



Cooking ideas
for the
Fourth of July

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Resident passes
time by creating art
out of seashells

See Pages 23



Residents celebrate
birthday with
community drive by

See Page 35

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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It all started with six little words: “Mom, can you sew a flag?”

By Doug Kates

Phyllis Candler had no idea her condo was going to be turned into the most patriotic living room at On Top of the World.

But that's what happens when you “volunteer” to repair one of the most enormous American flags in all of Pinellas County.

Volunteer? Well, kind of.

Lori Mazzearella, Phyllis' daughter, heard from Susan's Flags & More in Tarpon Springs, that someone needed a corner of a flag repaired.

So, like any good daughter would do ... Lori volunteered her mother to help.

“I offered my Mom's services,” Lori said. “My Mom sews. She has great sewing machines ... and it was only a corner.”

So Lori popped the enormous question in front of her parents. It kind of went like this: “Mom, can you sew a flag?”

Even though Phyllis retired her sewing machines 20 years ago, she said “yes” to her daughter's request.

But no one had any idea the actual size of the flag. They would soon find out it belonged to Ferman Chevrolet in Tarpon Springs and it literally flew over the entire dealership!

“I had no idea what I was getting,” Phyllis said. “All Lori said was ‘the flag was big.’”

On June 8, when the damaged flag eventually arrived at the South Seas building on the West Side, everyone finally realized this was not a normal flag.

A very large box was lifted into Phyllis' living room and the damaged corner of the flag was placed on a dining room table.

Phyllis' husband, Wade, a veteran of the Korean War, took great pride in helping out with the project, and Lilly, the family dog, supervised.

Every attempt was made to respect the flag and keep it off the living room floor, but it was just too big. Phyllis, Wade and Lilly did their best. The entire project



Pictured above is a fun exaggeration of what it looked like when Phyllis Candler repaired an enormous flag on her living room table. Wade, her husband, and Lilly, the family dog, both helped. Below is the flag unfurled from the third floor.
(OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)

took about 7 hours.

The next day, curious residents visited OTOW's newest flag repair shop and transported the just-like-new flag to the third floor of the South Seas building. It took four people to hold onto the top as the flag was unfurled to the lawn below.

What a sight!

Although a bit overwhelming, Phyllis never complained about the project being too big.

“Sewing is common sense,” she said. “If you think about it long enough, anything can be fixed.”

Phyllis and Wade have been married 63 years. They have done many projects together, but this was certainly unique.

And Phyllis won't admit this was a job well done.

She will tell you “it was an honor.”



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OTOW News



Pet of the Month



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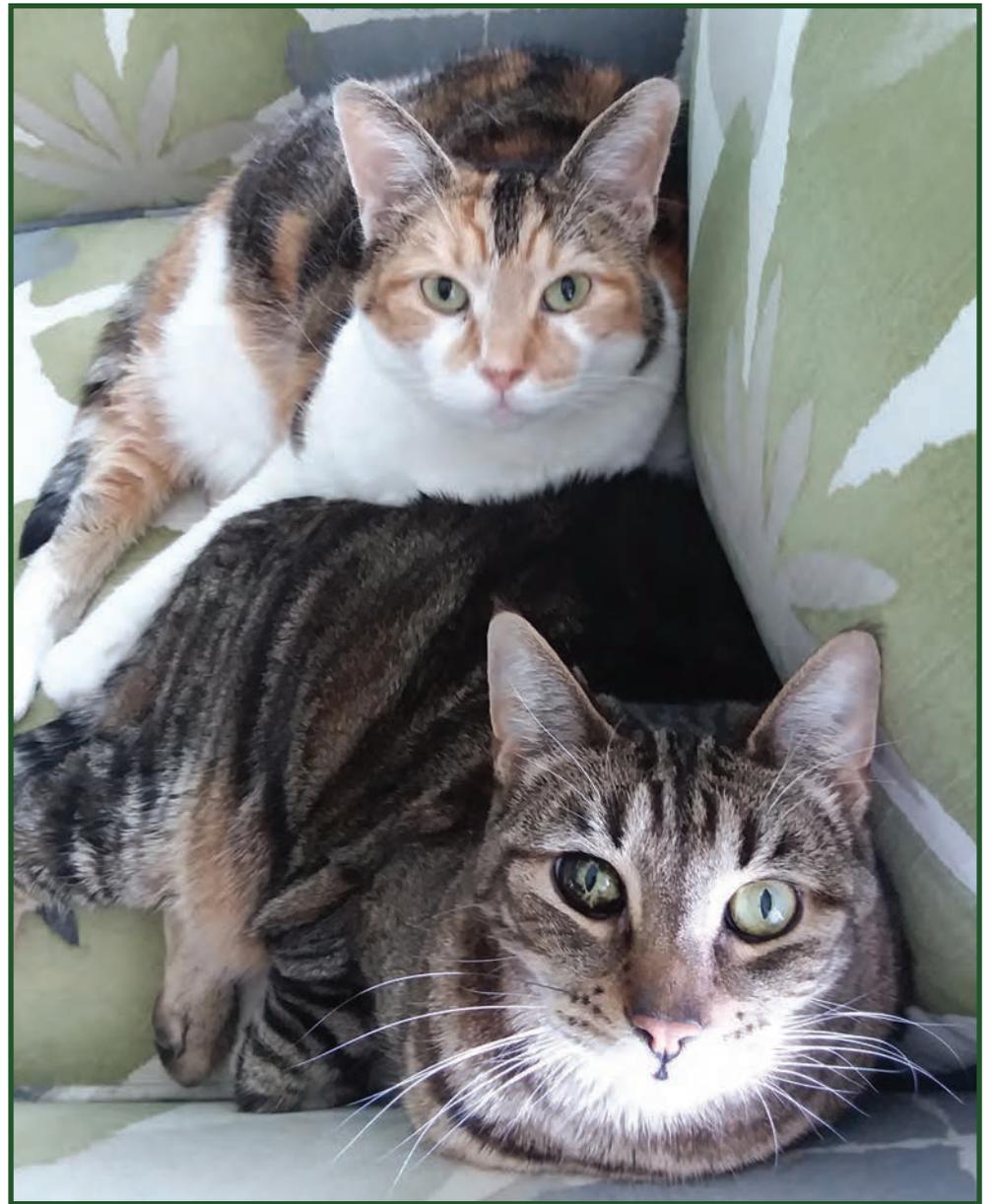
Flora & Lily

These two girls, Flora and Lily, were rescued from a Long Island beach.

What makes them special is how they show love and affection to their parents (CJ and Ann Messina).

Flora eats with her paw. Lily greets us at the door.

The girls are 9 years old and reside in Building 43 - the American Gothic Building.



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

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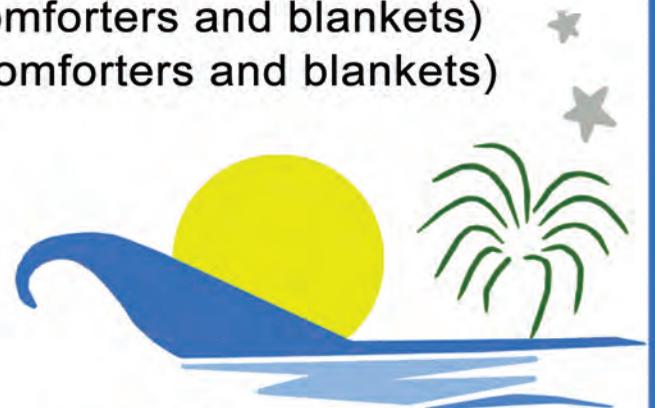
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Motorists and bicyclists both must follow state laws

Review of Biking Laws

When residents hit the open roadways of the community, it is important to understand the “biking” rules of the road.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Bicyclists must obey all traffic controls and signals.

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

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

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

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

It is important to remember that because there is only one road, it is up to bicyclists and motorists to treat each other



with care and respect while sharing it.

For additional information on state bicycle laws, please visit: floridabicycle.org for details.

Don’t Feed Alligators

The Management Company wants residents to beware of the **dangers of feeding alligators.**

According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Human Alligator Incidents Fact Sheet, “Alligators are opportunistic feeders and will eat animals that are readily available to them.

“They prefer to go after prey they can overpower easily. Opportunity is the primary factor that causes an alligator to pursue prey. Most alligators are naturally afraid of humans, but may lose that fear when people feed them. Feeding alligators teaches them to associate people with food.

“For that reason, it is illegal to feed wild alligators.

“Alligators seldom bite people for reasons other than food. May and June is alligator mating season so female alligators may protect their nests by hissing and opening their mouths to frighten intruders. Alligator bites are most likely to occur in or around water. Bites on humans have occurred in a variety of water bodies, many of which are small and not regularly

used by alligators.”

Safety Tips

- If you encounter an alligator that is believed to pose a threat to people, pets or property, call the FWC’s Nuisance Alligator Hotline, toll-free at 1-866-FWC-GATOR (1-866-392-4286).

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program (SNAP) uses contracted nuisance alligator trappers throughout the state to remove alligators 4 feet in length or greater that are believed to pose a threat.

- Be aware of the possible presence of alligators when in or near fresh or brackish water. Negative alligator encounters may occur when people do not pay close attention to their surroundings when working or during recreation events near water.

- Do not allow pets to swim, exercise or drink in or near waters that may contain alligators or in designated swimming areas. Dogs are more susceptible to being bitten than humans because dogs resemble the natural prey of alligators. The sound of dogs barking and playing may draw an alligator to the area.

- Inform others that feeding alligators is illegal and creates problems for others who want to hold recreation events in or near the water

- Leave alligators alone. State law prohibits killing, harassing or possessing alligators except under permit.

- Never remove an alligator from its natural habitat or accept one as a pet. It is illegal and dangerous to do so. Handling even small alligators can result in injury.

- If an alligator bites you, the best thing to do is fight back, providing as much noise and resistance as possible. Hitting or kicking the alligator, or poking it in its eyes, may cause it to release its grip. When alligators seize prey they cannot easily overpower, they will often let go and retreat. Seek immediate medical attention if an alligator bites you as they often result in serious infection.

68A-25.001 Feeding or Enticement of Crocodylians Unlawful

- No person shall intentionally feed, or entice with food, any crocodylian unless held in captivity under a permit issued by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or otherwise provided by this title.

(Rulemaking Authority Article IV, Section 9, of Florida Constitutional Law Implemented Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution History—New 3-1-05, Amended 5-18-06.)

Did You Know

The Management Company reached out to Pinellas County Health Department to establish on-site Covid-19 testing for the On Top of the World community.

Unfortunately, at this time, they are not able to offer on-site testing because supplies are still in short supply and their focus is on making tests available to healthcare workers and at in-patient care facilities.

With COVID-19 cases on the rise, please remember to wash your hands frequently.

A mask is mandatory when using any On Top of the World facility. As of June 24, wearing a mask indoors at public places became mandatory in Pinellas County if there are more than 10 people at the facility.

Please avoid large assemblies of people. Safety needs to be everyone’s first priority.

Community Service Office Information

The Community Service Office (CSO) hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted. If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff is working with someone else. Please be patient. Calls and voicemails will be responded to during normal business hours. Once the requested service matter is identified, a service order will be generated and submitted to the appropriate department to address the matter.

The goal of the CSO is to make an initial assessment of the request and to determine if it is an emergency or non-emergency. Once the matter is assessed, a plan to resolve will be made and work scheduled. Generally, all non-emergency service requests are assessed and addressed in the order in which they are received.

From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request. It is not necessary to report service requests more than one time. If you have any questions regarding your request and until the Community Service Office reopens, please call the Service Request Line, that number is listed below. As a reminder, window and door repair or replacement is exclusive to the unit and is the owner’s responsibility. The Association’s responsibility is to the structure and common elements.

Service Request Line

If you are unable to visit the Community Service Office, the OTOW phone number to submit a service request is 727-683-6981. Please call for general building matters in the common areas only. Please do not leave health-related emergency information on the service request line as this will delay the amount of time it takes us to respond to non-emergency service requests.

After-Hours Number

The OTOW after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115 for issues such as water intrusion into your unit. For all other inquiries regarding general matters or questions that are not service related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office.

For a life threatening emergency, please dial 911.

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

There are 4 ways to have your water turned on or off

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

Messages are retrieved Monday - Friday, 8-3:30 p.m.

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

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

(4) For emergency service after 3 p.m. on weekdays and on weekends, call 799-1115. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required at the time of service.

You must be present when your water is turned on.

Despite challenges, a positive

Annual Meeting

I would like to thank everyone who attended the annual meeting either on Zoom, YouTube or OTOW-TV Channel 732.

Thank you to everyone who submitted a proxy. The Annual Meeting for the On Top of the World Condominium Association was held at 10:00 a.m. on June 17, 2020, online.

It was refreshing to have so much participation.

Zoom reported about 87 viewers, YouTube registered 15 viewers at various times, 17 listened by phone and more than 600 watched on OTOW-TV.

We received many written questions before hand, which helped facilitate a good give and take.

The meeting ran two hours with no break. The Board presentation took one hour. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to answering questions submitted by residents.

Chairman Kenneth Colen called for any collected ballots or proxies to be turned in and counted. Noting that a Counting Committee could not be convened, the ballots and proxies were tabulated by the assistant secretary and would be available for inspection by appointment.

Kenneth Colen also pointed out the scrivener error on the budget in the calculation of reserves, which understated the amount of reserves. A corrected budget and reserve calculation was posted on center core bulletin boards of each building on June 5, together with a path to obtain an individual copy of the corrected budget for interested parties.

The error was the result of a wrong file going to the printer. Provided reserves were waived (as they were), there would be no budget impact.

The Board reported on the status of recreation improvements and construction for the past 12 months of activity.

To recap the last year to date includes: four (4) buildings have new roof systems, and two (2) buildings had the shingle mansards replaced. New gutter systems accompanied all of these new roof system installations as well as bringing the roofs up to the current wind code.

There have been four (4) elevator equipment modernizations and two (2) elevator cab remodels. Nineteen (19) buildings had their front elevations repainted, while 14 back elevations were waterproofed.

Asphalt improvements include five (5) partial streets repaved, five (5) parking lots sealed and more than 350 feet of curb line replaced.

Two (2) buildings have received new code compliant aluminum railings with another two currently in the works.

Twenty-two (22) new common laundry room venting improvements were completed and 100 new life safety lighting units were installed.

The Chairman discussed the challenges of implementing Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Order during



the Covid-19 period, as well as the phased reopening stages. The largest challenges faced are the burden of (1) Ensuring social distancing and personal safety measures; and (2) Managing the burden of frequent disinfecting in high use areas, such as the fitness center, pool chairs, restrooms, and tables and chairs.

To complicate matters, staffing is at a low level and stretched thin with monitoring duties as well as the regular house-keeping chores. The solution the Management Company suggested is limited hours of operations and limiting venues.

The added cost burden of additional Covid-19 safety protocol and compliance is not accounted for in the budget, and may require some trade-offs within the budget and scheduling. Cost overruns outside of the budget will be absorbed by the Management Company.

Bicycle/pedestrian lanes were added in the past year, as well as better roadway striping.

Additional "No Parking" signs were added on Americus to ensure the lanes stay open and unimpeded for pedestrian use.

The Board believes this is a great enhancement to the community as the number of walkers and riders are on the rise. The Management Company will continue to pursue working with the Pinellas County Sheriff Office to enter into an agreement for traffic enforcement.

Kenneth Colen discussed awnings and their failure to meet current building code for wind uplift was discussed. It was noted that awnings with weak or failing attachments are causing damage to the building structure and need to be removed at the owner's expense. Awnings are an owner's private property existing in the common areas. To date in 2020, only 116 awnings remain (out of more than 2,600).

After Aug. 1, 2018, awning inspections were added to the estoppel inspection checklist for compliance before the Association will sign off on the transfer of property (resale or inheritance). This is similar to the washer/dryer inspection procedure in place since 2016.

The risk associated with improperly installed washers and dryers continues to be a great concern. The Association instituted an inspection requirement on all condos that are resold, regardless of when the condo was acquired, or what owner installed a washer/dryer. This require-

ment applies regardless of what real estate agency the seller chooses to list with. Further, it is incumbent upon the owner to disclose the washer/dryer as a material defect in the home, unless the matter was previously corrected by a licensed electrician, plumber, or appliance specialist. Proof of the correction must be provided to the Association before approval for the sale to close will be granted.

Kenneth Colen discussed improvements made without prior approval by the Association. He discussed a case of river rock (Chattahoochee stone) on walkways and patios. Over time, this degrades and the stones become susceptible to separation. Mowers or string trimmers may pick them up in the grass and the stones become missiles. With luck, they hit nothing. However, the stones have damaged windows or struck parked cars.

The Association takes the position that such unapproved installations must be removed by the current owner at their expense.

Guy Woolbright discussed predictions from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and insurance underwriter forecasts for the current hurricane season. To recap, predictions call for an average to slightly above average hurricane season for 2020, noting we've already had a recent tropical storm. Predictions include:

- 13-19 named storms
- 6-10 hurricanes
- 3-6 major hurricanes

Portions of World Parkway Boulevard rounding the creek near the golf course did get inundated by high water following tropical storm Debbie some years ago. The waters largely receded within four hours of cresting. No buildings were impacted, although residents who drove into the water flooded their cars.

Guy Woolbright explained insurance coverage renewal for the Association. In the past number of years, the Association has benefitted from very competitive insurance markets, with annual policy cost increases in the single percentage points. This current renewal pointed out we are in a return to a very hard market. This will be the last year of moderate insurance pricing.

The event deductible continues the same as in the prior year's policy: \$10,000 per non-wind storm occurrence, however, the wind storm deductible continues at 5 percent of the stated value subject to \$250,000 minimum for named wind storm.

For more information on this topic, please go to www.OTOWClearwaterinfo.com/CommunityInformation and review the document entitled Insurance Responsibility of the Individual Unit Owner.

The Association property policy covers property from the interior drywall out, but does not cover finished surfaces, fixtures, cabinetry or other installations within a condo unit, nor the A/C unit within the limits of the unit. Unit owners are directed to purchase a personal policy for their unit and belongings called an "HO-

6" policy.

In the case of a destroyed building due to a fire, the HO-6 policy pays the unit owner for new flooring, kitchen appliances, furniture, and it may even pay for living somewhere else while the unit is being repaired. The HO-6 should have personal liability, loss of use, and loss assessment coverage bundled in with it.

Your Association continues to receive numerous requests for Wind Mitigation Certificates. This is a document that states whether or not certain components of a structure comply with the 2017 Standard Building Code.

Because of the volume of requests, a form for each building address has been posted on OTOWClearwaterInfo.com. Simply open the Website, click on the "Community Information" tab and follow the link to the Wind Mitigation forms.

You, or your insurance agent, will need to enter in the name of the insured and the unit number. Otherwise, the form should be good to go.

In the event the Association is requested to fill out a different form, or for some reason must become involved in the process of dealing with your insurance agent, there is a minimum charge of \$15, payable in advance.

All of the buildings with roof replacements in 2020 to present should have an updated wind mitigation form on the Website by July. They are all accessible at: <http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/wind-mitigation-forms.aspx>

Thank You

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted by handing in a proxy on the question of waiving/not waiving reserves.

Under Florida statutes, in order to hold a meeting and conduct business, the Association needs a quorum of voting interests. So every vote counted regardless of how you voted!

A quorum was obtained before the meeting and by a majority vote of proxies, nearly 2000 votes were cast with 1826 voting "Yes" to waive reserves (94 percent) and 115 voting "No" to establish reserves (6 percent). Five ballots and proxies were disqualified because they were improperly completed.

Residents once again affirmed the choice to waive the establishment of reserves for replacement of roads, roofs and painting. Your Board believes this is a wise decision because through proper planning and budgeting, your Board has been able to stay ahead of the maintenance and replacement curve on community infrastructure, especially with respect to painting, paving and roofs.

The question was asked, "What is the difference between reserves and no reserves?"

The answer is an additional \$5.9 million dollars added into the Association's budget.

(Continued on page 7)

outlook for fiscal year 2021

Every building budget includes an estimate of the remaining useful life for painting, roofing and paving. This estimate is updated annually. As a component nears the end of the estimated useful life, it is inspected to determine if replacement needs to be accelerated or if there is still serviceable life left. If the latter is the case, then the target period can be extended for a determined period.

There is no good reason to incur expense if a roof or a parking lot is still serviceable for an additional term. If it is determined that the component continues to be serviceable, the frequency of inspections is increased. At the point that it is determined the component is ready for replacement, that item is then included in the next budget cycle.

Elevated Headaches

Your Board and the management company understand the dependence residents have on elevators. Even the shortest interruption may cause a major inconvenience for residents.

To prevent service interruptions to the greatest extent possible, the management company directly employs state licensed elevator service technicians. Additionally, all 83 elevators receive their preventative maintenance monthly, equating to 12 times yearly for each one! This ongoing regimen ensures that the equipment is in a better position to serve the community reliably and safely.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) article 17.1 requires a maintenance control program (MCP) and the maintenance performed in accordance with the MCP. A "routine examination" a minimum of once a year, is required to be

performed and reported to the Bureau of Elevator Safety for elevator certification.

By far, the most frequent cause of service calls is elevator time out. This occurs when a door is blocked open for a short period and the safety shut-off shuts down the elevator until the service technician manually resets it.

Recently, we had such an instance when a resident blocked the door while trying to move some home furnishings into the elevator cab. This inconvenienced a neighbor on the second floor needing to use the elevator and resulted in the service call out.

Landscape and Architectural Controls

Community rules provide for the Association to exercise architectural control over buildings and other common elements.

Inasmuch, it is your Association's responsibility to provide for the continuous maintenance of the buildings, components, grounds, roadways, sidewalks, and the underground infrastructure (collectively called "common elements").

It is the Association that must have final say over any architectural or structural modifications in addition to making sure that contractors performing the work are properly licensed and insured.

Please remember that any building or landscape modification must receive prior approval from the Condominium Association. I am mentioning this in the hopes that we can all avoid unnecessary consequences of non-compliance with the rules and regulations and covenants of your Association.

You may obtain an applica-

tion for modification from the Community Service Office or online at www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/service-department/#mrf.

Return it with a detailed description of the work requested and a dimensioned drawing of the affected area. A representative of the Association will review the modification and advise the owner of approval or denial. Inspection of completed work is upon completion of the project.

Community Update

Painting/Waterproofing: July's schedule for coating improvements will see the contractor operating on multiple rear and front facades in the community with the following structures on the list. The rear of buildings 49, 56, 42 and 63 will be coated, as will the front facades of buildings 41 and 60.

As always, please keep in mind that the painting contractor will be operating in close proximity to parking areas and front/rear porches which may require the temporary displacement of vehicles or property. Thank you for your cooperation in advance and keep in mind that inclement weather can affect start and completion dates.

The installation of new unit address numbers will continue in July as this is another community improvement project that accompanies the application of front façade coatings. As the painting contractor moves throughout the property, management company crews will be installing new life-safety compliant, reflective unit numbers on the common area wall in proximity to unit front doors.

Bulletins will be posted in advance of the work advising residents of the process and what they can expect.

Unit numbers currently attached to the common element wall will be removed by the painting contractor, while numbers installed on front unit doors will need to be removed by the unit owner. If a unit owner wishes, they may contract with the management company for the removal of any old unit numbers for a nominal fee.

Please remember that for community standard reasons, all old unit numbers must be removed.

Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

A licensed vendor contracted to re-

place/supplement guardrail and stairwell components in the community will be heading to building 76 next.

The project is tentatively slated to begin July 1, pending engineering and permitting approvals.

As with all other community 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.

Recurring Reminders 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 effected 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.

FireAvert



Smoke alarm makes noise

How it works



<https://www.fireavert.com/>

Water softener installations require a permit

The Management Company would like to remind residents that all water softener installations at On Top of the World require a modification permit approved by your condominium association in advance of installation.

Modification permit applications may be picked up at the Community Service Office located inside the lobby of the East Activity Center.

Please make sure to apply for and receive association approval before installation to avoid a compliance visit by the management company.

Please note, resin-style softeners are the only approved type of water softener allowed in the community. Salt-style, also known as ion exchangers, are not permissible by association rule.

Thank you for attention and cooperation. Questions? Visit the Community Service Office.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Only Good News for 52 Years - Published Since 1968

Kenneth Colen, Publisher • Doug Kates, Editor • Dave Hart, Assistant Editor

Press Association Officers

Yvonne Courtney, President,

(vacant), Vice President

Rose Pietrogallo, Secretary

Newsroom Hours: 9:30-6 Mon-Thur, 9-2 Fridays Phone: (727) 799-3216

Next Delivery Date

August newspapers will be delivered on July 31.

To advertise in our August edition, payments must be received by July 15.

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

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

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

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

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. OTOW News may not be reproduced in any way, in any other media, except in print and on official OTOW Websites.

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

Press Association Volunteers This Month:

- Bob Rittner
- Lyn Taecker
- Anna Georgiadis
- Cheryl Butcher
- Donna Lukas

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OTOW News will need stories for July.

If you know of a happy story, know of a heart-warming story, or know of a kind act by a resident in these times, please share your story with an OTOW News staff writer.



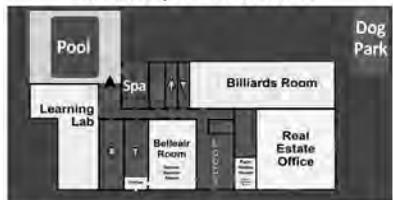
East Activity Center Ground Floor



East Activity Center First Floor



East Activity Center Second Floor



West Activity Center

East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map



Important Phone Numbers

Community Service Office

727-683-6981

Activities Office

727-799-2734

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off

727-799-3417 Option 6

Emergency After Hours/Weekends

727-799-1115

Democratic Club lining up speakers for when monthly meetings return to the East Activity Center

By Donna Lukas

The good news is that the Covid-19 virus is out of the daily headlines. The even better news is that it looks like our country is finally ready to have serious conversations about racial inequality.

As Clearwater Mayor Frank Hibbard recently wrote, "We fully support peaceful demonstrations. It is past due that we have national, regional and local conversations about race and social justice."

I hope you remember when candidate Kathleen Beckman spoke at one of our On Top of the World Democratic Club meetings. She won her election to the Clearwater City Council Seat 3 on March 17.

Kathleen has now posted a toolbox of links that provide a lot of useful information for those of us who live in the Clearwater area. Find it at <https://www.kathleenbeckmanclearwatercitycouncil.com/articles-and-resources>.

Those who are interested in maintaining green space should look for the item labeled Clearwater Greenprint. You might find this useful information if you are following the potential rezoning of The Landings golf course as light industrial use.

I hope that we can resume our



Democratic Club

OTOW Democratic Club meetings on July 9. Please watch OTOW-TV Channel 732 and visit the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com) to learn what time and what place these meetings will take place.

All three Democratic candidates for District 67 state representative in the Aug. 18 election have accepted our invitation to attend.

The winner of this primary election will face Chris Latvala in the November election. If we cannot meet in the EAC, we are making plans for alternate locations.

Elizabeth "Liz" Jack is a judicial can-

didate for the nonpartisan 6th Circuit Court Group 44 office in the Aug. 18 election. Liz recently contacted OTOW News in an attempt to reach out to voters in this time of social distancing.

Liz has been a lawyer for 22 years, with 12 of those years as a prosecutor. She told me she has a particular concern for elder fraud as she has seen the emotional and financial devastation when someone takes advantage of the elderly. Find more information at www.lizjackforjudge.com.

The other candidate in this judicial race is Ashley Ward-Singleton. She told me she is a Pinellas County native, having been born and raised here. Ashley believes her background in civil litigation provides diversity from the predominance of prosecutors in our court system.

In addition to representing both plaintiffs and defendants, Ashley has also worked for a federal judge in Fort Meyers. She believes her varied experience would make her a good judge and asks for your vote in the Aug. 18 election. Find more information at www.voteashleyforjudge.com.

There will be many candidates for numerous offices in the Aug. 18 election. If you have not done so recently, request your mail ballot at www.VotePinellas.com

or call 727-464-8683.

How many of you remember Jon Bauman, often affectionately known as "Bowser?" He has joined us here at OTOW in the past for various election campaigns. Well, he is active again.

Jon recently contacted our current club president, Dave Cordes, about joining the Florida Democratic Seniors Organizing Council. The goal will be making sure every potential Democratic voter is registered, will receive and return their own ballot in November and will help others do the same.

The Council will be meeting on the internet. Its primary message will focus on issues that affect Florida Seniors most directly – Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and prescription drug price – with an emphasis on how these issues will impact November's election.

Dave agreed to join the Council and he will keep us updated.

If you would like a reminder of how much fun we were having last fall, let the picture on our Box Office Website put a smile on your face. This will also give you a look at notices that we post on our club page at otowboxoffice.com. Just click on the Democratic donkey.

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A Fourth of July tradition - cooking outdoors



Barbecuing and grilling are two different things.

Barbecuing is when you cook and smoke your meats, including fish and chicken, at a temperature between 250 -275 degrees. Barbecuing means to cook food slowly over indirect heat and smoke from a charcoal fire with hardwood for flavor. With a gas grill you would just light 2 or 3 burners and place your food over the ones not lit.

Grilling is when you cook your meats and chicken hot and fast at 300 plus degrees over direct heat.

Don't forget about grilling vegetables. Take some tomatoes, red, green and yellow bell peppers, summer squash, zucchini and red onion. Cut the vegetables into quarters and marinate in Italian vinaigrette dressing for 30 minutes. Drain and place in a grill skillet, place on the grill and cook until the vegetables have a little char on them. Serve with a little grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese.

Now that you know the difference between barbecuing and grilling, do you know what type of cooker to go out and buy?

There are many types of barbecue grills and smokers on the market. The price can range from \$50 up to as much as \$10,000.

When buying a grill, you need to ask yourself how often you will use it and what things you will be cooking.

The most common charcoal grill is a kettle type - Weber - and they come in many sizes.

Types of grills/smokers on the market include charcoal, gas (propane) electric, drum smoker, wood pellet and ceramic (Big Green Egg).

When buying a charcoal grill, buy one with a lid.

Gas grill are the most popular because of their versatility.

If your gas grill does not have a wood/smoker chamber, what you can do is take some foil, make a pouch and put wet wood chips in it. Close the pouch, cut a few holes in the top and place the pouch on top of one of the burners and turn it down low.

Now you have a grill/smoker.

Tip: Do not soak your wood or wood chips more than 30 minutes. Any longer and your wood chips will get rancid, which will give off a bad smell and your meat will have a bad taste.

I own a drum smoker and a Viking gas grill. I use the Viking grill for steaks, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and veggies. It also has a rotisserie where I cook whole leg of lamb, turkeys, hams and standing beef rib roast.

I also keep a second full tank of propane on hand. You do not want to be in the middle of barbecuing and run out of gas.

I smoke whole chickens, turkey, pork roast, racks of ribs, fish, pork loins, green hams, pork butts, baloney and Cornish hens on my drum smoker.

Yes, I said baloney.

Go to the supermarket and buy a 4 or 5 pound hunk of baloney. Take the rind off and smoke it for one hour. You won't believe how good it is.

Tip: When using a gas grill after you are done cooking, turn on all of the burners to high, close the lid and leave it on for 10 to



If you are not able to have a barbecue this Fourth of July, OTOW News apologizes for showing you the picture above. If you are planning a barbecue, good luck! Hope it turns out like the picture above.

15 minutes. This burns off the excess fat and grease on all your burners and will keep the burners clean and unclogged.

The different types of fuel are: lump charcoal, briquettes, corncobs and pellets. I prefer the lump charcoal which is made from real hard woods. Briquettes come from hard woods that are bound together using some chemicals.

Fuels and starters include electric coil starters, chimney starters, chemical lighter fluid and Weber lighter cubes.

The electric coil starter is the easiest one to use. You make a pile of charcoal and place the coil in the pile and plug it in. When the coals turn gray, unplug and pull it out. With a chimney starter, you fill the chimney with charcoal, put some paper in the bottom, light it, and when the charcoal turns gray, dump the charcoal into the grill. If you use Weber cubes (which I only use) just dump your charcoal in a pile, put the cubes on them and light. When they turn gray, spread out the charcoal. If you use lighter fluid (I don't recommend), pour over the charcoal, light it and run like heck.

Different types of wood to smoke with include oak, hickory, pecan and fruit, such as apple wood, cherry and peach. There is also traditional wood chips.

Never use softwoods like pine. They give off a strong-tasting mixture of pitch and resin that taints the food and coats the inside of the smoker with a black, sticky film.

I like using hickory when I am smoking ribs, chicken, pork roast, cheese (yes I said cheese), or standing beef roast. I like using fruit woods when I am smoking pork, chicken and fish.

Barbecue Tools: Heavy-duty, long-handled, spring-loaded tongs. Make sure you have insulated rubber gloves, a spray bottle, meat thermometer(s), basting mop, wire metal

brush, disposable foil pans, inexpensive kitchen towels, marinade injector, grill skillet with holes in it, and a spatula.

NEVER NEVER use a meat fork or the tip of your knife to turn your meat or chicken. When you do, you are piercing the meat and letting the juices (which is flavor) run into your grill.

Brines, rubs, marinades, sauces and liquid smoke: Building flavor layers and ensuring moist and tender results in your smoked foods, begins before the smoking process with brines, rubs and marinades.

It continues during smoking with bastes and mops, and ends with the final brush of barbecue sauce or glaze.

I like to brine chicken and large pieces of meat. You can buy a lot of different kinds of marinades or you can use different fruit juices. Marinating time greatly depends on the size of the meat. It can be anywhere between 1 hour to 24 hours.

Make sure when you marinate your meat that you turn it over a few times to get the marinade all over the meat.

After you have smoked your meat/chicken for more than an hour, spray it with some apple juice every 30 minutes until it is done. This will help keep it moist and add flavor.

There are so many different kinds of rubs. All I can say is you just have to try different kinds and find one that you like. This is the same with barbecue sauces. You should not start to sauce your food until the last 30 minutes of cooking.

All sauces have a lot of sugar in them. If you put it on too early, you have a good chance of burning your food.

My wife, Cheryl, and I belong to the Kansas City Barbecue Society. We are both accredited Master BBQ Judges and travel all over the country to judge barbecue contests.

(Somebody has to do it)

We have found that different parts of the country have different styles of barbecue and different styles of sauces. In Memphis and Kansas City, they use a tomato-based sauce. In the south, like the Carolinas and Georgia, they use a mustard-based sauce. Here is my version of both sauces.

Lastly, many of you are reading this saying I live on the second or third floor, I am not allowed to have a grill. What can I do?

You can bake or broil your food with the Memphis/Kansas City sauce recipe below. It will still give you a smokey flavor.

Mustard Barbecue Sauce

1 cup of white vinegar
1/2 to 3/4 cup yellow mustard
1/2 medium onion, minced
1/4 cup tomato puree
1 teaspoon paprika
6 garlic cloves, minced
1 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Mix the ingredients in a saucepan with 1/3 cup water and bring to a simmer. Reduce the heat to low and cook until the onions are tender, 20 to 30 minutes. Use warm or chilled, can be refrigerated for a couple of weeks.

Memphis/Kansas City Barbecue Sauce

3 tablespoon butter, preferably unsalted
1/4 cup minced onion
1 cup white vinegar
1 cup of tomato sauce
1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/8 teaspoon cayenne
1 tablespoon liquid smoke
Cooking instruction are the same as the mustard sauce.

Science of Cooking Healthy Food

By Marie

Email questions, suggestions and comments to

Marie

marieshealthyfood@gmail.com

Also, visit the Box Office

for past recipes in this newspaper.

otowboxoffice.com

Ingredients

2 cups sliced celery
(about 2 to 3 stalks)

1/4 teaspoon salt

DRESSING

1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1/4 teaspoon celery seed spice

1/4 teaspoon lemon/black
pepper spice

TOPPINGS

2-3 radishes, sliced

1 Tablespoons blueberries

1 Tablespoons crumbled blue cheese

Instructions

1. Rinse and clean celery, including leaves.
2. Thinly slice celery. Submerge celery in a bowl filled with ice and water for 5 minutes. This crisps the celery.
3. Strain celery and pat dry.
4. Place celery in a large bowl and toss with salt.
5. Whisk dressing ingredients for 30 seconds until emulsified. Mix dressing into celery.
6. Add toppings. Garnish with celery leaves.
7. Move celery salad to a serving plate with a slotted spoon (leaving behind excess liquid).

Serves 2.

Prepare an hour prior to serving.
Refrigerate until needed.

Links

i - news.ncsu.edu/2018/05/

ii - foodrevolution.org/

This column is not intended to provide medical advice. The reader should consult a physician for medical advice.



Red, White & Blue Salad

Vegetables Need Special Attention

Celery shows off when given the opportunity.

When thinly sliced, celery shines with a crunchy texture. It also ensures it is string-free. This celery salad has a refreshing, tangy taste from the acid of the lemon juice.

Radishes give striking white and red colors, and blueberries add blue hues. The colors hit the right note for a Fourth of July picnic.

Picnic salads can increase pathogens tenfold in as quickly as

an hour when exposed to 90°F temperatures.

It is a mistake to blame the mayonnaise. Commercial mayonnaise is acidified to make it safe, but the low acidity of the other ingredients in the salads — such as potato, chicken, etc. — offset its acidity, creating an environment where bacteria can thrive. (i)

So keep picnic salads cold and use good safety practices when making the salads.

Health Value

Celery has been around for a very long time and is native to the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Celery and celery seed extract has been used medicinally for centuries in China, India, Egypt and Rome for gout, arthritis and pain relief.

Until the 17th century, celery had a quite bitter taste and was hollow inside. The Italians developed the sweeter celery we know today. Acidity and sugar in the vinaigrette can help balance out any residual bitterness of celery.

Celery is mostly water (95 percent by weight) which contains electrolytes. This helps with hydration, maintaining healthy blood pressure, repairing tissue damage, and making sure muscles and nerves work correctly. Celery does pack a fair amount of nutritional benefits in a very low-calorie package. For example, a mere stalk can provide 25 percent of your daily vitamin K needs. It's also full of insoluble fiber — around 1 gram per stalk. (ii)

The Science

Celery juice started trending in 2016 and became popular with celebrities on the Internet.

The Medical Medium, Anthony Williams, calls himself the originator of the celery juice movement. His “credentials” are that he talks to spirits -- not medical experts or nutritionists. He claims celery juice is a miracle that can heal chronic illness and improve digestion. He recommends drinking a minimum of 2 cups per day. This requires juicing 1 to 2 bunches of celery!

This is a lot of celery!

Drinking celery as a juice can help you pack in more servings of celery at one time, but it does not provide any more nutritional benefits than raw celery. In fact, raw celery is the better choice because it contains desirable fiber which is lost when

juicing. One side-effect of 2 cups of celery juice is its ability to empty the bowels in explosive ways all day long.

Human research on celery juice is “scant.” Wellness fads from social media are not likely the best source of information.

Common sense can be a better guide. When you eat the same few veggies over and over, you miss out on unique nutrients and other protective compounds found in the plants you aren't eating. The current recommendation for adults is a minimum of five servings of various vegetables a day.

(iii) <http://www.eatingwell.com/article/291470/celery-juice-the-health-benefits-side-effects-and-science-behind-the-trend/>

Think Organic

Celery is on the Environmental Working Group's Dirty Dozen list of the most pesticide-contaminated produce. So you might want to buy organic celery.



For residents' safety, Entertainment Committee has cancelled all remaining events in 2020

By Marvin Flam

The Entertainment Committee was looking forward to a celebration of 50 years in 2020.

In addition to entertaining you with fun shows, dances and free Sunday Meet & Greet events, the Entertainment Committee was planning on adding some surprise events, such as a free show and dance, a golf tournament, etc.

This was to be the Entertainment Committee's "Thank You" to the On Top of the World community for 50 years of great support.

Unfortunately the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our wonderful way of life here at OTOW.

Our club is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation in our community and guidelines issued by the State of Florida.

Based on the information presently available, the Entertainment Committee

has cancelled all the remaining shows, dances and Sunday Meet & Greet events for 2020 until January 2021.

The New Year's Eve dance on Dec. 31 has been cancelled and moved to December 31, 2021.

The Entertainment Committee did not feel it could provide the level of safety and support necessary for residents, performers and volunteers. Of greatest concern was meeting the social distancing requirements and cleanup and disinfecting of areas all as required by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

The Entertainment Committee did not want to place any resident, performer, or volunteer in harm's way.

The Entertainment Committee is working to schedule events for 2021 and to continue the tradition of providing fun and exciting entertainment for OTOW residents.

The Entertainment Committee will

resume its activities when the East Activity Center is reopened and it is determined that it is feasible and safe to proceed.

Tickets and information will be available, once reopened, on Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. At that time, if you have purchased tickets to any cancelled 2020 events, you will have two options: (1) receive a credit for tickets for future events or (2) request and receive a refund.

Please note that you will be required to submit the actual ticket, not copies, for the cancelled event in order to receive the credit or refund. Further instructions will follow.

Dances scheduled for 2020 have been moved to 2021. If you already have tickets for New Year's Eve 2020, you do not have to do anything except come and party all night in 2021! This dance is almost sold out!

During these difficult times, please be

careful and stay safe. We look forward to seeing you soon.

For questions and information call (727) 449-9243 or email the committee at entcom2014@gmail.com.

You can view scheduling information on OTOW-TV channel 732. Everyone on Spectrum gets OTOW-TV. Do not use the up and down arrow on your remote control to find the channel. Just tap 7 3 2.

Information is also on bulletin boards in the East Activity Center, the West Activity Center and on your building's bulletin board.

For more information regarding COVID-19 and the Entertainment Committee, please visit the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com. Our monthly and annual schedules are posted on the home page.

"Please Be Safe . . . The Fun will Continue!"



The Jesters held an unofficial meeting in June to plan for this winter's production. To pull off the meeting, creativity was required because no indoor meeting rooms were available. This is kind of the same creativity that will be involved in the upcoming show. In the photo at left, from left to right are OTOW News Editor Doug Kates, and Jesters members Marvin Flam, Mike Wood and Charlie Wood. The meeting took place on the West Side. Above, Evelyn Flam and Pat Sprouse talk about scripts at an indoor meeting.

If you are ready to work and be creative, Jesters are waiting

By Evelyn Flam

In 1981, Chuck Whetsel, a founder of The Jesters, said the body of every organization is structured from four kinds of bones.

First, there are the Wishbones who spend all their time wishing that someone would do the work.

Second, there are the Jawbones, who do all the talking, but little else.

Third, there are the Knucklebones who knock everything anybody else tries to do.

And, finally, there are the



Backbones, who do most of the work.

He concluded that all Jester members were "Backbones."

As The Jesters prepare for our 2021 show, our "Backbone Creative Team of Sue Carlson, Marvin Flam, Paige Johnson, Pat Sprouse, Mary Lou Wall, Mike Wood, Charlie Wood and, yours truly, Evelyn Flam, are hard at work blending ideas to enhance the Boomer-Age music theme of the 2021 Jesters' show "BAM!"

And, some Boomers, who are still having fun looking back at the music of that age, asked that we share a few more humor-

ous song titles with you that will be included in the spring show.

So, here they are:

Willie Nelson's "To All the Girls I've Disappointed Before," The Beatles' "A Hard Day's Nap," Paul Simon's "Fifty Ways To Lose Your Liver," The Commodores' "Once, Twice, Three Times To The Bathroom," Marvin Gaye's "Heard It Through The Grape Nuts" and Abba's "Denture Queen."

Our Board and Creative Team believe we have come up with innovative ways to schedule

our show's rehearsals and performances that will both accommodate and delight our performers, and ultimately our audience.

So, stay tuned as starting next month we begin to explain how we are going to pull this off.

Jesters policy is to get everyone involved! You can become a member by calling 797-1761 or email JestForFun21@gmail.com. If you want to join the Jesters, or to be a part of the show, we look forward to hearing from you, and virtually getting together "Jest For Fun!"

Travel Club treasurer could be a world tour guide

By Janice Berman

Introducing On Top of the World Travel Club Treasurer Phil Meissner.

Phil has experience leading travel groups to the far corners of the world.

As our treasurer, he is responsible to collect money, pay our bills and keep accurate records of our finances - all the while keeping everyone happy.

Seems like an impossible job, but Phil makes it happen! His energy belies his age.

This is what Phil wants you to know about him.

"I moved to OTOW in August of 2003, having lived in East Lake Woodlands since 1995.

"I developed a love for travel, starting with an aunt who went around the world in the early '60s. It was my good fortune to do the same in the '70s.

"After that experience, I tried to do a month-long trip every year.

"Most of my trips have been to the Far East. I was lucky to have a best friend who also enjoyed long trips abroad. I wish I could continue, however, age has be-



come a deterrent.

"As most of my travel has been in Asia and Eastern Europe, I would like to spend two to three months exploring Western Europe, especially Italy and Spain.

"If you have only one place to travel to, I would suggest Bangkok and Thailand because the people are wonderfully friendly, courteous and helpful."

Phil took on the role of treasurer because the Travel Club was in dire need of officers and he wanted to make sure the group stayed active.



Phil Meissner enjoys lunch at a local restaurant with Travel Club members Cecile Sangiamo, back, and Mary Lou Wall.

Over the past three months, the Travel Club has been quiet, but things will change. The group is waiting, ready to resume as soon as it is safe to do so again.

We look forward to planning our monthly trips as they provide us an opportunity to explore this beautiful state with friends and neighbors.

Pavilion grills are available to rent.
Please contact Nancy in the Activities Office.
727-799-2734

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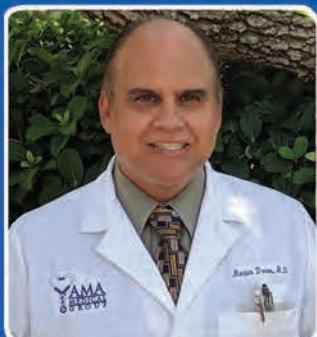
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Alligator, cow, pheasant line up for surgery as residents recommend dental floss for thread

Ladies and gentlemen, I put dental floss through the eye of a needle.

Thank you, thank you for that wonderful applause. I assure you, I am quite proud!

Two months ago I published a column in this newspaper about staying safe at home and finally having enough time to fix all the dog toys my 3-year-old Yellow Lab has destroyed in recent months.

Logan's toys include a cow, an alligator, a squirrel and several bears. Unfortunately, he has injured all of them.

It's his mission.

Since my last column, I have received many messages from residents who have shared advice with me on how to permanently fix the toys and prevent Logan from unloading his wrath again.

Cynthia Stone recommended I use dental floss instead of thread.

Joyce Monahan agreed – dental floss and a tapestry needle. She said this is a great combination “for permanently attaching buttons, too.”

Sandy Bell said there are rug repair needles that are simple to use.

Maryanne Mercer donated a complete reel of fishing line to fix that “sweet” dog's toys.

I've got news for you Maryanne – around his toys, he's not so sweet.

And Lorie Tester even drove to the newsroom and handed me extra strong thread from a foreign country and a dozen needles with eyes so big that even a blind squirrel could thread it.

There are toys with holes in the stomach, wounds in the tail and stuffing coming out of necks.

When I told Logan I was going to permanently fix his toys, he laughed at me!

When I started threading a needle with dental floss, he rolled on his back laughing so hard, his feet went straight up in the air.

But guess what?

Who's laughing today.

I took one of Lorie's needles with the big eye and successfully popped dental floss inside.



I picked up Mr. Alligator and prepped my living room for surgery.

With Logan watching close at my side, I began sewing with dental floss!

Who knew?

Mr. Alligator received about 50 stitches to his stomach. I was impressed! The floss worked just like thread.

In the end, Mr. Alligator was good as new and his squeaky button still worked. It was just like a brand new toy again.

Next on the list was Logan's cow and his pheasant. Both were patched up and both looked good as new.

The only thing that went wrong was admiring my work. It was very difficult to look the alligator and the cow straight into the eyes and then throw them back into the lion's den.

I couldn't do it.

But I had no remorse for the pheasant. So the pheasant was the first toy Logan got back.

Now, it's just a matter of time to see what happens. It's Logan versus dental floss and we'll have to see who wins.

For anyone else out there who also has several dog toys in the hospital, I want to share one more story with you. This comes from Barbara Rice, one of my newspaper staff writers.

Barbara said her dog, Buckley, wasn't



Doug Kates begins stomach surgery on Logan's alligator using an over-sized needle and dental floss. The surgery was successful, but it was not known if the stitches would last long with Logan's play habits. (Photo by Dan Kates)

feeling good one day and went to the vet. After emergency surgery was performed, the vet showed Barbara what was removed from Buckley's stomach – thread, material and stuffing from a toy. The cost of the surgery was \$5000.

So, if you think your dog can be trusted to play safely with repaired toys, you are wel-

come to give it a try. Dental floss may work.

But if you have a spare \$20 bill in your pocket, a new gator or cow might be the better choice.

Barbara's advice, throw away the damaged toy and go buy a new one.

Something to consider for your best friend.

Good Neighbors Association focusing on food drive to help people struggling to put meals on their tables

By Jim Bjorgo

Life here at On Top of the World continues to be in a semi-holding pattern with some things starting to head back to normal and others still on a complete lockdown.

Maybe soon we will get to have a more normal year.

Your Good Neighbors Association, like many other groups, is somewhat stagnant at this time, with the majority of our activities for July, August and possibly September cancelled at this time. But we continue to hope for the better and have not cancelled planned events for October at this time.

We are continuing on with



our plans for our annual Fall Clothing Drive and Food Drive which is scheduled for Oct. 23 and 24, but with a slight twist to

our normal format. The need for quality used clothing still exists, but the need for food is greater than ever. For this reason, we will be calling this fall's event our Fall Food and Clothing Drive with an emphasis on food.

Good Neighbors Association volunteers will be accepting sealed, unexpired food products as well as gently used clean/washed clothing items from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

In addition to our special food collection drives for Helping Hands, we will now have a food barrel in the main lobby of the East Activity Center every day so residents can make a contribution. Your Good Neighbors

Association has taken over the responsibility of delivering these food items collected weekly to Helping Hands.

In May, On Top of the World introduced the idea of hosting a fall Farmers Market. Good Neighbors Association has told OTOW it would like to be involved and we will be advising residents of our plans should this event proceed.

During this period of time when residents are staying home and staying safe, we have been asked by several of them about the availability of our blinky lights and batteries, as well as safety vests. In June, we were able to retrieve our stock of

these items and now have them available for sale. If you would like to make a purchase, please call (727) 725-4048 for more information. The pricing of these items remains the same with lights still \$1.25 each, batteries two for 50 cents and safety vests \$7.50 each, including tax. Sizes available are medium through double extra large.

Good Neighbors Association looks forward to being able to bring you our usual events when and if we are able. In the meantime, stay cool, stay apart, stay healthy and remain of good cheer. Eventually, all this will pass.

Like to read? Get free eBooks at these sites

By Joe Wisinski

The On Top of the World Computer Club likes the word “free.”

We provide free computer-related education, show our members how to find free smartphone apps, and more.

And when it’s safe for groups to begin meeting again, we’ll resume our Monday, Wednesday and Friday help sessions, where any OTOW resident can get free assistance with computer issues.

But meanwhile, another item you can get for free is eBooks.

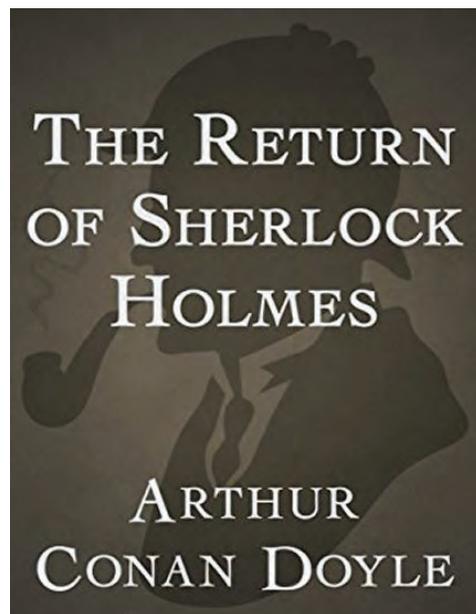
You can read them on many devices, including a computer, a tablet such as an iPad, an Amazon Kindle, or even your smartphone.

Many classics, such as the Sherlock Holmes stories, are available along with current fiction, self-help books and many other titles.

Here are some Websites where you can get free eBooks:

- Project Gutenberg (gutenberg.org)

This library contains more than 60,000 free books. Search for a book you



The Return of Sherlock Holmes is one of thousands of free eBooks available online.

want and click on it. You’ll see several options, such as reading online or downloading it as a Kindle book.



Computer Club

- The Pinellas County Library System (pplc.us)

Click on “Downloadable audiobooks, eBooks, magazines and music.” There are many options - too many to explain in this story, but the site provides plenty of help.

You’ll need a Pinellas County Library

card.

- The Google eBookstore: (bit.ly/377i3fL) (The L must be capitalized.)

When you find a book you like, click on it, then click on “Free eBook.” Click on “Read” and the book opens on your device.

Depending on where and how you download a free eBook, you can often read it on another device. The method for transferring the book to the other device depends on where you downloaded it and where you’re copying it. Google “transfer eBook to [name of your device]” and you’ll find some help.

About the Computer Club

After the West Activity Center re-opens, the Computer Club will resume regular Saturday morning meetings. Watch for updates in future newspapers.

For more information about the Computer Club, go to www.otowcc.com.

No meeting in July for Press Association staff, but you do have a homework assignment

By Doug Kates

Members of the Press Association do not have any meetings scheduled in July, but here’s a homework assignment for all reporters whether building writers, club writers or sports writers.

Just take five minutes to read.

Lesson one: If you are submitting a photograph or piece of art to run with a story, please make sure information about that image is up toward the front of your story.

In other words, if you turn in a picture of a “shark” to go with your story, please don’t make readers wait for the last paragraph before you tell them why there is a shark next to your story. That’s not how this works.

Photos and art are run with newspaper articles to enhance your article. Images get the reader’s attention and are supposed to create an added excitement prior to the first



paragraph. But no one wants to read 400 words before finding out why the “shark” is there. In fact, if there is no explanation in the first 100 words, people may think they are reading the wrong story.

So please, if you have submitted a photo or artwork to run with a newspaper article, make sure the beginning of your story is relevant to the image.

Lesson two: You are currently on the newspaper staff and a member of the Press Association. But what happens when your term as club writer, building writer or sports writer is up? Do you just walk away?

Please don’t.

As a current writer, it is also your responsibility to help the next writer after you come aboard.

Please explain the types of stories OTOW News runs. Please go over the stories we do not run. Go over the deadline schedule and writing styles. Explain the Appreciation Luncheon and how someone qualifies. Let the new person know how to submit a story, where to find the Press Association Web page and when

meetings take place.

Please emphasize, everyone on staff is encouraged to attend meetings - even sports writers. That’s how the newspaper gets better!

Just because you’ve written your last article does not mean you dump a bombshell on the next person’s lap.

Make it easy for the next person coming in.

While we try to have fun at the Press Association, we do have guidelines and if you don’t tell the next-in-line we have guidelines, then how are they going to find out?

Homework over.

The next Press Association meeting will be 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6. The meeting will be at the Pavilion. The time has been moved up to morning so we can enjoy the pavilion without the afternoon heat. Be prepared for coffee and donuts.

National Coloring Book Day Is Back!

The third annual National Coloring Book Day contest returns to OTOW News in August.

Look for this year’s image in your August newspaper, color it in and submit to the newsroom by Aug. 13. There will be a prize for first place.

This was the 2019 picture.

For OTOW residents only. Entrees must be newspaper print images only. No photo copies allowed. No Photoshop images accepted. Pencil, crayon, paint, markers accepted.

Learn how the Secure Act affects your retirement benefits

Hi everybody. It's Rachel Wagoner and I've got a lot to discuss in this column.

I hope you will be forewarned from my "DOs" and "DON'Ts" and will find the rest of my column interesting.

DO: If part of your estate plan includes a trust, you should check with your estate planning attorney to see whether or not it needs to be updated after the Secure Act went into effect at the beginning of this year.

The main way the Secure Act may impact your trust is with the termination of "stretch" distributions of inherited retirement accounts.

Before the Secure Act, beneficiaries would inherit money, set up their own inherited retirement account and be given the option of stretching it over their lifetimes based on their projected life expectancy in order to minimize the impact upon income tax.

Now, however, beneficiaries cannot stretch out their inherited retirement account distributions over their lifetime — it must be done within 10 years. This, likely, will drastically increase the beneficiaries' tax rate and the overall amount of income tax paid on the inherited money.

Depending upon the size of the retirement account, some beneficiaries could be looking at the loss of tens of thousands of dollars -- if not hundreds of thousands of dollars -- in taxes.

DO: Be skeptical about free trial offers.

Some companies use free trials to sign you up for products then bill you every month until you cancel.

Sometimes it seems nearly impossible to find out how to cancel.

Before you agree to a free trial, research the company and read the cancellation policy. Try the cancellation links to see how easy it is to close your account. And always review your monthly state-



ments for charges you don't recognize.

DON'T: I don't think it is wise to purchase real property without title insurance. I absolutely believe that a purchaser of real property should always have a title insurance policy.

(Full disclosure: I own a minority interest in a title insurance agency and also I am a title insurance agent for one of the largest title insurance underwriters in the U.S.)

DON'T: Don't be pressured into giving money to a charity without doing your own research.

Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. That's something scammers do. Some scammers use names that sound a lot like the names of real charities.

This is one reason it pays to do some research before giving.

Scammers make a lot of money off vague and sentimental claims, but give no specifics about how your donation will be used.

If you see any red flags, or if you're not sure about how a charity will use your donation, consider giving to a different charity. There are many worthy organizations who will use your donation wisely.

It's hurricane season again.

I was hoping we could skip this year - 2020 has been turbulent enough -- but since we can't avoid it, I wanted to take a moment to talk about how to prepare your legal documents and finances for a hurricane.

In a disaster, financial readiness is as important as a flashlight with fully charged batteries.

Leaving your home can be stressful, but knowing that your financial and legal documents are up to date, in one place, and portable can make a big difference.

If you're missing important documents, now's the time to replace them before you are in a situation of stress and chaos.

FEMA has an Emergency Financial First Aid Kit that I encourage all Floridians to download and fill out. You can find it at: [fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/96123](https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/96123)

Financial readiness will require you to do a household inventory. This includes making a list of your possessions and document them with photos or a video.

This could help if you file insurance claims.

If you happen to be technology-friendly, then take advantage of technology.

Technology offers tools — like online bill pay, virtual safe deposit boxes, and USB flash drives — for safeguarding your important documents.

Buy a lockable, fireproof file box. Put important documents in it and keep it in a secure, accessible location so you can grab it and go. Include your household inventory, a list of emergency contacts, copies of current prescriptions, insurance information, and copies of other important financial and family records — or notes about where they are.

On a fun note to end this column:

Did you know that there is a law in Iowa that anyone trying to pass off margarine as real butter is guilty of a misdemeanor?

"Renovated butter" must also be labeled as such.

Personally, I think renovated butter sounds very sophisticated and have adopted the phrase at home.

Wishing you the very best.

-- Rachel

Rachel M. Wagoner, is a partner in the law office of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. She is an attorney at law who handles matters as diverse as Wills, Trusts, Probate, simple and complex estate planning, asset protection planning, real property matters, including condominium and homeowner association matters, and title insurance matters. Rachel also provides legal advice and counsel to business and professional men and women, as well as corporate or limited liability companies in which they are involved. This column is only intended to present factual situations that may be of interest to our readers. It does not, nor is it intended to, provide legal advice. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for your specific situation and you should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. Rachel Wagoner and Gerald R. Colen have law offices at 7243 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo, FL, 33777. Their phone number is (727) 545-8114. In Ocala, FL, their office is in the Town Center at Suite 11 across from the ice cream shop. Rachel and Jerry also meet clients at On Top of the World, in Clearwater, FL. You can call or email them for directions. You are invited to visit the law firm's Website at www.colenwagoner.com. You can email Rachel Wagoner at Rachel@colenwagoner.com or email Jerry Colen at Jerry@colenwagoner.com.

Can you name the four Hutton sisters?

Beginning in 1938, the Hutton girls were all over Hollywood. There were four of them: Betty, Marian, Ina Ray and June.

Betty and Marian were sisters. Ina Ray and June were half sisters.

Betty was the best known because of her many pictures at Paramount Studios.

After the death of her mother, Mabel Lum, and a collapse in her marriage, Betty's alcoholism and pill addictions escalated and she declared bankruptcy.

In 1970, Betty lost her singing voice. She had a nervous breakdown and attempted suicide. She took a job as a cook in a rectory in Rhode Island. She credits Father Peter Maguire for saving her life.

Betty made her final appearance in "Annie" on Broadway. She died in 2007 at the

age of 86.

Marian was Betty's older sister. She is best remembered for her singing in the Glenn Miller Orchestra, joining the band at age 17. Due to her age, she could not appear with the band when playing in clubs.

She was also a member of the Modernaires, a singing group with the orchestra.

Marian was married three times. Her latest and longest marriage was to Vic Schoen, the arranger for Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters.

Marian passed away in 1987.

June was an actress and a vocalist. She was very popular in the 1940s. In the early days, she sang at the Astor Roof in New York City. She also traveled and sang in Ina Ray's orchestra.

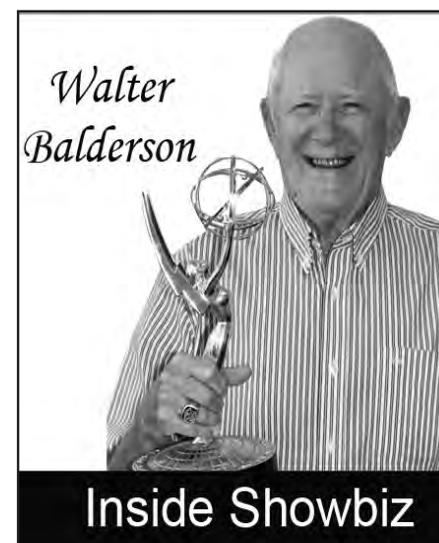
After Jo Stafford left the Pied Pipers and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, she was replaced by June, who stayed with the group for the next six years. June was a vocalist with Charlie Spivak and his orchestra for a short period of time.

June was born in Chicago on Aug. 11, 1920, and passed away in Encino, Calif., on May 2, 1973.

In 1934, Ina Ray organized an all-girl band called the Melodears. It featured swing music with Ina Ray dancing around in sexy gowns. She conducted the band and did the vocals.

After discovering how difficult it was to find replacement female musicians, she disbanded and formed an all-male orchestra.

She died in 1984 at the age of 67.



In July we will start to see some clubs and groups safely getting back together again

Summer is finally upon us and it gives me great pleasure to report that amenities are open and even some activities have resumed for your enjoyment.

First, on behalf of SCA managers and staff, I want to deliver a great big "thank you" for your cooperation in following our guidelines during Phase 1 and, now, Phase 2, of the reopening!

It has been a stressful time for all of us and yet the majority of our residents have been an absolute pleasure to work with.

We greatly appreciate it!

As we move forward, please continue to respect the 6 foot apart rule for social distancing. Guests outside of On Top of the World may not use the amenities until further notice. Facemasks are mandatory inside the facilities.

Updates will continue to be posted at the www.otowclearwaterinfo.com Website.

As a reminder, all club and activity representatives currently conducting activities on the premises need to be communicating those guidelines with your memberships.

Facilities and Shuttle Bus

East and West Activity Centers are open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Community Service Office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closes from 12 to 12:30 p.m. for lunch)

The shuttle bus is running Tuesday through Friday – two runs in the morning and two runs in the afternoon (four passengers only).

The Fitness Center, tennis/pickleball courts, shuffleboard courts and horseshoe pits are all open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The golf course is open during normal hours. Golf carts are available for single-person use unless residents reside in the same unit.

The pavilion and grills are open for reservation from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Under Phase 2 of the reopening, indoor activities will be scheduled on a two-week basis only and events will be posted on OTOW-TV channel 732 not in the newspaper.

Current indoor activities (masks are mandatory), include Chi Kung in the EAC old gym on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from noon to 12:45 p.m., and Tai Chi in the old gym on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-2 p.m. Gold Chair Zumba will be on Mondays in the WAC Belleair Room from 11:30 a.m.-noon and Zumba on Tuesdays and Fridays in the Belleair Room from 9-10 a.m.

Exercise on OTOW-TV

OTOW-TV is working on creating a home yoga class with OTOW Chair Yoga instructor Marilyn Pashkowsky. This video would be 15-30 minutes and would air Saturday and Sunday mornings when completed. Watch for it in July.

OTOW-TV is already airing aerobic



exercise classes with Cammy and Jessica from OTOW-Ocala starting at 4 pm. each week day.

Master the Possibilities

Please see the Master the Possibilities online class schedule for July listed on the next page. Once again, MTP will be offering new free fitness classes along with all previous fitness classes.

It's so easy to access these classes online. First, register by emailing general_activity@otowfl.com or calling 799-2734 with your name, address, phone number and email address.

Upon registration, you will receive a receipt in your email account with instructions. Most of the classes require only a click on a link. It's that simple!

Scheduling Activities

In regards to scheduling activities or meetings at this time, please first consider social distancing of 6 feet. For example, if the size of the room will not accommodate attendees with 6 foot social distancing, fewer residents will be able to occupy that space. Please contact me at 799-2734 or general_activity@otowfl.com and I may be able to accommodate your activities by offering you another room or splitting up your meeting days/times.

In instances where it is not possible to reasonably social distance, such as with card games, those groups have decided to wait to resume playing.

If you do hold a meeting or event, it is recommended that you bring sanitizer and wash your hands frequently.

It is also recommended that you wipe down any high touch surfaces before/after use. SCA staff will also be performing regularly scheduled cleanings.

Last, but not least, before reserving a room, please ensure that you are prepared to wear a mask. While indoors, this is a requirement to use the facilities. Anyone not in compliance will be asked to put a mask on and those who refuse will be asked to leave and may have their use rights suspended until such a time as restrictions are reduced or lifted.

OTOW and Resident Club Sponsored Events

In an abundance of caution, and fol-

lowing Florida Governor Ron DeSantis executive order regarding gathering in groups of 50 or less, it was decided to cancel the annual On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo this November.

Many resident clubs had self-quarantined even before the governor's directives and most have cancelled their events through the end of the year.

Please contact your club representatives for their policies on ticket refunds, etc.

Yes, it's a disappointment, but we have so much to be thankful for and at least we have a future to plan.

In fact, OTOW has already begun to plan for the next Fall Festival & Expo scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, and I promise, it will be the biggest and best ever.

In the near future, we will host a Farmers Market and behind the scenes we continue to make plans and upgrades.

As soon as possible, all other events will resume and it will be with a renewed sense of appreciation just to be together again.

As you celebrate Independence Day this month, be thankful that you live in a community of people that truly care about one another. We will get through this together!

Farmers Market Survey

Thank you for your overwhelming feedback in favor of a Farmers Market. We are still processing your completed surveys. If you still want to fill out a Farmers Market survey, pick one up in the newsroom from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.. We want to do our best to fulfill your wishes. Stay tuned for all the details in my August column.

Zoom

I have learned that a few of the larger clubs have been holding their board meetings on Zoom. I chatted recently with a smaller club that does not have, among their ranks, a member with social media experience. They very much want to meet and even hold activities at a safe, social distance. Well, I have consulted with the education program manager at Master the Possibilities for guidance. She recommended this link:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-video-tutorials>

Please type it into your browser and try it.

George C. McGough Nature Park Birds of Prey

During this period of social distancing, I have been on the lookout for outdoor places to discover and found McGough Nature Park that recently reopened. Please check it out.

Currently, 24 beautiful birds of prey call the George C. McGough Nature Park

their home. These birds have injuries or conditions that prevent their return to the wild, but they live colorful lives within the park as ambassadors for their species.

Not only do they team up with volunteers to reach out and educate, the birds also provide a therapeutic experience for wounded veterans through the Avian Veteran Alliance.

Turtles greet you as you enter this park. They are in, around, and on logs in the small pond at the entrance.

Staff are very informative and polite, and there is a program on Sundays when a staff member can get you right up close to owls, hawks, raptors and a magnificent bald eagle.

The park is located at the east end of the Indian Rocks Bridge.

Also known as the "Turtle Park" for its abundant aquatic turtle population, The Narrows Environmental Education Center is located in McGough Nature Park, along the Intracoastal Waterway.

The center houses live animal exhibits and hands-on activities for children. The park also offers several environmental education programs.

McGough Nature Park is open for regular hours. The Narrows Environmental Education Center will open for the public on weekends this summer.

A playground will remain closed at this time.

The Birds of Prey exhibit recently opened after a three-month pandemic shutdown, which has caused financial hardship. The Friends of the Largo Nature Parks are financially responsible for the Birds of Prey program. Your donations are what keeps them going. It costs \$1500 a month to feed the birds and maintain the exhibit and I read that they have not received any donations since the COVID-19 outbreak. Please consider adopting a raptor or making a donation.

The Friends of the Largo Nature Parks is a 501(c) 3 organization registered with the State of Florida, and yes - your donation is tax deductible within context of the law.

It is an amazing place and you can definitely keep your distance. Visitors can feed the turtles and you will find walking trails and places to sit and relax.

The program has halted public feedings of the birds because they draw large crowds and the raptors have an aversion to people wearing masks.

Admission to the Birds of Prey exhibit is free. The George C. McGough Nature Park is located at 11901 146th Street, No. in Largo.

Activity Card Renewal

Activity card renewals for the year have started. Appointments can be booked by calling 727-683-6981.

You need to bring a picture ID, current piece of mail with your OTOW address and your expired card.

Lost cards incur a fee of \$25. The fee for new cards is \$3.

Master the Possibilities

Live Broadcasts and Recordings from Ocala
Videos can be viewed at home at any time.

Above and Beyond: Florida's Medal of Honor Recipients DL Havlin

Learn about West Palm Beach Graduate Commander David McCampbell, the US Navy's most famous "Ace" in the Pacific in WWII and James Henry Mills, Sgt. York of WWII.

Course Fee: \$5

China and the United States Frank DiPiero

Relations between the United States and China are arguably the most important bilateral relationship in world affairs in the 21st century. This presentation will look at the relationship between China and the United States as it was, how it is now, and what it may become in the future.

Course Fee: \$2

Pharmacology- Pet Medications UF Pharmacology Students

Please join UF College of Pharmacy students for a discussion about pet medications. Topics to be covered include: an overview of human medications which should NOT be used for pets; how to get medications for your pets at a pharmacy; safe medication practices for pets.

Course Fee: Free

Windows 10 Basics Jim Stueber

Browse the Internet with Edge, save favorites to the favorites bar, open and close programs, add and remove items from the start screen and the task bar, find your documents folder, and search for files. You will learn how to use Cortana, snap windows, the mail app and much more.

Course Fee: \$15

Fitness on Demand: Core Conditioning Cammy Dennis & Jessica Pinkowski

Fitness leader, Jessica Pinkowski shows this express workout targeting core strength and stability.

Course Fee: Free

Fitness on Demand: Stretch Fit Cammy Dennis & Jessica Pinkowski

Exercise along with fitness trainers Cammy Dennis and Jessica Pinkowski as they guide you through a workout intended to help improve flexibility. These stretching exercises will enhance range of movement and decrease stiffness.

Course Fee: Free

Register Today!

Video links and passwords will be on your order receipt.

To register: email general_activity@otowfl.com or call (727) 799-2734

Give your Name, Class Title(s), Street Address, Unit #, Phone #, and Email Address

Tennis, pickleball players unite

Pickleball/Tennis

By Joe G. DeChiaro

The On Top of the World Tennis Club finally resumed playing on Monday, May 11.

All players maintained social distancing on the court and other guidelines that were set by the association.

The Pickleball Club began playing on Tuesday, May 12, and shared the courts with the tennis club to provide many hours of playing time and safe socializing for everyone.

The summer schedule for tennis is Monday-Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Pickleball will play Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 9 a.m.-noon.

Due to the courts currently only being open from 7 a.m.-2 p.m., the leagues have not officially begun, but players from both clubs, as well as new players, have been playing every day.

Every player must show their activity card before entering the courts. The restrooms are open at the East Activity Cen-



It didn't matter if you held a tennis racquet or pickleball racquet in your hand. Residents with both racquets posed for a group photo in June. When the pavilion opens, both groups will meet together for a luncheon.

ter, but you must wear a mask to enter the building.

As soon as the pavilion opens, both clubs will have a social gathering to pro-

mote unity between both clubs.

Watch OTOW-TV Channel 732 for details.

Tennis and pickleball both have their

own Web pages on the Box Office. You can view the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com for more information.

You'll never guess which line dancer once prepared computers to handle the Y2K adjustment

By Hope Tera

Who would have guessed the sweet little angel in this picture would grow up to become an avid line dancer, even serving numerous terms as an officer of the On Top of the World Line Dancing Club? Introducing Lynn Anzalone.

Lynn started off as an Upstate New York girl born in Buffalo, the youngest of four children. She was raised by her loving stepmother, who instilled the importance of kindness, a great work ethic and a healthy lifestyle.

After earning a teaching degree in college, she relocated to Binghamton, N.Y., where she married Jim, her husband of almost 54 years, and began teaching little ones in first grade.

She's still teaching to this day, just a different age group.

She and Jim raised three children – two daughters and a son.

When it came time to retire, a daughter in Coral Springs, Fl., encouraged Lynn and Jim to head south. They started off as Snowbirds in Gulfport in 2000, where Lynn quickly discovered line dancing.

When the instructor got sick, guess who took over?

Lynn.

It was a challenge. There weren't even stepsheets to guide her.



Mystery Line Dancer?

But Lynn was hooked and gladly assumed the role.

In 2011, Lynn and Jim decided to permanently leave New York behind. In their search of Florida, they discovered OTOW. The golf course made it an easy



decision for Jim. Lynn had already fallen in love with Florida life and didn't miss New York at all.

Lynn quickly got involved with the OTOW Line Dancing Club, helping Sheila Bolster with the introductory classes and helping Ellen Gilbert set up the equipment.

Turns out, Lynn is a bit of a techie, self-taught.

Remember Y2K?

Lynn worked for Medicare at the time, ensuring the computer systems could handle the change to the new millennium.

Lynn gets along with everybody, even

when there is the occasional rift within the group. It's a fabulous skill to have.

When I asked her how she does it, she didn't have a definitive answer.

"It's just how I was raised," Lynn said. "I like to keep the peace and I try to be friends with everybody."

As for her fit physique, she said she was raised to eat healthy (no junk food).. She and Jim walk every morning and she prepares dinner every evening. I'd say Jim's a very lucky guy.

Her children now live in Charlotte and Alabama, with her five grandchildren.

Lynn is quite content now, sharing life with Jim, line dancing, playing cards with friends, even playing online games with her kids and grandkids.

She recommends a game called Pitch on trickstercards.com.

Being married for 54 years is quite impressive. But it's not perfect. Lynn did admit that she and Jim can't play Gin Rummy anymore because they're both too competitive.

On another happy note, please join us in wishing EdnaMae Jordt a happy 98th birthday. Up until a few months ago, she was our DJ on the dance floor. An inspiration to all, we wish EdnaMae many more years of good health and happiness.

OTOW-TV Channel 732

Knitting Group returns in July

By Cheryl Butcher

Great new!

We are back!

The On Top of the World Knitting Group has been given permission to meet again, so our next meetings will be Wednesday, July 1, and again on July 8, in our usual place, the Crystal Beach Room.

Masks will be required, but Anna Georgiadis has made extras for those who need one.

Unfortunately, we'll only be allowed those two days for July, but we will discuss which days we want to meet in August

and each month thereafter until we are allowed to resume our usual weekly agenda.

More good news, I know you won't have to dust off those needles. Everyone has been keeping busy during our time off.

Many of you have been keeping busy by knitting or crocheting (or making masks) during the quarantine.

I can't wait to see the stacks of completed articles that will be heaped on the table when we meet again.

Show and tell will take up most of our time.

We also need to reschedule the knitting/crochet lessons we planned to give. As soon as those dates are finalized, I will contact the people who called to express an interest in attending.

If you have an interest in knitting or crocheting, we would love to have you join us in the Crystal Beach Room from 9-11 a.m. Future dates will be announced in the next article.

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group operates under the auspices of Good Neighbors Association.



Knitting

If you have a kitchen, you have a place to line dance

By Ed Foland

Snowbirds Club line dancers can dance in their kitchens!

Rather than attend regular classes in person, some dancers are getting instructions from line dance classes on YouTube and Facebook.

Four professional instructors, who previously presented line dance workshops at On Top of the World, are doing classes on Facebook. They are Ira Weisburd, Rosie Multari, John Robinson and Cody Flowers. All instructors are including dances that are known by Snowbird Club dancers.

John Koning, former vice president of the Snowbirds Club and past president of OTOW Line Dancing, has produced a series of 19 new line dance videos and posted them on YouTube.



To watch and dance to John's videos, go to www.johnkoning.com and click on Dance at Home with John. Better yet, go to otowboxoffice.com and scroll down to John's line dance at home ad and then click.

In addition to his 19 videos, there are

also videos filmed on the Jolly Line Dance Cruise in 2017. Our next cruise, our fifth annual, will be on Royal Carribean Oasis of the Seas to the Eastern Caribbean on Jan. 17, 2021.

Ed Foland has made a line dance instruction booklet available through the Snowbirds Club. The booklet, "Twelve Step Line Dance Classes" is for first time line dancers. It includes detailed instruction on 12 line dance patterns. Also included are step sheets for dancers to practice various steps.

All of the dance videos on the internet use some of the steps included in the booklet.

The booklet is available by email in a PDF format. Call Ed at (727) 417-3272 to request a free copy or get more info on line dancing.



Like many line dancers, Dolly Foland practices line dancing in her kitchen while taking lessons from internet videos. (Photo by Ed Foland)

Softball players stay active over spring with stickball and safety masks

By Bob Rittner

Somebody uttered a dirty word at a stickball game in May.

Everyone on the field gasped because On Top of the World softball/stickball does not accept profanity.

The word?

"Error."

There has never been an error in the history of our softball or stickball games. We do not recognize such a phenomenon.

If a ball stops at your feet and you pick it up, it is a "great play."

If you drop the ball, or throw it into the outfield, it is a "good try."

We love playing.

Why muck it up with negativity?

On May 29, with everyone wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, stickballers resumed play.

Ten players attended and were divided into two teams. The home team was Doug Kaiser, Eddie Ramirez, Ron Shields, Rich Hillberry and Joe Farrell. The visitors team was Guy Bertuzzi, Bill Lepping, Dick LeTourneau, Ron Nobile and Bob Rittner.

Softball

Amid constant chatter, witty asides and general good cheer, the visitors eked out a 5-4 victory.

Joe Farrell triumphantly returned from over a year's absence with a brilliant one-handed catch of a high fly headed for double territory. He also pitched two scoreless innings.

Bill Lepping pitched two shutout innings, striking out six batters.

Ron Shields, whose last game featured a perfect six-hit day, continued his fine slugging with three more hits driving in two runs.

The game was scoreless through four innings, but the visitors broke through in the fifth inning with two outs. Bob Rittner singled, Guy Bertuzzi hit a long RBI triple and Bill Lepping smashed a hard RBI single.

In the bottom of the inning, Ron

Shields drove in Doug Kaiser, who smacked a long triple.

The home team tied the score the next inning on singles by Eddie Ramirez, Ron and Joe Farrell, with Doug singling in the run.

In the eighth inning, Bob walked, Guy singled, Bill hit an RBI double, Ron Nobile had a hard RBI single, and Bob doubled to close the scoring at three runs, the limit allowed in one inning.

The home team rallied in the bottom of the ninth inning with singles by Doug, Ron and Rich, followed by a double by Doug. With the tying and winning runs on second and third base, Ron struck out the next batter, his third strikeout of the inning, to save the win.

From nail-biter to rout. Our second game ended 15-6 in favor of the visitors - Guy Bertuzzi, Eddie Ramirez, Dick LeTourneau, Ron Shields and Joe Maley.

Star of the game was Guy, who not only was 12-for-12 with a walk, a triple and three doubles, but also, courtesy of a senior definition jump of four feet, snagged

a one-handed line drive and finished the game by corralling a vicious one hopper against his lower abdomen. He also completed a double play.

Everybody joined the fun. Joe Maley returned after a long absence with four solid hits, Ron doubled among his five hits, Dick hit four doubles and Eddie added four hits and four walks.

The home team of Doug Kaiser, Bill Lepping, Joe Farrell and Bob Rittner seemed to "hit 'em where they were," victimized once by Eddie's running knee-high catch. Doug tried to rally the troops with 10 hits, including three doubles, but while everyone got hits, they did not string them together.

In game three, the visitors entered the ninth inning trailing by a run. Singles by Joe Maley, Eddie Ramirez and Joe Farrell and a walk to Guy Bertuzzi tied the score, and Eddie doubled to give them a two-run lead over Bill Lepping, Dick LeTourneau, Doug Kaiser and Bob Rittner.

Guy then pitched a scoreless inning to seal the 9-7 victory.

In a time of staying home, work on your art skills by duplicating someone else's painting or paint a portrait

By Mary Slack Maynard

Summer is fully upon us and this is a wonderful time to spend with your pencils, pastels or paint brushes.

Sometimes the hardest part of painting is deciding what to create. This month, let's think about portraits.

You can paint a portrait of a beloved pet, a person you know or admire, a family group, or copy a portrait done by one of the Old Masters.

The possibilities are endless.

People have done portraits in all kinds of mediums and in many different styles.

Over the years, art students, and others, have practiced their skills by sitting in museums, or looking at art books or computer images, and then recreating great art in their own styles.

You can practice, just don't try to sell art that doesn't belong to you.

Consider "The Girl with the Pearl Earring" by Vermeer. Technically it's not a portrait - it's a "tronie" or a painting of an imaginary figure. A number of artists have used this painting as inspiration for their own paintings.

Did you know that the people of The Netherlands, where the painting resides, selected it as the most beautiful painting in the country in 2006?

I have wondered if Picasso was think-



Art Guild

ing of the famous Dutch girl in "The Girl with the Pearl Earring" painting when he painted "Sylvette."

Although he used his own model, to me there are similarities.

The point being, you can use a portrait created by another artist as inspiration and let your imagination run wild, or you can use a photograph as the inspiration piece for a painting.

If you are looking to improve your portrait skills, or have no idea how to create a portrait, you can use Google, or do a YouTube search, for portrait drawing/painting. You will find lots of tips and "how to" videos.

This month's featured picture was



John Fier, right, shows off a portrait he painted for Tony and Betty Baker.

done by John Fier. Tony Baker asked John to paint a portrait of him and his wife, Betty. John used a photo of the couple

to create the painting, using acrylic on an 18 x 24 inch canvas. Tony was very happy with the finished image.

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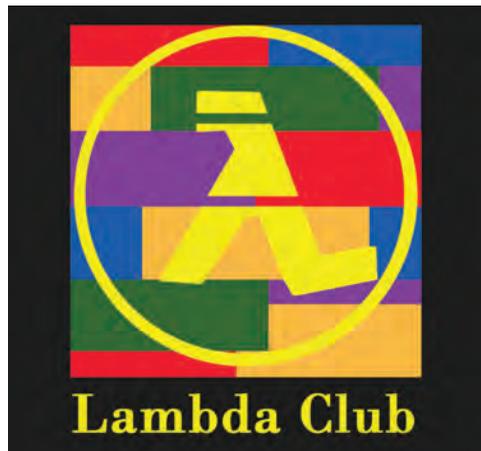
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While club writer tries to appease penguin, club members are finding ways to keep busy



By Bruce Lovett

Four years ago, when my spouse and I moved to On Top of the World and joined Lambda, we thought we might meet a few people to do Sunday brunch with and maybe go to a party once a month.

At the time, the club's founder, Dave Beaven was CEO and Web page designer ... as a matter of fact he did everything and was still working full time for the city of Tampa.

At one of the Lambda Club parties, I told him I had an interest in writing and would happily help with the newspaper article if he felt he needed a break.

Dave looked at me kind of strangely, so I backed off.

"Just thought I'd offer." I said. "You do so much."

"No, I appreciate it," Dave replied. "It's just no one has ever offered before."

He hooked me up with Doug Kates, the infamous OTOW newspaper editor, and his bizarre teaching assistant, who is a penguin.

I attended their introductory class and was off to the races.

I contributed a few articles and things seemed to go well. First, I sent every article to Dave to see if I had covered everything for the club. Then I submitted the article to Doug for publication.

In December of 2016 I wrote an article for the January newspaper. Shortly after turning that story in, I saw Dave at a brunch, he questioned my article, but sent it to Doug anyway.

Dave later claimed he had thrown me



Lambda Club member Bob Vallejo enjoys making art out of seashells. Pictured above is a creation he has made in recent months. This is one way to keep busy.

to the wolves for my own good.

Doug had his penguin send me a blistering letter claiming I had done some editorializing in the story, and even worse, I had submitted some bad news.

There is nothing worse than being chastised by a penguin.

But I learned my lesson and never crossed the Arctic border again.

Since then, the articles have become quite easy. I would tell about the great party we had just had that month and the new one that was coming up. The story described what the theme would be, suggested clothing attire, what the bar would be serving and ideas for the pot luck buffet. I would also mention any theater or community events coming up and by then I had hit my word limit.

You cannot go over your word limit - the penguin gets brutal.

Then the activity centers and the world shut down. There were no parties, no theater and community events. So I put an appeal out on our blog for anyone in the club who had any news to share it.

Well I tell you we have a bunch of very interesting members and they had a lot of news.

Bill Raymond is probably the second most famous Lambda member after our leader, because of his reputation for win-

ing and dining, as well as his skill for whining while dining.

Bill bought a new car.

Well, new to him.

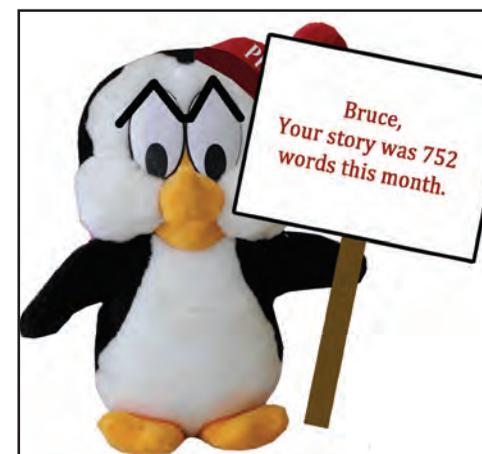
It is a 2016 Chevy Spark. His new electric car has an 82 mile range and he has found three free fast-charging stations within five miles of here, not to mention the eight charging stations that are here at OTOW. For the 775 miles he has driven since getting the car, he has spent \$7.34 on charging it.

Any wonder why he is always elected our treasurer or how it is he can afford to wine and dine out so often. Bill knows how to watch his pennies and pennies add up to dollar "Bills."

And speaking of Bills raking in the cash, Bill Merithew, one of our newest members, just landed a part-time job at CVS to fill his days. Nothing pleases him more than playing with chocolate bars all day long.

Stepping away from commerce and moving onto the Arts, Bob Vallejo had been filling his days with his seashell creations. One of his most recent works is a collection of owls sitting on a branch. The owls are completely made from shells. The branch is from the OTOW grounds.

And Helen La Rue, one of our most artistic members, started a little writing



Lambda Club writer Bruce Lovett receives a message from assistant editor, Chilly, who points out this story is a little long this month.

club to help budding novelists and poets pass time during the pandemic.

As with all Lambda activities, our club is open to all LGBT residents of OTOW, as well as their friends and neighbors.

You can visit our official Web page: [//lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com](http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com) and we are also on the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com.

You can contact us by email at: lambda@gmail.com or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

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BUILDING REPORTS



This summer: exercise, help a neighbor, try something new

By Dave Beaven

“Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.”

Do you remember that old song by Nat King Cole?

Well, times are different in our country this year. I would agree with the crazy days of summer sentiment.

We’ve experienced a pandemic which has swept through the land. The economy has taken a hit, too, with many people thrown out of work. Most of us are retired so we’re sheltered from a lot of this, but we do have family members who are experiencing hard times now and that makes us feel bad.

Neighborhood Watch has a motto, “We watch out for each other.”

It means that we care about our neighbors and want them to be healthy and safe. A neighborhood that cares is one that anybody would want to live in.

But let’s not forget that we also need to take care of ourselves. During this time of the pandemic, we are being advised to keep a distance from our own neighbors and wear masks out in public. These are wise public health recommendations, but they can certainly make people feel somewhat isolated.

Since these conditions don’t seem to be changing anytime soon, we in Neighborhood Watch would like to suggest some self care strategies to keep everybody’s spirits up.

1. Cut back on your news intake. Sure, it’s good to keep current on what’s happening, but it’s usually the bad news that gets the biggest play.



It’s easy to get caught up in a negative cycle of reports. Instead, lighten up on your news diet.

2. Exercise. This is usually when many people tune out. Go to a gym? Too hard. But exercise can be as simple as taking a walk outside in the fresh air. Best times are in the early morning or around sunset. Or you can stay inside and search on YouTube for a senior exercise video and get fit in the cool of your condo. You’ll feel better for it.

3. Do something different. Try baking bread. Or read a book on something you’re interested in. Visit a park with a picnic lunch. Take up a hobby. You may discover a new passion.

4. Reach out to a neighbor. Take some time to chat with someone in your building who you do not know. Offer to help a neighbor with a safe ride to the store or other chore. You’ll make your day and their day a little bit lighter.

How does one fight a big historic event happening in everyone’s lives?

It starts with people taking a lot of smaller actions like those mentioned. And they can create a stronger com-



Times can get a little stressful these days. One of the best reliefs is to take a safe walk in our beautiful community. Go with a friend ... or take your best friend. Make sure you visit our new pavilion park.

(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

munity in the long run.

For more information on Neighborhood Watch, visit our official Web

page at areawatch2020.blogspot.com.

We are also on the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com

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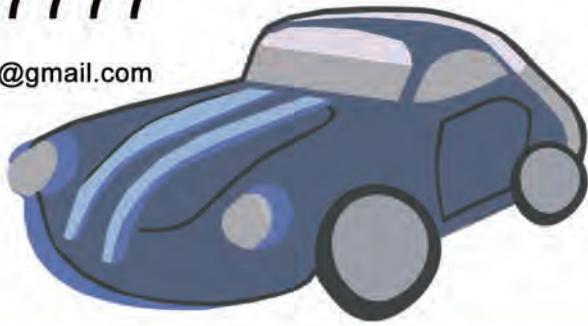
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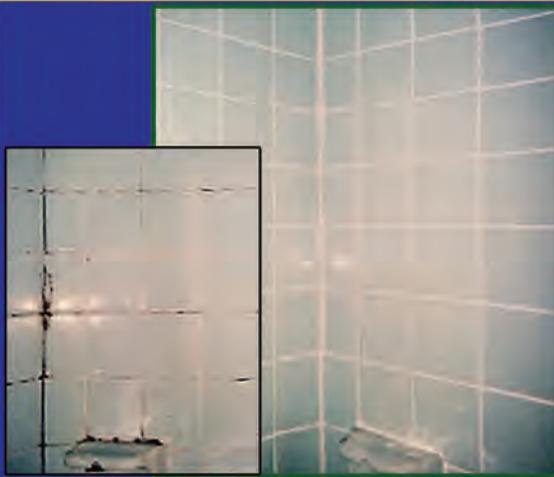
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Playing his bagpipe in traditional costume, Ray Willis treats building residents to a selection of patriotic music during a Memorial Day ceremony. (Photo by Charlie Wood)

Rizal and Hawaiian Towers join for patriotic celebration

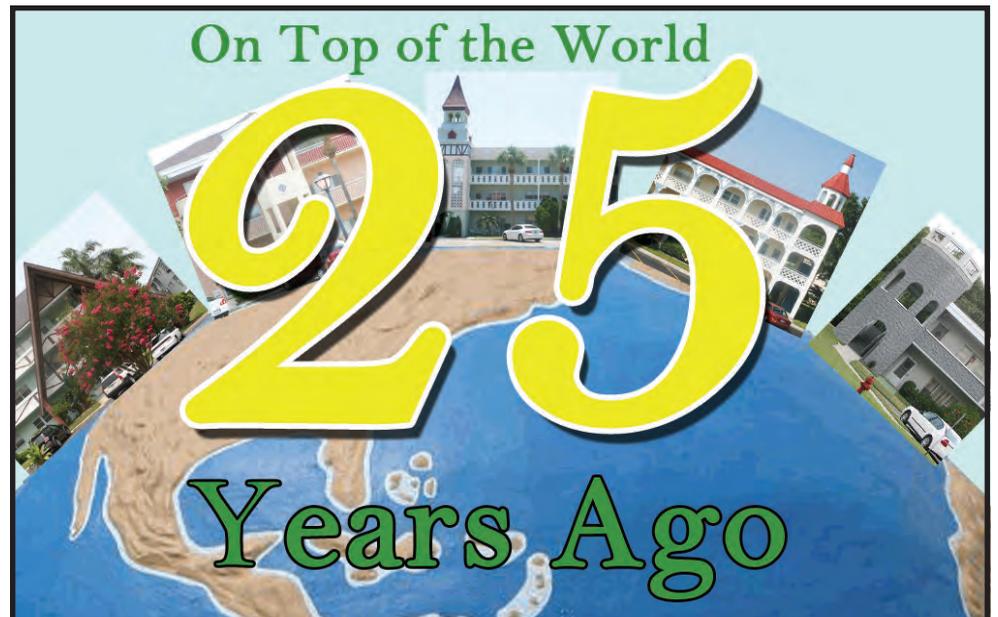
Memorial Day 2020 will be remembered by the residents of the Rizal and Hawaiian Towers buildings a little differently this year. The residents of the two buildings that make up the short, west end of Ecuadorian Way got together for a wonderful Memorial Day musical tribute. A socially-distant-appropriate gathering took place around the Rizal building flagpole at 11 am.

The 25 to 30 residents who gathered were treated to a patriotic music performance by Ray Willis on the bagpipes. Selections included such popular favorites as God Bless America, Shenandoah, the 7th Cavalry Regimental March, and several others. The audience was very moved, not just by the music, but by the sight of Ray in his traditional



bagpipe regalia performing at attention under the half-staff U.S. flag.

The day came to a close at approximately 8:15 pm when Mike Wood played Taps at the Rizal building flagpole as the flag was returned to full staff.



A look back at the OTOW News July, 1995

- **Singles Club:** The last meeting of our activities year was held on June 3, 1995, and was highlighted by the installation of the new officers for next year. Coke Apple presided over the installation with an imaginative presentation of giving each of the incoming officers a key to their respective offices.
- **Nancy Davis' Notes:** Spring is definitely over and we have sprung into a typical Florida summer; hot and humid. We can all chuckle — that is, if we haven't lost all of our sense of humor. But hot as it may be, I personally love summer. The heat becomes stifling by late August, but none the less, it's still my favorite time of year.
- **Kiwanis Club:** Members of the Kiwanis Club of OTOW were involved with the 1995 Children's Health Fair held recently at the Long Center. A total of 87 Kiwanians from our district out of a total of 194 volunteers were there to help over 700 children benefit from free physicals, eye exams, dental exams, hearing tests, immunizations, etc. All doctors, dentists, chiropractors and nurses donated their time to make this one of the best health fairs ever.
- **Tennis:** Back in June, we used to say that our one consolation is that it will not get any warmer all summer long, but thank goodness for air conditioning! We hope that all our tennis friends will remember that the Florida sun is three times as strong as the sun we knew in the north. Therefore, it behooves us to stay out of the sun, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun is at its zenith. A word to the wise should be sufficient.
- **Old World Spanish Building:** Unfortunately, our schefflera bushes did not take too well to the lobby environment, despite the care and attention of Betty Monnell. The new ficus trees in the lobby and on the third floor were donated by Pat and Warren Cassidy in memory of Loretta. The Cassidy's finally got to the "Treasures of the Czars." It was certainly worth the trip. A new resident of Old World Spanish is Phyllis Horaz. Welcome!
- **Polynesian Building:** Margaret Audy. All Aboard! Harold Updike began a 30-day excursion on Amtrak in Tampa to New Orleans for two days of touring the French Quarter, dining, visiting the casinos and dining some more. After that, boarding the "Sunset Limited" in a comfortable bedroom for two days to Los Angeles, then changing to the "Coast Starlight" for the magnificently scenic voyage through the Pacific Northwest to Portland and Seattle.
- **American Colonial Building:** In a few days we will be celebrating the Fourth of July. Fly your flags. Show how proud we are to be Americans. Caroline McIntyre spent a couple of weeks with her mother, Dolly. She was on her way back to her home in California from Nassau after many stops along the way. Friends of Rhea Fisher will be glad to know she arrived safely in Lakeland, Mich., where she is with her nephew, Herb Eibler and his wife, Peg.

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Catching up on the good news from American Gothic

Good news from American Gothic! Our neighbors can sing — and do they! Well, sometimes they are a little off key, but their gusto makes up for it.

Many nights a make-shift choir composed of your neighbors steps onto their balconies, six feet apart, and sings patriotic songs. They begin their tunes at 8 p.m. Guests, participants, and audiences are welcome.

That's not all the good news from AG. These singing neighbors also celebrate birthdays and holidays from their balconies. Each person having a birthday can make a playlist of their favorite tunes. Sheila Bonomo then records and plays them. These birthday celebrations are accompanied by homemade birthday cakes and good wishes. Fun for all!

Some AG neighbors even come into our parking lot and line dance! Many are showing off their now-famous Covid haircuts, extra-long and shaggy with a possible gray stripe down the middle.

Other good news includes three romping squirrels born in our back yard. The lovely black-hooded parrots recently flew in too, stayed awhile, and then



headed out to parts unknown.

A person once said that neighbors are like running water — you don't know how much you depend on them until you don't have them.

Here at American Gothic, many of us have gotten to know our neighbors better during these unusual times. Mostly, we have known these people only by a smile as we passed, collecting our mail. Now, we stop on our sidewalks and chat awhile.

And sometimes, when we are lucky, we detect the aroma of delicious food



Many people come onto their balconies to watch and sing along with nightly music. From left are Vicki Cicia, Sheila Bonomo and Maddie Heise. (Photo by Dennis Telleck)

wafting around us. AG neighbors seem to be cooking more and more. You can smell it in the air. It might be those old recipes that your mom used to make that filled your heart with comfort, but whatever your culinary pleasure, these days AG feels more like an old-fashioned neighborhood from the 50s. Neighbors are outside gabbing while dinner is cooking,

seemingly now more than ever.

Now might just be the time to take one productive, healthy behavior we have learned from this quarantine, and keep it for the future. Let's practice random acts of kindness weekly. Let's all think about and become friendlier neighbors.

We're in this together, American Gothic. Be safe.

Visit to Vietnam included weasel poop coffee, rice rats

By Sue Naylor

My goal when I visit a foreign country is to learn and experience as much as I can about the peoples' present-day lives, including their activities and their cuisine.

Vietnam is one of the most extraordinary countries I have ever visited. I have never seen such happy people. They smile through everything, including torrential rains.

Our first foray upon arrival in Hanoi was to learn how to cross the street, not a simple task when utter chaos seems to reign supreme. The first and only rule is to walk resolutely in a straight line toward the other side!

We stood in front of Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum and watched the lowering of the flag with all its pageantry. What made it so memorable, however, was not the pomp, but the gaggle of giggling university girls who surrounded us as they tried to get up enough nerve to practice their English. We had a delightful time learning about each other.

A highlight of our trip was an overnight on a junk in beautiful Halong Bay, surrounded by amazing limestone islands, rock formations, caves, fishing boats and a Japanese cultured pearl company.

From the Dalat, the "flower city," up in the mountains of southwest Vietnam, our tour took us into very unique and very poor

towns populated by various tribes whom the Chinese still eye suspiciously because they supported the U.S. during what they call the "American War." Loudspeakers throughout the towns attempt to keep the people in line by delivering frequent messages about acceptable behavior.

One of the exports of this area is the most expensive coffee in the world, weasel poop coffee. The beans are fed to the weasels who subsequently poop them out. A cup of this coffee can go for \$100 in Saigon.

One extraordinary feature of the trip was a visit to the home of a former Viet Cong soldier, present during the fall of Saigon, who loved welcoming Americans. He played various strange musical instruments with even stranger sounds, and poured us all a generous portion of his homemade wine. Happily, it was not the "revenge" I had anticipated. He said the Vietnamese harbor no ill will toward Americans as he poured yet another round.

Meals there, served in small portions, were varied and excellent. Examples of several elaborate lunches were banana flower salad, Hanoi spring rolls, grilled skewers of pork, snakehead fish sautéed in five-spice sauce, sweet and sour chicken, the ubiquitous and tough water spinach and bananas flambé for dessert.



Typical Hanoi, Vietnam, street scene. (Photo by Sue Naylor)

Finally we were in Saigon, still a very beautiful city. Here we were introduced to many wonderful sights, sounds, and tastes, a museum of "American Aggression," and a delicious soup called Pho.

Several excursions from Saigon took us to the Mekong River where — oh lucky us — rice rat was in season. Since these rats only eat the rice that is lost in the paddies they are safe to eat, even considered a delicacy. Their meat is delicious and does,

in fact, taste like barbecued chicken.

At a market in Saigon, I purchased a silk embroidery painting, a fine art perfected by the women and men of Vietnam. Intricately stitched strands of handmade silk thread are carefully woven into a work of art.

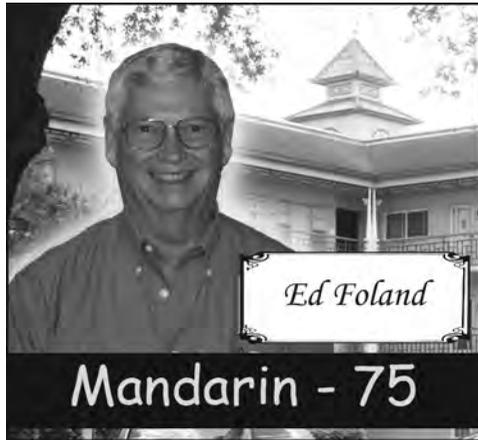
The Vietnamese are a truly patient people. They survived the French and then the U.S. only to build the fastest-growing economy of any emerging nation.

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OTOW Clearwater Website: otowclearwaterinfo.com

Memorial Day marked end of nightly flag/music event



Residents and visitors display flags and sparklers on Memorial Day as they honor the memory of those servicemen and women who gave their all for our country. (Photos by Ed Foland)

The song "Some Gave All" by Billy Ray Cyrus is about soldiers who did not get home after a war. Memorial Day is set aside to specifically honor the memory of those who gave all.

The Mandarin building residents recognized those men and women who gave all to protect the freedoms we enjoy with a Memorial Day "fireworks" display. It was not a big impressive and loud display, but it was fireworks. Rick and Debbie Figaski distributed sparklers to residents and lit them for a photo op.

The tribute started at 8 p.m. as residents from our building and the residents from the Orizaba building across the street sang "God Bless America." The recording was made by Kate Smith in 1966. Many of the residents remembered seeing Kate sing the song on TV when

they were growing up. Some reported they watched her on black and white TV.

Following the fireworks, the residents also sang along with Lee Greenwood as he did "God Bless the U.S.A." In addition to the fireworks and singing, many proudly waved their flags, large and small.

Memorial Day was the last day Dolly and Ed Foland put out the giant flag and provided the sound system for the music. The tradition of the singing "God Bless America" and "God Bless the U.S.A." started at 8 p.m. on Good Friday, April 10, and continued nightly for six consecutive weeks. The big flag was also displayed on Flag Day, June 14.



The big building flag was also displayed on Flag Day, June 14.



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Former reporter making the best of current health situation

July is here and so is the heat and humidity.

We are enjoying the opening of our favorite restaurants and soon to be open movie theaters and bowling alleys. I personally enjoy the Eastside pool in the mornings.

We are hoping that things get back to somewhat normal soon. Siboney is a very active building and we enjoy getting together monthly. Hopefully our luncheons will be scheduled soon.

I recently heard from Cele Radeloff. She is in New York during this pandemic. She is a former On Top of the World News proof reader and building reporter. Some of her information about how things are being handled in her neighborhood in New York are very interesting.

Here a few of her quotes: "Driving around in a parade of cars to celebrate special family occasions... eight to 13 of us meet in a nearby school yard with our balloons, flowers, signs and confetti sticks. We then proceed past the selected relative's house with honking horns, then go around the block and come back again. The neighbors come outside to see what's going on. We have a big family, so this goes on regularly. ... a college graduation, grammar school graduation, 15th birthday, then a surprise birthday for a relative who was going to work for the night shift at



Long Island Jewish hospital as a male nurse (RN). He deserved that special visit. My granddaughter is a nurse at the same hospital. They had it rough working many hours taking care of patients during these unfortunate times."

Cele's daughter Carol found the Lawrence Welk show and Cash Cab on TV and tapes them for Cele so she can watch them at her leisure. Cele says, "Don't laugh — I am in seventh heaven."

We hope everyone has a great Independence Day. Wear your red, white and blue and "God Bless America." Be safe and wear your face mask.

Bob and Barbara Stone recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Congratulations, guys!



Former Siboney original resident and OTOW News reporter Cele Radeloff poses with her great-grandson on his "at-home graduation" from fifth grade in Long Island, N.Y.

OTOW News Clearwater Box Office Website: www.otowboxoffice.com

Blackout News

By Tom Jamrozy

Blackout is looking forward to returning to the West Activity Center soon.

We play Thursday nights. Practice takes place at 6 p.m., followed by games from 6:30-9 p.m.

When ticket sales and club tables reopen Thursday mornings in the East Activity Center, I encourage new players to come over from 8:30-10:15 a.m. for training.

Watch OTOW-TV Channel 732 for the latest information. We are also on the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com.

Our card game is for those who like to have fun and enjoy an evening with friends, old and new. I hope to see you there.

A Polynesian potpourri to kick off mid-summer

Aloha Polynesians! We appear to be in the thick of summer already.

Air conditioners are running full throttle, doors and windows are closed up, and hibernating from the heat appears to be the most popular summer sport.

Kudos to Steve Crosmer and to Antoinette Russell for the beautiful patriotic decorations festooning our building. They are so lovely to see, and it really perks up my spirits when I see the Polynesian looking so festive.

We appear to have several new neighbors who have joined our ranks and I expect when things cool down a bit, we will see more of them.

Jay Jarvis has done a great job lining up the restaurants and activities for the 2020/2021 season, and hopefully we will be joined by these new members of the Polynesian family.

I don't know about all of you, but I am spending this indoor time cleaning and reorganizing closets, dresser drawers and book shelves. It's amazing how many things one can do without that you just



felt you had to hang onto in the past.

I am waiting for the Salvation Army to start pick-ups again so I can free myself of bags of clothing and household goods.

I also have given away a box of books to Cher Rousseau (our own personal celebrity) and will have a few more boxes to give away soon. I am a voracious reader and love to pass on my books to others.

Stay safe this summer Polynesians, near and far! Mahalo.

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'Mr. Fun,' a gathering on the green and a nice luncheon

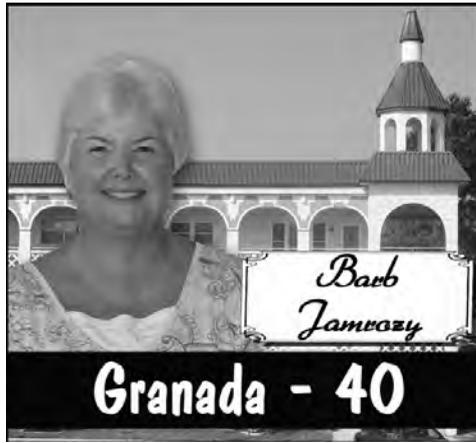
We have been enjoying our free entertainment by "Mr. Fun" and gathering in the courtyard with friends. So many of us are eager to continue our summer activities. We had a 'gathering on the green' in May so just a reminder that this takes place the last Thursday of each month rotating sides of the building

We had a building lunch at Our Place on June 15 and we had good attendance. It was great seeing our friends.

We decided to have our July Lunch at Longhorn Steakhouse on July 13 at noon. Please check the bulletin board for information.

I always enjoy sitting outside watching the golfers and all the dog walkers. The pace is picking up now, even with the warmer weather.

We have enjoyed a couple of trips to Clearwater Beach recently where we easily



saw why it is called that. You could clearly see the sandy bottom in most places when the waves were pretty calm.

We are happy to see all the activity going on around us and look forward to seeing more.



Granada residents enjoy good food and good company at Our Place restaurant in June.

Temporary Cancellation of Bible Study Club Meetings

The club usually meets Friday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center Veranda Room. Due to current national and local health safety concerns and the need for social distancing, these meetings are cancelled until further notice.

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. For more information, call either Bob Reis, (727) 772-3119 or Woodie Tully, (727) 399-1773.

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Englander residents celebrating some milestones

June and July is a busy time of year for personal celebrations. This year, it was difficult to get together with all our friends and neighbors, but the events were recognized nonetheless.

Jerry and Diane Kaplan enjoyed an anniversary dinner at Casa Cosenza's in Oldsmar. Even with social distancing, they were still able to enjoy a table near the dance floor and be entertained by our neighbor, keyboard and vocal artist, George Algozzina. George is "on duty" every Friday and Saturday evenings at the restaurant.

Nick and Mary Spinos celebrated their 59th anniversary this year.

Dick Mikszenas and George Algozzina celebrated June birthdays and Dorothy Algozzina will be celebrating her birthday in July. Happy celebrations to everyone!

Our hurricane season has begun. If you haven't already, I encourage you to sign up for On Top of the World's RAVE program. This is a mobile safety alert system. OTOW will alert you by text, email or on your cell phone when important announcements are released. You can sign up on OTOW's website or by contacting the SCA office. This system has been

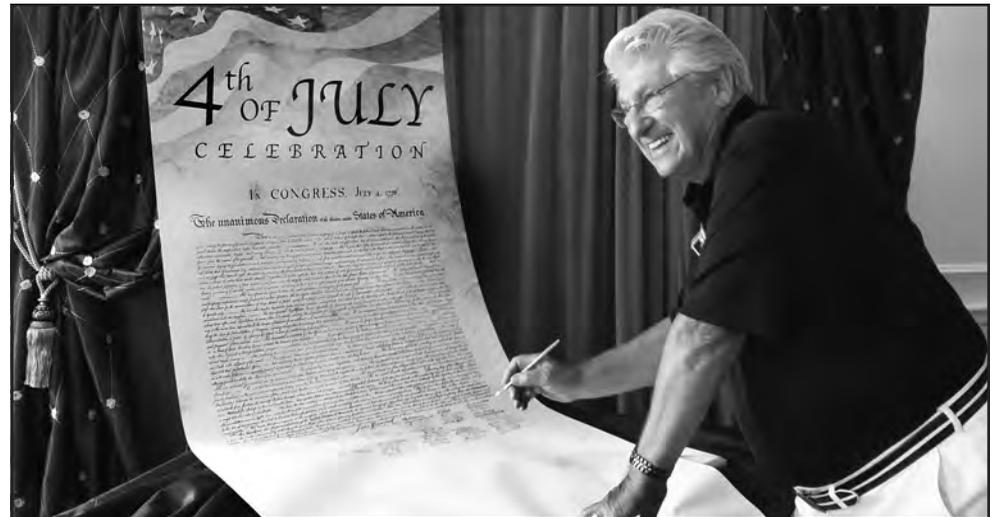


especially helpful recently for COVID-19 updates.

Of course, you can also keep up with the OTOW activities and important news on Channel 732 or at the website www.OTOWClearwaterInfo.com

We will be celebrating our nation's birthday this month. Independence Day, the 4th of July, commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The 4th of July is traditionally celebrated with fireworks, outdoor cooking and barbecues, carnivals, fairs, and other public festivities. Although we may see fewer gatherings this year, I expect we will



Although he's not *that* old, Dick Mikszenas says he probably was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence in a previous lifetime! (Photo by Terri Mikszenas)

see lots of U.S. flags and other red, white and blue decorations in the community.

Please let me know if you have any activities or events to share in our news column. I know you've been busy keeping busy. What has been keeping you entertained during these past few months? Personally, I am reading a book about anti-gravity and I just can't put it down

Hope you all stay safe and cool during the summer months.



Diane and Jerry Kaplan celebrate their anniversary. (Photo by George Algozzina)

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Popular resident feted with drive-by for 90th birthday

The pandemic had no power over the 90th birthday of John Lewis!

His friends got together May 16 and staged 20 cars with his friends to do a surprise drive-by for his early 90th celebration. John was so happy and delighted by the outpouring of love and celebration. His original party

was to be on that day, May 16, and is now postponed until November.

On John's actual birthday, May 19, more friends celebrated in front of his condo with cards, songs, cupcakes and friendship. We wish for John and his wife Hilda all the love and blessings in the world.



Some of the cars, many decorated, that participated in a drive-by birthday salute to French Renaissance resident John Lewis for his 90th birthday. (Photos by Karen French)

John Lewis and his wife, Hilda, show off a birthday poster John received.

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Evelyn Johnston, long-time Modernage resident and original owner since 1974, turned 100 on May 20. Congratulations!



Colorful balloons and banners greeted Evelyn Johnston and those who attended a party celebrating her 100th birthday. (Photos by Barbara Rice)

100th birthday marked by colorful celebration

By Barbara Rice

One hundred birthdays celebrated! A century of memories to reflect upon.

“I am blessed and amazed,” Evelyn Johnston said on her 100th birthday, surrounded by On Top of the World friends.

One hundred years ago, Evelyn was born on May 20, 1920, in Chicago, Ill. Baby Evelyn arrived in a world rebounding from a dangerous virus. Her mother had been ordered indoors during her entire pregnancy. Evelyn remembers stories told to her about the perils of the virus.

One hundred years later, the 2020 virus pandemic tried to preempt her momentous birthday. A gala celebration planned by relatives had to be cancelled. But, her friends at OTOW would not hear of this milestone going uncelebrated. Masks and social distancing were the outdoor party theme where birthday wishes abounded. Evelyn is the only original homeowner still in her building. And, the Modernage Building is the fitting building for this modern thinking senior.

“Never be afraid to try something new,” Evelyn

advised while she worked at mastering one of her 100th birthday presents — an Apple iPhone!

She recalls she wasn’t keen on moving from Chicago to OTOW in 1974. Her husband, Herbert, enticed her with golf clubs under the Christmas tree.

“It turned out I could not have moved to anywhere better,” she reminisced. Nearly 50 years of memories include mastering golf, playing cards, and enjoying activities, sewing classes, and dances. Herbert was active in Kiwanis. They belonged to the Great Lakes Club. She was married to Herbert, her second husband, for 24 years.

OTOW was then a budding community. The couple chose their condo from pins on the construction map. They watched their building grow up from a cement slab. Belcher Road was only a dirt road. Citrus fragrance blew in from the vast orange groves across the road where the West Side we now know came to be.

Evelyn has lived during historical times that most only read about. She vividly recalls a bowling date hushed silent on Dec. 7, 1941, by President Roosevelt. Pearl Harbor had been bombed! Her beau, Frank Tarpey, asked for her hand on Christmas Eve. “We were married in April,

1942 and I became a war bride. Frank volunteered for the Navy two days later.”

Frank and Evelyn were married 25 years until his passing.

“We had the house where children came to play.” Family grew to include daughter, Nancy and sons, Bruce and Rick. There are seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Close friends’ four children also know her as Grandma.

At age 40, Evelyn pondered going to work and answered an ad looking for a bookkeeper. “I fibbed about my age and my qualifications,” she grinned.

The newcomer learned a lot. No computers then, but she remembers very well when they upgraded from manual to electric typewriters. She convinced her boss to hang onto her manual, just in case.

Seventeen years later, a farewell party sent an experienced bookkeeper off to Florida. Parting gifts included a check, a putter – and her Royal manual typewriter. The typewriter still sits in her bedroom in the Modernage Building.

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There is only one ‘Mrs. Chetnik’ — let’s meet her

Who is “Mrs. Chetnik?” Building inhabitants usually think of long-time resident Theresa Kawalec.

Articles have been written about her, stories told, and Theresa herself has written many articles for the On Top of the World newspaper.

In high school, Theresa did her homework but didn’t develop any study habits. She majored in art and wanted to be a designer. She liked science classes and won a four-year science award.

After graduating high school, she enrolled in St. John’s University majoring in chemistry. Four female students there befriended her. They were very Catholic, while Theresa had no religious upbringing. Her friends introduced Theresa to a priest professor, and she sat in on a few of his religious courses.

For two years, Theresa struggled until she achieved some good study habits. She made the dean’s list her third year. In her senior year, she was baptized in the Catholic Church. She graduated with a B.S. degree in Chemistry.

She was fortunate enough to get her first job in a research lab at the New York University Post Graduate Medical School. Afterwards, Theresa worked in virology research at the hands of a Ph.D. researcher in New York.

After working nine years, she went to a dance with her girlfriends and met the love of her life, John. They married six months later.

John and Theresa just celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. They have six



children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Her motto is, “God, Family, and Country.” She says, “I am very blessed to be alive at 92 years of age.”

I asked her, “Tell me about one day in the life of ‘Mrs. Chetnik.’”

- She starts her day at 5:30 a.m., and from 5:30–6:30 she has prayer.
- She goes to Mass daily at 8 a.m. and leads a Rosary after Mass. (On Mondays, she hosts a prayer group.)
- On the way home from Mass she stops for errands.
- When home about 9:15 a.m., she then eats breakfast.
- She does all her household chores, all the cooking, cleaning, and laundry.
- She gets lots of magazines and reads those in the afternoon. She also gets lots of emails and she reads those at night, usually before bedtime. She also does FaceTime.
- She recently purchased her first



Theresa Kawalec, at left front, with her husband, John, surrounded by family.

iPhone and has learned to ZOOM!

She attends many clubs and meetings, such as the Republican Club and the Press Association. She says she reads a lot, does crossword puzzles, and plays Bridge. She drives herself everywhere she goes. And when we go together, she wants to drive.

I say, “You have a new haircut.” She said, “Yes, John’s coming.”

She talks about having her house painted. She said, “John’s coming.” She shows me her bathroom and said, “I’ve had the bathroom redone. John’s coming.” She said, “I have a lot to do before Father’s Day. John’s coming.”

After living here 27 years, do you see why I think Mrs. Theresa Kawalec should be called “Mrs. Chetnik?”

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Residents are treated to some great brass band music

On a recent Sunday evening, a brass band started playing outside of our building.

I went out and discovered that it was members of The Salvation Army Band. They played a number of religious and American political songs.

Many of our residents came out to enjoy the music. The band had played at several other buildings and when they left here, they were going to the Paradise area.

As we talked, they said that they had been playing music at many other On Top of the World buildings on Sunday evenings. Keep an eye out for them. You will enjoy the music.

Most years Dunedin has a marvelous July 4th fireworks display that we at Espana can enjoy from our lake. For all you new Espana residents, bring a chair and come to the lake or to the Philippine Drive cul-de-sac. However, chances are very good that the fireworks show will be cancelled this year, following the lead of many cities. Cross your fingers, anyway.

The 4th of July and our national anthem are important to us U.S. citizens. We will be hearing our anthem quite often,



but only a few know how it came about. In the late 1700's and in the early 1800's it was an Anacreontic Society Men's Social Club's song (a drinking song) in London written by John Stafford Smith.

On Sept. 14, 1814, after the Battle of Fort McHenry in Baltimore during the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key saw our flag of 15 stars and 15 stripes fluttering in the morning breeze and wrote a poem of four verses that was later applied to this tune. It was named "The Star-Spangled Banner." Many Americans think that Francis Scott Key wrote the entire song, but he only wrote the verses.



The Salvation Army Band plays for residents of the Espana building. (Photo by John Fier)

In 1889, the song was recognized by the U.S. Navy and played and sung at many events. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson recognized it as an important song for our country and decided it should be our national anthem, but it wasn't until March 3, 1931, by a Congressional Resolution, that "The Star Spangled Banner" officially became our national anthem.

Believe it or not, our national anthem is only 89 years. Can you believe Espana has residents who are older than "The Star-Spangled Banner?"

By the way, our neighbor, John Fier, wrote a poem about the anthem many years ago. Many of you have seen it, I'm sure.

If you have a Star-Spangled Banner, display it proudly on the 4th of July.

Let's meet the rest of our building officers

This month we continue to provide insight into the Bohemia building officers. Those unsung heroes who work to address buildings issues, provide entertainment and keep each resident informed.

Last issue we introduced our president, vice-president and treasurer. Today we introduce our remaining officers.

Maria Denehan is our building social chair. Maria oversees a committee that works to enrich the lives of the building residents.

Maria was born in Puerto Rico and moved to New York at a young age. After high school graduation, Maria became a secretary at a commercial bank.

Later, and after having her two children, she decided on a career change, and went into nurses' training. She spent many years working in New York hospitals until her move to Florida.

During her years in this area, she has worked at Palm Gardens and the Arbors until settling in and retiring from what was Health South. She currently is serving her



second term directing our social events.

The final officer to be introduced is Paula Schelling (me), the building secretary and newspaper building reporter. I am from Aurora, Ill. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Superior with a major in education and a minor in science. I then decided to continue my education at North Eastern Illinois University in Chicago working towards a Master in Counseling.

I married Jim, a grade school classmate. We have two children, Sarah

in Tampa, and John in Washington state.

Over the years I've worked in the public school systems in Schaumburg, Ill., Dallas, Texas, and finally here in the Pinellas County Schools.

Each officer takes their job seriously and tries to make our building one of the best.

Our building, upon hearing the plight of food banks, has held two successful food drives recently. In less than a month we have collected 266 pounds of food. The volunteers at the food bank were ecstatic to receive our contributions as the need now is so great.

We welcome Nancy and Jim Valloreo to our building. They moved here from our neighboring town of Dunedin. Nancy is originally from Michigan, whereas Jim hails from South Jersey. They keep busy between settling in and working part-time in family-related businesses. Between them they are proud parents of three sons and three daughters. We are happy to have Nancy and Jim here!

ATTENTION OWNERS WHO RENT OUT THEIR UNIT

Condominium owners who directly rent their unit may obtain necessary forms in one of three ways:

1. An owner or tenant may go online to www.otowclearwaterinfo.com, click "Community Information" and print a copy of the Direct Owner Application for Approval and the Direct Owner Lease Application Checklist to aid in completing the application.
2. Local owners may also obtain applications for their tenants from either the Community Service Office or the On Top of the World Real Estate Office receptionist.
3. And lastly, a written request must include building number, apartment number and address of the apartment. Requests must also include a legal-sized, self-addressed, stamped envelope for return mail. Mail to the address listed below.

Mail or drop off all applications to:
On Top of the World Activity Card Department
2069 World Parkway Blvd E
Clearwater, FL 33763



updated June 2018

Attention OTOW News writers ...

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



Add some lifestyle items to your hurricane kit

We are now fully into hurricane season, so let me share some lessons learned during Hurricane Irma a couple of years ago.

First, as we know, it is always a good idea to have your hurricane kit ready to go anytime between June 1 and the end of November.

For Hurricane Irma, I had all of the things you see online and on television and in this newspaper that specify what you should have on hand to support your life and well-being during and in the aftermath of the storm.

I had medicine, non-perishable food, batteries, a weather radio that also played regular stations, and lanterns/flashlights, extra prescription meds, etc.

While my sister's street in On Top of the World was only without power for a couple of hours, my street was out for five days. I had not thought about what to do with myself for five days.

I found I really missed coffee and hot food. So, I have added a fondue pot to my basic kit. It works great for making hot coffee. Put a filter into a strainer over a 4-cup measuring cup. Pour boiling water



from the fondue pot over the coffee grounds and allow to drip. In a few minutes you will have hot coffee.

You can also use the fondue pot to heat up the canned food from your kit so that you can have hot meals.

I have added fuel canisters and long matches to my kit as well.

Always be careful with matches and any open-flame devices.

I've also added extra lanterns, so I now have several for each room and one I can walk around with between rooms.

Now for the lifestyle inclusions. I have added crossword puzzle and Sudoku books to my kit, and extra craft supplies. Board games would be fun for couples or families.

This season I have added the one item that lets me enjoy my laptop, e-reader and cell phone: a solar charger for items that have USB charger cords. With some on-line browsing, I found chargers designed for campers. Mine has three panels that fold together for storage and can charge two items at one time.

It is predicted that we will have more named storms than usual this year, so make sure your hurricane kits and advance preparedness steps are completed before the storm hits.

We are actually very fortunate to live in OTOW, as our buildings were constructed with concrete blocks and made to withstand a Category 3 hurricane. We are also situated on the second highest site in Pinellas County.

So, be prepared and stay safe and alert so that you can enjoy your summer and fall no matter what happens!

ATTENTION DRIVERS & CYCLISTS

A reminder to drivers who may not realize that bicycle riders have the same rights and responsibilities of a car when entering and exiting the Belcher and Sunset Point entrances. Stay safety-sharp and read up on your "Florida Rules of the Road."



Some Handy Pinellas County Phone Numbers

- Duke Energy Power Outages 800-228-8485
- Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Line..... 727-582-6200
- Pinellas County Consumer Line (scams, rip-offs, etc.) 727-464-6617

Basic Hurricane Preparation Tips

Know where to go. If you are ordered to evacuate, know the local hurricane evacuation route(s) to take and have a plan for where you can stay. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.

Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate.

If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate, and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.

Make a family emergency communication plan. Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications. To find out what alerts are available in your area, search the Internet with your town, city, or county name and the word "alerts."

**Cash • Water • First Aid Kit • Flashlight
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For more information, visit www.ready.gov/hurricanes



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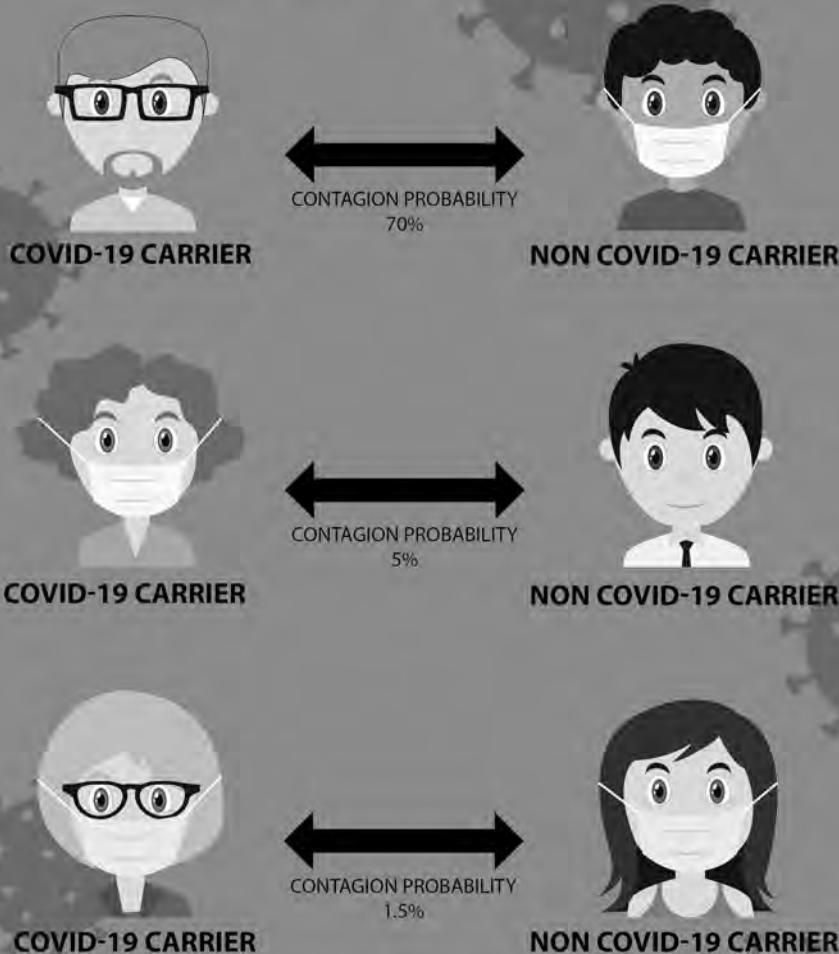


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Please return completed form to: Management Enterprises, Inc, PO Box 771029, Ocala, FL, 34477-1029
or return form to the East Activity Center drop box during business hours.

Owner(s) Name(s):

Current Mailing Address:

Please update my/our mailing address to:

Effective date of address change:

Signature of Owner Requesting Change

Date



If you wish to make any other changes to your association records, such as email address or phone number changes, please feel free to enter that information on this form below:



New World French residents meet most every evening from 4–6 p.m. for happy hour.

Evenings are happy hour times at New World French

We meet in the core each evening between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. for happy hour, to have a drink and chat with the neighbors. Bring your own drink, of course!

This is the summer group enjoying the time together, not too close at this time. During the winter we have a good crowd. This is a good way to meet the residents, both old and new. All residents are welcome to join us and get acquainted.

Tony Millek just welcomed a new granddaughter — he now has five grandchildren. Tony moved to On Top of the World in 1998 from a little village called Paw Paw near Kalamazoo, Mich. He divides his time between Florida and Michigan.

Do It Yourself hint: Combine four tablespoons baking soda and one quart



warm water to make a solution that is good for wiping counters, appliances and inside refrigerators. You can also wipe away messes with a sponge and the solution.

Patriotic month of July is evident with plenty of flags

Happy July! Happy birthday, America!

We're looking forward to a lot of flags displayed this month. Those of us on second and third floors must be a little creative, of course, as to placement, but let's see what we can do.

The grounds around Loch Lomond are looking particularly lovely these days. Everything that wants to bloom is flourishing. The summer rains have seen to that.

We want to give a big shout-out to Debbie Brown, who has kindly stepped up to help with the bulletin board. Thank you, Debbie! The Americana décor will remain in place, to honor Independence Day, Labor Day, and on through until November, and Veterans Day. But creative ideas are always welcome.

We ran into Rudy Woods the other day — he's Phil and Linda Woods' new friend. He's a bundle of energy and eager to make new friends.

Let's remember to wish a cheery happy birthday to Anne Casey when you see her out and about. Many happy returns, Anne! The birthday sign-up will remain through this month and then return when our seasonal residents



return. And remember, it would be great to have someone organize a welcome back and/or a holiday gathering later this year.

Remember that with hurricane season upon us, it's time to secure potted plants and any outdoor furniture. It's also time to gather essential hurricane items such as battery-powered lanterns, phone chargers, bottled water, canned goods, and prescription supplies.

Safety professionals recommend obtaining two-week supplies of such necessities, rather than hoarding, so keep that in mind.

Stay safe. Stay healthy.
God Bless America!



OTOW BUS

Schedule/Riding Guidelines

June/July 2020 (Subject To Change)

Publix

Tuesdays 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Thursdays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Sprouts

Wednesdays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Walmart

Fridays 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Limit 4 passengers on each run)

Reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance and seats are reserved on first-call basis.

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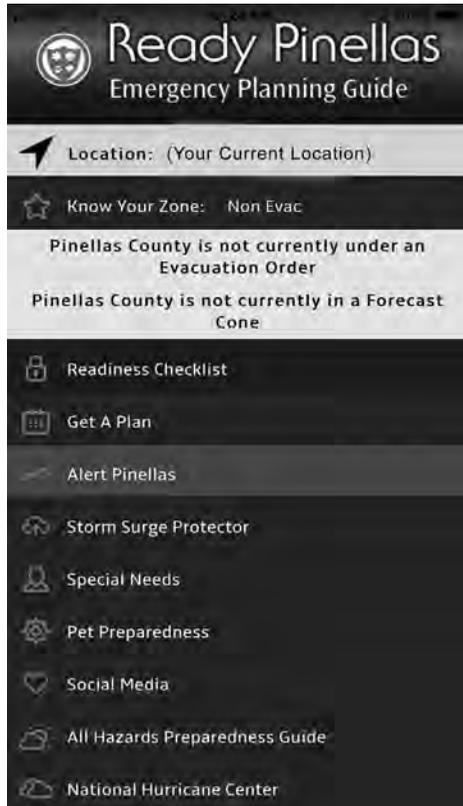
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Kudos to OTOW crew and residents for a lovely building

This month's image is of the "Balcony Babes" at a scrumptious buffet. They include Elaine Power, Susan Cheetham Chris Tuttle and Lynn Costanza

Laurie and Brian Krellach received permission to display a balcony banner in support of our country until June 1 when things opened and we ceased our nightly sing. Laurie and Brian spearheaded our nightly chorus, flags included, and we thank them for that. All enjoyed seeing neighbors and catching up, adequately spaced, of course.

Looking forward to a block party in the fall with sister Americana building who joined our tribute adding "Proud to be an American" on the speaker.

Trudy Barry's new trip around old Sol started off with a balcony ice cream social birthday hosted by Laurie Krellach. What a hit this was on a warm afternoon.

The 4th promises to be a bit different than in years past. I plan on having a hot dog and to wave a flag. May even have a balcony picnic with pals again. It is still the 4th and we should raise a glass to those who made us free and those who continue to do so.

Brian Lance has been the go-to guy for jumping dead batteries and blowing up flats. You are a good neighbor, Brian.

Tim and Karen Beaver have enhanced my view with their lovely plantings and patio. Really beautiful and all On Top of the World approved.

Has anyone noticed our newly-painted nonskid stairways? What a difference, and so much safer on those rainy days.



The OTOW building crew continues to wipe down common areas and keep the Villa looking lovely. Great job from them.

Have been requested to remind people to turn off the laundry room light and close the rubbish room door when leaving. Speaking of the laundry room, people are having a bit of difficulty on rainy days using the computer app. Computers and rain don't mix. Should soon have the laundry room doors back to block rains from blowing in.

Wishing all who celebrate July birthdays and anniversaries a great year ahead, including Mary Wolf's mom, Joan, on July 22 and my son Mike on July 31.

Well, boys and girls, wishing you all a safe and happy 4th wherever you may be. Until next we meet, any news fit to print, send along to fresca@maine.rr.com.

Quick hint for an easy grout cleaner: Spray with peroxide, brush if necessary and let dry.



Buffet "Balcony Babes" shown are Elaine Power, Susan Cheetham Chris Tuttle and Lynn Costanza. Missing from the photo was Trudy Barry. (Photo by Fran Fairfield)

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□	8	0	5	□	9	7	3	□	4
3	□	4	□	8	□	9	□	7	□
0	6	□	4	□	7	□	2	9	8
5	4	3	□	9	□	2	8	1	0
□	□	□	□	□	3	□	□	□	□
4	7	6	□	1	□	0	5	2	9
2	0	□	8	□	5	□	9	4	7
□	□	□	6	0	□	8	7	□	□
□	2	7	9	□	1	5	□	8	3

OTOW NEWS

WORDMIX

Unscramble the six words listed below.
If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word of the month.
If you cannot come up with the secret word of the month, then redo at least one of the six scrambled words.

I R E P C

Q L E A U

E E R T A A

L R A M O N

E S L U A N H

A E T L O N G

SECRET WORD:

Last month's scrambled words: honey, ivory, junior, atomic, central, keynote. Secret Word Last Month: hijack

OTOW NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS

This classified ad listing 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, building and unit number is not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.**

FOR SALE

For sale: 50 state quarters, uncirculated. Also looking for coins, currency and other collectibles. 475-4388

Dinette table w/chairs; nightstands; coffee, end and couch tables; desk; various chairs, wall art, pictures, paintings, all must go. 239-464-9421

Drapes, lined, sage, for 1,400 sq. ft. picture window, 85"L \$35; Seth Thomas wood mantle clock, works, \$225 OBO. 726-7163

Two-tiered cat condo with play area at bottom, tan, about 5' tall. Free to first caller who can pick it up. 330-703-8131

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Drop off ads 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. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, phone numbers are within the (727) area code.

Persian-like rug, 5' x 8', navy color \$60; assorted small rugs for free. 799-6361

Two-drawer locking file cabinet, wood, medium color, never used, paid \$140, sell for \$65. 797-2882

Queen-size sleep couch, excellent condition, fabric is one shade of "burned vanilla" \$450. 797-1893

Use your mask and practice good social distancing rules.



our LOST & FOUND

is overwhelmed with your personal belongings.
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in the East Activity Center

8:30-3:00



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