

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS



January 2017

Published Since 1968

Only Good News for 49 Years

Volume 49

No. 1

OTOW welcomes in 2017

Not only will “Flashback” entertain On Top of the World residents for their eighth consecutive New Year’s Eve ball, but band members actually request to be here when the new year rolls in!

“We love playing On Top of the World,” said keyboard player Jeffrey Burns. “On Top of the World is one of our favorites and we love the way people respond to our music.”

When Flashback requests to play here New Year’s Eve, Entertainment Committee President Marvin Flam doesn’t hesitate to sign them up.

That’s because the dance floor fills up and music bounces across every wall. People don’t just sit for three hours - they really get into the spirit of the night.

“We are going to play some new material and party it up,” said band leader Greg Richards. “Overall, we just like to keep it coming.”

The band won’t be new, but Marvin said the Entertainment Committee will be introducing a new New Year’s Day breakfast.

Instead of residents traveling to catch breakfast at 1 a.m. or drive around looking for a place to eat, food will be available right in the auditorium.

“The Entertainment Committee has added coffee and snacks after midnight for the guests,” Marvin said. “It will be a nice opportunity to get prepared for the trip home and start the new year.

“Guests have been asking for this service and it will become a part of our New Year’s Eve tradition in the future.”

This event is sold out. No tickets will be sold at the door. More than 400 residents are expected.

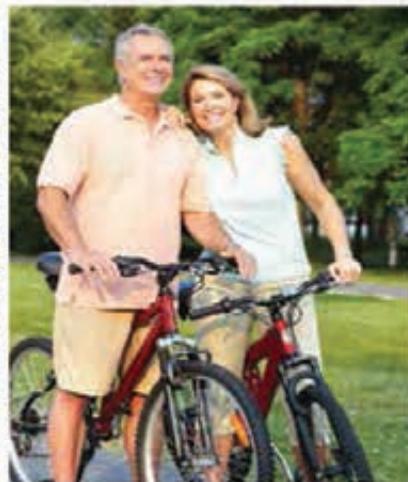
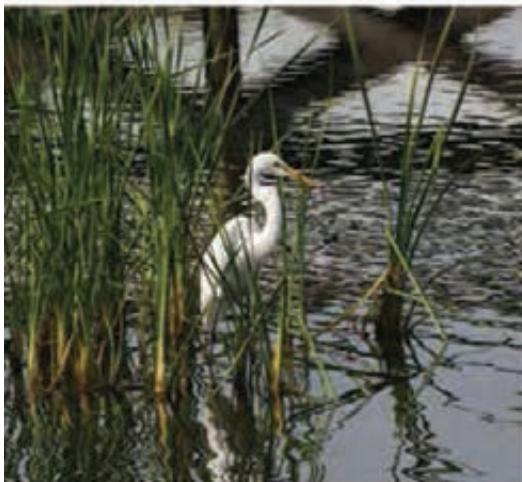


Pictured above and at right are scenes from last year’s New Year’s Eve ball sponsored by the Entertainment Committee. Above, the dance floor is filled with residents celebrating the start of a new year. At right is ‘Flashback,’ the band which performs on New Year’s Eve every year in the East Activity Center. More than 400 people are expected for New Year’s Eve 2016 and each year the night is a sellout.





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New street signs getting installed - major projects continue

Happy New Year!

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

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

We ask all drivers to observe the posted stop signs and speed limit signs. The new signage is in compliance with Department of Transportation standards as required by the Pinellas County Sheriff's office. This prepares the community for the issuing of traffic tickets within our private streets.

The past few months have been some of our busiest yet with many large scale projects in progress or nearing completion.

Our goal was to complete the majority of projects while the community experienced a higher vacancy rate that occurred during our summer months when our Snowbirds travel north. Unfortunately, our community experienced not only daily record summer rains, but two tropical storms as well. This impacted vendor timelines this summer and also created many of the upcoming projects.

Two of the tennis courts were affected by the above normal rainfall and storm water run-off. This has caused damage underneath the courts that will require a rebuild of the courts. The Association Board determined it was best to leave two of the safe courts open for play this winter. The alternative was to start renovations during our peak occupancy when the courts receive the most use.

We anticipate renovations to begin in late spring. Those renovations will impact not only the tennis courts, but the shuffleboard courts and horseshoe play as well.



If permitting allows, the site design will include current activities and accommodate a much anticipated outdoor pavilion.

The Belcher Road fence replacement begins this month and will take approximately 6-8 weeks for completion. The guard booths at the east and west Belcher entrances will receive renovations beginning late January. We ask that you exercise special care when traveling in these construction areas.

This time of year the Community Service Office experiences large increases in requests for service. Please rest assured if you have submitted a service request either by phone, email or visiting the Community Service Office, a service ticket will be generated.

Please do not submit multiple tickets through multiple portals as this delays your request.

All service tickets are triaged in accordance with life/property safety receiving priority. Day-to-day routine maintenance is ongoing and most requests are resolved within several business days.

If the service item is unit owner responsibility, you will be notified by the management company.

- To submit a Service Request by phone (8:30-3:00) call 727-683-



In case you are wondering, the idea here is you are supposed to stop at this intersection. This is actually a combination of old signs and new signs in the community. Soon, the new signs will remain.

(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

6981.

- To submit a Service Request by email, visit the otowclearwaterinfo.com Web site and click on Service Department.

- To submit a Service Request in person, visit the Community Service Office 8:30-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- To report an after-hours emergency, call 727-799-1115.





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Please mention this ad when making an appointment.

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Driver safety course scheduled for Feb. 9-10

AAA Driving Course

The next AAA driving course will be held on Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, and Friday, Feb. 10, 2017, in the East Activity Center Starlite Room from 9 a.m. to noon.

The cost is \$15 and registration forms can be found on page 60 of the On Top of the World newspaper.

You must attend both dates.

FLOW Bus

We are currently working on a new 2017 FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) bus schedule.

The coordinator has expressed concerns that they are not seeing enough residents utilizing the service so we have suggested quarterly days and times.

Please watch for additional information to follow.

Dog Park

We are in the process of gathering proposals for repair/replacement of



the pavers at the Dog Park. All bids should be in by the end of the month and we are planning for work to begin as quickly as possible.

Activity Card Information

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

Please note that no cards will be punched or processed without proper identification and address verification.

As a reminder, you must bring your valid Activity Card with you when using SCA facilities and be prepared to show it upon staff request.

All guests must be accompanied by a resident any time they plan to use an SCA facility, including the pool.

As a reminder, the resident needs to remain with their guest while they enjoy the facilities.

Any noncompliance matters are directed to the On Top of the World Association.

Important Phone Numbers

The On Top of the World emergency after hours phone number is 727-799-1115.

Please call this number in the event of a building emergency, such as water intrusion into your unit.

For a life-threatening emergency, please dial 911.

The OTOW phone number to

submit a service request is 727-683-6981.

Please call this number to submit a work order such as general building issues in the common area only.

Important Reminders

Please do not leave emergency information on the service request line as this will delay the amount of time it takes us to respond to your request.

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

Also, as a reminder, please wash out any cans and glassware before tossing into the recycle bins as this will aide in reducing insects and odors.

SCA Staff

The SCA staff would like to take the opportunity to wish you a safe and Happy New Year!

TAX IDENTITY THEFT AWARENESS SEMINAR

Wednesday, January 25th, 2017



9:30 AM to 11 AM

EAC Auditorium

Registration is recommended



Registration is recommended:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

BUILDING _____ UNIT _____

Event Date: January 25, 2017
 Time: 9:30 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.
 Location: East Activity Center Auditorium

On Top of the World Community Service Office

proudly presents a

Tax Identity Theft Awareness Seminar



TAX IDENTITY THEFT
AWARENESS WEEK



Christmas Eve fire still reminds us of

Reality Check: Last year at this time, the community was in shock over the devastating fire at the Colonial Building (Building 4).

Any residential fire is a catastrophe on many levels. We were fortunate that there was no loss of life.

There is always the potential for injury or loss of life, disruption of your home and routine, the loss of keepsakes and maybe the loss of a pet.

After many lengthy meetings with the Association's insurance carrier, owners' insurance carriers, the Pinellas County Building Department, engineers and architects, plans were finalized and reconstruction got underway.

I'm pleased to report that construction progress is happening rapidly and the Association anticipates the release of the reconstructed properties to the owners by March of this upcoming new year.

Throughout this process, Sharon Licata and the management company team have continued to be engaged with all parties and managing the restoration. Were it not for such close engagement, the project would not be so far along.

Insurance Update

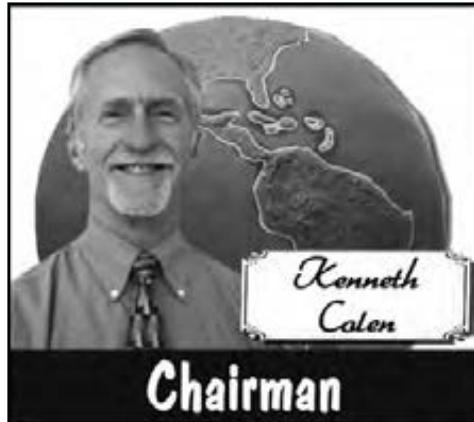
This fire event is a reminder to each resident to check in with your insurance agent and to make sure the insurance coverage on your unit and contents is adequate.

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

It is the obligation of every owner to insure the contents of their unit, including loss of use coverage, which will allow your carrier to provide you living and lodging expenses should you become displaced.

Displacement after a fire may be between 6 and 10 months!

This is a good point to segue into the limits of coverage that individual unit owners may wish to have. Contents coverage may vary greatly depending on what you own. As a basic point though, you need adequate limits to cover furnishings, personal items, floor coverings, appliances and cabinetry. All carriers write an HO6 rider that provides for loss assessment coverage in the event of a special assessment from the Association to cov-



er unforeseen shortfalls or losses.

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

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

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

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

In this recent event, having and using an operable fire extinguisher may have greatly limited the damage.

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

The Association will seek reimbursement from the unit owner for its

Insurance Responsibility of the Individual Unit Owner

For more information, please visit www.otowclearwaterinfo.com then click "Community" and download the pdf document.

repair work in every instance.

Upcoming Projects Painting/Waterproofing

Buildings 23 and 39 are the next two structures scheduled to have new paint coatings applied to the front of the buildings in January.

We ask that residents in these particular buildings be mindful and remove any outside holiday decorations by Jan. 3, 2017, in preparation of the arrival of the painting contractor. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Please also be aware that the painting contractor may require residents to temporarily relocate their personal vehicles in order to reach all areas of the building.

All start dates are approximate and inclement weather may affect scheduling.

Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

The new year traditionally marks the start of roofing improvements as the weather at this time of year is usually favorable for these types of projects.

The first project slated for this year is Building 7 and residents will begin seeing materials and equipment delivered for the job around the first two weeks of January. This will require the staged closure of the building's two parking lots, either partially or in their entirety, to allow for the safe and efficient operation by the contractor.

Building bulletin boards will be posted with the contractor's activities during the project's duration. As always, please observe all cordoned off areas in the interests of safety.

New walkway lighting fixtures are slated for installation at Buildings 15, 17 and 18A in January 2017. Residents may see maintenance crews operating in the walkways and around unit entrance ways as this project progresses. Please watch your step around these work areas if you happen to encoun-

ter them.

Building 34 will be the next structure to have its walkway and stairwell railings improved with the work anticipated to start Jan. 9, pending permitting from Pinellas County.

As with other railing projects, a licensed contractor will affect the complete removal and replacement of the aluminum components in the second and third floor balcony walkways and center core and end stairwells.

The improvements are estimated to be complete in 5-7 weeks from the start of the project. Notices will be posted in advance of the start date, so residents should keep an eye on their bulletin boards for updates.

As with all other improvements, please exercise caution in the areas where this work is taking place.

Reoccurring Reminder For All Community Residents

Building walkway repairs will continue as construction crews perform maintenance to second and third floor walking surfaces.

Many buildings will see these restoration crews as the management company focuses its efforts on these types of repairs. This work requires the use of specialized power tools and may cause a temporary inconvenience in the form of noise and dust. Repair crews will do their best to limit the inconvenience during this necessary work.

These small repair areas will also be coated as a future preventative.

As always, we ask that residents please limit any foot traffic in and around any work area they may encounter.

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

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

The management company will post notices on affected building's bulletin boards concerning the dates crews are expected to commence the work.

Please be aware of "Caution" and "Wet Paint" signs in and around these work areas.

(continued on page 7)

importance to own adequate insurance

Inspection Services Division

The Inspection Services team, in conjunction with the Parkway Construction Department, will continue prepping buildings scheduled for new paint coatings in the current improvement cycle.

This has been an ongoing endeavor throughout the community over the last few years and encompasses the removal of all association unapproved plant hanger brackets, holiday lighting hooks that are affixed into the masonry block, hose reels and other wall and ceiling penetrations.

In keeping with association rules, these items will be removed without notice.

Residents are kindly asked to seek association approval before affixing anything to the common element in the future.

The management company would like to remind residents that all water softening equipment installations require advance association approval via a modification permit.

A permit application package may be obtained by visiting the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center at 2069 World Parkway Blvd.

Residents are also reminded that only resin-style, not ion exchange or salt, water softeners are permissible in the community. Please make sure you apply for a permit and receive approval prior to contracting with a service to avoid a compliance visit by the management company. Thanks for your advance cooperation.

Inspection services representatives will also be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproofing coatings during the 2016/2017 improvement cycle.

The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules.

This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied.

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

Many first floor unit owners will be receiving notification from the In-

spection Services Department over the coming months as the management company works towards the removal of all unapproved decorative stones throughout the community.

The stones are not only an unapproved item for use in landscaping, but have the propensity to damage association and personal property alike.

To keep all residents in the community aware of this compliance issue, the notice will be published in upcoming editions of the OTOW newspaper. The management company asks that if you receive a notification requiring action on your part, please remove the stone at the earliest convenience.

The Inspection Services division is continuing to find many awnings with compromised connection points to the common element.

In response, they have been reaching out to affected unit owners to have the awnings removed and limit any further damage to the community.

As noted in prior articles, the "clamshell" awnings do not meet building code for wind resistance. Fortunately there are new products that do. If you have an awning, please

arrange for its inspection through the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center.

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

The management company is asking that all residents comply and not replant the areas. Plants or other items found in these areas will be removed without notice and disposed of as they hinder the proper maintenance of these meters in the future.

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

Please, always apply for approval before you install.

Inspection efforts are focused on the tagging and removal of personal furnishings and belongings placed in outside stairwells of buildings. These obstructions present a fire concern,

block egress, or are of a nature that they do not comply with written community standards.

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

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

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

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

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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Only Good News for 49 Years
Published since 1968

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

Press Association Officers

Yvonne Courtney, President

Jackie Dooley, Vice President • Arlene Bergen, Secretary

To advertise in our 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 Feb. 1

The newsroom will be closed on Jan. 2

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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

On Top of the World News does not accept an advertiser solely because it is willing to pay to advertise. Trades and services regulated by the State or County must all be licensed in order to advertise. In some cases, background checks are required. All advertisements must contain a local address or a local telephone number. Ads resembling news articles or news pages are not accepted. 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. The OTOW News may not be reproduced in any way, in any other media, except in print and on the official OTOW Website.

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This month's volunteers:

- Theresa Kawalec
- Barb Sundberg
- Esta-Lee Schwartz
- Cele Radeloff
- Donna Lucas
- Kathleen Santosuosso

Newsroom Hours

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

Phone Numbers: OTOW Emergencies 799-1115 • Non-Emergencies (daytime) 683-6981

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Ingredients

- 4 Chicken Thighs
- 2 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 2 Teaspoons Kosher Salt
- 2 Tablespoons Vegetable Oil
- 2 Medium Onions, each cut into quarters and left attached at the root
- 2 Bell Peppers (green and red), stemmed, seeded and coarsely chopped
- 1 Yellow Squash, cut into large pieces
- 3 Garlic Cloves, peeled and crushed
- 1 Cup of Dry White Wine
- 2 Teaspoons Smoked Paprika

Tip Of The Month

Stand-in for Pie Weights - When prebaking a 9-inch tart shell, instead of covering the dough with foil and weighing it down with pie weights, after trimming the dough cover with foil or parchment paper and put an 8- to 8-1/2 inch diameter pot lid on top. It's effective at preventing the pastry from puffing up and easier to remove than pie weights.

Chicken Thighs

Peppers, Squash and Smoked Paprika

Directions

COOKING DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl, toss the thighs with the olive oil and 1 teaspoon salt. Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat and brown the thighs on both sides, about 10 minutes. Transfer to a large shallow roasting pan or rimmed sheet pan.

In the same skillet, add the vegetable oil. When the oil is hot, add the onions and brown on all sides, about 3 minutes. Add the peppers, squash and garlic to the skillet and cook until the peppers and squash are browned on the edges, about 5 minutes. Add the peppers and squash to the roasting pan.

In a bowl, stir together the wine, paprika and remaining teaspoon salt. Pour this over the chicken and the vegetables. Roast, uncovered, on the bottom rack of the oven, tossing several times, until the chicken is very tender and glazed with the pan juices, about 40 minutes. Remove the garlic and serve hot.

The Perfect Beverage - Chardonnay

Crisp and light, often fruity or buttery, it is the perfect accompaniment for fowl.

OTOW residents volunteer to help you keep your hospital appointments

By Cecile Sangiamo

If you ever needed a ride to the hospital and contacted CareLift, chances are you met one of our On Top of the World volunteer drivers.

Victor Figueroa has been driving for CareLift for 11 years, Rae Marie Roberts has been driving for 21 years and LuAnn Erskine has been driving for the last nine years.

They volunteer their time and love helping people who need the service.

Victor likes the morning shift. He usually starts his day at 7:15 a.m. if there is someone who has made an appointment for a lift to any one of the Bay Care facilities.

He enjoys the feedback he gets from his passengers and says no two trips are ever the same.

Victor also delivers Meals On Wheels to homebound residents and he can be seen in the East Activity Center auditorium sound booth as part of the sound and lights team.

You may remember LuAnn from her choreography work with OTOW variety shows.

LuAnn devotes two and a half days a week driving the van. She also volunteers at the hospital. She is a long-time Clearwater resident, who came here at the age of 16 because her father wanted to play golf all year round - this was not possible in Michigan.



Victor Figueroa and Rae Marie Roberts are On Top of the World residents who volunteer as CareLift drivers.

Both LuAnn and Rae Marie are active in the Knitting Club. They both knit soft baby hats for new babies born at Bay Care hospitals.

Of the three drivers, Rae Marie has been a volunteer the longest and will never dream of retiring. She loves

filling the need and says the job is a lot more than just being a chauffeur - she also likes chatting with passengers or anyone who stops by the van.

CareLift is for transportation to Bay Care facilities only. You must be able to get in and out of the van on your own. They will be happy to provide a step stool if you need that little

boost getting into the vehicle.

Donations are gratefully accepted and used for operating expenses.

Reservations can be made weeks or days in advance by calling the dispatcher at 727-734-6107. There is no cost for the service.

You will also see their sharp vans in our annual Irish Club parade.

Jewelry-Making Club instructor duplicates Hope diamond

By Richard Madison

One day, Charlie Fuhr, the guru-gnome at the On Top of the World Jewelry-Making Club, had a rebellious moment.

Though he usually goes for a walk to dispel such heedless episodes, this time he would not let go.



You should know, every jewelry-making (lapidary) gnome occasionally rebels and decides they will no longer cut and shape typical, sparkle driven, 2-carat diamonds, but instead will create strange exotic-shaped gems to show off their brilliance of talent.

To do that, of course, you actually need talent, or at least skill, a lot of time and a massive stone.

Keep in mind, creating something special out of a diamond does not al-



low for making errors. Each mistake or retake becomes expensive.

So, Charlie decided to tackle duplicating one of the most famous, most expensive and most notorious diamonds in the world -- the world's largest deep blue Hope diamond.

Now, for you newbie gnomes, the Hope diamond is a rare, blue 45.52 carat diamond, which is insured for

\$250 million.

Believed to originate in India, the Hope diamond is a crudely cut, 112 carat, blue diamond which was purchased in 1666 by a French merchant.

The diamond was sold to King Louis XIV, recut, stolen during the French Revolution of 1791, recut again, and sold to the Hope family of London Banking fame.

After various savory and unsavory transactions, including those of King George IV, who had to sell it to pay off his debts, the diamond flowed through the selling hands of Cartier to Washington socialite Evelyn McLean, who started legitimizing the gem.

Once again it was sold in 1949, Harry Winston of New York donated the diamond to the National Museum of Natural History, which put it on

display for the most ordinary of persons to see.

You can either go to the museum to see it yourself or ask Charlie to show you his version.

You can compare the blue diamond in this article to the actual Hope diamond on the Internet. Go to:

http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia_SI/nmnh/hope.htm

At the OTOW Jewelry-Making Club, we are not going to teach you to create your own Hope diamond, but we can teach you the basics of gem cutting so you can make your own jewelry.

The Jewelry-Making Club meets from 9 to noon every Tuesday and Thursday in the East Activity Center Lapidary Room.

1/6 to 1/8

Time to Vote!

Vote from anywhere in the world

2017 OTOW Pet of the Year

Between Friday, Jan. 6, and Sunday, Jan. 8, go online and vote for two of your favorite candidates. You can only vote from a home computer. No cell phone voting is permitted.

Voting can only be done once per computer. Anyone in the world can vote.

Visit OnTopOfTheWorldNews.com, click the Clearwater link and look for the "Pet of the Month" button. You will see all 12 eligible pets and you may read the biography of each one. Polls will be open for three days only. Get the results in your February newspaper. The winner will receive a free bubble bath and grooming from Barks & Bubbles and will walk in the 2017 Irish Club Parade.



Sophie



Miss Rosie



Macy



Callie



Mimi



Sparkles



Nove



Bailey



Laurie Li



Mei-Ling



Cookie



Alex

JANUARY

Events must be approved by the Community Service Office before appearing on this calendar.

DAILY/WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

M-Monday, T-Tuesday, W-Wednesday, H-Thursday, F-Friday, S-Saturday, U-Sunday

ART/CRAFTS

CARING AND SHARING

Tuesdays, 9 am, Craft Room

CERAMICS

Tuesdays, 12 pm, Craft Room

Fridays, 9 am, Craft Room

CHINESE PAINT BRUSH

Tuesdays, 12:30 pm, Art Room

DRAWING CLASS

Thursdays, 1 pm, Art Room

PAINTING PALS

Wednesdays, 1 pm, Art Room

PAINTING WORKSHOP

Mondays, 9:30 am, Art Room

GOOD NEIGHBORS CRAFTS

Wednesdays, 9 am, Craft Room

BILLIARDS

EIGHT BALL - A FLIGHT

Mondays, 6:30 pm, Billiards Room

EIGHT BALL - B FLIGHT

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Billiards Room

NINE BALL

Tuesdays, 1 pm, Billiards Room

Fridays, 1 pm, Billiards Room

SCOTCH DOUBLES

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Billiards Room

QUE'T LADIES

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, Billiards Room

CARD GAMES

BID EUCHRE

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Art Room (none Jan 3)

BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS

Thursdays, 4 pm, Yellow Room

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Mondays, Thursdays, 11 am Yellow Room

CRIBBAGE

Wednesdays, 10 am, Small Card Room

DOUBLE PINOCHLE

Sundays, Wednesdays, 12:30 pm, Small Card Room

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Wednesdays, Saturdays, 11 am, Yellow Room

HAND & FOOT CANASTA

Fridays, 6 pm, Small Card Room

MAHJONGG

M, W, F 1 pm, Rainbow Room

Mondays, 4:45, Rainbow Rm

Tuesdays, 6 pm, Rainbow Rm

PINOCHLE

Tuesdays, 5 pm, Starlite Room

Thursdays, 5 pm, Small Card Room

PINOCHLE LESSONS

Thursdays, 3 pm, Yellow Room

SAMBA

Mondays, 12 pm, Small Card Room

Thursdays, 6 pm, Craft Room

SCOPA

Mondays, Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, Craft Room

ATHLETICS

PING PONG

M,T,W, 10 am, Sunrise Room

BOARD GAMES

CHESS

Tuesdays, Thursdays, 2 pm, Rainbow Room

DOMINOES

Tuesdays, 5:30 pm, Small Card Room

CLASSES/LESSONS/EDUCATION

CANADIAN CLUB ENGLISH CLASSES

Wednesdays, Fridays, 4:30 p.m., Yellow Room

COMPUTER CLASS

Saturdays, 8:30 am, Kitchen

COMPUTER CLUB

M,T,W,H,F, 8:30 am, Computer Room

COMPUTER CLUB WINDOWS 10 WORKSHOP

Saturdays, 8:30 am, Craft Room

ITALIAN CLASSES

Fridays, 10:30 am, Small Card Room

DANCING

DANCING WITH NOLAND

Mondays, 1 pm, Art Room

SNOWBIRDS SALSASIZE

Tuesdays, 8:30 am, Sunrise Room

SOCIAL DANCE LESSONS

Thursdays, 1 pm, Sunrise Room

EXERCISES

BONESAVERS

M,W,F, 8 am, Art Room

STEP EXERCISES CO-ED

Fridays, 11 am, East Gym

FUN FITNESS CO-ED

Tuesdays, 9 am, Yellow Room

EXERCISES CO-ED

M,W,F, 10 am, Exercise Room

LADIES EXERCISES

M,T,W,H,F, 8 am, Exercise Room

SLIMNASTICS

M,T,W,H,F, 9 am, Exercise Room

TAI CHI

M,W,F, 2 pm, Exercise Room

M, 3 pm, Beginners, Exercise Room

T, H, 6 pm, Intermediate. Exercise Room

WATER AEROBICS

M,T,W,H,F, 9 am, East Pool

YOGA

M, W, 11 am, East Gym (Sun Moon)

ZUMBA

Mondays, Fridays, 9 am, Kitchen

TEXAS CARD GAMES

Texas Card Club: M,W, 6:30 pm, Small Card Room

Jim: Mondays, 5 pm, Yellow Rm

Bob: Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Yellow Rm

Tom: Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Yellow Rm

Don: Wednesdays, 6 pm, Rainbow Rm

Carol: Wednesdays, Fridays, 6 pm, Yellow Rm

Mike: Wednesdays, Fridays, 5:30 pm, Yellow Rm

Ron: Mondays, Thursdays, 6 pm, Yellow Rm

FITNESS CENTER

Monday-Saturday, 7-9; Sunday 9-8

LIBRARY HOURS

Mondays: 9 am - 12 pm

Wednesdays & Fridays: 1-3 pm

WOODSHOP HOURS

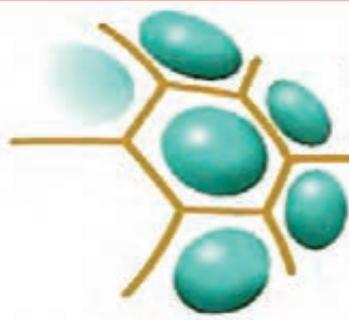
Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm

SUNDAY MONDAY

07	07 Bingo 6:00 PM - Auditorium Ent. Committee & Clu 8:30 AM - Auditorium German Interest Grou 2:00 PM - Sunrise Roc Ent. Committee. Boar 10:30 AM - Veranda
08	08 Family History Meetin 12:30 PM - Computer Bingo 6:00 PM - Auditorium Ent. Committee & Clu 8:30 AM - Auditorium Mens 18 Hole Golf Me 9:00 AM - Sunrise Roc No.79 Flamenco Meet 5:00 PM - Sunrise Roc Healthy Living Club H 10:15 AM - Small Carc Healthy Living Club C Management 11:15 AM - Small Carc Health Screenings Bl 8:30 AM - Veranda
09	09 Bingo 6:00 PM - Auditorium Ent. Committee & Clu 8:30 AM - Auditorium Stamp Collectors Mea 1:00 PM - Sunrise Roc Healthy Living Club H 10:15 AM - Small Carc Healthy Living Club C Management 11:15 AM - Small Carc
10	10 Ent. Committee. Sunday In The Park 2:00 PM - Auditorium
11	11 Bingo 6:00 PM - Auditorium Ent. Committee & Clu 8:30 AM - Auditorium Healthy Living Club H 10:15 AM - Small Carc Healthy Living Club C Management 11:15 AM - Small Carc Chorus Board Meetin 10:00 AM - Starlite Roc No.58 Emerald Isle M 10:00 AM - Veranda
12	12 Karaoke Singing 6:00 PM - Auditorium
13	13 Bingo 6:00 PM - Auditorium Ent. Committee & Clu 8:30 AM - Auditorium Healthy Living Club H 10:15 AM - Small Carc Healthy Living Club C Management 11:15 AM - Small Carc

MONDAY TUESDAYS WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	01	04	05	06	07
Clubs Ticket Sales	Hoosier Club Meeting 6:30 PM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Art Guild Meeting 3:00 PM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Line Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium
Meeting Room	Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Jewelry Making Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Pray For America Meeting 10:00 AM - Small Card Room
Meeting Room	Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Auditorium	Baby Boomers Meeting 5:30 PM - Art Room	Writers Ink Meeting 12:30 PM - Computer Room	Travel Club Meeting 2:00 PM - Starlite Room	
Meeting Room	Irish Club Dinner 6:30 PM - Auditorium	Snowbirds Line Dancing Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium	Ent. Committee & Clubs Ticket Sales 8:30 AM - Auditorium		
Meeting Room	Philosophy Club Meeting 10:00 AM - Veranda	Coloring Book Club Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	Canadian Club Social Games 6:30 PM - Sunrise Room		
Meeting Room	Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM - Veranda	Knitting Group Crafts 9:00 AM - Veranda	TOPS Luncheon 11:00 AM - Kitchen		
Meeting Room			Press Association Luncheon 1:30 PM - Sunset Grill		
Meeting Room	Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	TOPS Meeting 9:30 AM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Line Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium
Clubs Ticket Sales	Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Auditorium	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Jewelry Making Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Pray For America Meeting 10:00 AM - Small Card Room
Meeting Room	Republican Club Meeting 7:00 PM - Sunrise Room	Healthy Living Club Meeting 12:15 PM - Art Room	Writers Ink Meeting 12:30 PM - Computer Room	Art Guild Meeting 12:30 PM - Art Room	
Meeting Room	Philosophy Club Meeting 10:00 AM - Veranda	Snowbirds Line Dancing Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium	Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee 9:00 AM - Auditorium	Lambda Club Social 7:00 PM - Art Room	
Meeting Room	Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM - Veranda	Jesters Board Meeting 6:30 PM - Auditorium	Ent. Committee & Clubs Ticket Sales 8:30 AM - Auditorium	Canadian Club Happy Hour 4:00 PM - Sunrise Room	
Healthy Eating Room	No.24 Americana Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	Jesters Meeting 7:00 PM - Auditorium	Canadian Club Social Games 6:30 PM - Sunrise Room		
Chronic Pain Room		Coloring Book Club Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	Democratic Club Meeting 2:00 PM - Starlite Room		
Meeting Room		Knitting Group Crafts 9:00 AM - Veranda	Fixers Club Meeting 9:00 AM - Crafts Room		
Meeting Room	Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Procrastinating Quilters Meeting 7:00 PM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Line Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium
Clubs Ticket Sales	Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Auditorium	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	TOPS Meeting 9:30 AM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Ent. Committee. Dance 8:00 PM - Auditorium
Meeting Room	Canadian Club Ticket Sales 8:30 AM - Auditorium	Art Guild Paint & Sip 7:00 PM - Art Room	Jewelry Making Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room		Pray For America Meeting 10:00 AM - Small Card Room
Healthy Eating Room	Travel Club Cruise Meeting 2:00 PM - Starlite Room	Snowbirds Line Dancing Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium	Writers Ink Meeting 12:30 PM - Computer Room		
Chronic Pain Room	No.72 Valencia Meeting 7:00 PM - Sunrise Room	Italian Club Dinner 5:00 PM - Auditorium	Ent. Committee & Clubs Ticket Sales 8:30 AM - Auditorium		
Meeting Room	Philosophy Club Meeting 10:00 AM - Veranda	Hoosier Club Meeting 6:00 PM - Sunrise Room	Ent. Committee. Show 7:30 PM - Auditorium		
Meeting Room	Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM - Veranda	Coloring Book Club Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	Canadian Club Social Games 6:30 PM - Sunrise Room		
Meeting Room	Ladies 9 Hole Golf Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	Knitting Group Crafts 9:00 AM - Veranda	Baby Boomers Meeting 5:30 PM - Crafts Room		
Meeting Room		Irish Club Meeting 7:00 PM - Crafts Room			
Clubs Ticket Sales	Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Knitting Group Crafts 9:00 AM - Veranda	TOPS Meeting 9:30 AM - Art Room	Healthy Living Club Balance Class 10:15 AM - Art Room	Lambda Club Social 7:00 PM - Art Room
Healthy Eating Room	Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Auditorium	OTOW Special Event Tax ID Awareness Day 9:30 AM - Auditorium	Jewelry Making Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room	Healthy Living Club Tai Chi 11:15 AM - Art Room	Line Dancing 8:30 AM - Auditorium
Chronic Pain Room	Ladies 18 Hole Golf Dinner 5:00 PM - Sunrise Room	Lawn Bowlers Luncheon 10:00 AM - Sunrise Room	Writers Ink Meeting 12:30 PM - Computer Room	Irish Club Meeting 2:30 PM - Art Room	Pray For America Meeting 10:00 AM - Small Card Room
Meeting Room	Philosophy Club Meeting 10:00 AM - Veranda	Lawn Bowlers Luncheon 10:00 AM - Sunrise Room	Ent. Committee & Clubs Ticket Sales 8:30 AM - Auditorium		
Meeting Room	Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM - Veranda	Coloring Book Club Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda	NY-NJ Club Dinner 5:00 PM - Auditorium		
Meeting Room			Canadian Club Social Games 6:30 PM - Sunrise Room		
Meeting Room			Classroom Volunteers Meeting 9:00 AM - Starlite Room		
Meeting Room			No.36 Baghdad Meeting 6:30 PM - Crafts Room		
Clubs Ticket Sales	Jewelry Making 9:00 AM - Jewelry Making Room				
Healthy Eating Room	Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Auditorium				
Chronic Pain Room	Philosophy Club Meeting 10:00 AM - Veranda				
Meeting Room	Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM - Veranda				
Meeting Room	Ladies 9 Hole Golf Meeting 1:00 PM - Veranda				



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Eckerd College lecture series begins this month

We hope your holiday season was enjoyable and you are looking forward to an exciting year ahead here at On Top of the World.

A lecture series presented by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Eckerd College will commence at On Top of the World on Jan. 17.

Join some of the most popular instructors from OLLI for enlightenment and entertainment during this 10-part lecture series. Each session lasts one hour, including time for questions and answers.

Enjoy individual programs at \$10 per person, or purchase the "season pass" for \$90, a savings of 10 percent.

Advance registration is strongly encouraged. To register online, visit Eckerd.edu/OnTopOfTheWorld or call 727-864-7600 to register by phone using the registration numbers found in each lecture description (see schedule below).

Please have your Activity Card with you when attending a class. You will be asked for it at the door.

Get Acquainted Coffee

Mark Piasecki will be here with his



accordion on Thursday, Jan. 12, for Good Neighbors "Get Acquainted Coffee."

The morning starts at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts, and the entertainment takes the stage at 10 a.m.

Mark will be featuring: Old Standards, Polkas, Classic Country, Big Band and Vintage Rock & Roll

Opera Tampa will be here on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 10 a.m. to give a free program. Please come out to welcome these talented and professionally-trained young singers.

Good Karma Book/Lunch Club

The On Top of the World Library

and I are in the process of coordinating our Good Karma Book/Luncheon Club to commence late February or early March.

Among the line-up of local authors: Gary Mormino, Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams - A Social History of Modern Florida" and Cathy Unruh, author of "Taming Me."

Cathy, a journalist, also hosts WEDU's "Up Close with Cathy Unruh."

Registration forms will be available in February. Stay tuned for more information.

Club Information

Reminder - This newspaper is the best resource for activity and community information, as it includes articles written by various clubs, a pull-out calendar, as well as all Community Service sponsored activities and events.

Please also visit the various clubs and organizations here at the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:30 a.m. to purchase your event ticket and pick which ones you want to join.

It's a great way to get out, make friends and have some fun!

Tax Identity Theft Awareness Day

The Federal Trade Commission reports Tax ID theft has grown so quickly over the last couple of years that it accounts for one-third of all consumer complaints about crime.

The problem is so bad that the agency has created Tax Identity Theft Awareness week.

On Wednesday, Jan. 25, the Community Service Office will host "Tax Identity Theft Awareness Day" from 9:30-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium. The seminar will be presented by Anna Marie Millet, investigator and outreach coordinator for the Pinellas County Office of Consumer Protection.

She will be co-presenting this event with an IRS Special Agent and both will be available for questions and answers.

Registration is recommended and forms are available in this newspaper on page 5 and at the Community Service Office.

Please complete and deliver your registration form to the Community Service Office.



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Register online at eckerd.edu/OnTopOfTheWorld or call 727.864.7600 to register by phone using the registration numbers found in each lecture description.

Paris 1,2,3

JANUARY 17, 1:30 P.M.
INSTRUCTOR: JOHN SCHLODER

Registration Number: 8000 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Bob Hope: America's Entertainer

JANUARY 26, 10:30 A.M.
INSTRUCTOR: JASON FORTNER

Registration Number: 8001 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Caring for Caregivers: Strategies and Support for the Heroes of Our Times

FEBRUARY 7, 1:30 P.M.
INSTRUCTOR: MERYL BLACKMON

Registration Number: 8002 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Founding Mothers: The Women Who Helped Shape America

FEBRUARY 16, 10:30 A.M.
INSTRUCTOR: RICK KISTNER

Registration Number: 8003 OT Art Room, East Activity Center

Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams - A Social History of Modern Florida

FEBRUARY 23, 6:30 P.M.
INSTRUCTOR: GARY MORMINO

Registration Number: 8004 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Recreating the Great Florida Road Trip

MARCH 9, 1:30 P.M.
INSTRUCTOR: CATHY SALUSTRI

Registration Number: 8005 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

The Birth of Rock and Roll

MARCH 14, 10:30 A.M.
INSTRUCTOR: JOSHUA TAYLOR

Registration Number: 8006 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

The Supreme Court, So What's Next?

MARCH 23, 6:30 P.M.
INSTRUCTOR: MICHAEL ALLEN

Registration Number: 8007 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Skyway: The True Story of Tampa Bay's Signature Bridge and the Man Who Brought it Down

APRIL 6, 1:30 P.M.
BILL DEYOUNG

Registration Number: 8008 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

Memorable Music from Tony Award Winning Musicals

APRIL 11, 10:30 A.M.
INSTRUCTOR: JOY KATZEN-GUTHRIE

Registration Number: 8009 OT Sunrise Room, West Activity Center

INTERESTED IN OTHER OLLI CLASSES?

OLLI - the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute - at Eckerd College is a non-profit education program designed for people age 50+ and open to all adult learners. Each year OLLI provides more than 300 intellectually stimulating non-credit classes, interest groups, local and international trips and special events for its 1,500 members at locations throughout Pinellas County.

Learn more at eckerd.edu/olli or call 727.864.7600 to receive a course catalog by mail.

January monthly meeting will be a 'Kick Off the New Year Party' at Sunset Grill

For the first time in many years, the On Top of the World Press Association did not host a holiday party in December.

Instead, the club will experiment with a "Kick Off the New Year Party" this month.

"Every club and every building was having a holiday party in December," said editor Doug Kates. "We decided to move our party to January in an attempt to get more staff members to attend."

The event will take place on the same date, Thursday, Jan. 5, as the regular Press Association meeting would have taken place in January.



Staff members and their guests should arrive at the Sunset Grill by 1:30 p.m. A brief meeting will take

place and we will begin ordering lunch off the Early Bird menu at 2 p.m.

Everyone is responsible for paying their own bill, but we still need a count of how many people will be attending. If you haven't done so already, please visit or call the OTOW newsroom and indicate how many people will be attending with you. The office number is 799-3216. We must know by Jan. 4.

"We would like to see a large turnout," Doug said. "We work very hard as a group for 12 months. We don't have a lot of time to get together, meet each other and have fun talking about everything we accomplish. This will be one of those opportunities.

"We moved our party one month back to avoid the holiday rush. Maybe this will be a successful, new tradition for our club."

Press Association members are reminded the newspaper is back on normal deadline for the February newspaper. Stories must be submitted no later than Jan. 15. In December, deadline was moved up three days because the newspaper had to go to press early.

The February meeting will take place 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 2, in the East Activity Center Veranda Room. Not only will it be Ground Hog Day, but staff will begin discussing the annual Appreciation Luncheon.

Proud of the last 100 editions of OTOW News

You are looking at the 100th newspaper I have had the privilege of working on here at On Top of the World.

I still remember my first week, in September 2008, when I wanted to put a Halloween picture on the front page of the October newspaper.

Little did I know then how hard it would be to find someone decorating for Halloween before Sept. 15 - deadline day!

But after driving around, learning the streets, and getting lost several times, I was fortunate enough to find one resident who was getting an early jump on the holiday.

I took a picture and that photo did indeed make the front page in October.

What a smile I had when the newspaper was delivered.

Do I have time to talk about all 99 previous newspaper editions?

My assistant editor, Dave Hart, said I have to keep this column to 300



words - so no I can't.

However, I would like to say this: The last 100 editions of On Top of the World News would not have been possible without eight years of dedicated writers, photographers, board members and proofreaders.

There hasn't been one single issue I haven't been proud of and it's a credit to the 100-130 residents who contribute each year.

In fact, if you've ever attended a

monthly Press Association meeting, you'll often hear me say, "this is one of the best issues we have ever produced."

Then next month, however, I would often end up saying the same thing!

It's true. We have had several "best" editions.

Also true, I do not have enough space to give credit to every writer over the past 100 issues, but I do want to mention the following.

This past November, I taught a Writers Workshop for the Press Association. We discussed basic journalism tips to make our stories better.

Let me tell you. You think someone in your building is simply turning in a story each month, or the secretary of your club is simply shooting off a stress-free, 300-word story each 12 times a year?

There's a lot more to it than that.

Nearly 60 staff members attended

the most recent Writers Workshop and another 30 took the class online. That's 90 people who took the time to improve their skills and make their stories for your building and your club better.

Many of them have contributed this month.

A special applause for all of you! OTOW News has had nearly 500 different staff members since September 2008 and few of them had ever written a newspaper article before their first story in this paper.

We even have new reporters making their debuts this winter.

The sad part is when someone steps down from the staff or gives the writing duty to the next person in line. At the Press Association, we don't do a very good job of thanking outgoing reporters, but if you are one of the many contributors over the past 100 editions, a very special "thank you" from me. It's been a blast!



Bingo is back!
Bingo returns 6:15 pm,
Monday, Jan. 2, 2017,
EAC Auditorium

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Any call from the IRS is a scam

SCAM ALERT: The daughter of a woman who lives (in Florida) told me that her Mother was scammed out of \$2,500 by an IRS scam caller.

Apparently, and to me, this is unbelievable, the Mother, KNEW it was a scam because she has been reading my column, however, she decided to “play along” with the scam-caller.

However, according to the woman’s daughter, the more she spoke with the scammer, the more she got frightened, until she finally gave her credit card number to the caller.

Please listen!

Do not speak with these folks.

If you know it’s a scam—and every IRS call saying you owe money to the Internal Revenue Service is a scam—hang up the phone.

Don’t “play along with them.”

Don’t tell them you know who and what they are. Just hang up the phone.

You should always have caller ID on your phone so you can see who’s calling. If it says IRS, don’t answer it.

If the caller leaves a message that it’s the IRS, don’t return the call.

And if your caller ID doesn’t list the call as from the IRS, but that’s who the caller claims to be—hang up the phone!

Look, if you return their phone number, it’s going to be answered as though it’s the Internal Revenue Service.

If you ask for a badge number, they will give you one.

It’s a scam.

It’s a scam!

These scammers are vicious and the only way to deal with them is not to deal with them.

By the way, the lady was lucky it was only \$2,500 and I hope to high



heaven that she cancelled her credit card immediately.

SCAM ALERT: The certified copy of deed scam is alive and well.

No one ever needs a certified copy of his or her deed for anything. You don’t even need a copy if you have the originally recorded one. But if you want to have a copy, go ahead and make one. Do not ever pay anyone to get you a certified copy or any copy at all, of your deed.

Q. My Mother printed out an online form for her Will and in it she left everything to me and nothing to my sister, because I’ve been to see her a lot and also because she and my sister don’t get along and haven’t for many years.

Now, Mother’s Will has been declared invalid by a Court and my sister will get half of everything.

I have to believe the Court was biased in my sister’s favor because she did leave everything to me and the Will was notarized, in (a county in Florida but not in Pinellas or Marion Counties.)

This is not fair.

A. Of course, I haven’t seen the document you call a Will, but I can tell you that frequently, downloaded Wills, are not completed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

Oftentimes, the language in the form is not even correct or is poorly written.

Sometimes, there turns out to be only one witness, but Florida requires two.

Other times online Wills are notarized but do not have at least two witnesses that subscribe that they saw the person making the Will and he/she said it was a Will.

A judge is bound by the law and must issue opinions in conformity with that law.

So I doubt that there was any bias by the judge. More than likely, it’s a typical case where a Will was not written or was not signed in accordance with Florida’s laws.

Q. At a lecture that you and your law partner, Rachel Wagoner, gave in Ocala, someone disagreed with what you (or it could have been Rachel) said to the effect that a person is not required to have a Will that is drawn in Florida. Can you reiterate that for us?

A. If it’s what I think you are referring to, then I believe that someone in the audience claimed to have been informed that for a Will to be valid in Florida it has to have been drafted in Florida by a Florida attorney.

I think it was Rachel Wagoner who answered that a Will from any state is valid in Florida if it is correctly signed, witnessed (and it should also be notarized) and it doesn’t have to be done by a Florida attorney.

Someone in the audience did not

agree with that, but I think that the person was actually thinking about a situation where the personal representative of a Will has to post a bond to assure lawful performance with the terms of the Will.

In any case, a Will does not have to be drafted in Florida or by a Florida attorney.

Having said that, it is my opinion that if a person resides in a state as his/her residence—any state and it doesn’t have to be Florida, then it makes sense to me to at the least, have a Will, durable power of attorney and advance directive drafted by an attorney, who not only is licensed to practice law in Florida, but who lives here full time and has an actual law office here.

Florida’s laws can be complex.

Gerald R. Colen is an attorney and member of the Florida Bar Association, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. He is based at the Law Offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. He concentrates his practice of law in the areas of simple and complex Estate Planning, wills, trusts, probate, real estate, title insurance, and elder law. This column is only intended to present fact situations that may be of interest and it does not, nor is it intended to provide, legal advice. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. Mr. Colen, and his law partner, Rachel M. Wagoner, have law offices at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, FL, 33777; Phone: (727) 545-8114. Mr. Colen or Ms. Wagoner also meet clients at On Top of the World, in Clearwater, FL. You may visit the law firm’s Website at www.colenwagoner.com, email Mr. Colen at Jerry@colenwagoner.com or email Rachel Wagoner at Rachel@colenwagoner.com. Follow Jerry Colen on Twitter @jerrycolen.

Before you turn onto Belcher Road, make sure no one is in the crosswalk. Pedestrians have the right of way.

LOOK FOR PEDESTRIANS





(Photo by Remo Melucci)

Fifty-one volunteer residents enjoy at private room at Chopsticks, where a special luncheon took place in their honor.

Volunteers honored with luncheon

More than 50 residents were recognized during a Good Neighbors luncheon on Dec. 9 at Chopsticks restaurant.

The purpose was to show appreciation for their volunteerism this past year.

Good Neighbors would like to thank all of our volunteers, including

those who were not able to make the luncheon.

Good Neighbors cannot function without volunteers and this includes the board: President Jim Bjorgo, Vice President Maureen Bjorgo, Treasurer Roger Nicoll and Secretary Sue Salmieri, all the ladies who work in the Veranda Gift Shoppe, and all

the residents who help with the annual clothing drive, flea market, craft show, Senior Expo and Easter Sunrise Service.

All of these things cannot be accomplished without our volunteers, so once again, "thank you everyone" for your help.

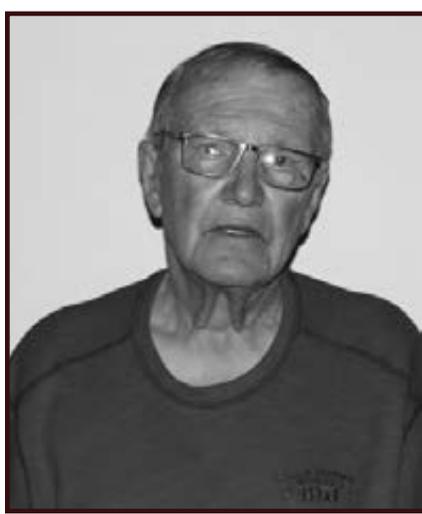


President Jim Bjorgo



NEWCOMERS

Photos by Mary Lou Wall



Bill Lamoreux of Pennsylvania



Brandan Buchmelter of Ohio



Larry and Renee Carpenter of Ohio



Wally Clark of Illinois

Community Service Office 683-6981

One of the most emotional singers of all time

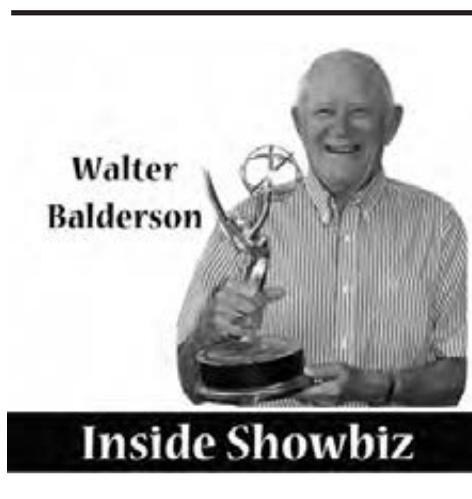
Patsy Cline's voice exceeded any one genre and you would think she was classically trained.

She was best known for her rich tone, emotionally expressive and bold contralto voice.

Patsy was born in Winchester, Va., in 1932 and given the birth name, Virginia Patterson Hensley.

Her first marriage was to Gerald Edward Cline and she changed her first name to Patsy.

She had been recording honky tonk songs until her manager, Owen Bradley, bought the song, "Crazy" from Willie Nelson for \$100. It became her signature song and was rated number 85 by Rolling Stone magazine's top 500 songs of all time.



Patsy suffered several mishaps during her short career. In 1960, she was near death from pneumonia. In 1961, she and her brother, were involved in

a head-on collision in Nashville. Patsy was thrown into the windshield, nearly killing her. A close friend, Dotty West, upon arriving on the scene, picked glass from her hair, and went with her in the ambulance to the hospital.

Patsy's much heralded career came to an end in 1963 when she died in a plane crash in Camden, Tenn.

She was returning to Nashville after doing a benefit performance in Kansas City, Mo. Killed with her were country singers, Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas.

Patsy's life became the subject of the 1985 film, "Sweet Dreams," starring Jessica Lange.

Her music remains popular today with fans around the world. Some of

her fans even make the pilgrimage to her home town to visit the Patsy Cline Historic Home.

Singers today say they felt more emotion when she sang than anyone they have ever heard.

A bell tower has been erected in her memory at the Shenandoah Memorial Park, where Patsy is interred.

Several highways, including the Patsy Cline Memorial Highway, Route 522, have been named to commemorate her life.

Her last recording, "Sweet Dreams" was released after her death.

She was elected posthumously to the Country Music Hall of Fame as one of the most famous female vocalist of all time.

NOTICE

Important bulletin for all On Top of the World residents

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

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

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

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

Detailed information is available at the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center.
Thank you for your attention to this matter.



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

(1) CALL: 727-799-3417 (Option 6)

Messages are retrieved Mon-Fri, 7-5 p.m.

(2) Visit the East Activity Center Community Service Desk from 8:30-3, Monday-Friday.

(3) Go Online to otowclearwaterinfo.com and fill out a service request.

(4) For emergency service, call 799-1115 from 6-9 p.m. weekdays and noon-9 p.m. on weekends. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required

Service Policy

Residents must provide a date and time for service. A minimum 2-hour service window exists. Field personnel answer requests from 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. weekdays and 7:30-11:30 a.m. weekends. There is no charge during normal business hours. You must be present in all circumstances for your water to be turned on. Your signature is required.

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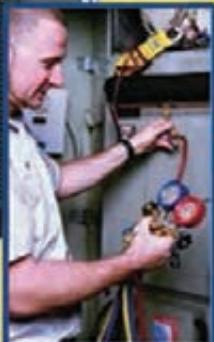
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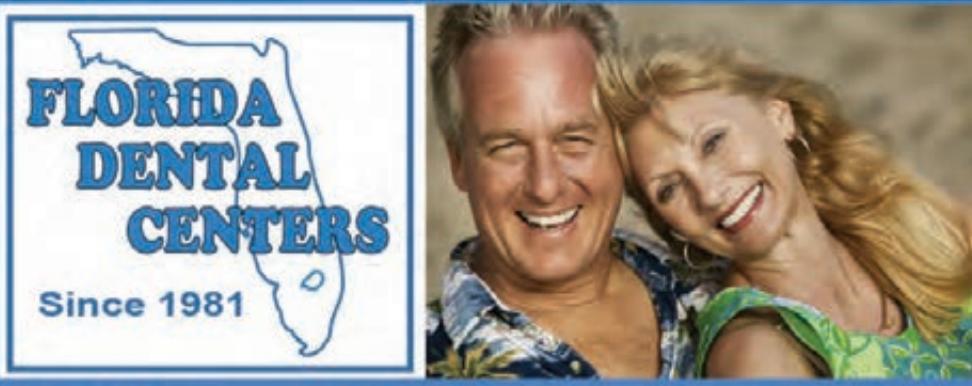
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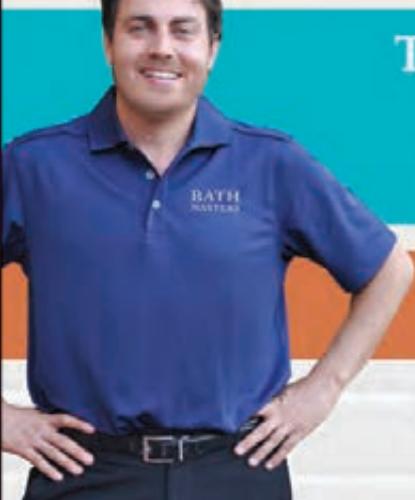


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Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee

Athenian Academy Singers

Pictured at right are some of the Athenian Academy students, who sang holiday songs to On Top of the World residents during Good Neighbors' Get Acquainted Coffee in December. The singers dressed in holiday hats and sang a variety of tunes. This was Athenian Academy's second visit to OTOW this year. They were brought back by popular demand.

(OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)



Opera Tampa returns in February

Opera Tampa is an On Top of the World favorite and always draws a large crowd to the Good Neighbors' Get Acquainted Coffee program. Opera Tampa will return to the East Activity Center auditorium stage on Thursday, Feb. 9. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. with free doughnuts and coffee served at 9 a.m. Residents will get a chance to meet their neighbors, say hello to someone they haven't see in a while or simply make new friends. Community announcements will be made. Sponsors are given time to talk about their business and the opera players will perform about 9:30 a.m. Raffles will follow. On Jan. 12, accordion musician Mark Piasecki will be at Get Acquainted Coffee to perform. Sounds like a polka?

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Get Acquainted Coffee

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Countryside Hearing is BBB Accredited and A+ Rated. You should always check with the Better Business Bureau before visiting any hearing aid office; if they are not a BBB member and don't have at least an A Rating, there's probably a pretty good reason why. In short, you are better served elsewhere.

Countryside Hearing is a Multi-Line Dealer featuring ReSound, Oticon, Widex, Phonak, Siemens and Starkey. Franchise stores sell and service their particular brand only. Incidentally, if you are considering a hearing aid that is not manufactured by ReSound, Oticon, Widex, Phonak, Siemens or Starkey, do so at your own risk. (It's not a particularly wise thing to do.)

Countryside Hearing features a Standard 3-Year Warranty on all products. Don't consider anything less than 3 years ... it will cost you in the long run.

Countryside Hearing says NO to "bait and switch" advertising featuring "too good to be true" \$395 and \$495 hearing aids. (These ads, which are all too common, are shameful and deceitful.) These ads are designed to do nothing more than to "lure" you in so you can then be sold hearing aids at 10 times the price.

Countryside Hearing says NO to high-pressure commissioned salespeople and dispensing audiologists. Unless you're dealing with the owner, you are most likely dealing with a commission-chasing salesperson ... it's just that simple. The vast majority of hearing aid franchises and chains specialize in high-pressure sales tactics in order to capture their 20% to 25% commissions. These people don't get paid to service, program and maintain your hearing aids; they only get paid when they sell you new ones! They also don't make much money by selling \$395 and \$495 hearing aids.



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ACTIVITY REPORTS



Residents learn how to draw portraits from an expert

By Judy Mills

Happy New Year from all of us at the Art Guild!

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas season!

At our December meeting, we had a short business discussion. Then we enjoyed some coffee, cake and cookies, followed by a fascinating demonstration by Jim Throne, a very talented portrait artist.

It was so riveting that you could hear a pin drop in the room. He used a photograph as his inspiration and painted the portrait in less than one hour. Amazing!

Jim has offered to give a workshop to the residents of On Top of the Word on Friday, Jan. 20, from 1-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center Art Room.

The cost for this three hour workshop is only \$10.

Bring your own supplies, including canvas/paper and brushes/pencils. You can use any medium you like, whether it be acrylic or oil paint, color pencils, charcoal or pastels.

Please call Penny Page to get on the list. Her number is 648-4729.

We also voted for Artist of the Month - congratulations to Bill Martin! His painting will be hung in the lobby for next month. Stop by and check it out - it's fabulous!

For anyone who wants to keep up with our busy group, feel free to check us out on Facebook. Our name is Art Guild at On Top of the World.

We will be keeping very busy with all of the different art class options.

On Mondays, Sharon Evans is giving oils and acrylic lessons for beginner and experienced painters from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Art Room. Call her at 727-442-6404 for more information.



At the December Art Guild meeting, portrait specialist Jim Throne used the photograph at left to draw the portrait at right. It took him less than one hour.

mation.

On Tuesdays, Wendy Colquhoun is teaching Chinese Brush Painting, which is a beautiful ancient Asian art. These classes are also in the Art Room from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Please call her in advance so she brings enough supplies. Her number is 723-7504.

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

Art Guild members also hold an

annual art show, which gives our members the opportunity to show and sell their work. This year, the show will be held on Sunday, March 5, from 12-3 p.m. in the EAC auditorium.

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

Our meetings are the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. in the Art Room, which is on the second floor of

the EAC. New and old members are encouraged to share your ideas for future activities.

At our meetings we have a short business discussion, light refreshments, a demonstration for an artist and we vote for artist of the month.

The winning project will be displayed in the lobby of the EAC for one month.

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

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Successful holiday concert was first show for four new members

By Ilene Bargerstock

What a wonderful time we had sharing "The Magic of Christmas!" And, it's mostly because of you, the audience.

Both performances were filled with lively responses and participation from those in attendance. There were even some dancers on the first row "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" during the sing-a-long! There were lots of laughs as we all tried to sing like Alvin and the Chipmunks, "Christmas, Christmas time is here."

If you were in the audience, we want you to know how very much we appreciate your support. You cheer us on! We thank you for that.

Perhaps you noticed four new members on stage.

Marion DeLucia and Patty Twardowski joined our soprano section. Jaye Lamoreux is an alto and husband, Bill, is a tenor. Bill and Jaye came from Pennsylvania to On Top of the World in the spring. Patty and her hus-



Pictured above, left to right, are Chorus newcomers Marion DeLucia, Bill Lamoreux, Jaye Lamoreux and Patty Tardowski.

band came from Palm Harbor around the same time. Marion has been here for some time and just decided to add Chorus to all her other OTOW activities.

We welcome each of them and look forward to making more music

together in the days to come.

The Chorus concluded its fall and winter session with a dinner at Johnny's Italian Restaurant. Most members were in attendance and enjoyed the camaraderie.

Following a holiday break, Chorus



will begin rehearsing for the spring concert to take place March 25 and 26. Mark your new calendar and save the date.

Why not consider coming to our first rehearsal on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium? We will preview the music and, if you like what you hear, and think you would enjoy adding your voice, we most certainly would extend the warmest of welcomes!

What have you got to lose?

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Here's to a healthy, happy, new year for all of us!

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Rosy Hattitudes know how to decorate



Club members Jackie McCann and Dee Martin enjoy their Christmas party at Bon Appetite.

By Charlyn Miller

Colorful gifts and candy-decorated sleighs topped the lunch table when the On Top of the World Rosy Hattitudes held their annual holiday luncheon at Bon Appetite.

Thirteen Red Hatters and one guests attended the party, which included greetings, conversations, a little gossip, and a lot of chatter about everyone's plans for next year.

One birthday party was honored and the special guest received a traditional free dessert.

Shirley Brinson presented each person with a gift bag with candy and foot wear.

The January meeting will be hosted by Janice Hahs and she plans on taking us to the race track.

Our November meeting was held at the Old Ale House in Dunedin. Fifteen people attended.

The theme was about the harvest and our table was decorated with large, colorful leaves with fresh apples and flowers. Each place was given a large turkey napkin to help put everyone in the Thanksgiving mood.

At our October meeting, we gathered at Tiffany's Restaurant for a very good time. Two witches appeared and the table was decorated in black and orange, pumpkins and skulls.

A new member joined us - Judy Richardson.

Each person received a cup of candy corn to eat or take home.

Arlene Mansfield was the hostess.

Happy New Year to all!



Rosy Hattitudes

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Knitting Club will accept donations you create at home

By Cheryl Butcher

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group is very fortunate to have many talented and dedicated members.

Most of us attend the weekly "meetings," but there are a few that work at home and deliver their finished products upon completion.

One such person is Jeanette Flood.

Jeanette and her husband, Dave, originally from Rochester, NY, and parents of four children, have lived in On Top of the World since 2006. They moved here from Zephyrhills, Fl., so they have been Floridians for 27 years.

Working at home suits Jeanette, so she can stay at home with her husband. Instead of taking advantage of all of our wonderful donated yarns, Jeanette prefers to buy



and use her own yarn, which makes her crocheted items even more precious.

She is very talented and always brings in lap robes in a variety of patterns and colors. We're always glad to see Jeanette walk through the doors.

Last month we donated lap robes and chemo scarves to Morton Plant Hospital and received a lovely thank you note from them.

And we also sent 96 lap robes, 6 shrugs and 60 walker caddies to Consulate in Safety

Harbor.

Jim Womble, from Consulate, personally picked them up during one of our meetings and he was very glad to get them. He said they will be divided between their affiliates in Pasco and Pinellas counties.

We thank everyone who donated yarn so that we can make these donations.

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group operates under the auspices of Good Neighbors and receives financial support from them, as well as the Coffee Corner.

We meet every Wednesday morning from 9-11 a.m. in the East Activity Center Veranda Room.

If you knit or crochet, we would love to have you join us. While we do not teach, we do help each other with patterns and/or problems.



Jeanette Flood with some of her lap robe creations.



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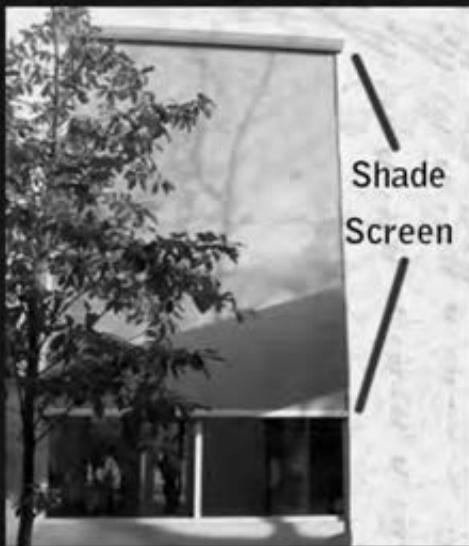


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Caribbean cruising in January ... and we never leave the East Activity Center

By Bruce Lovett

The Lambda Club has one resolution for the New Year and that is to have fun.

And the fun begins on Friday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Art Room upstairs in the East Activity Center.

The theme for 2017's first monthly pot luck social is Caribbean Cruising. You won't need to bring a deck chair, but you will need to get your Hawaiian shirts, shorts and sandals out of the closet for a night of good food, Calypso music and rum punch.

And all you have to do is look out the window to see the palm trees blowing in the breeze for atmosphere.



Lambda

Whip up something nifty to share for the buffet table so we can really get the cruise experience.

Also coming up in January is our popular game night on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. in the Art Room. Bring a dessert or munchie and join one of the many tables playing Dominos, Uno,

Cards Against Humanity, or one of the other board games available.

For those who were out of town during the holidays, our December social was a festive time for all. Of course, because of the season, it had a Christmas theme. Those attending wore red and green outfits, displayed seasonal headwear, and participated in a secret Santa gift exchange where everything from kitchen towels to calendars changed hands.

There was even cream cheese turkey.

And our Christmas Eve feast was a big hit for all who attended.

Those are just some of the nu-

merous activities that Lambda members participate in. They head out to brunch most Sundays, have movie outings, coffee klatches and help support community causes.

Lambda is a social club for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) residents of OTOW and all other residents who would like to get to know their LGBT neighbors. If you are interested in finding out more about our club visit our webpage: <http://lambdasclearwater.blogspot.com>.

We are also on the Box Office.

You can contact us by e mail at lambdaclw@yahoo.com or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

Chinatown comes to the EAC in January

By Jane Lee

We hope that you had a wonderful time at our Christmas party in December.

Our next big event is our annual Chinese New Year dinner on Thursday, Jan. 26.

As you know, New York is known for its famous Chinatown area and for anyone who is a native New Yorker, our dinner will help bring you down memory lane.

There will be Chinese food and good entertainment. Everything starts at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

This event will give everyone a chance to show off that new blouse or shirt that you received for Christmas and will provide some fun after the holiday rush is over.

The cost for this dinner is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

Membership into our club is \$5



NY / NJ Club

and with our special pizza parties and other events that are very inexpensive, we encourage you to join. You can buy your ticket any Monday or Thursday at our table in the EAC between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. You might also want to read about us by looking up the NY/NJ Club on the Box Office at www.ontopoftheworldnews.com.

We have changed our meetings from Wednesday nights to Thursday nights, so you might want to make a note of that, too.

Italian-American Club dinner and dance Jan. 18

By Jerry Kaplano

Everybody enjoyed the Italian-American Club deluxe-Christmas Brunch at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa on Dec. 4.

On Jan. 18, at 6 p.m., in the East Activity Center we will have a pulled

pork dinner dance with singer Karen Killian. The cost is \$15 for members, and \$18 for non-members.

Tickets for Ruth Eckerd Hall performances and further information are available at our club table on Monday and Thursday mornings in the EAC.



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Mary Becker to step down after years of club treasurer but will continue to demonstrate dances

By Antoinette d'Oronzio

One of the more stylish dancers at the On Top of the World Line Dancing Club is Mary Becker.

She is always wearing stylish dancing attire - even wearing a jaunty hat to add just the right touch to her outfit.

Mary moved to OTOW in 2010 from Effingham, Ill., to be near her daughter and her family. She had previously line danced in Illinois and immediately joined the OTOW Line Dancing Club.

Soon, Mary was recruited to be treasurer. As part of the treasurer's duties, she collected and deposited dues and wrote checks for expenses.

Mary is pleased at how the club has grown. It now boasts 125 members.

The dues have made possible significant equipment purchases in 2016, including speakers, head-worn and wireless microphones, and a portable mixer.

Dues are increasing to \$10 a year in 2017, partially because of the skyrocketing costs of electronic equipment.

Mary has seen many changes since she joined the club leadership. She remembers when the music was on cassette tapes. More recently, the music



Debbie Welker and Mac Gray pay their OTOW Line Dancing Club dues to OTOW Line Dancing Club Treasurer Mary Becker (seated).

was played on CDs.

The current system is set up on a computer. The operator has a data base with all the recordings of music and simply has to find the song and click on it for it to play.

Mary is a regular demonstrator.



Line Dancing

She is one of the people on stage in the East Activity Center auditorium doing the steps of the choreography so the dancers on the floor have someone to watch.

Mary remembers the first dance for which she was on stage. It was "Cowboy Charleston," a comparatively easy dance that she still enjoys. Now she is on stage for more complicated dances, too. Her favorites are waltzes and cha-chas.

Mary is relinquishing her post as treasurer in 2017, but she expects to remain active in the club as a demonstrator. She finds line dancing a great way to exercise.

The club is grateful to Mary for her contributions and her continuing

support.

For more information about the OTOW Line Dancing Club, visit the OTOW Line Dancing Facebook page. You can also dance along to line dance videos in the privacy of your home on the OTOW-TV channels 96 and 732 at about 7 p.m. most evenings.

The general line dance sessions meet in the East Activity Center auditorium at 9 a.m. on Saturdays and at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. Come a half-hour early for a beginner class that teaches you the first three dances on the program that day.

On Tuesdays at 1 p.m., there is also a level two class in the downstairs exercise room at the EAC. That class is for people who want some extra help on some of the more challenging dances done later in each general session.

On Sunday, Jan. 15, the OTOW Line Dancing Club is joining with Dolly's Snowbirds Line Dance Club for a dance party complete with a DJ, who will play music suitable for couples and line dancing.

The dance party starts at 6 p.m. and is free to members of either club and their partners. For non-members, the charge is \$5 at the door. Participants are requested to bring their own drinks and snacks.

Ten new books reach OTOW library book shelves in time for new year

As the new year arrives, your On Top of the World library has several good books to help bring in a fresh start.

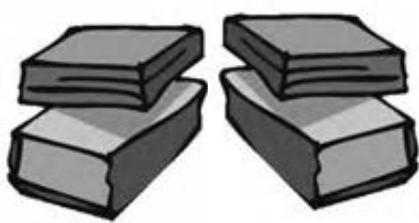
James Patterson has written a true crime story "Filthy Rich" about Jeffrey Epstein and how his wealth and power influenced the justice system.

Carl Hiaasen has a humorous tale of scams, crime and murder in the Florida Keys called "Razor Girl."

"Downfall," by J.A. Jance, the 17th in the Joanna Brady series, is a suspenseful story of a possible murder/suicide, or is it a double murder?

"Damaged" by Lisa Scottoline is the fourth in the Rosato and DiNunzio series, a thriller in which Mary DiNunzio gets involved in a case of a boy with emotional issues.

Romance and suspense are found in Susan Elizabeth Phillips "First Star



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Library News

"I See Tonight" and also in Sandra Brown's "Sting."

James Lee Burke has written the second in the Holland Family Saga,

"The Jealous Kind," a coming of age story during the Korean War set in Houston, Texas.

"Mischling," by Affinity Konar, is the story of identical twins at Auschwitz, forced into experiments by Mengele.

"The Orphan Mother," by Robert Hicks, who also wrote "The Widow of the South" has based his novel following the Civil War. A former slave who is now a midwife tries to uncover the truth about the murder of her son.

"Leave Me," a novel by Gayle Forman, is the story of a mother who walks away from her life.

We will be making an increase in membership dues effective Jan. 1, 2017. Dues will be \$3 for the calendar year. The increase is due to the cost of books, especially large print editions, going up several dollars apiece.

We want to continue to offer the latest and best in fiction to our members, so we felt this modest increase would help us continue to provide what our readers want.

We will also be meeting with the Talking Books program from Pinellas County Library Cooperative in January about the possibility of participating in this valuable program for those with visual problems making it very difficult to read. We will update as soon as we have more information.

Also, please check out our list of new books online on the OTOW Box Office. Just go to the library site and you can see the latest acquisitions, plus other recent additions on our shelves.

We are open Mondays 9 a.m. to noon and Wednesdays and Fridays 1-3 p.m.

Democratic Club announces upcoming meeting schedule, seeks new officers for 2017

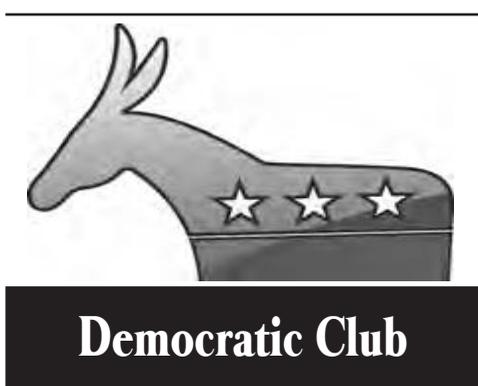
By Donna Lukas

Where were you on the evening of Dec. 8, 2016?

If you weren't in the Sunrise Room for the Democratic Club Holiday Potluck Dinner, you missed a really good time.

Thirty of us gathered for two relaxing hours of good food and conversation with friends old and new.

On Nov 22, 2016, I had the pleasure of attending the Pinellas County School Board Oath of Office ceremony. Successful candidates Joanne Lentino and Eileen Long were sworn in by successful judicial candidate Myriam



Irizarry. If you took the opportunity to come hear these three candidates speak at On Top of the World Democratic Club meetings, and then voted for them, congratulations on your suc-

cessful participation in the electoral process.

For the next three months, our club meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. in the Starlite Room of the East Activity Center. Those dates are Jan 12, Feb 9 and March 9.

At our Jan. 12 meeting, we will be taking nominations for club officers, who will be elected in February and will take office in March.

If you have an interest in serving as a club officer or volunteering in any capacity for the coming year, please contact Donna Lukas at 727-460-4123.

We will also be discussing the results of our club questionnaire that was handed out at the Senior Expo, our November meeting and December dinner. If you didn't fill out a questionnaire, but have suggestions on topics you would like to discuss in 2017, please attend the Jan. 12 meeting. Or you can email suggestions via our club page at the OTOW Box Office. Go to OnTopoftheWorldNews.com, click "Enter," click "Club Pages" and then the Democratic donkey.

You can send comments through the Box Office Post Office.

Attention all Press Association members

January's monthly meeting will be a "Kick Off the New Year Luncheon"

Thursday, Jan. 5, Sunset Grill Restaurant

Meeting 1:30. Lunch 2 pm.

Please call the newsroom by Jan 3 and state how many you are bringing, including guests.

You are paying your own way, but we are ordering off the Early Bird menu.



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Philosophy Club

By Bob Reis

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

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

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

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

PRAY FOR AMERICA

meets at 10 a.m.
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group of residents who
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include terrorism, drugs,
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Our exercises help prevent bone loss.
We cannot grow new bones,
but we can exercise
to try to stop further loss.



Men and women both welcome.
We never do floor exercises. Our classes are free.
For more information, call Libby at 727-669-1486.

Co-Ed exercises resume on East Side

The Co-Ed Exercise Class in the East Activity Center Exercise Room has restarted after a summer break. Sessions are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10-10:45 a.m.

Classes are free for residents with a valid Activity Card and are led by Lee Catalfomo.

Co-Ed Exercises in the West Activity Center gym have been discontinued. Residents from the West Side are encouraged to join Lee on the East Side.

Italian Classes

Learn Italian and Italian Culture
Free to OTOW residents starting January 6
Fridays, 10:30-Noon

East Activity Center Small Card Room

Taught by OTOW residents

Call 813-494-4627 for more information

Jesters hold a holiday feast between rehearsals



JESTERS

By Sue Calinski

The Jesters hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and wish you the best for the coming year.

Plenty of things are happening with the Jesters in 2017. First, we will wind up our rehearsals for this year's show, "Thanks for the Memories." Then we will all be in show-mode, giving you a show that is different from any you've seen here!

"Thanks for the Memories" will be presented in the East Activity Center auditorium on Feb. 10 and 11, starting at 7:30 p.m., and on Feb. 12 at 2 p.m.

If you don't have your tickets yet, you should get them now! Tickets are still only \$5 and are available either from your Jesters friends or at the EAC on Mondays and Thursdays, from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

This is truly a show you won't want to miss, so get a ticket for yourself and



Jesters members and friends line up for a catered dinner in the East Activity Center.

a couple of extras for your friends.

It's a real (forgive the pun) HUM-dinger of a show that will have you clapping your hands, tapping your toes and humming along with the songs!

As Dorothy Gale says, "people come and go so quickly around here!" You will probably want to see it more

than once so you are sure not to miss a thing!

Jesters held their holiday dinner on Dec. 13 at the EAC. We had a great group of celebrators, a lovely catered meal and wonderful music. A good time was had by all who attended.

Our on-stage people are doing a

fabulous job and our backstage people are an amazing bunch! There are lots of props, set changes and costume changes that happen quickly, so without those folks that the audience can't see, there wouldn't be much of a show.

We are ready to knock your socks off with this one!

OTOW wins awards at Mount Dora tournament

By Bob Laplante

On Top of the World lawn bowlers continue to make an impact on the world of bowling in the area.

OTOW was well-represented at a tournament in Mount Dora called the Holiday Bowl. All teams, with residents or members of the OTOW Lawn Bowls Club, placed in the top half of the pre-eminent field.

Fifth place went to the team of Tom Barrett, Marj Kells and Bob Laplante. Seventh place went to Dave Murray, Sandy Wall and a third member from Mount Dora. Twelfth place went to the team of John Wigle, Jacque Breton and Jocelyne Laplante.

Other OTOW residents, who played out of the Clearwater club, included Burl Roller and Barb Roller in first place, Roy and Shelly McCarthy in second place, and Brian and Jenny Meyers. This shows the high calibre of play from our community.

On the flip side of the coin, OTOW has provided introductory sessions to a large number of potential new bowlers. The club has a balance of new and experienced bowlers, which provides

Lawn Bowling

many opportunities for social as well as competitive players.

The Holiday Bowl offered at OTOW is much more social, but still has an air of competitiveness. Teams are balanced by a random draw of experienced and less experienced bowlers. Each team then plays two shortened games against two teams with wins and points earned determining the ranking.

The winning team was John Wigle, Dot Graham and Rod Jones followed by the second place team of Rick Carr, Ray Allard and Gabe Taillefer. Both teams had one win and a tie.

Third place went to Betty McWhirter, Denis Rosendale and Bill Swain also with a win and tie, but two fewer points earned during play.

Dave and Pat Murray coordinated the play of the tournament. As is tradition, play was followed by a full Christmas luncheon of turkey with all the fixings coordinated by Jocelyne Laplante ably assisted by Marj Kells,



On Top of the World Lawn Bowls Club members, who played at Mount Dora Holiday Bowl, are, front row, left to right, Marj Kells, Jocelyne Laplante and Sandy Wall. In the back row are Jacques Breton, John Wigle, Dave Murray, Tom Barrett and Bob Laplante.

Shirley Hunter and Nicole Pelletier.

The January calendar is busy with a mixed pairs tournament on Jan. 6 and 9, a mixed Australian pairs tournament on Jan. 13 and 16, and the Robbie Burns tournament and luncheon on Jan. 25. Players are reminded to

sign up to play in tournaments.

OTOW maintenance is installing a new water pump on the greens and as soon as this is completed, members will provide a work crew to replace the old surface of Har-Tru with new material.

Warning: Gangsters, corruption, bad politicians coming to East Activity Center auditorium

By Lillie Scheifen

The ham and yams have been eaten and the wrappings put away for another year.

Hope all had a wonderful Christmas.

Now we can get our sleeves rolled up and be ready to begin rehearsals for our show, "The Hideaway."

Rehearsals begin Jan. 4 in the East Activity Center and times are 1-4 p.m. Dancers have a different schedule, so check with Mary Sundblad for your particular time and day.

The show may seem a long ways away, but before we know it, the curtain will rise and our talents will be on display for our audiences to enjoy, so



Theater Workshop

we need our practices.

Last month I discussed some fun facts from the 1920s. Are you ready for more fun facts from the Roaring Twenties?

We don't just entertain, we enlighten!

Politicians in the Twenties were regularly bought, sold and owned by the Mob (also known as La Cosa Nostra).

Most politicians played ball with the Mob as the Mob was particularly wealthy, violent and powerful at that time.

Politicians were not all crooked, but it was a good bet that the police and city officials were on someone's payroll.

Corruption was a way of life in Chicago and most already knew Chicago had a 'buddy system' all its own.

The Chicago Police Department

was rife with corruption as 80 to 90 percent of all officers were on someone's payroll.

Chicago was known as the "murder capital" of the country, but the players were different.

When you see our show, "The Hideaway," you will be privy to the atmosphere of that era. So come, be entertained and leave your armed guards at home.

See our Theater Workshop representatives at the East Activity Center, Monday and Thursday mornings, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. for more information.

Stop by to say "hello," learn more about us and join in the fun.

You will like us ... or else!

Dolly's Snowbirds line dance club moves to EAC auditorium

By Ed Foland

The growing pains are over for Dolly's Snowbirds Line Dance Club.

Growth of the club has been limited to the capacity of the Sunrise Room in the West Activity Center. A growth spurt is now anticipated as Dolly Foland and her dancers have been relocated to the auditorium in the East Activity Center.

Welcome back to the dancers who quit the class due to the overcrowding. The new dance hall has lots of space. We can spread out.

The new schedule starts on Wednesday Jan. 4. Class 1 is at 8:30 a.m. and is Ed Foland's line dance practice class for people who claim to have two left feet.

Class 2 at 9:30 a.m. is Dolly's popular beginners class with a mixture of class favorites, plus newly released dances.

Class 3 is at 10:30 a.m. is high beginner and intermediate level dances.

The On Top of the World Line Dance Club joins Dolly's Snowbirds Line Dance Club in presenting a Mid-Winter Dance Party on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.

Excellent dance music will be provided by a DJ. Admission is \$5 at the door. There is open seating. Bring your own drinks and snacks.

Our next group outing is to Fletchers Early Bird Dinner Theater at 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 27. There will be good food and live theater for \$40.

The Strawberry Festival bus will be departing On Top of the World on March 2. For \$55, you receive roundtrip bus transportation, gate admission and driver tip. Optional tickets to see the Doo Wop Concert are available.

Contact Ed Foland at 727-417-3272 for additional information.



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Pet of the Year voting takes place Jan. 6-8. See page 11 for details.

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Family History to get briefing on Civil War

By Shirley Perry

The Family History Group is starting 2017 with a bang!

We are going to travel back in time.

Our stop: The most famous battlefield in all American history. Here we will learn what brought two armies, the Confederate Army of North Virginia and the Union Army of the Potomac, to meet near the small Pennsylvania town of Gettysburg, where the most horrific battle ever fought on American soil raged for the three days of July 1, 2 and 3, 1863.

The Battle of Gettysburg was not planned by either of the leaders of each army. Rather, the two armies came together simply because Gettysburg was a town with five crossroads, and each of the armies needed to traverse those crossroads.

Instead, Gettysburg turned out to be ...

But wait!

Why not attend our meeting and hear the entire Gettysburg presentation in person, from someone who has studied the Civil War in depth and delights in imparting his knowledge to interested audiences.

The presentation is 1 p.m., Mon-



Family History

day, Jan. 9, in the East Activity Center Computer Room.

Our December meeting featured Don Leamy demonstrating various research techniques available through Ancestry.com.

A new member was shown land records for one of her distant grandfathers, going back to the early 1800s.

By the following day, that same new member was given photocopies of land grants issued under the administrations of presidents Martin Van Buren and Andrew Jackson.

We invite you to join us at our monthly meetings through the winter season.

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- Energy Saving Appliance Install
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- Elevated Toilet Seats
- Install Free Space Sinks

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Verifying our records

Pet of the Month Contest

The On Top of the World Pet of the Month contest is making a minor change.

From now, anyone who wants to submit their pet as a possible Pet of the Month candidate, should send entries to the newsroom email address:

otow.newsroom@gmail.com

With your submission, please include a brief biography of your pet and why you think your pet should be honored.

Most important, please list your pet's age and birthday, if you know it.

Each month, OTOW News selects a Pet of the Month and each January there is a vote for Pet of the Year. The annual winner gets a free groom and bubble bath and then marches in the Irish Club Parade.

As of the printing of this newspaper, a number of community pets are awaiting their turn to receive a monthly honor. Their names are listed below.

If your pet is awaiting a turn, but you don't see their name listed, please stop by the newsroom with a bio and picture. The entry will be resubmitted.

If your pet is on the list, but no longer with us, please notify the newsroom at 799-3216.

Here are the pets we currently have on file:

**Peanut, Maddy,
Lucky, Morgan,
Ricky, Dolly, Nicki,
Copper, Chacha,
Kitty, Sophie, Brandi,
Trixsee, Tai, Blondie,
Teddy Bear**

Having a building coordinator can help promote a positive community attitude

By Valerie Martin

What is the Building Coordinator Project at On Top of the World?

This project is a volunteer, resident-led project designed to make it easier for folks to choose to have a shared, good-neighbor spirit and pride in each of our 91 buildings.

Research shows that being on bad terms with neighbors can make life frustrating. Such relations can have negative effects on health, happiness and safety, which are so important in our senior years.

Many of our buildings are like desirable vertical neighborhoods where just a simple "hello" goes a long way.

Many buildings have, or are working on having, a predominant spirit of positive communication and shared effort that respects both individual differences and the community rules. Many OTOW residents choose to be good neighbors by being welcoming, reasonable, considerate, and by working together on common area



efforts and social activities.

A community wide Building Coordinator Project workshop and meeting was held on Nov. 2, 2016, in the East Activity Center auditorium.

All current Building Coordinators and new volunteers were invited to attend. Valerie Martin, one of the building coordinators, led the meeting and heads up the project as a volunteer. The project promotes both the exchange of helpful ideas and documents between building volunteers to make building volunteer efforts easier. Many hands make light work when neighbors volunteer to help out a little.

The November meeting



Valerie Martin speaks to residents during a building coordinator meeting in November.

had a general session, which featured some building success stories and some exciting community news from Dessa Barabba, OTOW Assistant General Manager. Attendees then rotated to specific tables to share successful approaches on storage rooms, trash rooms, building socials and volunteer participation.

A new, updated set of building coordinator documents will be sent to the coordinators via email soon.

Resident-led efforts to straighten up storage rooms and a variety of building social events are in the building section of OTOW News.

If your building doesn't have a building coordinator, please consider volunteering to get things started (or restarted in some cases) by giving your name, email address and building number to Nancy Rogers in the EAC Community Service Office.

If you are a current building coordinator or captain, and you haven't registered with Nancy or haven't attended a coordinator project meeting, please contact Nancy so we can share information with you.

We hope to have all buildings represented in the project.



Stamp Collectors

Next Stamp meeting Jan. 16

The season has started.
No, not the holiday season.
That fun is over.

It's time for more anticipated stories and unbelievable philatelic material that you'll only see at the On Top of the World Stamp Club meetings, so don't miss this one.

Please join us in the Sunrise Room at the West Activity Center from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, Feb. 6 and March 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Sundberg at 847-951-2284.

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If you want to see a sunset from a kayak, you need to join the Boomers



Baby Boomers

By Penni Telleck

If you are standing on the wooden pier at Lake Harbor, there is mystery beyond.

Look toward the sunset. A group of kayakers is paddling in unison.

The kayaks pause.

They are watching the setting sun.

All are smiling. They are experiencing the peace and magic of the lake.

You can, too!

On Top of the World's lake on the West Side is bordered by tall reeds, ferns and delicate water hyacinths. Egrets and herons hang out there and we have seen river otters playing nearby.

In this group of Baby Boomers' kayakers is a shaggy black dog named Mowgli. The Muppet-look-a-like belongs to club member Ron Clement.

Both Ron and Mowgli are seasoned kayakers.

Last summer, Ron and Mowgli kayaked on Yellowstone Lake in Wyoming. Now, they are back and paddling with the Boomers' kayaking group.

The Baby Boomers' kayaking group often meets on Wednesdays before the sunset. We'll paddle on Lake Harbor until dusk and then we'll socialize.

If kayaking is your thing, or might



Five kayakers of Baby Boomers enjoy the sun setting at Lake Harbor on the West Side. There are five paddlers, but only one passenger. If you look at the kayak in the middle, you will see Mowgli, in the front seat. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

be your thing, join us on Wednesday evenings about 45 minutes before the sunset.

But Boomers do more than just watch sunsets. Boomers can be found biking, bird watching, dancing, festival attending, food sampling, golfing, jamming, learning, movie going, "mosaicking," parading, partying, picnicking, socializing and wine tasting.

The Baby Boomers Club is an association of friends. There are no age restrictions. We have no dues or formal rules.

You don't just join the Boomers - you join in.

Once you have decided to "join in," you are added to our Baby Boomer email list. You will receive emails about fun events and activities.

Boomers seek out experiences to stay active and enjoy life.

If you'd like to become involved, please join us.

The Baby Boomers will be meeting Jan. 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center Art Room and again on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Activity Kitchen/Crafts Room.

See you there!

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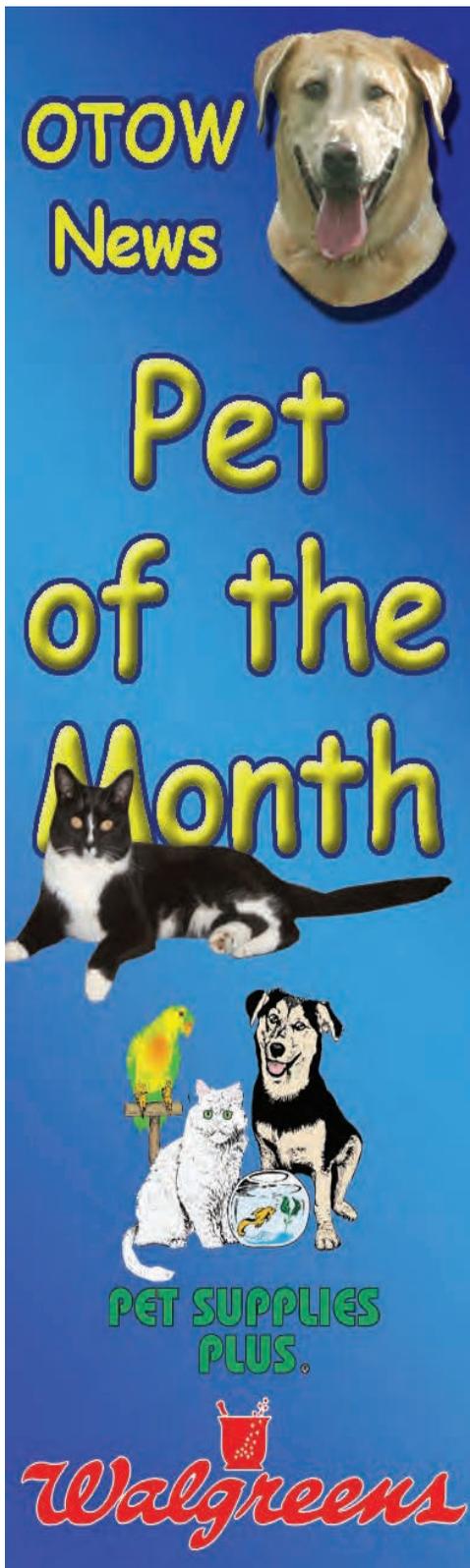
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OTOW News

Pet of the Month

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My name is Peanut, aka Princess Bubblegum.

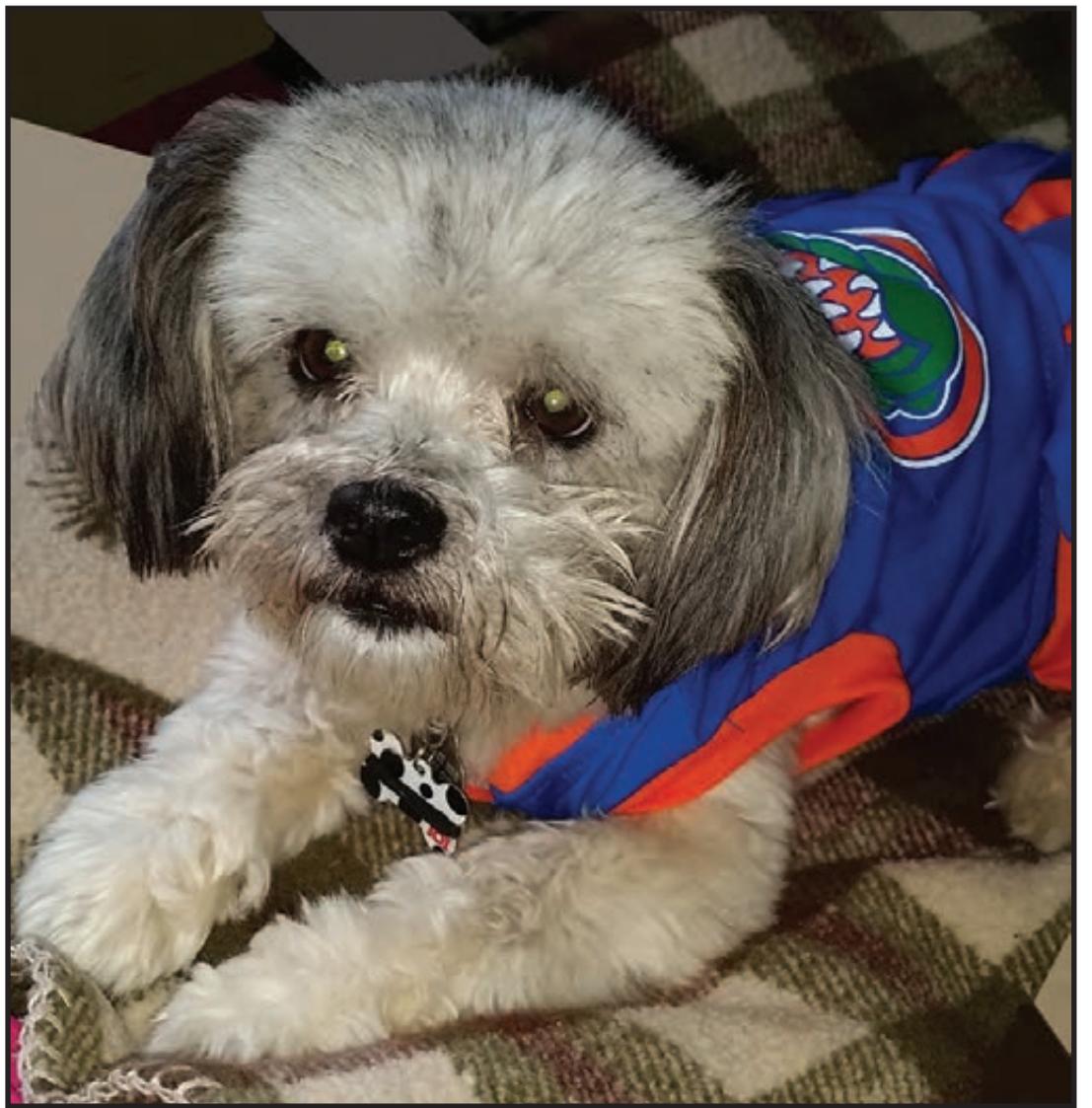
My mom is Rose S. Minenna. I am 7 years old and was rescued three years ago.

I love being with my mom. We take car rides, walks and visit the neighbors.

We go to the bank and I get a treat from the ladies who love me there.

I also love just cuddling with my mom any time of day or night.

It is wonderful living here in Paradise, especially the Sir Lancelot Building.



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 otow.newsroom@gmail.com and tell us what makes your pet special. If you don't have email capabilities, drop off your photo and information 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 entries, so if you've never entered your pet in the contest, now is the time to do so! Good luck!

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Alyce and John Fertig: The new look of On Top of the World

Getting to Know You

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

by John Koning

Another new year brings the promise of renewal to On Top of the World.

We make new resolutions, we seek new opportunities and, in the case of Alyce and John Fertig, we welcome fresh new faces to our community.

If the purpose of the well appointed Fitness Center is to attract a young and active profile of residents, then John is proof positive of its success.

Most weekday mornings you will find John at the gym, relentlessly wearing down the elliptical trainers and other machines even before his work day begins.

Across the road at the West Activity Center, Alyce loves to stay lean and fit doing laps in the pool. When she's not in the water, you will find Alyce taking Cosmo, the family dog, for long daily walks to stay vibrant and healthy.

About 30 years ago, Alyce graduated from Georgia Tech as an industrial engineer and John graduated from the University of Louisville as a chemical engineer.

After school, Alyce and John met while they both worked for General Electric. He asked her to be his wife and to accompany him halfway across the continent to Colorado. She accepted both proposals.

There, in the fresh air and wide open spaces, they worked, played and raised their two sons, Michael and Paul.

In recent years, Alyce and John were drawn to Florida. For Alyce, it was a natural return to her home state and her roots.

While the family embraced the active outdoor life in Colorado, this Floridian climate we enjoy was a powerful draw – at least for the parents.

Not wanting to uproot their sons during those important high school years, Alyce and John delayed their move until the boys went off to college.

Ultimately, though, the move brought the whole family cross country.



Above, John Fertig gets a workout in the new Fitness Center before starting his work day. At right, John and his wife, Alyce, embrace a west Florida sunset.

Michael is a recent graduate of Florida State University, where he is currently employed, and Paul is studying Industrial Engineering at the University of South Florida.

After settling in at OTOW, Alyce and John went looking for a church to call home. They found it at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Duneedin where they put their faith into action daily.

Alyce passes on her formidable knowledge of the sciences to the lucky students at Calvary Christian High School while John pays it forward as a pro bono handyman to area shut-ins. He also provides computer, network and Internet technology advice to those who feel overwhelmed in today's cyber climate.

During the interview for this feature, this reporter was treated to a live concert by Crosby, Stills and Nash. OK, maybe it wasn't live, but let me say this. Sitting in "the sweet spot" in the Fertig living room with eyes closed,



the iconic trio seemed only yards away, in the flesh, mesmerizing me with the 1969 blockbuster Suite: Judy Blue Eyes, complete with all its musical intricacies. The experience came thanks to John's state-of-the-art ... turntable.

That sounds like a contradiction, doesn't it?

That's because John's audio system is much more than just a record player. John is one of thousands across this country who are rediscovering vinyl records. They believe the rebirth of this classic technology offers the best opportunity to recreate the sound the artist originally intended.

John's system comes complete

with a high end pre-amplifier that is powered by ancient looking vacuum tubes. It, together with his fairly modest, but carefully researched collection of vinyl, produces music with audible warmth, tangible depth and what John calls "sound stage."

That's the picture the music paints in your brain of the location of instruments and voices as they were recorded on the original sound stage.

If you share John's love of music on vinyl, call him at 719-330-6881. He'd love to hear from you.

Alyce and John Fertig represent the faces of the future here at OTOW, and the future looks bright!

New Year's Resolutions

Marge
Mayer



Internet Humor

For Men

1. Stock up on blue pills
2. Stock up on beer
3. Update listing on eHarmony.com dating site, but keep the age at 39
4. Check out Internet for latest on growing hair
5. Read the book "Stop Procrastinating" which you bought three years ago
6. Self investigation: Find out why clothes are shrinking
7. Research wedding anniversary date - don't forget this year
8. Learn how to use all aspects of cell phone
9. Put TV in bathroom
10. Tell Honey 'Dancing with Stars' is canceled in 2017

For Women

1. Buy younger-looking outfits
2. Ask Honey for money to join gym and then buy more, younger-looking outfits
3. Retake control of household
4. Diet
5. Do more traveling - with or without Honey
6. Wear every pair of shoes I own
7. Delete No. 4
8. See if 39-year-old on eHarmony.com is really 39
9. Buy Honey blue pills
10. Tell Honey Sunday afternoon football on tv is canceled

Famous quotes heard on New Year's Eve

First you take a drink, then the drink takes a drink, then the drink takes you - Scott Fitzgerald

I don't drink on the New Year. I can't stand the taste of alcohol - Kim Kardashian

Deep breaths are very helpful and shallow parties - Barbara Walters

I doubt if you can have a truly wild party without liquor - Tucker Carlson

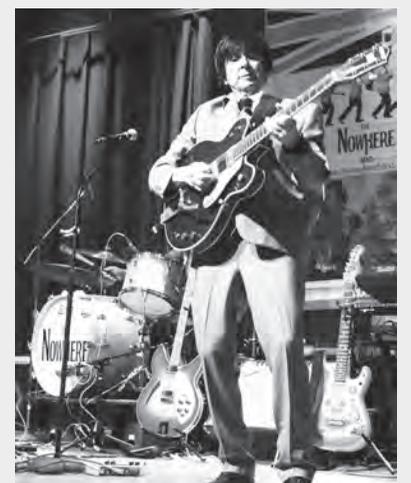
I get half a million dollars just to show up at parties. My life is really fun - Paris Hilton

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and 7-8:30 pm, New Year's Day.

Enjoy while getting ready for your big party!

Computer Club learns about Facebook privacy

By Joe Wisinski

Facebook is a great way to easily connect with friends and family, but that convenience comes at a potential cost – your privacy.

On Top of the World Computer Club member Phyllis King recently gave a presentation that showed how we can protect our privacy while using Facebook.

“Facebook is not like your bank,” Phyllis said. “The business of Facebook is not to protect your information.”

Phyllis shared these ideas for keeping your personal information private:

· Don't provide any information that's not required. For information that is mandatory, such as your age, consider altering the details.

· Don't sign into Facebook from other Web sites, because if you do, you'll be sharing your email address with those sites. Additionally, those sites will get access to your Facebook public profile and list of friends.

· Don't play games or take quizzes on Facebook. If you do, the companies which provides those activities will get your Facebook information.

Phyllis said, if Facebook were a



country, its 1 billion members would make it the third largest in the world, and no one wants to share their personal information with a billion people.

“The whole point of Facebook is openness, sharing and communication,” Phyllis said. “It's your responsibility to make sure your privacy settings are what you want.”

The Computer Club meets every Saturday morning at 8:30 in the basement of the East Activity Center. Visitors are welcome. Club members may come to EAC Classroom 1 from 8:30



Computer Club member Phyllis King recently gave a presentation on Facebook privacy to club members. Above, she reviews a specific Facebook Web page.

a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday for free assistance with computer issues. For more information about the club, go to www.otowcc.com.

Anyone who wants to learn how to improve their OTOW club or group

Box Office Web page may get a password from Doug Kates in the newspaper office and then see Joe Wisinski at the Computer Club. If your Box Office Web page does not excite you, tell us how we can make it better.



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Community TOPs club will hold three meetings and a luncheon in January

By Jean Gitlin

We are the answer to your New Year's Resolution!

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is a non-profit, international, weight loss support group with more than 125,000 members.

The club goal is to help members lose weight with group support and there is a TOPS group right here at On Top of the World.

TOPS meets regularly every Thursday morning, 9:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center Art Room. Private weigh-ins take place from 9:45-10:15 a.m. followed by meetings from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Information on nutrition, fitness and wellness are shared. As a group, positive reinforcement and motivation is encouraged. Exercise programs are offered and "Real Life," a lifestyle information guide, is available.

At the OTOW Dec. 8 meeting, Kate Kelly, representing Kimberly Home, was the guest speaker. Our club donated many gifts for new mothers and their babies.

On Dec. 15, the club held a holiday luncheon on the Calypso Queen



Cruise. It was fun and everyone had a good time.

In January, TOPs will hold a healthy brunch at 11 a.m. in the East Activity Center kitchen. The club will provide healthy, home-cooked food, for a fee of \$3. Anyone interested may attend.

Regular meetings will be Jan. 5, Jan. 19 and Jan. 26.

Annual dues for our club are \$32, which includes a monthly magazine. There is also a monthly due of \$3.

For more information, contact Margo English at 791-6972 or Marge Sutton at 754-7290.



Kate Kelly, from Kimberly Home, was the guest speaker on Dec. 8.

Get Acquainted Coffee in January



Mark Piasecki will be playing the accordion at the first Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee of 2017. Residents are welcome Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, 9-10:30 a.m. for free coffee and donuts, music, raffles and community announcements. The monthly event will be in the East Activity Center auditorium.

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Our stop at the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, didn't disappoint us! However, not seeing Davy Crockett did. At least we got to see his hat, or many of them, on sale in the gift shop.



A race horse from Tampa Bay Downs greets out-going Travel Club President Terri Mikszenas during a tour of the stables last month.

Travel Club wraps up year with trip to Alamo, Tampa Bay Downs and traditional holiday dinner

By Terri Mikszenas

The Travel Club has been quite busy since our last news column.

Our trip to San Antonio, Texas, did not disappoint us with so much to see and do.

We walked through President Lyndon B. Johnson's home, rode along the famous river walk, toured a beautiful Japanese garden, as well as Mission San Jose, and even visited the Alamo.

Then on to our annual gala event - our Holiday Dinner at Island Way Grill. More than 130 attended to celebrate the beginning of our busy holiday season.

From gala to the horse stables, we went!

We learned about racing habits of the stars from Tampa Bay Downs and those of use who had no fears even talked to the horses and petted them.

Some of the horses even talked back!

Of course, Mouse, the 34 inch miniature horse mascot, was a real pleasure.

Our new 2017-2018 officers have been installed and are ready to take over with the turn of the year. The officers are President Jacqui Dolan, Vice President Gina Burke, Treasurer Mary



Travel Club

Skaarer and Secretary Tom Jamrozy.

We also have a few volunteers who have been busy outlining our club's coming events for us all. Notice I said "few" volunteers. More are needed, especially those skilled with data entry/spreadsheet abilities and/or communication skills. Please let the club know if you are willing to lend a hand or a keyboard.

January proves to be another busy month.

How about joining us for a narrated tour of Clearwater harbor and its area on the Calypso Queen. There's an all-you-can-eat buffet with adult beverages. If we are lucky, we may even see some playful dolphins along for the ride.

If that's not your thing, come along to Ozona Blue with us on Jan. 18 for our Lunch Bunch gathering. Five dollars gets you on the reservation list



New Travel Club officers are, left to right, Treasurer Mary Skaarer, Secretary Tom Jamrozy, Vice President Gina Burke and President Jacqui Dolan.

and is refunded when you arrive at the restaurant!

I hate to say it, but it's time for last call on our Jan. 28 sail date out of Tampa. You'll be jealous if you aren't with us for our relaxing seven-day cruise to Roatan, Belize, Costa Maya and Cozumel on Royal Caribbean's Rhapsody of the Seas. And, for your convenience, we've arranged round trip transportation to the Tampa port for a nominal fee.

So, what are you waiting for? Need more information?

Want to join the club or pay your 2017 dues?

Please visit us at the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursday mornings, 8-10:30 a.m. where we'll be on duty to answer any questions you may have, give you a list of upcoming trips, sell you a ticket or two or help you become a club member.

Did you know you can talk to club representatives live every Monday and Thursday, 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center auditorium?

Start the new year with a healthy class

By Kathleen Santosuosso

It's time to get back on your healthy living track for 2017!

The new Fitness Center, with state-of-the-art exercise equipment, offers a regimen for those at all levels of fitness.

There are a number of exercise and dance classes led by our own On Top of the World resident volunteers.

For the outdoor lovers, there are numerous bike trails and walking paths in and around the OTOW campus.

Also, from the comfort of your home, you can join the Better Balance class on OTOW-TV channels 96 and 732 every day at around 7 a.m. and noon. Cammy and Jessica, from Ocala On Top of the World, teach the OTOW-TV exercise classes on balance and posture, two important areas for aging adults.

No excuses.

It's time to move and time to eat healthy.

Did you check out the Butcher Block on page 9? There is a great, healthy chicken thighs recipe.

Learn about your healthy living options at our Healthy Living Club meeting on Jan. 11, from 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the East Activity Center Art Room. There are also Healthy Living Club classes on Balance, Healthy Eating and Pain Management.

Come to a class to sign up.

Please note that for the Healthy Eating Every Day class, which starts on Jan. 9, there is a limit of 20 people.



Information on

Healthy Living Club Classes

Starting on Jan. 4, "A Matter of Balance" will meet from 10:15-11 a.m. every Wednesday and Friday in the East Activity Center Art Room.

Participants will learn to view falls and falling as preventable. They will also learn low-impact exercises to increase strength and balance.

Also starting on Jan. 4, "Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance" will meet from 11:15-noon every Wednesday and Friday in the Art Room. Participants will learn movements that help develop strength and confidence. Participants learn at their own pace and employ gentle motions including Tai Chi. This class is more advanced than A Matter of Balance.

Starting on Jan. 9, Healthy Eating Every Day (HEED) will meet from 10:15-11 a.m., for 14 weeks in the EAC Small Card Room.

This evidence-based course helps people improve the quality of their diets and includes a pattern approach

Healthy Living Club proposed classes for 2017

Jan. 4-June 16, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the Art Room
10:15-11:00 Matter of Balance: Managing concerns about falls
11:15-12:00 Tai Chi: Moving for better balance

Jan. 9-March 27, every Monday in the Small Card Room
10:15-11:00 Healthy Eating

Jan. 9-Feb. 13, every Monday in the Small Card Room
11:15-12:00 Chronic Pain Self Management

Feb. 20-March 27, every Monday in the Small Card Room
11:15-12:00 Diabetes Self Management

April 3-May 8, every Monday in the Small Card Room
10:15-11 a.m. Chronic Disease Self Management

Aug. 16-Nov. 3, every Wednesday and Friday in the Art Room
10:15-11:00 Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns about Falls
11:15-12:00 Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance

These classes are coordinated in part by CARES of Florida and provided by the Area Agency of Aging of Pinellas County and Pasco County

to build cognitive and behavioral skills around healthy eating.

HEED is based on current nutrition recommendations and helps people learn to use lifestyle-management skills and develop and maintain healthy eating habits.

Also starting on Jan. 9, "Chronic Pain Self-Management" will meet from 11:15-noon for six weeks in the Small Card Room. This evidence-based program is designed for people who have a primary or secondary diagnosis of chronic pain.

These classes are at no cost to our residents and are provided through the Pinellas County Area Agency on Aging. Two trained coaches guide us in the classes.

Information on our 2017 courses offered by Area Agency on Aging will be posted on all OTOW building bulletin boards, on our Box Office site and in an email to members.

A print version will be available at our first meeting on Jan. 11, from 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the Art Room in the East Activity Center.

New year taking shape with trip to Tampa Bay Downs, 150th anniversary celebration and Jays game ahead

By Rick McLauchlan

Happy New Year 2017!

2016 ended with the Canadian Club annual Christmas party held in the East Activity Center auditorium on Dec. 13.

More than 150 members and 33 guests celebrated with an excellent Christmas dinner followed with dancing.

To date our membership total is 316 and registration starts again on Jan. 3 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the auditorium. Registration continues every Monday and Thursday. Bring your activity card.

Jan. 5 is the first night of the new year for Social Games in the West



Activity Center Sunrise and Rainbow Rooms, 6:45-9:30 p.m. until March 30. There will be no games on Feb. 17 and March 23 in the WAC. On those dates, Blackout will be in the Kitchen and Craft Room of the EAC.

Our club's Happy Hour/Cabaret returns on Jan. 13 and on the third Friday of February and March in the Sun-

rise Room of the WAC. BYOB, snacks and socialize from 4:30-7 p.m.

A Share-the-Wealth draw will be held each night.

Next on the calendar is our Tampa Bay Downs trip on Jan. 20 for lunch and the ponies. Tickets are \$21 and can be obtained by calling Rick Carr at 727-726-2247.

Celebrate Canada's 150 anniversary of Confederation at the Canada Day in the USA BBQ being held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2 in the auditorium.

Tickets are \$18 for members and \$20 for guests.

A special ticket sale day is scheduled from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Tuesday,

Jan. 17 in the Starlite Room.

Ticket sales will continue Thursdays and Mondays from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 19, 23, 26 and 30 in the auditorium.

Come prepared to choose whether you wish to have BBQ pork or chicken.

The OTOW Canadian Club Golf Tournament will tee-off at 8 a.m. on Feb. 19 at the OTOW 18-Hole Course. For information contact Ian Hunter at 727-239-8086.

For tickets to the Blue Jays vs Minnesota Twins spring training game on Monday, March 20 at 1:05 p.m., please contact Tom McKee at 727-470-9161. Tickets are \$22 per person.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

A new year means new shows, new dance and new Sundays-in-the-Park

By Marvin Flam

Happy New Year!

Come and join us and enjoy the fun – 2017 has begun!

More than 450 On Top of the World residents greeted 2017 at the annual New Years' Eve party celebrating sponsored by your Entertainment Committee.

The party went on into the early hours of the morning, including champagne toasts at midnight.

In 2017, there are 16 shows, 17 dances and 11 free Sundays-in-the-Park scheduled.

There is something special every month.

The Entertainment Committee presents entertainment year round. All are presented in the East Activity Center auditorium. The lineup features professional entertainers, who have appeared throughout Florida and in Vegas, Branson and on cruise ships.

The shows start at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday nights. Tickets are \$15 each.

The dances start at 8 p.m. on Saturday nights. Tickets are \$10 each.

All seating is reserved featuring tables. You can bring snacks and beverages of your choice. We provide ice and coffee.

Each dance has a theme and features an area's popular headline professional bands.

In addition to dances and a wide range of music, there are group participation numbers, contests with prizes, and free tickets to win cash prizes. You can celebrate your birthday, anniversary or special event with your family, friends or neighbors.

The Sundays-in-the Park start at 2 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon. Make plans to come. The events are free to all residents.

And in case you didn't already know, the "park" is the auditorium in the EAC.

You will meet and greet your friends and neighbors, enjoy professional entertainment, which includes singers, dance troupes, magicians, races and a fashion show.

You can dance to the music. Snacks and soda are provided and you can buy tickets to win cash or prizes in a raffle.



We supply great fun and entertainment right in your backyard. Just come over to the EAC for a great time. You don't have to leave OTOW!

Don't sit home and miss out. Be a part of the fun in 2017.

There has been no increase in our ticket prices and we offer a variety of discount packages and reserved seats for 2017 shows or dances.

If you have a current Activity Card, you are a member of the Entertainment Committee. Support us and have fun. All surplus funds go back into the community. For example, we spend leftover money on operating and maintaining the auditorium sound and lighting systems, plus stage curtains, chairs, tables and more.

Get all your tickets early at the EAC on Monday and Thursday, 8:30 -10:30 a.m. Check us out on OTOW-TV channels 96 or 732.

We are also on the OTOW Box Office, (OnTopOfTheWorldNews.com) and all the building bulletin boards.

Call us direct at 727-449-9243.

Keep sending us "Wishing Well" suggestions and we will continue to include them as we change for the future. You can fill out a digital Wishing Well form by visiting our site on the Box Office.

If you missed the New Dawn Singers in December, you missed a terrific show. There was singing and dancing, numerous costume changes and it even snowed on the East Activity Center auditorium stage. Next time this talented group comes back, make sure you don't miss it. (OTOW News photos by Mary Lou Wall)



ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

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JANUARY 2017

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**THU
JAN
19**

THURSDAY SHOW w/TABLE-SEATING - 7:30 PM - \$15

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BYOB & SNACKS - WE’LL SUPPLY THE ICE & COFFEE



ALTER-EAGLES

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SATURDAY DANCE AT THE EAC - 8PM - \$10

“CHINESE NEW YEAR DANCE”



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LOUIS BRAVO

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**PREVIEW
OF
FEBRUARY
EVENTS
AT THE
EAC**

FEB 4 - SATURDAY DANCE - ZSTONEZ BAND

DEBUTS HERE FOR YOUR DANCING PLEASURE

FEB 16 - THURSDAY SHOW - ATLANTIC CITY BOYS

TRIB TO FRANKIE VALLI, FOUR SEASONS & MORE

FEB18 - VALENTINE DANCE - BITTER-SWEET

BRING YOUR LOVE - FIND A LOVE - MOVIE/TV LOVE

FEB 19 - SUNDAY-IN-THE-PARK - USA DANCE - FREE - 2PM



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THEY GET TO MEET NEIGHBORS, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, HAVE FUN, AND STAY YOUNG!



Festive season carries over onto golf course for 9-hole ladies league

Ladies 9 Hole

By Ginny Chilcote

The past month has been a busy one for the Ladies 9-Hole Golf Association.

Members enjoyed fun, festive and friendly times together both on and off the golf course.

Of course, Tuesday morning golf outings brought members together to compete for low gross and low net scores.

Ladies were only allowed to use three clubs and a putter on Dec. 6 to make things a little more interesting.

On Thursday, Dec. 8, our annual holiday luncheon was held at Bon Appetit Restaurant in Dunedin. Everyone seemed to have a great time. Several women won door prizes of beautiful poinsettias or gift cards. Many thanks to Ann Stewart for organizing the event.

The last event before our Christmas break was held on Tuesday, Dec.



In the photo at left are Gilda Gambacurta (front) and Marge Sivek, Patty Fleig, Wendy Colquhoun, Kathy Ahrens and C.C. Shaughnessy. Everyone dressed in holiday attire for a round of golf. In the photo at right are Ann Stewart, Anna Hyden, Marilyn Lisbon and Marge Sivek taking in our holiday luncheon at Bon Appetit. (Photos by Carroll Harris and Theresa Gates)

13. Golfers were encouraged to dress in holiday attire. Everyone brought delicious snacks, which were shared af-

ter golfing at the picnic tables near the little house. Thanks to Marge Jacobs for setting up the tables.

Golf will resume on Jan. 3, 2017. The next general meeting is scheduled for Jan. 31, 2017.

OTOW Tennis Association approves new board, sets schedule for winter season

By Joe Spahalski

The On Top of the World Tennis Association kicked off the 2016/17 tennis year with a welcome back BBQ, which was held on Saturday, Nov. 19.

We served tube steaks and hamburgers to approximately 30 members and their significant others. We also had the chance to play a little tennis.

A great time was had by all.

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, we held our annual registration and election supper at the Sunrise Room. We had the opportunity to socialize and have a hot meal.

We would like to thank those members who supplied the accoutrements. Dinner was followed by our business meeting. We started by thanking the 2015-16 executive board for their hard work on behalf of the association.

Tennis

The 2015-16 executive board consisted of Vice President Judith Finestein, Treasurer Karen Phipps, Secretary Dianne Connelly and President Harry Morrison.

A new slate of officers was nominated by Dean Baker and seconded by Art Lambert. There were requests for any other nominations and none were presented. The slate was nominated unanimously and they are: Vice President Jane Collins, Treasurer Karen Phipps, Secretary Dianne Connelly and President Harry Morrison.

Harry thanked the past executive board for their work and particularly thanked Judith Finestein for her ef-

forts on behalf of the OTOW Tennis Association. He recognized the new executive board and particularly thanked Jane Collins for stepping forward.

Harry explained to members that courts 1 and 3 are closed out of a concern for injuries. The courts may reopen by the summer of 2017.

This allows only courts 2 and 4 to be used by both men and women groups.

To compensate for this closure, it was agreed to change the men's time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to 9:30 a.m., but remain the same time of 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The women remain the same time at from 8-9:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We would like to extend an invitation to all owners and their guests to join the Tennis Association at any time. We do not adhere to strict times and when you show up, you are substituted in.

We only play doubles and it is more a social time than a competitive situation.

In the past, we have had players in their 90s on the court. If you have any interest in playing and are a beginner, we will give you lessons and help you with your play. Don't be shy and sit at home. Please join us on the tennis courts.

Exercise and socializing increase your longevity!

On behalf of the Tennis Association, we hope you had a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!



Que'T Billiards ladies take a break to celebrate the holidays together

A wonderful time was had by all at our Christmas Party.

Becky Balderson and Donna Smerz organized the party, the room and table in addition to the raffle and activities.

Everyone took home a photo from the Photo Booth sponsored by Becky and her polaroid camera. What a great instant memory.

Liz Asselta chipped in various ways and greeted everyone as they arrived.

Claudia Carroll led the Christmas Carols, including "The Twelve Days of Christmas" which was the big hit as we had individual singers on each of the days.

Ed Solivan and Donna were a riot. Pointsettias, the \$25 Money Tree and a beer stein were among the prizes.

Little did we know that among us was a celebrity. Margo Lindsay



Que'T Billiards

competed in the Florida State Senior Table Tennis Tournament for 80-85 year olds. She won the silver medal in the singles and doubles competition and the bronze in the mixed doubles competition. Now Margo will represent the State of Florida in the National Competition. Congratulations Margo!



The Que'T Billiards League celebrates the holidays with a party, raffles, photo taking and music.

Playing Billiards is a lot of fun and very challenging. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. as we will resume our regular schedule on Wednesday, Jan. 4,

2017. We meet in the West Activity Center at 6 p.m. to warm up and include new players. Hope to see you there.

Ten new members enjoy shuffleboard challenge

By Bob Rittner

We welcomed 10 new players to our Shuffleboard Club, each of whom has discovered how easy it is to learn the game and be able to compete.

They also learned how difficult it can be to master the subtleties of the game that make it so interesting.

This month, the following people had days when they won all three games: Bob Kurdt, Bob Rittner, Wayne



Litfin, Dan Iacovelli, Paul Santacroce, Dave Purcell, Marge Sivek and Phyllis Williams. Wayne and Dan are first year players while Phyllis was introduced

briefly at the end of last season and did not use up her rookie status.

Congratulations also to players who made extraordinary shots that make other players gasp and applaud.

Phyllis, for example, saw her opponent had three pucks worth 23 points alive. Banking off one eight pointer she used it to knock out the other eight and then caromed to eliminate the seven as well while sticking

her disc in that seven.

In another game, Paul threaded the needle between two closely situated discs with his hammer (the last shot of a round) in the last round to knock out his opponents' eight while staying in the space himself which gave him a one point win in the game.

These great moments in Shuffleboard bring a glow of satisfaction to players and opponents alike.

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Week six highlighted by hole-in-one; 3-club event

The new Thursday Golf League season has been quite competitive.

Returning league members and newcomers have been playing some of their best golf.

The second week of competition was won by Andrea Jones. JT Norris finished second and Ada Culbertson placed third. Bill Higgins recorded the low gross round. Skins were collected by Clyde Hershberger, Harry Barbin, Mike Tomaselli, Jim Keagy and JT Norris. The long drive competition winners were Leora Hamm, Fred Schick and Gary Sandine. Harry Barbin was closest to the pin.

Thanksgiving Day did not stop league members from turning out. Bill Higgins recorded the “unofficial” league record low score shooting a round of 8-under par and taking first place and low gross honors. The “unofficial” label is only noted because we were playing preferred lies in the fairway. Patti Cook placed second and John Adkins was third. Dutch Michael, Jim Stewart and Bruce MacPherson all collected one skin.

Week four was Harry Barbin’s day to shine. Harry placed first, shot the low gross round, collected a skin and had the closest to the pin shot. Don Hunter took second place and John Maloof placed third. Don Hunter took two skins. Bo Craddock, Don Leamy, Don Baker and David Rogers all had one skin each. Long drives were recorded by Patti Cook, Don Hunter and David Rogers.

Bill Cook was the week five champion. Clyde Hershberger finished second and Angelo Santucci was third. David Rodgers had the low gross round. CJ Messina, Bill Cook, Tom Seal, Van Bradley, Paul Meyers and David Rodgers all collected one skin. Patti Cook, Fred Schick and Cyde Hershberger were the long drive winners. Tom Seal had the closest to the pin shot.



Don Hahs, center, celebrates a hole-in-one during a recent outing in the Thursday Golf League. Joining the celebration are Bill Gambacuta, left, and Tom Petit, right. Harry Barbin was in the same foursome.

Week six was the “three clubs and a putter” competition. Strong winds made everyone wish that they had more clubs in the bag.

Conditions didn’t stop CJ Messina from taking first place. Dan Hyden place second followed by Joe Wisinski in third. David Rodgers had the low gross round. David also collected three skins. Don Hahs

Thursday Golf

skin on the third hole took only one stroke, a “hole in one.” Congratulations Don. Skins were also collected by Gina Yoon, Fred Schick, Frank Sink, Don Baker, Joe Wisinski and Clyde Hershberger.

It’s early in our race to the league championship. The first place total is 11 points and is held by five players: Mike LaViolette, Bill Higgins, Harry Barbin, Bill Cook and CJ Messina. Patti Cook is next with 10 points. Don Hunter, Dan Hyden and Clyde Hershberger have nine points each. Ada Culbertson, Andrea Jones and John Maloof follow with eight points. At this stage, every league member is easily in striking range.

The Thursday League champion is decided by consistent good play for the entire season. Points are awarded each week. It is our version of the FEDEX Cup.

If you have been thinking of joining the Thursday Golf League, all you have to do is show up between 9:30 and 10 a.m. any Thursday. Women and men compete in our league using the USGA Stableford format which gives each player a quota. Players in this format do not compete directly against each other. They try to post a score better than their quota. This insures that players of all skill levels have an equal chance of winning.

Weekly play is not mandatory and guests are welcome. There is no prior week sign up. If you show up, you play. If you are interested in playing competitive golf using USGA rules, our league is for you.

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

Club Championship set for Feb. 8 & 9

New board takes over - first tournament set for Jan. 18

On Thursday, Dec. 8, the executive board of the Men’s Golf Association certified the 2017 slate of officers.

The new board is as follows: President Dave Combs, President Elect Les Whynot, Treasurer Russell Caughey, Secretary Frank Giarrizzi, Trustee for three years Jim O’Neil, Trustee for two years Marcus Schell and Trustee for one year Phil Smerz.

We look forward to a great year of golf with an experienced team to lead us.

Thanks to Past President Jim O’Neil for his very capable leadership during 2016.

Men’s Golf

Past President Jay Schwallie and former secretary Pete Milner are leaving the board to pursue bigger jobs in the private sector.

By the time you read this article, we will have enjoyed a wonderful Christmas party on Dec. 14. There was plenty of delicious food and drink for all as the golfers and their guests ate and danced until the wee hours of the afternoon. A great time was had by all.

The 2017 annual golf meeting will

be held on Monday, Jan. 4, at the West Activity Center starting at 10 a.m. Come early and enjoy a cup of coffee and a donut before the meeting.

Our first tournament of 2017 will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 18, and will be regular tournament play. Food, beer and soft drinks will be available after golf.

The 2017 club championship tournament will be held on Feb. 8 and 9. There will be no league play on those two days. Only qualified members who have signed up for the tournament will be allowed to play on those dates. Rain dates for the tournament will be Feb.

15 and 16.

This is my last article for the newspaper. Our new secretary, Frank Giarrizzi, will be taking over. Frank has been our secretary previously and I am confident he will do a great job. It has been a pleasure being your secretary for the past five years and I am looking forward to our new leadership team.

If you would like to help out in the shack, please see Jack Yorkery or President Combs. We can always use good help.

The board would like to wish all members a happy and healthy new year.



Tony Caputo tosses a shutout in On Top of the World softball league action

By Bob Rittner

Tony Caputo, the longest tenured player in the league, burnished his illustrious resume by pitching a six-hit shutout and singling twice as the East Side Marlins shut out the West Side Rays 2-0.

Dan Puopolo broke open a scoreless tie in the seventh with a home run, and after Rick Metzger and Frank Brown started the eighth with singles, Dan drove in the second run with a double to close the scoring.

The game broke the 1919 major league shortest game record of 51 minutes by one minute.

West Side Rays 6 East Side Marlins 2

What is the story?

Is it that Dan Puopolo hit a double, triple and homer? No.

Is it that Jerry Bendert had a four-hit game? No.

Is it that Tony Caputo smashed two perfectly placed balls between fielders? Impressive as that is, it isn't the story either.

The story is defense.

It is exhilarating to watch shortstop Dan Puopolo glide far to his right and unleash a perfect throw to first from deep in the hole.

It is breathtaking seeing third

Softball

baseman Paul Fice stretch far across his body to snare a hard grounder, straighten up and nab the runner at first.

It is uplifting to watch ever-hustling Bob Ballentine back up a throw behind second base to keep a run off the board.

We gasp as Rick Champ comes from nowhere to catch a knee high sinking liner in left.

Every game is a great story.

West Side Rays 8 East Side Marlins 3

Many games turn on a pivotal moment for each team.

In the fifth inning of a tie game, the Rays' Jim Tiano lashed a hard single into right field to plate the go-ahead run. Two innings later, with the bases loaded and two outs, the Marlins were unable to score as Rays pitcher Tony Caputo bore down to induce a slow roller that shortstop Lenny Segall turned into an out.

As has become customary, fine defense characterized the game. Bill Bennett raced in for a knee high grab in shallow left and then went back for

an over the shoulder catch on another hard hit liner.

Paul Fice contributed four hits to the winners, while Eddie Ramirez hit a bases-clearing triple, among his three hits for the Rays.

West Side Rays 8 East Side Marlins 7

A visit from retired softball legend Frank Schlotter inspired both teams' offense.

An RBI single from Roger Hebel, his fourth hit, plated the winning run for the Rays.

Earlier in the game, Trevor Dixon, had a clutch two-out single for a two-run cushion, but the Marlins tied it on singles from Don Kutchinski and Allan Bendert.

Bill Lepping, in his first game back, doubled twice.

West Side Rays 7 East Side Marlins 5

Two two-run homers by Ray Woolsey and sparkling defense from Allan Bendert overcame Steve Brown's triple and homer.

Allan ranged far left to snag a one-hopper at the right field grass, wheeling to make a perfect throw to first, and then made a sprawling grab of a grounder to his right that he shoveled

to second for the force. He completed his brilliant play with an over-the-shoulder catch of a pop-up.

Paul Fice had a perfect four-hit day while Rick Champ and Dick LeTourneau both doubled.

East Side Marlins 11 West Side Rays 4

Welcome to three new players: Joe Turgeon, Joni Edwall and Henry Zussman.

Joni was 3-for-4 in her debut, and Joe and Henry hit the ball hard each time up.

The game turned into a rout after the fifth inning when the Marlins, behind solid hitting from Paul Fice, Ray Woolsey and Dan Puopolo, scored seven runs over the final four frames.

As usual, impeccable, often spectacular, fielding from the Marlin stars contributed to the victory.

East Side Marlins 7 West Side Rays 4

Despite Lenny Segall's homer and perfect three-hit day, the Marlins prevailed led by Paul Fice's triple and two hits from Joe Turgeon, Roger Hebel, Jim Tiano and Dan Puopolo. The tandem of shortstop Dan and middle infielder Paul turned a series of double plays to stifle the Rays offense.

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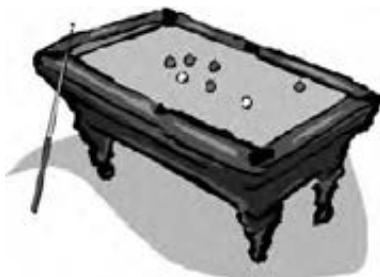
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For Joe Wisinski, billiards is fun again



Billiards

Volunteering is a special gift and Joe Wisinski is one of those special people who believes in giving back.

Joe is originally from Erie, Pa. He started playing pool in high school. Despite having a pool table in his home, he was too busy raising a family and working his career to enjoy playing pool.

Finally, four years ago when Joe moved to On Top of the World, he began playing pool for fun again.

Joe moved to Florida in 1987, working in various mass media outlets. He retired from Bay News 9 after nine years and has been a professor at the University of Tampa for the past 12 years where he teaches part time.

Joe is a member of the Men's Golf Association, secretary of the Men's Billiard Club, and member of the Stats Committee, as well as tournament director.

He also often gives presentations at the Computer Club, where he is a member.

Joe says that "playing pool is an enjoyable activity, but the real fun is getting to know his fellow OTOW residents.

"I always enjoy the camaraderie of the group," he said.

Joe also feels "That as far as volunteering, it is a pleasure to have a part in helping the club. I feel like I am giving back to my fellow members."

Thanks for your many contributions to our community, Joe.

Our league's Holiday Party was held on Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the Sunrise Room at the West Activity Center. This annual get-together was a potluck party with each member and guest sharing their favorite dish. Music was provided by Jerry Chase Quirion, son of club member, Ray Quirion.



Joe Wisinski lines up a solid in the corner pocket.

8-BALL

On Monday, Nov. 14, in the A Division, Joe Gora edged out the competition to walk away with first place. After a playoff between Denny Balderson and Joe Doire, Denny took second place.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the B Division, Henry Chapman captured first place with Barb Sundberg claiming second place. No playoff was held between Ron Baltrunas, Bob Ellis, Phil Perez and Bill Robertson for third place.

On Monday, Nov. 21, in the A Division, there was a three-way tie between Joe Doire, Nick Sapienza and Dave Williams. After playoffs, Dave captured first place, Nick claimed second place and Joe settled for third place.

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, in the B Division, the room was split. Kirk Ends and Phil Perez both took the first place spots, Vinnie Martinez and Joe Ventimiglia both took second place spots with Bob Ellis and Bill Robertson both settling for third places.

On Nov. 28 in the A Division, Joe Gora took first place and Tony Baker claimed second place.

On Nov. 29 in the B Division, Joe Ventimiglia captured first place and Garry Patrick took second place.

On Dec. 5 in the A Division, Joe

Gora captured first place for the second week in a row, Denny Balderson claimed second place and Nick Sapienza took third place.

On Dec. 6 in the B Division, they split the room. The two first place winners were Eddie Ramirez and Marc Schell. Second place went to Henry Chapman and Dan Iacovelli.

On Dec. 12, Denny Balderson edged out the field to capture first place. There was a two-way tie between Joe Gora and Ian Hunter for second or third places. No playoff was held.

On Dec. 13 in the B Division, Terry Forbes captured first place, Marc Schell claimed second place and Eddie Ramirez settled for third place.

9-BALL

On Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 15, Eddie Ramirez captured first place. After a playoff between Tony Baker, Terry Forbes, Bill Griffith and Tim Rush, Bill edged out the competition to claim second place.

On Nov. 22, Joe Gora walked away with first place. After playoffs between Craig Burnette, Terry Forbes and Howard Wilson, Terry edged out the field to capture second place.

On Nov. 29, Eddie Ramirez claimed first place once again with Howard Wilson setting for second.

On Dec. 6, Joe Gora took first place with Joe Ventimiglia claiming second.

On Dec. 13, Tony Baker edged out the field to capture first place with Joe Ventimiglia claiming second place for the second week in a row.

SCOTCH DOUBLES

On Thursday, Nov. 10, the team of Vinnie Martinez and Mario Rodriguez captured first place, the team of Terry Forbes and Bill Robertson claimed second place, with the team of Joe Doire and Bob Ellis settling for third place.

On Nov. 17, the team of Charlie Cronk and Bill Robertson walked away with first place, the team of Tony Baker and Joe Gora captured second place and the team of Bill Goza and Eddie Ramirez settled for third place.

On Dec. 1, the team of Craig Burnette and Joe Gora walked away with first place, the team of Joe Doire and Bill Griffith claimed second place and the team of Mario Rodriguez and Nick Sapienza settled for third place.

On Dec. 8, the team of Joe Gora and Eddie Ramirez captured first place, Vinnie Martinez and Rashanee Turner claimed second place with the team of Bill Robertson and Terri Witman settling for third place.



New Ladies 18-Hole League board announced, bylaws adjusted and tournaments announced

Ladies 18-Hole

By Pat Eastman

The highlight for December was our holiday brunch. But the real highlight was the delicious homemade breakfast sandwiches made by Arlene Hanson.

People are still talking about how delicious they were.

Arlene said she got the recipe on the Pinterest App, under "Jamie cooks it up with make ahead breakfast sandwiches."

As usual, donations were collected for Caring and Sharing. Terri Mikszenas collected \$417 for the worthy cause.

Our new slate of officers were announced: Becky West as president, Gloria Sayer as vice president, Sharon Hackenmiller as treasurer, and April Glenn as secretary.

Shotgun starts will not be scheduled unless it is a special event. The first tee time will be 7:45 a.m. and there will not be early, middle or late choices.

Some bylaws were changed. Now, all women who hold a valid OTOW Activity Card are eligible to be members of our league.

Adding to the Katie Krintz story from last month, Katie is from Monticello, Ind.. She plays a long course there of 5,503 yards. It has a lot of water, sand and trees plus a few angry swans.

Katie's best score has been 97. It took her forever to break 100. But with the 18-hole course here, Katie was often in the 90s last year. This year has been a different story. Her first three games were 87-80-83.



When Dottie Gonsalves is not competing in a Ladies 18-Hole League tournament, she can be spotted at the On Top of the World putting green in her signature hat. Dottie was the leagues champion in 1986 and she still practices hard today. Is she preparing for a repeat championship?

She was so thrilled and hopes her good play lasts all season.

Katie used to say "the ladies she plays golf with play real golf and Katie plays "goof" golf," but now Katie is playing real golf, too.

The sign up for the Jan. 24, chari-

ty tournament will be done at the starter's shack on Jan. 3, 10 and 17. The charity will again be Suncoast Hospice Foundation. The January golf clinic will be Jan. 16 at the Dunedin Stirling Links.

Other upcoming events are the

general meeting on Feb. 15, at 9:30 a.m. in West Activity Center Sunrise Room.

Also the Jack and Jill Tournament is scheduled for Feb. 21 with a rain date of Feb.28.

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BUILDING REPORTS



Anything is possible in 2017 as even the old New Year's Eve clock is now working

By Doug Kates

This is a public service announcement to anyone who plans on attending the Entertainment Committee's New Year's Eve ball and may dip into the champagne before midnight.

Pay attention: "Yes. You did see the hands on the old clock move. It was not your imagination ... or state of sobriety."

For years and years and years, the Entertainment Committee has used a wooden clock on stage as part of the props used during its New Year's Eve party.

Unfortunately, the clock never actually worked and the hands were always designated to 11:55 p.m. just to help get everyone in the mood for the final minutes of the old year.

But for this New Year's Eve party, the second you arrive at the party, you will notice that this traditional clock is now different.

Not only does it work ... but the time it displays should be the same time on your watch or cell phone!

"When it says midnight, it will really be midnight," said Lee Catalfomo, president of the On Top of the World Fixers Club, who also accepted a challenge issued by the Entertainment Committee.

Lee was asked, "is there any way we can get this clock to work?"

Now, for a piece of wood with hand-painted numbers, one would consider this a monumental task like giving the Scarecrow a brain or giving the Tin Man a heart.

But Lee didn't hesitate. He told the Entertainment Committee he would give this New Year's Eve icon life in time for the big day.

And Lee held true to his promise. Lee is a wood shop pro - part of



Lee Catalfomo holds the old New Year's Eve clock which is now a working New Year's Eve clock.

the reason he was president of the club for all of 2016.

But when it came time to make the hands on the clock actually move, Lee had to do some research, consult with some experts and learn a great deal about batteries and torque.

The actual work that took place included purchasing new hands for the clock, attaching new Roman numerals for the numbers, adding a motor mount behind the clock, purchasing

a motor that would actually move the hands and choosing the right battery power without burning out the motor.

All this was accomplished, and Lee is a witness, the clock does work.

Lee said the original clock builder was a resident named Rich Harris. For years it has simply been a symbol of the biggest party held at On Top of the World each year.

Now, it will also symbolize, "anything is possible."

"It will be in the middle of the stage on the over hang as people start to arrive at 9 p.m.," Lee said. "I can't wait to see it."

So, if someone sitting next to you at the party says, "I see they got the old clock working," your first reaction should not be looking into that person's wine glass to see what's splashing inside.

It really does work.
Happy New Year!

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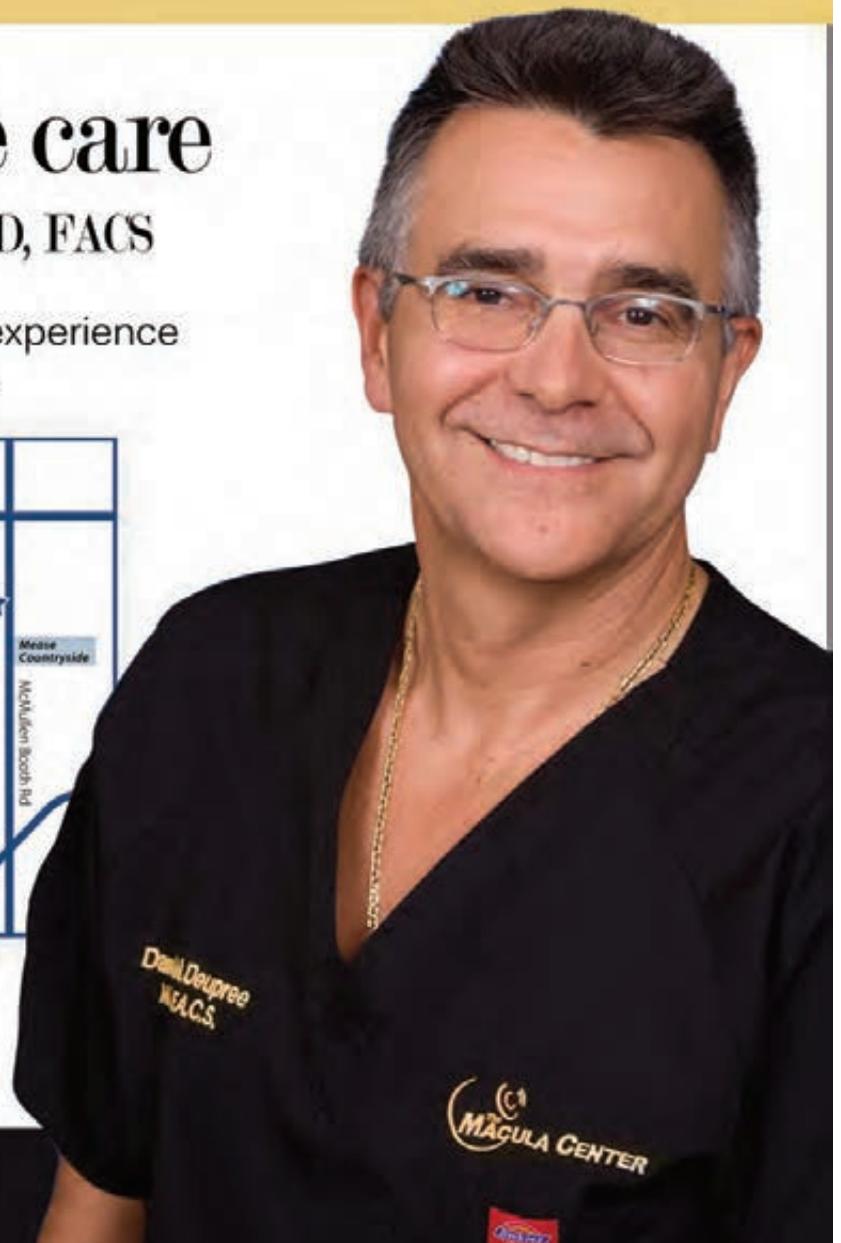
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Valencia holiday sing-a-long was rousing success

No doubt about it, December is the best month of the year.

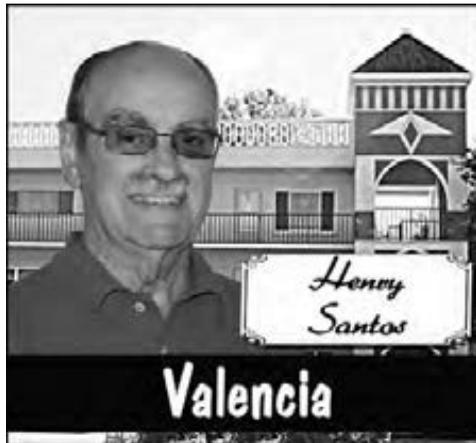
The celebrations, the parties, the gatherings seem to elevate any mood. It's just great.

We had our building holiday sing-a-long hosted wonderfully by Mary and Larry Keaveney on Dec. 6 and as usual, it was a major success. Our guest pianist, world-renowned Lewis Michaels, supplied the melody for the sing-a-long. Thanks, Lewis, for helping us out.

If you were lucky enough to have sat next to Lester Meyers during the caroling, you were in for a treat. That guy has a set of pipes and he really gets into it singing the old holiday standards. Way to go Lester — you put us other guys to shame!

As always, we had more food than we could possibly eat, but we tried. As for myself, I know I got more than my share and enjoyed every bit.

It was a great opportunity to welcome new building residents David and Robyn Harker, David Stewart, and



Dennis and Nancy Palys, who have lived in our building for almost a year, but came for the first time to one of our gatherings. It was very nice to see and meet you all. Hope we made a good impression on you.

The picture shows most of the group around the Christmas tree, as soon as we were able to get them to all put down their spiked eggnog for the shoot.

There were a few others not in the picture, either not willing to part with



Valencia residents enjoy a holiday sing-a-long, with lots of good food and drink, eggnog and friendly camaraderie.

their eggnog or perhaps in some kind of federal witness protection program and not wanting to be recognized. Just kidding!

Finally, who is the mystery person? It was **me!** Boy, I think only one person

got that one right. That was the final mystery person, at least for the time being. One more thing on this subject, Donna and Harold Hahnan guessed nearly every mystery person this year, very astute. Congrats to them!

OTOW After-Hours Emergency Number: 799-1115
(Water intrusion, elevator entrapment, building alarm malfunctions, and electrical problems)

Bohemia is proud to help out Food Bank, other charities

The holidays are behind us, along with the stress of shopping, family visits, cooking, baking, parties, all of which can be exhausting.

The Bohemians, however, can look back and be exhilarated. This year we were able to reach our goal of collecting 500 pounds of food for the Religious Food Bank.

At our annual Christmas Luncheon, we raffled gift baskets, generously donated by building residents. Each year two charities are selected to be the recipients of the raffle funds.

Over the years we have collected hundreds of dollars for multiple charities. The charities selected are always relevant to our building family. This year, we are celebrating children, with our donations going to the Ronald McDonald House and the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

As a family we are still developing our New Year's resolutions. One that remains on the list from past years is to



continue to be inclusive and "be there" for each other.

One upcoming event we look forward to is our annual building meeting. From this meeting our course for the year is mapped out. We all wait with anticipation as to where we will be going and what we will be doing this year.

In closing, we wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year from the Bohemia Building.





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Celebrating the holidays and welcoming a new neighbor

December was very busy at the Villa what with holiday house guests, parties, trips, etc.

Viennese Villa's well-attended Christmas party was again held in the Sunrise Room in the West Activity Center.

Karen Safee was in charge of food, decorations and arrangements. Karen and her merry band of elves did a marvelous job. Amongst the helpers were Carroll Harris (the mistress of ceremonies), Russ Lamesfield, Connie McDonald and hubby, Kirk. If I omitted others, please forgive.

Before we indulged in the scrumptious array of delicious foods, Steve Mazurek offered the blessing.

Russ handed out prizes to those with quick answers to Carroll's Christmas quiz questions. Hal Fairfield won the fifty-fifty drawing.

Vicki Stetter brought a most delectable elixir which put a twinkle in more than one eye. I need that recipe, Vicki! Everyone enjoyed a splendid evening.

We had a great Christmas with son Mike Leonard, down from Maine. Since the weather has been, shall we say,



“brisk,” (minus 25 degrees at times, and snowy), Mike was delighted to spend some time out of the deep freeze.

Once again our building is festooned with holiday spirit with all of the decorations and lights. Thanks to the efforts of Myrl Chronister, Skipper Bill Carey and Chris Castanza, all under the able direction of Charley Coffman.

We welcome a new neighbor, Sharon Clifford and her adorable pooch Kevin. Sharon is a teacher and came from New York. We are sure she will enjoy living in Viennese Villa. It really is a very special place.



A few of the attendees at the Viennese Villa fun-filled Christmas party.

Congratulation to our champion dancers and neighbors, Mary Wolf and Steve Moore, who recently won first place in a dance competition. They enjoy dancing and, as Mary mentioned, it's fun as well as great exercise.

Congratulations are also in order to Rosalie Borsellia on the birth of her great-grandchild.

Vicki Stetter became a first-time grandmother to adorable twins. What a way to celebrate Christmas!

Pulling out of our parking on to the road recently, two youngsters riding bikes off the sidewalk almost ran in to us (or we them). So please double check when pulling out — not only the road but sidewalk as well.

So we are off to another year. Hope it is good one for you and yours.

A happy birthday to neighbor Elaine Power on her 94th trip around the sun. Her birthday is Jan. 1.

Any news fit to print, send to fresca@maine.rr.com.



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Englander residents take a moment to pose for a group photo during the building's holiday party at Alfano's Restaurant.

Look for possible Englander dinner party in the spring

The residents of Englander celebrated the holiday season during a lovely dinner party at Alfano's Restaurant.

We're a small building and some of our residents couldn't make it due to illness, travel or other plans, but those who did attend enjoyed the evening with its food and socializing.

Susan Marchand, Dorothy Algozzina and Carla Kimmel were the lucky winners of the door prizes, and everyone went home with a party favor which had a Christmas or Hanukkah theme.

We all agreed that we need to do



this more often, perhaps with a spring event before our seasonal residents begin their journeys north.



A look back at the OTOW News (January, 1992)

By Cele Radeloff and Esta-Lee Schwartz

- The Ink Spots were the featured attraction for the Thursday evening show sponsored by the Entertainment Committee. Margaret Young is the 1992 chairperson. It was reported that "...it takes from 50-60 On Top of the World residents, all volunteers, to present a show for you."
- Mary Allen will be the 1992 Entertainment Committee Bus Coordinator. Mary is from Michigan and lives in the Bavarian Chalet building. This is her second year as bus coordinator. Mary tackles everything she does with finesse and enthusiasm.
- The Art Guild's meeting and Christmas party was held with 40 members and guests attending. President Carol Benedetto welcomed everyone. Secretary Eileen Credgington read the minutes. Carol turned the gavel over to Stan Kerr, the new president for 1992.
- A full-page ad invited all OTOW residents to a free movie, "Dances with Wolves," at the Cineplex Odeon theater. Free refreshments will be served after the movie, as well as prizes from participating Countryside Square merchants.
- The Shalom Club held their meeting on Jan. 26 in the Card Room. "Shalom" means Peace, and they wished Shalom to all their members. The president for 1992-93 will be Sol Zonis.

COFFEE CORNER



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Veteran and his wife are building's featured residents

Although I have volunteered on projects with Peggy and Harry McDonough, I haven't really gotten to spend any social time together.

I finally got a few minutes with them before they took off to see their family in New York.

Harry McDonough was one of our retired veterans we honored in November.

Harry and Peggy grew up in Albany, N.Y., and went to school in Albany. As teenagers, Harry played all sports in high school, and while playing with other teens in Peggy's neighborhood, the two met and were later married, in 1954.

After four children were born, the family moved to Round Lake, N.Y., where the family bought and ran a small motel. Everyone had a job to do.

Harry went to work for Boyds Printing as a pressman. Harry had 43 years in the business with 33 years at Boyds. At its peak, Boyds employed 1,299 with Harry supervising 28 employees. Boyds printed magazines like Time, and books for attorneys and physicians.



When the McDonoughs decided to leave the motel industry, their youngest daughter bought the motel and is still operating it with her family. Their oldest son also bought a small hotel to own and operate after he retired from the U.S. Army.

Peggy and Harry had many family members who lived on the Gulf when the couple started looking for a permanent home. They bought at On Top of the World in 2004 after looking at many properties in Riverview, Tampa, and Clearwater. They were very impressed with the units at OTOW.



English Tudor featured residents Peggy and Harry McDonough grew up in Albany, N.Y. and have been together more than 62 years.

Finally in 2010, they made the move to OTOW permanent.

With four children and seven grandchildren, they stay close and visit as often as they can. They probably don't have problems finding motels!

Please be sure to read our OTOW newspaper to find activities to join or a show to attend. Also read our English Tudor bulletin board for upcoming building activities.

Thanks to all who volunteered for decoration effort

As I drove around looking at the Christmas decorations, I remembered a time when not just individual condos were decorated, but entire buildings.

It appears that the Espana is one of the few buildings whose residents still decorate the whole building.

The residents who donated their time to decorate our building for Christmas should be acknowledged and thanked. I am not sure of all their names but these are the ones I have been told or saw who volunteered.

I saw John Fier and Tony Scheifen install the arch lights and the entrance on the north side of our building. The south side arches and entrance lights were installed by Aldo Delu, Joe



Bastidas and Bill Morgan. We also thank all the first floor residents who supplied the electricity to light the arches and the entrances.

Since 1993, our lobby Christmas

tree has always been in the corner of the lobby. This year it was placed in the middle. I have heard many compliments of how much our residents like the change. OK, who did all this work? Nancy Kronawetter decorated the bulletin boards and the boards above the mail boxes. Other helpers with the tree, etc. were Pillar and Robert Low, Lilli Scheifen, Linda and Don Rice and Bill Morgan. You all "done" a good job!

So please thank all those who volunteered their time and effort to make the Espana a marvelous vision for the holidays.

Remember, what goes up must come down and be packed away for

another year, so please try to join those volunteers.

Another big thank you goes to Tom McMinn. He moved from our building earlier this year. When he left he told me that he would be back to "put up Santa against the trees on Americus Blvd." I wrote about Santa in my December article. Well, Tom came down from Pasco County, and Herb Cervinka's Santa is once more up against the trees.

Approximately 40 residents and guests have signed up for our building Christmas party. I also know that Linda and Don Rice were in charge.

May you all have a happy, healthy New Year!



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These folks are happily singing their way through life

The depth of talent and diverse interests manifested by so many residents of Emerald Isle has once again surfaced in Joe and Mary Ellen Vaughn.

Mary Ellen grew up in Savannah, Ohio, which is obviously not in Georgia. Her high school graduation class consisted of a grand total of 17 students. From her first breaths, Mary Ellen was surrounded by a very musical family, so she learned to sing practically before she learned to talk.

Joe also grew up in Ohio where he graduated from Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

After working for the state for a time, Joe set up his own business in Mansfield, Ohio, called US Assurance, where he worked for over 30 years as an examiner, checking out insurance agencies to make sure they hadn't "cooked the books."

Romance blossomed there in classic fashion: Joe was the boss and Mary Ellen was his secretary. That was over 46 years ago, and the two are the proud great-great-grandparents of two. In fact, when they got married, Joe became a father and a grandfather instantaneously.

Mary Ellen was always active in various choirs and choruses, and even played the bass drum in a band.



At one time she was the director of a Sweet Adelines chorus, which placed fifth in an international competition event. She followed that with a gold medal finish at another international competition as the director of a 100-woman chorus whose rendition of "Red Hot Mama" stole the show.

At some point, Joe also became interested in singing with a barbershop harmony group and was a member of the famous Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

With 100 other guys, Joe's chorus won a gold medal in a district championship in Akron, Ohio. And you thought there were only four guys at a time singing barbershop. So did I!

Another mutual talent of this most engaging couple is a craft both



Emerald Isle featured residents Mary Ellen and Joe Vaughn. (Photo by Sue Naylor)

of them really love: needlepoint. Joe starts the item with his larger stitches while Mary Ellen enhances its beauty with smaller, more intricate maneuvers called "top stitching."

In addition to all her other talents, Mary Ellen has created over 100 quilts, and numerous stained glass and macramé items.

Tra la, tra la!

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Final column: Reporter retires notebook

I prepared for the December partying by moving my scales to the rear of the closet and making sure my December wardrobe was in order. The December pants run three inches larger in the waist. All was in order, so let the good times roll!

The good times rolled at the Azores core party on Dec. 8, with 36 participants. It was a great spread and a fine selection of food and goodies.

I placed my chair to be close to Carmel Tomich's cabbage rolls. I did make room for some other delights and desserts.

Once we were stuffed, Peggy Longfellow passed out the music sheets. John Giancola led the singing. It started slowly but became louder and more animated as we really got into the spirit of Christmas.

During the party, I was able to gather the new Azores Activity Club officers together long enough for a quick picture. We have: Building Coordinator Katy Gerritt, Assistant Coordinator and Azores Reporter Ford Gerritt, Club Treasurer Peggy Longfellow and Club Secretary Carole Kilgore.

The core area decorations were beautifully done. Katy and Ford did the first floor, Carole did the second floor and Peggy did the third floor. Great job, many thanks.

The good times continued to roll



Azores Building Coordinator Katy Gerritt, Assistant Coordinator and Azores Reporter Ford Gerritt, Club Treasurer Peggy Longfellow and Club Secretary Carole Kilgore.

on Dec. 11 as 24 Azoreans motored to the Safety Harbor Spa for a buffet. The setting was perfect, the background music delightful and the food assortment and quality was magnificent.

Marie Pirrello made the arrangements for this party.

Bettie Warner reported another successful food drive. Ten boxes were picked up on Dec. 17 by the Salvation Army to help make a better Christmas for those in need. Thanks to all those who brought canned goods for the drive.

Finally Christmas Day arrived. Of all the days of the year, this is my favorite. I love the hustle and bustle of this time of year.

One of the most important days our nation ever faced occurred in December: Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1941. A date that seems forgotten on present-day calendars. A great war that changed our world forever started for us on that day. May we never forget.

Finally, if you have a little trouble reading this morning, it is OK. Late hours are almost required for New Year's Eve and now we are in a brand new year. A year that will be filled with adventures for us all. We will live it one day at a time with gusto.

This is my final report: hope you have enjoyed my reporting.

(The staff of the OTOW News thanks Russ for his many years of dedicated service to the paper. His readers will certainly miss his interesting, topical stories. We wish Russ good luck in his future endeavors.)

Cranes spotted here on their way south

What were the large red-headed birds that visited the Mandarin Building on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7? In addition to their eye-catching size, the sound they make turns your head and makes you ask "what was that noise?" Bird watchers identified the birds as the Sandhill Crane.

We were happy to welcome back Howard and Mary McKeown to On Top of the World. Howard says the trip from Canada was uneventful until he pulled into his motel in northern Georgia. When he stepped out of his new Lincoln, he smelled smoke and suddenly flames were shooting up around the hood. Firefighters quickly put the fire out. Howard says he will get another new car with the insurance money. It will not be a Lincoln this time.

Several residents volunteered



to decorate the Christmas trees in the cores, and then decorated their own condos. The building is showing the holiday spirit.

The annual Christmas luncheon was held at the Beachcomber Restaurant in Clearwater on Dec 7. It is a favorite place of our residents. There were 15 in attendance.



One of a pair of Sandhill Cranes that paid a visit to the Mandarin building during their southern migration. (Photo by Ed Foland)



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Extra copies of the OTOW News are available in the East and West Activity Centers.



Jeannie Pierce entertains Malaguena residents at their holiday party on Dec. 3. (Photo by Phyllis King)

Donations for Salvation Army dropped off at holiday party

Malaguena residents enjoyed their annual holiday party on Dec. 3. The well-attended event was held in the Sunrise Room in the West Activity Center.

This year, Jeannie Pierce entertained and led the residents in singing Christmas songs. In keeping with the holiday season, residents were asked to bring donations to the Salvation Army food bank. By the end of the evening we had a table full of non-perishable items to contribute.

Live entertainment, delicious food, friends, and donations to a good cause equaled a terrific party! Thanks to everyone who made this party a success.

As I mentioned in the last issue, Malaguena needs a new building coordinator. I have been unofficially filling this role, but have decided to



move on to other projects. If you are interested in learning more about this important volunteer role and organizing Malaguena activities, please contact me.

Thanks to all the residents and our wonderful wing captains who made all our events in 2016 so successful!

Wishing everyone a happy 2017!

New co-chairs named at building meeting

Meeting highlight: We sent the old year out with a "bang."

The board members thanked outgoing chairwoman Barbara Humphries for all her efforts on behalf of the building. Without Barbara we would not have the active and productive building we are currently enjoying. We welcomed Peg Talak and Bill Johnson as our new co-chairs.

The following people have earned our gratitude for beautifully decorating our building for the holidays: Trish Burch, Tony Cocco, Pat Dalziel, Mary and Dick Graham, Barbara Humphries, Barbara and Tom Jamrozy, Karen and Bill Johnson, Lee Seymour, Maria Simmonds, and last but not least, Peg Talak.

Peg has served as our Sunshine Lady and has decorated the building interior season by season. Upon completion of the decorating, the entire group broke out in song.

The singing was continued at our monthly social which was held



on Dec. 15. We had a lovely holiday celebration at the Beachcomber, and we thank Karen Johnson for once again making all the arrangements. Karen and Trish Burch handed out gifts to the lucky drawing winners.

Trish is letting us use her home for our general meeting on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. She has also arranged our monthly luncheon at Rumbas on Monday, Jan. 16 at noon.

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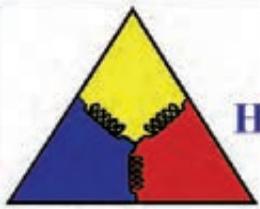
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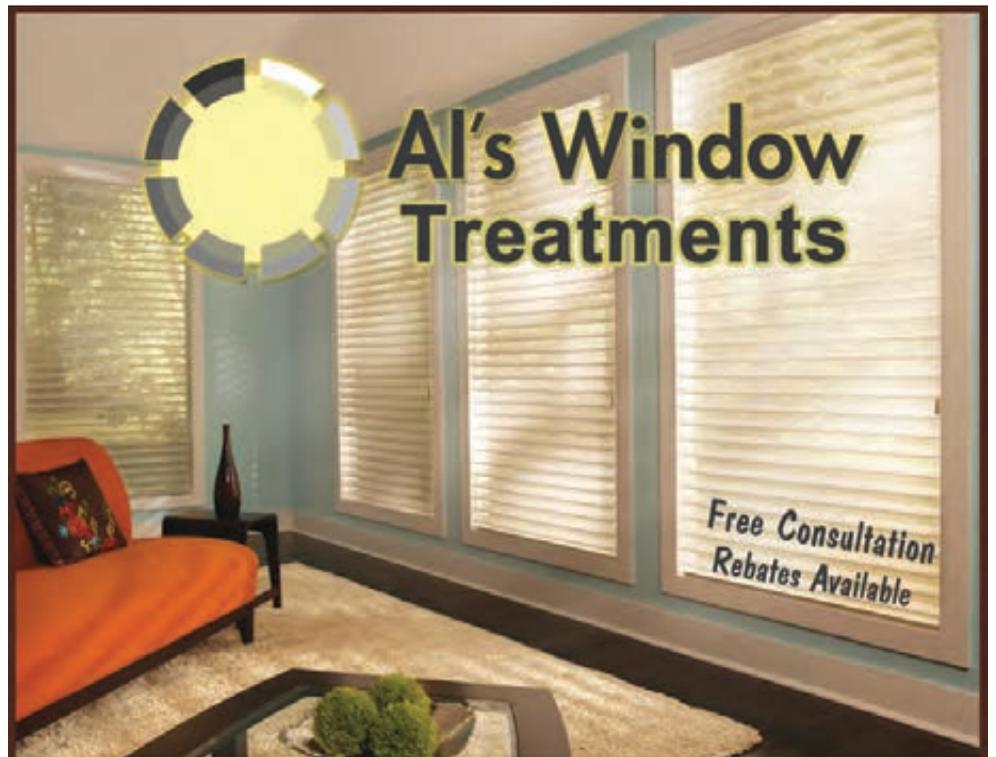
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Baghdad facelift includes paint, paving and more

Looking back on 2016, The Baghdad Building had a pretty good year. On Top of the World management tweaked our building a little bit here and a little bit there — giving us a look that we can all be proud of.

For example, the outside of our building was painted a little more than a year ago, and more recently, our sidewalks, patios and core areas have had a new coat of paint added.

For many of us that were concerned about not having a fan in the laundry room — making the area a little hot at times — a fan, attached to the new updated dryer vents, has been added which now helps prevent the heat buildup in the room.

The parking lot on the Haitian Drive side of our building was paved, and freshly painted parking stripes were added, nicely transforming the look of the former parking area.

New entranceway plants and sod were added to the fronts of many resident condos.

And, thankfully, our lawn sprinklers



were readjusted. If you ever wondered why some vehicles always looked freshly washed, it was because some of the sprinklers acted as several residents' private car washes. Now, the realigned water faucets spray the lawn. Sorry for those of you who'll now have to run to the car wash!

Kudos to the OTOW Management Company for their efforts in bringing about our "new look."

Also, if you ever noticed the 40-year-old mailboxes at the Grecian



This lovely porch area shows some of the recent renovations to the Baghdad Building.

Way entrance looking a little shinier, you owe Shirley Demers a big "thank you." She retrieved her detergent, scrub brush, bucket of water and scoured each of the rusty mailboxes.

Vicky Portsmouth updated the names and numbers in the mailboxes for a more unified appearance. And they both added a little humor by threatening to hire a professional "mailbox updater"

to finish the job! Many thanks to all.

Finally, a wonderful thank you to the residents in the first floor units who continue to keep their attractive patios filled with beautiful flowers and plants so that both our neighbors and guests always feel welcome.

Yes, looking back on 2016, the Baghdad Building had a pretty good year.



Happy New Year from OTOW News!



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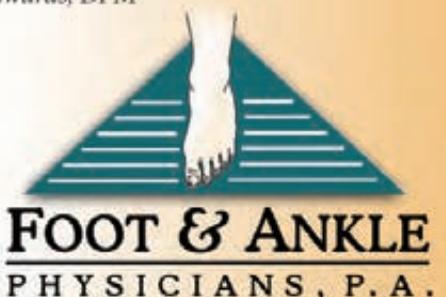
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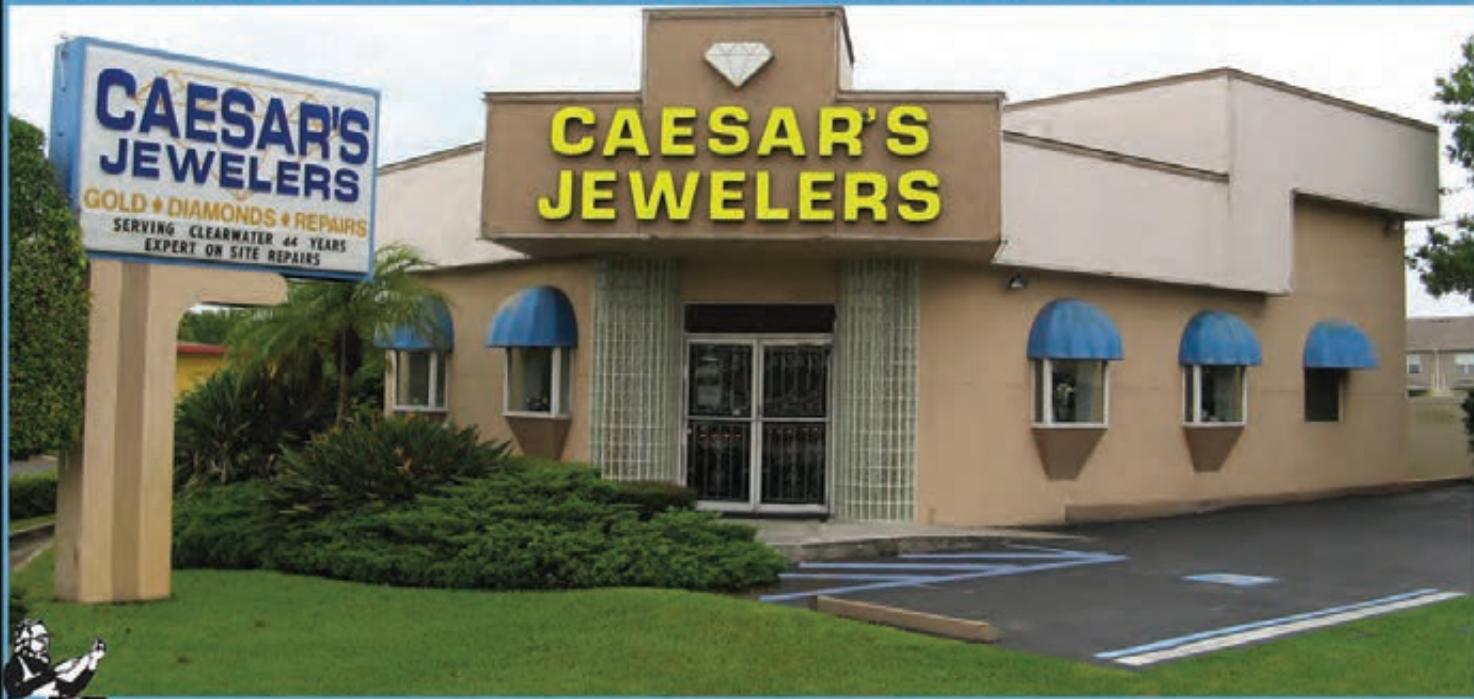
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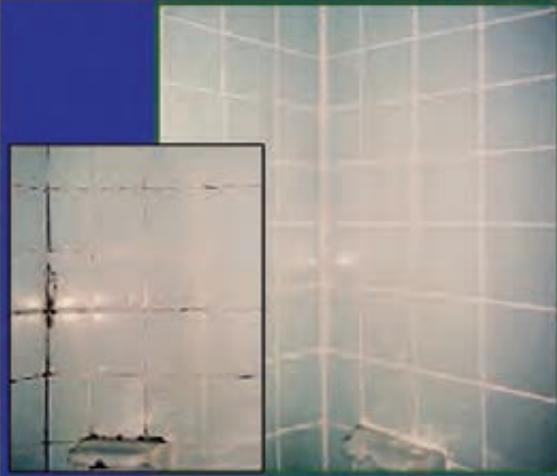
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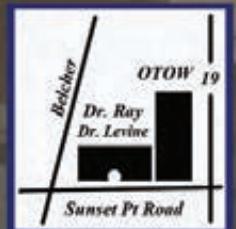
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Featured residents leave Chicago and its winters behind

If you lived “up North” for part of your life, you will have had empathy for the mail carrier who delivered your mail during the winter in subzero weather with snow and ice everywhere.

One such mail carrier moved into our Dorado building. Carl Meyer came to us in 2014 with his wife, Rosemary.

Although Carl did not spend his whole 35-year career braving the ice and snow carrying mail, he spent many years doing just that before moving on to positions that were “less exposed,” even spending some time in the administration.

His wife, Rosemary, also had positions in government offices and later in a private business accounting department. She says she is enjoying her retirement (just two years now) and has not encumbered her life with too many new pursuits. She is, however, the wing captain of her section of our Dorado building.

Carl, who retired before Rosemary, has found that he likes to fill the time with part-time work, such as a position he holds at the Gulf-To-Bay Home Depot.

They come from Chicago, where there was, indeed, much inclement weather in the winter. They now enjoy the warm sun of Florida, although Rosemary relates that she has not yet been able to get used to



Christmas in a warmer climate with no hope of snow!

She and Carl have been married for 48 years and counting.

Rosemary and Carl have a daughter living with her family in Oregon and a son who lives in Maine with his family. In all, they have six grandchildren.

They have spent quite a bit of time flying around the country to see their families. Moving to Florida makes quite a wide “geographic triangle” of Florida, Maine and Oregon.

Carl grew up near Wrigley Field in Chicago and that may have influenced his interest in sports. He was a very happy fan this year when the World Series was won by the Chicago Cubs. Their car displays a front license plate announcing support for the Chicago Black Hawks. They also support the



Dorado featured residents Carl and Rosemary Meyer.

(Photo by Don Jones)

Bears, the Bulls and the Cubs (and even the White Sox).

Carl and Rosemary Meyer have enjoyed the friendly reception they have received in our building and at

On Top of the World. They participate in the Dorado luncheons and are active members of the Dorado Social Club. Welcome, Rosemary and Carl!

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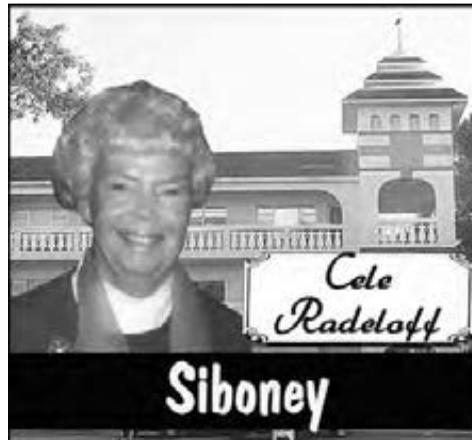
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Thanks to all those who helped to decorate



Building dues are to be paid in January

Happy New Year from all of us at Southern Georgian!

Lots of our neighbors had family in for Christmas and I am sure they enjoyed the beautiful decorations that surrounded our building. Thank you to all who volunteered to help make it look great.

On Dec. 10, our building enjoyed a wonderful holiday gathering. There was pizza and refreshments. We had a good turnout and got to see new and returning neighbors.

A reminder to all Southern Georgian residents that building dues should be paid in January. The cost is \$5 per person, which covers all the events held for the winter season.

Please take a look at the bulletin board in the core for our next building event.

As always, let me know of any news you have to tell.

Where did 2016 go? It just flew by for me!

Now that the hustle and bustle of the holiday season is over, we can continue on with our normal activities. But, thank God, we're here to enjoy the festivities!

Our building core party brought out a great crowd. Lillian Foy, our president, led us in singing several Christmas songs, which everyone enjoyed.

Our building holiday dinner was held at the Island Way Grill. We all loved the room, the food, the view and being transported by bus. The bus transport was the first time for many of our newer neighbors, and they said they enjoyed not having to drive.

We old-timers missed taking the tour through the Beckett Lake development to see the decorated homes. The bus drivers had too many other parties on their schedule.

Many thanks to the following men who installed our huge "Noel" signs on both sides of the building: Ralph DeVoe, Skip Heller, Peter O'Keefe, Dave Mathewson, Joe Morrissey, Bob

Stone, Mike Foy and Jerry Watlington. They also put up the wreaths.

Rita Tombari put the lights on the tree in the core, with Lillian Foy's help. Then, at the core party, everyone joined in putting the ornaments on our beautiful tree. It looked great!

Did you attend our Chorus concert? Our neighbors, Rita Tombari and Lillian Foy, are members. We enjoyed the music. My daughter, Carol, who was visiting from Long Island, helped me with selling tickets in the lobby, along with Eileen Bekofske.

Carol, also enjoyed the tour of the new Fitness Center in the

East Activity Center. She was very impressed and mentioned that she pays \$300 in membership fees to a fitness gym on Long Island. She said her gym was not half as nice as our new Fitness Center.

I hope you attended the Entertainment Committee's Thursday show, "The New Dawn Singers." It was great!

Maureen Chitnes is back after visiting her son in Atlanta and cooking the Thanksgiving Day meal there. She said the weather was so beautiful that they did a lot of walking all over town.

I do hope you had a glorious holiday and made some good New Year's resolutions.

We'll see you at our monthly building meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. in the Sunrise Room of the West Activity Center. Siboney is your building, so please join us. The meetings are interesting and informative and we usually have delicious refreshments. See you there!

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Help us protect residents from the 'grandparent scam'

Within the past few 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 grandchildren in stories. All residents should be

aware that this is a common scam everywhere — not just at On Top of the World.

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.

ATTENTION WEST-SIDE DRIVERS

- As you enter on World Parkway and approach Americus Boulevard, remember to come to a complete stop before making your turn. Do not pass a left-turning car on the right, inasmuch as that blocks the other driver's vision and could cause an accident.
- Remember to make a complete stop when you come to any stop sign within the OTOW community. The other cars and pedestrians around you are depending on it, even though you may not see them. A "rolling stop" places you and others at risk of an accident. Stop, look both ways, and look in front of you. Thanks for being a cautious and safe driver!

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Activities continue into the New Year

I was out of town for the last half of November enjoying a visit with my brother and sister-in-law in Cincinnati. Because of my time away I did not get around to a December column, so this column should bring us up to date.

We had a number of successful activities during the past several months and more are planned during January to kick off our New Year.

Our last monthly luncheon was held on Oct. 20 at Beef O'Brady's with nine residents enjoying the get-together.

On Nov. 4, we had our annual welcome back party for returning part-time residents. It appeared to be a resounding success as more than 40 were in attendance. Thanks go out to our building captain and his wife, Paul and Claire Bruyere for their organization of the party. Thanks, too,



to several residents who helped set up, and the many residents who attended and supplied tasty food selections.

The Christmas holiday party was held on Dec. 14, with many residents in attendance. Again our thanks to Paul and Claire for their organization.

The annual Chetnik Building

business meeting will be held Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sunrise Room at the West Activities Center. Building suggestions and concerns will be discussed. Pizza and beverages will be supplied. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the Chetnik bulletin board by the elevator. Paul Bruyere will chair the meeting.

Please keep in mind Paul volunteers for his position and is not necessarily able to solve problems which are more appropriately addressed by each of us with the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center.

Our monthly luncheon will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19, at 12:30 p.m. at the Bahama Breeze Island Grill restaurant.

Directions and a sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board if you would like to attend.



New resident is in antique toy business

Is it only me or does anybody else feel that the year went by faster and was shorter than previous years?

Maybe it's because there is so much going on in the On Top of the World community.

We are truly blessed living here. Now we welcome the New Year and hope it will keep us healthy and busy doing the things we love.

Let's greet new resident Terry Ralston. Terry moved to Brittany Farm House in October from Connecticut. She has worked for her family's business since she finished high school. Her father started an antique toys and trains trade business in 1978, organizing auctions and travelling the country to look for unique, antique items.

Nowadays such a business is done online. That's why Terry could move to the sunshine state and can still work for her father's company.

She has a little companion, a Shih Tzu/poodle mix, called Jack. Welcome, Terry!

Daughter maintains history of film star

You survived! If you are reading this column, you made it through the holidays with the food, the bowl games, food, the parties, food, the visitors, food, all the shopping — buying and retuning — and now the resolutions to walk and eat less. Some things don't change much, do they?

We wanted to do our part, so our building luncheon in December was at the Olive Garden with a good turnout and lots of laughs and fun.

We have scheduled the Red Lobster on Jan. 11 for the luncheon this month.

Deep thinkers in the building are planning some outings. The first will be a tour of the Largo Military Museum. Watch the bulletin board for the date and time. We are open for suggestions for future trips.

Also, don't forget to see Eileen to pay your dues. We have plans.



Fran Rich's daughter, Sharon, was in town for her mom's milestone birthday Dec. 3. Sharon is an author and film historian focusing on the Jeanette MacDonald/Nelson Eddy story ever since Sharon's teen-age years at UCLA.

It all started while a senior in high school when volunteers were needed for the new Candystripe project at

the Motion Picture Country Home in Woodland Hills, Calif.

When Sharon joined the group, she visited with many of the film stars of the 20's, 30's and 40's.

Among them was a character actress named Blossom Rock, Jeanette MacDonald's sister. Blossom took Sharon under her wing and introduced her to Jeanette's glorious career and love-life with hours of sharing stories and scanning photos from scrapbooks. All her memorabilia was bequeathed to Sharon upon her death. And so it began.

At age 20, Sharon's first book was published, a pictorial history of Jeanette MacDonald. She has since published numerous articles and books and has a world-wide fan club following with new data and artifacts coming to light every year.

She expects to be back at Barnes and Noble for a book-signing event sometime in 2017.

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Go to www.ontopoftheworldnews.com, then click on the Box Office logo. This is your gateway to all things happening at OTOW Clearwater — community alert messages, clubs, Karma Cafe specials, daily and monthly calendars of events, games and much more. Check it out regularly!



WWW.ONTOPOTHEWORLDNEWS.COM

Hooray for Hollywood!



Gerald Colen visited the East Activity Center on Dec. 7 and provided residents with a lecture on some of the dark sides from Hollywood history. The lecture included scandals, crime and mysteries surrounding some of Hollywood's earliest entertainers. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

PLEASE DO NOT PARK



Never park your vehicle on the driveway at the front entrance of the EAC!

Thank you

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: _____

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2069 World Parkway Blvd E,
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Complete a new form in the future if your return date is unknown at this time.

Building among the first to sport decorations



Greetings from the residents of Roman Byzantine.

We had quite a busy holiday month. Our building was one of the first to put up decorations. Following a wine and vote party early in the month, many gathered after sunset to evaluate and decide on what type of decorations and where we would display them. It was fun to meet more residents and share some beverages and snacks while lounging on our lawn area.

Bob Notbohm and Ray Claxton, with help from others as available, did a fantastic job of bringing the holiday spirit alive with our lights and decorations.

We had another fun evening at the Christmas party for the building. More than 35 attended our activity at the Island Way Grill restaurant. We



These Roman Byzantine volunteers pause during their work installing holiday decorations on the building.

filled two buses that transported us. The food and festivities were enjoyed by all that attended and appreciated the bus ride home.

The baking has been continuous, with cookies and delectable treats being shared daily.

Many residents have hosted gatherings for their friends and families, Pat Antonakos and Tom and Joan Brennen to name a couple. Barb Novak returned from her daughter's home just in time to be here for the holidays.

It is great to realize so many neighbors have reached out to lift each other up over the last month.

Last but not least, I'm told we will be starting our monthly core gatherings just to enjoy the company of others.

Our next gathering will be a wine tasting on Jan. 11 in the second-floor core. It will be fun to welcome more friends back and to catch up on the reports from home. Bring your favorite chair, beverage and/or snack.

Until next time, Happy New Year!



Memories of this Christmas remain vivid

The deer grazed in front of the Christmas tree while the poinsettia was beautiful against the dark greenery.

The lights were blinking, Snoopy opened his mail box and a snowman peeked out every time the lid opened.

Christmas trees twinkled and animated dogs awaited a treat — yes, this was Christmas at the Flamenco building. We hope you all enjoyed the wonderful holiday.

Many residents enjoyed the "New Dawn Singers", which started the season with a joyful celebration.

Our annual cookie bake and luncheon was held at Charlotte Smedley's condo. Each participant took home delicious samples to share.

Six residents took time off to visit the Hard Rock Casino. Debbie Allen was the big winner. Congrats!

Loraine and Bob Gendon invited several residents for a fun karaoke sing-a-long.

Debbie Allen and Elaine Whaley entertained relatives from up North. I am sure they enjoyed our warmer weather.

I flew to Arizona and spent Christmas with my oldest daughter, Denise, and family.

It has been a very busy year at the Flamenco. Halloween and birthday parties, monthly luncheons and more. Yes, we enjoy our friends and neighbors and are looking forward to next year. I am sure it will be exciting.

I am wishing all a Happy New Year!

Delaware, Colorado recent destinations

Hello from Rila Renaissance. Several of our neighbors had great experiences in other states.

Joan Moore flew to Delaware for a week to attend her grandson's wedding. Since his bride is Korean, they changed into Korean ceremonial garb. There were various nationalities of food served at the reception.

Joan also attended her 68th high school reunion. Joan graduated in 1948 and her class is the only one to have a reunion every year. Twenty-five graduates were able to attend and it was like they were always together. This was a memorable trip.

Our neighbors, Van Bradley and Leora Hamm, have two Yorkies, Gizmo and Chipshot. Van and Leora share their year between Florida and Colorado.

They entered their Yorkies in a dog photo contest sponsored by the Credit Union of Colorado for its 2017 calendar. Out of thousands of entries their dogs were chosen for the April month of the calendar.

The proceeds after expenses are to go to the largest animal shelter in



the state, Foothills Animal Shelter. Congratulations Van and Leora!

A year-end meeting was held and more than 20 residents attended. It was voted that in the first week of February, 2017, we would collect building dues for each condo of \$5.

It was also discussed that the bike room does not have enough space. The room is being reorganized and a letter will be given to each resident when the dues are collected. There is also a copy of the letter posted on our bulletin boards.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Please leave any news of special events, anniversary, birth, trips, etc. in the white mailbox in the core under the bulletin board. Thank you.



Joan Moore, center, with her grandson and his new bride in traditional Korean dress. Joan attended their recent wedding in Delaware.

OTOW NEWS WEBSITE:
www.ontopoftheworldnews.com

PLEASE ADVISE YOUR
GUESTS
LAUNDRY HOURS ARE
8:00 A.M. til 8:00 P.M.

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.

Lovely decorations make for a festive season



The sparkling lights of the holiday spirit illuminated the Austrian Alpine building with reindeer, Santas, and multicolored trees and wreaths.

Santa's helpers set up and decorated our tree in the core and our sign on World Parkway Boulevard. Many thanks to Beverly Gallagher, Merlene Robbins, Gladys Doyne, Kathy Ahrens, Joe Santosuosso and Mark Doyne for decorating our building inside and out.

Also, thank you to those who set up cheerful decorations on their condos. We all rejoiced in the festive displays.

Our holiday dinner at the Island Way Grill on Dec. 5 was a celebratory event. Good cheer and good conversation made for a delightful



Virginia Donlon, Donna Berndt and Don Sanders share stories at the Austrian Alpine holiday dinner at Island Way Grill.

evening for all. Also, many enjoyed talking with some of the new people in our building. Happy New Year to all of our building's residents!

In the spirit of the season, Jan Stiffler and Joyce Monahan perfected their Christmas carol chords, vocal and ukulele, at the Baby Boomer December Pot Luck and Sing-a-Long Celebration.

If any resident would like to host a coffee or luncheon, please contact one of our building coordinators; she will make a sign and make the necessary preparations.

Our building coordinators are Virginia Donlon, Kathleen Santosuosso, and Jeanette Donnelly.

All 60 units in our building now have room in one of our four storage rooms. The clean-up and marking of spaces has taken months to complete, but all units now have a 2'x3' space in which to store items.

Check out our bulletin board for Austrian Alpine news. There is a news note posted each month. Thank you, volunteers — we appreciate all that you do!

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.

(Note that pickup times can be anywhere from 30-45 minutes early.)

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

Aldi (Sunset & Lawson)

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 activity card.
- This service is provided to our residents at no charge.
- Thank you, but the driver is prohibited from accepting tips.
- The bus driver picks up passengers with reservations only.
- You must be able to transfer on your own to ride the bus.
- Medical devices may be restricted due to passenger load.
- Eating and drinking on the bus is prohibited.
- Shopping bag limits and size restrictions are at the driver's discretion.
- If space allows, residents with current activity cards may catch a one-way ride home on the bus.
- If you create a safety hazard or cause unsafe distractions to the driver, you will not be permitted on the bus.
- Shopping time is 90 minutes and begins at the first drop off.
- Due to limited seating, we cannot accept multi-day reservations.
- Reservations are first come, first served, and may only be made 24 hours in advance.
- The reservation phone number is for seat reservations only. Please leave your name, trip request, building and unit number, and phone number.
- If you live on the second floor of a two-story building, or if your building's elevator is out of service, the driver will carry your bags to your front door. The driver is strictly prohibited from entering your unit.
- The SCA staff takes their directions from SCA management. Please refer all questions and concerns to the Community Service Office.

TIME TO VOTE FOR THE 2017 OTOW PET OF THE YEAR

Between Friday, Jan. 6, and Sunday, Jan. 8, go online and vote for two of your favorite candidates.

- You can only vote from a home computer. No cell phone voting is permitted.
- Voting can only be done once per computer. Anyone in the world can vote.
- Visit On Top of the World News.com, click the Clearwater link and look for the “Pet of the Month” button. You will see all 12 eligible pets and you can read the biography of each one.
- Polls will be open for three days only. Get the results in your February newspaper.
- The winner will receive a free bubble bath and grooming from Barks & Bubbles and will walk in the 2017 Irish Club Parade.
- See page 11 of this newspaper for a look at the contest entries.

On Top of the World Fitness Center

PROPER GYM ATTIRE ONLY

**No Swimsuits
No Flip Flops
No Sandals
No Open Toes
You Must Be Dry**





These ladies were largely responsible for the success of the building Christmas party at Alfano's. From left to right: Ginny Tousignant, Reta Carney, Gin Upton and Diana Bendert.

Looking back on 2016, it was a very good year for NWF

What a good year this has been for those of us who live here at New World French at On Top of the World!

We enjoyed so many occasions like a spring farewell picnic for our Snowbirds who were returning to their summer abodes, to the monthly women's luncheons and the monthly birthday celebrations.

Those people who were able to attend the Halloween party and Christmas parties that Danielle Laroche and Brian Shaffer hosted at their condo will always remember how awesome they were. They certainly went all out with their decorations and hospitality.

Speaking of awesome: None was more so than our building Christmas party held at Alfano's. This event was planned and organized by our "angels." Although all angels took part, the brunt of the work was done by Ginny Tousignant, Diana Bendert, Gin Upton, and Rita Carney.

These ladies checked out the party site beforehand, made plans for fun and games, collected money for the dinner as well as the yearly dues of \$10 per unit (if you haven't paid, you



can still do. Check with our treasurer, Gin Upton).

Pastor Allen Bendert gave the grace after Ginny Tousignant welcomed the 50 people present and paid tribute to noteworthy persons.

Delicious food was served after which the games began. Guessing how many M&Ms were in a jar, rubbing off a lottery ticket, which had been given to each individual, and an exchange of white elephant or gag gifts took place. The latter provided much laughter. It was a joyous time!

So we rang out the old year and are ringing in the New Year. Happy New Year everyone!

OTOW CLASSIFIED ADS

This Classified section is a service to the On Top of the World 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

New 4-wheel walker with seat and basket, heavy-duty \$35. 412-4677

Dirt Devil Spot Scrubber, never used, cleans carpet and upholstery of pet "accidents." Only \$25. 799-8478

Kitchen/household items; sports items; books, magazines & videos – Bible prophecy, etc.; cameras, clothes, tools, misc. other items. 791-1444

Laptop computer, Dell 14" Inspiron N-4010 Intel core processor 2.40GHz, Windows 10, 64-bit, wireless \$125. 797-8537

12-cup Keurig coffee maker with K-cup carousel \$50; dining room set: table, leaf, 6 chairs, sideboard, light wood. 480-9456

Golf pull cart, 2-wheels, folds very compactly \$25. 726-6550

Whirlpool 27" wall oven, white, self-cleaning, AccuBake system, great condition \$200. 796-0156

Portable Kenmore washer \$175; twin bed w/sheets \$65; iron/board \$20; couch/love seat \$125; 33 1/3 records, 60 for \$40; walker; dresser; bookcase. 248-535-4385

Three-wheel Clicgear golf cart, folds up to two-by-two \$60. 401-258-2059

Men's Mizuno Senior golf clubs, 3-PW, w/bag \$145; golf carts: 2-wheel \$15, 3-wheel \$45; misc. other clubs. Excellent condition. 286-6484

Travel totes, Christmas village buildings, wall safe, window air conditioners. Call for pricing and details. 768-3424

Games, pictures, entertainment center, lamps, dishes, bike helmet. 797-6630

Oak table with 4 chairs, can be expanded. Oval 66" x 40" without insert. Great buy at only \$300. 266-4380

2 lamps, kitchen appliances, sewing threads, scissors, etc. 775-671-1560

Kayak, new 10-foot Pelican, sit on top, w/carbon paddle \$375; soft car carrier \$45. 475-0729

Golf club set, men's right-hand, driver, 3, 4 hybrids, 5-9 irons, pitching wedge, putter, bag, cart \$60. 458-8954

ReSound hearing aids w/remote control \$195; ReSound Unite mini-microphone, new \$195. 304-672-3401

ProSpeed 2-piece pool stick, 19 oz. w/case \$140; Jack Daniels collectors' tin w/full bottle & two shot glasses \$140. 304-290-2085

Walker, deluxe with seat, folds for travel or storage, excellent condition, a bargain at \$35. 754-7290

Bedroom dresser \$25; TV cart stand \$10; 5-bulb chandelier \$10. 315-271-6471

Free: complete shower door unit with frame, great condition, you transport it from Bldg. 12. Leave message. 286-7702

GE refrigerator, white, side-by-side, 22 cu. ft., water & ice dispenser in door, good condition \$200. 796-0156

HP Officejet 4635 printer/fax/copy/scan (with document feeder), new cost \$100+, sell for \$50 OBO. Free delivery & setup. 400-5739

Motor scooter, Yamaha 2006, 49cc, excellent condition \$500. 734-0257

Shark Rocket vacuum, new, power head, excellent condition, all attachments \$100; table lamp, 25", black base \$10. 692-7028

3-wheel bike, 26" has seat, basket, lights front & rear, new tires \$225 OBO. 708-217-1464

Silverware, Oneida 12-place settings, tarnish proof, w/chest \$220 OBO; dolphin knick-knacks, large collection, great gifts, reasonable. 726-4571

Right-handed golf clubs, steel and flexible shafts \$2/club, \$3/bag. 464-1310

Power recliner w/matching sleeper love seat, like new; dining room set with table, chairs and hutch; misc. other furniture pieces. 859-7024

WANTED

Female adult dog less than 8 lbs. wanted: poodle, yorkie, Shih Tzu or mix. 386-4525

Need several white tiles for master bathroom replacements. If you are remodeling and have some undamaged tiles left over, please call. 797-9616

Want to borrow or rent canoe for use on OTOW lake. Call anytime. 412-629-3502



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OTOW BINGO
Every Monday*
EAC Auditorium

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Play all night for \$10

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 5 NIGHT COSTA MAYA AND HAVANA	April 19, 2017	Miami, Florida • Cruising • Costa Maya, Mexico • Cruising • Havana, Cuba • Miami, Florida
 7 NIGHT HAVANA AND YUCATAN	April 30, 2017	Tampa, Florida • Cruising • Cozumel, Mexico • Belize City, Belize • Cruising • Havana, Cuba • Cruising • Tampa, Florida
4 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN	May 7, 2017	Tampa, Florida • Cruising • Cozumel, Mexico • Cruising • Tampa, Florida
4 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN	May 11, 25, 2017	Tampa, Florida • Cruising • Cozumel, Mexico • Cruising • Tampa, Florida
5 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN	May 15, 29, 2017	Tampa, Florida • Cruising • Cozumel, Mexico • Costa Maya, Mexico • Cruising • Tampa, Florida
 5 NIGHT KEY WEST, HAVANA & COZUMEL	May 20, 29, 2017	Tampa, Florida • Key West, Florida • Havana, Cuba • Cozumel, Mexico • Cruising • Tampa, Florida



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