



Good Neighbors  
makes donation  
to Helping Hands  
**See Page 3**



The Salvation Army  
band plays at some  
of our buildings  
**See Pages 29 & 31**



Residents help  
geese find  
Florida  
**See Page 34**

# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

June 2020

Published Since 1968

52 Years of Only Good News

Volume 52

No. 6

## Thanks to wildflower patches, our golf course is buzzing

By Bev Paulan

Two years ago, On Top of the World Golf Course Superintendent Todd Six undertook a project to beautify the 18-hole golf course.

His intention was to remove areas of “rough” and sow wildflower seeds. If the seeds germinated, and if the flowers grew and bloomed, he hoped that bees and butterflies would take advantage of the nectar-rich blossoms.

He got his wish ... and then some.

Today, these wildflower patches play host to several species of native bees, wasps, flies and butterflies.

And not only does the 18-hole course look great, Todd also started seeding on the 9-hole course this past year and it is equally as beautiful to the residents and inviting to the insects.

You may have read somewhere about an impending insect apocalypse. Scientists are starting to sound the alarm about the decline of insects.

These often overlooked, and more often unappreciated creatures, are called the foundation of all other life on earth.

Especially hard hit are the native pollinators.

As natural landscapes give way to development, and far too many homeowners and property managers rely on pesticides to control unwanted insect pests, our native insects disappear.

When insects disappear, the birds that eat them also leave, as do dragonflies, lizards and anything else that rely on insects as part of their diet.

While everyone agrees that flowers are aesthetically pleasing, not everyone realizes the importance of pollinators that rely on them. The vast majority of our native flowers, as well as almost 75 percent of the food we eat, including coffee and chocolate, are available to us because of pollinators.

From corn to berries, insects are directly responsible for ensuring the plant



This is one of the wildflower patches at the On Top of the World 18-hole Golf Course. The enlarged photo is a bee helping to produce more wildflowers. (Photos by Bev Paulan)

fruits.

Thanks to Todd and his crew, we now have not only a more beautiful golf course, but hundreds of buzzing bees and flitting butterflies.

In the state of Florida there are more than 300 species of native bees. Most are solitary, live underground and don't sting. All are excellent pollinators.

On any given day, if you take a moment, several of these native bees can be seen buzzing about any of our golf course wildflower patches. They range in

size from almost unseeable to the naked eye to quite large and intimidating.

They are all searching for a meal of flower nectar and for pollen to take back to feed their offspring.

In the process, as they fly from flower to flower, they transfer the pollen, thus ensuring each flower is fertilized.

If no pollination occurs, the flowers will not return to bloom another season.

I feel we are lucky to have someone like Todd, who has, through his hard work, given us such a beautiful golf course.

Every time I walk along the golf course, I take in the beauty of the flower beds and take a moment to watch the buzzing bees and the myriad butterflies flying from flower to flower

It is a few moments of observing that has given me a little respite from the concerns of the day ... a mini-escape, if you will.

Not only have we all benefited from the plantings, so have the pollinators.

Thank you Todd and crew!



The safety of our customers and associates is our number one concern. Our licensed and experienced agents are still working and are following all recommended CDC guidelines when visiting homes. Now more than ever, people are relocating to our area. It's a great time to list your home with the leader in sales.

To keep everyone safe, our transactions are done digitally. We now show your home virtually to potential buyers all over the country. Call us today for a free market analysis, and visit **OTOWRealEstateClearwater.com** to see our listings.



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**\$139,900**

**CONTRACT PENDING**

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# In the spirit of Good Neighbors, club makes generous donation to Helping Hands

By Jim Bjorgo

As our lives continue to be put “on hold” pending the outcome of the current circumstances, the Good Neighbors Association board continues to plan for the future and work on some alternative projects.

Back in mid-May, the board decided to attempt some type of outreach program, typical of Good Neighbors. It was unanimously agreed that we continue our aid to a local charity, Helping Hands, to whom we have dedicated some of our efforts this year. Prior to the pandemic, we had strived to collect non-perishable and unexpired food to benefit the clients of this worthwhile organization. On May 11 we did the same.

Good Neighbors Association delivered 100 one-pound boxes of various pastas to Helping Hands, along with 100 cans of various spaghetti sauces, 24 packages of macaroni and cheese, 35 personal hygiene items for the homeless and two \$100 gas cards for Helping Hands delivery trucks.

A number of On Top of the World residents are volunteers at Helping Hands. A number of our residents are also clients.



Our plans for the future are cloudy at this time, but we are hopeful that the current curtailment of activities will cease soon and our fall events will proceed with some normality.

It is our hope we will be able to re-start Get Acquainted Coffee/Donut days before the end of the year and hold a fall



Good Neighbors Association donated pasta, sauces and hygiene products to Helping Hands, plus gas money to help with deliveries.

social with dessert in October featuring the Florida Suncoast Orchestra.

Our fall clothing drive and food drive are tentatively set for Oct. 23 and 24.

Our annual fall Flea Market and Craft Show is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 14.

The annual Fall Festival in November

has been postponed until next year.

Read future newspapers for further updates.

Please continue to be healthy and safe. Enjoy the solitude to the best of your ability. We will be together again soon in due time.

## Helping fellow co-workers

During a time when finding face masks was a difficult task, Sidney Colen Associate (SCA) employees took some time to sew their own. Getting creative in the photo at right are Sam, Kristina, Dani, Carylyn and Zorayda. Helping out during other shifts were Mark, Cindy, Oleg, Eddie, T.J., Bill and Georgia. The assembly line precision started with measuring materials and cutting patterns, to sewing everything just right. This crew made more than 100 face masks, which were distributed to help keep employees safe while they were working out in the field.

(Photo by Doug Kates)



# Keep a record of your artwork

By Mary Slack Maynard

On Top of the World artists are being featured on two OTOW Web pages.

If you go to the Box Office Website (otowboxoffice.com), click Nancy's Bulletin Board or go to Club Pages and click on the Art Guild. You will see art done by some of our artists.

Guild members are encouraged to submit pictures of their artwork throughout the summer. It is a great way to showcase and share your creativity.

In a recent discussion, Art Guild member, John Fier, wondered how many artists keep a digital image of their work.

"Personally," John says, "I have shot or scanned everything I've drawn or painted for the last 20 years."

I wonder how many artists have thought about the potential that something might happen to an actual art piece, say a fire, a flood, or a sale. If you have a digital copy, you always have the art.

I, too, keep digital images of my paintings. As a beginning painter, looking at things I've done in the past is a great way to see how much I have improved as an artist.

I've also used photos of birds and places I've visited as inspiration for paintings, and it's fun to compare the original photo to the actual finished painting, to have copies of the two images side-by-side in my digital art folder.

I generally use my cell phone to cap-



Art Guild



This is a photo of a piece of art created by Mary Slack Maynard. She keeps images on file so she can compare her work as her skills improve. It also saves her artwork forever. You never know when an original image could get damaged or lost.

ture the art, but you can use a regular camera or a scanner. Try all three and find the one that gives you the copy you prefer.

Before you take a picture of your art, there are some things to consider. First, take the photo before you frame your artwork. If you try to shoot a framed picture, it is very difficult to avoid glare from the glass. It can be done, but it's not worth the frustration to try.

Next, consider the background. I place a piece of solid colored fabric on my easel, then place the art work in front of it. If you have a program that can crop photos, you might consider using it, as you may get unwanted background or an odd angle to your photo.

Pay attention to the light. Whether inside or outside, use a light source that will

not cast a shadow. If you photograph your art outside, you will also want to consider sun glare and shadows, particularly if you are shooting on a windy day. The best advice is shoot a picture in the shade - then you get natural lighting and no glare.

Once you have a photo, file it in a

digital folder dedicated to your art. You might want to create subfolders for the year or the subject matter. Then, consider emailing your photo to John or to Nancy Rogers. You might see it featured on an OTOW web page for your neighbors to enjoy.

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**On Top of the World Residents**

We are following all CDC guidelines. Our showroom is sanitized, safe and secure.

# Resident comments indicate you know how hard our staff is still working

As the community moves toward opening many activities, the actual timeline for resuming all community services remains uncertain at this time, due in large part because On Top of the World is following Governor Ron DeSantis' executive orders for a staged reopening.

That said, you may be assured that it has been business as usual behind the scenes in our community.

The Community Service Office continues to field hundreds of phone calls and service requests.

Inspection Services continues with inspections, following up on compliance matters, and processing modifications and correspondence.

Elevator service continues and, as you may imagine, water leaks don't take breaks either.

The Remediation Department continues to address mold situations as well as fire events. Mold becomes a problem when residents don't promptly address water intrusion, often related to a malfunctioning air conditioner, or turning the HVAC off so there is no dehumidification taking place.

Community Resources has completed more than 160 building inspections and generated multiple service requests based on their findings.

The Construction Department has been maximizing their time to gain ground on multiple community projects, including the application of anti-slip coatings to exterior stairwells, walkway concrete spall repairs and the removal of roofline ornamental elements.

The grass and shrubs continue to grow, keeping the grounds maintenance staff busy.

High-touch surfaces continue to be disinfected by the Building Services Team.

While this list isn't complete by any means, we have received more than 30 positive notes, emails, postings and thumbs up for the hard work continuing amid almost a total shutdown.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank those residents who have been so kind as to write, call in, or in passing, give their support and thanks. It isn't often that people take the time to write or call in with positive remarks, so when they



do, it goes a long way with employees who receive them.

It is a great motivator. Thank you to everyone who has expressed their gratitude!

We can all get through this together.

## Leaks, Damage, and Insurance

Considerable damage can and does frequently happen as a result of improperly maintained heating/cooling units (HVAC).

It is absolutely essential that you have your unit serviced annually and repaired immediately when not functioning properly. Failing to do so puts you, and potentially your neighbors, at risk from damage from flooding.

Additionally, if your HVAC unit has heat strips to provide heat, and the unit is not serviced, the heat strips may malfunction, overheat and cause a fire. This leaves you, the owner, open to significant liability in the event of an overflow or fire.

Because leaks typically happen while you are away from home, the resulting damage and restoration costs can be extensive. Failing to be adequately insured in one of these instances leaves you at risk for high dollar losses. It cannot be stressed enough that it is your obligation, as the owner of the unit, to maintain or replace malfunctioning components. It is also your obligation as the owner to ensure you have adequate insurance on your personal property and on that portion of your condo not insured by the Association's master policy. As a reminder, ev-

erything from the paint on the wall in is yours. The floor coverings, cabinetry, appliances, plumbing above the finish floor, air conditioning, windows and doors, and other components are all the responsibility of the individual owner to insure.

## Did You Know

The HO6 rider covers the insured owner for a portion of the deductible the Association maintains. Currently, your Association maintains a deductible of \$10,000 per occurrence to property damage from any peril other than wind (such as fire).

Proper insurance coverage will help save you large out-of-pocket expense when damage occurs.

Speak with your insurance agent to be sure you have appropriate coverage in place and that it is adequate.

And don't forget about bidding competitively through ChallengeMyRate.com.

## Community Reopenings

For the most current information on openings and status updates, visit [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com) watch OTOW-TV channel 732, sign up for RAVE alerts, watch for notices to be posted at both the East and West Activity Centers, and check out Nancy's Bulletin Board on the Box Office site.

## Activity Cards

The Community Service Office is currently renewing activity cards by appointment only. Renewals will be by appointment only. Please call the Community Service Office at 727-683-6981. Leave your name, building, unit, phone number and purpose for your call. Customer service will return your call and set an appointment with you.

## Important CSO Information

The Community Service Office (CSO) hours of operation will remain unchanged, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30, unless otherwise posted.

If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff is working with someone else.

Please be patient. Calls and voicemails will be responded to during normal business hours.

Once the requested service matter is identified, a service order will be generated and submitted to the appropriate department to address the matter.

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

From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request. It is not necessary to report service requests more than one time. If you have any questions regarding your request and until the Community Service Office reopens, please call the Service Request Line, that number is listed below.

As a reminder, window and door repair or replacement is exclusive to the unit and is the owner's responsibility. The Association's responsibility is to the structure and common elements.

## Service Request Line

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

## After-Hours Number

The OTOW after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115 for issues such as water intrusion into your unit. For all other inquiries regarding general matters or questions that are not service related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office. For a life threatening emergency, please dial 911. For a power outage, call Duke Energy at 800-228-8485.

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

- (1) CALL: 727-799-3417 (Option 6)  
Messages are retrieved Monday - Friday, 8-3:30 p.m.
- (2) Visit the East Activity Center Community Service Office from 8:30-3, Monday-Friday.
- (3) Go Online to [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) and fill out a service request.
- (4) For emergency service after 3 p.m. on weekdays and on weekends, call 799-1115. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required at the time of service.

You must be present when your water is turned on.

## CORONAVIRUS QUESTIONS

- Have a question about the coronavirus outbreak?
- Contact Florida's COVID-19 call center: **1-866-779-6121**
- It is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday

# Annual meeting will be on Zoom

## Annual Meeting

A notice of the Annual Meeting for the On Top of the World Condominium Association, to be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, was mailed to residents the week of May 18, 2020.

Governor Ron DeSantis has issued Executive Orders regarding COVID-19 and recommendations to avoid in-person meetings of large groups. As of this writing, the Governor has given no indication of rescinding this part of the Executive Order, which is why this meeting will be held via Zoom for the Board members, Unit Owners and Management Company staff. The meeting may be viewed simultaneously on YouTube (see URL address above) or OTOW-TV Channel 732.

A meeting of the Board of Administration is scheduled immediately following the Annual Meeting also via Zoom.

An agenda for both the Annual and Board meetings was enclosed.

Questions may be submitted prior to the meeting (up to 24 hours in advance) to [associationinfo@otowfl.net](mailto:associationinfo@otowfl.net).

There is a lengthy agenda as the Board reports on the status of the Association. Items for consideration include a review of the proposed budget and adoption of same, a vote on establishing or waiving reserves, consideration of insurance deductibles, vote on suspension of use rights on delinquent accounts, and a general review of community operations and projects.

The agenda will be posted on [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com).

Your Board cannot underscore the importance of your vote by proxy. In order to hold a meeting and conduct business, we need a quorum. So every vote counts regardless of how you vote!

Florida statutes require that the Association establish reserves, unless waived by a majority vote of the voting interests present at the meeting in person or by proxy.

Please return the "yellow" proxy form to the Association at your earliest convenience (1) to one of the drop boxes located outside the East or West Activity Centers, (2) in the envelope provided by U.S. Mail, (3) fax the executed proxy to (352) 854-0815, or (4) scan and email to [associationinfo@otowfl.net](mailto:associationinfo@otowfl.net).

## Spectrum Update

Last month I wrote that the Board was closely evaluating the many thoughtful comments from residents voicing their concerns as well.

We continue in this process, and have communicated to Spectrum, that for any plan to happen, it must be as an opt-in for interested residents. I believe they received the message. What Spectrum does with it has yet to be communicated back to us.

What disturbs me most about this decision is how fractured the community has become over it. No surprise really given the gyrations of shelter-in place, as well as personal investment and savings gyrations, and yes, politics in general, but also of the pandemic.

One particularly nasty writer insulted the majority of residents (65 percent) vot-



ing for the Option 1 and 2, as "sheep" and that "people need to wake up."

Don't know about you, but I find this kind of polemic highly offensive. I'm quite certain residents are capable of knowing their own minds and don't need to be led. Times are difficult enough without insults and misplaced anger. Now is not the time for this community to be fractured or divided.

## Projects in Process

The amenities provider has made good use of shelter-in-place time to deep clean and sanitize all the facilities.

The only outstanding item at this time is adding UVC (black light) emitters to the air conditioning systems. The units are custom and on order and will be installed as soon as they arrive.

Like so much in the economy, production is disrupted during this "stall" and backorders are stacking up. Regardless, you can have confidence when the facilities are fully opened back up.

With the phased opening mandated by Governor DeSantis, many outdoor facilities have been opened. Social distancing is the rule. If not practiced, opening will be reevaluated. The goal is to act responsibly and help keep each other safe.

Meeting after meeting, your Board has addressed the matter of clamshell awnings that are not compliant to current wind loads as stated within the Standard Building Code, and of the need for their removal. Voluntary removal by residents continues. The community is down to approximately 117 remaining out of an original count of more than 2000. It is now a requirement that there must be removal of awnings prior to the sale and transfer of condominium units that may still have them in place.

## Upcoming Projects

**Painting/Waterproofing:** Our painting contractor will continue working on both front façade paint and rear waterproofing application projects in the month of June. Building 40 will have its front façade painted, while the rear façade of buildings 21, 19 and 17 will be re-coated.

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 inclem-

Annual Meeting simulcast on YouTube. The URL address is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWrKHHnHRrH03QLttY1BF-Q>

ent weather can affect start and completion dates.

The installation of new unit address numbers will continue in June as this is another community improvement project that accompanies the application of front façade coatings.

As the painting contractor moves throughout the property, management company crews will be installing new life-safety compliant, reflective unit numbers on the common area wall in proximity to unit front doors. Bulletins will be posted in advance of the work advising residents of the process and what they can expect. Unit numbers currently attached to the common element wall will be removed by the painting contractor, while numbers installed on front unit doors will need to be removed by the unit owner. If a unit owner wishes, they may contract with the management company for the removal of any old unit numbers for a nominal fee.

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

## Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

An underground utility contractor is scheduled to make repairs to a couple of storm drain pipes that service both sides of the On Top of the World community in early June or late May, depending on their crew's availability.

An efficient storm water removal system is extremely important year round, but even more so as we enter tropical storm season.

The repairs being made now will add many more years of functional life to this extremely important "out of sight" element. Please keep an eye open for work crews in roadways and slow down for the safety of all. Please help us make safety a number one priority in the community.

Duke Energy will also be on property in the month of June adding streetlights to the southern portion of World Parkway Boulevard as part of a multi-year project. The intent is to enhance night-time visibility along the main thoroughfares for the safety of pedestrians and drivers alike.

Please keep an eye out for Duke's work crews as they will be working in close proximity to roadways and may have trucks and equipment parked along the curb side.

The next two elevator equipment modernization projects will begin on schedule as was published in the May volume of On Top of the World News. As of the printing of this article, the elevator work at Building 83 will have been completed and the elevator at Building 75 will undergo its upgrades beginning on June 1. These elevator equipment upgrades will not include the cab remodel portion and lighting enhancements at this time. We apologize for this delay, but keep in mind

that the management company is closely monitoring and navigating the current CDC guidelines for the safety of its employees and residents alike.

## Recurring reminders for all community residents

Building walkway repairs and walkway coating improvements will continue as construction crews perform maintenance to the second and third floor walking surfaces. Many buildings will see these restoration crews as the management company focuses its efforts on these types of repairs. Please be aware of "caution" and "wet paint" signs in and around these work areas.

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.

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.

Many first floor unit owners will be receiving notification from the Inspection Services Department about 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.

Inspection efforts are focused on the tagging and removal of personal furnishings and belongings placed in outside stairwells of buildings. These obstructions present a fire concern, block egress, or are of a nature that they do not comply with written community standards.

Barbeque grills - be it propane, charcoal, or electric - are not permitted on any balcony areas, as they pose a fire risk to the structure and residents.

If you have a question with a compliance issue stop by the Community Service Office and request an appointment. Someone will be glad to contact you.

# Get ready for hurricane season

By Kenneth Colen

Pandemic aside, hurricane season is here again.

## Hurricane Preparedness

June is the start of the hurricane season and the time to start thinking seriously about dealing with the risk and inconveniences that may be encountered during and immediately after a storm.

Your stock of food staples and toilet paper can help carry you through the storm season as well.

Your Association's goal is to make sure both residents and common properties emerge from any storm(s) safely. It makes every effort to prepare for storm events by securing potential hazards, protecting buildings and Association-related assets, and making sure the community has an updated recovery plan.

Depending on where the State and On Top of the World community is on reopening during the pandemic, this could get complicated. Key personnel are on-call before and after a storm. Water and wastewater personnel are moved on-site to make sure that essential utility services are protected and the chance of interruption is minimized. Tarps (in limited supply) are kept on hand to secure buildings in the event of roof damage.

Despite all of our efforts, much of your own safety and comfort is entirely in your own hands.

To that end, I am reprinting key points to help you prepare for a storm event:

- Designate as a "post-disaster contact" a relative or friend who lives outside the danger zone. Make sure each family member has been given this person's address and phone number, and agrees to contact him or her following the hurricane.

- Keep on hand at least one week's supply of bottled water and nonperishable food items. You should also have available a manual can/bottle opener, a flashlight and a battery operated radio or television (with an extra set of batteries for each). Make sure these items are readily accessible so you can quickly pack and evacuate.

- Maintain an up-to-date inventory of everything in your home. Taking photos and/or making videotapes of these items may help support the value you place on them. Also, consider storing valuable items at a secure location away from the house.

- Remove furniture from porches or patio and secure hoses so that these objects do not become dangerous or lethal projectiles during a storm.

- Stock up on items you may need to protect your home or to prevent it from being further damaged after the storm has passed. These items may include, but are not limited to, tarps or plastic, hammers, nails and plywood.

- Make sure your family is trained on how to turn off damaged utilities.

- At least once per year, review your insurance coverage to make sure it is adequate and up to date.

- Don't forget about your pet. Some



This small tree was one of many trees blown down when Hurricane Irma came through in September 2017.

evacuation centers do not allow pets. Making arrangements before a storm reduces the anxiety for both you and your pet.

- If at all possible, get an extra 30-day supply of your medicines at the start of the season. Waiting until a storm threatens may be too late. Historically, the State has directed insurers to allow this.

When a hurricane threatens, immediately take these steps:

- Make sure your car has a full tank of gas as power outages may force gas stations to remain closed for several days following a hurricane.

- Store important documents and other valuable items in waterproof bags.

- Bring inside any loose items that can be found around the home. Firmly tie down loose items that cannot be brought indoors.

- Protect or shutter windows (close your curtains or blinds).

- Have enough cash on hand to last at least a full week. Banks and ATMs may be closed for several days following the storm.

During a hurricane:

- Have a fully functioning battery-operated radio or television for weather bulletins and important information should power be disrupted.

- Follow the orders of local authorities.

- Stay indoors in an interior room without windows (even if you have evacuated, inland locations may still be at risk). If conditions worsen, take shelter in a closet or bathroom and use mattresses to protect yourself.

- Don't assume the hurricane is over when the wind subsides. The calm may be the eye of the storm, and the worst part may still be on the way.

If the electricity goes out:

- Use a flashlight – NOT a candle or matches. You do not want to take the risk

of igniting any combustible in your condo.

- Open your refrigerator or freezer only when absolutely necessary. This will help keep food fresh for as long as possible.

After the hurricane has passed:

- Don't venture outside until local authorities have issued an "all-clear."

- Continue to check the radio or TV for post hurricane updates.

- If you have evacuated, don't return until authorities re-open your area. Remember, you may need proof of residency to return.

- Use a flashlight to look at damage. Allow only those people who have been trained to turn off damaged utilities (e.g. gas or electric) and disconnect damaged appliances.

- Beware of downed power lines and other debris.

- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing to protect yourself. People are often times hurt more frequently after the hurricane than during it.

- Have a supply of bottled water. If the water service is interrupted, the County will issue a "Boil Water Notice." If power is out, boiling may not be an option. Unless otherwise advised, assume tap water is contaminated after a water service interruption. You'll want one gallon per person/day for drinking, and one gallon per person/day for hygiene and cooking, plus additional water for pets. Allow for a week supply.

- If electrical power was lost during the hurricane, be extremely careful before consuming food taken from your refrigerator. When in doubt, throw it out.

- Use the phone only for emergencies. Recharging your phone battery may be a challenge.

- Conserve water! Do not wash debris off sidewalks. If the power is out and you still have water pressure, conserve water because the wastewater reclamation plant would be running on auxiliary generator power and with a limited supply of fuel.

- Immediately after a hurricane, do not assist OTOW employees with outdoor cleanup. Give it a few days.

- If traffic signals are out, you must come to a full stop at each traffic light. Proceed with caution.

Proper insurance coverage can help reduce the financial burden you may suffer as a result of a hurricane. Make sure your HO6 policy and values are up-to-date as soon as possible. Here are some additional tips that will make the claims process easier for you and your claims adjuster.

- Don't alter the condition of the damaged property. Take whatever steps are necessary to protect your property from further damage.

- Contact your insurance agent as soon as possible. Provide your agent or insurance carrier all information pertaining to your claim.

- Make a list of damaged or destroyed property. Your adjuster will be able to work more quickly if he or she has a written list to work from. Photos of damaged property may also be useful.

- Keep records and receipts for ALL expenses you incur. Supplies purchased to protect damaged property, or the costs incurred while staying at a hotel while your home is being repaired, may be recoverable.

- Try to be patient. Once you report your claim, your claims adjuster will respond as quickly as possible. Delays may be likely, as hurricanes often uproot signs and deposit debris on highways, severely impeding traffic.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### National Hurricane Center

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

### Hurricane and Storm Tracking for the Atlantic Oceans

<http://hurricane.terrapin.com/>

### The Weather Channel

<http://www.weather.com/>

### Duke Energy Hurricane Preparedness Info

[duke-energy.com/safety-and-preparedness/storm-safety](http://duke-energy.com/safety-and-preparedness/storm-safety)

### U.S. Department of Homeland Security

<https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather>

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# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

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

### Next Delivery Date

July newspapers will be delivered on July 1.  
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### Press Association Volunteers This Month:

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Lyn Taecker  
Anna Georgiadis  
Cheryl Butcher

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OTOW News will need stories for July.

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



East Activity Center Ground Floor



East Activity Center First Floor



East Activity Center Second Floor



West Activity Center

### East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

### EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map



### Important Phone Numbers

**Community Service Office**

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**Activities Office**

727-799-2734

**Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off**

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**Emergency After Hours/Weekends**

727-799-1115

# Travel Club president shares some of his favorite destinations

By Janice Berman

I keep hearing a line from a song over and over again in my head. It's "Getting to know you. Getting to know all about you."

So, I thought maybe it's a message from above. Maybe this is a good time to learn more about the On Top of the World Travel Club board members

You might learn some interesting facts and enjoy getting to know the current board a little better.

Each month I will write about a different board member. This month I interviewed the club president and this is what he had to say.

President David Berman - "When I graduated college, I wanted to move to Florida from my home state of Rhode Island. Instead I got married and stayed in my hometown. After retiring I was finally able to realize my dream and have been a permanent resident of Florida since 2017.

"My favorite travel destination is Saint Maarten's Orient Beach. It is a crescent-shaped beach about a half mile long. To me it is the most beautiful beach in the world - a place where I can completely unwind while I wait for the ringing of the cow bell that signals the start of happy



One of David Berman's favorite tourist destinations is Rome. This is a picture he took during a recent trip there.

hour.

"I think everyone should visit Rome, Italy at least once in their lifetime. The city itself is very walkable and each corner has a church filled with beautiful art and sculptures that you would expect to find in a world-class museum.

"One place I have not visited is Israel. It is on my bucket list, and if I am fortunate someday, I will get there. I'll let you know!

"One of the best things about traveling is meeting people and seeing how other people live. I usually find an outdoor café to sip coffee or wine and just people-watch. I have talked with some very interesting people during my travels and because of social media I am still in contact with several of them.

"I don't usually buy many souvenirs, however, about 15 years ago on a vacation to Fort Lauderdale, I made a very expen-



sive purchase. I bought a fine wool Italian suit. The shop owner was from Italy. He found me the perfect suit and did the tailoring. He mailed it to my home address in Massachusetts and it fit perfectly. I continue to enjoy wearing it today.

"I stepped up to become the Travel Club president for a couple of reasons. First, I wanted to see the club remain active and vibrant. Also, I enjoy taking day trips with friends and neighbors. This is a beautiful state and there is so much for us to see and do and doing it together makes it a better experience for me."

Next month I will interview another board member. You will have to wait until June to learn which member developed a love of travel from their aunt.

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# Are you a cook or a chef?



I believe there are two types of people in the world - those who eat to live and those who live to eat - and that is only one difference between a cook and a chef.

“Cook” is a job title.

“Chef” is a way of life.

A cook gets up on Tuesday morning and decides to go to the grocery store, hoping the parking lot is not full so he/she can park close to the door.

A chef gets up in the morning and immediately wonders what to cook for dinner.

A cook goes to the grocery store, sees that canned green beans are 2 for 1, and thinks he/she can get a can of mushroom soup, some dried onions and make a caserole.

A chef goes to the produce department, sees some fresh green beans, sautés them with some shallots and prosciutto ham, and tops it off with shaved parmigiano-reggiano cheese.

A cook looks for cooking wine in the aisle next to the vinegar.

A chef goes to the wine section, picks out a Rhone-style red that will go great in lamb stew. What’s left can be poured in a wine glass alongside dinner.

A cook buys a frying pan at a department store and gets a free recipe book for the purchase.

A chef buys a frying pan at a kitchen specialty store and chooses one that is made well, conducts heat and will last a lifetime.

A cook goes to a grocery store to buy fish/seafood because he/she can also get his milk, eggs and bread there.

A chef goes to a fish/seafood market where he/she can find fresh fish/seafood from the local area.

A cook looks at a recipe to make for dinner, but sees there is no tomato sauce



Tom Butcher checks out a selection of fresh cheeses at a market in St. Petersburg.

in the house and decides to make something else.

A chef looks at a recipe and sees there is no tomato sauce in the house, so he/she thinks about using chopped tomatoes instead of sauce -- or maybe spice it up a little with some shrimp cocktail sauce!

A cook calls the grocery and places an order to be delivered. The grocery clerk just goes around the store and picks out any brand.

A chef has to go to the grocery store. That’s the only way to check the freshness of produce, meats or cheeses. Plus, a chef will look for favorite brands and other favorite ingredients.

A cook subscribes to “People” magazine.

A chef subscribes to “Cook’s Country” magazine.

A cook invites people over for a dinner party and keeps thinking when are they going to leave?

A chef invites people for a dinner party, starts planning what to serve a week in advance, considers several options for which wine goes best with the selected food, and then enjoys breaking bread with their guests.

A cook follows a recipe to the letter.

A chef uses a recipe as a foundation to build a great dish.



A cook would go to a grocery store and buy a box of noodles. A chef would go to an Italian market that makes home-made, fresh noodles. So are you a cook or a chef?

A cook likes Italian food so he/she makes spaghetti and meatballs with boxed spaghetti, frozen meatballs and a jar of Ragù.

A chef loves Italian food so he/she starts making homemade sauce in the morning and lets it simmer on the stovetop for several hours. He/she buys fresh ground beef and pork and adds seasoned bread crumbs, salt, pepper, Italian seasoning, diced onions, smashed garlic, eggs, chopped parsley, and freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese.

And oh, the Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese does not come in a green container. It starts with fresh cow’s milk cheese from Italy.

After shaping the ingredients into meatballs, they are baked in the oven for 15 minutes.

At dinnertime, he/she cooks fresh spaghetti noodles, tops it with the homemade meatballs, covers all with the homemade sauce, sprinkles with fresh Pamigiano-Reggiano, and garnishes it with a sprig of parsley.

OK. So you’re asking where do I get fresh noodles instead of the boxed variety?

Mazzaro Italian Market in St. Petersburg has pasta they make fresh every day. You will also find a wonderful array of cheeses. You can find a nice wedge of Parmigiano-Reggiano to freshly grate over the dish yourself.

Voila, a beautiful spaghetti meal that any chef would be proud of.

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## Science of Cooking Healthy Food

By Marie

Email questions, suggestions and comments to

Marie

marieshealthyfood@gmail.com

Also, visit the Box Office for past recipes in this newspa-

otowboxoffice.com



## Tasty Pickled Green Beans

### Instructions

1. Wash jars and lids. Dry completely.
2. Use only quality veggies without blemishes. Trim ends and cut into lengths to allow 1 inch space at the top of the jar.
3. Place spices in bottom of each jar.
4. Pack jars with veggies. Leave 1 inch space at the top of jar.
5. Combine brine ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until the sugar and salt dissolve - about 3 minutes. Remove from heat.
6. Pour brine over veggies and tightly put lids on jars.
7. Place jars in a large pot, cover with water and simmer for 10 minutes. Do not bring to a boil.
8. Carefully remove jars from the hot water and place on a towel to cool.\*\*
9. Refrigerate for two days, turning jars upside down so veggies are completely marinated in the brine. At the end of these two days, enjoy these tasty beans.

\*\* The purpose of steps Nos. 6 and 7 is to obtain a vacuum seal. Remove jars carefully to avoid being burned by hot water and avoid breaking a glass jar. If you feel reluctant to take this risk, then skip this step.

### Link

1 [www.healthline.com](http://www.healthline.com)

### Ingredients

4 pint-size glass mason jars  
1 pound fresh green beans

1/4 teaspoons each of following spices in  
bottom of each jar:  
coriander seeds      peppercorns  
minced garlic cloves      celery seeds

Brine: 2 cups cider vinegar  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 tablespoon pickling spice mix  
1 tablespoon Kosher salt

### Preserve Your Vegetables!

We are facing a lot of cooking challenges by limiting trips to the grocery store during safer-at-home protocols. For example, fresh veggies certainly do wilt and spoil quickly in the crisper drawer.

And we do enjoy the gorgeous summer bounty of veggies.

Maybe you remember how your grandmother would pickle the garden crop to preserve veggies through all summer?

Pickling is an ancient process that has existed for 4-5,000 years. The recipe on this page is a quick hot-pickle recipe that is easy and fast and ever so good with its enticing vinegar tang, crunchy texture and salty punch.

My dear chefs, get creative with colorful veggie combinations. You can pickle many veggies: carrot sticks, cucumbers spears, grape tomatoes, red onions slices, zucchini, etc.

### Health Value

Pickling increases nutrients by making veggies more easily digestible. It is advantageous for adding beneficial bacteria to your microbiome. Never cook or expose the pickled product to high heat as this will destroy their valuable bacteria.

Do check the label for sodium content if you have high blood pressure or heart problems. Many pickled products have

high sodium.

Eating pickled foods with your meal, or as snacks, may help prevent blood sugar spikes, thanks to the vinegar. This has been shown to help control blood sugar spikes often experienced by diabetics. 1

### The Science

A brine is a saltwater solution made to draw out the water from the cell structure so that the veggies are crispy and free of bad bacteria. A brine consists of acid, salt and sugar.

The acid is traditionally distilled white, cider or wine vinegars. But with quick pickling, you can experiment with rice vinegar and other innovative ingredients, such as olive oil and beer.

Apple cider vinegar is a true vinegar; i.e., it is raw (or natural), with the mother still visible. The mother consists of proteins, enzymes and friendly bacteria that give the product a murky, brown appearance. Cider has a mild, rounded flavor versus a sharp taste of distilled white vinegar, but is more expensive.

Salt adds flavor and crispness to veggies and helps to preserve them. Use a pure, additive-free, granulated salt. Acceptable salts are pickling salt (a fine-grained salt containing no additives), kosher salt or sea salt. Salts not suitable for pickling solutions are iodized table salt, rock salt and salt substitutes.

Sugar gives balance to the flavor and helps retain color of veggies. Be aware that the pickling flavor gets stronger the longer veggies marinate in the brine.

Fruits can be pickled, too. If you have experience with pickling or want to know more about it, please email me. I'd be glad to hear from you.



# Celebrating 50 Years ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

## Entertainment Committee is shooting for Sept. 1 to try to bring some events back to the auditorium



The Entertainment Committee is hoping for a normal schedule of events starting Sept. 1. Among the scheduled events are the NYCE Guys (pictured above) with a Motown concert scheduled for Nov. 19. A Tribute to Woodstock is still set for Sept. 17 and a Halloween Dance is still scheduled for Oct. 24. Updates will be posted in future newspapers.

By Marvin Flam

The On Top of the World Entertainment Committee is continuing to closely monitor the coronavirus emergency and the closure of the East Activity Center. At this time all the Entertainment Committee events continue to be cancelled until Sept. 1.

When the Entertainment Committee resumes its activities, everyone who has purchased tickets to any cancelled event will be able to receive a credit for tickets for future events or request and receive a refund.

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

Further instructions to follow.

Since the Entertainment Committee started providing entertainment for the OTOW community 50 years ago, considerable planning takes place every year to schedule successful events for the ensuing year.

Dates are secured for the EAC auditorium, bands and shows are selected and contracted, tickets are priced at a reasonable cost, and information is set to bring in a small marginal profit. We aim to keep our profits minimal because excessive profits must be disposed of as required in the Entertainment Committee's bylaws.

Over the past 50 years, the sound system, lighting system, stage curtains and floor, auditorium ceiling and lighting, and tables and chairs were some of the many projects the Entertainment Committee has helped to provide for the community.

The annual operation to successfully and safely deliver exciting shows and dances to residents is provided by more than 70 hard-working dedicated volun-

teers. Some of the areas they provide support for are ticket sales, table and chair setup, stage and auditorium decorations, lighting and sound, cleanup after events, promotional material preparation and distribution, ushers and ticket takers, security and photography.

The Entertainment Committee thanks you for your continuing support. When the EAC is reopened, and it is determined feasible and safe to proceed, the Entertainment Committee will advise you we are ready to resume first class entertainment for the enjoyment of our residents.

During these difficult times, please be careful and safe.

Check the official On Top of the World Website ([otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)) for all the important community information you need to know.

Check Nancy's Bulletin Board on the OTOW Box Office at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com) for community resources and helpful tips. Nancy updates her bulletin board regularly.

For information about our club, call (727) 449-9243 or email us at [entcom2014@gmail.com](mailto:entcom2014@gmail.com).

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

Information is also on building bulletin boards and will be on East Activity Center and West Activity Center bulletin boards when reopened.

Still need more information? You can visit the Box Office at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com). Our monthly and annual schedules are posted on the home page.

"The Fun Continues ... Celebrate 50!"

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## Canadian Club Blackout



will return when the East Activity Center reopens

Thursdays, 6:15 pm, Art Room

You do not have to be a member of the Canadian Club to play. Free. No lessons. Call Gwen at (727) 474-5799 for more information.

# Lambda Club offers social events, great friendships, and specializes in welcoming new residents

By Bruce Lovett

Every regular reader to this newspaper knows that the Lambda club is famous for their monthly themed parties, seasonal holiday celebrations and restaurant hopping Sunday brunches.

But there are many covert operations that the club is involved in of which an outsider might not be aware.

Not only do we help members of our group meet daily challenges, we also help some larger charitable organizations during festive seasons.

And we have always worked at helping new LGBT residents feel at home upon moving to On Top of the World.

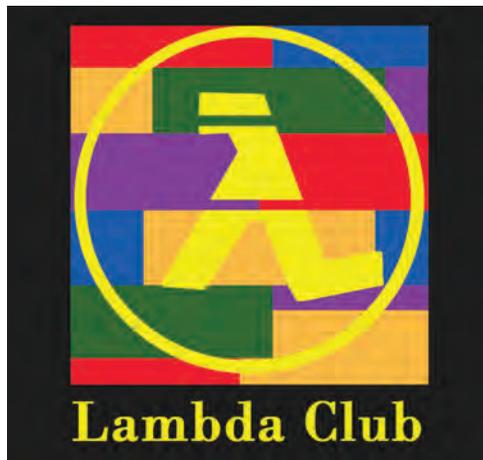
This journalist and his spouse moved into the complex knowing no one and nothing about the surrounding area. We toured the complex, checked out the facilities and looked at some units, but were still undecided.

We found Lambda online and Dave Beaven, the CEO and founder of the club, spent more than an hour talking to us on the phone and invited us out to a Sunday brunch. He also put us in touch with a gay Realtor, Harold Harville, who now lives in the complex, and was invaluable in helping us secure our current home.

At the first social we attended, we learned that meetings always start on time, members are always hungry and newcomers are always incredibly welcomed.

We met a fellow Dachshund owner, who became a friend for life, and cared for our little fur baby when my spouse was in the hospital for 10 days.

Another member introduced us to a



great downtown book club where we met several interesting people, one of whom writes for this newspaper.

And of course, I got introduced to this journalistic enterprise, where in the last four years, I have written thousands of words, eaten many meals and attended meetings that have made me laugh more than an episode of Seinfeld.

We have attempted to pay forward that hospitality to all those that have been fortunate enough to move to OTOW after us. Once such couple is Bill Merithew and Roger Layne.

They recently moved from the great state of Texas. Roger retired from a position as office manager at Coca Cola. He says the bubbly soft drink explains both his life long passion for coke and his fizzy beard. Bill comes from a background working on computer help desks. It was very difficult asking him questions for this article. Anytime I told him I didn't understand, he just told me



Bill Merithew and Roger Layne recently moved to On Top of the World and say the transition was very easy thanks in part to the Lambda Club.

to "reboot."

Fortunately, Bill and Roger had met a couple from Clearwater on a cruise over a year ago, and when they decided to move here, they looked them up. Coincidentally, the other couple lived in OTOW as well, introduced them to both Lambda and Dave, and now they feel right at home.

Bill and Roger have been to social distance gatherings and joined numerous zoom meetings. Paying it forward always

feels good and that is one thing Lambda tries to do.

Should you have any questions about Lambda, a club that services OTOW's LGBT community and their friends and neighbors, visit our official Webpage: [//lambdclearwater.blogspot.com](http://lambdclearwater.blogspot.com), contact us by email at [lambda@gmail.com](mailto:lambda@gmail.com) or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

We are also on Box Office at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com).

## We can still celebrate our countries' birthdays

By Connie Stanley

Good day to our friends at On Top of the World in Clearwater, Fla., and to the 400 other people reading this newspaper in other parts of the world.

Well, it's almost that time again to turn the seasonal clock to summer.

Wednesday, July 1, marks the 153rd anniversary of Canadian Confederation.

In light of the current health situation and our government's priority of keeping Canadians safe, Canadian Heritage will host a virtual Canada Day this year.

At the time of penning this article, details have not yet been announced, but will be soon.

The American Independence Day is celebrated on the Fourth of July and this year so happens to be on a Saturday.

July 4, 1776, marked a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

This year marks the 244th anniversary!

Although public celebrations, concerts and firework displays may not be allowed, my hopes are you can all celebrate



during private gatherings in the safety of your homes and fly the Canadian and American flags high and with great pride!

During this time of uncertainty, I am hoping you and your family are all well, safe and prosperous and you have a wonderful summer!

Again, I anticipate that we can all meet during Registration Night on Nov. 18 at 6 p.m. in the East Activity Center.

Again, I anticipate that we can all meet during Registration Night on Nov. 18 at 6 p.m. in the East Activity Center.

## Your donations filled our hearts with joy

By Becky Balderson

Your community Neighborhood Watch Group has been blessed by the generosity of many On Top of the World residents.

In April, with help from many of you, our group collected enough money, through donations, to purchase 200 meals for staff at Countryside Hospital.

I could write a simple "thank you" to everyone who donated, but in this case, it doesn't seem quite adequate. This goes beyond common courtesy and good manners. Our doctors and nurses are working long shifts during this health crisis and they are putting their lives on the line for us. Through your generosity, I want you all to know, you have filled our hearts with joy and our group was so proud to make this donation.

Neighborhood Watch previously collected "Socks for Seniors." We brought smiles and warm toes to residents at Brookdale Beckett Lake.

At Christmas time, we collected toys for children who were victims of domestic violence. Our donations went to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department, which in turn gave them to Santa for delivery.

Good people do things for each other.

But the great people at On Top of the World are very special.

From everyone at Neighborhood Watch Group, "Thank You" for making our endeavors a huge success.



**OTOW News**



**Pet of the Month**



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Agatha is a Congo African Grey Parrot and also a Snowbird. She happily calls Michigan home over the summer, but Viennese Villa is her true home that makes her spirits soar. Agatha is 28 year old and the feather baby of Marian and David Spitzley. If it ever gets a little too hot for Agatha, she has her own ventilation cap.

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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Expires 6-30-20

# Line dancing opportunities exist online

By Ed Foland

Snowbirds Club line dancing will resume in the fall, but in the meantime they are dancing in their homes and enjoying it.

Every Wednesday morning during our regular line dance class time block, our dancers click on YouTube and dance to videos.

It reminds us how much fun we have when we line dance together at On Top of the World with our friends.

One of the key factors in learning to line dance is to have a good teacher and the opportunity to go over dance patterns multiple times. Then it is up to everyone to practice until the dance becomes more familiar.

Those needs can be met by watching a line dance class on YouTube. The one we use was created by world renown choreographer and instructor, Jo Thompson-Symanski and recording artist Scooter Lee. They are also co-founders of Dancing for the Dream, a nonprofit corporation established for the sole purpose of promoting good health for seniors using line dance as the chosen form of exercise.

Just dancing for the health of it.

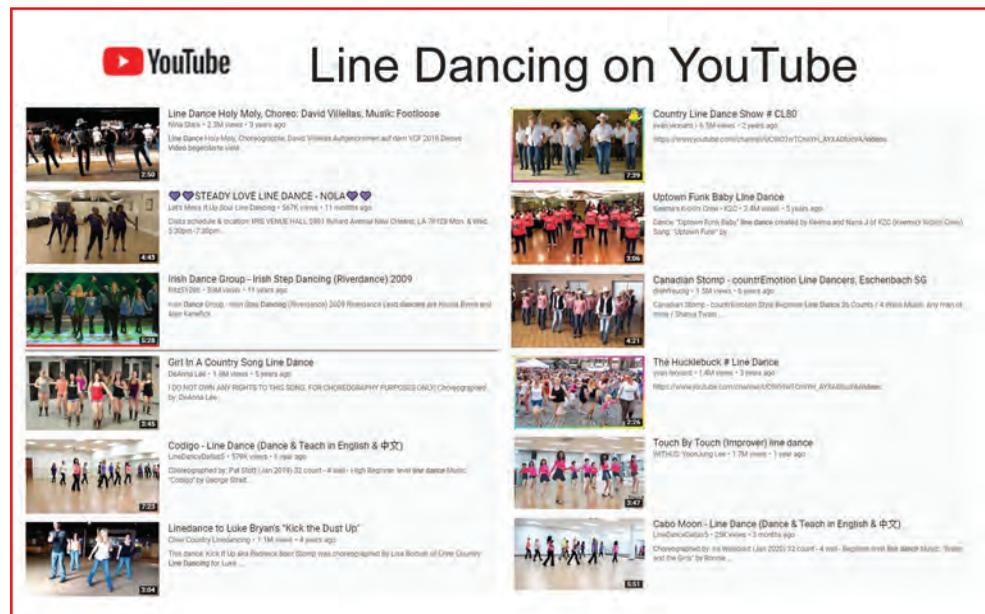
The video contains eight different



dances. Some of the dances are best suited for new dancers who claim to have two left feet, while other dances are just right for the more experienced dancers. Each dance is only 35 minutes long, mostly dancing with very little chit chat. Most of the dances have been taught in Snowbirds class, so the dancers are familiar with them.

Mary Marsden is doing the Wednesday morning video and she had this to say about it in a recent email.

"Just finished doing Jo's dancing video as snowflakes are passing by my window here in Ontario. Those were great beginner ones - she teaches them quickly but very well and it helped that I knew



YouTube offers a variety of online dancing options, including lessons and different dances. As long as the East Activity Center is closed, try one. Even if you are up north, you can line dance when the weather is bad.

some of them, too. Thanks for emailing them out."

Information on our travel and entertainment activities for next season can be found on the Box Office. Go to

www.otowboxoffice.com and click on club pages, then scroll down to Snowbirds Club.

For more info, contact Ed Foland at 727 417-3272 or endfoland@aol.com

## Jesters 2021 show may not be the norm

By Evelyn Flam

As The Jesters prepare for our 2021 show, members continue to contribute ideas and suggestions that they believe will enhance the theme of "Boomer Age Music," and they're having a little fun with the concept of Boomers getting older.

In that vein, we've had a few more humorous song titles suggested: Little Eva's "The Lack O' Motion," Bobby Darin's "Splish, Splash, I Was Havin' a Flash," Ringo Starr's "I Get By With a Little Help From Depends," Roberta Flack's "The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face," and, of course, Johnny Nash's "I Can't See Clearly Now."



This year's Creative Team is getting even more creative in planning our show since we are waiting to hear when the activity center will open. We do not know when it will be available for rehearsals and how open to audiences it may become.

We do know that it is not likely to be business as usual.

So, our team has been exploring ideas of how to schedule our show's rehearsals and performances in ways that will allow our stars to shine and our audiences to comfortably enjoy those performances.

As an old Jester saying reads: "Come Join Us! Don't Delay! You can become a member as quick as today!"

Jester policy is still to get everyone involved and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Just call us at 797-1761 or, better yet, email: JestForFun21@gmail.com.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you and getting together "Jest For Fun!"

## By spring 2021, your favorite 'Grease' characters will be back

By Laurie Fischer

"Grease" made its musical debut in 1971.

Now, five decades after the curtain opened, Theater Workshop will present its own version, "Grease 50 Years Later."

The original musical, "Grease," is named after a 1950s working class sub-culture group known in the United States as "Greasers."

The musical is set in 1959 at fictional Rydell High School (based on William Howard Taft High School in Chicago) and follows 10 working-class teenagers and their classmates as they navigate the complexities of peer pressure, politics, personal core values and love.

Ever wonder what happened to those characters (The Burger Palace Boys and the Pink Ladies) over the past 50 years?

Where are they now?

Well, they will be right back here at On Top of the World in March 2021.

You will have the opportunity



to see them again - only now a lot older - in their 60s, 70s and 80s as they reprise many of the songs and dances from the original show, along with other songs from that era.

Theater Workshop will take you back in time as many of those beloved characters reunite 50 years later to perform, once again, as they did back in the 70s.

They may not be quite as agile as they once were, but their love of singing and dancing will more than make up for it!

So get your leather jackets and poodle skirts on, and get ready to rock and roll once again here at On Top of the World as Theater Workshop presents "Grease Fifty Years Later."

The show will be co-directed by Vicky Portsmouth and Laurie Fischer.

Theater Workshop still plans to perform its postponed 2020 spring show live on Dec. 12 and 13, but once that wraps up, all the attention will turn toward the 2021 spring show.

Vicky and Laurie are already busy putting their production team together.

If health restrictions have been lifted, auditions will take place in December with rehearsals running Mondays and Wednesdays, January through March 2021.

Further details will be announced later in the summer or early fall in this newspaper.

In the meantime, have a great summer and please stay safe!

## Postponed spring 2020 show set for December 12 and 13.

# Still sheltering at home? Here are more ideas to help keep you entertained during this time



You can create beautiful jigsaw puzzles like this one on your own computer safe at home. This scene is from Hiawassee, Georgia.

By Joe Wisinski

In the Computer Club story for the May newspaper, I wrote about ways to stay entertained and ways to connect with others through technology.

As I write this June story, many of us are still sheltering at home, so here are some more options.

## Create your own jigsaw puzzle

If you're looking for some online creativity, go to Jigsaw Explorer.

([www.jigsawexplorer.com](http://www.jigsawexplorer.com))

This free site lets you either put a pre-supplied jigsaw puzzle together or create your own.

To work on one of their puzzles, click on any photo and then on "Play this Puzzle." You can choose the number of puzzle pieces by clicking on the icon that looks like nine dots. The number ranges from a super-easy six to a hair-pulling 1,000 or more.

The site also lets you create your own jigsaw puzzle. Click on "Play your own photo or continue a saved puzzle." Then click on the "hamburger" icon in the upper left corner and browse your computer for a photo.

If you have photos online, such as on Facebook, you can create a puzzle to share with friends. Click on "Create a custom puzzle and share it or add it to your own website" and follow the easy directions.

For full instructions, click on the question mark on the "Create Your Own Custom Jigsaw Puzzle" page.

Be sure to check out the other options on the site's menu bar at the top of the screen.

## Video meetings

Last month's story suggested Skype, Zoom or Facetime to talk face-to-face with relatives or friends. I've since learned about another video meeting app —



## Computer Club

WebEx ([webex.com](http://webex.com)). Like the others, it's free and easy to use.

Even when we no longer have to shelter at home, all of these apps are good for meeting with physically distant friends or family.

## Other activities

To play other games, try the AARP site ([games.aarp.org](http://games.aarp.org)). You'll find word games, arcade games, solitaire and more. Most games are free.

You can also get a free education online at Coursera ([coursera.org](http://coursera.org)). The site says, "Start streaming on-demand video lectures today from top instructors in subjects like business, computer science, data science, language learning and more."

Some schools on the site are Duke University, Stanford and the University of Michigan.

## About the Computer Club

When the West Activity Center re-opens, the Computer Club will resume regular meetings every Saturday morning.

Watch for updates in future newspapers.

## Cutting boards have an intended use or can be hung for decoration

Did you know cutting boards can provide great therapy?

Bob Backlund from the Fixers Club says cutting boards not only provide therapy to the person who makes them, but to the ladies who work in kitchens.

And some ladies don't even use cutting boards for their intended uses. Some collect cutting boards as trivets or decorative items that can be hung on walls.

When Bob makes a cutting board, he mostly uses scrap wood. The samples shown at right are made out of oak, mahogany, cherry, walnut and maple.

As you can see, some of the boards are zigzags and others are checker boards.

They are finished with food-safe, cutting board oil and anti-slip buttons on the underside.

Bob usually makes about 10 cutting boards at a time. Since starting this project approximately 10 years ago, he has given away countless numbers of the cutting boards.



Cutting boards can be a piece of art in the kitchen. Pictured above are some cutting boards made recently by Robert Backlund. The patterns give each board a second purpose.

# Don't fall for a scam where someone offers you a cure to the coronavirus

Hello everybody.

It's Rachel and I hope you are all doing well during this extremely difficult time.

None of us has ever experienced anything like the scope of what we are going through. Hopefully, by the time you read this, most of the worst will be over.

Either way, let's make up our minds that we will stay safe. Then, together, you, I, all of us, will get through this. I promise.

Of course, we are aware that many folks want to make sure that they have all of their legal affairs in order, just in case.

During these times, many attorney offices are open for legal conferences through tele-conferences, remote meetings, and where needed through in-office meetings.

Some are certified for online notarizations, too.

If you are worried about getting things in order, just check with your attorney. It's wise to do that.

In the meantime, though, we have to be very concerned about some scams that are running wild.

Of course, one of them is related to the coronavirus. You may have gotten, or will get, scam phone calls, emails and text messages where you are told there's some vaccine or some cure for the virus.

Or you may have been told that you have the virus and if you passed it on you are going to be fined or thrown in jail, blah, blah, blah, etc., etc., etc.

As I write this on April 8, there is no known vaccine that is being used. So don't fall for someone telling you they have a vaccine for sale. Yes, there are some vaccines that are being tested, but it's going to take a long time before any of them are proven successful and are available for us.

And as for you being fined or thrown



in jail? It would be laughable if it were not so serious. Do not respond to such junk.

Next scam: My partner, Jerry Colen received a text message from, believe it or not, his OWN cell phone number, saying that McDonald's was offering a \$100 gift certificate and all Jerry had to do was click on some link. Jerry's smarter than that, or so I hope! He deleted the text and you should, too.

McDonald's is not offering \$100 gift certificates.

And now, here is another scam, and it's really insidious. Someone may show up at your door and claims to be from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) or from some other federal government agency. They produce really good looking, BUT FAKE, government identification cards or badges or whatever. They claim that you have done something wrong - usually it will be about the US Census, and you must give them "appropriate information."

Please don't!

You and I already know what information they are seeking: Social Security numbers, bank account numbers and credit card numbers.

Slam the door in his or her face IMMEDIATELY.

If they block the door, and you have your phone with you, call 911 at once and tell whoever answers that you are being threatened by someone trying to break into your home.

Under NO circumstances should you allow that person into your home. We, you and I, must be wary of anyone who shows up at our door uninvited. Please remember that, for me.

Now, for something legal: I recently had a client who said she wanted a trust. I asked her about her assets. She had an IRA, a brokerage account with a national brokerage firm, a checking account, her homestead and a car that she was giving to her grandson.

I asked her what she wanted to have happen to her assets when she passed on. She wanted everything to go to her three children, equally. She said that her IRA, brokerage account and checking account all had pay on death beneficiaries already listed.

I told her that she did not have a probate estate because of the pay-on-death beneficiaries. She did not believe me. It seems she'd been to a seminar where she was told that she needed a trust to avoid probate. I explained that she did not need a trust to avoid probate because by setting up her accounts as she did, there would not be any probate of any amounts in those accounts anyway.

She asked about her home. I said she could, if she wanted, convey her home to her children and reserve a life estate to herself with the right to sell it on her own and without the signatures of her children.

By the way, I don't really recommend that because a person's homestead is a completely protected asset here in Florida.

My advice on that would have been different if she were a Snowbird or a citizen of another country. Then I might - might - have suggested she deed it to her children and keep that life estate for herself with the right to sell it on her own (It's called a Ladybird Deed.)

Wishing you the very best,  
Rachel

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

## The Colonel who always got 50 percent

Colonel Tom Parker managed Elvis Presley's career for almost three decades.

When Elvis walked into the Sun Records Studio in Memphis for an audition, Colonel Parker was in the adjacent studio. He heard Elvis and immediately signed him to a "forever" contract.

The Colonel signed Elvis to a contract that gave him 50 percent of his earnings forever.

The Colonel was formally a hawk for carnivals and always referred to Elvis as "his attraction."

He contracted for Elvis to make silly musicals that he hated. Elvis wanted more dramatic roles, but the Colonel insisted he do those musicals as long as they made

money.

Elvis and the Colonel had a terrible relationship. Elvis tried to fire the Colonel, but was reminded that whether he was, or wasn't, his manager, he would continue to get 50 percent of what the music star made.

Elvis was never booked in Europe or South America because the Colonel was an illegal immigrant. He did not have a passport and could not leave the United States. Therefore, Elvis was limited to performing only in the U.S.

When asked by a reporter if it was true that the Colonel took 50 percent of everything Elvis made, the Colonel responded, "That's not true at all. He takes

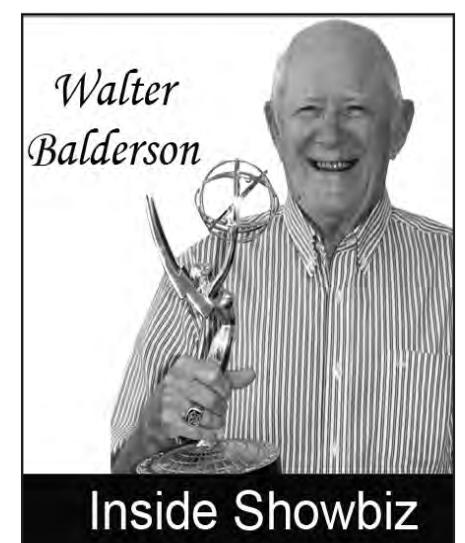
50 percent of everything I earn."

The Colonel had a terrible gambling addiction. He would book Elvis to perform in Las Vegas several times a year just to gamble. Being classified as a "high roller," the Colonel gambled in a room reserved for big money boys.

When Elvis died, his father was named executor, but the Colonel kept control of any monies coming into the estate.

The estate in Memphis is still a big tourist attraction today and still draws huge crowds.

Colonel Parker died in 1979, but his heirs are still getting 50 percent from the Elvis estate and residuals from record sales.



# As we get closer to reopening, let's keep sharing information and contributions

On Top of the World group activities at the East and West Activity Center will resume when the state government says it's safe to do so.

In the meantime, we have a challenge before us to come up with creative ways to reinvent activities in the virtual sphere.

Nancy's online Bulletin Board was put into place on the Box Office in March and is still in the stages of early development. Please visit again ([otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)) because you will discover a brand new online resident's Bulletin Board that I created just for you. The only thing you have to do is share.

Sharing can be in the form of a new online club or news about your existing club. It would be a great place to share jokes, quotes, photos, helpful tips, positive comments, poems and short stories.

Just email me at [general\\_activity@otow.com](mailto:general_activity@otow.com) and I will cut and paste your contribution onto the board.

I have a half dozen ideas for some online activities like trivia and other games that may even involve winning a prize. I'll go into more detail if I hear that you may be interested in that sort of thing.

The Activity Office reopened for regular business hours in May and I can be reached as always at 799-2734. To visit me in the activity office an appointment will be required and all visitors will need to answer a questionnaire regarding



the building.

Surveys can also be mailed to the East Activity Center, Attention: Nancy Rogers, 2069 World Parkway Blvd. East, Clearwater, FL 33763

To date, all of the surveys have been in favor of a future farmers market. We are so excited!

Please continue to complete and drop off your surveys so that we can create the farmers market of your dreams.

## Master The Possibilities

Here is some good news ... distance learning was already an option for OTOW residents before the pandemic started. Distance learning was available through Master The Possibilities, but few residents ever registered.

Well, this has changed dramatically as many of you are taking advantage of the classes from the comfort of your homes, especially the fitness classes. This proves that even at our age we can adapt and change. Check out page 19 for classes in June. Some are free and some cost a few bucks.

In addition, Master The Possibilities will still be offering all the free programs that were offered in May, but the links are only available for viewing until June 30.

Please follow the registration process listed on the next page and I look forward to hearing from you!

ager or director. We will try to maintain as much normalcy as possible.

Please also visit my section of Nancy's Bulletin Board where you will find helpful tips, community resources, online activities and eventually activities held within the Activity Centers under social distance guidelines.

Yes, activities will resume and be better than ever. I am excited about the future and how we will work together to bring this new normal into creation.

Let's stay connected!

## Future Farmers Market

I have already received many farmers market surveys. Residents are emailing the completed surveys to [general\\_activity@otowfl.com](mailto:general_activity@otowfl.com) and dropping off them off at the new drop boxes located at the front of

COVID-19 exposure prior to their visit.

It's no longer necessary to visit the CSO to drop off activity related paperwork, please get in the habit of using the highly secure drop boxes located at the front entrance of the East Activity Center

Would anyone want to start an online photography club or an online movie or book club?

OTOW "club" activities have always been under the domain of residents, but during this period of social distancing, I can help you post your club's pictures, text and online comments to the resident's Bulletin Board.

Of course, I need to hear from you because the residents have always been the chief creators and my role is as man-

# Would OTOW residents support a farmers market?

Here is a healthy living proposal for our Clearwater community: How about local, organic, fruits and vegetables, and other products, sold right on site at On Top of the World?

Over the past couple of years, OTOW has been tossing around the idea of bringing in a farmer's market. If the price was right, would you buy organic products right here in our community?

Would you purchase farm-to-table, quality, heat-and-eat meals at the Good Karma Café? What about an occasional outdoor farmer's market?

Please take a moment to complete the

survey below and drop off at a drop box in front of the East or West Activity Office by Aug. 14. Stay tuned for a follow up report in my September 2020 newspaper column.



## Farmers Market Survey

Answers to these questions will help OTOW assess the level of interest for a farmer's market as well as the products and services you may desire.

1. Have you ever shopped at a farmers market before?  
 Yes  No

2. How often would you shop there?  
 Weekly  Once a month  
 Occasionally  Seldom  
 Not interested in a farmers market at this time.

3. What products should be available for purchase at our farmers market?  
 Fresh, local vegetables  Fresh, local fruits  
 Eggs  Cheese  Maple syrup  
 Imported Olive Oils & Vinegars  
 Fresh cut flowers  Fresh herbs  
 Meats  Crafts  Homemade baked goods  
 Homemade jams, jellies and other local foods  
 Ethnic foods, specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What type of additional services offered?  
 Lunch or snack vendors  Arts & Crafts Vendors  
 Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Would you want to hear live music?  Yes  No

6. What days of the week would be the most convenient for you to shop at a farmers market?  
 Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  
 Thursday  Friday  Saturday  Sunday

7. What is the most convenient time of the day for you to shop at a farmers market?  
 Mornings  Afternoons  
 Mornings and afternoons

8. Where would you want the Farmers Market to be held on the property?  
 Held inside and protected from the elements  
 Held outside?

9. How would you like to be informed about the farmers market once it is established?  
 Newspaper  Television  
 OTOW Clearwater Website  
 Box Office Website  
 Doesn't matter  
 Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Would you like the Good Karma Café to sell some organic products and farm-to-table type heat and eat meals?

11. Do you have any suggestions that you would like to offer to the planning of a new farmers market? (use a blank piece of paper and attach to this survey with a paperclip)

Information About You (Optional):  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation. The information you have provided will help OTOW to determine the level of support for a future farmers market and also help us to develop a farmer's market best suited to the community's interests.

Please mail forms to Nancy Rogers, East Activity Center, 2069 World Parkway Blvd. E., or place completed surveys in an EAC/WAC drop box in the front of each building, attention Nancy Rogers, no later than Aug. 14, 2020.



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

**Florida Historic Places and Museums**

DL Havlin

Learn about Florida's historic places- all 500 plus. The state is divided into five regions that a person or family can explore individually in 3-day adventures. Contact information is provided along with some "don't miss" recommendations.

**Course Fee: \$5**

**Fitness on Demand: Boomer Beat**

Cammy Dennis & Jessica Pinkowski

Join fitness leaders Cammy and Jessica as they lead a low impact aerobic workout that uses drum sticks to increase the intensity and the fun! Drum your way fit with simple low impact aerobics suited for all fitness levels. If you don't have drum sticks grab some wooden spoons!

**Course Fee: Free**

**These Tunes They Are a Changin'**

Rich Cupertino

Come and share the experience of some of the greatest music visionaries of our time. The Beatles, Bob Dylan, the Beach Boys, Tina Turner, The Temptations, John Lennon, just to name a few. Join us as we take a look into the creativity of these artists who truly shaped the path of music forever.

**Course Fee: \$2**

**Fitness on Demand:**

**Strong and Steady**

Cammy Dennis & Jessica Pinkowski

Exercise along with fitness trainers Cammy Dennis and Jessica Pinkowski as they guide you through low-impact cardio workout that highlights posture, balance and gait training. The exercise focuses on cardiovascular health and fall risk reduction.

**Course Fee: Free**

**The Lady with the Lamp- Florence Nightingale**

Dee Collier

Dee Collier will again be joining us as a living historian, presenting the life of Florence Nightingale in full costume. Be prepared to transport yourself back to the 1800's as this fascinating account helps us understand how nursing became the highly respected career it is today!

**Course Fee: \$2**

**Fitness on Demand: Walk Fit**

Cammy Dennis & Jessica Pinkowski

Exercise along with fitness trainers Cammy Dennis and Jessica Pinkowski as they guide you through a low impact aerobic workout based on easy to follow walking and marching patterns. The focus is on cardiovascular workout with emphasis on gait and balance training.

**Course Fee: Free**

**Register Today!**

**Video links and passwords will be on your order receipt.**

To register- email [general\\_activity@otowfl.com](mailto:general_activity@otowfl.com) or call (727) 799-2734

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

# For residents who miss competition, try hitting a tennis ball with a broom stick

By Bob Rittner

“You gotta be a man to play this game (baseball) for a living,” Roy Campanella famously said. “But you gotta have a lot of little boy in you, too.”

Because the little boy (or girl) in us becomes more and more important during each passing year, the end of the On Top of the World softball season does not stop some residents from enjoying another variety of baseball - called stickball.

In 2011, OTOW stickball started with just six players. We have had more than 30 players join at one time or another. Usually just 12 or so show up for our weekly game. We play all year - not just as a summer replacement for softball.

Once social distancing is past, residents will once again play in a small park on Montclair Road, near North Keene

## Stickball

Road, every Friday morning at 8 a.m.

Our equipment, all supplied by the league, are broomstick type bats and tennis balls.

There are two versions of stickball.

The street game has the pitcher throw on one bounce to the batter, or has the batter bounce the ball himself, and upon hitting it, runs the bases. The bases may be a telephone pole, a manhole cover, an ornamental rock in a neighbor’s yard or whatever is handy and can serve.

Our version of stickball is the school-yard-style. A pitcher throws into a strike zone box drawn on a wall, and hits are determined by how far the batted ball trav-

els. There is no base running.

Otherwise, the game mirrors baseball in that there are balls and strikes, and outs are recorded by catches or strikeouts.

Most players both hit and pitch, although nobody is required to pitch.

Most pitchers throw overhand, even using a windup, but some throw underhanded. Even lob pitching can be very effective. It can make hitting a tennis ball with a stick very challenging.

As with softball, we have a wide gamut of abilities. All contributions to the game are welcomed.

At one time or another, each player has been the star of the game, as was Ron Shields when he once had a perfect 6-for-6 day, or Eddie Ramirez, who once struck out the side to preserve a one-run victory in the ninth inning.

We have welcomed people who have

never played the game before. New players include Robert Bannick, who hit over .400; Jim Costello, who led the league in WHIP (Walks+hits allowed per innings pitched); Tara Gunning, who pitched brilliantly and won a game with a long triple and Bill Holland, who slugged .968 and hit the longest home run in league history.

Our returning veterans include Guy Bertuzzi, Rick Champ, Jim Kemp, Bill Lepping, Dick LeTourneau, Joe Maley, Ron Nobile, Eddie Ramirez, Bob Rittner, Lenny Segall and Ron Shields.

For information about stickball, call or email Bob Rittner at 727-729-7970 or bobrittner@yahoo.com

Neither stickball nor softball are sanctioned by OTOW. These are games residents play on their own and outside the community.

## New York-New Jersey Club should resume in October

By Will Peterson

On behalf of the New York-New Jersey Club board of directors, I send out our sincere wishes that this article finds everyone in good health, good spirits and ready to get back to the good times here at On Top of the World.

Due to the seriousness of this health outbreak, and in keeping with decisions made by other clubs, our club will not be holding any events before October. So, all events up until October are canceled.

The New York-New Jersey Club sincerely hopes that we can come up with an event that our membership can enjoy as soon as resources are available and we are given permission to do so.

The board will keep you informed in future articles as to what events will be held the rest of the



New York - New Jersey Club

year. The board is already discussing alternatives.

So, until then, stay safe, obey the rules, keep a smile on your face and joy in your hearts. Pray that things get back to normal very soon.

## Men’s Golf Association is signing up new members

By Peter Milner

Despite not having played any league golf for a while, the Men’s Golf Association is getting restless and chomping at the bit to resume league play as soon as we get the green light to open up activities at the golf course.

The golf course has been kept up to its usual high standards and is begging us to get out there with carts and our membership to make brand new divots to be repaired.

We have missed our usual foursomes and friends that we play with on a regular basis on Wednesday mornings.

Long-standing friendships are made on the golf course and here at On Top of the World is where most of them have been made over the years.

We miss our monthly get-togethers after golf where we can renew those friendships over a hot dog and a cold beverage, relax, have a few laughs and tell a few good stories.

Hopefully, we have been reading some good books on how to play the game of golf.

Our membership is open to all residents of

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Although you may be playing in a foreshore with guys with different handicaps, you are not playing in competition with them directly.

When the course reopens, come on over. You will appreciate the good fun and the beautiful golf course we are blessed to play on.

Wednesday mornings are the days to play. We tee off at precisely 8:30 a.m. and you must be here 30 minutes before your tee time. Check out our Webpage at OTOWmensgolf.com for more information.

**Don't delay! You have until July 15th!**

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# Knitters are home making a variety of items

By Cheryl Butcher

Even though the On Top of the World Knitting Group has not been able to meet for quite some time now, we knitters have not been idle.

Those of us who are not making hospital masks continue to knit and crochet our usual articles of lap robes and baby items.

It does manage to fill the day and night.

And when we get tired or our fingers and hands start to revolt, we are able to catch up on our reading.

Thank goodness for Amazon Prime and Netflix. Binging has become a popular way to catch up on some series. Exercise is always good, too. I have never seen so many people walking and biking on our streets.

Many residents saw our mask-making story on the front page of the May newspaper and contacted us with offers to help. Thanks to all of those kind people who donated fabric and money to us for this project. It is deeply appreciated and helped us make many more



Knitting

masks for the hospitals. One gentleman donated his old neckties, and beautiful masks were made from them - perfect for special occasions.

Depending upon the state of the quarantine, our Knitting Group still plans to give knitting and crochet lessons in the near future. The lessons, a series of four for \$5, will be rescheduled when we are able to meet again. We are delighted to have already received several inquiries from women who are interested. If you think you would like to participate, please contact Cheryl Butcher at 636-346-9645.

I recently received a call from a member of my church. A memory care unit asked her about making "fiddle" or "twiddle" muffs for the patients, and she thought of our Knitting Club. It is a simple muff with items attached (buttons, zippers, ribbons) that Alzheimer or dementia patients can fiddle with and it keeps them occupied.

I checked it out on You Tube, so beware, ladies, I'll be bringing this project up at our next meeting. It looks like a great addition to our repertoire.

When the quarantine is lifted and the EAC is open, we would love to have you join us in the Crystal Beach Room every Wednesday from 9-11 a.m.



**When life returns to normal, watch for information about our new knitting lessons!**

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# Wow! Dedicated newspaper staff produces 100 stories for May and June - not an easy task

Did you see the May newspaper? Have you glimpsed through this June newspaper?

During a time in our world where things aren't exactly normal, On Top of the World residents, management and loyal advertisers have all come together to help produce top-notch community newspapers in May and June.

In a Zoom meeting with staff in April, Editor Doug Kates told staff it could be difficult to produce a May newspaper with so many community events canceled, so many residents going north early and most people staying safe at home.

The goal was to fill a 24-page newspaper.

Turns out, a team of dedicated reporters and advertisers dug deep and submitted 48 stories which covered 44 pages – almost twice as many pages as expected.

And there were still other stories submitted for May, which were held for the June newspaper.

This June newspaper you are reading today has 52 stories in it and four pages had to be added to include them all.

Last year, when life was normal, there were 61 stories in the June edition - only nine more than what you are holding in your hands today.

What an incredible job your Press Association is doing under very challenging



circumstances!

Your reporters have written 100 positive stories over the past two months.

Our reporters have found residents making positive contributions both inside our borders and outside in the county. Our staff found things for you to do in a time when everyone was experiencing cabin fever.

And still other reporters began sharing information on their clubs and groups to prepare us for what could take place when we are back to normal again.

Your community newspaper reporters don't get paid. They volunteer.

If you see your favorite newspaper re-

porter today, please thank them for keeping our community informed. The national news may be hard to watch at times, but we are still trying to keep our 50-year tradition alive – “Only Good News.”

Now it's time to continue looking ahead.

The Press Association held another Zoom meeting in May to prep for the summer challenge.

We still need stories for July, August and September - traditionally our most challenging months for stories.

If anyone in the community has an idea, please contact your favorite reporter.

Also in May, Yvonne Courtney was re-elected president of the Press Association through online voting. She begins her 16th year in office.

Rose Pietrogallo was elected the new secretary. She will keep attendance, story records and send out staff email blasts when necessary. If a staff member is not receiving email blasts, your address is probably not on file. Please send an email to the newsroom and ask to be placed on our list: otow.newsroom@gmail.com.

Patrick Ellingham has stepped down as secretary of the Press Association. No club at OTOW will ever have a secretary more dedicated than Patrick. A few months ago his heart actually stopped on the golf course. Patrick was brought back

and miraculously only missed minor time on our staff. As all our lives changed this spring, Patrick stayed with us, keeping records and sending out email blasts to Press Association staff. Because of Patrick, everyone on staff was kept informed about how we were going to put out a newspaper. His dedication is a major reason why there is a newspaper in front of you today. Thank you Patrick for staying with us.\*\*\*

There are no scheduled staff meetings in June or July. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 6 at 1:30 p.m. It may be on Zoom. It may be in the Crystal Beach Room. It may be in someone's backyard with lawn chairs. The answer will be in your August newspaper.

If the state's 10-person meeting restriction is lifted in early June, the Press Association has scheduled a pizza gathering for 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, to open the pavilion. OTOW management was told our staff will do anything just for the chance to meet in or around the pavilion. Chances are, this event won't happen, but watch OTOW-TV Channel 732 for the latest development. We're not going to cancel it until the last minute.

*(\*\*\* Editor's Note: The newspaper staff lost Patrick Ellingham just days after this newspaper went to press. We hope there are "Good News" newspaper bins in heaven.)*

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# If you do not like getting up at 7 a.m., obviously you've never taken Carol Babini's line dancing class

By Hope Tera

For many people, one of the big perks of retirement is having the luxury of sleeping in.

Ah, what a treat.

Well, not so fast. Carol Babini, a resident here at On Top of the World, has accomplished a miraculous feat. She somehow motivates many of us to wake before the crack of dawn in order to learn new line dance routines from one of the best instructors.

When life was normal, almost every morning about 7 a.m., you could find Carol in the East Activity Center Exercise Room enthusiastically and lovingly introducing those in attendance to new line dance routines.

When someone first mentioned this early morning activity to me, I scoffed. Surely you jest. I've never been a morning person.

Well, some friends still encouraged me to try and it became an essential part of my morning routine. I'm not alone. The group is consistently growing.

Carol always greets everyone with a warm, enthusiastic smile. But I think what motivates most of us to keep coming back is Carol's gift for imparting the joy of line dancing. Plus, she is one awesome teacher.

No matter how full the session is, Carol knows where everyone is. She

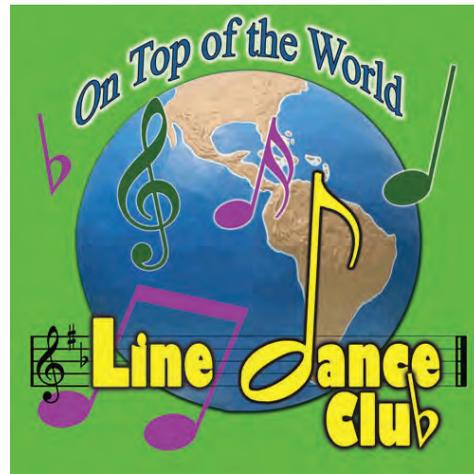


Carol Babini

knows the exact moment when someone is struggling with a routine. And better yet, she teaches the routine in a different way, to ensure the student masters the moves.

"I want everyone in the room to get it," is Carol's attitude toward teaching line dancing. "Nobody gets left behind. There's nothing more satisfying."

Carol spent most of her career working at the Sheriff's Office. She moved to OTOW in 2000.



When she retired in 2009, an article in the OTOW newspaper about the Line Dance Club caught her eye. She had always loved to exercise, but she had never tried line dancing, not even the Electric Slide. She started off taking Sheila Bolster's Beginner Class (Carol insists Sheila is the best teacher ever), positioning herself in the front row. There were no step sheets back then. And Carol does not use a computer. So she took a lot of notes and practiced at home.

Over the first year, Carol caught on quickly, and eventually moved to the back of the room in Sheila's classes to demonstrate the four wall dances for the other students.

While the beginner class proved to be

a great introduction, Carol began to realize that many line dancers could benefit from an intermediate level class. She volunteered to lead.

Without a computer, it was difficult for Carol to structure the program. She started off by choosing individual songs from her CD collection, but that was less than ideal.

Eventually, she agreed to utilize an MP3 player, on which many songs could be loaded.

Carol learns line dancing routines by reading the step sheets, not videos. It's quite impressive!

Soon after she started running the 7 a.m. sessions, Carol noticed that the people who participated were catching on much quicker, and were able to dance the more advanced routines. That brought (and continues to bring) her much joy.

Carol has met many wonderful people through line dancing and insists it is the best cardio exercise around. Whether you are "morning person," or just want to have some fun with a friendly group of line dancers, please consider trying out a 7 a.m. session (Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) ... once the EAC activities resume.

Carol will be waiting to greet you.

I've gotta say, it's a pretty awesome way to start the day.




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# BUILDING REPORTS



## Golfers just happy to be back on their home course again

By Doug Kates

Gerard Morrissette said he shot par on every hole when the On Top of the World 18-hole golf course reopened on May 11.

Of course he was making light of the situation. When the course reopened, people could only golf on their own unless playing with someone from their own unit.

Gerard was the first golfer on the course and finished in under two hours. Behind him were other golfers, every 10 minutes, as per the temporary guidelines.

There was no league play, flags were removed from holes, no carts were allowed and no rounds could start after 2 p.m.

All the golfers said the temporary rules were unusual, but they all agreed it was just nice to be on their beautiful home course again.

"I felt like I was playing on a course I had never been on before," said Gerard, referring to the one month lay-off. "It's a pleasure to be out here and easier to par every hole."

When asked if the safety rules changed his game, Gerard said "no."

"Even when you are playing with a foursome, you are still playing your own game," he said. "I miss the competition, but there is plenty of time (between golfers) to hit another ball or take another putt."

Karen French sees the golf course from her living room every day. She said it was driving her crazy looking out every morning, but not being able to play.

"This is really great," she said on reopening day. "I'm happy just to be out on the course again. I love that we are playing again."

Karen was told that two golfers ahead of her, Gerard was shooting par on every hole.

Karen responded, "I'm shooting birdies on every hole..." and smiled.

Most people were on the course golfing singles.

Magdalene Nawrocky and Romy Brady have been golfing together for years, but because of the guidelines, they had to golf on their own, one in front of the other.

They admitted they tried to trick the official starter by telling him they were married and wanted to golf together, but they couldn't hold a straight face and were denied.

Donna Osborne admitted she was rusty after a month off. She said she was not rushed on the nine-hole course and had time to work on her game again.

Donna was thankful the course reopened, and appreciates OTOW trying to keep everyone healthy, but she didn't want solo-golfing to be a long-term part of the



On May 11, Phil Vose teed off on hole No. 4 at the On Top of the World Golf Course on the first day it reopened since the March shutdown. At right is Gerard Morrissette, who was the first golfer at 8 a.m. He's putting to a hole covering on No. 13 because flag poles were removed for health concerns.

*(OTOW News photos by Doug Kates)*

game. She was hopeful things would be back to normal soon.

To keep up-to-date on OTOW guidelines during these times, follow the official Website at [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)



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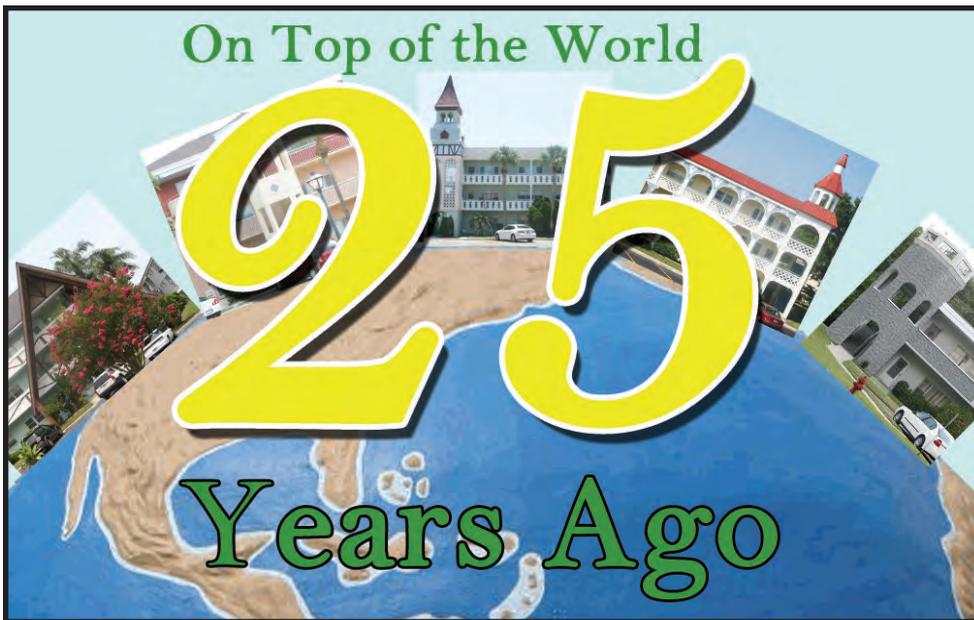
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**A look back at the OTOW News  
June, 1995**

- **Residents Perform at Ruth Eckerd Hall:** Mary Ann Mercer and Frank Coppola performed at Ruth Eckerd Hall May 5 and 6, 1995, in the musical extravaganza “Cause for Applause,” presented by the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin. Mary Ann and Frank, both active in the Chorus, Jesters and Theatre Workshop, said they enjoyed performing in the Junior League’s fourth follies celebration.
- **Irish Club:** On May 2, 1995, the third meeting of our new organization was held. Over 100 were in attendance, with a record of 57 members paying dues. This included 43 new members. Talk about the refreshment committee having their work cut out for them — it was similar to the “loaves and fishes,” only for us it was loaves and cakes! Our compliments to the committee and those who donated so generously.
- **Line Dancing:** The first half-hour of line dancing is reserved for learning and reviewing. Then get ready for one and a half hours of exercise and fun. President Ann Reed invites various members to the stage as leaders. Selected dances are then performed. This month we salute two volunteer leaders: Tenny Figueroa and Beverly Gibbo.
- **OTOW Softball:** The season might be over, but an unexpected chance to continue play has popped up. The Florida Spirit, an all-female team, 55 and over, needs competition to prepare themselves for tournament play. They will soon travel to San Antonio, Texas, and could find no teams, except the OTOW “Old Stars,” to give them a good practice game. Accordingly, OTOW played the Spirit recently to help them prepare for their upcoming series. Good luck to them!
- **Ladies’ 18-Hole Golf:** There is not much news happening right now — just playing and winding down the season. Above all, we say a great big “thank you” to our president, Alice Hall, and her hard-working board members. We wish you all good health and good golfing. Enjoy summer golf beginning soon. Watch for further announcements.
- **French Renaissance:** The ladies in our building have a luncheon once a month from September to June. The last one was at Bon Appetite, when 13 attended. Mannie Sotiridy is moving from our building to Renaissance II. He says he has always wanted a first-floor condominium. Now he has one and he can grill all the fish he catches!



Christine Rathbun and Nelson Sparks are ready to ride the Duke Energy Trail by the 18-hole golf course and the bike lanes in On Top of the World. (Photo by Kathleen Santosuosso)

**Why do OTOW residents ride bikes and where do they go?**

Yikes! Bikes! Twenty-one Austrian Alpiners like to go outside and bike.

Two questions were asked of our avid bikers: Why do you bike and what is your favorite ride?

Don Sanders bikes with a purpose. Don bikes to the barber, the bank, Publix, Aldi’s and CVS.

“I even go through the drive-through at the bank on my bike,” Don commented. “I enjoy the sunshine and fresh air and keep my independence by biking.”

Joyce Monahan bikes and feels like a kid, simply free, fearless and flying. It also keeps her new knee super functional. Her favorite rides are the bike trails all over Pinellas County, but her pedals-down favorite ride is still the Chicago lakefront in autumn.

Jean and Urzula Jean-Marie enjoy the physical activity of biking and the beauty of being outside. Their favorite trail is the scenic Ream Wilson, always a well-maintained and peaceful ride through the parks.

Kathy Ahrens and Lenny Segall also enjoy the Ream Wilson Trail to Safety Harbor and back, along with On Top of the World west side cycling. Outdoor exercise is their reason to ride.

Bob Young is a destination biker. He and a friend ride to lunch, then ride home and burn off those lunch calories. And there are many lunch destinations along the trails, therefore, limitless rides!

Joe Santosuosso’s favorite ride is over the Courtney Campbell to Ben Davis Park.



Chantal Faubert and Mohand Abdelli also like this ride, where dolphins entertain the bikers.

Kathleen Santosuosso’s favorite is to Philippe Park, via the Ream Wilson Trail, because of the birds: Red-Winged Blackbirds, Ospreys, Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, Roseate Spoonbills, Egrets and Ibises.

Christine Rathbun, Nelson Sparks and many of our bike riders appreciate the painted bike lanes on both the east and west sides of OTOW. The lanes help drivers and bikers stay in their designated spaces.

“Enjoy your ride!” is a greeting we often hear from walkers and drivers alike. We definitely do.

A shout out to drivers who don’t realize that bikers have the same rights and responsibilities of a car when entering and exiting the Belcher and Sunset Point entrances, “Stay sharp, folks, and read up on your Florida Rules of the Road!”

**AAA DRIVER’S SAFETY COURSE  
CANCELLED**

The AAA Driver’s Safety Course has been cancelled until further notice. We will publish information on new class dates as we learn of them.

**A Note For Dog Walkers**

When picking up after your dog, do not throw plastic bags down the storm drains. This is against the law. Always pick up while walking your dog.

**Be sure to keep your dog hydrated.**

# 90th birthday honoree, long-term resident are saluted

To celebrate New World French resident Ron Huber's 90th birthday, his family went all out.

Ron's family had organized a family get-together in Orlando, had rented a large house to accommodate the family traveling from Philadelphia, New York and California, but unfortunately, due to the virus, they were unable to fly, so the arrangements had to be cancelled.

So Bryan and Daniell Shaffer, who live in our building, invited Ron for dinner, but as a surprise, also arranged for the neighbors to visit after 7 p.m. Danielle had made a birthday cake and drinks, and we all took birthday cards. It was a lovely surprise for Ron, and a good time for everyone as well, as we stayed socially distant.

Ron has lived in the building since 2000, moving from upstate New York. He is fantastic for his tender years, plays golf and pickle ball, and line dances several times a week. Ron is well known in the complex, because he is so involved in the community.

We have another great person in the building, Selma Feldman, who happens to



have lived in New World French the longest of any resident.

Selma originates from Peabody, Mass. Her family bought the unit in 1989. Selma was hesitant to move at first, but due to a bad ice storm in the Boston area, decided to move into the unit in 1991.

Her son, who lived in Orlando, found it too busy there, so while driving around Clearwater, they were impressed with On Top of the World. She has enjoyed it ever since, Selma and her husband joined a lot of activities, and made many friends.



Ron Huber celebrated his 90th birthday recently with his New World French building friends and neighbors since his out-of-state family members were unable to attend.

Selma, loves to watch all sports, and is excited about Tom Brady coming to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Carlee Layton is a new resident. She moved in recently with her dog, Zoe. She has lived in Clearwater for more than 30



Selma Feldman holds the honor of being the longest-term resident of the New World French building. The Massachusetts native's family bought the unit in 1989.

years and decided to downsize from her home, where she had a business.

She loves animals, especially dogs. She also enjoys gardening, arts and crafts. Carlee will be a year-round resident. We all welcome Carlee!

## Looking for something to do? You can always clean up your storage space

As I write this article, "Safer at Home" is still in effect.

From our area, we Espana residents have fantastic views as a result of this. On some mornings, at the north of the pond at the end of Philippine Drive, under the shade of the trees, we can occasionally see a few ladies.

We also see residents who bring their folding chairs to the lake to sit and enjoy the sun and/or the shade. Some people bring a beach towel and stretch out on the grass and some sit under the big tree in our back yard, keeping their social distance. I hope every dog owner is aware of this.

Many residents are sitting on their front patio and others are walking the front sidewalk. They all meet and hold conversations. Of course they all stay their distance.

I must apologize to some of the new Espana residents for not introducing them in my articles. Unfortunately, my computer crashed and I lost five years of my articles for the newspaper. Therefore I do not



know who I interviewed and who I missed. If I did not interview you and introduce you to your neighbors, please call me. My phone number is in the Espana telephone directory.

Pam Ward is now the resident who posts the information to our building bulletin boards. We want to thank Pam for the fantastic job she is doing.

Since many of you are looking for

something to do with all your free time, how about cleaning up your individual storage space?

According to On Top of the World rules for the storage rooms, each apartment is entitled to five feet width except the Viceroy's who get 10 feet width. Everyone is permitted to extend their space two feet from the wall. The markings on the floor indicate the aisle and if you come up to the line on the floor, you are way over the two feet. I have heard many complaints regarding residents who exceed their permitted space, so please follow the directions.

Also be responsible for what you place in your storage area. Many people tell me that they are missing items. I would suggest that you do not label what is in the boxes. Just put your condo number on the box. Over 20 years ago, I put a box labeled "Lionel trains" in my storage area. It vanished. So be careful.

Take care. Wear your mask and remember "This too shall pass."

### ATTENTION OWNERS WHO RENT OUT THEIR UNIT

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

1. An owner or tenant may go online to [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com), click "Community Information" and print a copy of the Direct Owner Application for Approval and the Direct Owner Lease Application Checklist to aid in completing the application.

2. Local owners may also obtain applications for their tenants from either the Community Service Office or the On Top of the World Real Estate Office receptionist.

3. And lastly, a written request must include building number, apartment number and address of the apartment. Requests must also include a legal-sized, self-addressed, stamped envelope for return mail. Mail to the address listed below.

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

On Top of the World  
Clearwater Florida

updated June 2019

## Temporary Cancellation of Bible Study Club Meetings

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

The OTOW Bible Study Club is a non-denominational Bible study group to explore the word of God, and how it relates to our everyday lives. Our teacher, Woodie Tully, brings 45 years of Bible teaching experience to help understand the Scriptures. For more information, call either Bob Reis, (727) 772-3119 or Woodie Tully, (727) 399-1773.

Check out  
OTOW-TV  
Channel 732

## Welcome a newcomer and meet a building hero

Help me welcome a new lady to our Chetnik building. When asked "What do you want people to know about you?" Janet Smith answered, "First and foremost I am a Christian."

She is retired and looks forward to just relaxing and enjoying life. Janet originates from the Chicago, area. She moved to Dunedin in 1997 and to Clearwater last year. Welcome, Janet!

Now I want to tell you about our local hero here in the Chetnik building. Her name is Judy Best and she lives here with her husband of 20 years.

In the last month she has made over 100 masks. She made these in the first week of our stay at home is safer order. She was able to do this because she is a seamstress, professionally trained in sewing.

She took the 100 masks and gave them to her daughter in Tampa. Her daughter took them to Tampa General Hospital, where she works as a nurse practitioner and donated them to nurses and doctors.

Judy is no stranger to Tampa General Hospital. She worked there for 20 years. Over her career she worked as a nurse for 50 years.

After retiring from nursing, Judy turned to sewing. After classes and training in sewing, she made over 50 quilts.

In between all her nursing and sewing she raised two children on her own.

One of Judy's favorite things to do is take long walks on the beach. She flies to California each summer



for two weeks to visit family and see her grandchildren.

Oh, and in the meantime, she takes care of her husband, Hedley.

When I talked with her last, Judy told me one of her nieces had called and asked her to make a new quilt. Her niece had redone her bedroom. Without a second thought Judy was preparing to make another quilt.

She has ordered more material and supplies to make more masks. She has found a new pattern and wants to try it out.

From time to time I get a knock at my door, the person will ask me, "Where does Judy live?" I tell them and later, when I look out my door, I see someone at Judy's door. The door opens, and Judy gives them a mask. I have referred several people who needed a mask to Judy. And with Judy's love she gives them a mask. No questions asked and she does not take money from anyone.

Judy is truly a hero. She is our Chetnik hero.

## Introducing some of the folks who make Bohemia run

It is time to meet a few of the people behind the scenes at Bohemia.

Our building runs very efficiently, and it is due to the officers that were elected to help maintain this camaraderie. Who are these people? We will be highlighting them in this and the next issue of the paper.

Doug Mlodzinski is our building president. He is originally from Greenpoint, Brooklyn, N.Y., before heading off to Alliance College in Cambridge Springs, Pa. He graduated with a degree in Sociology and a minor in Biology.

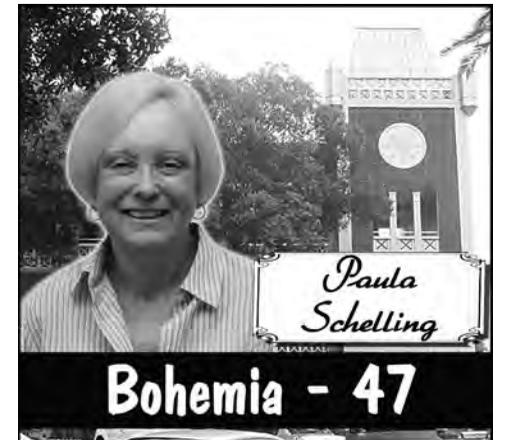
After college, Doug was drafted into the Army and assigned the position of paramedic. He held this post for the two years he was stationed in Korea.

Returning home, he assumed the role of heading the Hematology Department in a local hospital in western New York. After a time, he switched careers and became a pharmaceutical representative for the Berlex Corporation.

Our building vice-president is Dale Prunoske. He is from Hornell, N.Y. He graduated from State University at Brockport.

He started his career as the activities therapist at a state hospital, then a recreational therapist for New York, eventually becoming a state program manager. Using this experience, he moved into program manager for a non-profit, then vice-president of development for a realty corporation before concluding his career at Neighbor Works America in Washington, D.C. He is the proud father of a daughter in Houston, a son in Brooklyn and a daughter in Portland, Ore.

We are fortunate to have Tricia Mlodzinski as our treasurer. Tricia's hometown was Amesbury, Mass. Leaving there, she headed to Alliance College



in Pennsylvania, where she majored in English. It was during this time that she met Doug, who would become her husband after finishing college.

Tricia became a teacher with the challenging job of working with middle-school-age children.

They would often visit family members in upstate New York, specifically Canandaigua. Because of those visits, it helped them decide that this would become home. Doug and Tricia have one son who now resides in Michigan.

The aforementioned are just some of the people who unselfishly give of their time to make our building function.

Hearing the plight of the food banks, our building held a weekend food drive. Over the course of the weekend, we collected 121 pounds of canned goods and non-perishable food items. The food bank employees were very grateful.

On May 4, Katie Shivel ushered in her ninety-first birthday. She was surprised at being serenaded by 17 building residents who stood in the parking lot and sang to her. Happy belated birthday, Katie!

**OTOW News Clearwater Box Office Website: [www.otowboxoffice.com](http://www.otowboxoffice.com)**



## Brittany Farmhouse building

Residents of Brittany Farmhouse got a nice surprise on Mother's Day. Members of the brass band of The Salvation Army Church gave a little concert playing a couple of hymns for us. What a wonderful treat! (Submitted by Ute Scheibe)

The East Activity Center reopened on May 20 under strict guidelines.

The Community Service Office, the lobby and laundry kiosk, the Fitness Center and the EAC swimming pool were reopened.

Face masks are required.

For the latest updates, please review the official Clearwater Website:

[otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)



Pictured above are Linda and Lee Siegal. Lee was honored at a local restaurant on his birthday. Building reporter Irene Pappas can be seen in the mirror taking the photo.

## Birthday honoree reveals love letter to his wife

Residents of Mandalay were happy to share a wonderful birthday celebration for Lee Siegal.

Just before the Covid-19 lockdown, Lee and his lovely wife, Linda, treated about 30 people at Olive Garden for a delicious luncheon. In attendance were Lee's daughter, son-in-law, grandson, many cherished friends and a few of us from our building.

What made this event so unique was that Lee had written a beautiful heartfelt letter to Linda expressing his love and gratitude since their marriage in 1987. Lee and Linda have been residents of On Top of the World since 1998 and serve as the social directors for the Mandalay building.

I am going to paraphrase a few lines of Lee's letter:

"I knew from the moment I first met you I wanted you in my life. Your eyes



and beaming smile made you irresistible to me.... I always felt I had won a huge prize to be able to be by your side at every occasion.... I love you with all my heart, bride. Many times you echoed to me that I had you from 'hello.' Now I admit I had you in my heart long before that."

## When it's 'all clear,' the Family History club and other clubs will be ready

We are so fortunate to have a large variety of clubs here at On Top of the World.

No matter what your interest, you are bound to find a group or organization to satisfy your curiosity or hobby. (Note that, as this is being written in mid-May, OTOW clubs are not meeting due to the current health crisis. You will be advised when clubs can meet again.)

Such was the case for Susan Marchand. She'd always wanted to research her Irish ancestry but had never found the time or resources until she joined OTOW's Family History club.

"I am so glad that I started attending the Family History meetings here at OTOW. I had been wanting to start my family tree for a while," said Susan. "I was encouraged to proceed after listening to a couple of speakers the club brought in. One spoke on DNA, and another was from the St. Petersburg Family History Center in Largo."

"By attending these meetings, I learned about the Pinellas Genealogical Society at the Largo Public Library. Their library is huge and they have quite a few volunteers who are always willing to help guide us in search methods and resources; and they even have a group just focused on researching Irish ancestry."

Under normal, non-lockdown conditions, the club, under the leadership of group leader Dave Cordes, meets on the second Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m. during the winter season in the Learning Lab. There are no dues required. Attendees share their extensive research on their family histories, both nationally and internationally; while many share stories of their visits to their



homelands to see the actual homes where their ancestors lived.

Susan is quite pleased with the progress that she's made in her searches, "There's a lot of resources and help out there once you discover how to find it. It is so exciting to find records of your ancestors dating back to the 1800's and 1700's! I even found records of my dad in school in 1930."

Our building's senior resident, Chickie Brophy, was honored this past month with a picnic in the park to celebrate her birthday and the upcoming Mother's Day. Her two daughters and their families met mom outside, set up tables and chairs in the Lake Arbor Park, and brought a lovely picnic lunch to help mom celebrate this special occasion.

Two great-grandchildren also attended. This was Chickie's first time seeing the youngest, a beautiful baby girl. Chickie is anxious for the snuggles and hugs, but says that will have to come at a later time.

That evening, about 30 or more neighbors gathered in our Swedish Drive circle to sing "God Bless America" and recite the Pledge of Allegiance; but first, the honor went to Chickie with a round of singing "Happy Birthday," along with many well wishes.

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Menu Option 6

Emergency Service  
After Hours/Weekends  
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OTOW Clearwater Website: [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)

## Some Handy Pinellas County Phone Numbers

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

# Building residents enjoy surprise Mother's Day concert

All of the residents at Rila Renaissance would like to send our second round of congratulations to Joe and Audrey Maley's granddaughter for winning a chance to go to the International Irish Dance Competition finals in Ireland.

Last year we wrote an article in which we explained she had accumulated enough points to compete this year at the national competition in Vancouver. I was so happy when Joe let me know that in the Vancouver competition, she had won the prestigious honor of competing internationally in Ireland.

We all want Joe and Audrey to pass on our congratulations and hopes for a successful and enjoyable trip to Ireland.

If you would like to get an idea of just what this competition is all about, please go to YouTube, which has some excellent videos of Irish Step Dancing. The steps are intricate, and rhythms ebb and flow to ever increasing crescendos.

Also, our neighbors, Bob and Betty Bridges, and the rest of the residents of our building had a wonderful surprise on Mother's Day. The local Salvation Army



brass band arrived, set up folding chairs in front of the Bridges' unit and proceeded to do a mini-concert on their side of the building. The band then proceeded to the Florentine Way side to play some more.

A number of residents on both sides of the building lined the walkways to clap the players on after each selection. We thank The Salvation Army band players who gave up time away from their families on Mother's Day to honor our residents with their music.



The Salvation Army brass band played for Rila Renaissance residents on Mother's Day.

Finally, on a personal note, now that the Snowbirds have headed home, and we are beginning to get around more, I need your help more than ever for article ideas. Please let me know about the wonderful happenings, vacations/staycations, new hobbies and celebrations that are happening in your lives.

I know all of our neighbors and our Snowbirds who read the paper online would love to know what is happening here at On Top of the World and with their friends here in the building.

We will also bring you up to date when we can finally start to reschedule our monthly luncheons in the OTOW News.

# Bidding farewell, extending greetings and other news

The quietness of summer is upon us. Been a rather strange spring, to say the least.

Mother Nature has had a chance to catch her breath and it shows. Cleaner air, beaches, water and far less traffic.

Mother's Day for Mary Carey was breakfast delivered from Bob Evans. Everything was delish and piping hot. Mary and Bill enjoyed E&E Stakeout on their re-opening night in mid-May.

Our cast is ever-changing on the Villa's stage. We bid adieu to some and welcome others. Merl and Dot Chronister have moved to a new place on Brazilian. Merl was a long-time neighbor and a former wing captain. Charlie Coffman has returned to West Virginia to be with family.

As cast members move along, new ones arrive. Please join me in welcoming new neighbors, Rick and Tekoa Pullen and their sweet little pooch Issy. They hail from Kentucky, by way of Spring Hill, Fla.

Rick mentioned he had enough of yard work and they wanted a place to relax



and have some fun. Well they certainly found the perfect spot. We are within a stone's throw of everything one could ever want or need.

The handsome little tyke in this month's picture is Rosalie BorrSELLI's new great-great-grandson. Our congratulations and very best wishes to him and his proud family. One wonders how Rosalie could possibly be a great-great-grandmother. Our fashion plate looks far too young!

Randae Tornetta stopped by just as my molasses cookies came out of the oven. So of course we enjoyed cookies, milk and food talk. Randae writes those wonderful recipes for our paper. Save your particular favorites and give them a whirl. With so many good ones, you will have a cookbook!

Speaking of food, along with being an award-winning dancer, Mary Wolf is creative in her kitchen as well. Scones and lemon curd are some of her specialties. Thank you, Mary!

In last month's paper we had the opportunity to vote on having a farmers' market here at OTOW. People seem very receptive to this idea. After all that food talk, I better use the stairs more often!

Until next we meet, birthday and anniversary wishes to all, including flag guy Steve Mazurek and Trudy Barry, who share June birthdays.

Again, thank you to those first responders, the Chris Tuttle's, who keep food at the ready, and OTOW for keeping



Say hello to Rosalie BorrSELLI's new great-great-grandson. Congrats to the family.

us safe — especially the brave workers who come by wiping down with disinfectant everything and anything we may touch. And of course to the newspaper staff, who make our hen-scratching readable.

Stay safe. Any news fit to print, send to fresca@maine.rr.com

# Socially responsible get-together brings music, refreshments

As the world turns, so do the days of our lives. These words are very appropriate, since our daily lives certainly have changed.

The current health situation has caused all of us to change how we shop and even how we get our hair and nails groomed. COVID-19 can even affect our general physical and mental health at times. What makes us all feel better is music. Every person likes music.

On May 16, our building was treated to a performance by "Lady and the Outlaw." Their music got us up moving and dancing from line dancing to the twist.

Residents from our building were joined by others in our parking lot, front



porches and even on the upper walkways! To keep our energy going, we all ate

pizza, cupcakes, cookies and even chocolate which were all in abundance.

In addition, a notable birthday was celebrated, namely Helen Gonzales, who was celebrating 95 years of life. (Hip-hip hooray!)

At 8 p.m., we paused and sang "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful" as we have been doing since the beginning of the pandemic. Every person left our parking lot with a smile on their face and a renewed spirit.

Thank you, Joni Raycroft, for planning and arranging such a fun evening.

Remember to smile, listen to music, and of course, use your turn signals!



Lady and the Outlaw perform for Swedish Traditional residents.

(Photo by Chris Scarpato)

# Looking toward a patriotic summer

With Memorial Day come and gone, the bulletin board will remain decorated in red, white and blue for June (Flag Day, Sunday, June 14); July 4th and Armistice/Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

Anyone who has a bit of patriotic décor, feel free to contribute. Let's also decorate our front doors or windows with patriotic Americana.

Yours truly visited Washington, D.C., over spring break in early March. My grandchildren led me on a tour of favorite monuments.

At the Lincoln Memorial, we marveled at Lincoln's Second Inaugural speech, 1865, inscribed on one wall. Find the entire speech posted on the bulletin board. His powerful words address one of America's ongoing aspirations. "Fondly do we hope... fervently do we pray... with malice toward none, with charity for all... let us strive on... to bind up the nation's wounds."

The Vietnam Veterans Wall was also very special to me as I was able to make a



rubbing of the name of a friend to present to his widow.

No surprise that a visit to the Library of Congress was a must. I remembered to have my OTOW News, a copy of which always manages to be with me.

It was a bright sunny but bitterly cold and windy day, hence my frowny face, although I was having a wonderful time.

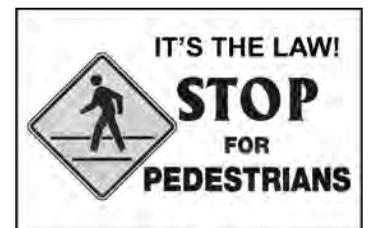
The best part was spending time

with my three treasures. We took short hikes along a nearby creek, gathered rocks, took them home and painted them, baked bread, watched movies, listened to music, and took Coco, their dog, for walks. Lots of silliness and fun!

I have posted two signup sheets on the bulletin board, one of which is for veterans in our building to let us know which branch of service they were part of. This way we can honor them individually.

The other sign-up is to reinstitute our Loch Lomond tradition of the birthday list. Please do sign up, month and date only. Feel free to include year if you wish to brag! Personally, I have always felt age is a matter of survival of the fittest.

Once we get the "all clear," we will try to start up our Lunch Bunch gatherings. Anyone interested in leading this activity, please step forward. I'm still teaching so my time is limited to writing this column now and then. Lunch gatherings or other socials are fun ways to get to know our neighbors. Have a safe and happy summer!



## ATTENTION WEST-SIDE DRIVERS

As you enter on World Parkway and approach Americus Boulevard, remember to come to a complete stop before making your turn. Do not pass a left-turning car on the right, inasmuch as that blocks the other driver's vision and could cause an accident. Remember to make a complete stop when you come to any stop sign

within the On Top of the World community. The other cars and pedestrians around you are depending on it, even though you may not see them. A "rolling stop" places you and others at risk of an accident. Stop, look both ways, and look in front of you. Thanks for being a cautious and safe driver!

# Basic Hurricane Preparation Tips

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

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

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

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

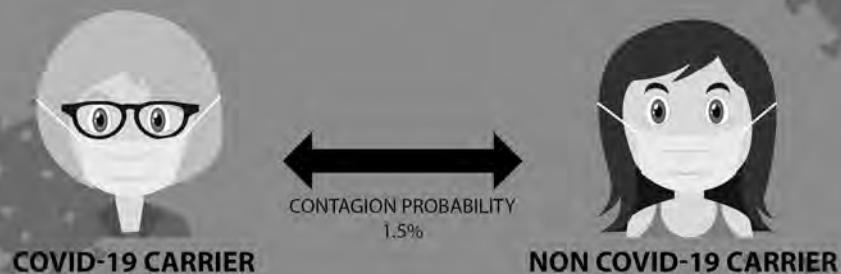
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# These Mallorca residents prove they are 'top flight'

"People who need people are the luckiest people" in the Mallorca building. And we have two: Bev Paulan and Brooke Pennypacker.

Bev grew up in Villa Park, Ill., and Brooke in Point Pleasant, N.J. They met in 2005 while working for a nonprofit called Operation Migration. The project led migrating whooping cranes from Wisconsin to Florida. Bev was in charge of the ground operations and Brooke was one of the ultra-light pilots.

Bev also flies single-engine aircraft. She learned how to fly while in college, and eventually got her instructor's license.

She purchased a plane and started a charter service. She also ran the flying club where she had learned to fly.

After her stint with the whooping cranes, she got her dream job with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, flying fire watch and doing wildlife surveys. On her down time, she checked on habitat for Karner Blue Butterflies.

She is knowledgeable about dragonflies, even knowing the differences in some of the males and females. She also volunteers to track



bats in Wisconsin. Seems she does like things with wings!

Brooke has also led a varied life in the many careers he held. He worked with trumpeter swans, deep-sea dove on oil rigs in the North Sea, went diving for sea urchins off the coast of Maine, dredged for gold in the mountains of California, re-habbed old hydroelectric sites across the country and worked as an apprentice for a bronze sculptor in the Bahamas.

His fun focus now is kayaking, which everyone can attest to, seeing the kayaks on top of his car. He will paddle whenever and wherever he can find water!



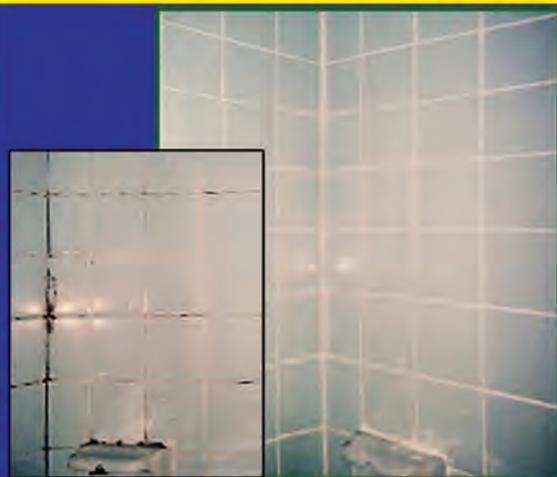
Top photo: Brooke Pennypacker pilots an ultralight craft during an annual mission to help guide whooping cranes from Wisconsin to Florida.

At right: Bev Paulin poses with her airplane. She learned to fly in college and eventually started a charter service. She also flew for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.



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# Building cookout helps break the monotony

Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch?

The recent outbreak has kept many of our Snowbird neighbors from returning to their home states.

Joyce and Mike Donnelly are from New Jersey, as is Lance Goonan. Debbie and Bill Benziger are from New York. All of us here at the Emerald Isle are staying close to home.

Given these circumstances, our amazing building captain, Cheryl Butcher, came up with the idea of serving lunch to all the neighbors to be eaten at a social distance.

They set up a table in the core with condiments and snacks and ordered 40 big fat hot dogs and rolls. At 12 noon on Thursday, May 2, we all drifted downstairs to eat our fill. And eat we did!

Cheryl told me we had two hot dogs left. Everyone was so grateful for the distraction.

Thanks to Bill Gipperich, who got the franks, and Tom Butcher, who did the grilling. Some folks even observed the mask rule. Pictured are: Bill Gipperich, Marshall Greenman, Cheryl Butcher, Cass and Rich Piskorik.

On another note, if you want to see something amazing, drop by the front of our building. Bill and Marge Gipperich have



This beautiful landscaping at the front of Emerald Isle is the result of Bill and Marge Gipperich's recent efforts.

done an outstanding job of landscaping in front of their residence. Take a walk and see for yourself. Wouldn't it be great if all our front yards looked like this?



Some of the folks responsible for a recent building cookout are, left to right: Bill Gipperich, Marshall Greenman, Cheryl Butcher and Cass and Rich Piskorik.

This is the first summer in a long time that Marshall and I will be staying here in Clearwater. We sold our cabin in the Georgia mountains last August and

are now year-round Floridians. I'm looking forward to using the activity center and the pool. See you around!

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# Villa Riviera couple finds new adventure to share

Long, long ago (10 years) in a galaxy far, far away (snowy Binghamton, N.Y.), Steve Flint turned to his wife of 40 years and said “Honey, the minute you retire, we are leaving this winter nonsense behind us.”

Five years later, in 2015, although still not fully retired, Sharon took four weeks of her vacation during the cold months and they tried out a holiday in Lakeland, Fla. They decided it was too far from the west coast of Florida, where most of their friends had retired.

So the next year, when they were both finally retired, they got a place in New Port Richey for four months. When they couldn’t get it for the following year, a friend recommended On Top of the World. They got in touch with the rental office and got a nice unit on the west side.

They liked it so much they found a place of their own in Villa Riviera. After the winter of 2018, they decided to put their Binghamton house up for sale. Now they are full-time residents. They go up north for special family occasions like weddings and their recent 50th wedding anniversary, but they are more involved in getting family to visit them down here in beautiful Florida.

Sharon is famous throughout the building because of her cooking. She contributes to our monthly birthdays and annual BBQ and has “manned the



coals” many times grilling pork chops, hamburgers and sausages.

She hasn’t quite managed the skill of cooking for just two, which pleases her husband, who enjoys his food, and her neighbors (of which this journalist is one), who are always available for leftovers.

Sharon also loves to dance, and although Steve isn’t much of a dancer, he loves to see her happy. Aside from the New Year’s Eve gala and various other OTOW dances Sharon can be found dancing at the VFW or the odd club around town.

That’s one of the things they love about OTOW: the location. If there’s nothing going here on site, they are close to everything. The other is the great friends they have met here, who are as crazy as they are!

When through no fault of their own,



Sharon Flint at “Whimzeyland,” a stop in a recent Amazing Race game in which she and Steve Flint participated. (Photo by Steve Flint)

Sharon’s dancing got cut back, one of their wild friends came up with an interesting way to have fun. He developed a local Amazing Race game. Couples were sent out in their cars and given clues to famous local landmarks. Once your picture was taken and submitted, you got directions to the

second landmark. There were four in all, a little over two hours driving time.

Steve and Sharon came in second. Check out the photo Steve took of his gorgeous wife in front of one of the destinations. Can you guess where she is? Hint: “Whimzeyland.”

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## Siboney notes include a shout-out to decorators

Things here at Siboney are slowly getting back to normal.

Meanwhile, beachgoers are very happy to have their feet back in the sand. Stores are doing very well keeping the shelves stocked and sanitation is wonderful. I hope residents start taking advantage of the outside activities that are now available in our community.

Walking now every day is the best way for me to stay healthy. I know a few of our neighbors plan on heading north in a week or two, so safe travels to them and please wear your mask and avoid crowds.

We really enjoy coming down the elevator everyday to see the board above the mail boxes decorated so beautifully every two months. Our neighbors, Bob and Barbara Stone, and their daughter Cindi, did a fabulous job making them. Thanks, guys!

How about those love bugs —what a nuisance they are. Clean the hood of your car often because the bugs can ruin your paint. Dryer sheets work great for



removing their residue from your cars.

Check out our bulletin board for important info about logging into the website for On Top of the World community news and opening of activities.

Former long-time original resident and OTOW News reporter Cele Radeloff turns 96 on June 24. Happy birthday!

Happy Father's Day to all the Siboney building dads. Enjoy your day!

## Learning a little more about 'Mrs. Fun'

We continue to have entertainment provided by "Mr. Fun" in the courtyard of the Granada Building.

I thought I'd tell you about his assistant, "Mrs. Fun," Bella Houser. Bella is a very outgoing woman from the country of Columbia. She worked in customer service at the Home Shopping Network as well as in bank management.

Bella and Bill met and studied under teacher Prem Rawat cultivating inner peace for the last 40 years.

Bella also told me about her "gift of healing" that she feels she was blessed with. Besides healing herself of migraines and sciatica, she has healed several others over the years.

Most recently was her sister, Esther, who was in intensive care in Madrid, Spain. Her sister was not expected to be released any time soon. After speaking to her over the phone, Bella "spent the evening in prayer to the Divine Creator,



affirming that goodness has all power and that fear has none," and then Esther was released the very next day.

She told me she has had this happen many times over the years.

We have been very lucky that our wonderful weather has allowed us to spend much time outside and to enjoy the free entertainment from Bill, aka "Mr. Fun" and his wife/assistant, Bella.

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# 90th birthday is highlighted by Sinatra tribute singer

One of my favorite things about living at On Top of the World is the variety of ways to enjoy the outdoors. It helps that the cool Gulf breezes seem to arrive at just the right moment on a warm day.

The outdoors is proving to be even more important in this time of social distancing. I've never been more appreciative of a simple wave from a neighbor — whether from six feet away or across the street.

Our building had a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, separately-but-together, on Marie Pirrello's 90th birthday. Marie's daughter arranged for John Russo, a talented local singer, to perform a series of Frank Sinatra tunes.

He set up his equipment in the parking lot and serenaded Marie, her husband, Tom, and the entire Azores community. It was an incredible evening of dancing, singing, laughing, and appreciating each other. At the end of the performance, we presented more than 20 birthday cards



to Marie, one of our favorite Azoreans.

Our building has found other creative ways to stay in touch these last few weeks. Building President Ann Setkowitz has been posting a "Laugh of the Day" — a series of cartoons and jokes — on our bulletin board. For many of us, checking out the board has become part of our new daily routine. Some residents are even sending them to family and friends.



Frank Sinatra tribute singer John Russo serenades Marie Pirrello on her 90th birthday celebration in the Azores parking area.

Anne Rostick started a new building newsletter that has been getting rave reviews. The "Azores Hello" is full of resident news, tips for staying healthy, ordering food deliveries, and more. Many thanks to the two Ann(e)s for their caring and creativity.



John Pirrello and his wife Marie enjoy the concert by tribute singer John Russo. The event was arranged by Marie's daughter.

Jerry Cather and Paul Bunker are the proud new dads to Luna, a beautiful blue brindled greyhound. Three-year-old Luna, a former racer known as "Loco Blast," found her new "forever" home through Gold Coast Greyhound Adoptions. Welcome, Luna!

## Help us protect residents from the 'grandparent scam'

Within the past few years, On Top of the World residents featured in this newspaper have been contacted by phone claiming that a grandchild was in jail and needed bail money.

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

out large sums of cash. Investigators believe the scammers may have read this newspaper online to gather information.

Since the first such incident, the OTOW News is requesting that building writers no longer list the names and locations of grandchildren in stories. All residents should be aware that this is a common scam everywhere in Florida and the entire country

— not just here at On Top of the World.

If you get a call claiming that a family member needs money, ask questions and double-check the information.

Try to check on the whereabouts of the child in question yourself. If it sounds suspicious and you think it may be a scam, call the police.

# OTOW Change of Address Form

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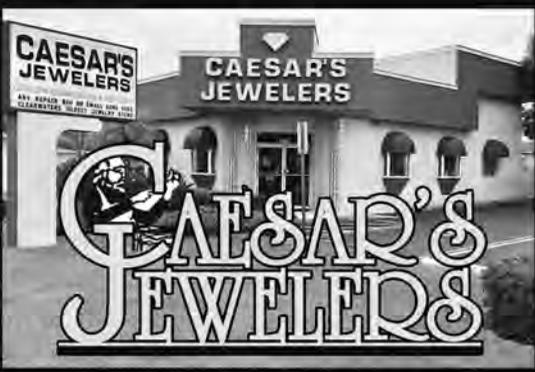
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Expert bagpiper Ray Willis played to the delight of Hawaiian Towers residents on Easter and Mother's Day. (Photo by Yvonne Courtney)



Jack Gow, Pauline Jones and Tyler Jones (at rear) pose with Jack and Pauline's new bicycles. (Photo by Karen French)

## Latest happenings from the French Renaissance building

The residents of French Renaissance #44 are very pleased to have a new directory for their building. Karen French gathered the information by going door to door (safely) in April and May.

Pauline Jones and Jack Gow are the proud and happy owners of new bikes. They traded in their old bikes, as they were not working well for either of them.

Following knee problems, Pauline is happy to have found a proper fitting bike from Second Hand Sports in Dunedin. A company representative, Tyler Jones, comes to their place as needed to help with adjustments and maintenance.

Watch for the happy smiles of Jack and Pauline as they ride around our wonderful



On Top of the World community!  
Pauline and Jack do miss traveling and are adjusting to this new world around us.

## Bagpiper helps 'lighten the load' for residents

There is very little going on in our building since the current health crisis. Many people are wearing masks and keeping safe distances, but we will get through this all right.

The residents of Hawaiian Towers would like to thank Ray Willis for entertaining us on Easter and Mother's Day. He played the bagpipes and told us a little history of the songs. Thank you again, Ray!

I would like to welcome new residents of our building. They moved in just before the current health conditions and have not gotten to experience most of what On Top of the World has to offer



its residents, but soon they will, we hope! Stay healthy and strong.

### ATTENTION DRIVERS & CYCLISTS

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

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# A good time to review travel memories

By Sue Naylor

A recent newspaper article suggested that we take a close-up tour of our own living rooms, hopefully with the goal of evoking some long-forgotten memories from our once precious trinkets.

Being the rebel that I am, I started in the kitchen instead, primarily because that is where my fridge stands covered with magnets from some of the 78 countries I have visited. Finally I found what I was looking for: memorabilia from a long-ago two-month trip to Australia and New Zealand. Included in my find were magnets of a wombat, a laughing kookaburra and a koala.

Next, I retrieved a copy of a book of travel memoirs I wrote and self-published about four years ago. The title of my book is "Lip-Roaring Verboten," which contains a reference to China and another to Germany.

In our Chinese hotel room one evening, I decided to read the rules on the back of the door and came across the funniest translation of English I've ever seen. Rule number 3 stated: "No lip-roaring after 10 p.m."

"Verboten" is a German expression

(meaning "forbidden") and is a nod to my German connection. With B.A. and M.A. degrees in German, I taught it for 26 years in both New York and Hawaii. Eighteen trips to Germany with and without students round out my resume.

In my book, I turned to the chapter on Australia and New Zealand where I immediately found what I was looking for, a conversation on Australia Day in a Sydney restaurant with the funniest waiter I've ever come across. This is it verbatim:

Himself: "If you want fish, get the barramundi. Or the pepper steak is also good."

I ordered chicken instead, so after a while the waiter came back to our table and stood there glaring. I just shook my head and said, "Not too good. How long has he had this chicken back there?"

His reply: "Well, let's put it this way: This species of chicken is completely different from what we have nowadays." Then he added sarcastically, "I *told* you to get the barramundi or the pepper steak. I can't help it if you don't listen to me. Do you dare try dessert?"

We didn't.

When we got the bill I noticed a \$3



Sue Naylor's self-published book that she references in this column.

charge on the bottom that we couldn't account for, so I asked him about it.

His answer: "The government charges patrons of places that serve liquor on holidays \$3. (Remember, it's Australia Day.) They think you ought to be doing something more wholesome than drinking."

This whole experience had me "knackered."

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# Voters should consider signing up soon for mail-in ballots

By Donna Lukas

June isn't exactly busting out all over, but the county is lifting many of the restrictions on social outlets. Even when we gather together, we should continue to maintain a social distance.

Members of the On Top of the World Democratic Club were notified by email in May about their opportunity to vote for delegates to the Democratic National Convention. Delegates were being elected to represent Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders in proportion to the votes they received in the presidential preference election that was held in March.

The convention was originally scheduled to be held in Milwaukee in July. It is now rescheduled for the week of Aug. 17, possibly by virtual participation.

Many members of the OTOW Democratic Club have been participating in the Vote By Mail postcard project. So far, in the seclusion of our own homes here at On Top of the World, we have written more than 1200 postcards encouraging registered voters to sign up for mail ballots.

The next election is Aug. 18. Mail ballots are the safest and easiest way to cast a ballot and make your vote count.

If you haven't already signed up for your own mail ballot, please do so by visiting [www.VotePinellas.com](http://www.VotePinellas.com) or calling 727-464-8683.

At the present time, we have



## Democratic Club

three Democrats wanting to be our state representative in district 67. Dawn Douglas, who ran in 2018, intends to run again.

Andrew Apted and Mike Henkel have also declared their intentions to run. We hope to have all three candidates at a future club meeting.

Janet Long and Charlie Justice want to be re-elected to the Pinellas County Commission. Do you remember seeing Charlie in our convertible during the Irish Club St. Patrick parade?

Our club meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. We meet from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Largo Room of the East Activity Center. We will resume regular meetings when the EAC reopens.

Dave Cordes, our new club president, reminds us to stay safe and well. He looks forward to seeing you soon.





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8	3	9	0	□	2	4	6	5	1
□	8	0	5	□	9	7	3	□	4
3	□	4	□	8	□	9	□	7	□
0	6	□	4	□	7	□	2	9	8
5	4	3	□	9	□	2	8	1	0
□	□	□	□	□	3	□	□	□	□
4	7	6	□	1	□	0	5	2	9
2	0	□	8	□	5	□	9	4	7
□	□	□	6	0	□	8	7	□	□
□	2	7	9	□	1	5	□	8	3

**OTOW NEWS**

# WORD MIX

Unscramble the six words listed below.  
 If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word of the month.  
 If you cannot come up with the secret word of the month, then redo at least one of the six scrambled words.

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O J U I N R

T C M A I O

A R L T N E C

N T E E O K Y

**SECRET WORD:**

Last month's scrambled words: focus, azure, loosen, cardio, octopus, natural. Secret word: falcon

**Flag Day is  
Sunday, June 14.**

**Fly it proudly.**

## OTOW NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS

This classified ad listing is a service to the On Top of the World community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and copy must be 20 words or less, including phone number. Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. **If the submitters's name, building and unit number is not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.**

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Drop off ads at the newspaper office. We cannot accept ads over the phone.

Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, phone numbers are within the (727) area code.

### FOR SALE

Free: two-tier organ, Americana by Estey, beautiful walnut, works (you may try it out). You move and transport. 678-5028

Medium color wooden two-drawer locking file cabinet, paid \$140, sell for \$85, never used. 797-2882

Dinette glass-top table w/4 chairs, Ikea Poang chair, director chairs, coffee and end tables, wall art/pictures, nightstands, etc. Negotiable. Photos available. 239-464-9421

Tufted head board for queen size bed, beige/tan in color, never used. Price negotiable. 791-4526

### WANTED

Want to purchase a flat-bottomed boat from OTOW slips at Harbor Lake. 797-9404

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advertisers, tell them  
you saw their ad in  
this newspaper.**



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 Clearwater, FL 33763 727-796-1161



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**FREE**

**Diagnostic Service Call**

With paid repair during regular business hours. Diagnostic service call fee applies without repair.

**SAVE \$69.95!**

OTOW Residents Only. Not valid with any other offer. 1 coupon per system. Call for details. Expires 6/30/20.

**\$59.95**

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# Expert dental care is just around the corner!

## New Patient Specials




[www.creating-smiles.com](http://www.creating-smiles.com)

<p><b>\$79</b></p> <p>Exam X-Rays Cleaning</p>	<p><b>\$29</b></p> <p>Emergency Exam &amp; X-Rays</p>	<p><b>\$500 OFF</b></p> <p>Set of Dentures OR \$50 OFF Denture Repair</p>
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CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT  
**(727) 791-8823**

**Creating Smiles Dental**  
 1831 N. Belcher Road, Suite #F-3  
 Clearwater, FL 33765

Conveniently located just off of Belcher Rd, in the back of Belcher Point Plaza.

\* The patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment that is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free or reduced fee service, examination or treatment. Offer not valid if patient has dental insurance or any other promotions. D5110, D5210, D5510, D0150, D0210, D1110, D0140, D0220, D5610, D5630 discount for all On Top of the World residents with proof of residency and valid only for above offer. Expires June 30, 2020.

# COUNTRYSIDE DERMATOLOGY & LASER CENTER

## Accepting New Patients For

- Skin cancer exams, diagnosis and treatment (basal cell carcinoma squamous cell carcinoma, malignant melanoma).
- Pre-cancer (actinic keratosis)
- Sun damage
- Mole checks and full skin exams
- Mohs surgery
- General skin problems
- Removal of growths, lesions, cysts

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- Pelleve Skin Tightening
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- Facial Vein Treatment
- Coolsculpting Body Shaping and Alma Accent Cellulite Procedure
- Laser Hair Reduction
- Photodynamic Therapy
- Sclerotherapy and Laser Leg Vein Therapy
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- Laser Surgery for Wrinkles, Scars, Tattoos and Acne
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- Phototherapy
- Age Spots
- Warts
- Stretchmarks
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- Spider Veins
- Port Wine Stains
- Hemangiomas
- Birthmarks



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