**General Meeting Review** See page 4

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New 'Around The Bay' **Entertainment Column** See page 26

### **ON TOP OF THE WORLD** NEWS

July 2023

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55 Years of Only Good News

Volume 55

*No.* 7

### Welcome Home! Honor Flight returns and OTOW residents are there with flag-waving cheers

#### By Pam Rosenblatt

The summer is off to a busy start. In June, the On Top of the World Veterans Group, along with community residents, welcomed home Honor Flight Mission 46.

We had several veterans and guardians on the mission, and imagine their surprise when they were greeted home by even

more OTOW residents. Making the trip were Pete Fratus, Scott Mascitelli, Charlie Peterman, Jack Sousa and Frank Winslow. It was an emotionally-

charged, patriotic event. Every veteran should attend a flight in their lifetime. There are two additional flights scheduled for this year: Tuesday, Sept. 12

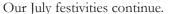
and Tuesday, Oct. 24. Interested in attending

or being included in the patriotism and fun? For more information contact OTOW Honor Flight Coordinator Terri Mikszenas at 727-252-8662 or terrimikz@gmail.com

Our club also had our annual dinner cruise on the Calypso Queen out of Clearwater Beach Marina on June 8. It was definitely the most fun I've had in a very long time.

Ask anyone. The 31 folks who attended will probably say the same. We enjoyed dinner, drinks, and lots of dancing and laughing.

Our next dinner cruise will be in December out of John's Pass in Madeira Beach. Don't miss out on the fun.





How does a dessert and karaoke fest sound?

It is happening on Friday, July 14 between 6-8 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium. The night will include dessert, music, dancing and karaoke for the brave.

The Dessert and Karaoke Fest will accomplish a multitude of tasks. Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy some delicious home-baked and store-bought desserts.

Our residents can come out and join in in the fun. Some of the clubs will have information tables available for interested residents.

The event is free, however, we ask the you bring a personal hygiene item or provide a monetary donation. The hygiene products will be mailed out to active duty personnel and we need cash to cover the shipping costs.

Here are some items requested by deployed military personnel: Toothpaste, sports drinks, protein bars (no nuts), big bags of sunflower seeds (dill pickle), strawberry Pop Tarts, beef jerky, tuna snack packs (mayo and crackers), chewing gum (dental recommended), hard candies, small packs of cookies, Advil, sriracha sauce, pretzels and gummy worms.

Make a donation and come party with us on July 14.



Janet Peterman welcomes home Charlie Peterman after Honor Flight Mission 46 returned from an all-day trip to Washington D.C. to see monuments in honor of our military. This hug and kiss took place in mid-June at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport and there were even more hugs back home at On Top of the World.

### **Dessert/Karaoke Fest July 14 Donate an item to active service men and** women, receive your choice of dessert

By William Peterson

Wow! Here we are six months into the year and six months into fun times with the New York/New Jersey Club.

We obviously have been doing something right as membership keeps right on growing.

Last month's tribute to our wonderful mothers was such a great time, we got put on the front page of the OTOW News!

Good food, good times and great fun, along with entertainment for everyone's enjoyment.

Even though so many of our Snowbird members have already left, we are trying very hard to make sure all those still here feel at home.

In July, the New York-New Jersey Club will be teaming with the Good Neighbors Associa-

tion and the Veterans Group for a very special day on Friday, July 14. All three clubs are organizing a "Dessert Fest" to benefit active-duty service people around the world.

We are asking other On Top of the World clubs to donate a unique dessert for the evening. The more clubs that get involved, the more varieties of desserts that will be available for sampling and enjoyment.

This special event is free to all residents, but please drop off an item that will be packaged and shipped to an active-duty military person somewhere around the world.

Don't worry, our very active Veterans Club will make sure someone serving our country gets your donation.

What should you bring, you ask?

Well, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, razors, deodorant, energy bars - anything that will travel without getting spoiled.

In return, you get to choose from the dessert donations and enjoy a fun night of karaoke provided by Lenny Segall and Kathy Ahrens.

So come on out and enjoy a fun time and the knowledge that you have provided our service men and women with something they can use.

There will be no club sponsored activities in September. The wonderful volunteers, who do so much to keep our club moving along, will have a time to rest.

We will be back on Thursday, Oct. 12, for Southwest Night from 5-8 p.m. in the Auditori-

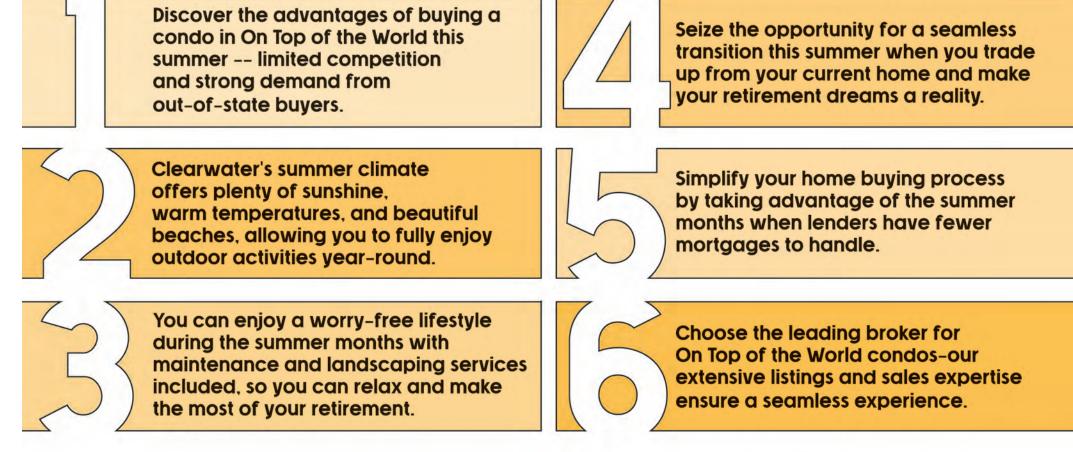
um. Mama's Felice's Italian Catering will provide pulled pork and chicken strips. You will have to try their special apple crumb cake. The cost of \$25 will be well worth it.

Tickets for all events will be sold 8:30-10:30 on Thursdays in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

You can also pick up club information and purchase a membership for the sum of \$5. All you need to become a member is a valid On Top of the World activity card. You do not need to be from New York or New Jersey to become a member.

Can't wait for July 14 to taste those desserts!





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### The welcome home crowds might be the most memorable part about an Honor Flight tour

Sergeant Ed Lanivich, a Granadian brother, felt very "blessed and honored" as he landed in Washington, DC, back in April to be a part of an Honor Flight that was sponsored by our Veterans Group at On Top of the World.

He is very thankful for the help of Linda Faust, our building coordinator, and her contribution that led him to the On Top Of The World Veterans Group for this very special and memorable day in his life.

He also thanks Paul Nevins, his guardian, for the care and special assistance during the tour in Washington, DC.

Paul stood by Ed's side and made certain he stayed safe and attended to his every need. Ed feels so humbled and is so grateful to be part of this special mission that the Veterans Group helps out with.

Ed feels very blessed by his family, friends and supporters who met him as he landed back home. So many sent letters and cards thanking him for his service, praises, well wishes, and love.

It was truly a special privilege for Ed to participate and be recognized in this honored ceremonial event.

Ed also mentioned his overwhelming feelings for the young children who were there from Ireland and England. The children were waving flags, yelling and cheering at the veterans, at the heroes, as they embarked on their buses to begin their long journey through Washington, DC.

Stops included the National World War Il Memorial, Korean War and Vietnam Memorial, and the Freedom Wall to honor our American heroes who fought for our country.

Ed served in Vietnam from October of 1965 until October of 1968. He also attended signal school at Fort Gordon and jungle



training at Koleen Base in Korea. He was part of the First Field Forces which was a team of four which opened and led safe passages for the troops in the jungles of Vietnam.

Ed himself is a true and brave hero. We thank him for helping to keep our friends and families safe.

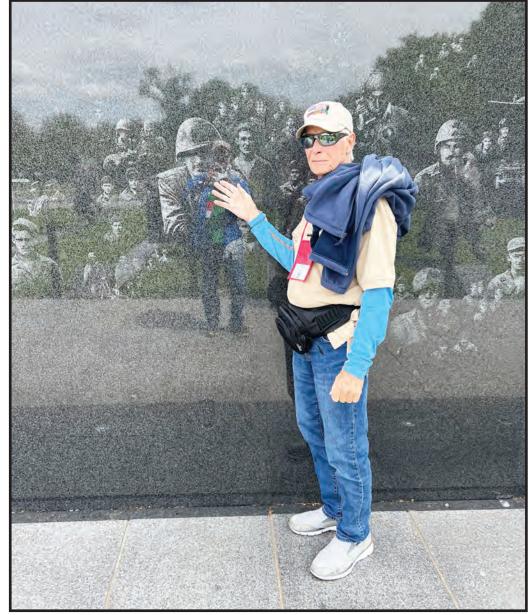
Ed and his wife, Delores, have lived at the Granada building since 2017. They return to Michigan in the spring and summer to spend time in their Michigan home. They spend the holidays with their four children and two grandchildren.

Granada residents have scheduled a building lunch for this month.

Please join us at Eddie's Bar and Grill located at 1283 Bayshore Blvd., Dunedin, at noon on July 10. Sign up in the core next to elevator.

Our monthly Meet and Greet on the Green will be weather permitting for the month of July.

Until next month, be blessed and let not your hearts be troubled.



Sergeant Ed Lanivich during an Honor Flight visit to Washington, D.C.



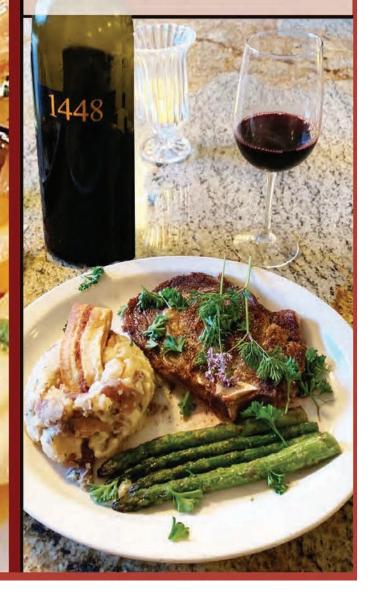


House Wine Margaritas 2/\$12 \$8

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### General Meeting was productive, provided valuable

#### **General Meeting**

The General Meeting for the On Top of the World Condominium Association was held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023.

Approximately 350 residents attended the meeting in person.

To open the meeting to the greatest number of Association members, the meeting was broadcast live on YouTube and Community TV Channel 901.

We received many written questions beforehand, which helped facilitate a good exchange of information between the Board and members.

The meeting was over in three hours with no break.

The member meeting was chaired by Dessa Barabba. After the Board reports, and Management Company report, the remainder of the meeting was mostly devoted to answering questions submitted by members.

The meeting presentation is available for download from the otowclearwaterinfo.com website. Please click the Association-Information tab - "Association Meetings."

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted electronically through Conduu, voted in person, or by sending in a proxy on the key 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. Every vote counted regardless of how you voted!

I'm happy to report that a quorum was obtained before the start of the June 15 meeting, as nearly 2,711 members submitted their proxies or voted electronically in advance of the meeting.

Residents once again affirmed, by 54 percent of all voting interests cast, the choice to waive the establishment of reserves for replacement of elevators, roofs, paving 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 costs for community infrastructure.

The Board unanimously voted to approve a budget based on the members' vote to waive reserves for the 2023-24 fiscal year. As an alternative to funding reserves, this year's adopted operating budget includes the current fiscal year's operating expenses for maintenance and repairs for elevators, paving, roofing and painting.

The Board joins me in extending special thanks to member volunteers Frank and Renee Ingrassia, Thomas and Barbara Jamrozy, Ray and Trudy Willis, Thomas and Vicky Portsmouth, Maureen Bjorgo, Mark Blair, Theresa McAllister, Roger Nicoll, Mary Ann O'Neil, Suzie Trost and Mary Lou Wall, who



verbal abuse from one speaker, which was a new low.

During the Management Company's report, the Community Manager gave a detailed overview of exactly how the Management Company works for members in the management of daily community operation. During the presentation said member heckled the Community Manager rather than listen and learn. Ms. Barabba successfully manages a community we all love to live at and deserves our respect.

Dessa Barabba gave a comprehensive overview of Management Company operations, and of the status of recreation, building, grounds maintenance and construction activities over the past 12 months.

To recap, the year-to-date, includes:

• Four building roofing systems were replaced in their entirety. New gutter systems accompanied all of the new roof system installations as well as bringing the roofs up to the current wind code.

 Two building elevators had equipment modifications installed and their cabs completely remodeled with new lighting enhancements. Ms. Barabba pointed out the additional costs for elevator services should a third-party vendor be used instead of the actual costs budgeted by the Management Company for elevator maintenance and service. Using an outside third-party vendor would have cost the Association an additional \$20,000 per month for the 81 elevators, plus a \$400 service fee for a minimum of two hours.

· Recently the Management Company completed 22 door lock monitors, required by code compliance. Had this work been outsourced, the Association would have been charged over \$400,000.

· Four buildings had their front elevations repainted, while nine back elevations were waterproofed.

· Nine structures had their walkway and/or stairwell railings replaced with new, building code compliant systems.

• Ten buildings received new slip-resis-

problems with package delivery, this simple step can also prevent a problem from ever happening.

The Board approved the installation of these units and directed the Management Company to coordinate the installation with Amazon.

#### Senate Bill 154

Kenneth Colen asked Association Attorney Barrie Buenaventura to address the proposed contract for ESi Threshold Structural Inspections as mandated by SB154 and to give a recap of recently adopted condominium legislation relating to mandated structural inspections as well as the mandated reserve study.

Long story short, all condominiums (three-stories and greater) must now have an initial structural milestone inspection by December 2024, and every 10 years thereafter.

The Law (SB154) also requires the establishment of a "Structural Integrity Reserve Study (SIRS)" be undertaken prior to December 2024. This study will determine estimated replacement cost and deferred maintenance expense for all components mandated under SB154.

#### Budget

While the last couple of years have brought unprecedented challenges for the community, I remain proud of the progress made toward making OTOW-Clearwater an even better place to live. As we enter a new fiscal year, I am optimistic for the future of our community and excited to see what lies ahead.

Treasurer Guy Woolbright walked the meeting attendees through the proposed 2023-24 Fiscal Year Budget, specifically answering all the written questions submitted prior to the meeting. Having the questions submitted in advance of the meeting was very helpful.

The adopted budget, as well as all building budgets, will be posted to OTOWClearwaterInfo.com.

#### Fertilizer

Fertilizer, when applied sparingly, is wonderful stuff to help plants grow. However, too much fertilizer can become quite a pollutant - which brings me to the topic of bulk cable and the "fertilizer" being spread around the community by a minority of very vocal residents.

Case in point: A resident recently called the Accounts Payable office to ask "how much money board members were making on the Summit Broadband deal."

Horse fertilizer!

It's disappointing that anyone would believe such foolishness much less spread such misinformation.

The Summit Broadband contract is with

ciation has benefitted from very competitive insurance markets, with annual policy cost increases in the single percentage points.

This current renewal pointed out that global insurance markets are returning to a hard market (nationally and globally) as the capacity has left the market. He noted the cost of insurance litigation has reached the point that insurers spend more on litigation than actual property damage pay-outs.

The event deductible is the same as in the prior year's policy: \$10,000 deductible 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 OTOWClearwaterInfo.com and click the Community Information tab to review the document entitled Insurance Responsibility of the Individual Unit Owner.

The Association 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 condo.

Condo owners are directed to purchase a personal policy for portions of their condo not covered by the Association, as well as personal belongings "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 policy should have personal liability, loss of use, and loss assessment coverage bundled in with it.

Guy Woolbright discussed the NOAA and insurance underwriter forecasts for the current hurricane season. To recap, NOAA predicts:

12-17 named storms 5-9 being hurricanes 1-4 being major hurricanes

This is a little better than last year's prediction. Regardless of predictions, it takes a single large storm to wreak havoc across a wide area.

The FEMA Flood Zone maps were last updated 2019-20 and no OTOW condominium building falls within a zone of high flood probability.

That said, avoid driving on the roads after a major storm event as some roadways within OTOW may be flooded after ponds breach their banks.

#### Wind Mitigation

Your Association continues to receive numerous requests for Wind Mitigation Certificates. This is a document that states whether or

constituted the ballot and proxy counting committee, runners, door greeters, as well as Diane Like, who was the official timer.

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

The answer is an additional \$4.6 million added into the Association's operating budget.

Looking at it another way, your monthly community services fee (CSF) would have increased by approximately \$77 per month if full reserves were funded!

In an effort by the Board to provide more transparency of Association matters and detailed information to residents, the full meeting agenda was published on the community information website, www.OTOWClearwaterInfo.com under the Association Meetings tab. The information posted there provides a very detailed look at each order of business to be considered by the Board.

Besides the agenda, financial information is also posted in a format that can be easily understood by non-financial oriented residents. Generally, this website is kept up to date with current information.

Additionally, residents submitted requests to speak to each agenda item at the meeting. Your Board appreciates everyone who took the time to review the meeting agenda and speak on the individual items.

Overall, most residents who attended the meeting and/or spoke were respectful and provided valuable insight to the Board.

However, I believe I have to address those who were not acting with the betterment of the community in mind. One member went off on a very conspiratorial rant about the Chairman and Treasurer, and then announced her candidacy for the Board. Another speaker appeared in costume as a viking, to what end I could not really tell. Such attention grabbing antics distract from the purpose of the meeting and insult the general membership.

Community Manager Dessa Barabba gracefully endured extremely inappropriate tant walkway coatings on the second and third floor balcony walking surfaces.

 Seventeen buildings had new slip-resistant stair tread coatings applied on exterior stairwell locations.

 Sixteen buildings had the main sanitary stacks water-jet cleaned (project is nearing completion as of this update).

• Roughly two-thirds of the east side of property's gravity sanitary system has been inspected for operational integrity. This project is ongoing.

· Two buildings had end stairwell ornamental features either removed or had rehabilitation work performed to ensure their safety.

#### **Email Glitch**

Prior to the General Meeting, the Association learned that both Associationinfo@ otowfl.net and clearwaterinfo@otowfl.net addresses were able to receive emails from gmail accounts, however, the Association was unable to respond to them as the emails bounced back.

The Association has learned that the technical glitch has been fixed and the problem was related to an authentication error that gmail did not recognize either Associationinfo@otowfl.net or Cleawaterinfo@ otowfl.net email addresses which are hosted on the GoDaddy website.

#### **Amazon Lockers**

Ms. Barabba explained an Amazon secure locker project proposal to be installed in building center core areas.

There is no cost to the Association for this service if left in place for one year.

Residents not wishing to use the secure lockers can opt out of that use.

Generally, the idea behind the installation of the lockers is to thwart "door-step thieves" and provide better privacy to residents. It has become popular to use the Amazon pharmacy to save money on prescriptions

While I am unaware that there have been

the Association.

The Association is responsible for the collection of expenses related to the services provided and for payment to Summit Broadband of their earned fees.

To date, no payments for video services have been made to Summit Broadband by the Association, because of Summit Broadband's failure to provide consistent and reliable service.

Fees collected by the Association have been placed in a money market account belonging to the Association. If Summit Broadband can finally repair their service delivery problem, those funds are available to pay Summit Broadband for their service and relieve members of further service costs for much of the coming fiscal year.

The untenable situation with Summit Broadband and the current status was reviewed. The original plan voted on by a very high margin of members (63 percent) was to engage a capable and financially stable provider capable of providing both high-speed internet and video programming via fiber to the home.

Many members would realize a savings in costs with the switch to the bulk service.

For reasons beyond the Board's control, the chosen provider, Summit Broadband, has failed miserably in delivering on their contracted services.

As of this writing, Summit Broadband continues in default of their contract in the view of the Board. They have been afforded a time to cure the many problems that are seemingly of their own making.

Additional updates will be forthcoming as the matter evolves toward either resolution of problems or contract termination and all that entails.

#### **Insurance Updates**

At the General Meeting, Treasurer Guy Woolbright explained the policy renewal insurance coverage for the Association.

In the past number of years, the Asso-

not certain components of a structure comply with the 2017 Standard Building Code.

Because of the volume of requests, a form for each and every building address has been posted on otowclearwaterinfo.com. Simply open the website, click on the "General 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 2021 to present should have an updated wind mitigation form on the website by July. They are all accessible by visiting www.otowclearwaterinfo.com. Click on General Information and then scroll down to Wind Mitigation Forms.

#### **General Meeting Questions**

Questions submitted prior to the start of the meeting were reviewed. Overall, there is a high degree of satisfaction with the community and what it offers. The comments from residents were insightful and provide some direction on future community improvement projects.

I thanked all the members who opted in to use digital voting as an alternative to paper ballots and reminded members that email addresses remain confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than voting by any vendor.

#### Landscape and **Architectural Controls**

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

### information and answered many resident questions

Inasmuch, it is your Association's re- uled for the month of July. sponsibility 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 of your Association.

You may obtain an application for modification from the Community Service Office or online at otowclearwaterinfo.com. Click the Inspection Services Department tab. Return the application 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 return to working on the front facades of structures with Buildings 42 and 45 upcoming next.

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.

#### Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

There are no large scale projects sched-

#### **Recurring Reminders for All Community Residents**

On March 1, 2023, the Management Company recommenced its enforcement efforts by removing all unapproved items placed in building common areas. This includes, but is not limited to, plants (live or artificial), personal items, non-exterior rated furniture, rusted chairs/tables or in disrepair, tchotchkes, etcetera, as these items are not permitted to occupy common spaces.

As has been referenced in the newspaper, on the community TV channel, and the bulletin boards posted in all building center core lobbies, these items will be removed and disposed of without further notice.

These ongoing efforts help keep the areas safe for first responders as well as maintain an aesthetically pleasing community for all to reside in.

We ask that residents help keep the community's common areas in compliance by reporting violations of this nature to the Management Company.

We appreciate the community's cooperation and support in reporting any violations of this nature so the Management Company can investigate and correct if necessary.

The Management Company would also like to thank the residents who live on the second and third floors for their cooperation in making the On Top of the World community a safer and more-aesthetically pleasing place to live by removing their floor mats from these common area.

The community's response for compliance was astounding, as has been the feedback regarding these efforts. Once again, thank you for your support in this undertaking.

Now that the notification and compliance piece has been completed, the Management Company will continue the ongoing compliance enforcement of these common areas where the mats were once located, as well as re-painting areas that could not be cleaned to community standards.

As a reminder to all residents, and in keeping with condominium rules governing common areas, any floor mats placed in the second or third floor balcony walkways, or center core areas, will be removed without any further notification. Please assist us in keeping these walkway areas clear while making your community a safer and more beautiful place to live.

#### **Inspection Services Division**

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

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

In keeping with association rules, these items will be removed without notice. Residents are kindly asked to seek association approval before affixing anything to the common element in the future.

Inspection services representatives will also be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproofing coatings during the current improvement cycle. The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules. This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied. If for some reason you were not at home when this work took place, you may contact the Community Service Office and schedule a follow-up visit by the coatings vendor.

We appreciate your cooperation in making this project a success across the community.

First floor unit owners will continue

receiving notification from the Inspection Services Department as the Management Company works towards the removal of all unapproved decorative stones throughout the community. The stones are not only an unapproved item for use in landscaping, but have the propensity to damage association and personal property alike.

The removal of plantings located above and around the potable water meters that service the individual units is also ongoing. The Management Company is asking that all residents comply and not replant the areas. Plants or other items found in these areas will be removed without notice and disposed of as they hinder the proper maintenance of these meters in the future.

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

Please, always apply for approval before you install.

Inspection efforts continue to be focused on the tagging and removal of portable barbeque grills, be it propane, charcoal, or electric, which are not permitted in any building common areas as they pose a fire risk to the structure and residents.

Only grills meeting approved Clearwater Fire Department standard are permitted on the patios of first floor units. If you're a first floor unit owner and not sure if your grill is in compliance, please stop by the Community Service Office to request a visit from our friendly Inspections Services staff.

The Management Company would like to remind residents that all water softening equipment installations require advance association approval via a modification permit. A permit application package may be obtained by visiting the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard. Residents are also reminded that only resin-style, not ion exchange or salt, water softeners are permissible in the community.

Please make sure you apply for a permit and receive approval prior to contracting with a service to avoid a compliance visit by the Management Company.

Thanks for your advance cooperation.





### Yes. It can happen here. Don't think, "It never hits here." Your pre-storm checklist

- 1. Purchase a battery-operated radio and a supply of batteries.
- 2. Purchase flashlights with batteries. Use caution when using candles.
- 3. Get an ice chest. Stock up on one week's worth of water and food that won't spoil. Don't forget pet supplies, toilet paper, a battery-operated fan.
- 4. Refill medical prescriptions.
- 5. Go to an ATM or bank and get cash.
- 6. Fill your vehicle and generator with gas.

OTOW from 2017

Get acquainted with OTOW's rules for using generators.

- 7. Recharge cell phone batteries and use only when necessary.
- 8. If you are evacuating, tell people where you are evacuating to and leave you contact information with different people.
- Bring lawn furniture and outdoor decorations indoors.
- 10. Make sure you have a first-aid kit, including bandages and ointments.
- 11. Make sure important documents are safely stored.
- 12. Don't forget rain gear, blankets and home entertainment. Don't panic, but you may not have internet service for days.

Sign up for the RAVE alert system from OTOW. Community updates will be posted on otowclearwaterinfo.com, OTOW-TV Channel 732 and the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). WHEN A STORM HAS PASSED

A. Do not go outside and begin cleanup on your own. Let OTOW employees remove limbs and all damage. There could be wires down. B. Traffic lights may be out. Stop at all intersections.

For more information, visit www.ready.gov/hurricanes

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#### **Starting July 10, Fitness Center, swimming pools** and Learning Lab will require new Access Card

With a focus on safety and enjoyment at three Card. of the most popular amenities offered at On Top of the World, a new electronic Access Card will be required to enter the Fitness Center, the East and West Activity Center swimming pools and the West Activity Center Learning Lab beginning July 10.

Entry to the Fitness Center has already required an access card for several years, but due to technology changes, the new scanning system will not be compatible with the current card.

The renewal of activity cards for the 2023-2024 fiscal year began in June for owners and residents. This was also the first day the new Access Card was issued.

To renew your activity card, obtain a new activity card, and to receive the new Access Card, please visit the Community Service Office Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed from noon to 12:30 p.m. for lunch).

The Community Service Office also will be open on Saturday, July 15, from 8 a.m. to noon, if you are unable to visit during regular business hours.

If you already have an access card for the Fitness Center, you will receive the new Access Card (at no cost to you) when you renew your activity card.

You will continue to use your current access card to gain entry to the Fitness Center until the new scan reader is installed on July 10.

If you do not have the current Fitness Center access card, you may still obtain the new Access Card. There will be a one-time fee of \$7. You must still have a valid activity card in place to get the new Access

Please note, your current Fitness Center access card will not work at the Fitness Center, at the Learning Lab or at either swimming pool after the new scan readers are initiated on July 10.

The new Access Card will look very similar to the current access card, but there will be an identifier added to the new card to distinguish the difference.

For Association approved tenants, your activity card is valid for your approved lease term so renewal may not be required during the month of June.

To renew or acquire an activity card, or obtain an Access Card, you must bring a valid, government issued photo ID, a recent piece of mail showing your name and OTOW address, and your most recently issued activity card (if applicable) to the Community Service Office.

There is no fee for renewals, however, if your activity card has expired (all fiscal years have been punched at the bottom), a new activity card is required and the fee is \$3.

If your issued activity card is lost, damaged, or stolen, there is a \$25 charge for a replacement.

To expedite the process, you may complete the Waiver of Liability Form located on the official On Top of the World website: otowclearwaterinfo. com. Select "Community Services" then "Waiver Form." Please fill out the form prior to visiting the Community Service Office. This form will be required for activity card renewals or access cards.

If preferred, you may obtain a copy of the form from the Community Service Office.

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

#### July 10

New scan readers will be activated at the Fitness Center, Learning Lab and swimming pools.

You will need your new Access Card to enter all three of these facilities.

Your current Fitness Center access card will no longer work.

### On Top of the World John Doe 1018 World Parkway Blvd. Building 20, Unit 1 Clearwater, Fl.

Activity Card

### **OTOW VETERANS GROUP Fundraiser Golf Tournament**

The OTOW Veterans Group will be hosting a fundraiser golf tournament for veterans and non-veterans on Sunday, Sept. 24 at 8:30 am. All men and women, veterans and non-veterans, are welcome to sign up to play.

Please note the tournament is for OTOW residents only.

Teams will consist of four players. All players will be required to wear collared shirts. The cost of the tournament is \$20 per person and if anyone needs a golf cart the cost is \$13 extra. The OTOW Veterans Group will provide a light lunch after the tournament for all players. We also will be holding a 50/50 drawing.



For more information, call Joe Ventimiglia at 718-909-0657

or email otowveteransgroup@gmail.com

July 2023/ Page 7

### **Summer is for traveling**



#### By Janice Berman

The On Top of the World Travel Club plans events for our members and we hope and sometimes pray everyone will have a good time.

In May we took an overnight trip to Winter Park. We had a great first day that included a narrated boat ride, shopping and a museum visit.

After we checked into our hotel, we ate a late dinner at the Cheesecake Factory.

The next day we visited the Morse Museum of American Art and this became the highlight of our trip. Our tour guide was enthusiastic about the collection and very knowledgeable.

The museum houses a chapel interior that was built in 1893 by Louis Comfort Tiffany. He exhibited this Byzantine-Romanesque chapel interior at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. It brought him international acclaim that few American artists enjoyed at the time.

The chapel was installed in the Tiffany & Co. (the jewelry firm founded by his father) Pavilion at the Exposition. This chapel interior has been moved several times but now is a permanent part of this amazing collection. It is the most beautiful art I have ever seen.

Here is a brief look at what the calendar looks like for the rest of the year.

In September we are having lunch at Bahama Breeze Island Grill.

Our day trip is The Florida Aquarium followed by a visit to IKEA for some Swed-



ish meatballs.

Lunch in October will be at The Lucky Dill (always a crowd pleaser). We go to The Big Cat Habitat and Sanctuary on Oct. 20.

Our Diamond Tour Nashville trip takes place the last week of October, leaving on the 30th.

In November we return to the Dunedin Golf and Country Club for a special threecourse meal with beautiful views of the golf course. Come to eat and then stay awhile for the view.

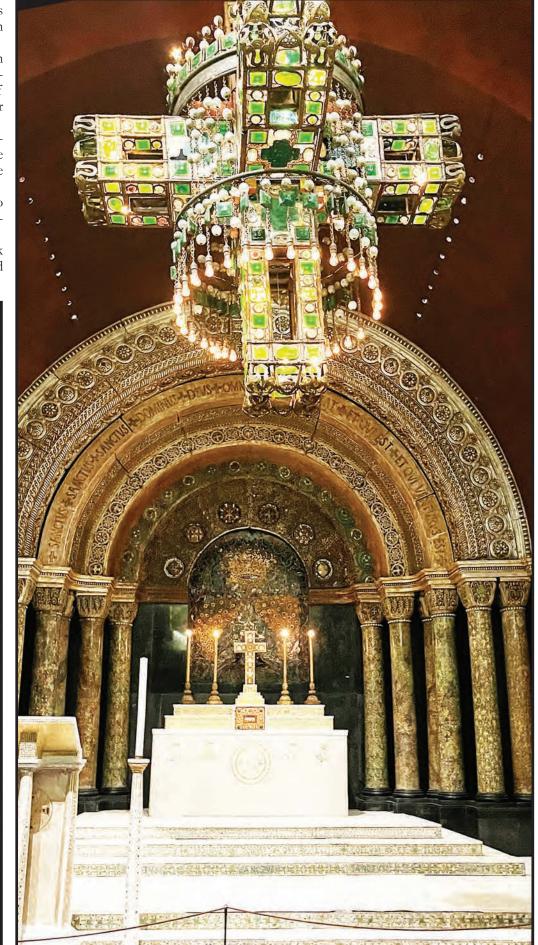
The year ends with a three-day, twonight bus trip to Saint Augustine where we will stay in a beach-front hotel. At night we are taking the famous holiday lights tour.

Our last planned activity for 2023 is to be a Holiday Dinner Dance at the Countryside Country Club on Dec. 14,

In September, look for our club back at the information tables on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10 a.m.



Residents take in the sites in Winter Park. Below are scenes from the Morse Museum of Art.









Tara Still 727-577-8145 tara@hetzelaccounting.com

Lic # - ER0012415

\*no extra charge for using credit card

### **Independence around the world**

#### **Celebrations of Independence** Around the World Happy Independence Day!

As Americans celebrate Independence Day on July 4, it's interesting to explore how other countries around the world commemorate their own national holidays. Here's a look at some examples of national celebrations from different parts of the world.

For Americans, July 4 is a time for fireworks, barbecues and parades. It's a day to celebrate the country's freedom, and many cities and towns across the United States hold community events, or host special concerts and festivals, in recognition of the holiday.

Please visit otowclearwaterinfo.com at Nancy's Bulletin Board for a list of local July 4 festivities.

But while the Fourth of July is a distinctly American celebration, many other countries also have national holidays that involve similar displays of patriotism and national pride.

In France, for example, Bastille Day is celebrated on July 14 each year. This holiday commemorates the storming of the Bastille prison during the French Revolution and is marked by military parades, fireworks and public gatherings throughout the country.

Similarly, Canada Day is celebrated on July 1 to mark the country's independence from Great Britain. Canadians celebrate with parades, concerts and firework displays often featuring the national colors of red and white.

In India, Independence Day is celebrated on Aug. 15 to mark the country's independence from British colonial rule in 1947. Celebrations often include flag-hoisting ceremonies, cultural events and patriotic speeches.

Across the world, national holidays provide an opportunity for people to come together and celebrate their shared history and culture. Whether it's through fireworks, parades or community events, these holidays serve as a reminder of the values and ideals that unite us all.

#### Movie Night Wednesday, July 12

It's time to escape the heat again inside our beautiful East Activity Center Auditorium for Movie Night.

This month's feature is "Elvis" a 2022 film directed by Baz Luhrmann. The film is rated PG-13 and has a runtime of 159 minutes

"Elvis" is a look at the life of the legendary rock and roll star, Elvis Presley.

Cast includes Austin Butler, Tom Hanks,



The movie starts at 4 p.m., but please arrive early and be seated by 3:30 p.m. to join me and resident, Jesse Tiamson, as we take a closer look at Elvis' life, career and legacy.

Jesse will share his memories of Elvis and I will bring a microphone into the audience for you to share your memories.

Plus, you're in for a treat, Jesse will perform one of Elvis' greatest hits.

The movie is for OTOW residents only and offered at no charge. Registration is not required. For optimum sound and viewing, seating will be limited to 70, first come, first served.

Refreshments are served by our Good Neighbors Association at a great price and the popcorn is free (one bag per person).

#### Summer of Peace Love and Dolphins at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium

If you are like me, with a love for sea life and a particular affinity for dolphins, check out an incredible new exhibit this summer: Dolphintopia at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA).

Dolphintopia will be an evolving festival throughout the summer. You do not need a reservation. The entire exhibit is included with admission or a CMA membership will give you access anytime you like.

A visit to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium is a great way to get out of the direct sun to learn about and meet rescued dolphins, sea turtles, sharks, sting rays and many other species that live among us.

At the same time, you will be helping to support CMA's mission as follows: "We believe in preserving our environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in the rescue, rehabilitation and release of marine life; environmental education; research; and conservation. We are a non-prof-

#### **One Blood**

The Big Red Bus will be here at its new location, the East Activity Center South Parking Lot (where the Farmer's Market is held) on Thursday, July 13, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Residents can register at Nancy's Bulletin Board, in the Community Service Office or just show up that day.

All donors will receive a \$20 Ecard, plus a short-sleeve, T-shirt and mini wellness checkup, including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!

Take this opportunity to save lives! See flyer on page 13 to learn how to reg-

ister, or you can also just show up that day. Our One Blood rep reports another great turnout on June 8. Thank you for sav-

ing lives! The honor roll is as follows: Barbara Carter, Carl Turner, Deborah Hicks, Debra Clark, Debra Godfrey, Dmitrii Chizhikov, Jeffrey Martin, Lydia Ryan, Paul Flynn, Randy Daus, Tannia Rippetoe and Tara Sheldon.

#### **One Blood Platelets Pheresis Bloodmobile**

One Blood now has a "Platelet Pheresis Bloodmobile" that was recently launched.

This is slightly different than the whole blood buses you are familiar with. This bus brings the ability to donate platelets, a muchneeded product for cancer patients, into the community.

Prior to the Pheresis Bloodmobile, any donors interested in giving a platelet donation would need to schedule an appointment with one of the donor centers.

One Blood is so excited to offer donors the opportunity to donate platelets on the mobile making it more convenient.

An event will take place at On Top of the World on Thursday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Platelets are in high demand by local area hospitals and must be used within five days of the donation. The turnaround is fast, and the need is constant. All platelet donations go directly to local hospitals.

A donor can donate every seven days up to 24 times a year.

For the donor: Platelet donations are done through a process called automation, which allows us to take only platelets and not red blood cells or plasma. Therefore, there are fewer side-effects and a faster recovery.

The platelet donation process does take longer than giving whole blood - approximately 60- 90 minutes on average.

The mobile unit offers an extremely comfortable setup to ensure the donors are happy and have an enjoyable experience while performing this life-saving function. The unit provides luxurious padded seats, reading materials, private movie screens, and of course, plenty of snacks. One Blood is counting on our community's continued support for both our regular Blood Drive on the second Thursday of the month, July 13, and this special Platelet Blood Drive on Thursday, July 20.

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

Thank you for saving lives!

#### Laughter for Wellness

Laughter for Wellness with Kelly Siegel will now be held monthly on the second Wednesday (July 12) in the West Activity Center Belleair Room from 1:30 – 12:15 p.m.

Laughter for Wellness can accommodate up to 30 participants. Registration is not required.

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

Residents may sit or stand while engaging in these activities.

#### How do I make a teservation on the community calendar?

The first step is to email or call the Activity Office with the type of event that you are planning, preferred date and location.

The email address is: General\_activity@ scaclw.com or call 799-2734.

This starts the process.

Once we confirm all the details, you will fill out the online Facility Request form.

Visit: www.otowclearwaterinfo.com, click on "Community Activities" and "Forms" and select the SCA Online Facility Request form. Complete and sign the form with your mouse or finger and click submit.

I will acknowledge receipt in an email. (works better if you use Google as your browser). Paper forms are still available and can be picked up and dropped off in the Community Service Office where I have a mailbox. Please complete the form outside of that busy office and then drop it off. I will acknowledge receipt in an email or phone call.

#### Activity Card Renewal

The Community Service Office (CSO) is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed from noon to 12:30 p.m. for lunch). The CSO will also be open Saturday, July 15 from 8 a.m. to noon for anyone who cannot visit during regular business hours.

You must bring a valid, government issued photo ID, a recent piece of mail showing your name and OTOW address and your most recently issued Activity Card.

There is no fee for renewals, however, if your card has expired (all fiscal years have been punched at the bottom), a new card is required and the fee is \$3. If you do not have your most recently issued Activity Card, the fee is \$25 for a replacement. As a reminder, you must bring your valid Activity Card with you when using SCA facilities and be prepared to show it upon staff request. Any noncompliance matters will be directed to the On Top of the World Association.

Oliva DeJonge, Helen Thomson and Rich- it 501(c)(3) organization." ard Roxburgh.

Rock and Roll," was one of the most iconic musicians and performers of the 20th century. With his unique style and sound, he revolutionized the music industry and continues to inspire countless artists even today.

For more information about Dolphin-Elvis, famously known as the "King of topia, other programs and ways to support CMA, visit www.cmaquarium.org or visit Nancy's Bulletin Board at the website www.otowclearwaterinfo.com. Just click the link provided.

### Platelet Pheresis Bloodmobile

#### Thursday, July 20, 10:00-3:00 pm.

The Platelet Pheresis Bloodmobile allows residents to donate platelets, a much-needed product for cancer patients.

Platelets are in high demand by local area hospitals and must be used within five days of a donation. All platelet donations go directly to local hospitals. A donor can donate every 7 days - up to 24 times a year. Platelet donations are done through a process called automation, which allows us to take only platelets and not red blood cells or plasma. Therefore, there are less side-effects and a faster recovery. The platelet donation process does takes longer than giving whole blood approximately 60-90 minutes on average.

We offer extremely comfortable setups to ensure the donors are happy and have an enjoyable experience while performing this life-saving function.

Thank you for everything you do in support of One Blood and our lifesaving mission.

### OTOW Community Activities Calendar July 2023

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

No Farmer's Market or Food Truck Night in July Movie Night: "Elvis" 4 - 7 pm, Wednesday, July 12, East Activity Center Auditorium Laughter Yoga, Wednesday, July 12, 1:30 - 2:15 pm, West Activity Center Belleair Room Club Information Tables and Ticket Sales, Thursdays only, 8:30-10:30 am, East Activity Center Auditorium Good Neighbors Association Dessert and Karaoke Fest, Friday, July 14, 6-8:30 pm

#### CLUB AND GROUP EVENTS

Art Guild Friendship Painters, 1 - 3 pm, Thursdays, EAC Largo Room Art Guild Meeting: 1 - 4 pm, Thursday, July 10, EAC Largo Room Art Guild Painting Pals: 1 - 4 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room Art Guild Board Meeting: 3:30-5:30, Thursday, July 13, East Activity Center Largo Room Baby Boomers Group: Meetings, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Wednesday, July 5 and Thursday, July 20, EAC Largo Room Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: 10 am - 1 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab Bible Study: Fridays, 2 - 3 pm, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room Billiards (8 Ball): 6:30 - 10pm, Mondays and Tuesdays, West Activity Center Billiards Room Billiards (Scotch Doubles): 6:30 - 10pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Billiards Room Billiards (9 Ball): 1 - 3 pm, Fridays, West Activity Center Billiards Room Bingo: No bingo in July. Caregivers Support Group: Wednesdays, 9 - 10:30 am, East Activity Center Dunedin Room Caring & Sharing: 9 am - 12 pm, Tuesdays, Kitchen/Clearwater Room Ceramics: 10 am - 2 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room Coffee Corner, Mondays, Wednesdays, 9-10 am, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room Coloring Book Group: 12 - 3 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room Computer Club: Computer Help, 8:30 - 10 am, Wednesdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab Computer Club: Meetings, 8:30 - 10 am, Saturdays, West Activity Center Learning Lab Cornhole: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, West Activity Center Belleair Room Danielle's Crafts: (NEW) Mondays and Thursdays, East Activity Center Kitchen, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Democratic Club: Meeting, 2 - 3:30 pm, Thursday, July 13, West Activity Center Learning Lab Democratic Club: Happy Hour, Tuesday, July 25, 7 - 9 pm, East Activity Center Largo Room Democratic Club Board Meeting: 2:00-4:00 pm, Thursday, July 27, East Activity Center Ozona Room English For Everyone (new class): Thursdays, 11:45 am - 1:15 pm; Saturdays, 9:30-11 am, EAC Dunedin Room Entertainment Committee Board Meeting: Monday, July 10, 10 - 11:30 am Entertainment Committee Dance: 7:30 pm, Saturday, July 15, East Activity Center Auditorium French Language Society: 10:30 - 11:30, Thursdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room Good Karma Book Club: 10 am - 12 pm, Thursday, July 20, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room High Vibe Tribe: 7 - 9 pm, Thursday, July 13, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room Jesters Board Meeting: 5:30-8:30 pm, Wednesday, July 12, West Activity Center Belleair Room Keyboard Club, Thursdays, 10 am - 11 am, July 13 and July 27 only, West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room Knitting Group: 9 - 11 am, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room Lambda Social: Sunday, July 2, 2-6 pm, West Activity Center Learning Lab Lamda Club: Social, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Friday, July 14, East Activity Center Clearwater Room / Kitchen Lambda Club Chat: 10:30 am - 12 pm, Fridays, July 7 and 21, East Activity Center Safety Harbor Room Lambda Activity Night: Sunday, July 31, 6-10 pm, West Activity Center Learning Lab Learning To Dance with Noland: 1 - 3 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Largo Room Line Dance Club: 1 - 3 pm, Tuesdays, 8:30-10:30 am, Saturdays, East Activity Center Auditorium Line Dance Club Practice: 7 - 8 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Rm Moving and Grooving: Tuesdays, 9 - 12 pm, 1-4 pm Fridays, EAC Auditorium Music Group (new group): Tuesdays, 3 - 6 pm, East Activity Center Dunedin Room Philosophy Club: 10 - 11:30 am, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room Plant-Based Living Club: 3 - 5 pm, Friday, July 7, West Activity Center Learning Lab Ping Pong: 10 am - 1 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, West Activity Center Belleair Room Pray for America: Meeting, 10 am - 12 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room Republican Club: Meeting, 7 - 9 pm, Tuesday, July 11, West Activity Center Belleair Room Texas Card Game Club: 3 - 10 pm, Friday, July 28, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room TOPS: 10:30 am-12 pm, Fridays, East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room (please note new room) World Quilters: 8 am - 2 pm, Tuesdays, East Activity Center Largo Room Writers Ink: 1 - 3 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room

All Park Grills Open on July 4 First Come, First Serve.

Swimming Pools Open 9 am - 7 pm on the Fourth of July

**Activity Centers open July 4** 

Information Tables will be on Thursdays only from 8:30-10:30 am in the EAC Auditorium.

DANCE Threes Company July 15 7:30 pm EAC Auditorium

Pickleball 6-8 pm, Monday through Friday, 9-12 pm, Sundays

Shuffleboard Will return in October

Tennis Club 7:30 am - 11 am, Monday through Saturday. 4:30 - 6:30 pm, Sundays

#### No Bingo in July

#### CARDS AND GAMES

Bid Euchre: 6:30-9:30 pm, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room Blackout (Canadian Club): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room Casual Bridge: Tuesdays, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, EAC Ozona Room Cribbage: 10 am - 12 pm, Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room Dominos: 5:30 - 8 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Ozona Room Double Deck Pinochle: 1 - 3:30 pm, Sundays and Wednesdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room Duplicate Bridge (Beginners): 9 am - 12 pm, Thursdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room Duplicate Bridge: 11:30 am - 4 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Ozona Room Duplicate Bridge: 11 - 3 pm, Saturdays, East Activity Center Dunedin Room Ladies Bunco: 6:30 - 10 pm, Tuesday, July 11, West Activity Center Learning Lab Mahjongg: 1 - 4 pm, Fridays, West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room Mexican Train Card Game (Dominos): 1 - 5 pm, Thursdays, Safety Harbor Room Poker (Alonzo's Group): 6 - 8 pm, Mondays, EAC Safety Harbor Room Poker (Barry's Group): 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room Poker (Bob's Group): 6 - 9:30 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room Poker (Carol's Group): 6 - 9 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, EAC Safety Harbor Room Poker (Laura's Group): 6-9 pm, Fridays, East Activity Center Safety Harbor Room Poker (Tom's Group): 5 - 9 pm, Wednesdays, EAC Safety Harbor Room Poker (Richie's Group): 5:30 - 8:45 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, EAC Ozona Room Samba Hand/Foot Canasta: 6 - 9 pm, Thursdays and Fridays, EAC Ozona Room

#### EXERCISES

Aqua Aerobics: 9-10 am, Monday through Friday, East Activity Center Swimming Pool Bonesavers: 8-9 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room Co-Ed Exercises: 10-10:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. East Activity Center Exercise Room Hatha Yoga with Marilyn: 10-11:15 am, Thursdays, East Activity Center Exercise Room Ladies Exercise: 8-9 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance: 12-1 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10 am Saturdays, EAC Exercise Rm (No Cardio Dance July 17 and July 19) Moving and Grooving Cardio Dance Light: 1:15-2:15 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 Saturdays, XR (No Cardio Dance or Cardio Dance Light on July 15) Moving & Grooving Broadway Bound: 10:30 am - 12 pm, Sundays, East Activity Center Auditorium (No Broadway Bound on July 16) Slimnastics: 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, East Activity Center Clearwater Room Tai Chi Flow 108: 3:15-4:15 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room Tai Chi Qigong: 3-4 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays; 2-3 pm, Fridays, East Activity Center Exercise Room

#### PAVILION

Austrian Alpine Monday, July 2, 4 - 7 pm

Pickleball BBQ Wednesday, July 26, 6 - 9 pm

#### FACILITIES

Library 10 am to 12 pm, Mondays 1-3pm, Wednesdays

#### Woodshop

8 am-12 pm Monday-Thursday (June-August) (membership required)

#### **Fitness Center Hours**

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

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

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

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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

### Celebrating 50+ Years INTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE



# Summer is dance season

By Mary Ann O'Neil

Happy summer to all!

Just a reminder that there are no shows throughout the summer months, however, we do have dances.

includes both females and males. We would hate to have to ask you to leave.

Those of you who have not yet purchased your New Year's Eve tickets, this is a good time to do so. The earlier you purchase your tickets, the better chance you have of selecting the table you want.

Our June dance featuring Ron & The Classics was fun and we had a good turnout considering that a lot of our residents have headed up north for the summer.

On July 15, Ralph Roger's duo Three's Company, will be entertaining us for our monthly dance.

Three's Company performed for us last year and their wonderful voices blended for many great dance songs. Many of you remember Ralph when he entertained us at our Sunday in the Park socials several years ago.

Get your neighbors and friends together and come out to support our summer dances.

Remember, dance tickets are only \$10. You can reserve your seat – bring your own beverages and snacks. We provide coffee and ice, and naturally the entertainment.

Just a reminder that shorts are not allowed at our dances. This

This is our biggest dance of the year, and we are always sold out. Cost of tickets is \$30 per person.

During the summer months, your Entertainment Committee will be selling tickets on Thursdays only between 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

There are several ways to keep track of our summer events. We promote on OTOW-TV channel 901, on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com), and on bulletin boards in your building and at both activity centers.

If you have any questions, please call 727-449-9243 or 215-431-4799.

On behalf of the OTOW Entertainment Committee, enjoy your summer and we hope to see you at our dances.



Look for our new information table banner when tickets are sold in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Find our banner and you will find ticket sales for all of our upcoming events, plus we will answer your questions. This summer our information table will only be open on Thursday mornings, 8:30-10:30 a.m., but will return to Mondays and Thursdays this fall.

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### **Monthly Calendar** ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Tickets on sale 8:30-10:30 a.m. Thursdays in the EAC Auditorium. View our entire schedule online at otowboxoffice.com



Louie Bravo Duo

### JULY

15 Three's Company (dance, 7:30, \$10)

### AUGUST

19 Louie Bravo Duo (dance, 7:30, \$10)



### EPTEMBER

- 23 Sequel Band (dance, 7:30, \$10)
- 24 General Meeting/Horse Race (Sunday Meet & Greet)

### OCTOBER

- 26 Music group "1969" (Music from the '60s)\*
- 28 Shake Society Band and Halloween Costume Contest

### \*Thursday shows will return in October

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

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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

### **OTOW Temporary Bus Schedule**

July 3 and 17: Countryside Mall & Square July 10 and 24: Clearwater Mall Mondays, 8:30 am

### **ALDI, Sprouts**

Mondays, 12:15 pm

### Walmart

Wednesdays 8:15 a.m.

### Walmart

Wednesdays 11 a.m.

### Publix, CVS

Thursdays 8:15 a.m.

### Publix, CVS

Thursday, 11:00 am



### (727) 799-3417 ext. 7

The OTOW bus is temporarily unavailable but Neighborly Care Transportation has offered to cover three full days of shopping. See adjusted schedule at left. Residents should still call the OTOW Bus Phone Line to make a reservation: (727) 799-3417 ext. 7. All rules for making reservations remain the same. Reservations must be made by phone at least 24 hours prior to the time you need a ride. No same-day reservations will be accepted. The phone line is open starting at 7 a.m. on business days. Monday reservations must be made by 1 p.m., Friday. You must have a reservation to ride.

#### Long/Short Term Car Rentals PARADISE R All Cars Sanitized \$199 / Week Free Home Delivery To Your Front Door \$599 / Month exp 7/30/23 Reserve early for discounted rates 727 442-7777 or 727 224-9885

#### (Call or Text) Email: Paradisecarrentalsfl@gmail.com

### EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

You never know when OTOW or a building captain will need to get in touch with you or your family in case of an emergency. Please fill out this form and leave your emergency contact information on file in the Community Service Office. Please update once a year.

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

oday's	Date:
)wner's	Name:

OTOW Address

Bldg #: Unit #:



FREE at home appraisals for your vehicle!



1939 Sunset Point Road Clearwater

New name. New location. Same great business.

Have you ever been told that restoring your teeth was hopeless?

Have you been led to believe that costly implants or uncomfortable dentures were your only option?

If the answer to either of these questions is yes, I have good news.



I'm Dr. Austin Sampson. I have 46 years experience in reconstructive dentistry.

My professional accomplishments include:

- Post graduate training in bite-related disorders and TMJ
- · Membership in the Heritage Registry of Who's Who
- · Recipient of the Top Doctors & Dentists, **Florida Doctor Awards**

I can't tell you the number of times I have spoken with patients with complex dental problems who believed that their teeth could not be restored. Thanks to my training and experience, I have been able to successfully treat hundreds of such patients, many of whom are your neighbors at On Top of the World. In many cases this can be done more affordably than you might imagine.

So if you think that dentures or implants are your only options, come in for a complimentary consultation. We are conveniently located just a short drive from the west entrance to On Top of the World.



#### We accept most insurance plans.

Austin H. Sampson, DDS, PA 2555 Enterprise Road, Suite 1 Clearwater, FL 33763 Phone: (727) 796-8891

Phone:	Email:		
YOUR EME Name: Address:	RGENCY CON	TACTS	(At least one name should be out of state)
Phone: Email:			
Name: Address: Phone:			
Email: Name:			
Address: Phone: Email:			
Please make sure one person living List below wh	g nearby has spare ko ho is holding your spa		ondo and vehicle.
Name:	Bldg #	U	nit #
Phone #			

### **Art Guild vows** more instruction classes for 2023-24

#### By Julie Awot

The Art Guild is pleased to share that we will offer a variety of art instruction for the 2023/24 season.

Instruction will include acrylics, a fiveweek drawing course hosted by Kacee Clarkson starting in November and a threehour watercolor workshop at a date to be determined.

In addition to these new instruction opportunities, Chairman Rick Slater has suggested we meet monthly for "coffee and critique." Artists can bring any painting to be evaluated.

I find that though I may know something is wrong with a painting, it often takes a fresh eye to identify the issue.

This offering will be finalized after input from the members as to time and format.

So, everything I just described is new. Similar to last season, the Art Guild will also host two paint and sips, a museum field trip, artist demonstrations at our monthly membership meetings and, of course, the

annual Art Show and Sale. As events and dates become concrete, I will share it here, but also look for the Art Guild at the Fall Festival in November.

At present, we are enjoying our summer. We are painting on Wednesdays and Thurs-



days from 1-4 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

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

We recently elected a new board for the 2023-24 season. As already mentioned, Rick is our chairperson.

Kacee is our first vice president, Gloria Agosto is our second vice president, and Alice Anderson is our third vice president.

Recording secretary is Maggie Reinhart, correspondence secretary is Julie Awot, treasurer is Constance McDonald, members at large are Barbara Holland and John Fier, and On Top of the World liason is Jane Treggett.



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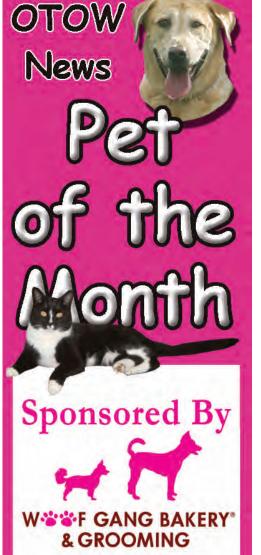




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)range

Medical Suppl

Hi, everybody! My name is Duke (like John Wayne) and I am 13 1/2 years old. So, in "human" years, I am more than eligible to live at On Top of the World!

My mom (aka Celeste Ward) and I moved here from North Carolina about two years ago and we are very happy to be retired in Florida.

Celeste is redecorating our condo in the Saratoga building and I have a big fluffy bed in the sun room. She says I'm not allowed in her room because I snore like a Mack truck!

I am a black lab and border collie mix, and 100 percent big teddy bear.

Although I have been blind for about half of my life, I have great hearing and sense of smell. I am alert to everything around me and can recognize people by their voices or scents.

I especially like Celeste and her "Gal Pals" who wear all kinds of lotions and perfumes and love to pamper me. I also have my own monthly spa day. And our "Guy Pals" give me really great belly rubs.

I also have my collection of stuffed animals. When I bring one to Celeste, she knows I'm ready to go outside and I always take one with me. Sometimes I will play tugof-war with you but I usually win.

I also like to go for rides in the car. There is nothing like sticking your head out the window and feeling the sun and breeze on your face.

Sunday drive, anyone?



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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#### Next Delivery Date

August newspapers will be delivered on Tuesday, August 1. To advertise in our August edition, payments must be received by July 15. Please note, we may sell out ad space before the deadline!

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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.

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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.

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#### **Press Association Volunteers This Month:**

Tara Still Lynn Taecker Mary Lou Wall Pat Hayes **Bob Rittner** Joanne Cordes Anne Younger



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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

### **Movie Night in June**



More than 30 people attended Movie Night in the East Activity Center Auditorium in June. The feature presentation was Steven Spielberg's "The Fabelmans." Fresh popcorn was popped before the show and Good Neighbors Association sold drinks. Up next is 'Elvis' on Wednesday, July 12. An open discussion about Elvis will begin at 3:30 p.m. followed by the movie at 4 p.m. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

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#### July 2023/ Page 17



Dessert Night to help our military

#### By Susan Trost

With the hazy, lazy days of summer here, the Good Neighbors Association has been planning an event to benefit our active military.

We are looking forward to showing our appreciation to those who are protecting our country by hosting a Dessert Night and Dance fest on Saturday, July 14, from 6-8:30 pm.

Admission is free. All we ask is that you donate personal hygiene items (such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, razors or shaving cream). If you do not want to make a gift donation, you can donate cash for postage so care packages can be sent to our men and women who unselfishly serve to make sure we are safe.

There will be karaoke provided by Lenny and Kathy. The dance floor will be open. Dessert and coffee will be available to all

in our community.

The New York/New Jersey Club will be providing coffee and many of our clubs will be providing the desserts

Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee will return on Thursday, Oct. 12. We are looking forward to having Carla back by popular demand to entertain us with her beautiful voice.

Stay cool!



Save the Date:Friday, July 14, 2023Event:Dessert & Dance FestTime:6:00 PM to 8:30 PMPlace:EAC Auditorium

The Good Neighbors Assn, New York/New Jersey Club and The Veterans Club are inviting all clubs to be involved in our Community Wide "Dessert & Dance Fest" which will benefit our **Active Military.** 

This is a chance for all those that cannot attend morning get-togethers to see what is available to all residents in our community.

This event will be no cost. We are asking those residents that will be attending to donate Personal Hygiene items (ie: toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, socks, mouthwash, etc.) or a monetary donation to cover mailing expenses.

Each club will be asked to donate a dessert or make a small monetary donation to cover the expenses of this event. We will be providing coffee, water and ice for those who wish to BYOB. Clubs that want to setup a table for club information will have the adjoining 2 rooms to the Auditorium to do so.

We will also have karaoke and dancing.





Carla will be bringing us on a musical journey filled with the sounds of Motown and more.

Information tables 8:30 am. Community announcements 9 am. Coffee. Donuts. Sponsors. New Residents. Raffles.



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#### Page 18 / July 2023

### Getting legal advice is one thing following through is another thing

Scam Alert: Well, you've paid your taxes by now, or maybe you didn't have to pay. Either way, the months of May, June and July (plus all months) are opportunities for scammers to place spoof calls.

A spoof call is when the scammer is able to call your phone, but make your caller ID appear to show a valid company or agency that is calling.

The IRS has been warning of spoof calls where the caller appears to be from the Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS), which is an independent organization but within the IRS.

Sometimes it's a robocall and other times it's a real voice.

If you should speak to a real person, he or she will happily give you a "badge number." The caller might even have the last four digits of your social security number or have other personal information about you.

Don't be fooled!

Whatever the call is, you must always keep in mind that the IRS never calls you to demand immediate payment. Nor does the IRS ever call you and demand payment from a credit card or ask you to give your credit card numbers to the caller.

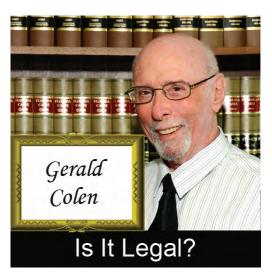
You will never get an unexpected call mers are lurking and waiting to harm you. about a refund from the IRS. Facebook warns of several scams. He

Simple thing to do: NEVER provide credit card numbers, social security numbers, bank account numbers, your name, address or phone numbers to anyone on the phone.

Don't try to talk to these people. The longer they keep you on the phone, the more likely you will make a mistake and provide them with personal information.

Please, just hang up.

If you really do wonder if you owe taxes, get an IRS phone number at www.irs.gov.



#### Scam Alert

Many of us use Facebook as a way to connect with friends, relatives or just the outside world. There are many different and interesting Facebook pages to which we can subscribe for special interests, hobbies and news reports.

The list goes on and on.

However, as with all social media, scamers are lurking and waiting to harm you.

Facebook warns of several scams. Here are a few of the worst of the worst:

(1) Romance scams, where the scammer tricks you into communicating with him/her and gets your trust and confidence and then asks for money.

(2) Requests for money so you can receive a gift card, a prize or a loan.

(3) A request for an advance fee to obtain a job.

(4) Folks who claim to represent large companies, but with no verification as to



Did you know there is a **LOST & FOUND** at the Community Service Office inside the East Activity Center? There are keys, jewelry, sunglasses, cell phones, hats, towels, bathing suits, sneakers, shoes, flip flops. Items are held for up to 90 days. If you have lost anything within the last couple months, please consider stopping in to see if we have it. who they really are.

(5) So and so is a friend or relative with an emergency that always ends up with a request for money.

(6) You are asked to move your chat to a "secure" or "private" email location.

Folks, it takes courage to refuse to send money to someone you think is a friend. And it takes courage to realize that the guy or gal who claims to love you or need you, whether you've met them or not, is really a thief who is trying to steal your money.

Q. My mother signed her trust about eight years ago in a (western) state. We have a letter from her attorney that a trust will avoid probate in any state.

About three years ago, my mom moved to Florida. She recently passed. Her home was here (in Florida), where she had the exemption. She was told that she didn't need a lawyer here because everything was already taken care of in the trust. She had brokerage accounts and bank accounts and also a home in (the western state) she did not get around to selling. All of her assets were in her name, which she and my sisters believed was fine because she had a trust.

Now, I was told that her estate both in Florida and in (the western state) have to go through probate. This isn't her fault, so why should that be, since she had a trust for which, by the way, she paid a bunch of money?

Since she had a trust, there should not be any probate.

Is this how Florida treats folks? I am mad about this.

A. It's pretty simple really. Obviously, everything was not taken

care of, and she did need a Florida attorney. She probably had a wonderfully drafted trust, filled with all sorts of important provisions. However, apparently, she never had her assets transferred from her own ownership and into the trust-ownership.

So, now there's a probate needed.

Whose fault, is it?

I have no idea.

However, somewhere along the way, she either got no advice, or bad advice, or good advice that she never followed through and thus did not complete the work needed to make her trust worth what she paid for it.

(Jerry Colen, Rachel Wagoner and John Beck are law partners in Colen & Wagoner, P.A. Jerry Colen and Rachel Wagoner are members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. John Beck has masters' degrees in taxation and also in accounting, as well as a degree in finance. The law firm practices in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, real estate, elder law, professional and business law, Medicaid planning and business and professional advice. This column 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 any situation, even if it appears similar to something you face. You should always consult your own attorney for legal advice. The Law Offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. is located at 1756 North Belcher Road, Clearwater, Fla., 33765 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons, across from the ice cream shop, in Ocala, Fla. You may call (727) 545-8114 or visit us online at www.colenwagoner.com. You can send an email to info@colenwagoner.com.)



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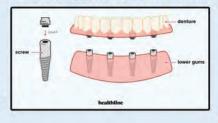
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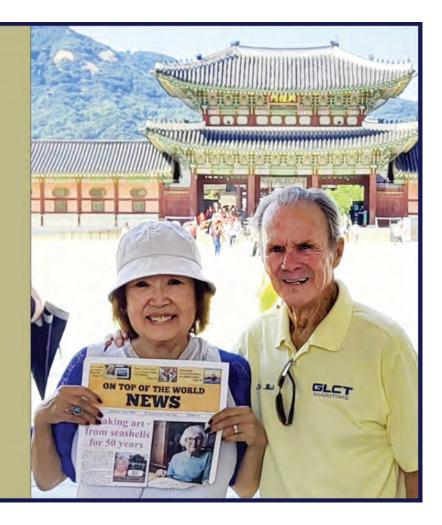
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#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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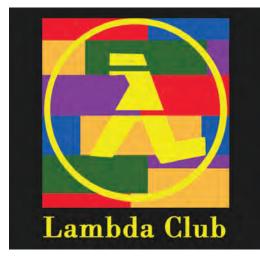


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### ACTIVITY REPORTS

### What were you doing at 10 pm on June 2 -Lambda bowlers just started rolling strikes!



By Jay English

"All Out With Pride" was June's national pride theme and On Top of the World Lambda Club members wasted zero time starting in on Pride Month celebrations.

A few of us went to a bowling pride event on June 2 in Dunedin. The event didn't even start until 10 p.m.!

Gutter balls, strikes, spares and glow sticks were had by all.

The lanes were packed with people from across the Bay area and OTOW was well represented.

Entertainment started at midnight. The Lambda insomniacs bowled one more game before driving back home through the main Sunset Point entrance, a few hours before sunrise

Needless to say, most of us slept a wee bit into the late morning. But no rest for the weary. Back-to-back events awaited us this busy month.

Gulfport Pride was in full form the following weekend. Observed were a few Lambda members bumping into each other at the event and sharing some street food



Most people would be going to bed at 10 p.m. Members of the Lambda Club were rolling their first tosses down a bowling alley in Dunedin. This late night event was a Pride Month festivity that lasted until the wee hours of morning.

#### seen.

Truth be told, so did some of the guys, but the ladies were in full regalia for us to enjoy.

I can report that more than 60 Lambda Club members showed up with much jubilation at our monthly social dinner.

All of our monthly socials have a theme. This month's theme was (drumroll please) Pride.

We spent the first hour lingering and socializing around a rainbow of appetizers and then the dinner bell rang.

Yes, we have a dinner bell.

were the topics on everyone's tongues last month. We also talked about our weekly events such as golf days, weekly chats, mall walks and movies screenings. Lambda is a very active club.

After a scrumptious meal, everyone headed over to the dessert table. There were some very sweet things on that table. Lambda has some good bakers! And shoppers!

Next month, join us for a fun "birthday" gift swap on July 14 to celebrate Lambregift or find something new to wrap and share. Bring a gift, get a gift. That's the plan.

the club, go to our official web page at: http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com.

You can also check us out on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com), or call Lambda Club President Dave Beaven at (727) 410-7566.

If you would like to learn more about the origins and history of Pride, this link is very informative: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pride\_parade.

Lastly, this is my first story in OTOW da Club's 14th anniversary! Perfect time to News. It was planned in advance that I take over the reporter position so Bruce Lovett could retire from writing and relax.

while having a fun day at the festivities.

Energy must be conserved, however, as there were so many more events to attend and we had to prioritize.

At our potluck dinner in June, disco music was in the background and the ladies and non-alcoholic drinks were shared by all should have won an award for wearing the brightest matching rainbow fashion ever

Everyone fell into line and enjoyed all the tasty offerings, buffet style, cooked, bought and brought in by our friends and Lambda members.

A smorgasbord of morsels, open bar, as well as a common topic, pride.

Pride, the parades, and Bay Area events

Our 14th anniversary, birthday theme event, starts at 6 p.m. in the East Activity ing this report to the newsroom, we would Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room. Hope to see you there.

Lambda is a club that serves the LG-BTQ population at On Top of the World as well as their neighbors and friends. Should you wish further information about We will miss his stories and his friendship.

I had no idea that just days after submitlose Bruce altogether.

A big heartfelt shoutout to Bruce - not only from the Lambda Club, but from the entire On Top of the World community.

Bruce was our reporter for three years.

### **Everyone reached the finals table**



The Texas Card Game Club only attracted eight members to their May tournament so everyone made the final table. Pictured on top, left to right, are Debbie Hall, Pat Hayes and Warren Levene. The game ended early with Warren winning the tournament with a pocket pair as Debbie couldn't make her flush draw. The club decided to move the next tournament start time to 6 p.m. The event will take place on Friday, July 28, in the East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room. New members are always welcomed with an updated activity card and an initiation fee of \$5 for supplies. For more information, send an email to joegdechiaro@yahoo.com or just show up 15 minutes before the next tournament.

#### Page 22 / July 2023

#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

### **Computer Club members share first-hand** experiences of near-scamming attempts

By Mike Wood

The On Top of the World Computer Club recently discussed many ways that seniors are falling prey to online scammers.

Several club members shared personal experiences with scam attempts.

Thankfully, most of them had the foresight not to fall victim to the fraudulent presentation.

Here are three of the more common scams we discussed. Keep in mind, scammers are very creative and there are a lot more out there.

1. Telephone scams - the caller represents himself as a bank employee, law enforcement officer, IRS agent and so on.

The caller requests personal information, including bank account numbers, claiming there has been a hack, a fraudelent charge to a credit card and other things.

Scam callers always sound very professional while soliciting bank account numbers, dates of birth and other personal information.

In a case involving one of our own club members, the resident did not accept the caller's presentation and immediately hung up. Good lesson to learn.

2. Email scams - one of our club members received an email that appeared to be from a reputable company.

(In past cases, popular fraudulent senders included, but were not limited to Geek Squad, PayPal, IRS, various banking institutions, vacation companies, and so on.)

Our club member remembered one of the discussions at a recent Computer Club meeting and did not open the email.

Even if you open a suspicious email, never follow the instructions contained therein.

3. Text message scams - is one of the fastest growing scams currently being observed.

One of our club member received a text message from what appeared to be a repu-



table company, requesting the recipient click on a link in the text to proceed with some kind of financial investigation.

Again, the club member remembered information presented a recent club meeting where this kind of scam was discussed.

The resident, thankfully, did not click on the link as requested in the text message.

These are just a few of the scams the Computer Club discusses on a routine basis, so that club members do not fall prey to these scammers.

Scams present themselves in a myriad of forms and you need to be aware of them.

The Computer Club suggests some simple actions that residents can take to prevent falling victims to these scams.

1. Telephone Scams - with most people having cell phones or caller ID on their home phones, if you do not recognize the caller, don't answer the phone.

If it is a legitimate caller, that person will leave a message.

If the caller does leave a message concerning calling back to verify any personal or financial information, do not call the number



Look for this link on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). The TV show 60 Minutes did a great program on how scammers target seniors. Click the link and watch the video.

provided.

If you do answer the phone and are presented with suspect information, hang up immediately without saying a word.

2. Email scams – if you do not recognize the sender, delete the email without opening it.

If you do open the email, do not follow any of the directions requesting any information. Instead, delete the email or report it as either junk or phishing (a relatively new term used to identify fraudulent requests used to solicit personal information).

3. Text message scams - Block the sender without clicking on any links contained therein and delete the message.

In conclusion, scammers are responsible for senior citizens being scammed out of billions of dollars every year. The suggestions presented in this article are just that, suggestions. They will not guarantee that you will not fall victim to a scam.

Recently, the popular television show 60 Minutes did a very informative report on senior citizen scam victimization. The Computer Club strongly suggests that everyone who reads this article watch this show and share it with your friends and family members.

The simple way to find the show is to go to the search engine in your computer, tablet or cell phone and type:

Cyber scammers target parents, grandparents for digital theft | 60 Minutes.

You can also view the show electronically on the OTOW Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) - simply look for the picture link shown above, click and watch. You will automatically be directed to the 60 Minutes show.

If you have any suspicious emails or text messages and would like information on how to identify them, feel free to stop by a club help session with your laptop, tablet or cell phone. Help sessions take place on Wednesday mornings from 8:30 to 10 in the West Activity Center Learning Lab.

### Join us for patriotic music all month long



By Audrey Strong Are you getting ready to celebrate our country's birthday on the Fourth of July? The Keyboard Club is!

Patriotic music has been around since our country began. The British had their

patriotic marches you'll definitely hear while athletes wins gold at the Olympics. watching an organized fireworks display.

ca" dedicating the proceeds to the newly or- other music. We'll start with "Yankee Dooganized Boy Scouts of America.

If you've ever gone to the top of Pike's for soldiers to keep time to. Peak in Colorado, you'll know what inspired Kathy Lee Bates to write "America the Beautiful." Patriotic songs stir our emotions and love of country like no other songs can do. You feel them when a performer asks you to join in singing our National Anthem at the beginning of a sporting event or when the flag is raised as one of America's talented

The Keyboard Club will spend July Irving Berlin wrote "God Bless Ameri- learning some patriotic songs as well as our dle," a silly song written as a musical march

Patriotic song learning began in June

#### **Keyboard Club**

own patriotic songs and many were adapted by the early colonists to become American patriotic favorites.

When you hear "God Save The King" the melody should be familiar. Our earliest Americans changed the words to "My Country 'Tis of Thee.'' Just one example.

John Philip Sousa directed many military bands and wrote some of the most famous and will continue on July 13 and July 27 at our regular meetings on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room. We will be taking the month of August off, but watch this paper for our fall schedule.

God Bless America!



July 2023/ Page 23

### **'24 Jesters show may not perform in Peoria but we think people from there would like us**



By Rodger Hillier For more than 60 years, I lived in the Peoria, Ill., area where there is an American figure of speech, "Will it play in Peoria?"

Traditionally, this quote is used to ask the question whether a show, person or product will appeal to the mainstream United States audience.

Nobody knows who coined the phrase but Groucho Marx popularized it in the vaudeville era.

Peoria would be the first stop for many types of shows. Some shows would be rewritten, changed or even canceled by how well they were received in Peoria.

Not only were shows and events put to the test there, national businesses would test market their products there. To name a few -Pampers, McRib and Raspberry Pepsi all got a tryout in Peoria.

You've never heard of Raspberry Pepsi? There's a reason. It didn't pass the Peoria test. Personally, I liked it.

Which leads me to the question: The Jesters are currently planning their 2024 show, but will it pass the Peoria test?

More than 1,000 people saw the 2023 "Vegas Vibes" show and the feedback we received was very positive. Based on your reactions, I believe you will enjoy the 2024 show, too.

The Jesters would like to thank the On Top of the World community for supporting us. Without your attendance, we could not continue putting on a show each year and keeping the ticket price to only \$5. So, again we say thank you very much.

Our creative committee is putting together a new show for next year. They are committed to bringing you the very best



One of the skits at the 2023 Jesters show was a duet with 'Sonny' and 'Cher.'

show possible. Everyone is excited about developing new ideas into acts. Robyn Kumar, the director from last year's show, is leading the group and will direct the 2024 show.

So, this leads me to my second question. Would you like to join the Jesters club? Here is a great opportunity for you to give back to the community through the arts. You may like to sing or dance. Maybe act or even perform a stupid human trick. Here is your opportunity.

If you have any questions, ideas or tal-

ent, we'd like to hear from you. Contact Rodger Hillier at 309-231-0971 or Robyn Kumar at 516-662-9640.

And no, we will not be performing in Peoria.

But we do get together, "Jest for Fun."

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### **Resources that can help you**

#### By Peter Caffentzis

The Caregivers Support Club at On Top of the World will continue holding sessions throughout the summer, but we have noticed many of you have other committments and need additional resources.

I am proud to tell you there are many resources out there to help.

Here are some resources you can access from home, but please understand, we can only list resources. We cannot recommend resources.

The Alzheimer's Association has a 24/7 phone line. You can call 1-800-272-3900 and tap option 1.

When you call, you will be connected to a help line agent who will direct you to the right resource.

The Alzheimer's Association also will help you find information about resident rights, working with nursing home staff, LGBT caregiver concerns, behaviors, taking care of yourself and better understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia.

You can contact the Pinellas Surface Transportation Association at 727-540-1888 at extension 4. This is a low co-pay, door to door service that uses LYFT, Uber or a taxi. This service is available either same day or future dates by making a reservation. Please note, you may share a ride with another customer.

The Neighborly Care Network Center is available at 727-573-9444 option 1. If you need Meals on Wheels, transportation to a medical appointment or adult day care, please call this number.



#### You are supporting someone who is ill, perhaps with Alzheimers or Dementia, or maybe you are caring for a veteran. But who is caring for you?

On Top of the World has a new club. This club is supporting you, the caregiver. Started by Peter Caffentzis, the Caregivers Support Club meets 9-10:30 am every Wednesday in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room. Stop by and say hello. Share your story. Our club will also have an information table in the EAC Auditorium 8:30-10:30 am, Mondays and Thursday. Stop by and ask questions. See if our club can help. For more information, write to p.caffentzis@gmail.com





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### Are we in Florida or Canada?



Canadian Club

#### By Mary Smith

Recently I was reminded that Florida is not the only place with beautiful flowers.

Canada has amazing tulips and Ottawa has an annual festival to make sure they are cherished.

An anonymous Canadian Club resident wanted to show everyone in Florida that Canadian snow is gone and we have flowers, too.

Washington D.C. has its annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Ottawa has its tribute to tulips in every color that you can imagine.

The Dutch say thank you by sending tulips. Others just enjoy tiptoeing through tulips ... you probably recall the song! It's true.



A Canadian Club resident posted a recent photo from a Tulip Festival in Ottawa. Apparently, Florida isn't the only territory that can claim beautiful gardening.

### To self improve, you must understand earth, water, air and fire - attend our July 13 class

#### By Laurie LeClaire

On July 13, High Vibe Tribe will invite Maliko Sensai to speak and share information about his devotion to the study of martial arts and self improvement practices from around the world.

Since 1970, from New Jersey to Seattle, and then later in 2008 to present in Kaui, Hawaii, Maliko has set out to establish a practice of holistic well-being, originally called Then bring all three into alignment in order to go forth in the world as a fully realized human being capable of deeply emitting and receiving.

Many of the exercises are best practiced outside where practitioners can connect with nature, take in the breath of life (prana) and surrender the ego to let larger energy through one's body, mind and spirit

The curriculum includes aspects of Ryu,

Then bring all three into alignment in selves when feeling depleted and burnt out. er to go forth in the world as a fully real-He quotes, "When the well is dry you

have nothing to give." He states he is on a mission to uplift and

He states he is on a mission to uplift and inspire. We need to ground and center ourselves for ourselves and our loved ones.

He incorporates mindfulness and gratitude while working on strength and flexibility. Currently, he teaches on Sundays at Philippe Park.

TRI-Hara.

The name invokes the three centers (haras) of body, mind and spirit.

The curriculum is designed to hone the body in yin and yang ways to become flexible yet strong. Then hone the heart to become compassionate and loving, yet courageous and committed. Then hone the mind to become open and adaptable, yet disciplined. Goju Ryu, Aikido, Shiatsu, Shintaido, Yoga, Laughing Yoga, QiGong, Tai Chi, Edgu, hara work, breathwork, staff exercises, core fitness training, meditation and visualizing the four elements of earth, water, air and fire.

Maliko has worked extensively with retired populations and taught classes for caregivers over the past 30 years to give them techniques and practices to rejuvenate themAny resident is welcome to attend our High Vibe Tribe meetings. They are currently held in the Kitchen/Clearwater Room in the East Activity Center on the second Thursday evening of each month from 7-9 p.m.

You may contact me at otowoowoo@gmail.com or call 727-265-1671 and ask Laurie LeClaire with questions.



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### Summer is here and the Tampa Bay area is buzzing with live music and theater

Hello On Top of the World! The big news to start this summer's live Hearty Har music and theater scene is the reopening of Coachman Park and the brand new performance venue called The Sound!

The Sound is part of the Ruth Eckerd Hall list of performance venues around Pinellas County.

Along with that, there is a full slate of live performances in July around Pinellas County.

#### **Ruth Eckerd Hall Venues**

All tickets and information for the following venues are available through their website: www.rutheckerdhall.com

#### The Sound at Coachman Park 301 Drew St, Clearwater

July 1, 7 p.m. - Dave Coz Summer Horns with Special guest Dulfer and Eric Darius Tickets from \$25 to \$50.

July 2, 7:30 p.m. - Peter Frampton Tickets from \$69.50 to \$254.50

July 4, 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. - Clearwater Celebrates America with The Florida Orchestra.

Classic car show, farmers market, street entertainers, family-friendly games and entertainment start the holiday.

The grand finale will include the largest fireworks display in Clearwater history accompanied by The Florida Orchestra. Best of all, admission is free!

July 7, 2 p.m. - Sad Summer Festival 2023 Tickets from \$79.50 to \$159.00

July 15, 7 p.m. - Greg Gutfield King of Stay tuned for performance schedules Late Night Tour, special Guest Tom Shillue Tickets from \$49.50 to \$114.50

July 29, 8 p.m. - John Fogerty with

Tickets from \$65 to \$395

#### The Nancy and David Bilheimer **Capitol Theater** 405 Cleveland St, Clearwater

July 14, 8 p.m. - Classic Albums Live presents Supertramp: Breakfast in America Tickets from \$45 to \$50

July 15, 8 p.m. - David Brighton's Space website www.largoarts.com Oddity

"The Quintessential David Bowie Concert"

Tickets \$55

July 20, 8 p.m. - Buckcherry with special guest Gunshine Tickets from \$45 to \$50 July 28, 8 p.m.- Maddie & Tae with special guest Shelby Darrall

Tickets from \$25 to \$40

#### Frances Wilson Playhouse

302 Seminole St, Clearwater The 94th season will begin Sept. 17 with The Sound of Music.

#### Freefall Theater

6099 Central Ave, St. Petersburg "Oz" Original musical currently running

through July 9 Tickets from \$45 to \$55, available on

their website www.freefalltheater.com

#### West Coast Players 21905 US Hwy 19 N, Clearwater

2023 – 2024 season will start in August.

#### **Palladium** Theater

St. Petersburg City Theater 4025 31st St S, St. Petersburg Season starts in September. Stay tuned for upcoming 2023-2024 season shows.

#### Central Park Performing Arts Center 105 Central Park Dr, Largo

July 8, 8 pm - A Brother's Revival, An Allman Brothers Experience

Tickets from \$24.50 to \$39.50 Tickets available at the door and on their

#### **Raymond James Theater** 163 3rd St N, St. Petersburg

Presenting the American Stage Theater Company. Theater season starts in the fall. Stay tuned for upcoming performances.

#### Zubric Magic Theater

1211 1st Ave N, Suite 101, St. Pete Family-style magic shows every Thursday through Sunday in July. Seventeen shows this month All shows start at 7 p.m.

Single admission tickets are \$47.99 (includes \$5.99 online purchase fee)

VIP package tickets are \$162.99 (includes \$13.99 online purchase fee)

VIP Package includes two front-row admission tickets, two beverages, popcorn and a special gift.

Tickets are available on their website www.zubrickmagic.com

#### Early Bird Dinner Theater 13355 49th St N, Clearwater

Tickets are available on their website, www.earlybirddinnertheater.com.

"Same Time, Next Year" (Tony Award winning musical comedy by Bernard Slade)

Shows start at 4 p.m., Thursday - Sunday. Matinee shows 11 a.m. Thursdays and

Monthly updates and reminders will be posted here for the remainder of the 2023-2024 season, as to performances, locations and ticked prices as they become available.

#### The Straz Center 1010 N Macinnes Pl, Tampa

Tickets available online at www.strazcenter.org

July 7-8, 7:30 p.m. - "Aerial Dragons" at the Jaeb Theater. Amazing aerial and dance performances.

Tickets from \$39 to \$89

July 12-16, 20-23, 27-30, 8 p.m. - "Lizzie: The Musical" at the Shimberg Playhouse Tickets start at \$34.50

July 14, 7:30 p.m. - Comedian and impressionist Eric D'Alessandro at the Jaeb Theater.

Tickets start at \$25.50

July 20 – 23, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. -"The Little Mermaid, Jr." at the TECO Theater.

Tickets start at \$23.75

#### **Amalie Arena**

#### 401 Channelside Dr, Tampa July 10, 7:30 pm - blink-182 with Turn-

stile Tickets from \$87 - \$1,800

Tickets available through the Amalie Arena website, www.amaliearena.com

#### **Raymond James Stadium** 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

Concert and parking tickets available on the website, www.raymondjamesstadium. com

July 7, 5:45 pm - Luke Combs World our with special guest Lainev Wilson

July 21, 7 pm - Michael Franti and Spearhead with special guest Fortunate Youth Tickets from \$46 to \$86 July 24, 6 p.m. - Goo Goo Dolls with special guest O.A.R. Tickets from \$49 to \$404

#### 253 5th Ave N, St. Petersburg

Live concerts every Thursday through Sunday in July. 13 concerts this month alone. Visit their official website at www.mypalladium.org for show dates, times and ticket prices.

Tickets generally range from \$25 to \$50.

FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE BROADWAY ELEBRATING Dynamic new concert series featuring live Broadway music. Celebrate wonderful years on Broadway!

Coming in September

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727-446-1360

franciswilsonplayhouse.org, 302 Seminole St, Clearwater FL

Saturdays. Tickets are \$45 each and include dinner and a show.

#### **Dunedin Showcase Theater** 1920 Pinehurst Rd, Dunedin

The 2023-2024 theater season will start in the fall of 2023. Stay tuned for the upcoming season schedule.

#### The Florida Orchestra

The 2023 season starts Sept. 30. Tickets for the first performance, Gustav Holst's "The Planets," scheduled for Sept. 30 at the Mahaffey Theater, will go on sale July 31.

The rest of the 2023 season schedule is available on the TFO website, www.thefloridaorchestra.com.

Concert Tickets from \$45 to \$250 Parking tickets from \$43 to \$53.75 / \$172(for RVs).

July 8, 5:45 pm - Luke Combs World Tour with special guests Lainey Wilson and Riley Green. Concert tickets from \$170- to \$300 Parking tickets from \$43 to \$53.75 / \$172(for RVs)

As you can see, there are some great live performances around the bay almost every day of the week this month. Enjoy and we'll see you next month with another great lineup.

(No one paid for a business to be on this page)

#### Theater Workshop will give you one left foot and one right foot - join us!

By Jane Wolf Theater Workshop wants to bring back past members and recruit new members.

No experience needed!

We are looking for individuals who are willing to have fun, laugh, dance, sing, paint, organize, assist with costumes and help on stage.

Have a limitation? No problem. We will find a place for you!

The benefits to joining Theater Workshop are you get to meet friendly people, learn the basics of theater production, learn stage words and learn how to change outfits quickly back stage.

Are you worried you have two left feet? We will fix that problem.

We will take one of your left feet and give you a right foot. Then you will be able to dance with us and learn choreography.

Really!

Previous club members should renew their memberships. New members should join us for only a \$5 membership fee. Soon



we will have an information table in the East Activity Center Auditorium where you can go to join.

Before you can write the next great novel, you have to start with Theater Workshop.

Theater Workshop will be meeting the first Wednesday of every month in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday, July 5, with refreshments at 6 p.m. followed by the General Meeting at 7 p.m.

We look forward to you joining us.

Any questions? Email Sue Booth at redsquirrelintree@gmail.com.

July 2023/ Page 27



## Club members are invited to a patriotic birthday party with dancing and food

#### By Hope Tera

Our country is almost 250 years old, but we're still young enough to enjoy celebrating birthdays. And what better way to commemorate our nation's birthday than with dancing and singing?

In early July, our Moving 'n Grooving Club will gather to celebrate our patriotism and love of our country.

We will recognize our veterans in attendance.

With our Snowbirds up north, the crowd will be a bit smaller, but still ready for a good time.

We will adorn the East Activity Center Auditorium with American flags and other patriotic décor.

Our group pools our talents, so you are guaranteed that our setup and our spread will be fit for royalty.

While there are always plenty of delectable treats, most agree that Bob Crampton's sangria hits the spot.

The event will take place on July 7. This is for club members only - no guests. Members must bring their club ID cards with them for entry.

A recent addition to our Moving 'n Grooving Club is our Broadway Bound dance class. Apparently, we've got a bunch of Broadway fans in our group. We're having a ball learning fun choreography to various Broadway and movie tunes. The best part is when we get to showcase our moves at the Moving 'n Grooving parties.



To kick things off at our Patriotic Party, our Broadway Bound dance troupe will dazzle the crowd with a spirited dance to "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

Next, our talented Star Shine Singers will take the stage to serenade the crowd with a peppy performance of "This Land is Your Land" and "You're a Grand Old Flag."

They might even toss in a few dance moves.

Then our Broadway Bound dance troupe will return to the dance floor to entertain all with a uniquely choreographed dance to "Fame."

What's the connection to patriotism? We're still working on that one.

It's definitely a fun dance...both to perform and to watch.

The remainder of the party will be a fun mixture of line dancing and indulging in tasty treats.

How about trying some line dance classes with Margaret LeTourneau?

She caters to all levels and a great time

#### LINE DANCING SCHEDULE Tuesdays

9:00 - 10:20 Levels 1/2

10:30 - 12:00 Levels 3/4

Fridays 1:00 - 2:20 Level 1/2

2:30 – 4:00 Levels 3/4

The Moving 'n Grooving Club is always welcoming new ideas and new beginnings. If you'd like to check out an inclusive line dance, cardio dance, Broadway Bound and cornhole club that teaches to all levels, guarantees great fun and promotes an atmosphere of kindness and creativity, please contact Hope Tera at 914-217-9206. You can also email movingandgroovingotow.com, or come to any of our activities to try them out. You can also learn more about our club on the OTOW Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). Look for our logo.

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

is guaranteed.

The schedule is listed below. You can refer to the listings for cardio dance/cardio dance light, Broadway Bound, and cornhole for more information on those activities. Members of our club receive monthly calendars, showing dates, times and locations for our activities. If you would like to receive a copy of our monthly calendar for July, see the contact info above.

V\*1\* \* \* \*





#### **Cardio Dance & Cardio Dance Light**

Cardio Dance Mondays & Wednesdays 12 pm - 1 pm Saturdays 9 am - 10 am

Cardio Dance Light Mondays & Wednesdays 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm Saturdays 10:15 am - 11:15 am



Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes, and bring a refreshing drink. Must have a valid activity card.

Cardio Dance is an intense, heart-healthy workout. Cardio Light is for individuals who want a less intense class. Cardio Dance is free with membership to the Moving 'n Grooving Club. We meet in the EAC Exercise Room.



Do you know a secret to make life more fun or easier? A unique way of doing something? A secret tool for the kitchen? A hidden place in Pinellas County that is peaceful or quiet?

Fill out the form below (100 words or less) and mail your Tip of the Month to: OTOW Newsroom, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E, Clearwater, Fla. 33763. Tips must be mailed - No emails or drop-offs will be accepted. Only OTOW residents can submit a "Tip of the Month."



### This month's **Tip of the Month**

It's barbecue time!

For those of you who live in second or third floor condos, don't forget On Top of the World has barbecue grills available behind the East Activity Center in the Pavilion park. Seven of the grills are first-come, first-serve. There are three grills under the Pavilion that can be reserved through the Activities Office. All grills are charcoal based, but On Top of the World maintenance will clean them up when you are done. Don't sit home - barbecue outdoors!

Your name:

Bldng #:

Condo #: (Your last name and address will not be published in OTOW News)



Plant-Based Living Club

#### **Mother Nature** wanted dinner by candlelight

By Ronald A Baltrunas Murphy's Law states "whatever can go wrong, will go wrong."

Well, our Plant-Based Living Club's last potluck dinner proved the truth of the law.

First, we had the Picnic Pavilion for 5 p.m., but a powerful thunderstorm appeared and On Top of the World management closed the Pavilion.

Second, the potluck dinner was moved to the Kitchen in the East Activity Center, but then the power went out!

Undeterred, we turned on our phone flashlights to create a candle-lit ambiance while we enjoyed camaraderie, exceptional whole food, and plant-based food, including tacos, greek salad, rice and beans, quinoa salad and more.

At June's Plant-Based Living Club meeting, we viewed the documentary, "Animal Agriculture and Climate Change." The emphasis was that the greatest impact on reducing climate change, that individuals could possibly do, is to go vegan.

The documentary pointed out that raising livestock for human consumption generates more global greenhouse gas emissions than all the transportation sector emissions combined.

Plus, hunger could be eliminated: we can produce enough food for twice the current population, but today three quarters of that production goes to feeding livestock.

We had a discussion for the newcomers about plant-based diets and especially the nutrition found in sprouts and microgreens, and how easy it is to grow them.

We also talked about a future tour of a local community garden.

We agreed to have another potluck dinner, but a date was not established before the meeting was adjourned. We will coordinate

### **Tossing four consecutive bean bags** into the cornhole is a piece of cake



Here are three of five ladies who recently made four successful cornhole tosses in a row. Left to right are Ann Haskell, Jan Springer and Jan Peterman. Missing are Ann Stewart and Eileen Nelson.



By Margaret LeTourneau Way to go ladies!

Five ladies have won our cornhole award for making four successful tosses in a row!

Ann Haskell, originally from Glasgow, Scotland, moved to Canada as a child, and now enjoys living an active life at On Top of the World. She's an avid tennis and cornhole player. She has three children and six grandchildren.

Jan Springer and her husband, Doug, have two children and have been Snowbirds for seven years. Before moving here from Ohio, Jan enjoyed visiting her parents at On Top of the World for 40 years! Jan excels in dancing, cornhole and golfing.

Janet Peterman and her husband, Charles, are from Long Island, N.Y. They have been Florida residents for three years. They have two children and five grandchildren. Jan loves playing cornhole, line dancing and cardio dancing with the Moving 'n Grooving Club.

Missing from this photo are Ann Stewart and Eileen Nelson.

Ann Stewart, was our first lady gamer to achieve this award. She loves the game and she plays it regularly.

Eileen Nelson, was new to our club when she surprised everyone with her four successful throws.

Congratulations ladies!

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

Why don't you come and join the fun? Let's keep moving and grooving.

the potluck through emails.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, July 7, at 3 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab. We will discuss future meeting activities and possible potluck dinners. For information about veganism/plant

based lifestyle, visit Vegansalvation.com.

To contact a club representative, write to vegans10@yahoo.com

### **OTOW-TV Channel 901**

### **Democratic Club members are educating** ourselves and then passing on what we learn

By Dave Beaven

July is a somewhat slow month around here. It's very hot, so many of us lay low in our condos or go over to the pool to cool off.

But it seems that politics rarely slow down

At this point, many candidates are starting to get themselves organized for elections that are more than a year away.

And political parties are doing the same.

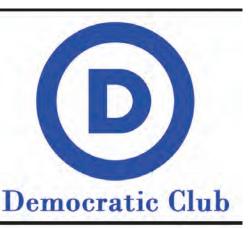
The On Top of the World Democratic Club is an official member of the Pinellas County Democratic Party, so we try to do our part in helping the cause.

Just this past month, the Democratic in Florida. Party had a float and a booth in the St. Petersburg Pride Festival. Our club contributed financially and with volunteer effort to that celebration.

Currently, we are working with county Democrats to contact voters to remind them to renew their mail ballot eligibility. This is due to a recent change by the Florida legislature requiring voters to request to vote by mail every two years.

See allvotingislocal.org for more information.

Click the tab for How To Vote By Mail



In addition, we are collecting petitions on Florida citizens' right to clean water and for sensible policies on abortion access.

Going forward, we are educating ourselves on the issues. Last month, we watched a video presentation about the Democratic Party getting its message out in the most effective way.

Our club will continue to present important messages on our country via live speakers and via video at our meetings to motivate members to do what they can to elect Democrats.



It is summer, but the Democratic Club is still passing out information to residents. Above, Joanne Cordes operates our information table.

But it's not all business.

We also get together every month for a Happy Hour. That's when we sip on an adult beverage and have some good old liberal conversation.

The Democratic Club meets every second Thursday at 2 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab. This month, that would be July 13.

You can also find out more information about our club at our blog page: worlddemsclub.blogspot.com.

Happy Summer!

### New, experimental and controversial program, could someday write a document for you

By Lori Gottshall

Does all the hoopla about artificial intelligence (AI) make you wonder if computers can indeed write books or poetry?

Have you heard about the programs that students are using to write term papers?

Is it cheating?

Writer's Ink writers decided to learn more about it.

In November 2022, a company called OPEN AI launched a powerful advanced chatbot named ChatGPT. It was so successful that it gathered more than 100 million users within the first two months. That beat TikTok's record of nine months for the same number of users!

"Chat" refers to chatbot, the kind of conversational robot that can answer questions.

"GPT" refers to Generative Pre-Trained Transformer. You can Google what that means to get a thorough explanation.

Briefly, these programs use vast sources of data to synthesize and transform raw data into natural human language results.

Just imagine Siri, Cortana or Alexa on steroids.

ChatGPT has a library of templates to help the user make requests to the system. Pick the template that matches your purpose and you are off and running, no training



necessary.

In the experiment at right, the template is bolded and you can see the request as I filled in the blanks:

(see cutout)

Notice that ChatGPT claims to ensure proper English grammar, however, in this example, the grammar has problems. The description of creativity's frequency is questionable and the quote seems out of place.

I tried several iterations using the same template and adjusting words in the request fields. The outputs were varied. I finally went with my own approach but could just as eas**Introductory Paragraph Template** 

Title Creative writers learn to use ChatGPT.

Audience Seniors interested in creative writing.

**Description** A 200-word essay to tell how ChatGPT can be useful to creative writing.

> <u>Keywords</u> Clearing writers block, using unfamiliar content correctly.

#### Actual ChatGPT output

"Creative writing is not just a talent, its an art. Most people have an urge to write, but the ability to write creative content is a rare ability and it appears only to a few talented people. This program is to help creative writing by giving them a chance to express themselves in creative ways.

To quote Mark Twain, "I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them never happened."

of the ChatGPT results.

If you want to share your adventures into ChatGPT, or maybe your own personal

ily have modified or incorporated portions writings, please join us at 1 p.m. on Thursdays in the Dunedin Room of the East Activity Center.

When you are taken out to dinner, you put on your Sunday best. Maybe the same is for birds who go out for a fish dinner?

The scene at right looked like a date at the East Activity Center pond. This photo was taken by our friend Oleg, who spent 10 years as a maintenance employee with On Top of the World. As you admire this picture he took, Oleg has since left us and retired.



Thank you, Oleg, for 10 great years!

### **Improve Your English**

A new class is starting up in June. It will give On Top of the World residents a chance to improve their English - speaking and writing even help people become U.S. citizens.



Classes will be taught by resident Lola Dickert, a professional instructor for communication skills, remedial reading, grammar and speech.

Classes will take place 11:30 am - 1 pm on Thursdays and 9:30 - 11 am on Saturdays in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room. Just show up. Registration is not required. Must have a valid Activity Card.



### **Canadian Club Social Games** BLACKOUT

#### Year Round

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

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

### You might run into a Boomer at Third Friday

By Dianne Dvorak

Safety Harbor closes a large section of Main Street every third Friday for "Third Friday."

There are local bands, food and merchandise vendors, and several sections of the road are blocked for people to walk.

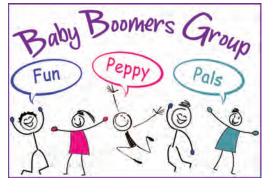
On May 19, several Baby Boomers went specifically to see our own Lewis Michaels play piano in the group Voices of Jazz, a classic big band and swing jazz band that also plays modern arrangements of popular tunes.

We are proud of our friend, Lewis, who also played guitar and accordion leading us Baby Boomers in the Irish Parade for many years.

Voices of Jazz is based in Dunedin and has been playing in the Tampa Bay Area for 16 years. It is a non-profit organization and strives to award \$1000 scholarships to two high school musicians each year.

We'll be enjoying Voices of Jazz again for sure.

On May 26 some of our Baby Boomers went to see the Rays versus Dodgers and



got a free Reversible Bucket Hat. We saw our fabulous Tampa Bay Rays win in a great action-packed game.

As of going to press, our Rays remained the best team in the Major Leagues and Tropicana Field is a lot of fun with air conditioning!

The Baby Boomers group is not a club with dues and officers. It is a meet-up group with communication via email.

All group members who join us are encouraged to come meet up and enjoy one of our fun ideas. Also, members are encouraged to come up with ideas and post them to the



Lewis Michaels (far right on keyboard) plays piano with Voices of Jazz while other Baby Boomers enjoy a recent performance at the Safety Harbor Gazebo.

group email.

Being in the Baby Boomers group is a while having fun inside and outside the community

If you are interested in meeting people and getting in the loop, you must come to a meeting. They are very low key, especially in up!

the summer.

OTOW Baby Boomers meetings are way to get to know other OTOW residents twice a month, on the first Wednesday and on the third Thursday of the month. So for July, it will be July 5 and July 20 in the Largo Room at the East Activity Center.

Have a great summer everyone and Rays

### **Republican Club wants everyone to know** what each elected official does in office

#### By Carl Turner

The Republican Club is pursuing a conservative education program for the residents of On Top of the World.

In 2023 we are asking elected officials to speak at our meetings and explain what they do.

Next year, prior to the 2024 primary, we will be introducing conservative candidates and have them explain what they plan to do if elected into office.

So far we have had Pinellas County Commissioner Brian Scott, District 3 School Board Rep Dawn Peters, Pinellas County GOP Party Chairman Adam Ross, and State House District 58 Rep Kim Berfield in attendance.

This month we will have Pinellas County Property Appraiser Mike Twitty on hand.

The June 13 Ronald Reagan Republican Club meeting was called to order by Presdient Carl Turner, who led us in prayer. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Tom Huffman and the singing of "God Bless America" by Jim and Maureen Bjorgo.



A comment was made that veterans deserve a recognition month not a day.

It was noted that according to the Democratic Club writeup in the On Top of the World News, they had a Democratic Socialist for their speaker, which is very different from the conservative principles of our club.

Our secretary, Ann Mesoma, and her husband, are moving, so if any Republican here would like to apply for that position, please let us know.



The minutes from the May meeting were read by Secretary Ann Messina and approved. Treasurer Karen Tatge reported a balance of \$1,940.94.

Our club members then discussed two proposed bylaw changes and voted with both changes approved. The annual dues will increase to \$15 per year and the regular business meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m.

Under New Business, Tom Huffman noted that from a Memorial Day Service he attended in Ohio, patriotism is still strong.

Kim Berfield, state representative for District 58 was our guest speaker. Kim gave an update on legislation being worked on and what was new. Kim discussed both Senate and House bills.

Of special interest was State Bill 154 -The Condo Inspection Bill. We are encouraged by Kim's dedication to conservative values.

Please join us on the second Tuesday of the month in the Bellaire Room of the West Activity Center to learn about our Republi-

Ronald Regan Republican Club President Carl Turner poses for a picture with Florida House District 58 Rep Kim Berfield after the club's meeting last month.

can Club and information on your property tax from Mike Twitty, the Pinellas County Property Appraiser.

For more information, contact carlmarvinturner@gmail.com or call Carl Turner at 443-624-9303.

### **On Top of the World Official Website** otowclearwaterinfo.com



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### French class has been very successful in its first season - learning to sing is very helpful

By Jean-Paul Reymont

Since the French Language and Culture Society's initiation and first session, which began on April 6, our group has come a long way in so short a time.

Personally, I had no idea that our community members would have such an interest in the French language as well as French culture, but I knew they would always have a soft heart for French wine and French cuisine.

I use a different instruction method than what is common in most schools. We start with a short introduction with the mission of the sessions, then with a moment of humor.

Someone will tell a joke or I shall tell a joke and that gets the class laughing and ready to carry on.

The joke is usually about situations in France or difficulties facing Americans in France or Québec.

For example, the name of a French professor is Monsieur Bellemare. He always tells his students to pronounce his last name as Monsieur "Bellmaar" not "Belle-mère" (which in English means mother-in law).

So the professor emphasizes in each first class: "I am not anyone's mother-in-law!"

Then we go to learn basic words and vocabulary for shopping, going to a restaurant, renting a car, French wines, and French cooking.

Recently we had a professional speaker, Madame Joan Galante, who presented our group with proper instructions on how to make a good Quiche Lorraine.

Our participants were really enthralled with her knowledge of French cuisine and her detailed explanations.

The third part of our session is when one of the participants gives a 10 minute talk on a French subject in French and English, or just in English.



**Culture Society** 

We have already had speakers of the society talking about their experiences in France or with French people.

This was important since their encounters were always positive instead of negative.

There is so much to talk about when it comes to French culture.

Some people do not know that France is America's first and longest ally.

The French gave us the Statue of Liberty and the Americans helped them in turn free their country during the two world wars.

During our class there's a 5-10 minute showing of a French film. These film extracts are often followed by singing French songs such as "Alouette, gentille alouette," "Sur le pont d'Avignon," "Joyeuse anniversaire (Happy Birthday)" and "La mer."

I found out that it is often easier to re-



During a recent class, Participants Debby Mayo (on the left) and Madeleine Fontaine (on the right) with Jean-Paul Reymont (the host-instructor). Debby is holding a picture of the French supersonic Concord plane and Madeleine is showing a painting of Montmartre with the famous white Sacré-Coeur (Sacred Heart of Jesus) Church in the background.

member French words when singing than when just trying to speak them.

The sessions will have a summer break beginning after July 20 and will resume on 10:30 until 11:30 a.m. in the East Activity Sept. 7.

On July 13, there will be a short film in French followed by a pot luck dinner to celebrate a French national holiday, which is on July 14.

July 20 will be the last session until Sept. 7.

Sessions are held on Thursdays from Center Dunedin Room.

On July 28, into the month of August, tutoring sessions will be held at the same time (10:30 a.m.) in the Dunedin Room. Call 727-601 2182 for more information.





Artwork by Mary Cordero

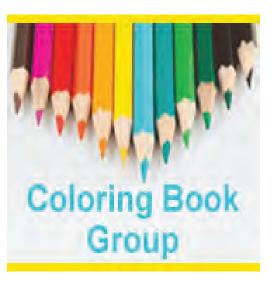
### It's 90 degrees outside stay cool indoors with us!

#### By Elsie Paulan

Fireworks and picnics will get us started this month, but if it gets too hot for you outside you can always join the Coloring Book group in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

Not only do we stay cool, but we have fun and silly conversations and of course creative hands at work. The fun begins at noon and lasts until 3 p.m. or whenever your hands give out.

This month's featured picture has been created by Mary Cordero, who is a fairly new On Top of the World resident. It's been great having her join us.





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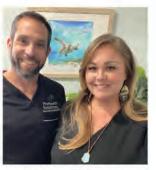
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#### Page 32 / July 2023

#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS



### How does a game finish in a 7-7-7 tie? You are about to find out

#### By Bob Rittner

During the final month of the On Top of the World softball season, one game score ended Red 7, Blue 7, White 7.

How did we get to this score?

It was a combination of airtight defense balancing powerful offenses.

Red broke out to a five-run lead in the fourth inning. The biggest hits were Ralph Scunziano's triple driving in Jim Tiano (who singled), followed by Bill Lepping's RBI single, a walk to Terry Murphy and Joe Incorvia's RBI single.

An earlier rally had been stopped short when Charles Kovarik made an outstanding stop on a tricky grounder so that Red remained within striking distance for Blue and White.

It was then Blue's turn to score.

In the fourth and fifth innings, both teams pulled to within one run, scoring three runs in the fifth inning after Bob Rittner led off with a hard single up the middle and was followed by a Bob Dembinski single, a Bob Studwell double and singles by Lenny Segall and Ron Shields.

Again, defense kept the game close as Gille Chartrand raced far to his left to snag a deep fly ball and Mary Anne Benuzzi drifted back to get under and catch a mile high popup behind second base.

The White team's offense had been dormant, but then broke through with two runs as Ron Nobile singled, Bob Voigt drove a long double up the left field alley, Bob Fields continued a perfect day with another line drive single and Gille Chartrand chipped in a long double to bring two runs home.

The rally ended on a sinking line drive



over shortstop when middle infielder Tara Gunning, who never gave up, managed to flash to the spot and, fully stretched out, caught a ball for the third out.

All the offenses then opened up.

Red went ahead 7-4-2 with two runs as George Webb blasted a ball to the fence in center field for a double and Ralph drove a liner over the fence for a two-run homer.

Fine defense by pitcher Guy Bertuzzi and Dennis Kuvalanka held Red from further scoring.

Blue then tied the game on four consecutive singles by Eddie Ramirez, Don Mandeville, Bob Rittner and Bob Dembinski, and a culminating double by Bob Studwell.

White crept closer, scoring one run on Roger Martel's single, Bill Lepping's double and a sacrifice fly by Henry Zussman, but a great throw and catch by Ralph to catcher Jim Tiano got a critical out - it was Jim's third putout at home plate tying a league record.

George Morgan made a brilliant catch deep outfield. of an apparent home run ball to stop the rally.

In the last inning, neither Red nor Blue could score, keeping the game at 7-7-3.

Roger Martel, who made what seemed an impossible catch of a deep fly ball, helped stop Blue from scoring.

Now, in the White team's last at bat, four runs scored for a three-way tie.

After the first batter flied out, Reggie Phelan hit a single up the middle and Bob Voigt smacked a line drive double down the left field line. With men on second and third, Bob Fields lined a single over the infield for one run, Melvin Tennille smashed a clean single over third base for a second run and Roger Martel singled to center to bring White to within one run.

Now, Mary Anne Benuzzi came up with the bases still loaded and her team down by one. She drilled a hard single into left center field to create a triple-seven-tie and end the contest.

#### Blue 11, Red 9, White 8

What do you look for in a third baseman?

You want someone with quick reflexes (it is the hot corner after all) and a strong arm.

Meet archetype Eddie Ramirez, who throws people out from foul ground after stopping short hops backhanded.

What do you look for in a left fielder?

You want someone fast enough to get to line drives and long flies, smart enough to throw to the right base and with a strong enough arm to reach second base from the

Meet archetype Bob Studwell, who caught a series of balls on the run and doubled a runner off second base with a perfect peg

What do you look for in a center fielder?

You want someone who can throw bullets on a fly to home plate after stopping screaming hits in his territory.

Meet archetype Barry Yellits, who threw a line drive from the deep outfield to nail a runner at the plate.

What do you look for in a catcher?

You want someone who has quick reflexes to glove foul tips and also the flexibility to reach for throws to the plate while keeping one foot planted for the out.

Meet archetype Kathi Finley, who gives fielders confidence to throw the ball home knowing she will catch anything near her and then make sure no other runner moves up a base.

What do you look for in a middle infielder?

You want someone who can range far and wide to corral hits up the middle and can pivot to get double plays.

Meet archetype Tara Gunning, who completed two unassisted double plays with bullet-throws to first base after stopping hard smashes over second base.

What do you look for in teammates?

Meet archetypes, the On Top of the World softball team - people who support each other and compete fiercely, but with good humor and a love for the game.

We create friendships.

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### If you can swing a club, you belong in our league - your greatest opponent is you

By Ken Smith

Do you think you lack the necessary golf skills to play in the Friday Mixed Golf League?

I once overheard someone say, "I am not good enough."

If this is your reason for not playing, look in the mirror. The person you see in the mirror is your opponent each week.

The Friday Mixed Golf League uses the Stableford Quota system, which means you play against yourself each week.

The winners are determined by how many points you accumulate above your quota.

Your quota is determined after you play two rounds and then the average of your latest five rounds.

During weekly play, you receive four points for an eagle, three points for a birdie, two points for par and one point for a bogey. The ball is picked up after the bogey to speed the pace of play.

Our league members tee off at 9 a.m.



using a shotgun start. A round is normally played in less than three and a half hours. All On Top of the World residents and guests are welcome to join. If your Friday mornings are free, join us for some relaxed competitive ting. For more information about the league, email Harry Barbin at harrybarbin1@gmail.

#### Results Friday, June 2

First place was Bill Whipps with a plus five. Second place was Sheryl Barbin with a plus four. Third place was Andy Watson with a plus three. Fourth place was Bill Higgins with a plus two and fifth place was Paul Meyers with a plus two.

Ties were broken by matching cards.

Closest to the pin on hole No. 3 was Bruce MacPherson, on hole No. 5 was Andy Polselli, on hole No. 6 was Jerry Fugatt, on hole No. 9 was Andy Polsell, on hole No. 13 was Andy Watson, on hole No. 15 was Bill Higgins, and on hole No. 16 was Sheryl Barbin.

Skins were recorded by Bruce MacPher-

golf. We play every Friday, weather permit- son on hole No. 3, Sheryl Barbin on hole No. 7, Pete Cosgrove on hole No. 9, Jahn Lawson on hole No. 13 and Andy Polselli on hole No. 14.

> Low gross was Bruce MacPherson and Harry Barbin both with 67.

#### Friday, June 9

First place was Tim Carr with a plus eight. Second place was Mike Palermo with a plus seven. Third place was Marj Olsen with a plus seven. Fourth place was Joe Johnson with a plus six, Fifth place was Ron Lafond with a plus six.

Ties were broken by matching cards.

Closest to the pin on holes No. 3, No. 5 and No. 9 was Bruce MacPherson, on hole No. 6 was Lisa Muchler, on hole No. 13 was Harry Barbin, on hole No. 15 was Tim Carr, and on hole No. 16 was Warren Levene.

Skins were recorded by Andy Polselli on hole No. 3, by Paul Meyers on hole No. 7, and by Warren Levene on hole No. 16.

### Gerald Morrissette's 9-iron helps with ace

#### By Barney Hanrahan

Gerald Morrissette followed up Jack Souza's success last month with his own hole-inone

On May 10, Gerald sunk an ace on hole No. 15 using a 9-iron. Congratulations to Gerald.

Here is a list of recent results:

#### May 17 Flight A

First Place: Mike Crittendon, 63, Stanley Doran, 63, followed by Roger Amundson, 65, Mike Schuyler, 66, John Taylor, 66.

#### Flight B

First Place: Ron Lafond, 62, Tim Finan, 62, followed by Marc Schell, 64, Bob Beals, 65, Bob Livingston,65.

#### Flight C

First Place: Harry Crawford, 57, followed by Dave Combs, 62, Jerry Jordon, 64, Sal Vasa- 65, Roy Monteith, 65. polle, 64, Chuck McAllister.

#### Flight B

First Place: Guy Bertuzzi, 59, followed by Andy Poselli, 60, Daniel Morey, 61, Tom Sullivan, 65, Ronal Huber, 65.

#### Flight C

First Place: Joe Johnson, 57, followed by Gerald Morrissette, 62, Dave Combs, 63, Chuck McAllister, 64, Harry Crawford, 65,

#### Flight D

First Place: Joe Ventimiglia, 62, followed by Tim Palmquist, 63, Sonny Morris, 64, Les Meneilly, 67, Henry Rejman, 67.

#### May 31

#### Flight A

First Place: Jim Anzalone, 59, followed by Jay Schwallie, 62, Mike Schuyler, 62, Bill Whipps, 62, Stanley Doran, 63.

#### Flight B

First Place: Tom Sullivan, 61, followed by Marc Schell, 61, Ron Lafond, 63, Andy Polselli,

#### Flight C

Stanley Doran, 63, John Taylor, 64, Jim Anzalone, 67, Bill Haener, 68.

#### Flight B

First Place: Andy Poselli, 57, followed by Jay Schwallie, 64, Ron Lafond, 65, Jerry Fugatt, 65, Roy Monteith, 65.

#### Flight C

First Place: Chuck McAllister, 57, followed by Bob McGrogan, 62, Jerry Jordan, 62, Sal Vasapolle, 67, Joe Ventimiglia, 67.

#### Flight D

First Place: Jay Laracuente, 60, followed by Henry Rejman, 63, Les Meneilly, 64, Tim Palmquist, 66, Walter Murray, 66.

#### June 14 Flight A

First Place: Bill Haener, 64, followed by Mike Crittendon, 65, David Johnson, 65, John Taylor, 66, Bill Whipps, 66.

#### Flight B

First Place: Andy Polselli, 61, followed by Ronald Huber, 62, Ron Lafond, 62, Tom Sullivan, 63, Bob Beals, 64.



#### Flight D

First Place: Henry Rejman, 59, Alex Miller, 61, Phil Perez, 61, Joe Ventimiglia, 62, Bob Kinchla, 65.

#### May 24

Flight A First Place: Stanley Doran, 61, followed by David Johnson, 63, Jerry Fugatt, 64, John Taylor, 65, Jim Anzalone, 66.

Flight C: Ken Nield, 61, followed by Bob McGrogan, 66, Harry Crawford, 66, Chuck McAllister, 66, Joe Johnson, 67.

#### Flight D

First Place: Henry Rejman, 54, followed by Sonny Morris, 57, Phil Perez, 59, C.J. Messina, 60, Irving Hernandez, 62. **June** 7

Flight A

First Place: Nilson Sabadin, 62, followed by

#### Flight C

First Place: Jerry Jordan, 61, Chuck McAllister, 61, followed by John Gill, 62, Ken Nield, 62, Dave Combs, 64.

#### Flight D

First Place: Phil Smerz, 62, followed by Jay Laracuente, 64, Tim Palmquist, 64, Henry Rejman, 67, Joseph Dowe, 67.





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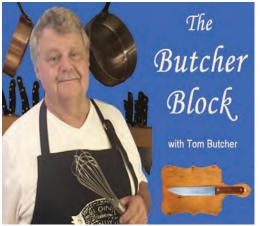
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### Italian culinary traditions are famous around the world



Italy is a country of great diversity. Its long Mediterranean coastline encloses a landscape of fertile plains, forest-covered mountains and arid rocks.

From the hot, dry south to the cool Alpine foothills, the climate varies markedly. So do the local crops: rice, corn and ham are northern staples, while olives, durum wheat and tomatoes thrive in the southern heat.

Not to mention all of the different verities of grape for making great Italian wines.

A great deal of Italian food comes from the Contadino, or Peasant heritage.

The best combines fresh ingredients with simple cooking techniques.

Meats, fish and vegetables are flavored with fresh herbs and olive oil, and boiled or baked.

Aromatic sauces can often be assembled in the time it takes pasta to boil.

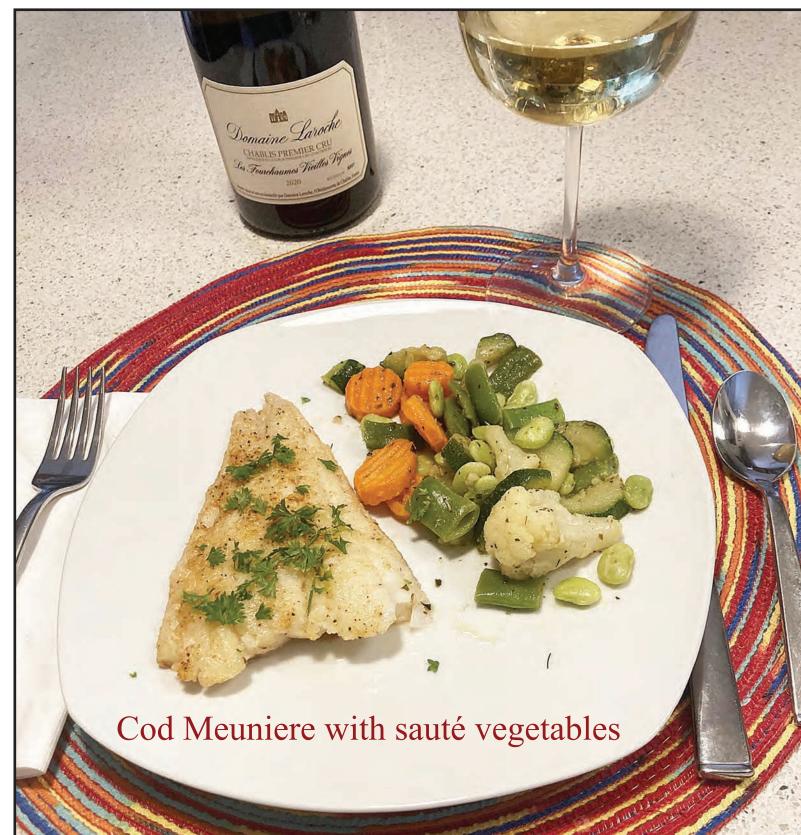
The Italian diet, which is high in vegetables and carbohydrates, and low in animal fat, is a healthy one.

It also tastes exceptionally good.

The many regions of Italy contribute to a rich culinary tradition that is one of the most popular in the world - from the colorful dishes of Venice, through the hearty Tuscan dishes at the heart of Italy, to the fish and seafood of Sicily.

Each region has its own specialty, but each is based on the use of fresh local ingredients to create flavorful dishes.

Delicate cheeses, aromatic herbs, homemade sausages and cured meats, and a wide range of fresh vegetables combine to create a national cuisine rich in variety and character.



#### Slice of Tenderloin with Balsamic Vinegar

This quick and simple dish always makes a great impression, even for an elegant dinner party

#### Ingredients

2 tablespoons butter 4 slices of beef tenderloin 5 ounces each salt and pepper 1 shallot, finely chopped 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar 1 tablespoon cornstarch

### **Cod Meuniere**

The delicate flavor of Cod makes it one of the most highly prized of all fish.

#### Directions

Melt the butter in a skillet over high heat. When it is foaming, add the shallot and then the meat. Cook for about 4 minutes each side. Pour in the balsamic vinegar and season with salt and pepper. Cook for 1-2 minutes more. Set the meat aside in a warm oven. Return the cooking juices to the heat until they foam, then stir in the cornstarch. Pour the sauce over the meat and serve hot with a green salad.

#### Spaghetti with Garlic and Oil

This is one of the simplest and most satisfying pasta dishes of all.

#### Ingredients

1 pound spaghetti 3 cloves garlic, chopped 6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil 4 tablespoons fresh parsley

#### Directions

Drop the spaghetti into a large pot of boiling salt water.

In a large skillet, heat the oil and gently sauté the garlic until it is barely golden. Do not let it brown or it will taste bitter. Stir in the parsley. Season with salt and pepper. Remove from the heat until the pasta is ready.

Drain the pasta when it is barely al dente. Pour the spaghetti into the skillet with the oil and garlic, and cook together for 2-3 minutes, stirring well to coat the spaghetti with the sauce. Serve at once with the grated Parmesan cheese.

#### **Simple Tomato Sauce**

Oil-based tomato sauce goes well with all dried, hard-wheat pasta, such as spaghetti, penne, bucatini and fusilli. It is also good with spinach and whole wheat pasta.

#### Ingredients

- 3 garlic cloves finely chopped2 tablespoons fresh basil leaves, torn1 small onion chopped2 stalk celery
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil 1 28 ounces can chopped tomatoes 2 carrots chopped

#### Directions

Combine the olive oil, garlic, onion, carrots in a large skillet and sauté over medium heat until the vegetables are soft. Add the basil and tomatoes. Season with salt and pepper, simmer for about 15-20 minutes, or until the oil begins to separate from the tomatoes.

#### Ingredients

4 pieces, 8 ounces Cod
1 cup of all-purpose flour
4 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil salt and white pepper
juice of 2 lemons
1/2 cup dry white wine
1 tablespoon parsley, finely chopped

#### Directions

Lightly flour the cod just before cooking. Melt the butter with the oil in a large skillet and fry the cod for 3-4 minutes each side, turning them carefully twice.

Season lightly with salt and pepper.

Moisten with the lemon juice and wine and cook for another four minutes.

Turn the cod in the sauce and sprinkle with the parsley. Place on a preheated serving platter.

Pour the pan juices over the top and serve with boiled peas sautéed in garlic and parsley

#### Pasta with Coppa and Eggs

#### Ingredients

2 tablespoons butter 2 eggs, lightly beaten 4 ounces coppa, cut into 2 inch matchsticks 1 pound pasta 1 cup freshly grated parmesan

#### Directions

In a skillet heat the butter and sauté the coppa pieces for 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from the heat and set aside.

Cook the pasta until al dente, then drain and put it in a heated dish. Keep warm. Return the skillet (with the coppa in it) to the heat. Add beaten eggs to the coppa and stir as you would for scrambled eggs. Then pour the egg and coppa mixture onto the pasta at the precise moment when the eggs are beginning to thicken so that they present a slightly granulated appearance without being as thick as scrambled eggs. Stir the pasta mixture with a wooden spoon so that the egg and coppa mixture is evenly distributed, add half the parmesan cheese, and serve immediately with the remaining parmesan cheese separately.`

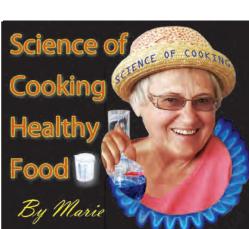
July 2023/ Page 35

### Kidney beans are as much of a holiday tradition as the Fourth of July holiday itself

This food column comes with a warning! Baked kidney beans are a classic side dish for meat on a Fourth of July gathering.

Beans were one of the three sister plants known to the native Americans who may have provided the Pilgrims with beans. Baked beans have been a staple throughout New England since the time of the Pilgrims, not to mention in the rest of the colonies.

Pilgrims found beans helpful because they could be prepared the night before and served as a "convenience" food on the Sabbath day, which Pilgrims devoted to worship. It is quite likely beans were on the menu for the very first July 4th celebration.



Email questions, suggestions and comments to Marie marieshealthyfood@gmail.com

There are several ways to cook baked kidneys and many different recipes.

This column focuses on dried kidney beans. But why fool with dried beans?

Dried beans are less expensive and taste better than canned beans. They have a firmer texture that is superior to mushy canned texture. They can be stored in dried form without losing nutritional value.

There are several ways to flavor kidney beans:

Beans have very little fat so add fat for flavor.

It is tasty to simmer them in a broth or sauce.

Add aromatics such as onions, garlic, and celery.

If you want to give cooked kidney beans a more robust flavor, you can sauté them in oil. This will give them a crispy texture and allow them to absorb the flavors of the oil.

You can also roast cooked kidney beans in the oven. This will give them a nutty flavor and a slightly crunchy texture.

#### The Health Value

Kidney beans are a good source of protein and fiber. They can be used as a replacement for meat in many recipes.

Beans are high in antioxidants. They contain probiotic strains, as well as a few vitamins and minerals. They are an excellent choice for healthy and nutritious meals.

When dried red kidney beans are not properly cooked, they contain toxic levels of lectin protein which can cause vomiting, diarrhea and gastrointestinal problems for several hours.

Dried red kidney beans are the only beans with sufficient concentration to temporarily harm humans. BUT it's simple to remove the toxic levels of lectin in beans by cooking at boiling temperature. To be safe, scientists recommend 30 minutes at 212 degrees farenheit.

Warning: Don't use a slow cooker for cooking dried kidney beans. It likely won't get hot enough, even on a high setting (1) Studies of slow cooker casseroles demonstrated that the internal temperature on a high setting didn't typically exceed 167 degrees.(2)

#### The Science

Soaking beans overnight is critical. If you have no time for overnight soaking, place them in very hot water and let them soak for four to five hours. When the beans are plump and slightly softened, throw away the soaking water. Soaking beans before cooking them can help reduce the cooking time and it can also help to make them more digestible. Additionally, soaking beans can help remove some of the indigestible sugars that can cause gas and bloating. Soaking breaks down the bean's cell walls and the proteins are dissolved by water inside the bean. As a result, the kidney bean has a softer, more edible texture. The beans will become creamier and more tender.



#### Tangy "Baked" beans Ingredients

 $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon Worcestershire sauce 1 teaspoon mustard powder 1 teaspoon minced garlic 1 tablespoon bourbon (optional)

8 ounces dried kidney beans

 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup catsup

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup chopped onions

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup firmly packed light brown sugar

2 tablespoon apple cider vinegar

1 tablespoon yellow mustard

After soaking, rinse and drain.

Place unused ones in a freezer bag, squeeze out the extra air and freeze them for later use. They can be frozen for months for later cooking.

Kidney beans are challenging to tenderize. A couple of tips to help tenderize beans is to add baking soda to the soaking brine. Baking soda also helps tenderize beans by speeding the deterioration of pectin, essential to plant cell structure and strength. Use 1/4 teaspoon per pound of dried beans.

If you're using hard water, this same amount of baking soda offsets the effects of high calcium and magnesium. Beware that too much baking soda can taste like soap, so measure carefully.

- Directions
- 1. Rinse beans and inspect for stones.
- 2. Overnight soak dry beans in a brine of 3-4 cups water, 1 teaspoon each of salt and <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon baking soda.
- 3. Next morning, drain and rinse beans.
- 4. Add 3 cups of water to beans, bring to boil, then cover and simmer for 40 minutes.
- 5. Drain from cooked beans any excess water.
- 6. Mix catsup and remaining ingredients except bourbon.
- 7. Stir in catsup mixture and cover. Simmer for another 30 minutes until slightly thickened.
- 8. Add bourbon when cooking finished.

Serves 3-4

Beans have a long shelf life of extended 2-3 years. Beyond that time, they may become impossibly tough. A teaspoon of baking soda in 3 cups of hot water may tenderize a cup of aged dried beans.

Another possible cause for tough beans is acid. They can react with the starch in the cell and prevent the cell from swelling. This is why even after hours of cooking, the beans remain hard.(3) So, add acidic ingredients only when the beans are tender towards the end of cooking. Otherwise, it will not be possible to fix the hard beans. Acidic ingredients include onions, tomatoes/tomato sauce, wine, vinegar, lemon juice.

(1) https://fda.gov (2) tastingtable.com (3) thekitchentablebywhite.com

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



otowboxoffice.com (look for the Past Recipes link)

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# COMMUNITY REPORTS



# **'Taps Across America' finds a trumpet player at the Nagoya building**





A nationwide salute sounded from sea to sea, over mountain tops, and across prairies on Memorial Day.

Thousands of 2023 Taps Across America musicians simultaneously played "Taps" at 3 p.m. throughout the United States.

On Top of the World was a link in this million-mile musical chain thanks to Laurie LeClaire, a resident of the Nagoya Building.

From the second floor, Laurie trumpeted "Taps" that sounded solemnly across the golf course as a reminder to take a moment to remember fallen service members.

Taps Across America debuted in 2020.

"On the Road" correspondent, Steve Hartman, and Air Force bugler, Jari Villanueva, brainstormed the idea during COVID pandemic days when Americans could not get together to observe Memorial Day.

The two invited buglers and musicians throughout the country to sound "Taps" from their front porches all at the same time.

More than 10,000 musicians reported joining in from all parts of the United States the first year.

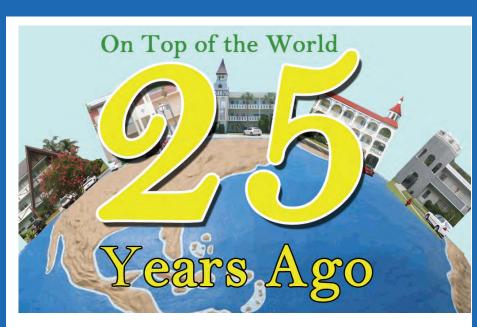
Please note, both the East and West side swimming pools will be open the Fourth of July from 9 am to 7 pm More and more front porch musicians tuned during following years.

The founders are proud that Taps Across America brings the country together and offers everyone an opportunity to remember and reflect on the true spirit of Memorial Day.

Thank you, Laurie, for your inspiration. Everyone be sure to turn an ear to the Nagoya Building at 3 p.m. next year on Memorial Day.



https://www.tapsacrossamerica.org/



# July 1998

#### By Dave Hart

Columbia Club: Just a bit of information to all members. The Columbus Dinner Dance will be held on Sunday, Oct. 11, 1998. Tickets will go on sale beginning Thursday, Sept. 10, 1998. The price for tickets will be \$12 per person. The affair will be a buffet dinner served by O'Houlihan's Caterers. Music for dancing will be furnished by the Bill Jasko Trio. So, mark your calendars and pass the word around.

Good Neighbors: Our Sunshine Lady, Virginia Boller, gave her report which showed that she is doing a fine job in comforting those who are called to her attention. A kind word carries a lot of weight. Please help Virginia by letting her be aware of our OTOW neighbors who would appreciate kind thoughts from friends. We missed Rev. Karl Goldberg at our last meeting. We wish our chaplain a pleasant summer for him and his family. Our "knitting" group of ladies continue working ceaselessly by creating useful articles for the Bay Pines Veterans and others. We cannot thank these ladies enough for their efforts in remembering those folks less fortunate than us.

Ladies Tennis: Our resident Jack of all Trades, George Shenkel, has informed me that refinishing benches and tables on court 2 will soon be in progress. We appreciate your artistry, George, keep up the good work. Windscreen plans are not in evidence at this point, however. Hot weather notes: Get out early, drink plenty of water, stop when you are too warm, never mind the score, get out early next day, wear a hat. Have fun! So long for now. Don't forget the breakfast meeting at the Family Restaurant on the fourth Friday -- you know the time.



Lucille and Donald Reeves with their Fourth of July decorations.

# **OK** ... so it's not an eagle - it is red, white and blue

If you don't have a flag, you can wear a red, white and blue hat for the Fourth of July.

And if you don't have an eagle - well - I guess you can proudly display a parrot!

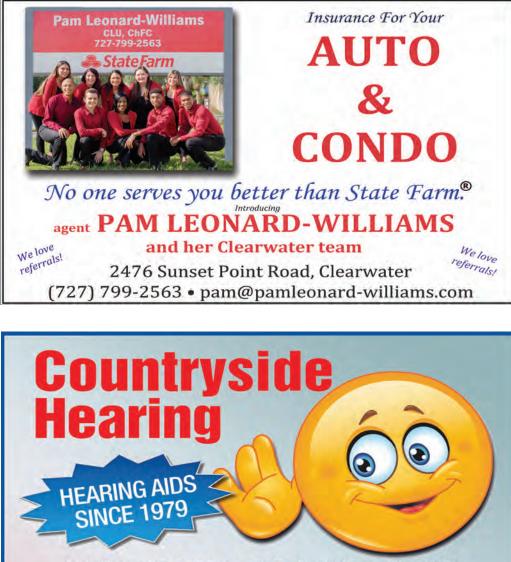
Donald Reeves and his wife, Lucille, have lived at On Top of the World since 2011. For the past 13 years, they have been celebrating our national birthday with their dog, Ginger, a shih poo, who is everyone's friend.

Lucille is from the Philippines and Don works full-time in a machine shop. Neither misses the chance to celebrate our country's birthday.

True, Lucille and Don don't have a traditional eagle to decorate the outside of their and is as big as a flag. If you see it, you know condo. But their parrot is red, white and blue



that's the Reeves' place.



Men's Golf: A hole in one on the first hole was made by Ed Halley on May 18, 1998, and was witnessed by the members of his foursome. Congrats to Ed! On May 20, 1998, the Men's Golf Association held a three-club tournament. Hot dogs, hamburgers, beer and soda or pop were served. The bun man was Layton Brayman; cooking hot dogs, Troy Vincent; hamburgers, Joe Vitello, with Ray Duranti as standby; pop or soda, Frank Giarrizzi, Don Bianco, Ray DePrisco; beer, Ernie Kilgore, Hasty Surbeck, Herb Cervinka; ice, Jean Blake; check-in list, Spencer Turner and Willis Hamilton. Everything was cooked to perfection. Everyone enjoyed themselves thanks to all the great workers we "employ." We have quite a payroll with all this free help! Also, thanks to all the computer help from Arch Klein, Tom King and Al Lauschke, plus all the desk workers.

Danish Modern: Irene Collin Ruth Dando and her daughter-in-law, Nora, went on a whirlwind tour of Europe recently. They flew into London, saw the White Cliffs of Dover going in, and had a coach tour of the city, seeing Buckingham Palace, the famous Tower and Crown Jewels and Big Ben. They found time for shopping at Harrods, then it was on to Amsterdam, with its beautiful Harbor basin, then to Germany and a cruise on the Rhine. Many other European sites were visited, too numerous to list here. Welcome back to OTOW!

Royal Chateau: Our building is starting to empty out somewhat. At least three or four families are heading north or are there already. See you next fall. The rest of the summer most of us remaining will be taking short trips to visit families. With the temperatures hitting 90° already we will have a long summer. I am sure we have already noticed less traffic on highways and more seats in restaurants. For those of us who golf you also notice it on the golf course. No news in the in-box when I checked, so this write-up will be short. I'll close with a quote by American writer Elbert Hubbard, "Every man is a fool for at least five minutes every day; wisdom consists of not exceeding the speed limit." Keep cool, stay healthy and happy.

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# Just outside our gates are clubs in the county that do a ton of good

Donna Brenner has been a resident in On Top of the World for 3.5 years.

She moved from San Diego when it became too expensive to live there.

At OTOW, she is very social with her building neighbors, sister and brother-in-law (who also live in OTOW) and participates in many of the building activities. She enjoys spending time at the pool and cafe.

She also enjoys Lenny Segal's and Kathy Ahren's barbeque and karaoke parties and their Christmas extravaganza decorations and celebrations.

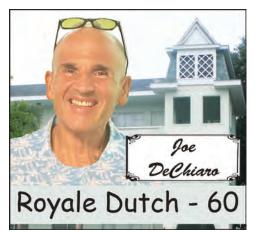
What she enjoys most are the people here at OTOW who are not only friendly, but really care about each other and look out for one another.

More than two years ago, Donna became a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the North Pinellas Woman's Club (GFWC NPWC).

The purpose of this club is to improve the community by volunteering time and financial resources through programs and fundraising. That effort supports numerous local charities and groups in Pinellas County and beyond.

Although the club is for women, they do not discriminate against others who may be interested in participating in the group activities.

GFWC hosts several events during the year whereby their members volunteer to



help. Community service and programs include Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education, Health and Wellness, Domestic Violence Awareness, Environment, Advocates for Children, Human Trafficking Awareness, Breast Cancer Comfort Pillows and Book Fairy.

Plus, there are many social activities throughout the year.

Donna is currently a "Member At Large" the liaison between the members and the board of directors.

"The benefits of community service in GFWC not only makes a person feel good, but it helps to build meaningful friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime," she said.

Something that may be of interest for any of the residents to do is to participate in this year's National Day of Service on Sept.



Donna Brenner is as busy as ever with events and functions in our area.

30. The focus will be food insecurity.

GFWC NPWC is asking all interested to assist by dropping off non-perishable food at one of our local drop off locations

which is Heritage United Methodist Church, 2680 Landmark Drive, Clearwater. For more information contact: mfisher2018@gmail.com.

# Flamenco reserves a day to remember those who gave us our freedoms



Every day in Florida is beautiful and free. But residents at the Flamenco building wanted to make sure one day was reserved just to remember how free we really are.

Our residents always take at least one day to pay tribute to the brave soldiers and sailors who fought for this country.

Those who made the sacrifice helped make each day full of the freedoms we take advantage of.



Like most Americans, Flamenco celebrated with our annual delicious barbeque.

Nothing fancy.

There were hamburgers, hotdogs and endless desserts. There was more food than we could possibly eat.

We sat outside enjoying the nourishing afternoon sun thankful for all our good fortunes.

It was almost like Thanksgiving on Memorial Day.

# Siboney is still doing lunches during the summer



Well, the rainy season has begun so remember to pack a umbrella in your car or your backpack.

Here in the Siboney building, all is quiet except we are having luncheons at local restaurants in Clearwater or the surrounding area

Please sign-up and the sheet will be available on our information bulletin board.

All residents are welcome and you may bring a guest. We appreciate the selections that Lyn Taecker makes with help from residents and the reservations she makes for us.

There are many things in our commu-



This was the view everyone had when the Veterans group took a dinner cruise near Clearwater Beach.

nity to keep us busy so why not check out the activity calendar in our community newspaper and you will be surprised that so many classes and sports activities are available.

Why not join in the fun and meet your neighbors?

I am a water aerobics instructor and I would like to meet more people, so please come out to the East Activity Center pool at 9 a.m. Monday through Friday. It is an hour class and I guarantee you will enjoy it.

Anyone with a valid activity card is welcome.

Are you prepared for hurricane season? Please read the newspaper and find information on getting prepared for this season.

I recently joined the Veterans Group and they are helpful with information about

benefits and will supply all resources needed. They have meetings with speakers from different organizations in the community.

Recently they had a fun trip on a dinner cruise at Clearwater Beach.

Hope everyone has a great Fourth of July. Be safe and wear your red, white and blue.

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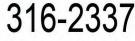
> (727) 216 2227



# Perfect time to become a U.S. citizen



Gudrun Kranenberg, a long-time resident of the French Renaissance building, became a very proud American citizen on May 19. Pictured above, Gudrun celebrated her special day with a party, which including a patriotic cake and champagne. Several other residents threw this party and with the Fourth of July approaching, the timing was perfect. Gudrun was born in Bavaria, Germany.



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(Fran Fairfield contributed to this report)



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# So lucky to have dedicated flag people

A grateful thank you to Viennese Villa's new flag keepers, Brian and Jerrie Lance, who place small flags around the Villa on appropriate flag holidays.

Brian is responsible for the beautiful, new, lighted flag which is flying proudly on the Ecuadorian side of the building.

Brian bought the flag in honor of his late father. David Lance was a 6-year, US Air Force, Korean war veteran, who was laid to rest at Bay Pines Cemetary with full military honors.

Thank you both Jerrie and Brian for our proud new flag and Brian for your dad's service.

Some 28 Villa residents and friends enjoyed good food, service and company at the Asian Pearl for "dunch," a term coined by my son for early dinners and late lunches. Everyone seemed to like the 4 p.m. time. Looking forward to another "dunch" in the near future.

Mike Murphy and Earl Ballance were on the high seas enjoying Caribbean breezes recently.

Welcome back to Eleanor Albano, who's once again tucked away in at her cozy Villa home after a long visit with family to Cape Cod.

Great to see our captain, Kirk Safee, looking chipper at the helm again.

Bit of tidy up now.



Jerrie and Brian Lance with a new flag for Viennese Villa.

Well kids, that's about it.

Now go enjoy our country's birthday. Beach, boat, BBQ whatever.

Happy birthday to my son, Mike, and all others in July.

Remember any news fit to print, or not, write to Fresca@maine.rr.com

Please, push the rubbish room door help in hot weather. closed when leaving. It does not close on its own and you must really push it. Cannot emphasize that enough.

The aromas coming forth from our building are not pleasant for anyone, especially neighbors on the first floor.

Double bagging aromatic trash will also pretty solid. How about you?

I noticed On Top of the World workers carting off items left in the rubbish room. That shall add to our building expenses. Recycle those items at the Hercules Avenue center.

Very glad to say my Summitt TV remains

# **Rural French makes summer meetings very productive**

Rural French had a very busy and productive month in June. Many of our residents might be away for the summer, but the building is still productive.

What have we been doing?

For starters, we have a new building coordinator. David McClellan volunteered to fill that vacant position. He started off by holding a board meeting with Sandy Stuhr (treasurer), Lori Cole (secretary) and Joyce Krauss (Rhodesian wing captain).

The meeting started as they each introduced themselves and their careers. That's when the discussions and brainstorming began.

The treasury report included building funds and voluntary annual contributions.

Another topic was the trash room where people are dumping non-household garbage that our building has to pay for to get it brought to the dump.

We discussed building records and organizing years of paper work.

A project we are currently working on is building packets, which will include one standard set of building rules and regulations to give to new residents. We want them to feel welcome and let them know what's allowed and what's not allowed.

Do you know how to get locks and keys? We have made keys for the storage and bike rooms to give to new residence.

We also try to collect keys from people moving out before they leave.

Our American flag is weathered and stained. David is looking into dry cleaning it for future use.

Joyce Krauss has volunteered to take care of the building bulletin board over the summer months.

Building meetings, issues and social ac-



tivities were also discussed. A tentative date for the next meeting is Friday, July 14 at 3 p.m.

The board is looking into starting building activities such as coffee socials and finding ways to keep all building residents informed of building updates and activities, other than the bulletin boards postings.

Future meetings will be planned so the residents who are here can be informed of what's going on. We hope to collect input and ideas from other building residents on what they'd like to do.

Randy Matney has been our Persian side wing captain for three years, but has now passed the position on. Randy took over the position when Helen Ritter moved away.

Randy has done a great job watching over our building and enforcing the bylaws. Randy also took pride in decorating our bulletin board for each holiday and different seasons.

She also can be caught in our trash room cutting up cardboard boxes, picking up others debris and keeping the room as tidy as



#### Rural French residents enjoy a lunch outing to the Clearwater Family Restaurant.

#### possible.

Randy was unable to keep her position as Persian side wing captain. The position was vacant for two weeks when Cynthia Cusani volunteered to take it over.

Randy left a big pair of shoes to fill, but we're certain that Cynthia won't have any problem taking over.

Like Randy, Cynthia is hard-working and dedicated to the building she lives in. We have no doubt she'll do a great job and we thank her for filling this vacant position.

On Friday, June 16, our building held our monthly luncheon hosted be Judy Wennerstrand. It was held at the Clearwater Family Restaurant. A good crowd for this time

of year as 13 people attended the luncheon. Everybody seemed to enjoy the food and conversation. Thanks Judy for planning and getting us all together.

David McClellan said he would host the July luncheon. The date and location will follow. We hope to have another good turnout for that meal.

This month our bulletin was beautifully decorated by Joyce and Richard Krauss. It looks great and there's good information posted on it about our new board members and the minutes from their meeting. Take a few minutes to stop and read about what's going on in our building.

### Page 42 / July 2023

### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS



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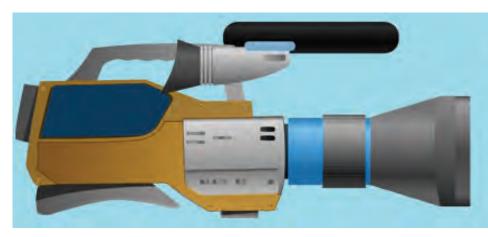
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# The Box Office

What Our Clubs Are Up To otowboxoffice.com

#### July 2023 / Page 43



One person's idea to have a social turned into a gathering of more than 30 people.

# New reporter's first story is what else - a food story!

Greetings everyone!

My name is Karen Tatge and I have been tasked with being the new intrepid reporter for Fugiwara.

Born and raised in northern New Jersey, I spent most of my adult life in San Diego County, where my husband, Ray, had been stationed with the US Navy.

We both retired from the City of Escondido in early 2019 and have found On Top of the World to be the most wonderful place to live.

My husband enjoys playing golf and pickleball, while I love to walk around the

area with our two dogs, Lucy and Ricky.

Our son and his family live in Central Illinois and we travel up there a couple of times a year to visit the grandkids.

But mostly, we enjoy our community and everything On Top of the World has to offer.

We have been trying to get to know our neighbors better and last year started Friday Evening Social Time in our core. We enjoy chatting and solving the world's problems together.

One neighbor wanted to do a little bit more. Anna Brinkerhoff decided to host a

Memorial Day barbecue at her place. A few residents helped with set-up, but Anna took care of doing all the cooking with several different salads, pastas, hot dogs, brats, burgers and desserts.

Needless to say, the food was excellent and everyone enjoyed her hospitality.

The party was open to all building residents, as well as some extended friends, and the celebration continued into the evening.

We are fortunate to have so many friendly, year-round neighbors in our building and this party provided a great opportunity to connect while honoring our nation's fallen.



# **Bohemia Women's Walking Group has been setting a pace for 13 years now**

For some, the number 13 is considered bad luck. For the women of the Bohemia building, it is a landmark number. It will be 13 years at the end of July that the Bohemia





Women's Walking Group was established.

It all started with a short posting on our core bulletin board. It announced a coffee meeting at which time the group was established.

The idea was based on suggestions by interested parties and the initial rules were loosely established.

First, Monday, Wednesday and Fridays would be our designated mornings to walk. Secondly, we would always stop somewhere to hydrate. Lastly, only enough money for a beverage, not a meal, is acceptable.

The group has transitioned from those very early morning walks in various neighborhoods to walking the Countryside Mall.

The mall opens an hour before the shops to enable walkers to get their exercise in.

Over the years, friendships have developed with other regular walkers. You can count on smiles, waves and other pleasantries as you pass each other. It gives a comfortable feeling of camaraderie and a great way to start your day.

The group is open to all the women in our building and varies by individual schedules as to how many may be walking any given day.

We have also had women from other buildings join us, which adds to the enjoyment.

Our building's June dinner had 24 residents participate. The venue this time was Roosterfish in Largo. This was a new restaurant added this year to our calendar. It is a restaurant that many agreed they would like to return to on their own.

The Girls' Day Out group did a make-up day for the Dunedin Museum. It was surprising how much history was contained in what appears to be a small building. The most difficult decision to make was where to lunch with so many places to choose from.

In closing, as promised, the results of the Irish Lane versus Jamaican Street, annual scavenger hunt challenge.

It is with great pain that I announce, for the third year in a row, that Irish Lane was

The Bohemia Women's Walking Group starts a morning with waves and smiles. Then it is time to burn calories.

once again the victors.

Just to let you know, Jamaican Street is already preparing strategies for next year.

Congratulations to the participants, you are all winners for showing up and participating.

# New York-New Jersey Club Indoor Picnic - Sub Day Thursday, August 10, 5-8 pm, East Activity Center Subs: Meatball, Sausage, Tuna, Italian and more. Pasta salad. Coffee. Strawberry sheet cake. Music by Kathy Tickets on sale 8:30-10:30 Thursdays in the EAC Auditorium



### Page 44 / July 2023

ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

# This garden is worth checking out



Aloha to my fellow Polynesians both near and far. I hope y'all are having a wonderful summer and all your plans are coming to fruition.

After suggestions from several neighbors on the Canadian Way side, I am happy to introduce you to our very own gifted gardener, Roger Rohm.

He is coming up on two years living here at On Top of the World. The beauty of his plantings brings much joy to all who pass his condo and his neighbors, too.

He did a marvelous job with his assortment of beauties. So bright and colorful! Two of my favorites, Snapdragons and Dusty Miller, are well represented much to my delight.

Roger first started planting and cultivating vegetables as a young man in Pittsburgh. After moving around the Southwestern United States and settling in Pinellas County, his green thumb with flowers became apparent after 31 years of experience.

I highly recommend a stroll over to our building to marvel at his creation.

Roger also had his own successful business in Dunedin for many years, Rohm Up-



Roger Rohm and his beautiful Polynesian garden.

and though he is no longer at the helm, the business lives on.

Roger as our neighbor.

Because it is summer, and On Top of the Roger's daughter lives in Palm Harbor, World appears to have turned into a ghost

holstery. It has quite the sterling reputation close to dear old Dad! We are glad to have town, I will more than likely not be submitting articles for the balance of summer ... unless, of course, someone has newsworthy information to be submitted.



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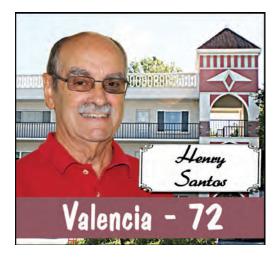
# Great Wall of China

You can read OTOW News every month, too. Just visit the Box Office at otowboxoffice.com



July 2023 / Page 45

# Perfect day at Madeira Beach for a building luncheon - we even saw dolphins



Valencia residents had a nice change of pace for our late-May building gathering.

A good crowd met for lunch at The American Legion Post 273 in Madeira Beach. We could not have picked a more beautiful day - a perfect, cloudless, Florida day - plus there was a slight breeze off the water.

The venue was perfect for a social gathering, plus we saw the occasional dolphins breaking the waves.

On June 14, Flag Day was celebrated as a building, like we do each year. We assembled at the base of each of our flags and pledged our allegiance - always a popular event. After the ceremony, we went to a nearby restaurant



**Name That Teen?** 

for a group breakfast.

And now for our "Name That Teen" contest.

Here is a picture of a gentleman who lives in our building and was about 16 years old at the time this photo was taken.

Can you name this teen?

June's teen photo was of Claire Mock. Thanks Clair for participating.



Pictured above, Valencia residents enjoy the water near Madeira Beach as the group held an afternoon lunch at American Legion Post 273. At left is this month's 'Name That Teen' contestant. Can you identify the mystery person?

neighborhood correctly identified Stan Mo-

One more thing, nearly everyone in our ris as the teen of our May issue. It must have been his blue eyes.



Olivia Gillespie, DO

Dr. Gillespie is a Tampa Bay native who is passionate about taking care of her patients mind, body, & spirit. She has a special interest in osteo manipulation therapy. While not in the office, Dr. Gillespie is traveling with her family and trying new foods!

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#### Petya Petrov, MD

Dr. Petrov has dedicated most of her career to geriatric care. She has lived in several different countries practicing medicine and speaks FIVE languages! Besides patient care, Dr. Petrov enjoys a good book, her animals, and playing chess.

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#### Page 46 / July 2023

#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS



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# **VETERAN AND FAMILY OWNED**

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Brad Shavely, right, enjoying retirement.

# **Retirement and cruising** and summer has just begun

First and foremost, we would like to wish Brad Shavely a happy retirement.

Brad retired May 31 from the Department of Health after working there for 29 years. He has lived at on Top of the World for about two years now.

A happy hour get-together was arranged with drinks and appetizers. Brad has started enjoying the pool and bingo, and is now looking for other activities in the future.

Virginia Upton, took a two week driving trip with a friend, which included a stop in Savannah for a few days, then on to Virginia Beach to stay with her son, Patrick, and family.

We heard her son is a great cook so that was a treat!

On the drive home, Virginia stopped in Atlanta to visit a good friend, but she is now home and relaxing.

I, myself, took a 14-day transatlantic cruise from Tampa to Barcelona, stopping in Bermuda, Spain and Portugal.

It was a great crossing and also celebrated my birthday on board, which was an event.



After the cruise, I then flew to Manchester, England, to visit family and friends.

You could have this much fun, too.

One can get good deals on cruises, as the cruise lines like to fill the ships going to the Mediterranean for the summer.

The same deals should be available this fall



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#### July 2023 / Page 47

# Oh to have a granddaughter living in Hawaii

Are you a proud grandparent? Jean Kelly is for sure and deserves true bragging rights!

Her granddaughter, a medical doctor, is also a Lt. Colonel in the US Army working in administration for a general.

Jean recently returned from her fifth trip to Hawaii where her granddaughter is stationed

Jean enjoys these opportunities to visit Hawaii, but more than that, loves bringing a bit of grandma love to her granddaughter.

. Mitch and Linda Gerstenblith recently traveled to New Mexico to visit Linda's sister. While there, they visited historical Santa Fe, the Ray Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos, the Elephant Butte and Caballo Lake State Parks in southern New Mexico.

They also celebrated the town's 74th annual Truth or Consequences Fiesta.

Perhaps you'll remember one of the most popular game shows on radio and television from 1940 to 1987 called "Truth or Consequences." Well, in 1950, Hot Springs won its game show contest and was then required to change the town's name to Truth or Consequences.

Now you know what happened to Hot Springs, New Mexico!

Let's all welcome our newest Englander neighbors Bill Grupp Jr. and Mike Lamott.

Originally from Newington, Conn., they've been living in Clearwater for the past eight years. They are both retired, been together for the past 44 years and



married for the last eight. They have three sons and four grandchildren, the youngest being just 8 months old.

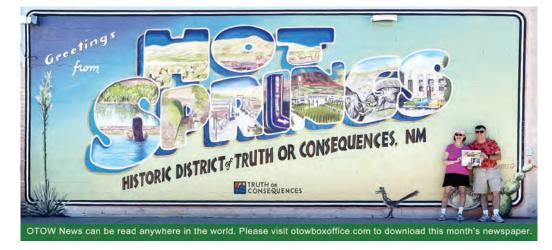
Bill, a retired junior high school teacher, has a treasured collection of model railroad trains packed away in storage, and enjoys collecting and displaying his assortment of all things Disney.

You may have seen Bill out walking to the lake and back with their Lhasa Apso, Simba.

During Mike's career he bought and sold high-end furnishings, was a major source for supplying play and stage sets, and worked with many famous people. You'll have to ask him for all the names, but let me just say that Oprah's name may have entered our conversation.

Welcome Bill and Mike. May you enjoy many years of happiness with our Englander family.

Bold stripes, bright stars, brave hearts. Happy Birthday America!



Englander residents, Mitch and Linda Gerstenblith, take a moment to read the On Top of the News during their recent visit to Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.



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#### Page 48 / July 2023

#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Betty

Spoerl

Bavarian Chalet - 25

# **Touring France** like a celebrity

On May 15, Michelle Fournier, along with her son, boarded a plan for Paris, France, to fulfill a dream.

The son had made all the plans for this trip and everything was first class from the flight, the hotel and the private tours.

Michelle's daughter-in-law joined the family later to enjoy watching Michelle smile as she saw the many beautiful sights she had always dreamed about.

A six-hour private tour guide was conducted by a pilot who normally provides private tours for celebrities.

On this occasion, the tour included visiting every area of Paris, starting with the toasting of champagne, tasting crepes, French ice cream and ended with a night view of the Eiffel Tower sparkling.

So the residents of The Bavarian Chalet have a celebrity in our midst. The most special museum Michelle visited was the Louve, a Mother's Day gift from her daughter. She also saw the Mona Lisa.

Michelle said, "this painting took my breath away."

In preparation for Michelle's trip she attended French classes at On Top of the World taught by Jean-Paul Reymont, which she said helped her better to communicate with the French people - a real asset indeed.

One morning as Michelle and her son were heading out, they smelled fresh bread baking. Soon they found there was a bread baking contest taking place. Wanna go to Paris, talk to Michelle.

# Baghdad dinner





Sophia Kugeares and her grandson stand in front of the famous Key West buoy for a photo opportunity with the On Top of the World newspaper. The photographer was a resident at OTOW in Ocala.

# Your reporter gets to see the Key West bouy

With the doldrums of summer upon us, I hope everyone is managing to stay cool.

For my part, that spell was broken by a visit from my twin grandson and granddaughter.

They passed through on their way to the Florida Keys for much deserved rest and relaxation after finishing their first year of college.

They invited me to join them for a few days. So I went, too.

West Conch Train tour, which took this picture was from our com-



We started off with the Key Point Bouy. The couple who took

Residents from the Baghdad building celebrated the end of May with a dinner at Carabbas's Italian Restaurant. More than 20 people participated. Another outing was scheduled for late June. (Submitted by Kris Gentile)



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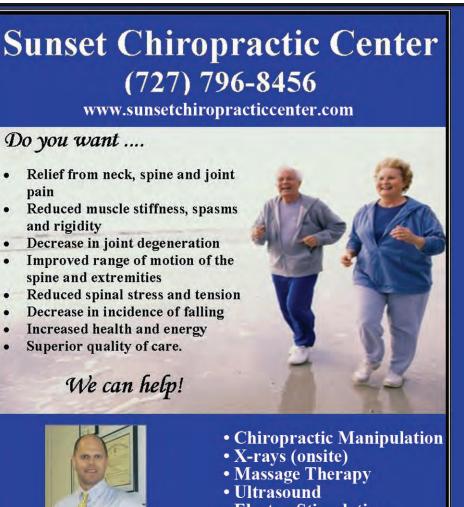
us to the Hemingway House, the Butterfly Conservatory, Truman Winter White House and the Judy Blume Bookstore.

We had to get that special souvenir photo at the Southern Most

panion community, On Top of the World in Ocala.

That's all for now dear neighbors.

Please send me your news for next month.



Christopher E. Pettet B.S., D.C. Chiropractic Physician

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# **Brahman sets brunch and lunch activities for the rest of the year**

On Tuesday, June 13, Brahman building residents met at Clearwater Family Restaurant to make recommendations for future activities through the end of the year.

Continuing to meet one another and enjoy each other's company was the goal.

All Brahman residents are welcome to join us at the events mentioned below: Come to one event or come to them all.

Sign-up sheets for the most recent event will be posted on the Brahman bulletin board. If you need a ride to the restaurants, please leave your phone number on the signup sheet so we can contact you.

We will meet in the core at 9:45 a.m. for brunch or at 12:15 p.m. for lunch.

We will meet at Clearwater Family Restaurant at 10 a.m. on the following Tuesdays: July 11, Aug. 8 and Sept. 12.

We will meet at Queen's Pizzeria at 12:30 p.m. on the following Tuesdays: July 18, Aug. 15 and Sept. 19.

For the month of November, Marilyn Nelson has volunteered to host coffee and donuts in her condo!

Early in the month of December, the



building is attempting to organize a Christmas Party at the Island Way Grill. Additional information will follow.

Finally in January 2024, Paullette Perrotta will host donuts and coffee.

If you have any suggestions regarding future plans or have questions about these functions, please feel free to call Patrick Hayes at 516-728 7883.



Brahman residents enjoy going to Clearwater Family Restaurant on Tuesdays. There is a new outing coming up soon.

#### We match all competitors' written quotes **Grout Problem? No Problem!** Don't replace the tile, restore it and save \$\$\$ Wee From Old to New in just One Day! 3 avs Tired of moldy, missing, dirty, cracked grout? C **Specializing In: Before** After 30% OFF 6 / **Clean & Seal Tile & Grout Regrout and Caulk Showers & Tubs** availab **Recolor Grout Tile & Grout Repair Grout & Broken Tiles** Cleaning SATISFACTION ces With this coupon. GUARANTEED Not valid with any other discount. FREE ESTIMATES! Minimum \$275.





#### Page 50 / July 2023

#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

Tree Activities



If The Outdoor Temperature Is Over 62 Degrees, We're Exercising Need a fun way to exercise? Join our exercise classes each morning. All are welcome. Classes are free.

9-10 a.m., Weekdays, East Activity Center Swimming Pool

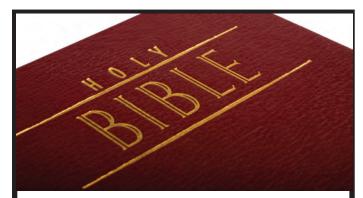
# **Philosophy Club**

The On Top of the World Philosophy Club is meeting again. The group will get together from 10-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

Join us for interesting and lively conversations. Each week is a different subject. You may come just to listen. You may volunteer to present a topic, but we do not discuss religion or politics.



Please be respectful of different values. Coffee, water and tea are available. Everyone must wear a mask.



**Bible Study All Summer** 2 pm, Fridays **Crystal Beach Room** All denominations welcome



Shuffleboard is open to all OTOW residents with a valid activity card. Just show up and play. We have the equipment.

tops "Take Off Pounds Sensibly." Meets 10:30 am-12 p.m. Fridays in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room. We are very motivated to help you if you want to lose weight. We are a friendly group and usually go out for a healthy meal after our meetings. Because we are a part of a national club, we charge \$37 per person for yearly national dues. Please come to our meetings at no charge for one month to try us out.



call Libby Shear at 727-669-1486.

Bonesaver

The Bonesavers exercise group meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-9 a.m. in the East Activity Center Clearwater Room.

We use hand weights and ankle weights, a towel and a chair.

If you want to try it out, just come over and borrow the weights we already have available. Men and women are both welcome.

# **Duplicate Bridge**

# **Learning to Dance with Noland**



Ballroom dance classes will take place at 1 p.m. every Monday in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

The instructor is Noland Shade, who teaches beginner dancing to help couples learn how to dance socially.

Dance lessons are taught at a slow pace so anyone can learn how to dance over time.

No pre-registration is necessary. Simply show up and learn.

Beginner duplicate bridge takes place 9 a.m. to noon, Thursdays, in the East Activity Center Ozona Room.

Regular duplicate bridge takes place 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, in the East Activity Center Ozona Room.

# Mah Jongg players wanted

Wanted: Mah Jongg players to fill in at our afternoon games. We play Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1-3:30 p.m. in residents' condos. Please call Libby at 727-669-1486. No experience needed!

# **Billiards**

9-Ball Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

8-Ball 6:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays

# **Ceramics**

Thursdays

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Clearwater Room** 

# **Pray for America**

**Saturdays** 

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Crystal Beach Room** 

# **Casual Bridge**

A new, casual bridge club is started up in March.

New bridge players, and not so new bridge players are welcome.

The first meeting is March 7, 1-4 p.m., and then every Tuesday after.

The club will meet in the East Activity Center Ozona Room, the former puzzle room. Come enjoy some fun card playing while challenging your skills - old and new. No partner necessary. For further information, contact Christine Nason by calling or texting 727-366-0221.



**Canadian Club Social Games** BLACKOUT

Year Round

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

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

# **Experienced Mah Jongg** players wanted

Are you ready to toss your tiles again? If so, there is a group of experienced Mah Jongg players that meets each Friday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. in the West Activity Center Palm Harbor Room.

We mainly adhere to the National Mah Jongg League guidelines with just a few variations.

No sitting at home in your room wishing you were playing Mah Jongg! Bring your lucky Mah Jongg card and join us Friday afternoons. We look forward to seeing you. If you have questions, please stop by the Palm Harbor Room before our games begin.

### July 2023 / Page 51

# Classifieds

#### **Knee Scooter**

For sale, still in the box, Elenker Economy Knee Walker, a steerable scooter with handlebars, a knee pad and full adjustable. Ideal if you are recovering from a foot or ankle injury. On sale at Amazon for \$100. I am asking \$75. I can deliver to you. Call Billie at 518-727-7012.

#### High Rise Walker

For sale: High rise walker "Life Style." Excellent condition with basket. Asking \$200. Call Barbara at 727-221-9073

Bose Radio

For sale: Bose Wave Radio. Asking \$75. Call Donald at 727-725-2451.

#### Office Desk

For sale: Office desk. Well built and brown with plug in for cell phone, jacks, charging station. Electric plugs hidden on top. Two pull out drawers. Asking \$75. Call Clara at 813-748-4959.

#### Teeter Table

For sale: Teeter FitSpine Inversion Table X2. Excellent condition. Asking \$150. Call or text Denise at 727-902-4607.

Kayaks

Two kayaks for sale. Includes paddles and life preservers. Asking \$500. Call Patrick at 727-492-3597.

**Air Mattress** 

Thick, durable, air mattress for sale. New with built-in pump. Single \$30. Double



According to information published in the Tampa Bay Times on Aug. 26, 2020, you can get a productive, fun workout right in a swimming pool - and you don't have to attend a group class. You can exercise and enjoy the pool on your own. Pool exercises can improve muscle strength, endurance and flexibility. Some simple suggestions are listed below.\*

1. Water Walking: Stand in waste-high water and simply walk. Don't forget to walk backwards, too.

2. Twisting: Hold arms and hands under water and twist. Holding an object in each hand makes the exercise even better.

3. Jumping Jacks: In waist-high water, try some jumping jacks. Make sure no one else is near you and don't splash anyone.

4. Knee Squats: Hold a noodle in your hands, stand in waist-high water and do knee squats. Force the noodle under water.

\* Before trying the four exercises above, please check with your doctor to make sure these activities are right for you. On Top of the World is not responsible for anyone exercising in our swimming pool. If you want to work out with a group, please visit the Activities Office to learn about available options.

# **OTOW CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM**

To ensure timely delivery of On Top of the World mailings, please use this change of address form. This form will allow for permanent or temporary change of address. This form may be dropped off at the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center or mailed to: OTOW Condominium Association, Inc., Attn: CSO, 2069 World Parkway Blvd E., Clearwater, FL 33763

Building Number:	Unit Numb	er: Today's Date:
This change is:	Permanent	Temporary; Effective
Unit Owner Name(s): _		
Current Address:		

Current Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Forwarding address: \_\_\_\_\_\_
Forwarding Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_
Don't forget to notify the United States Post Office of the change!
(Submit new form upon return)

# **DESIGNATED SMOKING AREA**



Pictured here is a beautiful, designated smoking area On Top of the World created alongside the East Activity Center swimming pool. Smokers can sit peacefully, enjoy their hobby and respect fellow residents at the pool.

Community pools, activity centers, the dog park, tennis courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, lawn bowl area and the Pavilion are non-smoking areas.

Smoking is not permitted within 20 feet of either activity center or swimming pool.

Please help keep our community beautiful.

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#### ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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Tom Clancy - "Flash Point" Nora Roberts - "Identity" Linda Lael Miller - "Country Born"

Join the library for \$5. Used Books for sale: 3 for \$1. Special books 10 for \$1. Also free books. Membership not required for free books. Hours: 10 am-12 pm Mondays, 1-3 pm Wednesdays Club



10 a.m., Thursday, July 20 "The Code Breaker" By Walter Isaacson

10 a.m., Thursday, August 17 "The Silver Star" by Jeanette Wells

All of our meetings take place in the EAC Crystal Beach Room For more information, see our Webpage on the Box Office: otowboxoffice.com - look for our link

Need more information, write to Jslantz1948@aol.com or call 727-754-3823

# **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

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