoga Exercise..... East Side Gym
 11:00 Spanish Speaking Class..... Yellow Room
 12:00 Ceramics Crafts..... Crafts Room
 1:00 Oil Painting Art Room
 1:00 Line Dancing Auditorium
 1:00 Music Group..... Large Card Room
 1:00 Men's 9-Ball Tournament... Billiards Room
 2:00 Chess Rainbow Room
 4:00 Irish Club Meeting Computer Room

5:30 Dominos Small Classroom
 6:00 Pinochle..... Large Card Room
 6:30 Euchre Starlite Room
 7:00 Bible Study Meeting Veranda

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium
 7:30 Tennis (Women's)..... Outdoors
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training East Side Gym
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room
 8:30 Exercise Class West Side Gym
 9:00 Zumba Gold Exercise..... Large Card Room
 9:00 Photo IDs..... Auditorium
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 9:00 Good Neighbors Crafts Crafts Room
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim East Side Pool
 9:00 Zumba Gold Exercise..... Large Card Room
 9:00 Sewing Class Starlite Room
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 9:00 Knitting Group Veranda
 9:30 Cribbage Small Classroom
 10:00 Zumba Exercise..... Large Card Room
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class West Side Gym
 11:00 Dancercize East Side Gym
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room
 12:00 Library Library
 1:00 Painting Pals..... Art Room
 1:00 Double Pinochle Small Classroom
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced..... East Side Gym
 6:30 Contract Bridge Large Card Room
 6:30 Ladies QueT Billiards Billiards Room

THURSDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:00 Snowbirds Club Line Dancing Beginners
 Sunrise Room
 8:30 Exercise Class West Side Gym
 8:30 Ent. Comm/Clubs Ticket Sales ... Auditorium
 9:00 Snowbirds Club Line Dancing
 Sunrise Room
 9:00 Photo IDs..... Auditorium
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim East Side Pool
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 10:00 Aerobics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 11:00 Yoga Exercise..... East Side Gym
 11:30 Contract Bridge Large Card Room
 12:30 Writers Ink Class Computer Room

1:00 Snowbirds Club Learn To Dance
 Sunrise Room
 1:00 Mahjongg Game..... Small Classroom
 1:00 Drawing Class Art Room
 1:30 Shuffleboard Outdoors
 2:00 Chess Rainbow Room
 3:00 Italian Speaking Class Computer Room
 3:30 Italian Speaking Class Kitchen
 5:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom
 6:30 Men's Billiards Tournament.. Billiards Room
 6:30 Canadian Club Game Night
 Large Card Room

FRIDAY

7:00 Coffee Corner..... Auditorium
 7:30 Tennis (Women's)..... Outdoors
 8:00 Ladies Strength Training East Side Gym
 8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:00 Bonesavers Exercise..... Large Card Room
 8:30 Exercise Class West Side Gym
 9:00 Photo IDs..... Auditorium
 9:00 Slimnastics Exercise..... East Side Gym
 9:00 Ceramics..... Crafts Room
 9:00 Polar Bear Swim East Side Pool
 9:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom
 9:00 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 9:00 French Speaking Class Yellow Room
 10:00 French Speaking Class Yellow Room
 10:00 Hula Hooping Exercise East Side Gym
 10:00 Men's Exercise Class West Side Gym
 11:00 French Speaking Class Yellow Room
 12:00 Library Library
 1:00 Chess Rainbow Room
 1:00 Music Group..... Large Card Room
 1:00 Mahjongg Small Classroom
 6:30 Contract Bridge Large Card Room

SATURDAY

8:00 Tennis (Men's)..... Tennis Courts
 8:30 Line Dancing Auditorium
 8:30 Computer Club Meeting.. Large Card Room
 9:30 Lawn Bowlers Outdoors
 11:30 Duplicate Bridge Large Card Room
 1:30 Tai Chi Beginners..... East Side Gym
 2:30 Tai Chi Advanced East Side Gym

SUNDAY

1:00 Pinochle..... Small Classroom
 2:00 Wii Bowling Exercise Large Card Room
 6:00 Bridge Large Card Room

Reporter decides to stay home for the holidays

Happy New Year! While our friends and relatives up North have been experiencing a Christmas-card setting, we here in the sunshine state have felt more like summer break. It was very difficult to get in the spirit of the season while wearing shorts and sandals. And here we are ushering in the year 2014. I'm still having difficulty writing 2013!

This year I stayed home for the holidays. I spent the first week in December on a tour to New Orleans with the Travel Club and think I'm getting too old for more than one trip in a month. Tried it last year and did not recuperate until February.

I would like to thank our resident elves for doing a bedazzling job decking the halls and trimming the tree. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

After the building was dressed for the holiday, we followed suit enjoying a festive holiday dinner party at Alfano's.

Please note that building dues will be coming due in January. We will also need more elves to take down the decorations. Storage room cleanup is ongoing and let me remind you to put



your name, unit number and date on all your stored items. An inspection will be held and unclaimed items will be singled out and, if still unclaimed, will be donated.

At 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, we will hold our first monthly luncheon at the Ivory Mandarin Bistro in Dunedin. At noon Wednesday, Feb. 12, we will lunch at Kally-K's, also in Dunedin.

Then in March, we will hold our potluck/business meeting. The time and place will be announced at a later date.

Let me be one of the first to wish you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year.

Autumn experiences in the mountains and at the ranch

We thank everyone who put up and took down the Core decorations. Paul Bruyere, our building president coordinated the process.

The Core Christmas Party had 23 attending. The food was good and it was nice to see and socialize with everyone. I met a new Chetnik, Sharif Rahem. Originally from Egypt, he has been in this country 30 years, mostly in Tampa and Pinellas. He attended Vincennes University in Indiana and is an electrical engineer. He works at home. He specializes in the Google 360 vertical degree tour.

Our November luncheon at the Rumba Restaurant was most enjoyable, but only 10 of us made it. At least one couple who signed up couldn't find parking and had to forfeit the luncheon. The place is so popular, ergo the parking problem. Someone told me that they have valet parking. That would have helped if people had known about it.

When Bill Jacobs was in the Smokey Mountains in November with his brother, most of the roads were closed due to the weather. One day a bear came out and scared his brother as they stayed at a mountain cabin!

Joan Cooney went on a two-day overnight bus tour to the Westgate



Resorts River Ranch. It was a working ranch but there was so much activity planned that she never got to ride a horse. Among some of the activities was an air-boat ride on the Kissimmee River, a hay ride and a real rodeo on Saturday night.

The building Christmas party celebrated at the Island Way Grill was attended by 29 Chetniks. We had two buses, but some preferred their cars. As usual, the food was excellent, and there were six bottles of wine as prizes.

Our daughter Janet and her hubby Les visited us during Christmas week to enjoy the sunshine and get away from the ice and snow in the Blue Ridge Mountains outside of Ashville, N.C., where they live. See you all in 2014.

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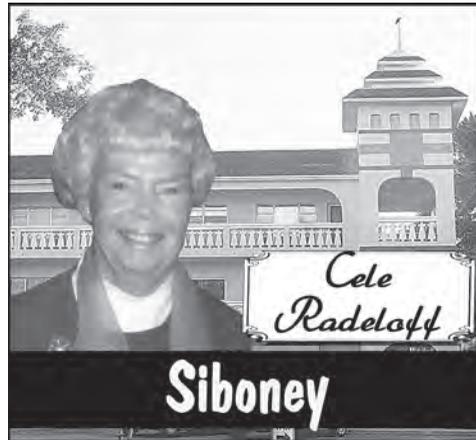
With holidays over, normal wintertime activities can go on

Well, the hustle and bustle of the holiday season is over, and we can continue on with our normal activities. Some of us had seven or more luncheons or dinners to attend; sometimes two or three on the same day. But thank God, we're here to enjoy the festivities.

Our Sue Rausch is the last Snowbird to arrive, but her front and back yards look beautiful. The decorations are great, Sue — welcome back!

The Siboney Christmas party was held at Kally-K's with 30 in attendance. Our newcomers, Joyce and Ray Ronningen, were a little late meeting in the core, and everyone had left. They sought Diane Richardson's assistance in getting directions and made it — just a little late.

It was nice to see Paula and Craig Ergang join us. They're our favorites



from the South Seas building.

The core party brought out everyone. We even had newlyweds there, Ruth and Ray, Ralph DeVoe's twin sister. We ate, we sang (Lillian Foy led us), we talked and we all enjoyed the get-together.

There's one small change on our Board. Audrey Jones will be vice-president instead of Ralph DeVoe.

Many thanks to the following men who installed our huge "Noel" sign on both sides of the building: Skip, Peter, Jerry, Ralph, Bob E, Dave and Mike. They also put up the wreath over the mailboxes.

The tree in the lobby was decorated by Arla Gossiaux and Audrey Decker. It looked beautiful!

We survived the Chorus — two shows in one day and a pizza party. We enjoyed seeing Lillian Foy in her first performance, and we send our congratulations.

Mike, her husband, took tickets by the elevator and served pizza for the two shows. Audrey Decker, Arla Gossiaux, Doris Prekopa and Sue Watlington all helped, and I thank you.

Doris Prekopa and her sister, Penny Drummond, just returned from a seven-day bus trip to New

Orleans with the On Top of the World Travel Club. Audrey Jones was the group leader, and there were 31 on the bus. After staying in Crestview overnight, they made a surprise visit to Biloxi. They gambled a little and then enjoyed dinner at Bubba Gump's Shrimp Company.

They enjoyed a guided tour of New Orleans, visited the World War II Museum and the French Quarter, more gambling at Harrah's Casino and then a cruise aboard the SS Natchez Steamboat. They also enjoyed a tour of the battleship USS Alabama in Mobile. It was sweater weather most of the time, encountering no big storms.

The next Siboney meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan. 22, in the Sunrise Room at 7 p.m. Come on out and join us. It's your building. See you there.

Here's to a happy and healthy 2014.



The Modernage Christmas celebration was held at Johnny's Restaurant on Dec. 11, with more than 30 building residents in attendance. (Photo by Duane McDonough)

Let's meet and greet these new OTOW residents

We have some new people to welcome into our building. Mary Lou and Bernie Hartley come from New Jersey originally, living in Florida 20 years. They have four children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They both like to read. Thanks to Bernie for showing me some exercises to help with my balance. Thanks to Mary Lou for a taste of the delicious ham she was fixing.

Sofia Piotrowski came from Poland almost 40 years ago. She has four children and 11 grandchildren. She likes to swim, play cards and Bingo and also loves to travel. She counts her move here as a very good one.

Reverend David and Jewel Brewster and their son David have lived in Florida 12 years, originally from The West Indies. They lived in New York for 30 years, where son David was born. David Sr. likes reading and



sports. Jewel enjoys line dancing and meeting people. David Jr. likes playing cards and sports.

Our Christmas celebration was held Dec. 11 at Johnny's Restaurant with a good turnout. It was enjoyed by all (see photo). Thanks to Marge Sivek for her work in the planning and to the several people that helped her!

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS

Pete Ferrero

The routine comes around once more
To hang a wreath upon the door.
The same ceremony done for scores.
The hectic Holidays have arrived.
Again, the year nears to an end.
The time for family and friends,
As we make our way around the bend.
Another Christmas season to survive.
At times it seems the chores grow old.
So many sales in ads unfold.
"It's time to buy!" we're boldly told.
Stand in line and wait your turn.
I don't know if it's just me.
There may be something I don't see,
But I feel a feigned festivity.
Like a lesson left to learn.

When a day designed for thanks,
Becomes a time to join the ranks
Of buyers bent to break the bank,
The tag "Black Friday" surely fits.

It's not because more money's made,
But for a due debt left unpaid.
The season's Truth becomes betrayed,
In pursuit of peak profits.

With no Grinch within my heart,
With some effort, I do my part.
Though crushed in crowds at the Walmart,
I do what must be done.

All in search of some more stuff.
God knows we've surely got enough,
Since His Son was sent before the fluff
And all the madness had begun.

It's when I see a child's bright eyes,
My soul is touched, I realize.
Therein, the great beauty lies.
So far still feels so near.

For each generation's tiny tots,
For two thousand years have not forgot,
What our world would be if not,
That first Christmas led another one next year.

OTOW Art Guild

**Invites you to our meetings
2nd Friday of the month at the
East Activity Center, room A-1 at
1:00 PM, November through April.**

**Membership is limited to OTOW residents and
our art class students, but everyone is
welcome to visit and enjoy the
demonstrations, refreshments and
vote for our Artist Of The Month.**



- Demonstrations
- Art Shows
- Art Library
- Art Classes
- Refreshments
- AOM Competition
- New Friends

Kudos to creative, hard-working decorators

Happy New Year to all! January promises to be a busy month, just as November and December were.

Our first social of the new season was to see a play at Ed Fletcher's Early Bird Theater. Sixteen people from both the Mallorca and Monaco building signed up to attend the play. Unfortunately, four of the group could not find the theater and therefore did not have a chance to enjoy "Boeing Boeing". From all accounts the food was very good and the play was hilarious.

Did you get a chance to see how beautifully our building was decorated for Christmas? I believe every year we out-do ourselves. This, of course, was due to the fine work of most of our residents, led by Terry and Dick Kuplen.

Dick was spotted on three different occasions stringing lights, helped by Jim Rudderham on one day, by Jason Kuplen on Thanksgiving, and by the rest of the building residents on the day after. We thank Jason, Cass and their two children for helping out with this time-consuming but worthwhile project.

To get the Mallorcans in the festive mood, Terry organized a Continental breakfast, consisting of coffee and Danish. The sugar high propelled us to work quickly and efficiently, because



we knew a light lunch of cold cuts and desserts awaited us.

To complete the wonderful day, Helen Pawlikowski hosted her annual after-decorating cocktail party. It was great to get together with all our hard-working friends and admire our achievements. Sounds of "oohs" and "aahs" could be heard as we delighted in the light show at the Mallorca building.

Thanksgiving was spent with family and friends. Josie Marsiglio flew to Arizona to be with her son and his family. Terry and Dick entertained their son and his family, and Marlin Darlin was the setting for a delightfully different dinner enjoyed by Helen, Ginger Currier, Freda Larson, Jim, and me, all from On Top of the World.

We five met with my cousin Karen King and her family and friends for dinner and then adjourned to her house in Largo for dessert. We all had a great time.

Vito Conforti is one of the best hosts in his bridge group. I think you will agree. Vito plays bridge with Ginger, Helen, and Helen Kelley each week; each player hosts the game in his/her house, providing a nice array of snacks and wine.

When it was Vito's turn to host, he treated the three ladies to lunch and wine at Kally K's in Dunedin, after which they played bridge. The ladies really loved this treat. What a guy!

By the time this article goes to press, the annual Christmas party celebrated by both Mallorca and Monaco buildings will be just a wonderful memory. The active and enthusiastic ladies from Monaco organized the event and invited us to attend. I believe more than 40 signed up! Who doesn't love a party?

Dates to put on your calendar for January: Jan. 15, the annual building meeting in the Veranda Room, from 2-4 p.m.; Jan. 27, Crazy Bridge in the Sunrise Room, from 4-10 p.m.

Watch for sign-ups on the bulletin board, as well as more information on each.



Holidays spent in fun family ways

It was days after Christmas, all the stockings were down, the presents were put away and the tree was stored for next year.

So here is how some of the residents of our building spent their time of good cheer:

Bob and Shirley Livingston spent their very first Christmas here at On Top of the World. They usually go back North but not this year.

Nancy McCall went to visit her family in Texas, while Erna Mandel went back to Canada to share the season with her family.

Jim and Yvonne Courtney enjoyed a visit from all 11 of their grandchildren.

There were many merry times had by all. But one of the happiest times had to be the visit from Bob and Leslie Waring's son and family. They all got in the Warings' silver sled and took off to Orlando to enjoy the many enjoyable sites there, where the children had many delights of course. At the end of the trip it was all hugs and kisses till the next time.

So start your New Year right — get out and enjoy!

Happy New Year!



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Tai Chi

with Ruth Pittman

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Informal survey produces mixed results

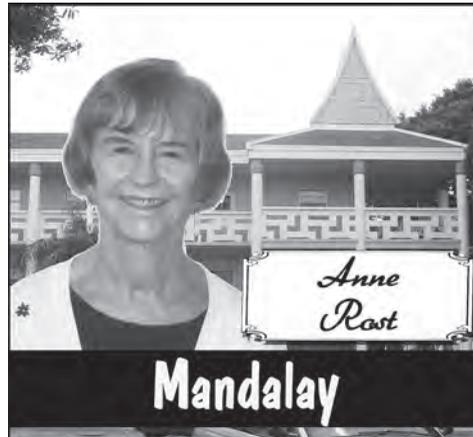
The beginning of the New Year is a time of planning, hoping, and making resolutions. Or is it?

The results of a very unofficial survey of 20 "Mandalasians" suggest doubts. While hoping elicits a very strong response, specific planning was sparse, and making resolutions received a "yes" from only three out of 20 respondents.

Seven of 20 residents listed plans for action in 2014. Projected activities include spring cleaning, resuming golfing, continuing support of a Philippine child, closet reorganization, reducing possessions, initiating exercise program, and organizing files.

By far the most common hope was for good health. Half of those interviewed cited a wish for good or better health for self or family member.

Among the remaining 10 responses were: That the country turn to God; for



the world to achieve peace; to win at the casino; to win the lottery; to have more time with children and grandchildren; to go on a cruise.

When expressing her wish to see her children more often in 2014, Sue Barrett mentioned that her son, Brian, now lives and works in China. He has been there for a year.

Bob Backlund, in commenting on the importance of family ties,

divulged having recently been given a surprise 86th birthday party by his granddaughter at her home in Black Mountain, N.C. It was attended by 22 relatives, including nine great grans. Bob and Madelyn maintain a home in Black Mountain.

Lewis Michaels, building captain, is planning for an annual meeting in January, the date to be announced soon. He also plans to obtain an updated list of Mandalay residents, along with contact information. His hope is to achieve an increased sense of community in our building during this New Year.

In summary, this very casual survey of one-third of Mandalay units finds that hopes are expressed by almost all residents, plans for the New Year by about thirty percent, and New Year resolutions are made by only three out of 20 residents. How do you compare to these figures?

Let's keep being a caring, helpful building

Well it's the start of a new year and I truly don't know where the last year went. I hope you all had a great New Year's Eve and will have a happy, healthy 2014.

Lill and Herb Cervinka had company recently. In December their son Rick and his wife Donna came from Wisconsin to visit for a week. That week included Lill's birthday and an early Christmas. Then the beds got cool, so their daughter Toni and her husband Jack, also from Wisconsin, came for five days. Lill said they enjoyed the visits and all the dinners. Toni and Jack couldn't stay any longer because work was calling. Jack is a school teacher and Toni is a nurse.

Jackie and Jerry Dooley also had company. Their daughter Dawn and her two children came from Anchorage, Alaska for a month.

They went to Disney World, Busch Gardens and many other places. The children were thrilled to swim in Florida's heated pools. Right now, it's



cold and dark in Alaska. They had to return because Dawn works at the University of Alaska.

I had to have the article in by Dec. 15 and these thoughts didn't come to mind. Christmas is not just lights, trees, gifts, etc.; it is being thoughtful of others and doing for them what you would like to have done for you.

Several months ago, Dave Baxendale sent me an e-mail about having lived in the Espana for 18 years and how everyone used to be

caring neighbors. Twenty years ago when the Espana opened, things that we did then are different today. Many of us original residents are getting older. Many no longer drive.

Younger people have moved in and have different attitudes and opinions than the older folk. Younger folk should learn that when you see that someone needs help, don't just say to them, "If you need anything, call me." Many people would not call.

Let's be a caring building and when you know that someone might need help, call them and say, "I'm going to the grocery store later today, would you like to go with me?"

It's a new year and we can all start to introduce a new attitude. Be kind and look to help others whether they are neighbors or just friends near and far. Pick up that phone and tell them you were just thinking of them and wanted to say hello. At the end of 2014, you will be proud of what you have silently accomplished. Happy New Year!



A brief look at some new residents

Guess I'll have to come out of hiding after not bringing my cake to our Christmas party. Hope you all had happy holidays.

Welcome Paula and Paul Seggelin, from Pigeon, Mass. After 10 years traveling back and forth, they are here to enjoy their retirement.

Paula will do errands, shopping, doctor visits, home hairdressing, etc.

Paul's hobby was homing pigeons. He misses them. But that hobby has now been replaced by golfing.

Also welcome Karyn, Kelsey and Mike d'Gina. Mike, a contractor and handyman, retired from Horizon. Both mother and daughter work as CNAs and home health care. Karen loves cooking and baking. Best of all, she's an Army veteran. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Let's also welcome Sandy and David Stehr, from Cape Cod, Mass., who are no longer Snowbirds. Sandy is retired from many years of social work in New Hampshire.

David is a retired psychologist waiting for his back to get fit so he can get into golfing — something they both enjoy doing. Their next important event will be seeing their 1-year-old grandchild.

ATTENTION WEST-SIDE DRIVERS

- As you enter on World Parkway and approach Americus Boulevard, remember to come to a complete stop before making your turn. Do not pass a left-turning car on the right, inasmuch as that blocks the other driver's vision and could cause an accident.
- Remember to make a complete stop when you come to any stop sign within the OTOW community. The other cars and pedestrians around you are depending on it, even though you may not see them. A "rolling stop" places you and others at risk of an accident. Stop, look both ways, and look in front of you. Thanks for being a cautious and safe driver!

COFFEE CORNER

Coffee and donuts are served from 7 to 10 a.m. every weekday morning in the East Activity Center auditorium. Come visit and have a cup of coffee! The cost is minimal. The proceeds help other clubs and groups here at OTOW. So come visit your recreation center, see the changes and enjoy a cup of coffee at your Coffee Corner!

Building committee officers installed

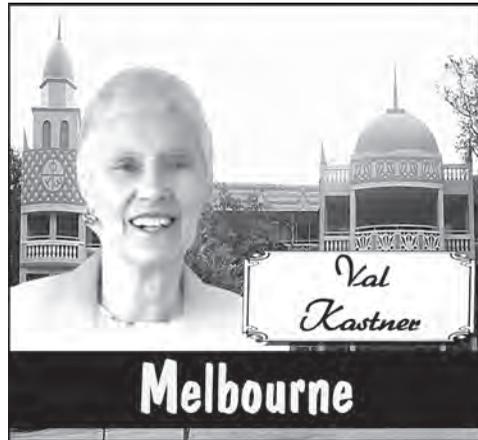
*When winter bites in cold attack
The brave stay home and bite right back;
The cowards flee to Florida
Where weather's somenbat torrida.*

We can all be thankful for the "torrida" weather we have been having. I came to Florida to escape the icy challenge, but I have loved ones who love the snow and don't mind the cold weather. So glad they don't all come to Florida or our roads would be a parking lot.

This is written before our Christmas dinner at Queen's Pizza, so we will have to report on that later. Again we thank Carol Futej for making the arrangements. Watch the bulletin board for January plans.

So glad to see our building committee at work. They held their first executive meeting on Nov. 20. The newly established committee: Captain, Stormy Pickering; Secretary, Connie Valentin; Treasurer, Gary Tompson; southwest wing captain, Francis Rice; northwest wing captain, Gary Tompson; social, Carol Futej. They are planning a building meeting in January Watch for the date on the bulletin board.

Maintenance inspectors have found our storage rooms out of compliance with condo rules. If



anything in your area has been tagged, get rid of it or fix it. Make sure you are only occupying the space allotted.

The bike room is overloaded. If you have a bike that you no longer use, let Stormy know. She has someone who will fix them up and donate them. Also if you have household items you no longer need, they will pick them up, too.

Sonny and Susan Hunt are planning a visit to the Atlanta aquarium for a Weeki Wachee exhibit. Susan finds it ironic that in the 50 years she has been visiting in Florida, they have never been up to view the mermaid show — now she is going to Atlanta to see it.

Pat Hedgecoth recently visited Quantum Leap farm in Odessa.

She was impressed by the 10-acre equine farm surrounded by 1,700 acres of environmentally-protected public land. Founded in 2000 as a non-profit, it has therapeutic equestrian programs to serve adults and children with injuries and disabilities.

Pat got to watch Sonic, a 16-year-old Appaloosa horse, working with a serviceman injured in Afghanistan and a member of the Wounded Warrior project.

Although she went as a member of the Eckerd College program, she says anyone can visit.

Ruth LaHoy returned from her holidays with family in Michigan. Her granddaughter, a flight attendant, came with her to help her settle in again. She is fortunate to have such a lovely granddaughter.

Also happy to see Larry and Betty Hayhurst back with us. By the time you read this, we will welcome many more Snowbirds back.

What are you going to do with all your time in January? No holiday parties, no cards to write, no presents to shop for.

Have a restful month and enjoy the amenities that On Top of the World has to offer.

Remember, our next news deadline is Jan. 10.

CONDOMINIUM OWNERS WHO RENT THEIR UNITS

OWNERS who rent direct must request necessary forms for securing recreation 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
Recreation Card Dept.
2069 World Parkway Blvd. E.
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 recreation 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.

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Recent wedding shows that some traditions can change

Wedding traditions have really changed. The younger generation, especially the men, are wearing more casual attire. The women still continue the custom of wearing gowns.

Some of the new trends show the guys wearing patterned bow ties or suspenders. It saves the expense of a tuxedo.

Dolores Kopack and Shirley Miller flew to New Jersey in November to attend Shirley's niece's wedding. Dolores said she hasn't been to a wedding in years and was surprised that the guys didn't wear tuxedos. The groomsmen all wore long sleeve sweaters over their shirts and looked very nice.

The weather was damp and raining the entire time of the ladies' New Jersey trip. The happy exception was the day of the wedding just before going to church. The rain stopped and the sun emerged.

The reception was in Atlantic City, where the temperature was 59 degrees. Dolores and Shirley had a wonderful trip and were happy to return to sunny Florida.

Our daughter celebrated her 50th birthday recently. Kelly and her family live in Acworth, Ga. Two of her girlfriends flew to Georgia as did I to



help her celebrate the milestone. One lady from Kansas City and one from San Diego and I arrived in Atlanta around the same time of day. Kelly lives a little over an hour away from the airport. The drive to her home makes me so thankful to be close to our airport.

We celebrated for five days with dinners and luncheons at the Melting Pot, Cheesecake Factory and a few more restaurants. The girlfriends left after five days and I stayed on for an additional five days.

We often wonder how did that darling baby grow up so quickly? I remember the saying, "Enjoy yourself, it's later that you think!"

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Seasonal Residents-Temporary Address Change

To ensure timely delivery of On Top of the World mailings, please use this change of address form. This form will allow for a temporary change of address as you move to your seasonal address. You will still need to make a temporary change of address through the U.S. Postal Service for your regular mail service.

OTOW Change of Address Form

Building # _____ Apartment/Unit # _____ Today's Date _____

Unit Owner Name: _____

Current Address: _____

Current Phone: _____

Forwarding Address: _____

Forwarding Phone Number: _____

Date Leaving OTOW Home: _____



Complete a new form in the future if your return date is unknown at this time.

You may mail this form to : On Top of the World Condominium Association Inc.
2069 World Parkway Blvd E,
Clearwater, Fl. 33763

THE OTOW BUS COMES DIRECTLY TO YOU!

For reservations, call 799-3417, then press #7 of the voice menu. Seating is limited. Make reservations 24 hours in advance.

Reservations for transportation to and from the East and West Activity Centers will be accepted following the schedules listed below.

Tuesday Morning Specials

See Posting in Bus

Paradise/West Side.....9 to 9:20 a.m.
East Side..... 9:25 to 9:45 a.m.

Tuesday Afternoon

K-Mart & Countryside Mall

Paradise/West Side 12:30 to 12:50 p.m.
East Side..... 12:55 to 1:15 p.m.

Wednesday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Wednesday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Thursday Morning

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Thursday Afternoon

Publix (Sunset & Belcher)

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Friday Morning

Super Walmart

Paradise/West Side.....8 to 8:20 a.m.
East Side..... 8:25 to 8:45 a.m.

Friday Afternoon

Super Walmart

Paradise/West Side.... 11 to 11:20 a.m.
East Side.....11:25 to 11:45 a.m.

Guidelines for Riding the Bus

- The OTOW bus service is for the exclusive use of OTOW residents with a valid recreation card.
- This service is provided to our residents at no charge.
- Thank you, but the driver is prohibited from accepting tips.
- The bus driver picks up passengers with reservations only.
- You must be able to transfer on your own to ride the bus.
- Medical devices may be restricted due to passenger load.
- Eating and drinking on the bus is prohibited.
- Shopping bag limits and size restrictions are at the driver's discretion.
- If space allows, residents with current recreation cards may catch a one-way ride home on the bus.
- If you create a safety hazard or cause unsafe distractions to the driver, you will not be permitted on the bus.
- Shopping time is 90 minutes and begins at the first drop off.
- Due to limited seating, we cannot accept multi-day reservations.
- Reservations are first come, first served, and may only be made 24 hours in advance.
- The reservation phone number is for seat reservations only. Please leave your name, trip request, building and unit number, and phone number.
- If you live on the second floor of a two-story building, or if your building's elevator is out of service, the driver will carry your bags to your front door. The driver is strictly prohibited from entering your unit.
- The SCA staff takes their directions from SCA management. Please refer all questions and concerns to the Service Department.



A nighttime trip down Franciscan Drive reveals a splendid display of holiday lights.

A long day's efforts paid off with a spectacular display

First off I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

John McKinsey headed up our holiday decorating party, putting together a great crew. They put in a long day, starting at 8 a.m. and working well into the evening to assure that everything was working well and that it all came together as planned.

Breakfast, coffee, lunch and drinks were served. They also assisted residents in decorating many of the individual units. A big thanks goes out to everyone who was involved. Because of your efforts, you made the drive down Franciscan Drive between Mallorca and Monaco buildings a beautiful holiday experience (see photo, above).

On Dec. 12, we had our building Christmas party; it was a real success. We had 30 in attendance, including friends, relatives and some of our neighbors from the Mallorca building. Felice's Italian Deli did an outstanding job catering our party. They served pasta and eggplant along with salad and dessert.

Congratulations go out to Julie Narancich for her appointment once again as Line Dancing secretary. Julie is very active in our community. Besides being Line Dancing secretary and writing their news article each month, Julie is active in the Ladies Exercise classes and Zumba classes.



Julie also holds the title as our building president. Thank you, Julie, for all your hard work and dedication.

Last month I attended the On Top of the World Press Association meeting. The Green Mint Asian Grill catered the meeting. We were served a great meal consisting of an array of various Asian and Vietnamese cuisines.

One of the topics of the meeting was to encourage our reader/residents to patronize our advertisers. We need them to keep our great paper running. Many of them offer discounts and coupons.

This month we celebrate my birthday on Jan. 6, Mike Narancich on Jan. 8, John Szado on Jan 20, Bill Gaber on Jan 23 and Georgie Shergold's on Jan. 27.

See you next month.



**Have a
safe and
enjoyable
New Year!**

CLASSIFIED ADS

This Classified section is a service to the OTOW community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and copy must be 20 words or less including phone number. Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. *If the submitters's name and building is not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.*

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Ads must be placed in the boxes marked OTOW News in the East and West Activity Centers or dropped off at the newspaper office. We cannot accept ads over the phone. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted.

FOR SALE

Golf cart, Bag Boy, 3-wheel, easy-lift \$45; beach umbrella \$5; table-top fan \$5. 726-6550

Sheet music collection: piano music with vocals, classical, some organ music. Call to see. 797-9616

Two London Fog raincoats, zipout linings, sizes 12/14 \$30 each; black leather Coach handbag \$25. 791-7610

Twin beds w/frames, headboards, box springs & mattresses, wicker; lamp with shade, 28", pineapple base, golden bronze \$30. 480-9456

Lazy-boy sofa, floral print \$299; 3-step ladder \$10. 791-3894

Corner TV stand with shelf for recorder and doors to cupboard underneath, excellent condition \$40. 286-8315

Bathroom cabinet: 3-mirror door vanity, 36"W x 30"L, matching 6-light fixture, all excellent \$85 for both. 797-5882

Men's lawn bowls size 4 1/2-5 w/carrying case \$40 OBO; ladies Almark, size 2 heavy, w/case, 4 booties, acc. \$50. 799-6335

Generation 3 Kirby vacuum cleaner, some accessories, recent tune-up, works perfectly \$300. 600-8529

Spinet Wurlitzer piano, good condition. You move it and it's yours. 447-8022

Sectional, curio cabinets, TVs, coffee table, end table, night stand, large wall unit, all great shape, flexible prices. 602-373-1028

Aerial B&W photo of OTOW, Safety Harbor to Clearwater Beach, 60"W x 42"H. perfect, new condition, laminated \$200. (207) 230-9033

Large 25" x 30" gold-trimmed mirror with matching shelf. 725-0753

Aerobed air mattress, queen-size, built-in pump, used twice, w/carrying case, paid \$135, asking \$65 OBO. 286-6484

Microwave oven, Cuisinart, stainless steel, 20.1" x 17.3" x 11.1", brand new, never used \$50. 712-3513

Bicycle, fold-up, compact, 3-speed, hand brakes, comfortable seat \$95; golf clubs and bag, good for beginners \$25. 400-6097

Food processor, Black & Decker "Quick & Easy Plus" model FP1450 \$25; Top of the World license plate \$10. 796-1513

12-piece table setting, "Lady Louise" old ivory pattern from the 1940s, good condition, made in U.S.A. \$275 OBO. 331-1554

Artist brushes, 1095 camel hair 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & Delta 1, 2, 3. Best offer. 724-5922

New women's dress shoes, open toe, silver heel, flexible sole, size 10 medium. 712-0304

WANTED

61-key portable electronic keyboard with transpose capability, music stand, keyboard stand, electrical cord. 447-8022

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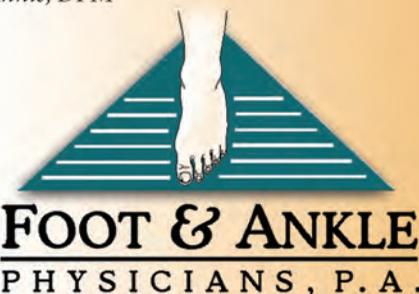
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Gary R. Goodman, DPM and Elizabeth M. Annis, DPM

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