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# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

May 2026

Published Since 1968

58 Years of Only Good News

Volume 58

No. 5



When you put together a monthly newspaper, time flies. Often, you don't get a chance to appreciate the final product. Pictured above, OTOW News Editor Doug Kates gets a few quiet moments to enjoy the 12 front pages that were created for OTOW News from May 2025-April 2026. The front pages usually have the top story and photos for the month. At the Press Association Appreciation Dinner in April, the 12 front pages were hung in the Clearwater Room for all staffers to enjoy one last time. *(OTOW News photo by Donna Gagnon)*

## 700 stories later, Press Association pauses to celebrate 12 very successful newspapers

On Thursday, May 8, 2025, members of the Press Association met to start their 2025-26 season. No one in the room knew what was ahead.

Twelve months later ... "oh my gosh" did the staff of On Top of the World News just finish an awesome season!

If you read everything that Press Association staffers wrote over the past 12 months, you would have read more than 700 stories.

Seven hundred!

There were 118 different contributors and 636 different pages.

Pat Hayes wrote more than 20 stories for the New York-New Jersey Club, the Veterans Group and his own building, Brahman.

Dave Beaven wrote stories for the Democratic Club and Lambda Club.

Jim LeBlanc wrote stories for Rural French, the Irish Club and the Veterans Group. Joe DeChiaro wrote stories for the Texas Card Game Club and Royale Dutch. Tom Chalupka wrote stories for the Travel Club and Billiards.

Mary Lou Wall had 77 pictures published in the last 12 editions!

And that was just six staffers out of 118.

So how did the Press Association celebrate another incredible year?

Staff held their Appreciation Dinner on April 7 in the East Activity Center Kitchen/Clearwater Room. Thirty-five people from the staff qualified for the dinner, which was catered by Clearwater Family Restaurant. Staffers who qualified not only contributed to at least three different newspapers, but also at-

tended at least three different monthly meetings - the meetings help make the newspaper get better and better.

The newspaper paid for the dinner. It was On Top of the World's way of saying "thank you" for all the hard work. All of the writers in attendance were volunteer residents. Clearwater Family Restaurant had advertised all season.

"Seven hundred stories is a lot of stories," said Editor Doug Kates. "And each story followed our guidelines - only good news."

"Each month we gave our community reasons to smile. We provided information. We highlighted a lot of personal achievements.

"I don't think there is another newspaper in the world like our newspaper."

OTOW News conducted a survey

during the Fall Festival in November. The survey unveiled that 95 percent of residents pick up the newspaper.

In addition to fun stories, management contributes monthly columns about community news, and select writers from the Association Board keep the community updated on important events that affect everyone.

The 2025-26 staff kept the community updated on entertainment, socials, dances, parties, building gatherings, the parade, elections, the art show, bingo marathons, theater shows, chorus concerts, food truck nights, flea markets, sporting events and much more.

The Press Association starts a new season May 1.

Get ready! There are 12 new newspapers ahead.



Twenty members of the Press Association enjoyed their Appreciation Dinner in April. It was a celebration of 12 awesome newspapers over the past 12 months.



May is considered a prime time to purchase a condo in Florida because it represents a “sweet spot” where the high inventory of the busy spring season meets the start of the summer off-season.

### KEY ADVANTAGES OF BUYING IN MAY

**Peak Inventory & Selection:**

Spring (March through May) typically offers the largest selection of homes on the Florida market

**Increased Negotiating Power:**

Sellers who haven't closed by late spring may become more motivated to negotiate on price, repairs, or concessions before the slower summer months

**Ideal Weather for Inspection:**

May offers comfortable temperatures and longer daylight hours, making it easier to tour properties and thoroughly inspect outdoor amenities like pools or terraces without the extreme heat and humidity of mid-summer

**Operational Readiness:**

Buying in May allows for a “smooth transition” into the Florida lifestyle. You can typically close and settle into your new home just in time to enjoy summer beach days or establish residency before Autumn.

### THIS YEAR IS LOOKING BETTER

Recent data highlights that the Florida condo market is currently shifting in favor of buyers:

**Rising Inventory:**

In May 2025, statewide condo-townhouse inventory rose by 28.8% year-over-year

**Softening Prices:**

The statewide median price for condo-townhouse units in May 2025 was \$310,000, representing a 6.1% decrease from the previous year

**Market Balance:**

Condos reached a 10.3-month supply in May 2025, which is firmly in “buyer’s market” territory compared to the 6-month supply considered balanced

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On Top of the World Communities Inc., Clearwater, Florida a 55+ community.

# Parkway is appreciative of five year extension

I am pleased to announce that on April 2, the Board of Directors of the Condominium Association approved a five year contract with Parkway Maintenance and Management of Pinellas.

This was not an easy process as Chairman Dave Kelly and I went through some seven drafts before he was willing to present it to the Board.

The April 2 meeting was contentious. I left the viewing room convinced the Board would not adopt the Agreement. To his credit, the Chairman was very professional and fair-minded. He worked skillfully and delivered a good agreement to the benefit of the Association.

Parkway did not get everything they wanted, but neither did the Association. This is called a compromise.

Personally, I believe it is a good agreement that ensures a path forward for Parkway. This agreement is also good for the Association because it assures predictable consistency of services for the residents.

One of Parkway's goals was to get a strong agreement in place that will carry us through at least two future Board changes (you never know what kind of Board will be elected. You hope the new members are reasonable and have the best interests of this Community at heart).

This longer term allows Parkway Pinellas to focus on consistency of our work in the community. We have been granted a window for long-range planning for capital improvements such as community landscaping, paving, painting, roofing and elevator updates. All this is supported in this agreement.

Parkway Pinellas would not be what it is without each of its team members. They are patient and professional in



resident interactions, as well as deservedly proud of the work they do each day on behalf of the residents at On Top of the World Condominium Association in Clearwater. It is hard for me to begin to describe how proud I am of each of my staff members.

A big "Thank You" also goes out to each and every resident who are fans and supporters of Parkway and each of its team members. Fortunately, the vast majority are kind, considerate people who regularly thank and support the staff. It makes for a very nice community to serve.

### Summerize Checklist

The summer season is right around the corner and we know many residents take extended trips around the country.

Experience teaches us that added steps need to be taken before going on that extended trip. At right is a short list of things to do.

Please take a few minutes to review this check of things to do before leaving on an extended trip.

Thank you.



## CHECKLIST THINGS TO DO BEFORE LEAVING ON AN EXTENDED TRIP

- Leave your contact number with at least two trusted neighbors or friends.
- Update the Association with emergency contact information.
- Have the interior of the condo checked at least once a week by a trusted neighbor or friend, or arrange for an inspection service.
- Check in regularly with a trusted neighbor or friend while you are gone.
- Arrange for a water turn off if you are going away for an extended term.
- Turn off the electricity to the hot water heater.
- Make sure your air conditioner is properly serviced by a professional before departing on a trip. This includes a drain line flush, which should be done at least twice a year anyway to prevent condensation from flooding your home and any unit beneath you. Air filters require monthly attention and can be changed by the owner.
- Leave the thermostat set at between 78 F to 80 F and 50-55%. This helps regulate humidity in the home and prevents the occurrence of mold or mildew. Do not put out pans of cat litter or charcoal. This does not work.
- If you plan on being gone for several months, you may wish to consult an air conditioning professional about adding a humidistat to ensure optimal humidity levels in the home.
- Make sure your home owner's insurance policy is current and covers both damage from wind, water and mold. In most cases, this is now an added rider on the policy.

If the air conditioning system is not properly maintained by an owner, mold and mildew may result and become a serious problem for the owner. Improperly vented dryers may also be a source of both heat and moisture in your home. Water leaks in the home may also be a source of moisture.

If you suspect a water leak, contact the Community Service Office immediately! A fast response on leaks can prevent further damage and save you unnecessary expense.

Mold growth is secondary to the presence of high humidity levels or saturation by water. Mold is evidenced by the appearance of a black, sooty substance on furniture or walls. If you suspect you have mold, it is best to contact the Community Service Office and arrange for a visual inspection. There is no charge for this service.

Please remember that the proper maintenance or repair of your HVAC unit, water heater and drain pan, and ice maker line (if any) is always the owner's responsibility.

Rarely does mold or mildew present a health problem. Usually the main complaint is an odor and the unsightly nature of the matter. I mention this because the home repair industry is rife with scare tactics and scams, causing homeowners to spend thousands of dollars on matters that are generally easily resolved.

I recently heard from a gentleman who believes that placing pans of cat litter around the apartment will absorb moisture (humidity) from the atmosphere. Clay based cat litter is good for absorbing liquids, but that is about it.

Silica-based cat litter may have some capacity to absorb humidity to a limited degree, but based on everything I've read, it needs to be changed every two weeks. Your best bet is to still set the AC at 78 F and have the apartment checked weekly during your absence.

Use common sense and have a great summer!

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# Hurricane season starts June 1 - prepare

Hurricane season is quickly coming upon us so don't be caught unprepared.

Colorado State University has forecasted 13 named storms, six of which are predicted to become hurricanes, and two reaching Category 3 or higher.

With that said, now is the time to evaluate the essentials and determine what you need to do to protect your family. Please review your evacuation plan and know the location of local shelters and special needs shelters. You can find this information, as well as an evacuation map, by going online and visiting: [www.pinellascounty.gov/emergency-information/public-shelters](http://www.pinellascounty.gov/emergency-information/public-shelters).

Remember, On Top of the World activity centers are not approved shelters so be sure you have a safe place to evacuate to if the need arises.

If you are mobility-challenged or have special medical needs, make a plan to seek shelter in a location equipped to meet your needs.

If you are able or choose to remain sheltered in place, check your supplies to be sure you have enough non-perishable food, water and medication to cover at least seven days. Also, have some extra cash on hand. Have a battery powered weather radio and some flashlights with extra batteries. If you do not have a weather radio, you may purchase one in the Community Service Office.

Check your insurance coverage before May 10 and contact your agent to review your policy by asking for an insurance check-up.

Many people fear hurricanes for their high winds when, in fact, history shows rising water causes most fatalities.

Stay safe and do not drive through flooded streets as it is almost impossible to determine the depth of the water that covers the roadway.

Remember, turn around, don't drown.

Because localized flooding within the community is always a concern, your Association and Parkway Maintenance and Management Pinellas will make every effort to communicate before, during and after a storm event.

Be sure to sign up for OTOW Alerts powered by RAVE Mobile Safety. This is one of the quickest ways residents in our community can get the necessary information needed to remain safe. You can sign up by visiting the website [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) and scrolling down to the bottom of the home page.

Be prepared for the possibility or probability that elevator services will be suspended during weather events where conditions warrant it. Elevators could be shut down prior to a major storm arriving. If you have mobility issues, please plan to seek alternative shelter options.

## Did You Know This About Water Intrusions

Water intrusion into condominium units during tropical storms, microbursts, and other severe weather events involving wind-driven rain are not necessarily indicative of a construction defect, maintenance failure, or deterioration of building components.

Conditions such as degraded window sealant, cracked or damaged windowsills, compromised masonry block, or failing exterior paint systems can contribute to moisture intrusions. However, these conditions are not always present when water intrusions occur.

During severe weather events, strong straight-line winds can generate significant lateral pressure against a building's exterior surfaces. This pressure can drive rainwater horizontally rather than vertically, creating conditions where wind-driven rain is forced against and into window assemblies.

Under these circumstances, rainwater may enter through designed drain-



age components such as weep holes, small gaps at window seals, or other areas within the window system that are intended to allow moisture drainage and pressure equalization.

Residential window systems are designed to resist typical environmental conditions and manage incidental moisture through drainage pathways, however, they are not engineered to function as completely watertight barriers under extreme weather conditions. Unlike pressure-sealed systems used in specialized applications, standard residential window assemblies rely on a combination of sealants, flashing, drainage features, and gravity to manage water intrusion.

When high wind speed combines with heavy rainfall, the resulting wind pressure can temporarily overwhelm the drainage and sealing mechanisms, allowing water to bypass the exterior defenses of the window system. As a result, limited water intrusion into the interior of a unit can occur even when windows, sealants and surrounding building components are properly installed, maintained, and functioning as designed.

## Upcoming Projects Painting/Waterproofing

With the summer rains just around the corner, May will be the final month where the painting contractor will be able to work unimpeded before Florida's summer weather pattern sets in provided this year is "typical."

As this article goes to print, the painting contractor will be headed to Buildings 83 and 89 to apply coatings to the rear façade of these structures and then moving their operations to the east side where they will be painting the front of Building 47.

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

## Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

Late April / early May will bring Parkway's Elevator Services team to Building 92 for complete equipment renovation and cab interior remodel. This project is estimated to take one month to complete and residents are asked to make the necessary arrangements for this planned outage.

As with all elevator improvement projects, a life-safety contractor will commence work on installing components required to meet fire recall needs in the case of an emergency. This work will not affect the elevator's availability and residents are free to use it until the posted start date of the main improvement project.

As with all other elevator projects, the completed work must be inspected by the State of Florida before it may be given the OK to return to operational status. Please be rest assured that the management company will do ev-

erything to return the unit to service as soon as is safely possible.

Thanks for your patience and understanding while this community improvement is underway.

Aluminum railing improvements continue to take place on the east side of property.

As stated in last month's article, Building 26 is next on the schedule. A firm start date has not been provided as of yet, but the contractor should be arriving sometime in late April or early May.

The improvements involve the removal of all existing components and the complete installation of railing elements with new code compliant systems in stairwells and in second and third floor balcony walkways as required. Residents should be aware of active work zones as the project is underway. Please avoid work areas, watch your step and help us make safety a number one priority. Your cooperation is appreciated!

With springtime comes the arrival of asphalt improvement and parking lot maintenance projects at On Top of the World.

A licensed contractor will be applying sealcoating products to various parking areas around the community in order to extend the useful life of the surfaces as we move along in time.

The contract was awarded by the Association Board in early April and work was scheduled to begin as soon as possible. The work will most likely continue into early May.

With this in mind, it's important that residents be prepared to relocate cars as needed on short notice. Bulletin boards and car windshields are the most effective means of communication in situations like this so please keep an eye out for any updates.

Any parking areas serviced during this maintenance cycle will be cordoned off for a minimum of 48 hours after the work has taken place in order to allow the product time to cure correctly.

Please remember that this curing time is crucial before the parking lot is driven upon and the time will also allow the contractor the opportunity to restripe the lot without obstructions as well as minimize tire scuffing.

We politely ask that residents observe the closures and wait until a management company representative has removed all the barricades at their parking lot before venturing onto the parking surface.

Alternative parking is available on roadways and in visitor spots at surrounding buildings for those residents displaced during work.

Keep in mind that management company employees will be working close to the roadways during this work. For safety's sake, we ask that residents slow down, pay close attention to any direction given by flagmen and obey posted speed limits. The worker's safety depends on your cooperation.

## Recurring Reminders for All Community Residents

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

These items will be removed and disposed of without further notice.

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

We ask that residents help keep the community's common areas in compliance by reporting violations of this na-

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

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

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

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

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

## Inspection Services Division

The Inspection Services Team, in conjunction with the Parkway Construction Department, will continue prepping buildings scheduled for new paint coatings in the current improvement cycle. This has been an ongoing endeavor throughout the community over the last few years and encompasses the removal of all association unapproved plant hanger brackets, holiday lighting hooks that are affixed into the masonry block, hose reels and other wall and ceiling penetrations.

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

Inspection Services representatives also will be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproof coatings during the current improvement cycle. The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules. This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied.

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

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

The Management Company asks if you receive a notification requiring action on your part, please remove the stones at the earliest convenience.

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

*(Please continue on page 5)*

# now and not when a storm approaches

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

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

Inspection efforts continue to focus on the tagging and removal of portable barbecue grills, including propane, charcoal or electric, which are not permitted in any buildings common areas as they pose a fire risk to the structure and residents. Only grills meeting the approved Clearwater Fire Department standard are permitted on the patio of first floor units. If you're a first-floor unit owner and not sure if your grill complies, please stop by the Community Service Office to request a visit from our friendly Inspections Services staff.

The Management Company would like to remind residents that all water softening equipment installations require advance association approval via a modification permit. A permit applica-

tion package may be obtained by visiting the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard.

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

### After-Hours Emergency Information

The OTOW emergency after-hours phone number is 727-799-1115. Please call this number, after hours, in the event of an emergency, such as a water intrusion into your condo. For all other inquiries regarding general issues or questions that are not service-related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office.

### OTOW Alerts

Signing up for OTOW-ALERTS (powered by RAVE) is incredibly easy. Simply go to [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com) and from the home page scroll down to the bottom of the page and the "Sign Up Now" box will be located

to the left of the screen. Click to enroll. You can also sign up from the "Stay Informed" tab located at the top of the home page.

Alternatively, you may visit the Community Service Office to apply.

Signing up for RAVE is without obligation or cost to you. Your email and cell phone numbers are secure, never shared, and never solicited.

OTOW-ALERTS provides advance warnings of severe weather events as well as other matters of critical concern to the residents of OTOW Clearwater Condominium Community. It is not hyperbole to say an advanced warning may save lives!

As a reminder, when signing up for community and emergency alerts, be sure to enter your building number. You can select to receive notifications via text, telephone call, and/or email. You can select one, two, or all three notification options.

Should you wish to change your notification options, you can do that by visiting the Community Service Office, calling 727-683-6981, or send an email to [clearwaterinfo@otowfl.net](mailto:clearwaterinfo@otowfl.net).

### Community Service Office Information

The Community Service Office (CSO) hours of operation are Monday

through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The office closes for lunch from noon to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted. If your call goes to voice mail, it is because the 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 once.

If you have any questions regarding your request, and until the Community Service Office reopens, please call the Service Request Line at 727-683-6981.

## Next Association Board Meeting

# 1 p.m., Thursday, May 7, EAC Auditorium

The June 4 meeting has been moved up to 10 a.m.



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# Press Association 2025-26 Staff

The Press Association never knows how many staff members it has until the final newspaper of the season is printed. Here is the staff of 118 people from May 2025-April 2026. Names in red qualified for the Appreciation Dinner (3 newspapers, 3 monthly meetings)

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>Katie Bajis</b><br/>Earl Ballance<br/>Dessa Barabba<br/>Sheryl Barbin<br/>Doreen Bernier<br/>Denise Boudreau<br/><b>Patti Branch</b><br/><b>Richard Broadhurst</b><br/>Kathy Brumbaugh<br/><b>Cheryl Butcher</b><br/><b>Tom Butcher</b><br/><b>Tom Chalupka</b><br/>Carleen Clayton<br/>Gerald Colen<br/>Kenneth Colen<br/><b>Mary Connolly</b><br/><b>Joanne Cordes</b><br/>Patricia Cullen-Davis<br/>Marina Davidovich<br/>Joe DeChiaro<br/>Abby Doronzio<br/>Jayne Dowdy<br/>Dianne Dvorak<br/>Paula Ergang<br/><b>Fran Fairfield</b><br/>Linda Faust<br/><b>Kathi Finley</b><br/>Rose Fiore<br/>Laurie Fischer<br/>Rene Foley</p> | <p>Anna Foss<br/>Michelle Fournier<br/>Lillian Foy<br/><b>Karen French</b><br/><b>Donna Gagnon</b><br/>Dana Garlick<br/>Bill Golden<br/>Sam Gonnella<br/>Lori Gottshall<br/>Mariann Hackett<br/>Barney Hanrahan<br/>Arlene Hanson<br/>Larry Harkins<br/><b>Pat Hayes</b><br/><b>Sally Herman</b><br/>Rodger Hillier<br/>Janet Hooper<br/><b>Renée Ingrassio</b><br/>Barb Jamrozy<br/><b>Doug Kates</b><br/>Dave Kelly<br/>Charles Kovarik<br/>Cheryl Kutchinski<br/>Alicia Lang<br/>Terri Latzko<br/><b>Jim LeBlanc</b><br/>Laurie LeClaire<br/><b>Roy Lemnus</b><br/>Margaret LeTourneau<br/>Tim Lewis</p> | <p><b>Diane Like</b><br/>Bonnie Mack<br/>Sherri Markey<br/><b>Valerie Martin</b><br/>Scott Mascitelli<br/>Jerry McDonald<br/>Constance McDonald<br/>Bruce McMaster<br/>Jane McQuire<br/><b>Terri Mikszenas</b><br/>Jackie Miles<br/>Barbara Moon<br/><b>Mary Anne Nargi</b><br/><b>Pat O'Beirne</b><br/><b>Mary Ann O'Neil</b><br/>Joanne Osburn<br/>Irene Pappas<br/>Marilyn Pashkowsky<br/><b>Irene Piper</b><br/>Susand Pollard<br/>Dale Prunoske<br/>Jean-Paul Reymont<br/>Barbara Rice<br/>Bob Rittner<br/>Nancy Rogers<br/><b>Deborah Russell</b><br/><b>Paula Schelling</b><br/><b>Edwina Schick</b><br/>Joseph Scolari<br/>Marchell G. Short</p> | <p>Spring Shorten<br/>Marge Sivek<br/><b>Betty Spoerl</b><br/>Peter Spokus<br/>Dale Stackhouse<br/>Connie Stanley<br/><b>Tara Still</b><br/>Audrey Strong<br/>Maxinne Sutcliffe<br/><b>Lyn Taecker</b><br/>Karen Tatge<br/><b>Jesse Tiamson</b><br/>Shawn Tobias<br/>Charles Torisky<br/><b>Sue Trost</b><br/>Ka-Rim Troyli<br/>Marie Clodge Valdes<br/><b>Randae VanDenover</b><br/>Joe Ventimiglia<br/><b>Kathleen Walter</b><br/>Leila Walker<br/><b>Mary Lou Wall</b><br/>Linda Weaver<br/><b>Joe Wisinski</b><br/>Howard Wolff<br/>Mike Wood<br/>Charlie Wood<br/>Toni Young</p> |
|---|---|--|---|

RED - 3 contrib. 3 meetings



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**SIGN UP FOR OTOW ALERTS**

**RAVE**  
MOBILE SAFETY

Signing up for OTOW-ALERTS (powered by RAVE) is incredibly easy. Simply go to [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com) and click the "Stay Informed" tab at the top of the home page and then click "Stay Informed" in the gray box. Signing up for RAVE is without obligation or cost to you. Your email and cell phone numbers are secure, never shared, and never solicited. Alternatively, you may visit the Community Service Office to apply. OTOW-ALERTS can provide information of critical concern to the residents.

**Know Your  
Water  
Heater**



**Water heaters traditionally last 10-15 years.**

If your water heater is leaking around the base unit, is not producing normal amounts of hot water or has become noisy, it's time to consider replacing your current unit with a new one.

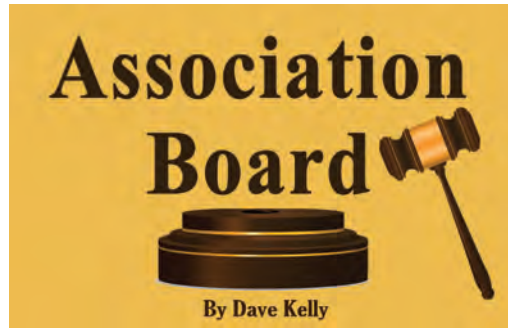
**If your water heater fails, it could not only flood your unit, but units below you. You may be financially responsible if it causes damage to your neighbors' units.**

# Responsible driving will save the Association money

Living in a 55+ condominium community offers many benefits, including a peaceful environment, well-maintained surroundings and a strong sense of connection among neighbors.

With these benefits comes a shared responsibility to ensure that our community remains safe and comfortable for all residents.

Our roadways are shared by vehicles, pedestrians and residents using mobility aids, often in close proximity. Guests and service providers are also frequently present. Adhering to posted speed limits is essential, as even modest increases in speed reduce reaction



time and increase the likelihood and severity of accidents.

Recent incidents within our community have resulted in injuries as well as damage to vehicles and property. These events highlight the importance

of safe and attentive driving, particularly in a community where many residents may be more vulnerable to injury.

Safe driving also helps protect our shared property, including roadways, signage, landscaping and parked vehicles. Damage to these assets ultimately affects all residents through repair costs and potential increases in association expenses.

If voluntary compliance with traffic laws and speed limits does not improve, the Association may need to consider additional traffic-calming measures, such as speed bumps. While effective, these measures involve installation

and maintenance costs that are shared by all residents and may impact driving comfort and emergency response times.

These steps can often be avoided through consistent, responsible driving.

Maintaining a safe community is a collective effort. By following traffic laws and speed limits, each of us contributes to the well-being of our neighbors, the protection of our property, and the quality of life we all value.

We encourage all residents and their guests to remain mindful of their driving habits and to prioritize safety at all times.

# Reserve funding: What it means for the On Top of the World community

At On Top of the World condominiums, the decision to waive or fund reserves is more than a budgeting choice, it affects affordability, fairness and the financial well-being of our residents.

Our court approved Consent Final Judgement preserves On Top of the World's Condominium Associations' right for reserves to be waived each year by a majority vote of all owners. In fact, it recognizes that members have historically chosen to waive reserves to avoid increases.

As an age-restricted retirement community, many residents rely on Social Security, pensions or fixed savings. For them, keeping monthly expenses predictable and manageable is essential. Funding reserves means immediate and permanent fee increases. Waiving reserves helps keep costs lower today, allowing residents to remain in their homes comfortably.



Our community's size also plays an important role. With 4,967 units sharing costs, expenses are spread broadly. This reduces the impact on any one owner and provides a built-in risk-sharing advantage that smaller associations do not have.

For the fiscal year 2026-2027, the average Community Service Fee increase will be approximately \$68 per month if reserves are not waived.

Some units will be more, some less as the amount is based on the percentage value shown in your building declaration.

Waiving reserves also provides flexibility. Instead of setting aside funds for projects that may change over time, the community can address needs as they arise.

This "pay-as-you-go" approach aligns costs with those who are present when expenses occur. This is an approach that has guided our budgeting for more than 50 years.

It's important to note that funding reserves does not eliminate costs. It simply collects them in advance.

For example, upcoming multi-year maintenance of the sewage system will be planned and spread out over time. Delaying costs can be especially helpful for residents on fixed incomes, preserving financial flexibility.

The current structure reflects our community's size, history and demographics. It allows for flexibility rather than a one-size-fits-all model.

While some residents support funding reserves, others view waiving them as a practical, lawful choice that prioritizes affordability and stability.

### Important Dates

- Budget package will be mailed soon and posted online in AppFolio
- Electronic voting closes: June 2, 2026, at 10 a.m.
- Paper ballots due: June 4, 2026, at 10 a.m.

Your vote matters.

All owners are encouraged to participate and vote on whether to waive reserves. Please make sure your voice is heard.

## How to Access the Budget Package and Cast Your Vote Electronically Through AppFolio

If you haven't set up your AppFolio portal already, please take the opportunity to do it now as it is a great way to have important information at your fingertips.

Documents that used to be posted on the Clearwater website will now only be posted to AppFolio. If you did not receive an invitation to join AppFolio, or mistakenly marked the email as spam, please reach out to the Community Service Office for assistance.

Please verify that your current email with the Community Service Office is correct in the Association's records. You can either visit the CSO office in person in the East Activity Center or you can call them at 727-683-6981 and leave a message for them to call you back, if necessary.

If your email does not match the Association records, you will need to complete the Owner Information Change Form provided by the CSO. Once it is updated, an invitation to join AppFolio will be sent to your new email address.

Once you receive the Online Portal Activation email or text message, click Activate Now in the email, or tap the link in the text message to establish a strong password to activate your portal.

Bookmark, create a shortcut icon for the login page, or download the mobile app so it is easy to return at any time.

You will receive a confirmation email once your portal is activated.

## Through OTOWClearwaterInfo.com

The budget package also will be available online at OTOWClearwaterInfo.com. Look for the link in the yellow box at the top of the page. In addition to the mailed materials, the site provides instructions for a convenient electronic voting option.

Your Association Board strongly encourages you to vote electronically through otow.conduu.com. This is especially a good option for people who own multiple units. You can vote by doing the following: (1) Vote electronically through otow.conduu.com. If you have previously voted electronically, please sign in and cast your vote. (2) If you have not opted-in to electronic voting, please visit <https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/electronic-voting/> for more information on how to opt in for this convenient and secure voting option.

Electronic voting closes on June 2, 2026, at 10 a.m.

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## Three Food Truck Dates in May

# Farmers Market returns May 2

Happy Mother's Day to all of our moms and grandmothers on Sunday, May 10.

Take time to reflect on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25.

### How to Stay Chilled and Not Melt This Summer

Sunday, June 21, is the first day of summer, but for many of us, especially living in Florida, Memorial Day marks the official start of summer.

Typically, the end of May is what I call the season of perpetual humidity. This is when stepping outside feels like a warm hug from a wet sponge!

But don't worry.

I've put together a survival guide so we can stay cool, hydrated and, most importantly, remain social without turning into human raisins.

### The "Hydration Hero" (Because Water is Boring)

We all know we're supposed to drink eight glasses of water a day, but let's be honest, water is the "plain oatmeal" of beverages.

### The Upgrade

Try my sparkling watermelon spritz. Blend 2 cups of cubed watermelon, strain and mix of 1 tablespoon of lime juice and a dash of honey or agave. Top with 1 cup of sparkling water, ice, and optional fresh mint.

### The Truth Bomb

Your "thirst-o-meter" gets a little rusty as you get older. If you wait until you're thirsty to drink, you're already behind! Drink like it's your job.

### Myth-Busting: Florida Edition

This is a Myth: "I've lived here 20 years. I'm immuned to the sun."

Reality: The Florida sun doesn't care about your tenure! Our UV index hits 11 daily. Use SPF 30+ suntan lotion or you'll end up looking like a designer leather handbag by August.

Another Myth: "I'll just turn on the ceiling fan and be fine."

Reality: Fans just move hot air around. If it's over 90 degrees outside, your A/C is your best friend. Keep those blinds shut like you're hiding from Inspection Services.

### Beat the Heat Our Indoor "Cool Zones"

Since the sun is trying to kill us between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., here is a list of a few activities to do indoors in our fully air-conditioned activity centers:

- Gentle Movement Exercise: Get your heart rate up without the heat stroke. Check out sessions with Margaret LeTourneau at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and 3-4 p.m. on Fridays.



## Events & Activities

- Yoga with Marilyn  
10-11 a.m. Mondays in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

- Moving & Grooving Line Dance  
9-10:45 a.m., Tuesdays, and 1-2:45 p.m. on Fridays in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

- Tai Chi Flow 108  
3:15-4:15 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the East Activity Center Exercise Room.

- Qigong  
3-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the East Activity Center Exercise Room.

- OTOW Library  
The library is open 10 a.m. to noon on Mondays and Thursdays, and from 1-3 p.m. on Wednesdays.

- Join the Good Karma Book Club  
The book club meets the third Wednesday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

The book of the month for this month and next month is posted in Section 3 of this newspaper.

- Water Aerobics  
Water aerobics meets 9-10 a.m., Monday through Friday, in the East Activity Center swimming pool.

- Movie Nights  
A different movie is shown 4 p.m. each month during the summer. The schedule includes June 10, July 8, Aug. 12 and Sept. 9. Watch for the movie title in future editions of this newspaper.

For a complete list of events and activities, see the handy pull-out calendar on page 9. Post it on your fridge. Please stay active, but chill.

### OTOW Saturday

#### Farmer's Market Returns

The On Top of the World Farmers Market will resume every Saturday, starting May 2, from 9 am - 1 pm.

Look for the Farmers Market in the East Activity Center front parking lot, courtesy of Life Farms, Clearwater.

Life Farms is a 6-acre regenerative farm located in Clearwater. They grow vegetables, herbs, flowers, fruit and microgreens organically without synthetic

fertilizers or pesticides.

From the very beginning, they decided to grow organically and believe there is no other way to do it. The first plants went into the ground the spring of 2013 and the first Community Supported Agriculture season was in the fall of 2013.

Since then, Life Farms has grown into an abundant and flourishing farming operation providing clean, fresh, local food to our community in a variety of ways.

Life Farms partners with other local farms to sell a growing assortment of pasture-raised chicken, eggs, mushrooms, baked and canned goods, and grass-fed finished beef at their on-site farm store.

The farm's freshest products are sold to farmer's markets in Dunedin and St. Petersburg, and they also supply to several restaurants and organizations in the Tampa Bay area.

"Our community is what drives us to do the hard work of farming the highest quality of produce. This is especially true when we get to see firsthand the positive impact it has had on our community."

Life Farms will bring OTOW certified organic produce, certified organic flowers, sourdough bread, canned goods, St Petersburg Ferments, elderberry syrup and teas.

Some out-of-season produce, or produce not grown there, also will be available. Everything will be labeled organic or non-organic.

We hope to see you there!

### Food Truck Night

Our community's last multi-truck Food Truck Night of this season will take place 3-7:30 pm, Wednesday, May 13, in the East Activity Center back parking lot.

Residents can dine at the Pavilion or in the parking lot where SCA will set up tables and chairs.

Come join the fun. Make new acquaintances or reconnect with friends and neighbors and enjoy some delicious food that you don't have every day.

The vendors are as follows: Smash Burger, Divino Tacos, Stevie D's Philly Cheese Steaks, Charm City Seafood, Saucy Lady and Mrs Wanda

There will be two summer Saturday food truck events in May. Both events 3-7:30 pm in the East Activity Center front parking lot.

The first will be May 2 featuring NY BBQ and Slipps Ice.

The second will be May 23 featuring Jersey Dogs and Slipps Ice.

### OnSpot Dermatology

OnSpot Dermatology Mobile Unit "Derma Drive" will be back 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, June 5, in the East Activity Center front parking lot.

To make an appointment, visit [onspotdermatology.com/otow](http://onspotdermatology.com/otow), call 941-444-0011 or click on the flyer/link posted on the OTOW website [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com).

### 3D Mobile Mammography

3D Mobile Mammography will be here from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday, May 22 in the East Activity Center front parking lot.

If you have any questions or would like to register for an appointment, you can do so at their website: [www.3dmobilemammography.com](http://www.3dmobilemammography.com).

A link to their website will also be available at Nancy's Bulletin Board at the [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com).

Also, you can just show up. Walk-ins are welcome!

### OneBlood

OneBlood's Big Red Bus will be here 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, in the East Activity Center front parking

lot.

You can register at Nancy's Bulletin Board at [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com), in the Community Service Office or just show up that day.

All donors will receive a \$20 Ecard, a large car sunshade and mini wellness checkup, including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!

Take this opportunity to save lives! The Honor Roll below is from April 9 and it was a good turnout - 12 donors! Thank you all for saving lives: Lisa Doherty, Carmel LeBlanc, Norma Givens, Jeffrey Flynn, Thomas Pettit, Qiuxia Li, Julia Fletcher, Kathleen Kiley, Regina Sandbach, James Robinson, John Foell and Cathy Hanna.

### Local Shredding Events

A free shredding event will take place in Belleair on Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. - noon at the John J. Osborne Public Works Building, 1075 Ponce de Leon Boulevard in Belleair. This event is for residents, with a 5-box limit.

Do not bring newspapers or magazines. You can bring 3 to 5 bankers' boxes of paper. Staples and paper clips are usually okay, but binder clips and plastic bags should be removed.

Events often fill up early, so arriving early is recommended.

### How Do I Make A

#### Reservation On The Calendar?

The first step for making a reservation on the calendar is to email or call the Activity Office with the type of event you are planning and preferred date and location.

Send an email to [general\\_activity@scaclw.com](mailto:general_activity@scaclw.com) or call 799-2734. This starts the process.

Once we confirm all the details, you will fill out the online Facility Request form. Visit: [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com), click on "Community Activities" and "Forms" and select the SCA Online Facility Request form.

Complete and sign the form with your mouse or finger and click submit. I will acknowledge receipt in an email. This form works better if you use Google as your browser.

Paper forms are still available and can be picked up and dropped off in the Community Service Office where I have a mailbox. Please complete the form outside of that busy office and then drop it off. I will acknowledge receipt in an email or phone call.

### Activity Card Renewal

The Community Service Office (CSO) is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed from noon to 12:30 p.m. for lunch).

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

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

If you do not have your most recently issued Activity Card or Access Card, the fee is \$25 for a replacement. If you already have an Access Card, there is no charge to renew. If you need an Access Card, there is a \$7 charge.

As a reminder, you must bring your valid activity card with you when using SCA facilities and be prepared to show it upon staff request. Noncompliance matters will be directed to the On Top of the World Association.

Activity Card annual renewal commences on Monday, June 1 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

The CSO will be open Saturday, June 20 from 8 a.m. to noon for anyone who cannot visit during regular business hours.

## Join The Honor Roll

# DONATE BLOOD

YOU HAVE GREATER POWERS THAN YOU KNOW.

\$20 Ecard

Blood pressure check  
cholesterol screening  
pulse, iron count,  
temperature.

Donors receive a car sun shield

On Top of the World  
Thursday, May 14  
10 am - 3 pm

Appointments are encouraged. Please visit [oneblood.org/donate-now](http://oneblood.org/donate-now).  
Or just show up at the bus.

ID REQUIRED

# May Calendar

## Special Events (open to everyone)

- Friday, May 1 - Veterans Group Social, 10:30 am, Clearwater-Kitchen Room, East Activity Center
- Saturday, May 2 - Food Truck Night, NY BBQ, 3 - 7 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
- Tuesday, May 5 - New York-New Jersey Club, Mother's Day Dinner, 3 - 8 pm, EAC Auditorium
- Thursday, May 7, 1 pm - Association Board Meeting, East Activity Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 13 - Food Truck Night, 3 - 7 pm, East Activity Center Back Parking Lot
- Thursday, May 14 - OneBlood, 10 am - 3 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
- Thursday, May 14 - Get Acquainted Coffee, 9 - 11 am, East Activity Center Auditorium (come watch the parade one more time)
- Thursday, May 14 - Entertainment Committee Show, The Edge Effect, 7:30 - 9:15 pm, EAC Auditorium
- Saturday, May 16 - Entertainment Committee Dance, 7:30-10:30 pm, EAC Auditorium
- Sunday, May 17 - Entertainment Committee Horse Races, 2 - 4 pm, Free, EAC Auditorium
- Friday, May 22 - 3D Mobile Mammography, 8 am - 3 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
- Saturday, May 23 - Food Truck Night, Jersey Dogs, 3 -7:30 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot
- Club Information Tables, Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 - 10:30 am, East Activity Center Auditorium

## Clubs and Groups

- Art Guild - Board Meeting, none in May
- Art Guild - General Meeting, none in May
- Art Guild - Class with instructor, none in May
- Art Guild - Painting Pals, 1-4 pm, Wednesdays, Largo Room
- Baby Boomers, 8:30-9:30 am, Wed., May 6 and Thur., May 21, Largo Room
- Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam, 10 am, 1 pm, Thursdays, Learning Lab
- Bingo Study, 2-3 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach Room
- Bingo, 5 - 10 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Auditorium (None May 25)
- Canadian Club - Summer break
- Canadian Club - Summer break
- Dancing and Sharing, 8 am-12 am, Tuesdays, Clearwater Room
- Chorus (Chorus Dinner, 5:30-9 pm, Tuesday, April 14, Ballroom Room)
- Coloring Book Club, 11-12 pm, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room
- Computer Club, 8:00-10:30 am, Wednesdays and Saturdays, Learning Lab
- Democratic Club Board, 2-4 pm, Thursday, May 28, Crystal Beach Room
- Democratic Club Meeting, 2-4 pm, Thursday, May 14, Learning Lab
- Democratic Club Happy Hour, 8-9 pm, Tuesday, May 26, Learning Lab
- Entertainment Com. Board, 10:30-11:30 am, Monday, May 11, Crystal Beach
- Finnish Club, No upcoming events
- Frederick Weight Loss Group, 10:30 am-12 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach
- French Language & Culture, 11 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Dunedin Room
- Good Karma Book Club, 10-11:30 am, Thursday, May 21, Crystal Beach Rm
- Good Neighbors Get Acquainted Coffee, 9-11 am, Thursday, May 14, Aud
- High Visa Tribe, 7-9 pm, Tuesday, May 12, Kitchen
- Irish Club, Reading
- Italian-American Club, No events in May
- Jesters Board Meeting, 11 am-12 pm, Tuesday, May 12, Dunedin Room
- Jesters Meeting, 8:30-9:30 pm, Wednesday, May 13, Ballroom Room
- Latin Language & Culture Class, Fridays, 10:30 am-12 pm, Dunedin Rm
- Korea Center, 9:10 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, Room 1
- Knitting Group, 9-11 am, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room
- Lambda Social, 8-11 pm, Friday, May 8, Clearwater/Kitchen, EAC
- Lambda Dist., 10:30-12, Fridays, May 1 and 15, Coors Room
- Lambda Acting Night, Saturday, May 30, 9:15 pm, Learning Lab
- Lawn Bowls, Practicing all summer
- Living With A Strong Mind, Tuesdays, May 12, 29, 3-4 pm, Learning Lab
- Music Group, 2-8 pm, Tuesdays, Dunedin Room
- New York-New Jersey, Mother's Day Dinner, Tuesday, May 5, 6-8, Aud.
- Philosophy Club, 10-11:30 am, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room
- Plant Based Living Class, 1 - 2:30 pm, Wednesdays, May 6, Learning Lab
- Rickleball Club Board Meeting, 1-3 pm, Monday, May 11, Crystal Beach
- Rickleball Club Game Night, 6:30-9:30 pm, Monday, May 18, Ballroom Rm
- Patriot For America, 10 am-12 pm, Saturdays, Crystal Beach
- Proud Association, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Tuesday, May 5, Crystal Beach Room
- Republican Club Meeting, 6-8 pm, Tuesday, May 5, Ballroom Room
- Spanish Club, Practiced for season
- Speak English, 10-11 am, Thursdays, EAC Dunedin Room
- Tennis Club, No sports events
- Texas Card Game Club, 5-10 pm, Friday, May 29, Clearwater Room
- Theater Workshop Meeting, 6-8:30 pm, Wednesday, May 8, Ballroom Rm
- Theater Workshop, No other events scheduled
- Travel Club Meeting, 2-4 pm, Friday, May 1, EAC Dunedin Room
- Travel Club Event, No other events in May
- Veterans Club, Social, 10:00 am, Friday, May 1, Kitchen/Clearwater Rm
- Women's Bible Study Group, Fridays, May 8 and 22, 10:30-12, Largo Rm
- World Quilts, 8 am-2 pm, Tuesdays, Largo Room
- Writer's Inc, 1:30-3:30 pm, Thursdays, Dunedin Room

## Exercises and Games

- Aqua Aerobic, 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, EAC or MAC Pool
- Ballet, 8-8 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Largo Room
- Co-Ed Croquet, 10-11:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Starline Room
- Curling, 1-3 pm, Mondays, Ballroom Room
- Daily Movement Exercises, 11 am-12 pm, Tuesdays and 2-4 pm, Fridays, Auditorium
- Ladies Exercise, 8-9 am, Monday-Friday, Ballroom Room
- Line Dance Club, Practice, 8-10 am, Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, Ballroom/Clearwater Largo Room
- Morning & Evening Line Dance, 9-10:45 am, Tuesdays, 1-2:45, Fridays, EAC Auditorium
- Openly, 2-4 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Ballroom Room
- Salsa, 10-10 am, Monday through Friday, Exercise Room
- OT/Rehabilitation Line Dancing, 9:30-11:30 am, Wednesdays, Auditorium
- Social Dance with Howard, 1-4 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Ballroom Room
- Tai Chi Room, 4:30-4:45 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Exercise Room
- Yoga Align and Stretch, 10-11:30 am, Mondays, MAC Ballroom Room and Thursdays, MAC Exercise Room
- Aerobics, 1:30-4 pm, Friday, May 23, Largo Room
- Board Games, 1-3 pm, Wednesdays, Palm Harbor or Ballroom Room
- Backgammon, 8:30-9:30 pm, Thursday at year, Ballroom Room (Canadian Club partner)
- Billiards, 9:30-10:30 pm, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room
- Casual Bridge, 1-4 pm, Tuesdays (10 am-12 pm, Thursdays), Coors Room
- Crabapple, 10 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Coors Room
- Domino, 6-8:30 pm, Tuesdays, Coors Room
- Double Date Trivia, 1-2:30 pm, Wednesdays and Sundays, Coors Room
- Latin Dance, 4-6:30 pm, Wednesday, May 20, Crystal Beach Room
- Jazzing, 1-4 pm, Tuesdays, Fridays, Palm Harbor Room
- Sagamore Marying, 6:00 pm, Saturdays, Sandy Harbor Room
- Hudson Yards, 1-5 pm, Thursdays, Sandy Harbor Room
- Quizzes, 1-4 pm, Mondays, Dunedin Room
- Rummikub, 12:30 - 3:30 pm, Mondays, Coors Room
- Samba, 8:30-9:30 pm, Fridays, Coors Room
- Solitaire, 8-10 pm, Wednesdays, Coors Room
- Alma's Poker, Off for summer
- Bern's Poker, 6:30 - 8:30 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, Coors Room
- Bill's Poker, Off for summer
- Cathy's Poker, 8:30 am, Wednesdays and Fridays, Sally Harbor Room
- Lara's Poker, 1-4 pm, Fridays, Sally Harbor Room
- Pete's Poker, 3-8 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, Coors Room
- Tom's Poker, 5-9 pm, Wednesdays, Sally Harbor Room

- 1 Ladies Golf, 8:30 am, Tuesdays
- 10 Ladies Golf, 8:30 am, Tuesdays
- Bible, 9:30-10:30 am, Mondays and Thursdays
- Bible, 9:30-10:30 am, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 - 10 pm, Thursdays
- Bible, Bible study
- Music, 8 am, Wednesdays
- Music, 8 am, Fridays
- Lawn Bowling, 8:30 am, Monday through Saturday, Summer season begins May 18
- Croquet, 10 am-1 pm, Wed., Fri. & Sat. 10 am, Tue., Thu., Sat. / 10:00-11:00 am, Wed., Thu. / 9-12 am, Sat.
- Play Pong, 10-11, Tuesdays-Fridays, Ballroom Room
- Shuffleboard, 9 am, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Billiards, 8 pm, Tuesdays and Thursday mornings, Sally Harbor City Hall
- Tennis, 1:30-3 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays / 10-11 Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays

- Building Events
- Missouri Doves Party, Saturday, May 2, 2-4 pm, Clearwater/Kitchen Room, EAC

- Swimming Pools (October-April) 8-8:30 Mondays-Saturdays, 9-10:30 Sundays
- Swimming Pools (May-September) 8-8 Mondays-Saturdays, 9-9 Sundays
- Library, 10-12 Mondays & Thursdays, 1-3 Wednesdays
- Woodshop, 8 am-12 pm Monday-Friday, EAC Woodshop
- Lapdary, 1-3 pm, Monday-Friday, EAC Lapdary Room



# Entertainment

## Final show of the season May 14 with The Edge Effect - ICONS

By Mary Ann O'Neil

Tap Into Soul with Soloman Jaye on April 16 was a great show.

Soloman was terrific with his tap dancing and great voice, blending them together to entertain us with a wonderful show. If you missed it, you missed a night of great entertainment.

The band Flashback performed for us at our April dance. This band has performed here before and the music was great. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

On Thursday, April 30, the Entertainment Committee invited all residents here at On Top of the World to a free concert performed by the Suncoast Symphony Orchestra. This was an enjoyable evening and we thank our residents for coming out and showing Suncoast Symphony our support.

On May 14 we will have The Edge

Effect – ICONS: The Show! You are probably wondering what kind of show this is going to be. Well, if you heard of a group called Pentatonix, which is an American acapella group, this is what The Edge Effect is all about. This vocal group performs tribute to some of the greatest singers, songwriters and songs of the last 75 years. This is an upbeat, energetic and interactive group that features music from artists like Frank Sinatra, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Billy Joel, Michael Bubl  and many more.

The Edge Effect will take you on a musical experience unlike any other. This is one show you do not want to miss.

There will be no shows for the months of June, July, August and September.

Our May dance will be on Saturday, May 16 from 7:30-10:30 p.m. The

Double Trouble Duo will be entertaining us. This group was formally known as Three's Company, however they are now the Double Trouble Duo featuring Ralph Rogers and Jordana Clark.

Come out for a fun evening of dancing and enjoy meeting your neighbors or meeting new friends. Just a reminder, wearing shorts is not allowed at our dances.

May brings us to the Kentucky Derby, so on Sunday, May 17, our free Sunday Meet and Greet will feature our horse races. This is a fun afternoon from 2-4 p.m. There will be raffles and light refreshments at the end of the races.

Get your building and friends together and bet on and cheer for your favorite horses - then reap the rewards.

Our shows and dances are reserved table seating - bring your own favorite beverages. We will try to accommodate

your party, so get your friends together and reserve your table(s).

Our dances and show tickets are reasonably priced. Shows are \$20 and dances are \$10, with the exception of Halloween at \$15 and New Year's Eve at \$30. These two dances are our biggest dances of the year and are always sold out.

Be sure to purchase your tickets before heading back north. The earlier you purchase your tickets, the better chance you have of selecting the table you want.

If you have any questions regarding our shows or dances, call (727) 449-9243 or (215) 431-4799 for more information.

On behalf of the OTOW Entertainment Committee, happy Mother's Day on May 10.

### May 14

The Edge Effect – ICONS: The Show! This vocal group performs tributes to some of the greatest singers, songwriters and songs of the last 75 years.

This is an upbeat, energetic and interactive group that features music from artists like Frank Sinatra, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Billy Joel, Michael Bubl , and many more.

The Edge Effect will take you on a musical experience unlike any other.



### Good Vibrations

A Beach Boys Tribute Band was here in March and sold out months before the event. Don't hesitate to get your summer tickets!

(Photo by Mary Lou Wall)



Tickets on sale at the Entertainment Committee information table 8:30-10:30 am, Mondays and Thursdays, EAC Auditorium. June, July and August sales are on Thursdays only.

# Committee



## Entertainment Committee Horse Racing Stable



## Their Kentucky Derby is May 2 - our Derby is May 17!

May brings us to the Kentucky Derby, so on Sunday, May 17, our free Sunday Meet and Greet will feature our own horse races.

If you want to wear your Kentucky Derby hat please do so as there may be a prize or two for the most creative and best-looking hats.

This is a fun afternoon from 2-4 p.m. There will be door prizes and light refreshments at the end of the races. Get your building and friends together and bet on and cheer for your favorites horses, then reap the rewards.

## Entertainment Committee Calendar

### MAY

- 14 - The Edge Effect - ICONS: The Show! \$20 (final show until Oct)
- 16 - Double Trouble Duo (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10
- 17 - Horse Races (Sunday Meet-and-Greet), 2:00 pm, FREE

### JUNE

- 20 - Boomer Band (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10

### JULY

- 18 - Louie Bravo Trio (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10

# One month later, it was still fun to watch the Irish Club parade

What could be better than a hot cup of coffee, a donut and watching a movie version of the St. Patrick's Day parade with a bunch of other residents?

That's what happened on Thursday, April 9, at the Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee.

Everyone got their free coffee and donut and then found a comfy chair to sit back and relax in while the March 7 Irish Club parade played on the big screen in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

It was like watching a movie!

Many residents saw themselves in the parade for the first time.

Some residents said they did not get a chance to see the parade live or on OTOW-TV channel 901 on St. Patrick's Day. They appreciated Good Neighbors Association playing the parade so they could finally see it.

And the video was not disappointing.

There were 23 different clubs in the parade, many of which were selling tickets and meeting residents in the Auditorium as the parade was shown.

People at Get Acquainted Coffee also enjoyed listening to the bands, watching the dancers and smiling at the Santa Claus Drill Team.

Sunset Family Dentistry was in the



Auditorium meeting our residents when their float went by in the parade. They started taking pictures of themselves.

The video of the parade was filmed by your community TV station, OTOW-TV 901. There are no future plans to replay the broadcast again.

## Flea Market filled the Auditorium

Good Neighbors Association will be hosting its last Get Acquainted Coffee of the season on Thursday, May 14, from 9-11 a.m.

Please join us for coffee and donuts even if you have never been to a Get Acquainted Coffee. You will have an opportunity to socialize with your neighbors, meet various club representatives and find out what is going on in our community. The bonus is free coffee and donuts!

The next Get Acquainted Coffee will not be until September as we take the summer off.

Our club's Flea Market and Craft Fair was held on Saturday, March 28, and was very successful for many of the vendors who had tables. Our next Flea Market will be in the fall.

We will post our calendar for the 2026-27 season shortly. Have a wonderful May!



Vendors at the Good Neighbors Association Flea Market and Craft Show were selling a variety of homemade crafts in March, including glass, jewelry, art and flowers.

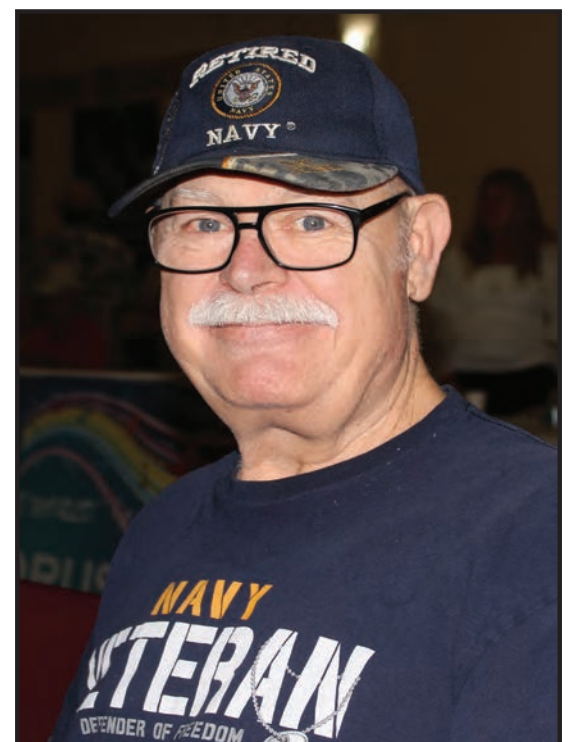
(OTOW News photos by Mary Lou Wall)



Prashant Lal  
Toronto, Canada



Mary Buellis  
New York



Barney Prow  
Oklahoma

(Photos by Doug Kates)

## Get Acquainted Coffee on May 14

By Nancy Rogers

David Allen will be at On Top of the World live on Thursday, May 14, to perform at Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee - the final one of the season.

David performs an eclectic ensemble of music in folk and island style. The folk style music is supported with a five-string baritone ukulele or a tenor guitar, while island style is achieved with a standard tenor ukulele.

From the Doobie Brothers to Michael Franti, Garth Brooks, Ziggy Marley, Frank Sinatra and John Prine, David delights audiences with a broad range of songs.

Club information tables begin at 8:30 a.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Free coffee and donuts begin at 9 a.m., followed by meeting new residents, community announcements and introduction of vendors.

Raffle tickets will be sold and winners announced when the morning is finished.



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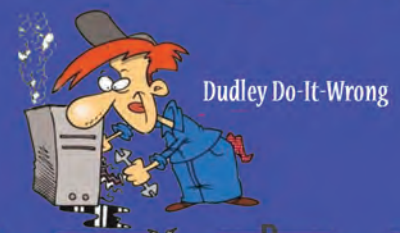
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# As soon as you enter the world of social media, assume nothing you share will be private

## Scam Alert

Social media is tricky, isn't it? There's a lot of good in some of those platforms. We can communicate with friends and family. We can see what's happening in the news. If we want, we can follow celebrities or folks who are nationally known. We might even meet interesting folks who are worthy of our acquaintance.

Yes. There's a lot of good in social media platforms. But there's a lot of bad, really bad on social media, too.

Isn't there?

There are scammers, fraudsters and criminals, and they are hunting for us - for you and for me.

We confront them every time we respond to a direct message on a platform like X (formerly Twitter), or on a Facebook group, or on Bluesky.

It never ends, does it?

I'm on X (Twitter). Now and then, I post on it. My intentions are good, but every once in a while I get unwanted direct messages from folks who are not good people. Some want me to subscribe to sites I don't want to visit. Some want me to invest my money so they can quadruple it for me.

Don't do it.

One lady who wrote to me is an expert in crypto, like bitcoins.

Another guy wrote to me and said he knows how I can make 50 percent profit on my money.

Don't do it.

Wanna meet someone?

Respond to direct messages from people you don't know and they will point you in the direction of social media hangouts at a very low price.

Don't do it.

Do you oftentimes feel sad, alone or lost? Are you wondering the Internet trying to find someone to talk to? Watch out. The person you connect with will most likely invite you to a social media platform such as Telegram or Whats App.

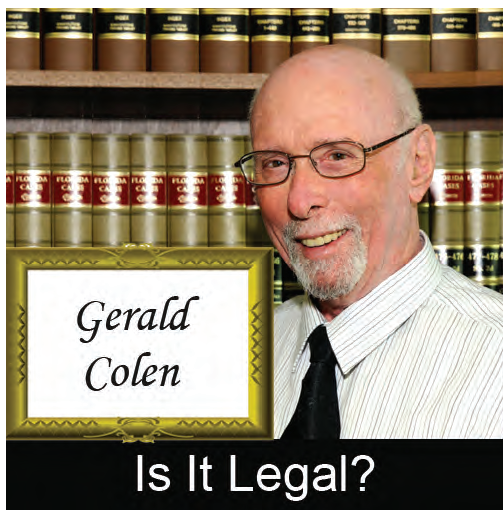
These are not private platforms! Your information can be shared.

I've checked out all of these scenerios for you. Here's my thoughts.

First and most important, always, always, remember that every time you click on something, be it a direct message or to express your view on a topic of the day, you are vulnerable to a scammer.

Scammers are lurking to see what you do.

Even if you choose to read a story



about a celebrity or a news media personality, as soon as you click a link to read, you will start getting ads or messages from unknown sources.

Most likely, you won't be getting any information at all on the person you wanted to read about.

There also are lurkers.

Lurkers are bad people who hunt for vulnerable men or women on the Internet, seeking to lure them into conversations that usually leads directly to losing money.

If you are ever asked to pay online using bitcoins, please don't. Folks, if you are asked to send bitcoins to someone, you are being scammed.

Not a doubt.

While doing my research, I've learned that although there is a lot of good in various social media platforms, there's a lot of bad. You and I, our children and even our grandchildren are targets.

Everyone needs to remember that you are a target every single time you log onto Facebook, X, Bluesky, Tinder or any other media.

If you "meet" someone online, don't assume he or she has the same problems as you and is looking to help or be your friend. Be careful what you write back.

Fight the temptation to provide any personal information. You need to assume that whatever you post will never be private. Someone could be creating a profile about you.

Q. It seems to me that lawyers can charge a lot for a service. Yet, a different lawyer might charge more or less for the same or similar service. How are we to know where we get the best value for our money when we need to use a lawyer?

A. In all the years I've written this col-

umn, this is the first time I've had this question and it's a very good one. I'll try my best to answer it, but it's strictly my opinion.

More than likely, and except with the mega-law firms with mega overhead, most fees are going to be within a certain and identifiable range. That range may bother a client. I mean, if one lawyer charges say \$100 more than another, that can certainly be a significant difference, especially if you really do get the same or similar advice and documents.

So, what do you do?

First, of course, you try to see what your friends might say about a specific attorney.

If you hear that so-and-so did not rush and he or she took all the time needed to answer every question, that's important.

Or, if you learn that an attorney seems to see you as just another client, maybe that means something.

It's really a matter of feeling comfortable with the person who is going to handle something significant for you.

-----  
Jerry Colen, Rachel Wagoner and John Beck are law partners in Colen & Wagoner, P.A. Jerry and Rachel are members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. John has a master's degrees in taxation, accounting and a degree in finance. The law firm practices in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, real estate, elder law, asset protection for business and professionals. This column does not, nor is it intended to, provide legal advice to anyone. You should not rely on what is written in this column to be legal advice for any situation, even if it appears similar to an issue you face. You should always consult with your own attorney for legal advice. The law offices of Colen and Wagoner, P.A. is located at 1756 North Belcher Road, Clearwater, FL, 33765 and in Suite 11 at Circle Square Commons across from the ice cream shop. Phone numbers in Ocala and in Clearwater are (727) 545-8114. Our website is www.colenwagoner.com. For more information, send an email to Info@colenwagoner.com.

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ALF#: 13954

# First the dinosaurs - now paperboys

You've probably heard, you can buy anything on the Internet.

Whether Amazon, eBay or some shop in a faraway land, if you find it on Google, you can buy it.

Well, guess what? Not true.

As time was getting closer and closer toward the Irish Club St. Patrick's Day parade, the Press Association was trying to recruit enough people from our club to march and proudly carry our newspaper banner.

Each year that we have participated, our club members have passed out March newspapers along the parade route. But this year we were lacking club representatives. We didn't have enough people to enter our club in the parade, so I tried to make a last-second effort to influence more volunteers.

I had an idea. I thought I would purchase some paperboy newspaper bags. I had a vision of seeing Press Association club members walking down the road with paperboy bags around their necks passing out newspapers to people along the boulevard - like in the good ole days.

But something unexpected happen.

I Googled "paperboy newspaper bags" and nothing came up.

Well. Not nothing.

I found some folks selling 1920 Boston Globe paperboy bags for \$200 apiece. Let's see. \$200 for each club



member in the parade ... "Hey, Ken, can I borrow \$2000?"

Nope. Not gonna happen.

So I tried Googling "newspaper bags," "paperboy bags," "newspaper delivery bags" and even "paperboy sacks."

Nothing.

I couldn't find any businesses selling them.

I thought maybe I just wasn't looking in the right spot or the bags had a specific name that I didn't know. So I called a former co-worker, Scott Kindberg, who is the current sports editor for the Post-Journal in Jamestown, N.Y.

I said, "Scott. I need your help. What company does the Post-Journal use to purchase paperboy bags?"

You see, in Jamestown, paperboys deliver the daily newspaper not only in Jamestown, but Lakewood, Frewsburg, Busti, Ashville and Celoron - all over the southern tier of New York.

Scott got my note and said, "I'll check and get back to you."

Well, he did, but I wasn't expecting his answer.

"We don't use paperboys anymore," Scott said. "All of our newspapers are now delivered by the Post-Office. We don't buy paperboy bags anymore."

"You're kidding?" was my response. Maybe this news isn't a big deal to the average reader of this newspaper, but it was shocking news to me.

Being a paperboy was a part of growing up. For many kids, being a paperboy is their first job. Just ask my brother, Dan. He was bitten by a dog delivering newspapers.

But that's another story...

I, myself, was never a full-time paperboy, but there was this cute girl in elementary school. I used to do her paper route on occasion in order to bashfully say hi to her. I know what it was like to put the prestigious newspaper delivery bag around my neck and pass out the daily news.

Anyway.

Out of curiosity, I called another friend in Corry, Pa. I asked if they still deliver newspapers by paperboy.

Same answer. No. Delivery is by two-day mail.

So there you go. I got my answer why I couldn't find any online businesses that sell newspaper delivery bags. Apparently, daily newspapers no longer have paperboys.

How sad.

Paperboys were icons. The more newspapers you delivered, the more money you made. The more money you made, the more prestige amongst other paperboys.

And half the fun was delivering to a house where the owner was so excited to read the daily news that they would stand outside waiting for you to arrive.

Which reminds me of a quick story from my past.

One day I was doing the newspaper subbing thing. I put half the stack of newspapers in my bag and planned on coming back for the second half later. By the time I finished the first half of the route, the wind had blown the second half all over the neighborhood.

There were adults grabbing wind-blown newspapers in their yards, in their neighbors' yards and in the street. The daily news was all over Winchester Road and Erfrd Drive.

"Did you ever hear of rocks!" one resident "kindly" asked me.

Just think. With no more paperboys, this will never happen again.

**In June, July and August,  
Club Information Tables will be Thursdays only  
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**Editor: Doug Kates**

Press Association President Tom Butcher

Vice President Kathi Finley

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On Top of the World News is located at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, Fla., 33763. The office phone is 727-799-3216. The newspaper and advertising rate sheet are available by visiting the Box Office website and clicking the link for downloading the current newspaper. Look for the rate sheet icon. Past editions of OTOW News are also available on the same website. Each edition is uploaded about the first of each month.

## Proofreaders

- Patti Branch
- Mary Lou Wall
- Joanne Cordes
- Donna Gagnon
- Renée Ingrassia
- Barbara Walsh
- Pat Hayes
- Tara Still

# Around The World

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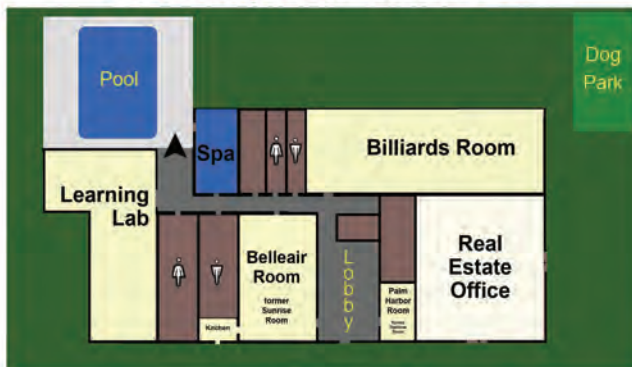
East Activity Center Ground Floor



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



Pavilion Park

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Community Service Office

727-683-6981

Activities Office

727-799-2734

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off

727-799-3417 Option 6

Emergency After Hours/Weekends

727-799-1115

**Association Board Members:** Chairperson Dave Kelly, Vice Chair Diane Like, Secretary Janet Hooper, Treasurer Les Meneilly, Russell Bolin, Kathleen Cassel, Stephen Faiella, Lori Kleifgen, Dale Prunoske.

Send emails directly to the board: [ClearwaterInfo@otowfl.net](mailto:ClearwaterInfo@otowfl.net)

# Vehicles cannot block sidewalks



**Florida Driving Laws**

*Did You Know?*

*By Tara Still*

In Florida, pedestrians must use sidewalks, when available, rather than walking on a roadway.

Pedestrians have the right-of-way on sidewalks, particularly when crossing driveways.

In Florida, it is considered an illegal obstruction to park a vehicle which blocks a sidewalk, even if only temporarily.

Only human-powered devices, such as bicycles, are allowed on sidewalks. An exception is a motorized wheelchair.

Vehicles exiting alleys or driveways must yield to pedestrians on sidewalks.

In fact, according to Florida Statute, a driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley, building, private road or driveway (within a business or residence district) must stop the vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across the alley, building entrance, road or driveway.

Drivers exiting a driveway must yield to all vehicles and pedestrians which are so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

Sources:  
FS [§316.125(2)]  
and [§316.130(15)]



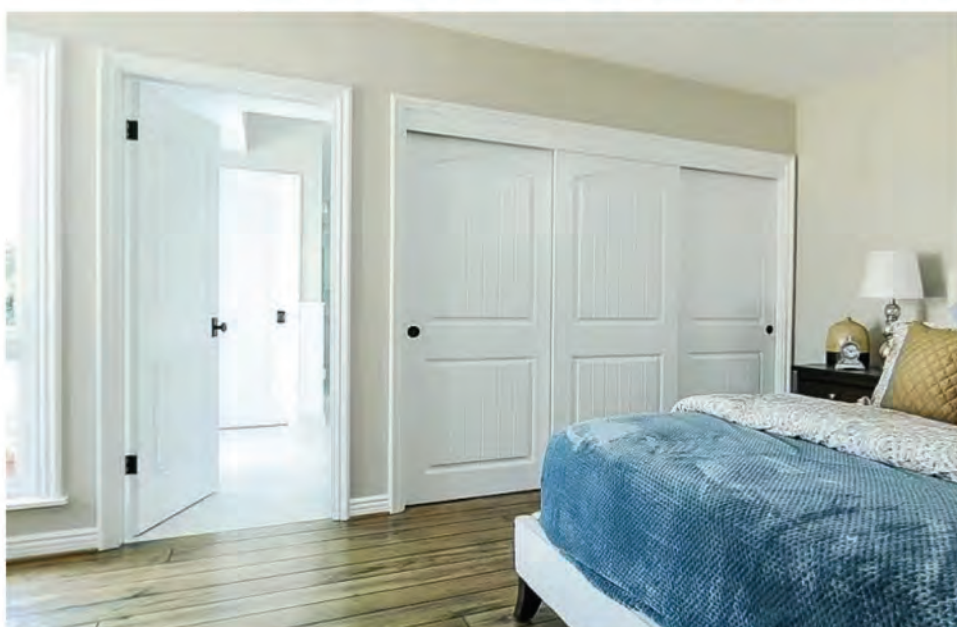
In Florida, the only vehicles allowed on a sidewalk are human-powered. An exception are motorized wheelchairs.



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# Pet of the Month



Each month, OTOW artist Irene Piper will be providing each Pet of the Month winner with a pet portrait based on their submitted photograph.

The owner will be contacted when each portrait is finished.

If you would like to contact Irene and request your own pet portrait, she is receiving emails at [loislane96@hotmail.com](mailto:loislane96@hotmail.com).

Irene does not take the initial photograph. You must submit a photo and she will create the painted portrait based on the picture.

Irene also can be reached at 727-313-0500.



**Sammy the Second**

Hi, my name is Sammy and all 10 pounds of me moved in with Mommy in the Ottoman Building in June 2025. Mommy is Tara Still. She proofs this newspaper every month so I know everything is spelled correctly in my story! I'm 11 years old, but I'm a spitfire and I fly like a squirrel onto Mommy's lap wherever she is sitting. Sitting with Mommy is my favorite thing to do. I bark some when Mommy leaves, but I get over it within 5-10 minutes. Also, I do not like any other dogs. Funny thing is, Mommy had another dog named Sammy, but last May he was called to another world. You see, when my Mommy adopts a rescue, she keeps the same name. So I am not a junior, just Sammy the Second. I'm very special with only one front tooth. I can't bite anything, but I can eat just fine. I already love living here where I can be the king of On Top of the World.

Each month, OTOW News will feature a Pet of the Month. Any pets living at On Top of the World are eligible. To enter your pet, email one perfect photo and a brief reason why your pet deserves to be Pet of the Month. Email to [otow.newsroom@gmail.com](mailto:otow.newsroom@gmail.com). You must include your pet's name, owners' names, breed of dog, age of dog and building you live in. You can enter more than one pet per household but they all must be in the same picture. The winning pet each month will receive a portrait by Irene Piper. The newsroom will notify you when your portrait is finished. Each monthly winner then becomes eligible for the State Farm Pet of the Year, which takes place with an online vote each January. Your pet must still be a resident of OTOW on Jan. 1 to be eligible for the State Farm Pet of the Year honors. The State Farm Pet of the Year will be announced in February and gets invited to march in the annual Irish Club Parade.



## Guidelines for Riding the Shuttle Bus

1. You MUST have a valid Activity Card and present it to the driver upon entering the bus. The SCA bus service is exclusively for use by Association-approved residents and tenants only. If you do not have a valid Activity Card, you may not ride the shuttle bus.
2. Reservations are REQUIRED – please call 727-799-3417 Option 7 no later than 1:00 pm the day prior to your planned trip. Monday's trip deadline is 1:00 pm Friday. Please be present in the core of your building at your scheduled pick up time.
3. Shopping time is 1.0 hours for grocery stores and 2.0 hours for Countryside Mall. Those going to Sunset Point 19 Plaza will have approximately 90 minutes to shop. Shopping time begins when you are dropped off at the destination.
4. Although appreciated, the driver is prohibited from accepting gifts or tips. Please do not ask him to do so.
5. The driver may not assist you with entering or exiting the bus or with your packages.
6. The start time listed is when the shuttle bus departs the Community Service Office. The pick-up schedule will rotate weekly between low and high buildings, meaning one week pick-up will start with the lower-numbered buildings, the following week it will start with the higher-numbered buildings.
7. Seats are not assigned. They are first come – first served.
8. Seat belts must be fastened during bus movement and must remain fastened until the bus comes to a complete stop.
9. Eating, drinking, smoking, vaping, fighting, distracting the driver, or any other unacceptable actions at the discretion of the driver are strictly prohibited on the bus. Violation of the above may result in your bus privileges being revoked.
10. All route changes are at the discretion of Management.

## SCA Shuttle Bus Schedule

DATE	PICKUP TIME	LOCATION	SHOP TIME	SHUTTLE BUS
Monday	9:00 am	Publix	1 hour	SCA
	12:30 pm	Walmart	1 hour	SCA
Tuesday	9:00 am	Sunset Point 19 Plaza	1 hour	SCA
		Sprouts/Aldi		
Wednesday	10:00 am	Clearwater Mall	2 hours	SCA
Thursday	9:00 am	Walmart	1 hour	SCA
	12:30 pm	Publix	1 hour	SCA
Friday	10:00 am	Countryside Mall	2 hours	SCA

SCA Shuttle Bus (SCA)

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# Imagine fire and ice in one vacation



Barry and Jayne Dowdy enjoyed the adventure of a lifetime in Iceland, the land of fire and ice!

The adventure began with an overnight flight from Orlando to Keflavik, Iceland. Upon landing, they drove through a lava field to the famous Blue Lagoon, and soaked in the geothermal mineral waters.

The following two days were spent on the south coast of Iceland exploring the Katla Volcano ice caves, a glacier lagoon, waterfalls and Black Diamond Beach, which is known for its black sand and big chunks of ice along the beach.

There was also an unexpected sighting of the Northern Lights on the first night there!

The next few days were spent adventuring to the continental divide between North America and Eurasia, watching the Strokkur Geyser shoot up in the air, soaking in the geothermal waters of Sky Lagoon, more Northern Lights and standing in awe of the massive Gullfoss Falls, which was an incredible sight to see!

They ended the trip with dog sledding in a blizzard and spent the night in a luxury glamping dome (an igloo with benefits) watching a snowstorm through the dome's large viewing window.

The beauty and adventure of Iceland is like no other!



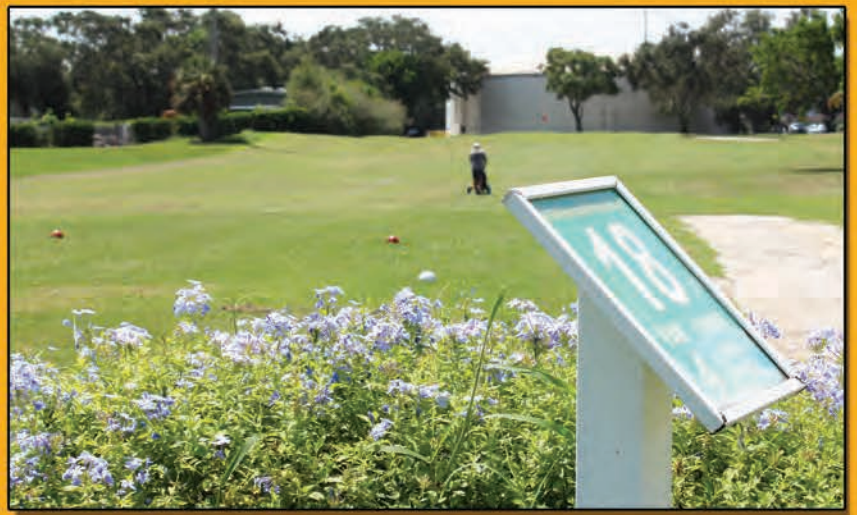
Pictured on top, sunrise at a lava field.

In the middle, cave exploring at the Katla Volcano.

Pictured at right, dog sledding in a blizzard, although none of the dogs look unhappy.



# ACTIVITY REPORTS



(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

## Chorus made sure everyone knew it was spring

There were almost as many butterflies as residents at the 2026 On Top of the World Chorus spring concert in April.

With songs such as "What a Wonderful World," "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing" and "Over the Rainbow," the Chorus set the tone to usher out winter and welcome in spring.

If you were a Snowbird, who went home too early, you missed it.

The stage was decorated with a variety of butterflies, ranging in colors from yellows to reds to purples.

The stage was set with three rows of chairs and more than a dozen singers in each row - nearly 40 altogether.

Kershaw Bennett welcomed the audience to a Saturday evening and

Sunday afternoon performance. There were more than 300 people at each concert.

Gordon McMann was the director and Caroline Veach was the accompanist.

The title of the concert was "Songs of Hope, Love and Inspiration."

When people left, they wanted to go smell a flower!

There were 15 songs overall. Others included "God Bless America," "Love Could Build a Bridge" and "You Raise Me Up."

Chorus had been rehearsing for about five months. At first there was one rehearsal each week and then two. By mid-April, the singers were ready for showtime.

Chorus President Vonnie Oto

thanked everyone for coming and helped with raffle drawings before the final song both days.

Just five years ago, Chorus barely had enough members to host a Christmas concert. They pulled it off by asking the audience to sing along with them. For this concert, Chorus proudly displayed 38 members and rumor has it there could be more than 40 by October when preparations begin for the 2026 Holiday Concert.

If you are interested in joining Chorus, look for its club information table on Mondays or Thursdays, 8:30-10:30 a.m., at the East Activity Center Auditorium starting in October. If you can sing in the shower, you can sing with OTOW Chorus.

Spring singers included Audrey Bernard, Patti Branch, Sandy Carter, Laura Chesson, Elaine Detlefsen, Susan Engel, Barbara Fauvel, Dana Garlick, Karen Hector, Marion Holton, Jane Johnson, Penny Lagasse, Kelley Lewis, Marge McKeon, Paula Meyerriecks, Kathy Murray, Carolyn Siegrist, Midge Weatherwax, Miriam Benitez-Nixon, Amy Caraway, Renee Friend, Carol Hackman, Virginia Jackson, Chris Norris, Vonnie Oto, Sylvia Rieder, Annette Wenker, Marilyn Zylstra, Jim Chido, Bill Houser, Rafael Ledesma, Doug McGaughey, Donna Weatherwax, Bob Antsey, Bernie Bernard, Jeffrey Chesson, Dan Dunne and Tony Osorio.

Good Neighbors Association sold refreshments.

## Sue Pall will never forget the military child who attended her school

By Rene Foley and Doug Kates

On March 1, people in attendance at On Top of the World's "Salute to Veterans Day" were touched by the annual ceremony and watching 94 community veterans get honored.

But for one resident, it was an emotional reminder of a day 13 years ago.

As Sue Pall watched our veterans get recognized for their service, she had a flashback to 2013 - a school year she will never forget.

It was mid-way through the 2013-14 semester when Sue was teaching first grade at Ulysses Byas Elementary School in New York. She became familiar with a new student, Brittany, who was in fourth grade.

Brittany was not your average child. She was a military child.

What is a military child?

Both of Brittany's parents were deployed in the Armed Services. Brittany had no choice but to move cross country to live with an aunt in New York State and attend a new school.

"Since the school year had already started, she had a hard time making friends," Sue said.

All the other students already knew each other and their teachers. Brittany was starting from scratch with her parents far from home.

Sue came up with an idea in an attempt to help the situation. She didn't know if it would work, but was willing to give it a try.

"My students held an assembly every Veterans Day and Memorial Day to honor veterans," Sue said. "Many local veterans attended."

Some students greeted the veterans or sang patriotic songs. Sue asked Brittany if she would be willing to read a poem entitled, "I Am A Military Child."

Sue said the poem describes what it is like to be a military child and it described exactly what Brittany was going through in her own life.

Brittany agreed to read the poem.

The poem starts out, "I serve too. I'm a military child."

The poem goes on to say, "My mommy and daddy help defend our country. So we can live in peace and harmony. All military children help their mothers and fathers. Because we serve too."

The poem also sheds light that military children always face starting over

in school and with it comes the struggle of making new friends.

"After she read the poem, she got an applause and a standing ovation,"

Sue said, "After hearing the poem, everyone understood what Brittany's life was like and all she had gone through."

From that point on, it was no longer tough for Brittany to make friends. She made a lot of new friends.

Sue said Brittany was "always smiling."

Later in the school year, something else happened Sue will never forget.

Sue got a knock on her classroom door. It was the high school principal.

Standing next to the principal was a woman dressed in Army attire. It was Brittany's mom. She was at the school to make a surprise visit to see her daughter.

Sue proudly followed mom to Brittany's classroom and they knocked on the door. When the door opened, Brittany could see her mom in the hallway.

"Brittany came running and gave her mom the biggest hug," Sue said. "All the students applauded."

"This was a special time I will never

forget."

So when the On Top of the World community and clubs came together to honor their own veterans on March 1, emotions did not apply to just the 94 people on stage. Sue remembered the school year when her teachings, her fellow students, a Veterans Day assembly and a poem helped change the life of a fourth-grade military child.

Sue looked around the East Activity Center Auditorium on March 1 and wondered how many past military children were in our own crowd. That same poem which was read 13 years ago was then read again out loud at Salute to Veterans. Many people told Sue that the poem still shares emotion today.

Salute to Veterans Day has become a new tradition here in our community. It brings out many emotions.

"It was awesome seeing 94 veterans in the room," Sue said. "It is so rewarding to honor them and thank them for all they have done to protect our great nation's freedom. They are all true heroes!"

Salute to Veterans Day will return next year.

# Last day of Spanish class



The Spanish Class at On Top of the World held a farewell fiesta in March as it was the last day of class. These students were committed to learning Spanish every Monday over 12 weeks this past winter season. In the front row, left to right, are Patricia Cullen-Davis, Sheila Bonomo, instructor Rebecca Bernai, Anna Foss, Barb Lier and Bonnie Marton. In back are Diane Hartz, Larry Hartz, Chuck Gunn and Jim Ellis. Look for information about the class restarting in this year's December newspaper.

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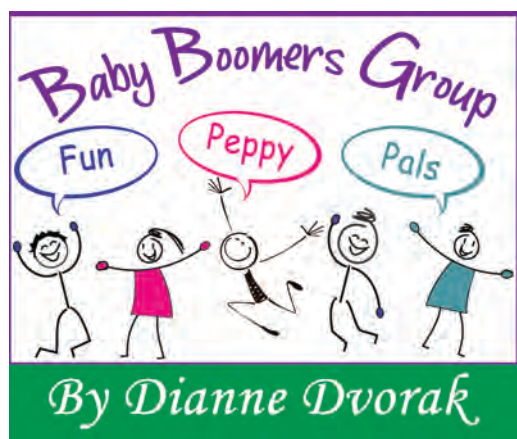
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# Twenty-four Boomers take in a show while May turns to bowling



Members of the Baby Boomers group love to take trips together to local theaters and clubs. Above is one such recent trip where more than 20 Boomers attended the same show and enjoyed a night out.

Many of us in the On Top of the World Baby Boomers group enjoy live theater and on March 15 Margery Cruze organized 24 of us to see a local production of "The Curious Savage" at the nearby West Coast Players.

It was an entertaining time watching all the antics, whimsy and humor from the cast of talented actors.

Laughter is the best medicine for us aging boomers and all that chuckling made us hungry. So after the show, off we went to a local favorite food place, Johnny's Italian Restaurant.

On March 18, the Baby Boomers got together for one of two meetings during the month.

Before the meeting began, we listened to a great teacher and speaker brought to us by our own Bruce and Marge Cowan.

Gail Di Noia presented "A Fun Way to Review Your Life."

We found her thought-provoking,

interesting and we recommend her classes at the Aging Well Center at the Long Center on Belcher Road.

Many thanks to Gail, who has been invited to Canada to run a class there this summer. She is a treasure.

The Baby Boomers had a very busy season. There were so many fun events here at On Top of the World and outside the gates to keep us moving, socializing and laughing. Come join our group and meet new people. We may be smaller, but we are a mighty cast of characters!

The Baby Boomers meet in the East Activity Center Largo Room on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month.

Snowbirds and Sunbirds are starting to leave for their northern lives and locals leave on trips, so our season is winding down. This is the time of year for the full-time residents to get crackin and keep the ball rolling.

Literally!

We hope bowling will continue at Maple Lanes on Mondays at 9:50 a.m. What could be a better fun time than showing up for two games of bowling for \$1.50 a game. What a deal and in a cool place to spend a few hours.

Also, our biking meet-ups are at 10 a.m. on Fridays at the East Activity Center front parking lot. Times can be changed to suit bikers' preference since it gets hot at 10 a.m. Helmets are

required.

Also, our group has its own Music Jam for acoustic instruments and sing-alongs. We meet 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab.

The Baby Boomers love to meet new people and, in fact, many new residents have joined the group this season. Welcome aboard y'all!

We have no dues and no officers. If you come to a meeting and want to join us, you can be added to our Google Groups email if you think we might be your thing.

From all the Baby Boomers group, may you have a great May!

# New board members get ready to enter the summer planning stage for 2026-27

The Jesters held their year-end meeting on Wednesday, April 8, in the West Activity Center Belleair Room.

During the meeting we had a change of board members. We thanked our previous board members for the great job they've done for the past two years. They included Second Vice President Roger Hillier and Secretary Millie Cantone.

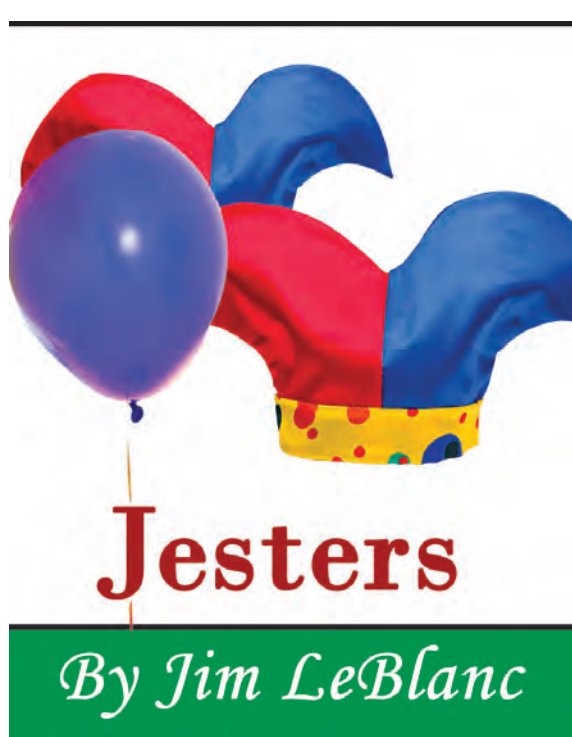
Then we announced and welcomed in our new board members. They included Secretary Priscilla Fay, Treasurer Mitch Gerstenblith and Second Vice President Jim LeBlanc.

The new board is President Michelle Fournier, First Vice President Robyn Kumar, Assistant Secretary Renee Ingrassia, Assistant Treasurer Carlee Layton, plus newcomers Jim, Priscilla and Mitch.

According to our Jesters bylaws, no one can serve the same position for more than two years.

Thankfully, the former board members are only stepping down. They will still be a part of our Jesters club moving forward. It'll be great to have them here and to continue to share their ideas and knowledge with all of us.

Following the meeting, we had a Mexican-themed dinner. We had make-your-own-ta-



cos with all the fixings, plus chips and dips.

Club President Michelle Fournier organized this dinner and added a fun idea - tacos in a bag.

Simple!

Crush up a bag of Doritos, open it and stuff it with all of your favorite taco fixings.

Shake it up and eat with a spoon. This was a different way of making tacos. Our hands stayed clean and the best part of the meal was no dishes to clean.

At the end of a table were desserts - a tray of delicious cupcakes just waiting to be eaten.

This was a fun night. We had some music and dancing. We had a photo area with sombreros, a serape (Mexican blanket) and maracas all to give us a great photo opportunity.

Over the summer months, Director Roger Hillier will meet with his creative team and start putting together next year's show. Roger's first year of being our director was a big success. Our members had fun and loved putting on the show as much as our audience loved watching it.

We're confident that Roger's second year of directing will be just as successful. We don't know what his ideas are for the next show. Once it's planned out and in the works, we'll share it with our readers.

Summer is our time for planning and organizing. Our next news report will be August or September. At that time you'll get an update.

Have a great and safe summer.



Renee Ingrassia showed up at the Jesters post-season party wearing a new Mexican outfit she just bought in Mexico.

# Last Multi-Food Truck Night of the Season

3-7:30 pm, Wednesday, May 13, EAC Back Parking Lot

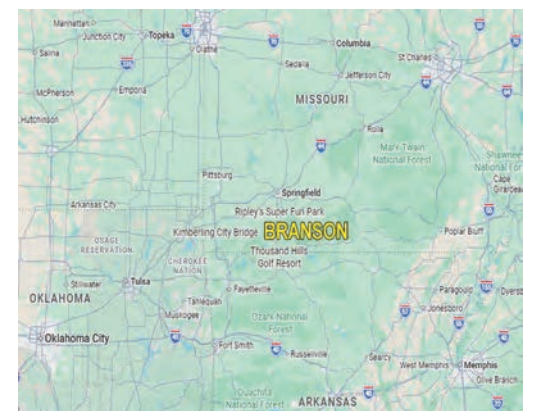
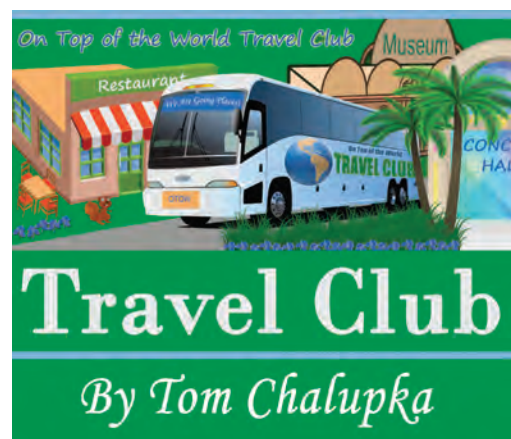


Chairs will be set up to dine in the parking lot or you can use the Pavilion



Above, Travel Club members visit the Eddison/Ford Estates in Ft. Myers. Below, Jerry Esposito is named super sleuth after solving a murder mystery on a train.

# We are going to Branson!



On April 10, Terri Mikszenas announced the Travel Club's featured trip for this fall.

Drum roll please!

We are going to the "Live Music Capital of the World," Branson, Missouri.

This nine-day, eight-night trip will leave On Top of the World on Saturday, Oct. 3, and return on Sunday, Oct. 11.

This motorcoach trip will include your transportation, eight nights of lodging, 14 meals and admission to six fabulous shows.

It also will include stops in Birmingham, Ala., and Little Rock, Ark.

For more information about this trip, and all the other wonderful adventures the Travel Club has scheduled for 2026-27, stop by our information table in the East Activity Center on Mondays and Thursdays between 8:30 and 10 a.m.

You can also attend our monthly

meeting on the first Friday of each Month at 2 p.m. in the East Activity Center Oldsmar Room.

Also in April, members of our club experienced the Murder Mystery Dinner Train in Ft Myers and we took a tour of the Edison/Ford estates.

On the three-hour train ride, we enjoyed a spectacular five-course meal as actors performed skits giving clues to unravel the murder mystery.

Congratulations to club member Jerry Esposito for solving the murder. He was proclaimed the super sleuth for the evening.

The next day we visited the Edison/Ford Estate. It was very interesting as we learned about the connection between Edison, Ford and Firestone as these three inventive gentlemen worked together to give us some of the conveniences we all cherish today.

# One of the world's healthiest foods can be grown on your kitchen counter



Members of the Plant-Based Living Club get ready to enjoy lunch together at Curries Indian Restaurant.

green thumb required.

At our April meeting, I demonstrated sprouting vegetable and bean seeds.

I used green sprouting trays sold at Nature's Food Patch. Follow these basic steps and you can grow sprouts too:

Soak beans or seeds for six hours or overnight in the sprouting tray.

Drain the water from the tray.

Rinse 2-3 times a day for 2-3 days till sprouted.

Place the sprouting tray of fresh sprouts in the daylight (not the sun) on the last day of sprouting to initiate chlorophyll production. The chlorophyll turns the sprouts green, enhances their nutritional value and improves flavor.

Why are sprouts one of the most

concentrated food sources?

When we eat a single sprout we are eating a whole plant - root, stem, leaf, flower, fruit and seed.

One thing every dietary persuasion agrees on: We need to eat more plants. Sprouts are the answer. When we eat a 3 ounce package of sprouts, we are eating about 4,000 baby plants.

If you have an interest in sprouting, I recommend, "The Sprout Book" by Doug Evans. There are also many How To sprout You Tube videos.

You can also learn more by joining our club on the first Wednesday of each month at the West Activity Center Learning Lab at 1 p.m. The topic on May 6 will be nourishing our largest organ, the skin. All residents are welcome.

For more Information about the Plant-Based Living Club, visit the Box Office website at otowboxoffice.com. For more information on veganism, visit VeganSalvation.com.

Members of the Plant-Based Living Club learned how easy it is to grow sprouts. All that is needed is a sprouting tray or jar, and water.

The freshest, most nutrient-dense vegetables can be grown right on your countertop. No lights. No fertilizers. No

# Ice cream social was the cherry-on-top of a great season

## Italian American Club

By Renée Ingrassia

The Italian-American Club wrapped up another wonderful season with our annual ice cream social.

It was a relaxed, cheerful evening and this time residents were encouraged to have dinner on their own, but join us for dessert after dinner.

This was truly the cherry on top of a great year.

What a year we had.

We thank our club members who participated in the Salute to Veterans luncheon. It was a tremendous success.

We stepped things up with our St. Joseph's Dinner Dance. The tables looked beautiful, and Felice Italian Catering out-did themselves once again. Along with their delectable spread, antipasto was added, and each table featured wine. DJ Frank Lebrano kept the dance floor full all night and the feedback from our members was outstanding.

Looking ahead, our 2026–2027 season begins with the return of A Little Latin Twist on Sept. 23, at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Guests may choose from three sandwiches when purchasing tickets: Cubanitos,



The serving line was long for cake and ice cream. A separate table was set up for toppings.

(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

tuna, or turkey and cheese.

Music, once again, will be provided by DJ Frank Lebrano. Tickets are \$15. Please bring your own beverage. This event also will serve as our membership drive.

Our next event is another members' favorite. Our Holiday PJ and Game Party was such a hit last year that we're bringing it back on Nov. 18. Wear your craziest pajamas, bring a game

to share and don't forget to select your sandwich when buying your ticket.

Tickets for both fall events will be sold on Thursday mornings through June, giving everyone plenty of time to stop by, say hello, and secure their spot before we break for the summer.

Please remember that no tickets will be sold on the day of the event, as we must finalize seating and order the correct amount of food in advance.

As we plan for our 2027 events, we welcome ideas and suggestions from all members. This is your club and your input helps shape the fun we create together.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our volunteers whose dedication makes every event possible.

Wishing all our members a safe, joyful and relaxing summer — we look forward to seeing you in the fall!



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# One-on-one assistance with technology issues is available at Computer Club meetings



## Computer Club

By Joe Wisinski

For many years, the On Top of the World Computer Club has helped people with technology issues.

Any OTOW resident can get assistance. Computer Club membership is not required. So far this year, the club has helped more than 70 non-members with computers, phones or tablets. This assistance takes place on a one-to-one basis during our Wednesday morning help sessions.

In addition to helping the community at large, club members also receive individualized help when we break up into small groups during meetings. One group may work on iPhones, another on Android phones, another on Google apps and another on other technology.



OTOW Computer Club President Dan Speer helps club member Abby Doronzio with a technology question.

In these settings, we address questions our members have and also share our accumulated knowledge.

"With smaller groups, we can handle each problem individually," said Computer Club President Dan Speer. "We can also give our members ideas of

things they may want to try."

For personalized assistance with technology-related issues, come to a help session in the Learning Lab in the West Activity Center any Wednesday morning from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Please arrive before 9:30 so we have enough

time to help you. Our services are free.

For more information about the Computer Club, or to ask computer-related questions, email [otowcc@gmail.com](mailto:otowcc@gmail.com), visit our website at [www.otowcc.com](http://www.otowcc.com), or click our link in the OTOW Box Office, [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com).



## Ending Italian class on a high note

Joni Marie Fragoso was a guest performer at one of the last Italian Class sessions for the season. Joni sings opera, classic, gospel, Broadway and more. She has performed for members of the class in the past and came back for another appearance. Italian Classes, led by Antoinette d'Oronzio, finished up in April, but will be back next winter.

(OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)



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# April Fool's Day brunch was perfect time to get a little silly



## Ladies Exercises

By Mary Marsden



The On Top of the World Morning Exercise Class held an "April Fool's Brunch" after their regular class on Wednesday, April 1.

The theme included the inspiration and fantasy flare of Salvadore Dali and Antoni Gaudi. Seventeen artistically dressed ladies gathered in the Clearwater/Kitchen Room and enjoyed some food and fun.

There were three special preplanned challenges for the brunch.

The first challenge was for the ladies

to dress in artistic inspired apparel for the class and brunch. During an April 1 brunch, members of the Morning Exercise Class were a little silly with various challenges. You can tell in the photo above that things got a little crazy.

Olga Kelbatyrov won this challenge with mismatched hippie-clothing complete with a black wig and wild glass.

Janice Lamoureux won the second challenge of a cat-themed place setting. She completed the assignment with a wind-up kitten and kitty bracelets to sway votes in her favor.

Edie Ryczek won the third challenge by telling a "foolish" story from a past adventure. She also told a fish story complete with distributing fish crackers to everyone. She was also an Easter bunny sharing tiny carrots as an appetizer.

Prizes were awarded for the challenges. They included glass vases filled with snapdragons donated by Life

Farms (certified organic farm nearby in Clearwater) and decorative plates.

All participants went home with a snapdragon or two after the party.

It was great to learn so much more about each other and spend some time together. We also enjoyed wonderful food and were a little silly on April Fool's Day.

## Collecting pull tabs benefits Shriners Hospital

Just because it is summer does not mean you should stop saving your pull tabs.

Over the summer months, you will find zip-lock bags on your building bulletin boards. Place pull tabs in the plastic bags and Sue Pall will collect them on the west side and Roger Nicoll on the east side. Please note, the west side may not get collected until November.

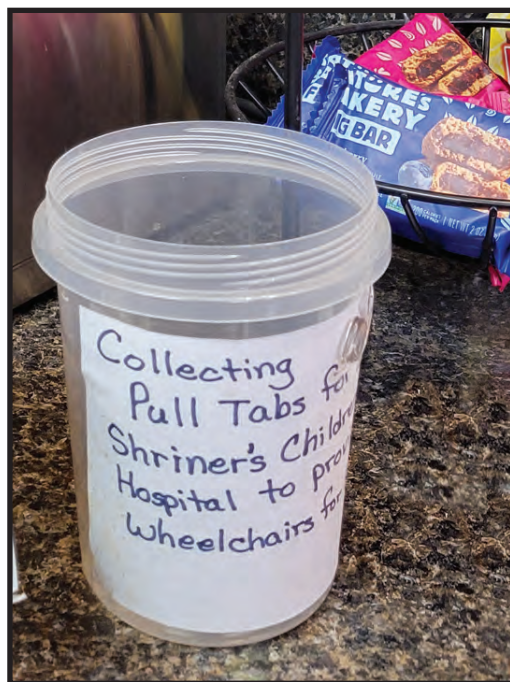
A note on the zip-lock bags states, "Collecting pull tabs for Shriners' Children's Hospital."

Collecting pull tabs helps provide wheelchairs and play structures for children.

During a normal winter-season day, Sue will walk through each building to check for pull tabs. Some days she'll get a lot and some days not too many, but even a few make a difference for children.

A pull tab container also is available at the Good Karma Café.

On March 31, Sue presented three very large containers of pull tabs to our Canadian Club Executive Board at its annual General Meeting. The Canadian Club was elated to receive them and they were delivered to Suzie and Bill Magnin for drop off at Shriners the next morning.



If there is no plastic bag for collecting pull tabs at your building bulletin board, you can drop pull tabs off at the Good Karma Café. Just look for this cup near the coffee machine.

So over the summer, no matter where you are living, collect your pull tabs and drop them off when you return to On Top of the World.

## Artist of the Month



'My Granddaughter' by Maggie Reinhart. This pastel pencil artwork will be displayed in the East Activity Center Auditorium through May.

### Qigong (Chi Kung) and Tai Chi

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Ruth Pittman, Instructor

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# Poker room can be a little less crowded over the summer months



Five players split the pot in March. They were, left to right, Len Picone, Pat Hayes, Manny Rios, Debbie Hall and Brian Denniston.

The Texas Card Game Club tournament for March was only attended by 19 players.

Some of our regulars had already

headed north.

The tournament ended early with the final five players agreeing to divide the

prize pool evenly.

Winners were Len Picone, Pat Hayes, Manny Rios, Debbie Hall and

Brian Denniston.

The club is in its fifth year and has grown to more than 50 members. There is a one-time fee of \$5 which goes for supplies. New members are given two opportunities to play before committing to joining the club.

We implemented a "high stakes" tournament for the first time this year and the members are looking forward to the next one later this year.

We also have a Christmas social potluck before our game in December.

Anyone with a current activity card can join the club.

For more information, send an email to joegdechiaro@yahoo.com or show up 15 minutes before this month's game which will be held on Friday, May 29 at 6 p.m. in the Kitchen/Clearwater Room.

# Take charge of your health issues with lifestyle and dietary changes

Life can be so magical when intentions, aligned with actions, create powerful healing.

I was invited to a blue lotus sound immersion session in March and met women devoted to sharing their gifts.

As I was seated in a circle, there was one lady in particular who caught my attention. She had perfect posture and shared a personal, heartfelt story of using sheer determination to transform her life from a dire situation.

She now lives her life devoted to sharing her story and it is one that needs to be told.

So I invited her to On Top of the World.

Gaylynn Kapri will be our guest speaker in May. She not only agreed to come enthusiastically, but also plans to bring a friend who now works with her in a holistic practice.

Gaylynn's biography is as follows.

After losing her daughter to a fatal accident, Gaylynn learned that she had stage four colon cancer. Heartbroken and scared, she followed her doctor's advice and underwent surgery to remove a 14-inch tumor, followed by extensive chemotherapy.

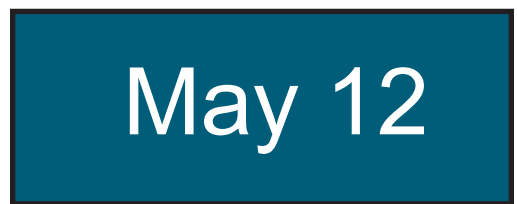
When she dropped to 105 pounds, her doctors released her to palliative



care and hospice care. They sent her home to die.

But Gaylynn had a better idea. She chose to live - and she committed herself to an entirely different lifestyle.

Nine years after cancer, she is a thriving, certified, wellness coach, yoga



teacher and plant-based nutrition advocate.

Gaylynn now teaches people how to avoid or heal diseases like cancer, diabetes and autoimmune disorders.

She integrates her life experience and training to support individuals on their wellness journeys with a particular focus on emotional healing and physical restoration.

Gaylynn met Julie Langford during this process and together they are combining their specialties in collective holistic practices inside Breathworks.

Julie enjoyed a successful career as a tenured professor at the University of South Florida, but wasn't happy or healthy. In 2018 she travelled to India to study yoga, meditation, breathwork and massage to fuel her own recovery. She has since retired from USF to start Breathworks, a collective, holistic practice in which she works as a massage therapist and Myofascial Release Specialist.

Julie supports trauma and post trauma

stress disorder (PTSD) recovery through somatic practices, energy and body work. These techniques help clients release trapped emotions, erase pain and mobilize joint replacements and frozen limbs.

Julie remains committed to community care by offering donation-based classes and accessible healing for all.

On May 12, here at OTOW, expect to hear Gaylynn's powerful story of overcoming all odds and how we can all take charge of our health issues through changes in lifestyle and dietary choices.

Perhaps Julie will offer to speak as well.

I expect our evening to be filled with stories, tips and revelations to share with our community.

High Vibe Tribe is a metaphysical group that meets once each month on the second Tuesday. It is free to all in the community and guests are welcome to attend as well.

We meet from 7-9 p.m. in the Clearwater/Kitchen Room of the East Activity Center, 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East. Please feel free to attend if interested.

Questions can be directed to otowoowo@gmail.com.

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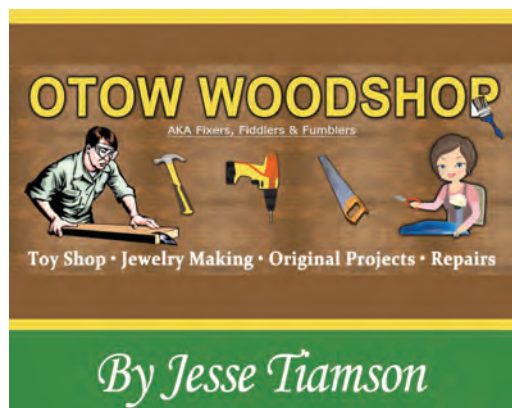
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# Woodshop staff and guests hold annual picnic



Fixers Club members and guests attended the group's annual picnic at the Pavilion in March.

The Fixers, Fiddlers and Fumblers Club held its annual picnic March 28 at the Pavilion.

Members of the club also included their significant others and guests.

Grillmaster Ron Cree provided

the hot dogs, hamburgers and all the trimmings, while the rest of the members provided side dishes, drinks and desserts.

Entertainment came in the form of music, putt-putt golf and cornhole.

Newsflash to all residents and Fixers members: The woodshop has now gone into their summer hours, which means the shop is open 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. These hours will remain until the last day of Sep-

tember. On Oct. 1, hours will return to 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Lapidary Room remains in operation from 1-3 p.m. except on Thursdays when it is closed.

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Dr. Nadia Pokrovskaya



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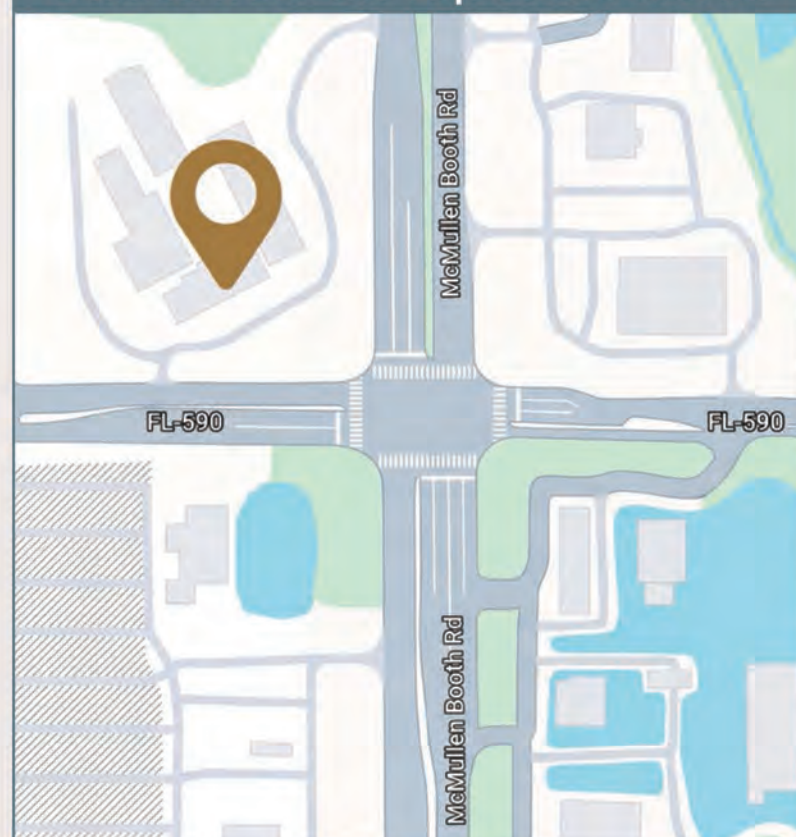
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# African Safari

Barbara Rice went on an African safari where she took more than 500 photos.

Then she returned to On Top of the World just in time for the 2026 Irish Club St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 7. Here, she took another 500 photos.





What's on your bucket list?  
Europe?  
The Rocky Mountains?  
A 10-day cruise?  
Well, how about a safari to  
Kenya, Africa?  
Not to go hunting.  
Not to visit a zoo.

To shoot hundreds of photographs of animals in their wild, natural habitats.

On Top of the World resident Barbara Rice did just that.

In the middle of helping out with the Irish Club parade in March, Barbara took a break and hopped over to Africa for a safari.

Her weapon, a camera ... thankfully, with a zoom lens.

On these two pages are just six of hundreds of photos Barbara took while out in the wild.

These are not zoo photos. These are actual pictures of wild animals.

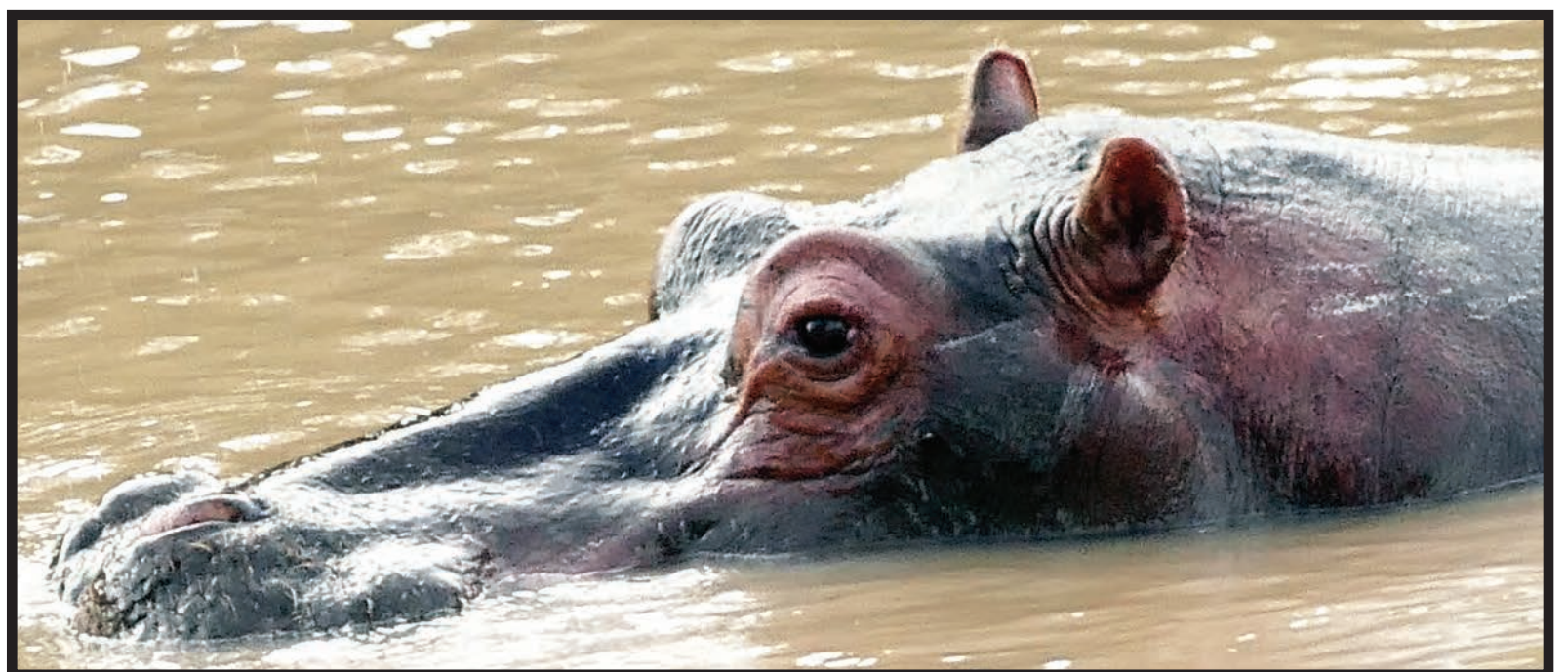
Did Barb experience any close calls?

Yes, one. But you'll have to find her to tell you the story. Finding her won't be easy.

Sadly, Barbara has left our community. She has been a staff photographer for OTOW News for more than 10 years and a member of the Irish Club as well.

Her photo contributions to this newspaper will be missed.

Consider these two pages her final contribution.



## African/Kenya Safari Photos By Barbara Rice of the OTOW News staff

# New York-New Jersey Club does not hibernate over the summer - grab your Hawaiian shirts

By popular demand, the New York-New Jersey Club is accepting the challenge to help our community fight the summertime blues!

Our first event of the spring/summer season is Hawaiian Shirt Night on Tuesday, May 5. Frank Lebano will be the disc jockey. Subs will come from Felice's Italian Catering. Dinner includes pasta salads. Cost is \$20.

On Tuesday, July 14, Carla Hines will make her return to On Top of the World. As she sings, we will be passing out New York-style cheesecake with strawberry or cherry toppings. Cost is \$12.

On Tuesday, Aug. 25, the New York-New Jersey Club will host our Summer Social featuring the husband and wife DJ duo of Kathy and Paul. This couple has gotten us up dancing at many events and we are pleased to have them back. Dinner will be catered by Felice's Italian Catering and will include ziti with meatballs, salad, bread, butter, dessert, coffee, water and ice. Cost is \$20.

On Tuesday, Oct. 6, our club will host



New York - New Jersey Club

By Pat Hayes

its first ever Sock Hop with DJ Scott McParland.

Food will be McDonald's hamburgers and potato chips. Coffee, water and ice will be provided. Cost is \$15.

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, our fifth an-



Even if you only wear a Hawaiian shirt once a year, May 5 is the day to do it. Come celebrate Hawaiian Shirt Night with the New York-New Jersey Club.

nual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party will return. DJ Frank Lebano from Brooklyn will play the tunes. Felice's Italian Catering will serve ham, mashed sweet potatoes, baked ziti, meatballs and

tossed salad. We also will have dessert, coffee, water and ice. Cost is \$30.

Our club is open to all residents of On Top of the World and membership is still only \$5.

# Cinco de Mayo time - Lambda style

Our Lambda Club has a social gathering each month among its other activities.

These get-togethers are themed in accordance with the month. For example, the December social has a holiday theme geared to Christmas.

So for May, we are picking another popular celebration for our social: Cinco de Mayo, a party in Mexican restaurants across the land.

Who are we to say no?

Thus, on Friday, May 8, at 6 p.m., Lambda is turning the Pavilion into a Mexican cantina complete with mariachi music blaring from our sound system and margaritas at the bar.

Our potluck buffet is always well provisioned by our talented members. Mexican dishes are especially appreciated.

Buen provecho. (Enjoy your meal.)

Now, about that picture accompanying this article. I can explain. This was taken at our club's Easter dinner



Lambda Club

By Dave Beaven

in April. We had a nice meal of ham, salad, potatoes, etc. It went very well. But since it was Easter, we also encouraged members to wear an Easter bonnet. As you can see, there were some brave souls who accepted the challenge.

Many thanks to all of our members



Lambda Club members were challenged to find and wear Easter bonnets to the club's social event in April. This was the result.

who made the dinner a successful event.

Lambda Club is oriented toward our LGBT residents, but we welcome any OTOW residents who want to join our

activities. You can find more information on our club at [lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com](http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com) or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

## While things calm down in springtime, consider improving your English

The On Top of the World Speak English Class is taking a new direction as membership increases heading into spring.

Eugene Z and Lola Dickert will be teaching intermediate classes to anyone who wants to learn how to speak better English. Speaking includes slang, expressions, vocabulary and we will explain definitions.

It doesn't matter whether you are American, Latin American, Canadian, Asian, Ukrainian, Eastern European or any other nationality, this class is for you.

We are planning a surprise visitor in June. Watch this newspaper for more information.

Classes take place at 11 a.m. every Thursday in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room. For more information call 727-648-4322 or 727-558-3117.

Happy spring.

## Playing games can strengthen your mind

Life with a Strong Mind Club is a new club that focuses on daily lifestyle habits, which can be a big help in maintaining a healthy brain and a happy life.

Come join us Tuesday, May 12, at 3 p.m. in the Belleair Room at the West Activity Center. We will learn how games and puzzles can help keep our minds sharp.

This demonstration will include examples of a wide variety of games. We will also discuss games that can be played on an iPhone.

We have a great group of folks in our class and we deal with topics that are important. It is done in an educational and interactive format with humor and understanding of different approaches for different situations. Come check us out.



Life with a Strong Mind

By Randae Van Denver

# A routine exam and faith has allowed Anita Positan to share her story

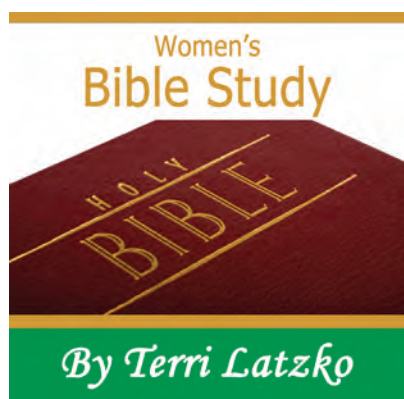
Anita Positan is a lovely member of our Women's Bible Study Group.

About a year ago, Anita visited her primary care physician due to a persistent cough. This visit led to an x-ray, which revealed something concerning in one of her breasts. Upon a further investigation, an MRI showed an additional issue in her other breast.

At that time, Anita was 87 years young and faced the news with remarkable resilience.

She underwent a partial mastectomy on both sides, followed by radiation treatments — five sessions on one breast and 22 sessions on the other breast.

Remarkably, Anita reported never experiencing any side effects from the radiation, such as burning, weakness or



fatigue, and she was able to return to her normal activities almost immediately.

Throughout this entire journey, Anita said she maintained a spirit of confidence and strength, firmly rooted in her faith.

She never allowed fear or anxiety to overshadow her experience, fully trusting that God was in control and that He had a wonderful plan for her life.

Anita's story is a compelling testament to the power of faith and positivity in overcoming life's trials.

Anita recently told people in the Women's Bible Study Group that God heals. She believes her journey from illness to full restoration is living proof that God produces miracles.

Anita shared a thought with everyone in our class: No matter your age, don't stop getting mammograms.

We invite you to participate in the Women's Bible Study Group held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month now in the Largo Room. We have switched room.

You will experience blessings, inspiration and encouragement.

Contact Terri Latzko at [tlatzko@gmail.com](mailto:tlatzko@gmail.com) for more information.



At right, Anita Positan tells her cancer-surviving story to other people in the Women's Bible Study Group here at On Top of the World.

# French Language and Culture Society begins fourth year at On Top of the World

On Wednesday, April 6, 2023, the French Language and Culture Society at On Top of the World, or Société de langue et culture française, opened its first session in the Dunedin Room in the East Activity Center.

Since that date, the French Language and Culture Society has continued non-stop to provide a program whereby residents can profit from learning or refreshing their French and knowledge of French culture.

We begin, as we do at every session, with an outline. Newcomers are welcomed and then we share a moment of humor or a joke - usually in the French style.

The French love to have fun, not in a malicious way, but rather in an easy-going way.

To get along with the French, one has to learn to laugh at oneself as well as others.

Following our humorous moment, we learn to use practical words from everyday French vocabulary. They are usually discussed in a form of dialogue ranging from topics like cuisine, French weddings, French food, service in a



French Language and Culture Society lessons are taught on a white board, with text books and from watching movies.

French restaurant, shopping in Paris, getting gas, etc.

After 25 minutes of practical French, it is important to hear the French language. To this effect, we show a 10-minute French movie or an American movie dubbed in French language or subtitles.

Among the films we have seen are: L'homme de Rio (The Man from Rio), Becket, Rabbi Jacob and Le Grand Restaurant.

Afterwards, we open our books to learn about Mr. Brown and his family and professional life with Mr. Picard, his French tutor.

The text is French Made Simple (Broadway Books 2006) by Pamela Rose Haze. Participants usually get a second hand book through Thrift Books for about \$5 to \$10.

Private courses in business French also can be arranged as well.

The French Language and Culture



French Language and Culture Society

By Jean-Paul Reymont

Society meets every Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Dunedin Room.

À bientôt (See you soon).

The course is free of charge.

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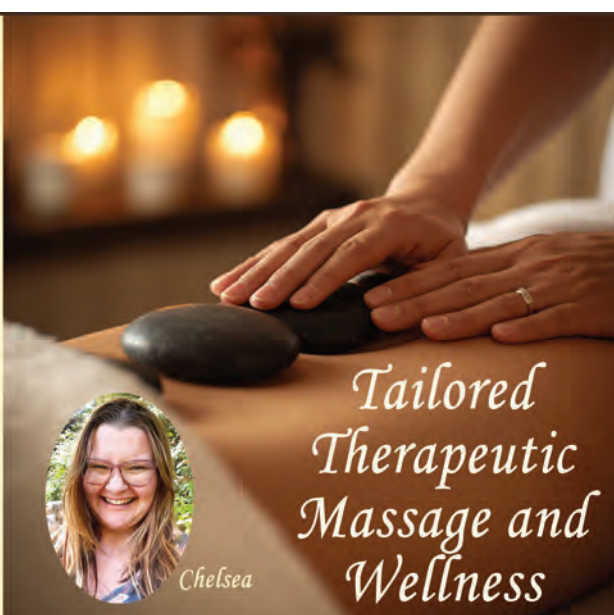
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# Democratic Club receives renewed certificate for two more years as an official county club

Every month, in addition to our formal Democratic Club meeting, our members get together for a happy hour on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the West Activity Center Learning Lab.

Members bring along their favorite beverage of choice along with a finger food item to share. This gives us all a chance to relax and shoot the breeze about politics or whatever else comes to mind.

At a recent happy hour, we had a special visitor drop by. Sharon Loughry, the Pinellas County Democratic chairperson, came to deliver our club renewal certificate. We have to submit paperwork every two years to qualify the club with the county party.

We are lucky to have the opportunity to have a Democratic political club in our community. A lot of people are reluctant to discuss politics or religion because the talk can get a bit heated.

At our Democratic Club meetings, members can discuss politics with other like-minded residents without worrying about offending someone.

Our club also serves as an outlet for those members who want to be more involved in campaigns. Some of us participate in phone banking, sign waving, door knocking, etc. So there's something for everyone who wants to be in-



involved.

Most recently, a number of our members participated in a North Pinellas picnic fundraiser at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor. There was good food, plenty of candidates, music and good vibes. Our club supplied cookies as well as a raffle basket for the event.

Thus, if you are a Democrat and would like to commune with like minded neighbors, come join us. We have get-togethers every month. We're not called a party for nothing.

Check out our web page at [worlddemsclub.blogspot.com](http://worlddemsclub.blogspot.com). Or call Dave Beaven at 727-410-7566.



Pinellas County Democratic Chairperson Sharon Loughry presents Dave Beaven of the On Top of the World Democratic Club with a renewed certified to officially recognize the club in the county. (OTOW News Photo by Donna Gagnon)

## Farmers Market returns every Saturday in May 9 am - 1 pm, EAC Front Parking Lot



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# Karen French, Dale Denning, Amil Brecht and Mike Crittendon win Canadian Open

The Canadian Club held their annual golf tournament on Sunday, Feb. 22, at the On Top of the World 18-Hole Golf Course.

Congratulations to the winning team captained by Karen French and included Dale Denning, Amil Brecht and Mike Crittendon. They scored an incredible 50 which is 15 below par. They were all presented with a framed individual certificate and the champions trophy where their names will be inscribed.

The winners for closest-to-the-pin were Karen French and Doug Silver. The winners for the longest putts were Kathy Spang and Joe Lisbon.

There were 71 golfers with 17 teams. All players had the opportunity to be a member of a submitted team or golf with a partner(s) of their choosing.

The format is called a scramble. The focus was on enjoyment and companionship of this great game and the majority of the prizes were drawings, which everybody had a chance to win.

Prizes were compliments of Innisbrook Golf Resort, Sprouts (Clearwater and Largo), Fresh Market, First Watch and Sunset Grill. These establishments have supported us over the years and I cannot thank them enough.

The total value of the prizes was about \$2325 and we used \$2125 as

drawing prizes.

The grand prize drawing was a golf trip to the PGA Copper Head Golf Course for four people - worth about \$1800. This was won by Joe Lisbon.

A special "thank you" to Andrea Bowns and Mike Tomaselli, who helped arrange these incredible Innisbrook donations.

The fee to play was \$12, which included a barbeque chicken lunch with dessert, and complimentary wine, beer, soda or bottled water.

The delicious BBQ lunch was supplied by Mary Joe Baker from Sprouts in Largo and was enjoyed by all.

Due to 40 to 50 mile an hour winds, we moved our outdoor lunch indoors to the West Activity Center. A pat on the back to Connie Stanley and Ken Campbell, who organized this sudden transition.

Thanks to the volunteers. Thank you to Roland Hetrick for taking pictures. And a special thank you to Rob Reiff, from SCA, and his staff at the 18 hole golf course.

Keep in mind, the next Canadian Club Golf Tournament will be the third Sunday in February 2027. Everyone is invited to play - members and non-members.



At the very top are the winners of the 2026 Canadian Club Open Golf Tournament. From left to right are Amil Brecht, Karen French, Mike Crittendon, Dale Denning and Coordinator Harry Morrison. Above is, Joe Lisbon (center), the winner of an Innisbrook Golf Resort weekend. From left to right are Mike Tomaselli, Joe and Andrea Bowns. Mike and Andrea helped arrange for the golf prize package.

(Photos by Roland Hetrick)

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# Qiuxia Li gets first ever RBI in first softball game ever played

**Field 1**

**Red 17, Blue 7**

**Field 2**

**White 10, Red 4**

In past articles, I have commented about the role of hitting, pitching, defense and baserunning on the course of a game. This month, I am going to emphasize throwing and how it often determine who wins games.

On Field 1, center fielder Barry Yellets retrieved a ball at the fence, whirled and threw a strike to Gary Zimmerman covering second base to nab a runner trying to stretch a single into a double. At the time, it was a key out in the game.

And at third base, Mark Manns corralled a scorched grounder to his left and threw a bullet to first to get the speedy runner by a whisker.

For five innings it was a close game, 9-7, but Red scored 8 unanswered runs, two on a line drive home run by Mark Manns.

Both teams cheered when Qiuxia Li drove in a run while playing in the first game of her life

On Field 2, Frank Leeb's grand slam home run in the sixth inning broke open a 4-1 game for White, and despite a two-out two run rally in the ninth inning, they were never seriously challenged.

Joe DeChiaro, Rob Bishop and Frank each had perfect three-hit day for White as did Red's Eric Ortiz and Bill Holland.

**Field 1**

**Red 13, Blue 13**

**Field 2**

**White 17, Red 16**

In the bottom of the seventh inning, and again in the ninth inning, Blue rallied from four runs down to tie the score.

The seventh inning comeback was sparked by leadoff hits from Mike Blaa and Bill Holland, and culminated by an Elbe Ramirez homer.



In the ninth inning, it was Elbe's double that drove in the tying runs after singles by Mike and Bill once again set the stage.

On Field 2, Red overcame a seven-run deficit with a barrage of hits that ended when Jorge Bernard launched a grand slam home run to tie the game.

But White regained the lead with three runs in the bottom of the inning and then three more in the eighth inning, with clutch hits from Li, Rich Winslow and Jim Costello which drove in runs.

**Field 1**

**Red 12, Blue 11**

**Field 2**

**Red 8, Blue 8**

In the top of the ninth inning, Elbe Ramirez led off with his second homer of the game to extend Red's lead to six runs.

Every run was needed as Blue rallied for five runs in the bottom of the inning to fall one score short.

Sharing the glory was Ginny Rittner, whose quick reaction catching a foul tip earlier in the game retired a power hitter with a runner on second base, and who also made a putout at home plate

on a throw from the outfield.

On Field 2, Lenny Segall's RBI single drove home Joe DeChiaro, who had doubled to tie the score. A double play, Gary Zimmerman to Charles Kovarik to Phil Goodwin, doused the rally to keep final score tied.

Newcomer Julie Bernard went a perfect 3-for-3 and scored two runs for Red.

**Field 1**

**Blue 14, Red 13**

**Field 2**

**Red 10, White 10**

Richard Mierzejewski's grand slam home run capped a five-run inning giving Blue a two-run lead that survived Red's frantic ninth inning comeback.

Red's early lead was largely due to Bob Dembinski's brilliant outfield play as he roamed from line to line to intercept what seemed to be extra base hits until he gloved them.

His own 4-for-4 day included an inside-the-park-homer helped as well.

Bob's offensive heroics, at least the four-hit performance, was matched by Red's Eddie Ramirez and Mike Blaa, each of whose hitting included a double.

On field two, Bill Lepping Jr. homered twice, one a grand slam, while Barry Yellets drove in three runs with a triple to create a 10-9 lead late.

Red rallied for the tying run in the ninth inning on Eric Ortiz's third double of the game.

**Field 1**

**Blue 13, Red 3**

**Field 2**

**Red 16, White 11**

On Field 1, a close 4-3 game in the sixth inning turned into a rout as Blue scored nine unanswered runs over the last three innings.

Don Mandeville's perfect five-hit day

included two doubles, Jim Kemp went 4-for-4 and Elbe Ramirez blasted a three-run homer to put the game out of reach.

On Field two, two mammoth homers by Frank Leeb accounted for four late runs that also capped an otherwise close game.

**Field 1**

**Blue 16, Red 7**

**Field 2**

**White 12, Red 6**

Both games were blowouts, and in each case, spectacular defense by one player stood out.

On Field 1, shortstop Don Mandeville ranged far to his right and left, and deep into left field and foul territory, to grab line drives and wicked grounders turning them into outs.

His inside-the-park-homer was another highlight for the powerful offense that racked up runs in all but one inning.

Credit also goes to Mike Blaa of Blue for a perfect five-hit game in which he also scored five runs.

The hitting star for Red was Jim Maid with two doubles, two runs scored and four RBIs.

On Field 2, Lenny Segall set a record that will be impossible to break: three putouts in one inning in three different ways. Filling in at catcher in one inning, he was credited with all three outs in the frame as he caught a third strike foul top, received a throw to put out a runner trying to score and made a juggling catch of a pop up that he tipped off his glove and into his bare hand.

For good measure, Lenny went 4-for-4 as did his Red teammate George Morgan.

They could not overcome the White offense though with Ray Woolsey hitting a homer, triple and double, and pitcher Guy Bertuzzi doubling among his three hits.

## Long time member, Lester Whynot, records ninth career hole-in-one and seventh on OTOW course

It is a great honor to acknowledge one of our best recognized golfers, and friends at the On Top of the World Men's Golf Association, got another hole-in-one.

This one took place on hole No. 3 on March 4. This was Lester's ninth career hole-in-one and seventh on our course.

What a good golfer to repeat so many times.

The hole is 146 yards and is relatively straight, but the green can be difficult to control. So, it was great to see Lester hit his No. 5 hybrid with perfection.

Lester has been a member of the club for more than 30 years, is our treasurer and is instrumental in keeping our golf league operational.

Congratulations!

We sincerely hope everyone has a wonderful Easter. We look forward to many good days of golf this year.

**March 18**

**Flight A**

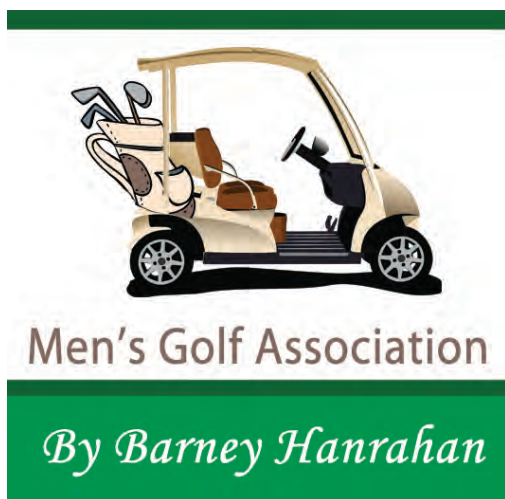
Top Scores: Andy Poselli, 59, Stanley Doran, 60, Mike Crittendon, 61, Brian Kreilach, 63, Fred Peace, 64.

**Flight B**

Top Scores: Jay Schwallie, 58, Ron Lafond, 59, David Baldwin, 60, Bob Belaes, 60, Len Picone, 61.

**Flight C**

Top Scores: Bill Gambacurta, 64, Jim Caldwell, 60, Henry Rejman, 61, Joe John-



son, 62, Peter Gauvin, 65.

**Flight D**

Top Scores: Ken Schifferle, 57, Tim Palmquist, 59, Joseph Dowe, 61, Bob Ellis, 63, Joe Ventimiglia, 63.

**March 25**

**Flight A**

Top Scores: Bill Whipps, 62, Jeff West, 64, Paul Cairnes, 65, George Mead, David Saccone, 66.

**Flight B**

Top Scores: Bob Beals, 61, Mark Ostrowski, 63, Jim Anzalone, 64, Tom Pettit, 64, Barry Pelham, 64.

**Flight C**

Top Scores: Guy Bertuzzi, 62, Bill Gambacurta, 63, Joe Johnson, 63, Vincenzo Maranto, 64, Henry Rejman, 66.

**Flight D**

Top Scores: Bob Ellis, 59, Jack Gow, 59,



On March 18 we had our monthly luncheon and awarded our league champions with golf shirts. Attached is a photo of the Club Championship Tournament winners. Players shown left to right are Flight D Champion Bob Kinchla, Flight C Runner-Up Roger Schokley, Flight C Champion Sal Vasapolle, Flight A Runner-Up Brian Kreilach, Low Net Champion David Baldwin and Club Champion Gary Sandine.

Ken Schifferle, 62, Tim Palmquist, 63, Ken Nield, 64.

**April 1**

**Flight A**

Top Scores: Ed Sixon, 58, Mike Crittendon, 62, Daniel Johnson, 63, Jeff West, 64, Fred Peace, 64.

**Flight B**

Top Scores: Bob Belas, 60, Paul Cairns, 60, Henry Rejman, 61, Eric Russel, Joe Coyne, 62.

**Flight C**

Top Scores: Jim Caldwell, 58, Glen Meyers, 59, Dave Hansford, 61, Marc Schell, 63, Daniel Morey, 63.

**Flight D**

Top Scores: Irving Hernandez, 59, Paul Seggelin, 60, Tennyson Spiceland, 62, Ken

Schifferle, 63, Robin Hendricks, 65.

**April 8**

**Flight A**

Top Scores: Fred Peace, 62, Jack Drewiega, 63, George Mead, 63, Davis Johnson, 64, Mike Crittendon, 64.

**Flight B**

Top Scores: Joe Coyne, 57, Mark Ostrowski, 61, Mike Schuyler, 62, Keith Miles, 63, Len Piconne, 65.

**Flight C**

Top Scores: Marc Schell, 62, Greg Basheda, 65, Bob Ellis, 66, Glen Meyers, 66, Joe Ventimiglia, 66.

**Flight D**

Top Scores: Bill Robertson, 60, Ken Schifferle, 61, Robin, Hendricks, 66, Tim Palmquist, 67, Joseph Dowe, 71.

# SPORTS

## Paul Meyers and Don Auger win Alternate Shot Tournament in Friday Mixed Golf League

We had 68 golfers on a warm Florida day on Friday, March 6, and we played in just under four hours.

Sue Beals took first place with an amazing score of plus-9. Second place went to Paul Hanko with a plus-8. Bruce MacPherson took third place with a plus-7. Fourth place went to Joe Johnson with a plus-7. Fifth place went to Mark Clear with a plus-6.

Sixth place went to Bill Lucci with a plus-6, seventh place went to Roger Shockley with a plus-6, eighth place went to Don Auger with a plus-6, ninth place went to Scott Smith with a plus-6 and 10th place went to Mike Lopez with a plus-6.

All ties were broken by a match of cards. Closest-to-the-pin on hole No. 3 went to Joe Wisinski, hole No. 5 to Rich Spang, hole No. 6 to Paul Meyers, hole No. 9 to Gary Piccoli, hole No. 13 to Bill Higgins, hole No. 15 to Paul Cairns and hole No. 16 to Jack Patterson.

Skins were awarded on hole No. 4 to Mike Eline, hole No. 5 to John Penkala, hole No. 7 to Guy Bertuzzi, hole No. 8 to Rich Spang, hole No. 9 to Joe Johnson, hole No. 12 to Bill Lucci and hole No. 15 to Laura Chesson.

Low gross went to Bruce MacPherson with a 65 for 36 points. Nice round Bruce!

### March 13

We had 72 players participate in a Select Drive Alternate Shot Tournament held on Friday, March 13.

First place winners were Paul Meyers and Don Auger with a terrific score of 60.8.

Second place went to John McBride and Gary Piccoli with 61.8, third place to Fran Majewski and Joyce Majewski with a 62.4, fourth place to Jahn Lawson and Mike Lopez with 62.4 and fifth place to Fred Peace and Joe Johnson with 62.4.

Sixth place went to David Saccone and Ed Sixon with 63.2, seventh place

### Friday Mixed



### Golf League

By Sheryl Barbin

to David Wilson and Lori Wilson with 63.2, eighth place to Mike La Violette and Doug Silver with 63.6, ninth place to Donna Irwin and Sam Chakar with a 63.6 and 10th place to Andy Corbell and Chris Regan with 64.0

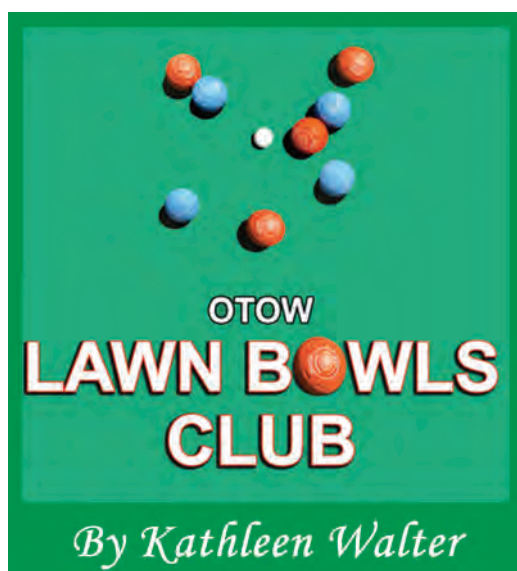
Eleventh place went to Vincent Maranto and Bill Whipps with 64.2, 12th place to Joan Smith and Tom Moran with 64.8, 13th place to Joe Wisinski and Karen Oshona with 65.0 and 14th place to Bill Lepping and Guy Bertuzzi with 65.0.

All ties were broken by a match of cards. Closest-to-the-pin winners on hole No. 3 were Loren and Mendy Payne, hole No. 5 to Mark Legin and Scott Smith, hole No. 6 to Vincent Maranto and Bill Whipps, hole Nos. 9 and 15 to Fran and Joyce Majewski, hole No. 13 to Jerry Jordan and John Penkala and hole No. 16 to John McBride and Gary Piccoli.



Paul Meyers and Don Auger won an Alternate Shot Tournament in March.

## Lawn Bowls crowns last three tournament champions and ends season with a pizza party



Residents participate in a past spring practice session.

Lawn Bowls tournament season has come to an end.

Thank you to all of our members who assisted with the registration and organization of our 12 tournaments and six lunch gatherings.

The winners of our final tournaments were Mike Paterson and Brian Wilson (Leads Draw Tournament), Mike Paterson and David Becker (St. Patrick's Tournament), and Barb Lenzi and Beth Conversi (Fun Tournament).

A great time was had by all at our pizza party at the Pavillion following the Fun Day Tournament. We celebrated a wonderful season and bid safe travels to our Snowbirds.

We will all gather together again in November at our Welcome Back Meeting where we will plan the 2026-27 season.

Would you like to give lawn bowling a try? Now is actually the perfect time to do so!

Our year round members continue to bowl through the summer, building their skills for the next season. We would really enjoy sharing our love of the sport with you and we will gladly provide one-on-one instruction. Simply stop by our courts in front of the East Activity Center during a practice session. No experience is necessary and equipment is provided to all with an On Top

of the World Activity Card.

You, too, can not only learn to play the sport, but definitely develop skills necessary to participate in the next tournament season.

Questions? Send an email to Gerry Boone at [fishingpop1955@gmail.com](mailto:fishingpop1955@gmail.com).

Never heard of lawn bowling?

Don't fret as you are not alone. Most of our present members never heard of the sport until moving to OTOW.

Several, though, have since become quite proficient. They occasionally travel throughout the region and even the country to participate in league tournaments.

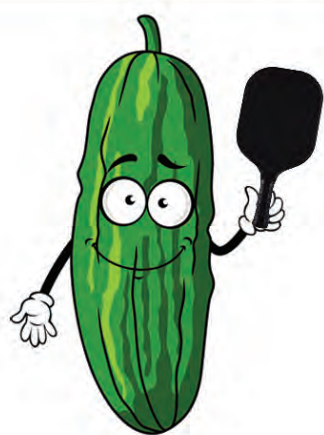
One of our members, Sandy Wall,

became so skilled that she has competed not only nationally, but also internationally. She has served as a coach to Team USA. We are so honored to have Sandy as one of our members and we are also very proud as she was admitted to the USA Bowls Hall of Fame last fall.

Presently, we practice Monday through Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Beginning May 18, we switch to our summer schedule to Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m., and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings to 9 a.m. We look forward to seeing you on the courts!

# SPORTS

## Many 'thank yous' passed out at annual Pickleball Club meeting



### Pickleball

By Patti Branch



Approximately 45 Pickleball Club members attended their annual meeting in March. Kudos were shared for a successful season and members were told to visit the Box Office for club news.

The Pickleball Club finished its 2025-26 season with its annual meeting and luncheon on March 22 in the Belleair Room.

Approximately 45 members attended the event.

The club provided the entrée of chicken and cheese roll-ups and members brought sides and desserts.

Thanks to Kathy Benshoof for ordering and picking up the meal.

Marina Davidovich opened the meeting acknowledging the members

who organized various activities. Kudos went out to Linda Scussel for organizing and keeping track of the annual tournament entries this past February. She was also a representative for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Marina thanked Sharon Bora for filling in for her in the role of president and thanked Scott Scheibler for his guidance in keeping the new board on track.

John Kinney presented a new system for court rotation and the member-

ship voted to approve the new system. Hopefully this will be a more efficient way to rotate players on and off the courts.

Patti Branch explained that the Pickleball Club has renewed its page on the Box Office website (otowboxoffice.com) and showed members how to use it to sign up for future events. This should improve communication.

Pickleball is currently at 136 members and continues to grow. If you would like to try out this fast growing

sport, come by the courts on the first Tuesday of the month during the first hour of play, currently 5:30-6:30 p.m. A member will provide an orientation session.

Our afternoon hours are subject to change this summer so check out our Box Office website for current hours and the latest club news.

Or you can just stop by the pickleball courts during our hours of play and one of our members can show you the basics. See you on the courts!

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Dave Rosenberg and Charlie Martin

## Eight-ball championship

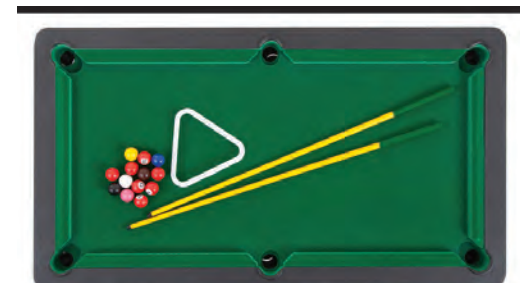
The On Top of the World Billiards Club held its annual eight-ball championship tournaments for our members on March 30 and 31.

In Billiards, eight-ball is a game where each player must sink either the stripe balls or the solid balls then the eight ball.

This year's winners were David Rosenberg in the A Division and Charlie Martin in the B Division.

After the exciting round-robin play, both division championships came down to a one-game playoff to determine the winners. Dave defeated Michael Croghan with Charlie defeating Phil Perez. Both Dave and Charlie are first-time winners of the annual event, which shows us all that determination and practice will rule the day every time.

The Billiards Club has weekly round-robin eight-ball tournaments on Mondays and Tuesdays starting at 6 p.m. Monday's competition is for more experienced players and Tuesday's com-



### Billiards

By Tom Chalupka

petition is for less experienced players and beginners.

The club is open to all OTOW residents regardless of their skill level. Besides the Monday and Tuesday eight-ball competition, the club also has a nine-ball tournament on Thursday nights starting at 6 p.m.

Please come and join us and see what the Billiards Club is all about.

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# Tournament awards passed out at end-of-season awards banquet



Tournaments are over, winners have received their awards and the On Top of the World Ladies 9-Hole Golf League has ended its 2025-26 season.

Our spring luncheon was March 25 at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa. Chairperson Ann Stewart had centerpieces on the tables along with a key chain with a golf charm, and Easter treats at every place setting.

Then, Nancy Schifferle passed around pins and ball makeovers with sayings on them like "teed off" and "golfer girl" which added to the fun.

President Carroll Harris took over the outing after we settled in. She started out with a recap of our year, especially on how we had so many unprecedented cancellations due to the weather.

Our January Best Ball Tournament was finally played in March. There was a three-way tie for second place with par scores. But it was the team of Mary Arnone, Judy Bergeron, Carroll Harris and Pat Holland who took first place with a 1-under 32.

Tournament chair Gilda Gamba-curta presented medals to them. Their names will also be added to the plaque that's in the little house.

Flight tournament awards were given next.



Darilyn Bedel, left, and Pat Holland show off banquet goody bags.

Chairperson Sheryl Barbin reminded us of how the tournament was run. She gave pink gift bags with a "Birdie Juice" thermos in them to the winners.

Flight A winner was Paula Ergang with 37. Flight B was won by Pam Riley with 42 after a three-hole playoff with Sheryl. Flight C winner was Sheri Blaa with a 43 and Flight D winner was Mary Ann O'Neil with a 48.

Gilda was the next award recipient. She had an eagle on hole No. 2 this season. Her award was an eagle pin and a pink cap with an eagle on it.

Carroll then gave the award for most birdies this season to Paula Ergang. She received a birdie thermos as her prize.

The final award was for the President's Tournament. Two awards were given. Pat Holland was the winner for low gross with a score of 39. Darilyn Bedel was the low net winner with her score of 31. They received an inscribed plaque.

Lastly, Sheri Blaa thanked Carroll for the hard work she does all season making the league run smoothly. She was given gifts from all of us.

Carroll took time to thank everyone else who had helped during the season, including the other officers: Vice President Sheryl Barbin, Secretary Sheri Blaa, Treasurer Linda Graff, Tournament Chairs Gilda and Sheryl, Event Planner Ann, and reporter Paula

Ergang.

She didn't forget about the volunteers who took turns making the weekly foursomes and schedule. It takes a village.

Although we've had the awards luncheon, that doesn't mean we've stopped golfing. Our new season was to begin April 7. As is par for the course, we were rained out.

We still have weekly events and more scores to report.

May 5 will be Play Best Drive.

May 12 will be a Farewell to Snowbirds Nine and Wine Tournament with snacks and a 50/50.

We start our summer break after that week.

Now for the scores:

### March 24

#### Count Odd Holes Only

Flight A: Marilyn Lisbon had 19.  
flight B: Lainey Quarello scored 24.  
Flight C: Diana Anderson had 26.  
Flight D: Carol Murphy won with a 28.  
Birdies: Sheryl Barbin birdied hole No. 2, Diana Anderson No. 4 and Marilyn Lisbon No. 8.  
Chip-ins; Lainey Quarello chipped in on hole No. 4.

### March 31

#### Low Gross/Low Net

Flight A: Marilyn Lisbon had 36 and Pat Holland 40.  
Flight B: Sheryl Barbin scored 41, Sue Stevens had 43, Lainey Quarello 44, Nancy Erhardt 42 and Sheri Blaa 47.  
Flight D: Wendy Colquhoun had a 46 and Mary Ellen Makowski 47.  
Birdies: Mary Ellen Makowski birdied hole No. 2, Sue Stevens No. 3 and Carole Whynot No. 9.

We always welcome new members. Come out now and work on your handicap and score. If you need Information, call Carroll Harris at 432-528-8684.

# Ladies get two more tournaments in before Snowbird season

## 18-Hole



## Ladies Golf

By Jackie Miles

The On Top of the World Ladies 18-Hole Golf League held their annual Spring Picnic on March 26 and what a wonderful day we had to enjoy conversations and all the wonderful food.

We would like to thank Arlene Hanson for making this event a success. And also send a thank you to all the ladies who made a delicious salad or desserts for this event.

We were able to play a couple of rounds of golf after the ladies Memorial Golf Tournament and the results are as follows:

### March 31

Flight A: Becky West 66, Kim Norried 68, and Gloria Sayer and Sue Beals tied with 69. Flight B: Nancy Lo 65, Jacqui Livingston 67 and Nancy Buz-

zell 69. Finally, Flight C: Joann Congelli 57, Mary Beth Devine 63 and Joan Smith 67.

For our closest-to-the pin events for March 31: Becky West shot closest-to-the-pin on hole 9, Fran Urban-Day shot closest to the pin on hole 15. Longest putt was made by Joann Congelli and Nancy Lo won the 50/50 drawing.

### April 14

Flight A: Kim Norried and Sue Beals tied with a 67, Joyce Majewski 68, Nancy Lo and Gloria Sayer tied with a 70. Flight B: Jacqui Livingston and Mary Beth Devine tied for first with a 62, Joann Congelli and Arlene Hanson tied with a 64 and Joedie Albert 71. Finally, Flight C: Nancy Buzzell, 56, Joan Smith

61 and Fran Urban-Day 69.

Way to go ladies.

For our pin events on April 14: Joann Cognelli shot closest-to-the-pin on hole 9. Arlene Hanson was closet-to-the-pin on hole 15 and had the longest putt on hole 8. We had two chip-ins with Joedie Albert on hole No. 10 and Mary Beth Devine on hole No. 15.

As the year is now winding down, we would like to wish safe travels to all of our league Snowbirds and we can't wait to start the new season in the fall.

And for all those girls who will be here throughout the summer, can't wait to see you on the course and enjoy our round on Tuesday mornings.

Stay safe and be well.

Past Association Board Meetings are on the Box Office  
otowboxoffice.com

# SPORTS



Sally Jetter and Cha Cleveland celebrated birthdays in April and the Ping Pong Club shared birthday cake between games.

## Time for a ping pong tournament

The Ping Pong Club is happy to announce we are planning our second annual Spring into Fun Doubles Tournament later this month, followed by a club sponsored lunch.

In this tournament we will be partnering A Division with B Division players as we did last year after receiving positive feedback from our club members. They told us it aided in building their confidence when partnered with more experienced players and helped them be more comfortable with tournament

play.

Keep an eye out in next month's newspaper where we will announce the tournament winners.

Our club held a birthday celebration on April 15 to celebrate the big day for club members Cha Cleveland and Sally Jetter. As always, we decorated the room, took a group photo and played lots of ping pong with healthy snacks and birthday cake to follow.

We continue enrolling new members and in April we welcomed Dan Bates

and Gary Smith. We were also happy to have Tom Barrett rejoin us after being away from the club for a couple of years.

If you would like to learn a new game, or renew your love of ping pong from years ago, we invite you to join us from 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays through Fridays, in the West Activity Center Bel-leair Room.

We guarantee that you will have lots of fun and make new friends.

On Top of the World  
Ping Pong Club  
By Marie Clodge Valdes

## Bob Beals victorious in match play tournament

A Red, White and Blue Golf Club Match Play Tournament wrapped up in style with Bob Beals emerging from a hard-fought battle to claim the win over Fred Peace.

The tournament took two months to complete.

It was no easy road and both players made the other work for it.

Jay Schwalie and Joe Coyne finished third and fourth, respectively, rounding out a strong and competitive field.

As spring moves along, the Red, White and Blue Golf League continues its busy schedule with monthly tournaments ahead.

After a brief April shuffle, the action picks up again on May 23 with our Memorial Day event. This one promises to be a fun format: a 3-out-of-4 net blind draw, with teams revealed only after play. You won't know who you were paired with until the round is over, which always adds a little extra intrigue.

Along with the tournament, we'll have our regular games in the mix, including Red, White and Blue skins and two closest-to-the-pin contests.

That means plenty of chances to win a little something, or at least earn some bragging rights.

There's plenty more to come, with a full slate of fun and competitive events still ahead on the calendar. If this opening stretch is any indication, we're in for another great year with the Red, White and Blue Golf Club.



By Peter Spokus



## Some serious competition livens up Tennis Club

It was mixed doubles day at the On Top of the World Tennis Club Tournament in April.

Sixteen players, four courts, 8 a.m. in the morning and no one knew their partner until a random draw.

This is a special time of the year for the Tennis Club when fun, friendship, skill and sportsmanship are at its pinnacle.

Throughout the tourney, players who played with and against each other throughout the year started strategizing with each other.

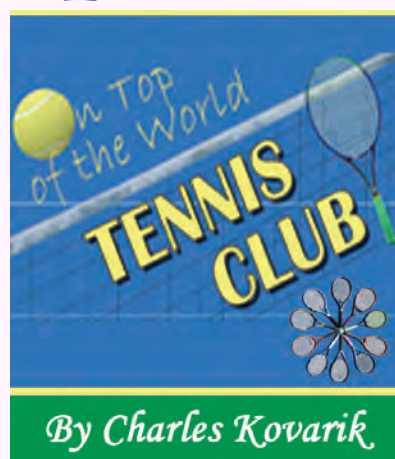
Who would choose to serve first?

Which side of the court to take based on the wind or sun conditions etc.

Teams had to decide which player had the better forehand or backhand.

Then, looking across the net, each player had to remember the tendencies of their opponents.

The games were on!



Players gave their best with many great rallies and good shots. There were many moments of tenacity and brilliance in the competition.

The mixed doubles part of the tournament ended after a few days with an exciting match between Donna Irwin and Marek Czarniecki versus Jane Collins and Sam Chakar.

The match was tied through the last game of the third set in which

Donna and Marek emerged victorious.

The gentlemen's doubles winners were Charles Kovarik and Sam Chakar, who narrowly won against Leon Fisher and Rick McColgan.

Ladies doubles winners were Donna Irwin and Irene Badiak, who had a challenging match against Janice Hayton and Kay Van Hoesen.

The gentlemen's singles winner was Sam Chakar playing against up-and-coming competitor Leon Fisher.

The ladies singles winner was Donna Irwin against finalist Janice Hayton.

The senior singles winner, in a great match, was Rick McColgan playing the fine Dean Baker.

Thanks to Sam Chakar for being the main organizer of this tournament.

The tournament invigorates and enlivens the club and we invite anyone to join our club.

# COMMUNITY REPORTS



## Station 48 assists English Tudor residents in raising two new flags



An American Flag was proudly displayed at the English Tudor building in October 2025.

Unfortunately, only six months later, the flag had become torn and frayed, and needed to be replaced. The roping was also in bad shape.

The 2025 flag was donated by Judith A. Shepard, sister of English Tudor resident Linda Belcher-Brown. The flag was a donation from the Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Virginia.

Judith offered another replacement flag, but this time Linda decided to make it a building-wide project.

A new American Flag was ordered, plus a U.S. 250th anniversary flag.

On April 3, Linda, Blaine Galbraith and David Hawn attempted to add the two new flags themselves.

"Things didn't go well," Linda said. "We lost the connecting ropes. No ropes. No flags."

English Tudor needed another plan.

"I went back to my condo to contemplate the dilemma," Linda said. "I asked myself, 'what would I do if I was back home in Virginia?'"

The answer: Call some friends at the fire house. The solution: Make some new friends at the Clearwater fire house.

Linda and David visited Station 48 and explained their problem. They asked if the firefighters ever do community service when it involved a U.S. flag.

The answer: "We would be happy to help."

A date was set, and pending an emergency call, Station 48 promised to be at English Tudor by mid-afternoon.

Well, there was an emergency call. Folks at English Tudor had to wait just



Firefighters from Station 48 in Clearwater help out English Tudor by adding new rope to a very tall flag pole. The top of the pole was unreachable by traditional ladders. It took a ladder truck and crew to do the job correctly.

(Photo by David Hawn)

a bit. But only an hour later, a big red truck pulled in with a ladder on top.

The firefighters solved the height problem by using their ladder and going directly to the top of the flag pole. New ropes were installed.

"We were so delighted and appreciative," Linda said. "We thanked them and off they went on another emergency call."

After the pole got its new ropes, Linda, David and Blaine finished what they

set out to do the first time. Both new flags were added and raised for the first time.

"I hope everyone in our building enjoys our new flags," Linda said.

## Farmers Market returns to OTOW on May 2



The On Top of the World Farmers Market will return 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 2, in the front parking lot of the East Activity Center. The market is scheduled to take place every Saturday.

Life Farms will bring certified organic produce, certified organic flowers, sourdough bread, canned goods, St. Pete Ferments, elderberry syrup and teas.

Some out-of-season produce, or produce not grown there, also will be available.

Everything will be labeled organic or non-organic.





# May 2001

By Randae Van Denver

### World Events

In May 2001, President George W. Bush announced a \$200 million contribution to a global fund to pay towards fighting AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

### U.S. News

President George W. Bush established a commission to strengthen Social Security and moved forward on a major tax relief bill. His efforts were significant and included plans for voluntary personal investments in their own contributions. However, challenges rose and the plans did not pass Congress.

Former FBI agent Robert P. Hanssen was indicted for spying for Moscow for over 15 years. His espionage was described by the U.S. Department of Justice as "possibly the worst intelligence disaster in U.S. history."

### Economic Initiatives

In trade developments, President W. Bush pushed for a 34-country Free Trade Area for the Americas. While that specific agenda was not successful, President Bush was known as a champion of free trade and globalization. He did expand the number of countries from 3 to 17 that had free trade with the U.S.

### Auto Trends

The U.S. reported new cars and trucks could travel an average distance of 24.5 miles per gallon, lowest since 1980 (24.3). In comparison, the average mileage for new cars, SUVs, and pick-ups in 2022 was 23.5 miles per gallon.

### Sports News

In a landmark 7-2 ruling on May 29, the U.S. Supreme Court decided in favor of golfer Casey Martin, affirming his legal right under the Americans with Disabilities Act to use a golf cart during tournaments. He was born with a disability which affected his right leg.

In a similar noteworthy accomplishment, 32-year-old Erik Weihenmayer became the first blind person to reach the summit of Mount Everest in May 2001. He is a world-renowned American adventurer, author and motivational speaker.

Another achievement of note, on May 18, 101-year-old Floridian Harold Stilson became the oldest golfer in history to record a hole-in-one. This was not his first hole-in-one. He made five of them since turning 71.

### Senior Recognition

May 2001 was declared Older Americans Month by President George Bush, focusing on the theme of the "Many Faces of Aging." The proclamation emphasized the strengthening of Medicare, providing access to affordable prescription drugs and recognizing the contributions of older citizens.

### Fashion Trends

It became popular to get a bizarre DIY orange suntan using self-tanning lotion and spray tans in the early summer of 2001.

### The Movie World

The animated classic, Shrek, premiered in U.S. theaters on May 18, 2001, going on to win the first-ever Academy Award for Best Animated Feature. It famously "flipped the script" on traditional fairy tales by making a grumpy, swamp-dwelling ogre for the hero and a strong-willed princess as the "damsel" in distress. It was produced by DreamWorks Animation in collaboration with Pacific Data Images.

### The Music World

Women dominated the 36th Academy of Country Music Awards with major wins for the Dixie Chicks as Entertainer of the Year, Top Vocal Group and for video of the year, "Good-bye Earl." Faith Hill won as the Top Female vocalist.



Alicia Veras is in the process of knitting her 236th baby blanket for Kimberly House.

# Bohemiafest in April with a touch of 'Oktoberfest'

April was Bohemiafest at the Pavilion.

This event is usually held in the fall, but was moved to April in order to share it with our Snowbirds.

The menu was food you would consume in October. It consisted of brats, sauerkraut, potato salad, beans and, of course, beer.

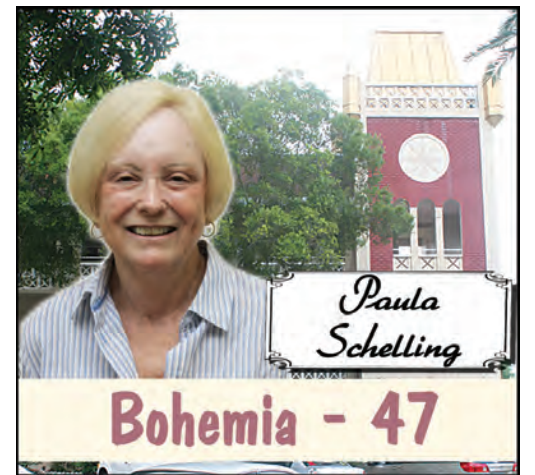
It was a beautiful, balmy, Saturday afternoon, which helped encourage our residents to come out. We had 35 enjoy the day.

At every building event, Bohemia residents collect canned foods. Even with this event away from our building, we still managed to collect 83 pounds of food.

Thank you to all who contributed.

Our building's dinner out for April was at our neighbor down the street, Queen's Pizza. This was the first time we have added Queen's to our dinner list. From the residents' responses, it appears that Queen's is a do-again place.

Of course, the building Bunco girls go there all the time. They could have



suggested it years ago.

We would like to recognize a special resident, Alicia Veras, for her thoughtfulness and generosity.

Over many years, Alicia has knitted 1500 preemie baby blankets for All Children's Hospital.

Another place close to Alicia's heart is Kimberly Home. She has knitted 235 baby blankets to date and is working on number 236. She truly is a remarkable woman and deserves our recognition.

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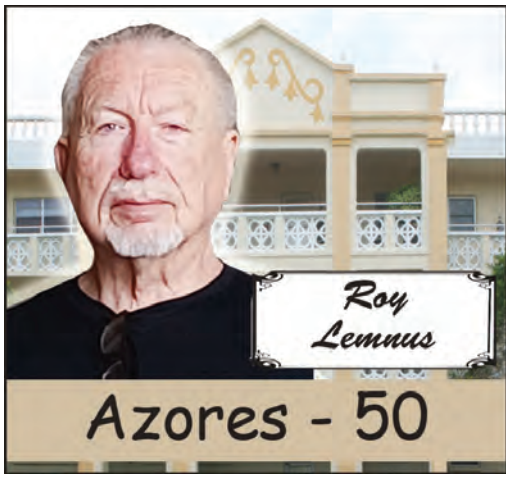
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Nearly 50 buildings at On Top of the World do not have storytellers in OTOW News. If you would like to give it a try, stop by the newsroom and chat with the newspaper editor. All we ask is three building stories a year.



Thirty-six Azores residents attended a building luncheon in March. Fortunately, the flowers were in bloom and there were enough to spell out AZORES.

## Local businesses donate gift cards to Azores

Azores residents held their annual free picnic at the On Top of the World Pavilion in March. We had great weather and 36 residents attended. We supplied hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, baked

beans, cole slaw, potato salad, cupcakes and egg-shaped little cakes. We had a 50/50 raffle that ended with \$75 in prizes. Twenty-two raffle prizes were won by Azores residents and a large gift basket was

donated by Peggy Longfellow.

Eighteen small businesses in the area donated gift cards to our raffle. Azores residents would like to thank these businesses.



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 St. Petersburg, FL 33710

# A reminder - you don't have to name a party to have one - just supply seasonal foods and treats



In March, winter was still hanging on. Before its arrival, our community had languished in a string of warm 80 degree days. We opened our screen doors. We ravaged through the bedroom drawers to find sunglasses.

We put on our shorts. We went to the beach again. I thought I had survived another chilly off-season.

Then I woke up to 45 degrees again.

In all my years here, I never felt so cold as this year. It was like Mother Nature wanted to remind us of who was really in control.

And guess what? I was not alone.

Other residents at the Flamenco building also woke up cold in March, so we opted for a change. We decided we

Flamenco residents gathered indoors to share food and drinks. There really wasn't a reason to do so. It was cold. The season was still green. So they created a party with no name.

needed to warm things up. We decided to have an indoor celebration.

There was a good turnout even though it was a party without a name. Some residents even wore festive costumes, although none were required.

There were colorful green decorations and gold beads everywhere.

There were traditional dishes like corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, kielbasa and vegetables, as well as chocolate-covered strawberries.

There was, as usual, more than we could possibly consume.

The activities were organized and hosted by Loraine Gendron. It was a bright spot to defeat the thrust of winter's last sting.

Past editions of OTOW News are available on the Box Office, but please be aware, older editions are being removed.



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Forty-five Casa Verde residents attended their building's annual party, which this year was called a spring fling. Many residents were thanked and recognized for contributions over the past year. (OTOW News photo by Patti Branch)

## Recognition shared at Casa Verde annual party



Casa Verde welcomed spring with a "spring fling" themed pizza party and annual meeting.

The room was decorated in pastels with Easter baskets as centerpieces.

Approximately 45 residents attended the event. The meal was pizza, salad and dessert and was paid for with building dues.

During the meeting, various residents were recognized for their contributions

throughout the year, including Vonnie Oto and Carol Babini for collecting dues, and Ed Mills for updating the residents roster and heading up a team for holiday decorating.

He also maintains the flags at each core entrance, but he is looking for a successor.

Gigi Huff has done an excellent job of decorating the bulletin board and Amy Caraway, our "Sunshine Lady,"

has been distributing birthday cards to residents.

George Green and Mike Schueler were recognized for their donations to keep the flags lit.

Tom Huffman gave a reminder about bike room rules, and trash and recycling rules. Please folks, don't bundle your recycling items in a plastic bag – they will become trash!

Tom printed up copies of the rules – please read them.

We discussed plans for our annual holiday party. It's going to be hard to beat last year's party where we were entertained by some very talented Salvation Army band members thanks to Paul Fleeman. Maybe we can get them back for an encore performance.

The evening ended with a drawing for gift cards. Each resident selected an Easter egg and four residents had winning lucky numbers.



With horses and jockeys in the water, this could only be one thing. Yes. This is the annual Dorado building Kentucky Derby horse race in the West Activity Center swimming pool. (Photo by Dennis King)

## Get your horse noodles ready - it's derby time

What is the Dorado building (the fun building) up to now?

Like many other people, not just sports fans, Dorado residents enjoy watching the annual Kentucky Derby horse race, also known as the Run for the Roses.

Once a year, people gather in restaurants, bars and their homes to enjoying this event.

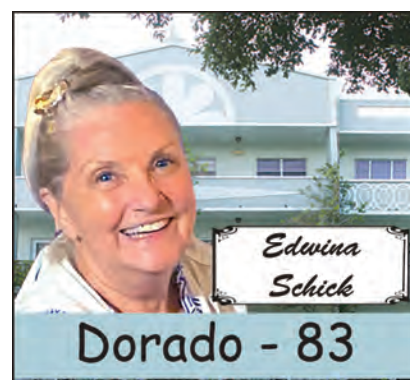
A few days before the derby, Dorado residents host their own Kentucky Derby. But our event does not take place on a 1 1/4 mile dirt track. We use the West Activity Center swimming pool.

We meet at the pool and then select jockeys to ride our noodle horses. When the race starts, the first jockey to circle the entire pool with their noodle horse is the winner.

Just like the Kentucky Derby, a lot of pride is on the line. But while the winning jockey and horse take home millions of dollars from Kentucky, our winner simply takes home bragging rights for a year.

The Kentucky Derby is just another reason for Dorado residents to have another celebration. We will have big groups and small groups of friends and neighbors on derby day, May 2, and wear our spring fashions, including flamboyant hats, fedoras, and derby hats.

Some guests become mixologists with famous mint juleps, iced tea and bourbon cocktails. We enjoy derby favorites and southern comfort foods as we learn traditions. We are never to old to learn!



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# Next stop on world tour: Greece



A journey into Greek history commences in ancient Greece, where food was not merely sustenance, but a sacred offering to the gods.

Greek cuisine is a rich tapestry woven from ancient traditions, cultural influences and regional ingredients, evolving over thousands of years to become a cornerstone of Mediterranean gastronomy.

Greek food history dates back more than 4,000 years with its foundations laid in ancient Greece. The Mediterranean triad of wheat, olive oil and wine formed the basis of the diet with bread and porridge made from wheat and barley being staples.

Olives were revered not only for their nutritional value, but also for their symbolic significance, as the olive tree was considered a gift from the goddess Athena.

Throughout history, Greek cuisine has absorbed influences from various cultures due to trade, conquests and colonization. The Hellenistic period marked a significant expansion of Greek culinary practices, introducing spices from the East, such as cinnamon and black pepper, into Greek cooking.

The Roman Empire also played a role in shaping Greek food, bringing luxury ingredients and new cooking techniques.

Olive oil, a cornerstone of Greek cuisine, was revered not only for its nutritional value, but also for its symbolic significance. As stated above, the olive tree became a symbol of peace, wisdom and prosperity. Its golden oil found its way into nearly every aspect of Greek cooking, from drizzling over vegetables to being poured as a dressing.

It is difficult to pinpoint an exact moment or civilization that first stumbled upon olive oil – its use predates recorded history. It's known, however, that the Minoans on the island of Crete and the Mycenaeans on the Greek mainland cultivated olive trees for oil as far back as 3500 BC.

Wine also flowed freely at conventions and celebrations, becoming an integral part of communal gathering. In classical Greek culture, wine was the staple around which philosophy, art, poetry, religion, music and political life revolved.

The first civilization to truly glorify wine was Ancient Greece. Hellenic people, especially those from The Aegean Islands of Crete, Rhodes and Lesbos, were the first to establish a large-scale production and distribution of wine.

Greek cheeses, like olive oil and wine, go back centuries.



Here are popular Greek cheeses you should try: Semi-hard, soft, sweet, or spicy.

Greece, the production of cheese has a tradition of many centuries. In fact, for ancient Greeks, cheese was a sacred food. Almost every region of Greece has its own traditional way of producing cheese. In total, more than 60 different species have been recorded.

There are several types of cheese, which are categorized based on their texture, color, or method of preparation. Some are white or yellow, fresh or ripe, but also soft, semi-hard, and hard.

Feta Cheese - Famous Greek cheese known as "white gold," is one of the most recognized Greek cheeses in the world. It is made from goat's and sheep's milk, with a slightly sour taste, preserved in brine in wooden barrels or tins. Feta cheese color

must be pure white, its texture solid, and when eaten, it should melt in the mouth and leave a pleasant, slightly sour taste.

Graviera from Crete – The version from Crete is known for the burnt caramel taste. Traditionally, it's produced from sheep's milk or a mixture with goat's milk. Goat's milk adds a spicier characteristic, which becomes more intense as the cheese matures. It is an excellent cheese maturing in caves in the mountains.

Mizithra – Mizithra is the most popular whey cheese in all of Greece, with many variations related to the type of milk, its fat content and its preparation techniques. There is also a sour version of mizithra cheese, which is known as xynomizitha. The strong flavor of this sour cheese is certainly an acquired taste well with strong liquors like retsina, and it is sometimes used

in specific dishes for a desired sour, tangy flavor.

During the Byzantine and Ottoman era, Greek cuisine continued to evolve, incorporating new ingredients like caviar and nutmeg. The Ottoman Empire's influence in the 15 century introduced many elements that are now considered traditional Greek dishes, such as moussaka, lamb shanks and pastitsio. This period also saw the rise of kitchen wisdom, where families improvised with local, seasonal ingredients, preserving recipes orally through generations.

Greek cuisine is not just about food. It embodies the history, culture and values of the Greek people.

From ancient rituals to modern culinary practices, the evolution of Greek food tells a story of resilience, adaptation, and a deep connection to the land and its resources.

## Lamb Shanks with Orzo

### Ingredients

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 lamb shanks (1 to 1 ½ pounds each)
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 cups chopped yellow onions
- 2 cups diced carrots
- 2 cups diced celery
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh rosemary leaves
- 3 large garlic cloves, minced
- 2 (14.5 ounces) cans diced tomatoes, including the liquid
- 2 cups beef broth
- 1 ½ cups dry white wine
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 cups orzo

### Directions

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.

Combine the flour, 2 teaspoons salt, and 1 teaspoon pepper in a bowl and dredge the lamb shanks in the mixture, shaking off the excess. In a large (13-inch) Dutch oven heat 3 tablespoons of the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add two lamb shanks and cook for 10 minutes, turning every few minutes, until browned on all sides. Transfer the shanks to a plate, add more olive oil, and brown the remaining two shanks.

Wipe out the Dutch oven with a paper towel, add the olive oil, and heat over medium to medium-high heat. Add the onions, carrots, and rosemary and cook for 8 to 10 minutes, until the vegetables are tender. Add the garlic and cook one more minute. Add the tomatoes, beef broth, wine, 4 teaspoons salt, and 2 teaspoons pepper. Add the lamb shanks, arranging them so they're almost completely submerged in the liquid. Tuck in the bay leaves and bring to a simmer on top of the stove. Cover the pot and place it in the oven for two hours, turning the shanks once while they cook.

Stir in the orzo and return the lamb shanks to the oven for 20 to 30 minutes, until the orzo is cooked and the lamb shanks are very tender. Discard the bay leaves. Serve with a glass of dry red wine.

# A four-month party recap



Melbourne residents enjoy an outing to Rumba Island Bar and Grill.

Not only was the parade the biggest ever, but so was our picnic. Almost 50 residents and guests feasted on subs and enjoyed lively conversations. Cindy Henry and Mary Connolly were lucky winners of the 50-50 raffle.

Later in March, we enjoyed a mid-day lunch at Rumbas Island Grill. Thank you Dianne Weber for overseeing the gathering.

Brenda Quick, aka Mrs. Easter Bunny, hosted an Easter feast on the second-floor bump out. She stumped guests with photos of residents as youngsters.

Our annual pizza party was also held in April. It was a last chance to socialize with the Snowbirds before they migrated back to their northern homes.

The Melbourne will be a bit quieter as summer approaches, but those who are permanent residents will continue to enjoy laughter, friendship and social activities.

We wish safe travels to our Snowbird neighbors and will look forward to their return.

Snowbird season is a party season for the Melbourne building. This year was no exception.

Wanda Ramirez organized our first ever New Year celebration at the Bel-leair Room complete with balloons and music. It was an early bird event allowing residents time to welcome in 2026 in their own particular style either watching the ball drop or snoozing.

In January we gathered at the Var-sity Club and enjoyed food, friends and a beer trivia quiz. We discovered

that Dianne Weber could have been a beer baroness if it had not been for the Great Depression. Her great-great grandfather had owned a brewery in Pennsylvania.

Our combination building meeting and Valentine social took place in February in the East Activity Center Kitchen. We enjoyed some delicious treats

prepared by our residents and approved our building bylaws. Instead of exchanging valentines, we exchanged silly Valentine riddles. The event was hosted by Helen Valentine and Judy McKenney and resulted in a bike room reorganization.

March was our annual St Patrick's Day picnic on the Melbourne green.

## Bedford reporter opens up condo for party that could not take place outdoors

Happy May Day!

The second floor of the Bedford building was decorated with chicks, bunnies and colorful spring eggs for Easter.

Vibrant plastic eggs suspended from the plumeri plant, near the elevator entrance, gently swaying in the breeze, all welcoming spring time.

A St. Patrick's Day backyard social was held inside Sally Herman's and Jerry Jordan's condo due to weather. Residents attending were Joe and Cindy Popelik, Dave and Robin Becker, Alan and Barbara Wong, Phyllis Dumdie, Nickie Arbucho, Julie Simonson and Brad Kennedy.



Cindy, Phyllis, Nicki and I commemorated Nancy Casey's birthday with a cake baked by Phyllis, and games of left, right and center.

If other residents are interested in participating in future outings, please let me know. We typically convene on Sunday afternoons.

Nancy celebrated her 83rd birthday in March, having resided in On Top of the World for 22 years. She originally moved to the community with her husband, Robert. Nancy relocated to Florida from Maine at the age of 12 with her family. She graduated from Clearwater High School. She married and was blessed with one son, Jim, who is living in Virginia, and one daughter, Linda, living in North Carolina.

After moving to OTOW, Nancy played golf and now works full-time at The Silver Queen and part-time at her church.

On April 14, the ladies will have a 1 p.m. luncheon at the Crackle Barrel restaurant located in Oldsmar with a celebration of Barbara's birthday.



Nancy Casey celebrated her 83rd birthday in March. A small party took place indoors in one of the condos.

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# Austrian Alpine squeezes game night pizza party and annual meeting all into one month



Austrian Alpine residents participate in a pizza party/game night in April. There were more than 20 people. (OTOW News photo by Donna Gagnon)

Nelson Sparks generously donated a home theater and video entertainment system, along with a large fabric screen, to the Austrian Alpine building.

This thoughtful contribution has been named "The Nelson Sparks Portable Theater" to reflect its flexibility for use in a variety of shared spaces.

We sincerely appreciate Nelson's generosity and continued support of our building community.

Our recent game night pizza party was a great success with more than 22 residents in attendance. The evening was filled with pizza, laughter, and plenty of games.

Kim and Cesar Garcia contributed five dozen assorted cookies. Joyce Jennings brought a tray of homemade lemon tarts and scrumptious doesn't even begin to describe them!

Cliff and Laurel Chavis graciously

hosted the game night event. Cliff created a themed video that played on a loop, adding a fun and lively atmosphere, while Laurel and I assembled a game night-themed gift basket. The basket was raffled off to help offset event costs and support future building socials

Our building's annual building meeting was also held recently and proved to be both positive and inclusive. Residents were invited in advance to submit ideas regarding the use of building

dues and to suggest agenda topics. Notice of the meeting was provided one month ahead of time and every effort was made to accommodate residents' schedules, including those traveling or preparing to leave for the season.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to shaping the year ahead.

Jose and Claire Rodriguez were not at the building meeting because they were in Greece. Claire told me that Crete and Athens were highlights for

them. In Athens, they enjoyed traditional cuisine and a stunning and unforgettable view of the Acropolis and Parthenon from their fourth floor hotel room.

Claire called Crete a beautiful, welcoming island and wished they had more time to explore.

If you have a news story or idea you would like to see featured in the Austrian Alpine building report, please let me know.

# Polynesians donate 220 food items

Residents of the Polynesian building have once again demonstrated the power of community, generosity and togetherness through a series of recent events that have left spirits high and pride even higher.

In a remarkable show of support, Susan Miller organized a food drive benefiting the Sylvan Abbey Church Pantry, run by Monica Ramsak.

Despite being a small pantry, the impact of the building's contribution was anything but small.

Thanks to the generosity of many residents, more than 220 food items were collected and donated. The pantry expressed heartfelt gratitude, sending a thank you card that now holds a place of honor on the building's bulletin board — a daily reminder of what can be achieved when neighbors come together for a good cause.

The success of the food drive has sparked a renewed sense of unity and pride among residents. Many have described the feeling as "amazing," with hopes already forming to continue similar efforts through the quieter summer months.

Community connection was also on full display at the building's recent pizza



party, which drew a lively group of 27 attendees. The event featured guitar music performed by Tom, a guest of resident Joanne Whelan, adding a warm and festive touch to the gathering.

Pizza was provided by the building, while residents contributed a variety of homemade dishes, creating a delicious and diverse spread.

The evening offered more than just good food, it provided an opportunity to welcome new neighbors and bid farewell to seasonal "Snowbird" residents heading north for the summer. While they will be greatly missed, full-time



Susan Miller (Polynesian resident) and Monica Ramsak (head of the Sylvan Abbey Food Pantry) organize new donations at the food bank.

residents are already looking forward to their return in the fall.

Another growing source of pride within the Polynesian building is the

monthly On Top of the World newspaper article itself. Residents have expressed appreciation for these updates and have begun actively contributing their own stories, event highlights and photos.


This increased involvement has made the process more inclusive and engaging for everyone.

Each article, along with accompanying photos, is proudly displayed on the bulletin board, ensuring all residents can share in the building's accomplishments.

As the community transitions into the slower summer season, residents are also stepping up to fill the temporary gap left by the absence of our dedicated party planner, who has headed north for the summer. Efforts are already underway to maintain the strong sense of organization and community spirit in their absence.

With generosity, camaraderie and shared pride at an all-time high, the Polynesian building continues to set a shining example of what it means to be a true community.

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After hours service is available 6-9 pm, Monday through Friday, 11:30-9 pm Saturdays and 7:30-11:30 a.m. Sundays, by calling 799-1115. There is a \$35 fee for all after hours services.

Service Policy  
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# Granada has a Little League coach

Granada has a dedicated Little League coach who has been giving countless athletes the opportunity to gain social skills, discipline, respect and sportsmanship for 38 years.

Meet Chris Ferrugia.

After coaching and acting as an umpire for high school and college baseball, Chris is currently coaching his Safety Harbor Little League team.

Dealing with parents, weather and travel delays continues to keep this special man busy.

In April, everyone at Granada was ready for our monthly luncheon at Sonny's BBQ.

It was a great time to have great food and socialize with neighbors. Thanks to Lynn Holder, who's been organizing our luncheons.

Our May luncheon will be at Frenchy's Outpost Bar and Grill on the Dunedin Causeway.

Thank you to Randy and Vee Boehm for donating two new beautiful bulletin boards to our building. They will replace the very crummy ones we've had for many years. Please make it a habit to check out our bulletin boards for upcoming events or important building news.

Thanks to everyone who participat-



ed in our April potluck meeting on the green. It's always great to catch up with neighbors and enjoy a good meal.

Our May meeting will be at 4 p.m. May 28. Please join us.

The Granada Sunbirds wish our traveling Snowbirds safe trips back home.

A reminder, whether you're taking off for the summer, or even for a short time, take care of your condo by shutting off water to your unit and have someone walk through occasionally.

Please let our building captains know who has a key to your unit if needed in an emergency.

A really good idea for your insurance is to go room to room and take a video or pictures of your possessions. Save



Granada resident Chris Ferrugia and his Safety Harbor Little League team.

them in your email in case you ever need to file a claim.

Also, please make a list of emergency contacts and have them on your refrigerator. Should there be an emergency in your unit, we will have a number to call and know who has a key to

your unit.

Last month residents did a quick, fun survey to see who traveled the most miles over the winter season. Our little survey unveiled the winner traveled a total distance of 2,033 miles.

Have a safe summer.

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# Brahman goes out for food and brew



The Brahman building had a great time on Tuesday, April 7, at BJ's Restaurant and Brewery.

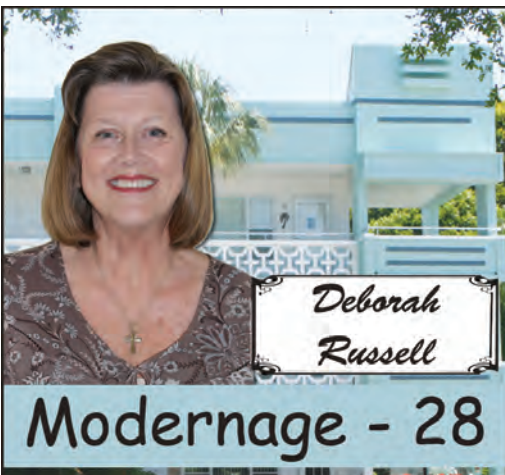
We shared good conversations, great food and continued building our friendships.

Ursula and Dave Joplin brought a delicious cake to share. Thank you for the cake and for organizing the wonderful evening.

Our May gathering will be posted on the building bulletin board for all to join in. We will say so long to our Snowbirds, but look forward to their return in the fall. Happy spring.



# Modernage celebrates end of the season with a picnic at Pavilion



The Modernage building happily welcomed the spring season after an unusually cold winter.

Residents hosted a hearty barbecue cookout at the Pavilion in April.

Sam Patterson and Toni Procopio served hamburgers and hot dogs from the grill. Their helpers were David Wilson and Michael Polidoro.

Fifty people attended. Many brought homemade salads, desserts and finger foods. Drinks were provided as well.

Since Modernage has so many new residents, this was a great opportunity to get acquainted with them. Our spring barbecue is one of our largest events of the year and we appreciate everyone's efforts to make it one of our best



Toni Procopio and Sam Patterson grilling dogs and burgers.

events! This year's picnic was surely one of our most successful and fun. We look forward to our fall get-together and wish everyone a great summer!

# New World French reunion

New World French residents got a surprise visit from long-time resident Mike Caramanna (black shirt), who shared happy hour with friends one day this past April. Mike was always a regular at our happy hours. He used to drive his corvette in the Irish Club parade and lived here for many years before moving out west three years ago. Even his parents lived here. Mike kept track of us through resident Tony Mellick (yellow shirt), and one day just popped in to say hi again. We miss his Corvette!



# Retirement doesn't mean stop - it means do more of what you love



How do we pass our time during retirement? We all have different hobbies and activities to keep us busy.

This story is about Kristi Minard.

Kristi retired from Delta Air Lines in 2020. Once she retired and was still living in Michigan, she started looking for warmer weather and a more active retirement. She soon found both requirements and much more. Four years ago Kristi moved here to live at On Top of the World.

Kristi's favorite form of exercise is swimming laps three times a week at LA Fitness. She swims a half mile during each workout session.

In her down time, Kristi likes to knit and crochet.

I asked, "Aren't they the same thing? What's the difference?"

You should have seen the look I got! Kristi then explained the difference to me.

"Knitting uses two needles to create a flexible, stretchy and thin fabric, while crochet uses a single hook to create a thicker, more structured and sturdy fabric," she said.

Now I know!

Kristi likes making hats, robes and blankets. Her prized possession is a mouse blanket that she made special for her 7 year old grandson. She said he loves mice - not Mickey Mouse or any specific living mouse - just mice in general.

This blanket was made for him to complement a mouse doll that she had made for him.

She gives away her knitting and crocheting to family and friends. Some of her work she donates to charity to give that special gift to those in need.

When Kristi needs to rest her fingers from needles and hooks, you'll find her on the golf course. She loves fresh air,



Kristi Minard gives a lot of her creations to family. Anything that does not go to family is given to charity. Pictured above are some of her creations that have not been given away yet.

exercise, peace and quiet time, and the challenge of smacking that little white ball. Late afternoon or early evening is her favorite time of the day to get out and play.

Kristi doesn't stop there. She has two dogs named Ivy and Cooper. She

adopted them from the Clearwater Humane Society two years ago. They are part Chihuahua and Yorkie. You'll find her walking them many times during the day.

Some of those walks are longer than those little dog legs can handle. That's

when you'll see Kristi carrying her four-legged babies back home.

Retirement is what you make of it and Kristi is loving every part of her days at OTOW.



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# Rio Riviera begins planning for 2026-27 season



Thirty Rio Riviera residents gather at Ozona Blue for dinner to celebrate Eric Wells' birthday. Holding a piece of birthday cake is Stu Rosenblatt. After Stu sang several songs at the party, he was hired to sing to other parties at the restaurant.

Rio Riviera held its annual building meeting on March 25 and previously purchased microphone equipment certainly helped. We could hear everything!

Building Chairman Stan Shook welcomed all and invited us to enjoy dinner. This year, building funds helped purchase grocery carts, decorations, supplement events and the microphone system. Everyone was able to hear all of the information at the meeting.

Stan spoke about building accomplishments.

Leslie Cunningham, current treasurer, distributed and discussed the building's fund balance. She announced the opportunity to contribute tonight and will accept \$20 for the 2026-27 year.

She then distributed an updated resident information list.

If you weren't at the meeting, the building captains will be distributing that list and collecting your voluntary contribution of \$20.

Stan thanked all those who volunteered and were elected as board members for the previous two years. He was then nominated and unanimously elected to retain the board chairman role.

Many new residents attending asked for clarification of the treasurer and secretary responsibilities. Stan's first duty will be to rewrite and distribute those duties.

Elections for treasurer and secretary were postponed until the updated duty list is accepted by residents.

Stan asked for volunteers to fill various other positions. All were filled: Wing captains - Jim Ellis, Stan Shook and Anne Farley. Sunshine lady - Donna Wells. OTOW News reporter - Patricia O'Beirne. Decorations - Kathy Cullen.

Jim and Sue Ellis, and Patricia O'Beirne were thanked for arranging lunches and dinners throughout last year.

Patricia suggested that perhaps a volunteer hospitality position should be added to the above volunteers next year.

December will be here soon and new voices were asked to help with planning events, especially for the holidays. An event can be organized by any resident after gaining approval by the board.

In April, residents went to Ozona Blue. The weather and company were perfect. Thirty lively people attended. It was Eric Wells' birthday and dessert was supplied by Donna Wells to celebrate.

Stu Rosenblatt led a rambunctious round of traditional songs. He was then joined by a choir of four, who did a reprise. Stu was invited to serenade another table celebrating birthdays.



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# Classifieds

OTOW News classifieds are for On Top of the World residents only. You may place an ad to sell or buy using up to 40 words. You cannot list a price of more than \$500. You cannot sell condos, cars, bedding or used clothing. No business ads. No companion ads. Classifieds must be dropped off at the newsroom in person before the 16th of each month. You may be asked to show your activity card. One classified per household per month. You must ask to have your ad run twice.

### In-Home Nurse Needed

Looking for a retired nurse to assist 91 year old OTOW resident with setting up her TPN feeding, four times per week. Would require approximately 30 minutes per day, Tuesday-Friday. If you are interested, please call or text a family relation, Cheryl, at 727-433-1547.

### Wheel Chair

For sale: Invacare lightweight wheel chair. Used minimally. Good condition. Red and black. Asking \$50. Call 727-483-4384.

### Dual Recliner

For sale: Dual red leather recliner. Make an offer. Call Joe at 727-520-6211.

### Antique Slot Machine

For sale: Antique slot machine. Bought in 1991 for \$2100. Make me an offer. Stationary bicycle for sale. Asking \$200. Call 727-686-6285.

### Rocking Chairs

For sale: Two rocking chairs. Asking \$25 apiece. Good condition. Call 727-669-2539.

### Standing Desk

For sale: Motorized standing desk from Scandinavian Designs. Walnut finish. Size: 47x24. Eight months old. Was \$500. Asking \$275. Call/text Marilyn at 727-686-9031.

**OTOW NEWS  
PRIVATE BUSINESS  
PAGE**

*Businesses on this page represent proprietors who are in business for themselves. On Top of the World does not endorse the products or services offered. Everyone on this page has passed a basic background check.*

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# Miss a Board Meeting? Need To Watch Again?

The Box Office has you covered.



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Can't watch meetings on OTOW-TV 901?

The Box Office is broadcasting  
Association Board Meetings live.

Plus, you can visit the Past Board Meetings page  
and review any meeting since June 2023.\*  
Just visit the Box Office, click the Past Board Meetings link,  
select the correct date ... and watch.

## Association Board Meetings

June 12, 2025 (annual meeting)	
June 5, 2025 Information Meeting on Voting and Reserves	
April 30, 2025	April 17, 2025
February 27, 2025	March 27, 2025
January 30, 2025	January 16, 2025
Meet The Candidates Morning - January 9, 2025	
Meet The Candidates Evening - January 9, 2025	
Nov. 7, 2024 Hurricane Response Review	
Nov. 22, 2024	Dec. 19, 2024
Oct. 15, 2024	Oct. 2, 2024
Sept. 20, 2024 Selection Committee Created	Sept. 11, 2024
September 5, 2024	July 25, 2024
July 18, 2024	July 15, 2024
June 13, 2024	June 4 and 6, 2024
May 22, 2024	April 24, 2024
April 11, 2024	February 20, 2024

\* Not all  
past board  
meetings are  
archived on the  
Box Office.

Interviews with  
management  
companies are  
not available.

Some future  
meetings may not  
be available.

But the dates listed  
can be watched  
anytime when  
Internet access  
is available.

All videos are  
copyrighted.  
Recording,  
downloading and  
uploading are  
prohibited.

## Social Dance with Howard

1-3 pm, Thursdays

West Activity Center Belleair Room

Singles or couples. Men needed!

Residents pick the dances to learn.

## Qwirkle Group

Qwirkle is a fun tile game full of colors and shapes.  
Residents are getting together now to play together.

It is easy to learn but challenging to master.

Come join us. No experience necessary.



Mondays 1-4 p.m.  
East Activity Center Dunedin Room  
Everyone Welcome!  
Call Sherrie Markey at 717-873-1066.



Year-Round

Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 pm

WAC Belleair Room

Must have a valid activity

card and be a member of

the Canadian Club.

Bring spare change.

# Blackout

Learn how to play at 5:50 pm



## English

There is an English class

at On Top of the World taught by Lola Dickert  
and Eugene Z. We meet for 1 hour every Thursday from  
10-11 am in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room.

Just bring your Activity Card.

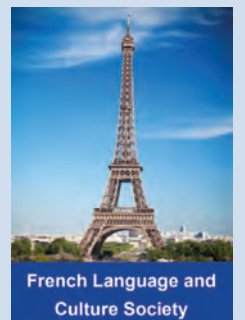
## French Language and

Culture Society

11 am - 12 pm

Wednesdays

EAC Dunedin Room



## OTOW Philosophy Club

Life, World Events, Environment, Education,  
Retirement, Health, Justice, Television

## Philosophy Club

TED TV Interviews  
Follow-up Discussions

Every Tuesday  
10-11:30 am  
EAC Crystal Beach Room

**Freebirdz**  
10:30 am -12:00 pm,  
Fridays  
Crystal Beach Room  
Sit, talk and  
lose weight.  
No membership.



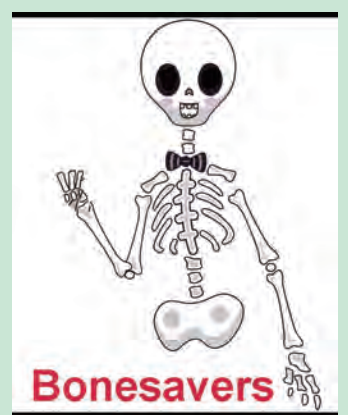
## Bonesavers

Mondays, Wednesdays,

Fridays

8:00 - 9:00 am

Largo Room



## Shuffleboard

Open to all OTOW residents  
with a valid activity card.

Join us during league play and  
we have equipment available.

Mon-Tue-Wed 4 pm  
East Activity Center



**Pull Tabs for Tampa Shriners  
benefits  
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Hey, On Top of the World neighbors.

Just a little reminder. During the winter season, please collect pull tabs  
from any soda can, beer can, juice can, food can, etc. and bring them  
to the Canadian Club information table on any Monday or Thursday  
from 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

During the spring/summer season, pull tabs can be dropped off  
at the Good Karma Café.

Thank you for contributing to such a worthy cause.



## Bible Study

2 PM, Fridays

Crystal Beach Room

All Denominations Welcome

**Example: OTOW NEWS WORD FINDER**  
**DEFINR**  
**"Finder"**

**ABEEEGTLV**

There may be more than one answer for a word. Your answers might not match the answers listed next month.

Make words below by filling in the blanks. You can only use the letters shown above in blue type.

_ _ E _ _ B	_ E E _ _ B _ _	B _ _ _ V _ _ _	_ _ V _ _ _ _ E _ E _ _ _ E
----------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------------------

(The word above must use every letter above)

Last month's answers (answers could vary): OIL, DAD, FAIL, FOLD, LOAD, LOAF, IDOL, DAFFODIL

# BRAIN TEASE

	2		3		6
1			6		
	3		1		2
	5	1		6	4
2			5		
	1		4		3

To do the Brain Tease above, you must put a number 0-9 in each white square. The trick is, each number can only appear one time horizontally and vertically. Start with a row or column with only one white square. As you fill in squares, the rest of the board will get easier to manage.

## OTOW News WORDMIX

Unscramble the six words listed below. If you unscramble correctly, the first letter of each word will spell out the secret word of the month. If you cannot come up with the secret word of the month, then redo at least one of the six scrambled words. Please note, none of the secret words are plural.


A L S G S
A U T R L
E N R T N I
A T N L E T
A M T E P T T
A T L Y Y O R

**SECRET WORD:**

Last month's scrambled words: STUDY, ISSUED, TURNIP, CRYING, OBSERVE, MUSICAL. Secret Word Last Month: SITCOM

# Good Karma Book Club

A post-read book discussion group.



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ARIEL LAWHON

**10 am, Thursday, May 21**  
**"Frozen River"**  
**By Ariel Lawhon**

**10 am, Thursday, June 18**  
**"Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet"**  
**By Jamie Ford**

All of our meetings take place in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room. For more information, see our web page on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). You can also call Jane at 727-754-3823.

# LIBRARY



## New Books

"Revenge Prey" by John Sanford  
 "Hope Rises" by David Balducci  
 "The Final Storm" by Fern Michaels

(We also have been given 16 books from Freida McFadden, best-selling author on The New York Times best-seller list)

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 Renew your membership so we can buy new books.  
 Hours: 10-12 Mondays, 1-3 Wednesdays, 10-12 Thursdays

# Around the Bay

Entertainment in Clearwater



### Ruth Eckerd Hall

- May 1-2 - Pink Floyd Tribute
- May 3 - The Florida Orchestra
- May 6 - The Florida Orchestra
- May 16 - Jason Mraz
- May 17 - The Florida Orchestra
- May 21 - Josh Gates
- May 29 - Happy Together
- May 30-31 - Clearwater Smooth Jazz Jam
- June 19 - Vince Gill

### The BayCare Sound at Coachman Park

301 Drew St, Clearwater

- May 13 - Bush, Mammoth and James and the Cold Gun
- May 21 - Sam Barber
- June 20 - Billy Currington, Kelsey Hart and Kenny Whitmire

### Francis Wilson Playhouse

302 Seminole St, Clearwater

- May 1-May 17 - Grease

### Nancy & David Bilheimer Capitol Theater

Cleveland St, Clearwater

- May 1 - Rend Collective
- May 2 - Six Guitars
- May 6 - Devon Allman
- May 7 - 10,000 Maniacs from Jamestown, NY
- May 8 - Heroes Off Duty
- May 9 - Killer Queen (Tribute to Queen)
- May 15 - Ruslan KD
- May 16 - Music of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young
- May 22 - Jim Breuer
- May 31 - Duane Betts and Palmetto Hotel
- June 5 - Stewart Copeland
- June 11 - Steve Earle
- June 13 - A Journey Tribute

### TheatreFor, 1863 N. Highland Ave, Clearwater

- May 1-17 - You May Have Six
- June 18-28 - War Virgin

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

- May 1-June 7 - Becky's New Car



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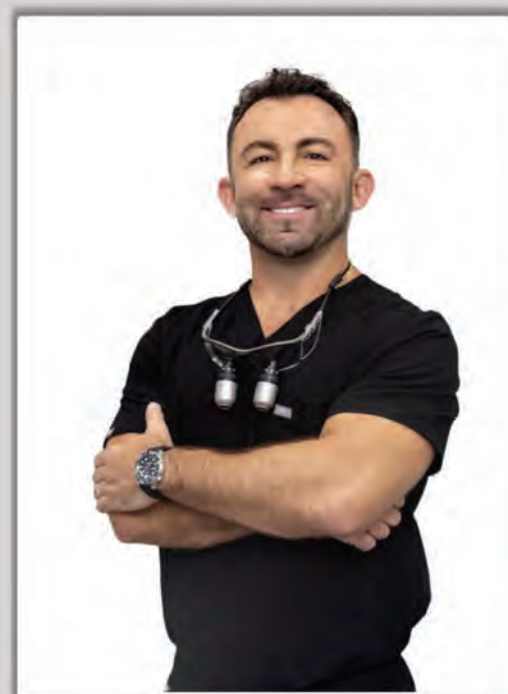
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