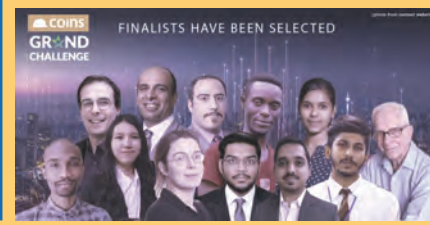




**Jesters hold  
first rehearsal  
outdoors.**  
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**Please Vote!**  
**OTOW Halloween  
Pet Costume Contest Voting**  
**Oct. 13-14 on the Box Office**  
otowboxoffice.com



**OTOW resident  
is finalist for  
world prize.**  
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# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

October 2020

Published Since 1968

52 Years of Only Good News

Volume 52

No. 10

## OTOW resident raises more than \$9000 for childhood cancer research while home in Canada

By Sheldon Birnie

The Herald (Winnipeg, Canada)

A local man has been riding around North Kildonan this month raising money for sick kids.

Laurie Fischer, the founder of the North Kildonan Community Players, is taking part in the Great Cycle Challenge, a national fundraiser for the Sick Kids Foundation. He is one of over 52,000 taking part nationwide, who had raised a total of over \$8 million (as of summer).

"We're all trying to help the kids and their families," Fischer explained. "With a cause like this, there is no choice for me but to get involved."

In spring of 2018, Laurie was diagnosed with stage four metastasized prostate cancer.

"What I have is not curable, it is controllable," Laurie said. "Things like exercise helps, which is why I took up biking."

An active member of the community, Laurie is not one to let his diagnosis slow him down.

"I'm one of those fighters who will not let the disease control my life," he said. "I love the stage. I love sports. I continue to be involved in everything that I love. I have good days and I have bad days, just like anyone else."

Since Aug. 1, Laurie has been biking between 10 and 20 (12 miles) kilometers a day. He and four other riders — Jordan Phillips, Loren Findley, Jason Spearman and Brook Jones — make up a team called the Winterpeggers, who encourage each other towards their goals.

"North Kildonan is a wonderful area," Fischer said. "What I really like about this area is so many different paths you can take."

Earlier this month, he surpassed his goal of cycling 400 kilometers (250 miles), and had shattered his \$500 fundraising goal, collecting over \$8,500 in pledges with over a week left to ride.

"I'm thrilled to see so many people who want to help," he said. "I have over 100 people who have made donations between \$5 and \$520."

Laurie had the highest fundraising to-



North Kildonan's Laurie Fischer (took) part in the Great Cycle Challenge this past August. His goal was to ride at least 500 kilometers (300 miles) to raise funds for developing treatments and finding a cure for childhood cancer.

(Photo courtesy of Sheldon Birnie/The Herald (Winnipeg, Canada))

tal of 2,531 participants in Manitoba, and was ranked 15th in the country.

"I'm a 66-year-old man who has lived a full and happy life," Laurie said. "I've done a lot, I've had a great time. But I can't imagine being a 6- or 7-year-old child fighting this disease, or being the parent of a child fighting this disease. Childhood cancer is not a fun thing. It doesn't just affect the child, but their whole family and community."

The Great Cycle Challenge ran until the end of August.

"I encourage anyone to (still) give, even if it's only \$5 or \$10," Laurie said. "Everything adds up."

To learn more, or to contribute, visit [www.greatcyclechallenge.ca/Riders/LaurieFischer](http://www.greatcyclechallenge.ca/Riders/LaurieFischer)

(This story appeared in The Herald in August 2020 and is reprinted in its entirety in OTOW News with full permission. By the end of the fundraiser, Laurie had raised a total of more than \$9,270. Laurie is an OTOW resident during the winter months.)

About 11,050 children in the United States under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer in 2020.  
- cancer.org

Between 2009 and 2013, there were 4,715 new cases of cancer in children 0-14 years of age in Canada, an average of 943 cases per year.  
- cancer.ca.org





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# Covid-19 community update

On Sept. 16, the Florida Department of Health issued a public health advisory and new guidelines that apply to organizers of large events.

The guidelines include considerations for postponing or canceling events based on the levels of community spread for COVID-19.

Long story short, senior communities are still considered to be a higher risk population for Covid-19 transmission.

Accordingly, the Association will continue to restrict the number of people who can attend events to limit exposure and transmission.

Pinellas County continues to have high rates of infection.

Bearing this in mind, your Association does recognize the necessity of moving forward. As a way to achieve this, but still adhere to recommendations from Governor Ron DeSantis, the CDC and local Board of Public Health, the plan is to reduce golf restrictions related to number of players. This will take effect on Monday, Oct. 5, to include foursomes.

You may only have four at the tee box at a time and all must social distance, wear your masks and bring hand sanitizer for use as needed.

Please do not congregate in groups before, during or after your game concludes.

All other restrictions remain in place, including, but not limited to, no guests.

Additionally, restrictions will be reduced for tennis and pickleball to include extended hours of play on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 7.

Again, all other restrictions remain in place. We recommend all players bring hand sanitizer and practice social distancing.

Additionally, please remember to be kind and support the SCA staff especially when they are performing activity card checks.

Please see resident updates at [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com) and receive updates via RAVE.

Updates will be posted at the Activity Centers as well as on OTOW-TV channel 732 and Nancy's Bulletin Board on the Box Office ([otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)).

As always, the health and well-being of residents and employees is our primary concern.

## Did You Know

### LIVING ON TOP OF THE WORLD OWNERSHIP TRANSFERS

There are three methods in which ownership of a condo may transfer to another. All three methods require the new owner(s) to submit an Application for Approval of Ownership. Additional requirements are listed in the application packet.



(1) PURCHASE A PROPERTY: The most common method of ownership transfer occurs when a property is sold to another. This is normally handled through a real estate contract between the seller and the buyer.

(2) DEED CHANGE: The second method of ownership transfer is through a deed change. The current owner transfers ownership to another person or they add another person to the deed. The current owner is the Grantor while the person receiving ownership in the property is the Grantee.

(3) INHERITANCE: The last method of transferring ownership is through inheritance. When a condo is inherited, the beneficiary becomes the owner. If the property is to be retained, ownership transfer approval from the Association is required.

The title company/attorney should record the deed, Certificate of Approval

(COA), and Consent (if applicable) with Pinellas County once the transfer process is complete.

The Application for Approval of Ownership may be printed from our Website <https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/community-information/> or is available from our Community Service Office.

Once the Association grants occupancy approval, owner residents may obtain an Activity Card from the Community Service Office for a nominal fee of \$3.

## 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-12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, unless otherwise posted.

If your call goes to voice mail, it is because staff is working with someone else. Please be patient. Calls and voicemails will be responded to during normal business hours.

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

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

From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request. It is not necessary to report service requests more than one time.

If the CSO is closed and you have any questions regarding your request, please call the Service Request Line at the number listed below.

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

## Service Request Line

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

## After-Hours Number

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

For a life threatening emergency, please dial 911.

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



## What you should know: WATER HEATERS

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

**It may be time to replace your water heater if it is...**

- ...more than 10 years old.
- ...leaking around the base of the unit.
- ...not producing as much hot water.
- ...noisy.

**If your water heater fails, you may be held financially responsible if it causes damage to surrounding units.**

**When was the last time you checked your water heater?**



# October is no time to let your

As I start to write this article, there are several tropical waves and storms approaching Florida and causing us all concerns.

Experience has shown that any hurricane can still be very disruptive to the Southeastern United States. We can experience not just damage from wind and rain deluge, but also with travel disruption and utility crews exiting Florida to offer needed assistance in other states.

True to form, Parkway Management Company went into storm readiness state as soon as the predictions rated a high likelihood of a storm event. They went to a high state of readiness anticipating the need to respond very rapidly to storm threats.

To make a general point about storm events, or any natural disaster's effect on this community, when it comes to individual service requests, especially after any catastrophic event, each request is evaluated based on severity and risk to life and property.

The damage is then stabilized as needed, and resolved at the soonest possible time, given all else that may be needing special attention.

It is important that each resident of this community show patience and kindness to each other and to the workers who have left family to rally to the needs of the community.

Storms and protracted electrical outages are periods of high stress. To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln, in challenging times we must look to "the better angels of our nature."

It does not take a tropical storm event to setback scheduled ground maintenance. Really, all it takes are large summer storms to disrupt the schedule.

As you no doubt observe, the lawns and shrubs love the wet, warm weather and respond by doubling their growth.

Put the two things together and lawn maintenance crews struggle to keep pace.

As I write this article in late September, work is mostly caught up, however, that is always subject to changes together with the weather.

## Entry Gatehouses

Please take note that the gatehouses are staffed with uniformed attendants who provide information and directions to both residential and commercial traffic, and help keep the traffic moving along.

These gatehouses do have video surveillance. All vehicles entering the community have their license tags photographed.

Video surveillance is scheduled for an upgrade to an even higher resolution cameras in mid-2021.

If you see anything that would cause you concern or alarm, notify the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department emergency number immediately. The faster the response, the better opportunity there is to work with the Sheriff's Department in providing critical information that may lead to a resolution of your concern.

## Association News

You will be receiving a letter from the



Association that the annual audited Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, will be available in October.

Once available, you may request a copy of the report, for your building, by writing to the association secretary at 2069 World Parkway Blvd East, Clearwater, FL 33763, or by emailing the Association at [clearwaterinfo@otowfl.net](mailto:clearwaterinfo@otowfl.net) – please be sure to state your building and unit number on your request and how you would like the report – either by email or in paper form.

## Prevent Expensive Losses

October is a great month to check the condition of your water heater. This appliance is usually silently working away... until it starts to leak.

You may not notice the leak until you hear from an angry downstairs neighbor or you flood your own unit.

The Association is responsible for the area between the units. By the time you hear from a neighbor about flooding, you have already flooded the Association's property.

Each individual owner is responsible for the damage to their unit and contents, your neighbor's damage, and damage to Association property.

Water damage can be very expensive to repair primarily because it is rarely contained in one unit, even more so if you've failed to keep your homeowner's insurance in place.

The water heater, like your air conditioner, is the owner's responsibility to maintain, repair or replace.

If your water heater is more than 10 years old, it needs replacement. If you don't know the original install date, then it probably needs replacement.

If your water heater is less than 10 years old, an excellent and very affordable early warning device is the Water Screamer by Gizmode. If you can successfully put batteries in a flashlight, you can operate this small device. It really is that simple to use.

The device has a small sensor that you place under the water heater. If it contacts moisture, the alarm sounds and provides warning. This device is available at cost, through our Community Service Office. Look for the display advertisement in this paper for more detail.

For the more tech savvy, NEST™ makes a dandy digital sensor that will alert you through your phone. Very handy for the traveler.

## Upcoming Projects

Buildings 8 and 9 will be the next two structures to see crews from the painting contractor arrive.

The front façade of both of these structures will be repainted along with the center core areas.

As always, please keep in mind that our 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.

As the painting contractor moves throughout the property, management company crews will be installing new life-safety compliant, reflective unit numbers on the common area wall in proximity to unit front doors.

The installation of new unit address numbers will continue once the painting contractor completes the recoating of the front elevation of buildings throughout the community.

Unit numbers currently attached to the common element wall will be removed by the painting contractor, while numbers installed on front unit doors will need to be removed by the unit owner.

If a unit owner wishes, they may contract with the management company for the removal of any old unit numbers for a nominal fee. Please remember that for community standard reasons, all old unit numbers must be removed.

## Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

The final phase of a 3-year sanitary sewer restoration project will begin in October.

The vendor will be performing work that will improve the efficiency and extend the useful life of the community's gravity sewer system.

These improvements will affect portions of the east side of property from the Belcher Road entrance through the northern end of the property. These crews will be working in close proximity to streets as well as in the back lawn area of buildings.

As with all projects involving active work zones and heavy equipment, please avoid these areas until the contractor's crews have completed their work. Thanks again for your cooperation.

As of this update, the award of the next cycle of railing improvements is in the works that also involves the engineering and county permitting process.

The Management Company anticipates that the projects at Buildings 63 and 64 will begin sometime in late October. This work will entail the removal of current railings, followed by the installation of code compliant guardrails and stairwell

components by a state licensed contractor. This work involves power tools so please be aware that elevated noise levels are a byproduct of the contractor's efforts.

We ask that residents please pay close attention to cordoned off areas as some may be closed temporarily throughout the day to allow for the safe replacement of railing elements. Thanks in advance for doing your part while this work is underway.

## Recurring reminders for all community residents

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Management Company will post notices on affected building's bulletin boards concerning the dates crews are expected to commence the work. Please be aware of Caution and Wet Paint signs in and around these work areas.

## 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.

(Continued on page 5)



# guard down

The Management Company would like to remind residents that all water softening equipment installations require advance association approval via a modification permit. A permit application package may be obtained by visiting the Community Service Office in the East Activity Center at 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East.

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

Inspection services representatives will be reaching out to residents of buildings that are scheduled for new paint and waterproofing coatings during the 2020/2021 improvement cycle. The purpose of their contact will be to advise residents that the painting vendor will be color matching all external doors to the majority building color as is required by the condominium association rules. This will usually require no action by the unit owner other than to allow access to the entire door surface for the coating to be applied. If for some reason you were not at home when this work takes place, you may contact the Community Service Office and schedule a follow-up visit by the coatings vendor. We appreciate your cooperation in making this project a success across the community.

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

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

With the cooperation of residents, the number of clamshell awnings is down to less than 100 remaining. If you remember, we started this with more than 2,200 such awnings.

The Inspection Services Division continues to find awnings with compromised connection points to the common element. In response, they have been reaching out to affected unit owners to have the awnings removed and limit any further damage to the common elements of the building.

As noted in prior articles, "clamshell" awnings do not meet building code for wind resistance. Fortunately there are new products that do. If you have an awning, please arrange for its inspection through the Community Service Office at the East Activity Center.

Clutter enforcement has always been one of the most frequent recurring compliance issues within the On Top of the World condominium community. These efforts make for an overall safer community in which to live.

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

Please remember that items tagged in common areas may be removed and disposed of without further notice.

Please help make your community safer by complying if you receive a violation tag/door hanger. Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

## All registered voters should be allowed to vote

*It has been the policy of the News to steer clear of partisan politics. The number of No Party Affiliation (NPA) registered voters in the community has been on a steady rise. With the author's permission to reprint, this is offered to afford you, the reader, another perspective. The News neither favors nor opposes Amendment 3. Our sole purpose is to inform. Please read in the spirit in which it is intended and remember Get Out And Vote!*

Should every registered voter be allowed to vote?

Allowing qualified voters to vote seems like a simple premise.

Unfortunately, that is not how we conduct elections in Florida. For those who wish to vote for their next State House or Senate member or for Governor or Cabinet members, as stunning as it sounds, the truth is that most voters are excluded from voting in the taxpayer-funded elections that most often determine the winner.

All Voters Vote is a proposed constitutional amendment that holds to the simple premise that every qualified registered voter in Florida should be allowed to cast a ballot in all public elections. For too long, too many voters – and to be clear, we are talking about those who are already registered to vote – have been legally prohibited from voting for the person who will represent them in Tallahassee.

How can this be?

Florida is one of only nine states in America that has a restrictive process where candidates for office are elected by a tiny sliver of the electorate in closed partisan primaries. And as though to rub salt in the wounds of those excluded voters, their tax dollars are used to hold these closed elections.

The All Voters Vote initiative, Amendment No. 3, will eliminate Florida's closed partisan primary system and will end chronic gridlock and hyper-partisanship by forcing politicians to answer to every voter they represent and not just that tiny sliver from either the extreme left or the extreme right.

Consider this: Today more than 3.8 million Florida voters have been effectively disenfranchised by this system because they choose to belong to neither of the major political parties. By selecting, for example, "No Party Affiliation" (NPA) those registered voters are legally forbidden from voting in the primary elections that

(Continued on page 6)

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## Hurricane Preparation

Know where to go ahead of time if you are ordered to evacuate. Know your local hurricane evacuation route(s) and have a plan where to stay. Let family and friends know where you are going. Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies and copies of your critical information. If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate, and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days. Get prescriptions filled days in advance. Fill up gas tanks well in advance. Make sure you have cash on hand. Many communities have text or email alert systems for emergency notifications. To find out what alerts are available in your area, search the Internet for Pinellas County alerts.

For more information, visit [www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)



# Let's learn about the different grades of beef, pork, lamb and chicken



## Beef

There are five quality grades of beef. The grades are based on two main criteria: the degree of marbling (intramuscular fat) in the beef and the maturity (estimated age of the animal at slaughter).

1. U.S. Prime - Highest in quality and marbling, limited supply. Currently about 2.9 percent of carcasses are graded as prime.

2. U.S. Choice - High quality, widely available in the food service industry and retail markets. Choice carcasses are 53.7 percent of the total. The difference between choice and prime is largely due to the fat content in the beef. Prime typically has a higher fat content (more and well distributed marbling) than choice.

3. U.S. Select (formerly Good) - Lowest grade, commonly sold at retail, acceptable quality, but is less juicy due to leanness.

4. U.S. Standard - Lower quality, yet economical, lacking leanness.

5. U.S. Commercial - Low quality, lacking tenderness, produced from older animals.

## Tips On Grilling A Steak

Remove steak from the refrigerator about 30 minutes before grilling so that it comes to room temperature. This helps it cook more evenly from edges to center.

For juicier, tastier results, let the steak rest for a few minutes before slicing.

Avoid tough, chewy meat by slicing your steak against the grain. Look for the direction that the muscle fibers run, then cut in the opposite direction.



A variety of ingredients go into making the perfect chicken broth.

For thicker cuts, a meat thermometer can mean the difference between overcooked and sheer perfection.

Rare cooking temperature is 120 degrees, medium rare is 125, medium well is 150 and well done is 160.

I found the best selection of Prime Beef is at Fresh Market here in Clearwater.

## Pork

Like beef, the grading of pork is voluntary. However, both meats are rarely sold without grading and inspection is required by the USDA.

Unlike beef, pork is sold only to consumers directly in "Acceptable" grade.

"Utility" grade is used in processed products and is not sold directly to the average shopper.

Pork is sometimes called the other white meat. When buying pork, take a look at the marbling and color. Pork should be gray-pink in color, firm to the touch and include a bit of marbling for flavor.

Pork is surprisingly versatile, and the

cuts seem endless.

Pork shoulder is perfect for barbecued pulled pork sandwiches and pork chops are an American classic.

Let's don't forget the smoked ham for Easter and, of course, barbecue baby back ribs are a summertime treat.

Utility pork is used in the making of hot dogs, breakfast sausage and different lunch meats.

With so many options to choose from, you just need to decide what you are in the mood to cook and then enjoy.

Cooking temperature is 150-165 degrees.

## Lamb

There are two grades.

1. Prime - Lamb carcasses having minimum conformation qualification for prime grade tend to be thickly muscled throughout, are moderately wide and thick in relation to their length, and have moderately plump and full legs, moderately wide thick backs, and moderately thick full shoulders.

2. Choice - Lamb carcasses having minimum qualifications for the good grade are slightly thin muscled throughout, are moderately narrow in relation to their length and have slightly thin, tapering legs, and slightly narrow and thick backs and shoulders.

Young lamb, ideally from 5 to 7 months old, is the kind you buy today at the super market.

Mutton is a term for lamb between 12 months and 2 years old.

Imported lamb from Australia and New Zealand are raised from a small breed of animals and always comes to us frozen.

The cooking temperature for lamb is the same as beef.

I buy my lamb from Acropolis Meat Market in Tarpon Springs on East Tarpon Ave.

Their lamb shanks are to die for.

## Chicken

There are three grades.

Grade A is the highest quality and the only grade that is likely to be sold at the supermarket. This grade indicates that the chicken is virtually free from defects such as bruises, discolorations and feathers.

Grades B and C chicken are usually used in further processed products where the chicken meat is cut up or ground.

What is the best part of the chicken to make stock? Chicken feet. That's right, I said chicken feet.

2 pounds chicken feet  
2 large carrots cut in half  
1 onion cut into wedges  
1 bunch of fresh thyme  
2 celery ribs cut in half  
1 large stock pot

Cover the ingredients with cold water. Simmer for two hours. Occasionally skim any foam that may come to the surface. Strain the stock through a fine mesh strainer.

You can buy chicken feet at Marv's Meat, 1225 Franklin Ave, Clearwater.

## Continued from page 5

almost always determine who will represent them in Tallahassee. This is patently unfair and should be reason enough to vote for the All Voters Vote initiative. But – and this is vital – they aren't the only ones who can truthfully exclaim, "No taxation without representation!" In nearly every state legislative district, those who choose to belong to a major political party are also excluded if they happen to live in a district where they are not a member of the dominant party.

Why should the right to vote be reserved only for those who belong to a political party? And why should those vot-

ers belonging to a party also be excluded from having a say in the outcome just because they are not in the majority party in their district?

Our system makes no sense and denying registered voters the right to cast a meaningful ballot has had profoundly negative effects on our democracy.

The All Voters Vote amendment simply says that in taxpayer funded public elections, all voters are allowed to vote. Candidates appear on a common ballot and the top-two vote getters appear on the General Election ballot where voters, once again, get the chance to choose the

person who will represent them in our state's capitol.

The top two system is nothing new – it is already in place in Florida for over 400 municipalities and counties, and for judicial and special district races. In fact, more people are already elected in Florida using a top two vote getter system than for our legislative races. It is common and well-accepted by voters. More importantly, it is a proven success because those candidates cannot hide in partisan silos and must answer to every voter they represent. As a result, they are not only more responsive to their voters, they are

able to put principle before party and put the interest of everyone above the narrow partisan interests of the extreme fringes of either party.

That is why we ask voters to learn as much as they can about the All Voters Vote initiative and vote Yes on Amendment #3 to ensure that they, and every other voter, will not be excluded from taxpayer funded elections. To learn more please visit [www.AllVotersVote.org](http://www.AllVotersVote.org).

*Glenn Burbans is the Chair of the All Voters Vote Committee and can be reached by email at [Glenn@AllVotersVote.org](mailto:Glenn@AllVotersVote.org).*



## Science of Cooking Healthy Food By Marie

Email questions, suggestions and comments to

**Marie**

marieshealthyfood@gmail.com

Also, visit the Box Office

for past recipes in this newspaper.

otowboxoffice.com

## Instructions

### DAY ONE

1. Place 1 tablespoon of broccoli seeds in a quart jar and cover with a few inches of water.
2. Cover seeds with water.
3. Cover the top of jar with a fine mesh cloth. Use an open lid.
4. Place jar in a warm, dark spot for one day.

### DAYS TWO AND THREE

5. Drain thoroughly, using a fine-mesh tea strainer.
6. Rinse seeds with water twice each day, draining each time.
7. Return to warm, dark place, tilting jar so excess water can continue to drain.

### DAYS FOUR, FIVE, SIX

8. Repeat, except place on windowsill for sunny exposure.

-----  
Sprouts will show small, bright green leaves.

Transfer sprouts to a storage container and refrigerate. This should supply two people with enough sprouts for the coming week.

## Health Value of Broccoli Sprouts

Broccoli sprouts have sulforaphane, a cancer-fighting antioxidant.

Recent research has shown that some organs respond better than others to broccoli's anticancer properties, but the fact that any of them respond at all is pretty remarkable. (ii)

Sulforaphane is found almost exclusively in broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, cabbage and bok choy. Broccoli sprouts have the highest identified concentration. (iii)

Be aware that direct heat destroys sulforaphane. Thus, its health benefit is lost when cooking the mature broccoli.



Broccoli Sprouts

Celery Root

Boy Choy  
Green Scallions

Place seeds in a bowl or container and watch them grow right on your window sill.

## You do not need a garden to grow your own broccoli sprouts, scallions and more

In 1917, as the United States fought a war in Europe, food shortages led to small victory gardens springing up across the United States.

Now, more than a century later, victory gardens are once again in fashion amid fears of food shortages during the Corona Virus pandemic.

Seed companies are seeing a surge in demand.

But for many people without access to outdoor space, their version of victory gardens look more like scallions growing in glasses of water on the windowsill.

"Victory sills" have emerged as one of the pandemic's at-

home micro-trends. (i)

My dear chefs, you will find broccoli sprouts easy to grow on your own windowsill. They are very nutritious with a quick turn-around time between start and finish. You can buy broccoli sprouts in the grocery stores for a high price, but they are also fun to grow yourself.

Make the process a continuous cycle where you eat the current crop this week and then grow the next crop the following week.

Use sprouts daily in a salad or as a topping for a sandwich or eggs.

## The Science Behind The Seeds

Tap water can inhibit sprouting due to chemicals and minerals in the water. Distilled or filtered water is a better choice. The water is best at room temperature.

Using a tablespoon, spread the seeds out on the walls of the jar so that air flow can better easily reach individual seeds.

Normal garden seeds are not suitable for sprouting broccoli. Sprouting seeds can be purchased at some health food stores or online. Online sources offer a larger volume at a lower cost.

The best quality seeds for sprouting are non-genetically modified with a high germination rate.

## The Big Window (or the big picture)

Most of us tend to throw away a lot of vegetable waste. There is potential for a garden there. Windowsill gardeners desire to be thrifty, plus more efficient with food purchasing and consumption. You get the satisfaction of doing the ultimate recycling – growing food from food scraps.

Here is a list of a few of the vegetables easy to sprout right on your windowsill: romaine lettuce, green onion scallions, onions, garlic and celery.

To sprout, place the core end or root base in some water in a

small container on a sunny windowsill. Change water daily.

Use fresh scraps. After they sprout small leaves and roots, replant with soil in individual pots or a container garden.

In South Florida, the best times for a vegetable garden are October through April. So now is the time to get ready with your green thumb.

There's plenty of research to prove that gardening increases well-being and longevity. (iv)

## Links

i - [www.eater.com/2020/4/16](http://www.eater.com/2020/4/16)

ii - [British-Journal-of-Nutrition](http://British-Journal-of-Nutrition)

iii - How Not to Die. Dr. Michael Greger, M.D. 2015 pg. 304-306

iv - [www.cnn.com/2020/07/29](http://www.cnn.com/2020/07/29)





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# Let's focus on what we CAN DO

Have you noticed that summer flew by even though life was moving at a slower pace?

Can time fly and stand still at the same time?

It is hard to believe that the kids are back in school and fall is here.

Cooler weather will soon follow and many of you are asking when we are going to open.

Well, we are NOT closed.

Activities on the calendar are limited due to restrictions under COVID-19, but the Activity Centers are open and here for you.

Our staff has been working to provide needed facility services that accommodate activities that are safe and feasible during these times.

Some small groups have been able to adapt and resume, but others cannot due to social distancing or the number of participants involved, etc.

Here is a list of indoor activities that have resumed under restrictions:

Line Dancing, Ladies Exercise, Fixers, Fiddlers & Fumblers, Lapidary, Chi Kung and Tai Chi, Zumba and Chair Zumba, Yoga with Marilyn, Ping Pong, Billiards, Jesters, Good Neighbors Knitters, Co-Ed Exercise, Baby Boomers Jam, Bonesavers, World Quilters, Socrates Café and Coloring Book Club.

Outside: We have recreational golf, tennis and pickleball, and softball.

If you were previously a member of one of these groups, simply contact the coordinator or president to let them know you are interested in participating again.

If you would like to join for the first time, provide me your contact information and I will share it with the club rep.

We need to ensure the number of participants does not exceed capacity, so in some cases, some groups may add a class.

The Activities Office is open and willing to work with current clubs to re-envision or re-invent activities if possible.

I need your help to look at changing the perception of what is closed – certainly NOT the Activity Centers!

I know under certain restrictions this may not be the way you wish to participate, but we all need to focus on what we can do right now.

I also hear from many residents who tell me how much fun they are having while learning new things. Some residents are even seeing family, friends and members of their clubs online in a different way.

However, many others are not keen on technology.

Before you give up on the idea of online meetings or classes, please know the various platforms that offer assistance to help you connect.

You can also Google a You Tube video to learn how.

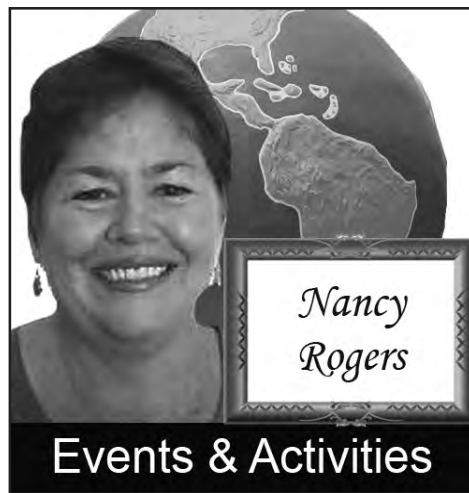
In regards to Master the Possibilities (MTP) distance learning classes, registrants receive an email link with instructions. It's that simple! See new October MTP classes on page 10.

## Farmers Market

In regards to setting a tentative date to open up for larger events, including our new farmers market, we wish we had a crystal ball that could tell us an exact date.

We do not have a crystal ball.

After much deliberation, the tentative date for our first farmers market will be early next year. Keep in mind, this is a targeted



time frame and subject to change.

On Top of the World has definite plans to bring in a farmers market. We are also considering a Food Truck Night.

The original plan was to kick off the farmers market in September and the Food Truck Night in November, so I report these postponements with a sad heart.

While these decisions were difficult and disappointing to make, the community's health and safety, along with that of our vendors and employees, are our first priority.

Since the variances and recommendations from the CDC and State of Florida have not changed for large gatherings, it makes it impractical to be able to host these events right now.

Also, as mentioned in an earlier column, a new date for our annual Fall Festival & Expo will be Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, when we hope things will be returning to normal.

How about we add Extraordinary to the name of our next Fall Festival because with all this additional time for planning, I promise next year's festival will be Extraordinary.

We will get through this and be stronger for it. Please continue to be patient, stay strong, and remain safe and healthy.

We will miss all of the groups that cannot meet, as well as the Snowbirds who cannot return this year.

Again, let us all focus on what we can do right now and know that behind the scenes we are planning community events for 2021.

Finally, I would like to thank OTOW management, as well as the coordinators of our many clubs, for their efforts in keeping this community as safe as possible during COVID-19.

## Food Truck Night

As mentioned, we are considering plans for a Food Truck Night at the East Activity Center north parking lot (start date to be determined).

Please visit our Box Office Website and look for the link where you can help us determine what types of food trucks to invite. The Website is [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com).

Let us know your favorite food truck cuisines.

Our vision is to hold this event once or twice a month in the early evening hours.

What do you think?

## Free Keyboard Lessons

Great news!

Fletcher Music Centers is still offering its free five-week online beginner keyboard course for OTOW residents on Zoom.

The next round of lessons begins on Monday, Oct. 12, and Monday, Nov. 16 at 12:30 p.m. Please call 727-456-7144 to speak to either Art Fletcher or Joe Fontechia.

Please provide your name and email address to receive information for the song they will be teaching that week.

Upon registration, students will also have access to previously recorded lessons. The lessons are free just for OTOW residents. Art and Joe will have you playing "your kind of music" in a very short time without years of practice.

## SHINE

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Specially trained volunteers can assist you with your Medicare, Medicaid and Health insurance questions by providing free, unbiased, one-on-one insurance counseling and information on Medicare options and prescription drug assistance for elders, their families and caregivers.

Beneficiaries are encouraged to act quickly to assure a smooth transition into the 2021 benefit year.

During the open enrollment period, which runs Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, Medicare beneficiaries can make changes to their Medicare Prescription Drug or Medicare Advantage plans.

SHINE encourages beneficiaries to review their benefits each year for a variety of reasons. Individuals often experience subtle changes in their health over the course of the year and these changes may alter the kind of care they need. This could directly affect their need for more or less health insurance, the types of prescription drugs they require or their access to particular doctors or pharmacies.

Health changes can also increase costs, which can be particularly critical for Medicare beneficiaries on fixed incomes.

Even though the agency's counseling sites are closed until further notice, those needing help can speak with a trained SHINE volunteer over the phone or virtually by using Zoom, Face Time, or some other platform.

To receive help from SHINE to review and enroll in a plan, individuals may contact trained SHINE volunteer counselors at 727-217-8111 or 800-963-5337.

## Clearwater Public Library System

I recently visited the Website [www.myclearwaterlibrary.com](http://www.myclearwaterlibrary.com) and I was amazed by just how much is available virtually online.

You need to check this out folks. The library offers 500 free continuing education courses under the following categories: Accounting - Alternative Medicine - Crafts & Hobbies - Business, Career Training - Computer Training - Entrepreneurship - Finance - General Education - Health & Medicine - History - Homeschooling - How to/Do It Yourself - Language Arts - Law/Legal/Criminal - Mathematics - Office Skills - Parenting & Family - Personal Development - Pet & Animal Care - Psychology - Real Estate - Science - Self-Help - Social Work - Special Education - Spiritual Studies - Teacher Resources - Test Preparation - Web Development and Writing Skills.

In addition, this Website offers You Tube videos on every topic under the sun, including how to hold a Zoom meeting, music, arts & crafts and language learning.

Even with our activities limited right

now, there is absolutely no reason for anyone to be bored!

Visit [www.myclearwaterlibrary.com](http://www.myclearwaterlibrary.com) and at the bottom go to the blue circle with "Events and Programs."

While at this Website, you can view what is happening each month at other branches. The libraries are allowing people in and you can check out books, movies and use computers.

For those of you who enjoy family research or free access to Ancestry.com, computers are now finally accessible.

The libraries are following CDC social distancing guidelines of staying six feet apart from others who are not in their party. Face coverings are also required and hours and services are temporarily limited.

The libraries are also closing once a day for cleaning and disinfection.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, they are not accepting donated materials.

Patrons may use public internet computers for up to two hours per day.

Meeting rooms are closed, but study rooms, multimedia studios, and Heritage Studio stations are available. You can make reservations for that space in advance at [myclearwaterlibrary.com](http://myclearwaterlibrary.com) or by calling the library at (727) 562-4970.

Due to COVID-19 limitations, the children's play areas are closed and there is no in-person programming.

Drive-through or curbside service is available at the beach, in Countryside, and at east community library locations during open hours.

## Talking Books

I spoke to Outreach Coordinator Jen Davidson and she said the Talking Books program has been running throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and the only difference is they are not accepting walk-ins or doing any outside Outreach.

"This is a perfect time for people to sign up because so many are stuck at home. Talking Books are better than TV!"

Residents can find information and the application at the Website: [www.pplc.us/tbl](http://www.pplc.us/tbl) and sign up online or call (727) 441-9958 for an application.

The final step is to call your doctor and request they email or fax a quick note to qualify. It is really, that easy! You can do it all from home and Talking Book Library staff are available to assist and answer questions Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Jen noted, The Talking Book Library is not just for those who are blind - those with visual and physical limitations that make it difficult to read normally also qualify for our 100 percent free service.

## Activity Card Renewal

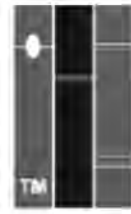
When renewing your activity card, or getting a brand new one issued, please remember to bring with you a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport, and a current piece of mail indicating your name and On Top of the World property address.

In addition, for renewal, you will need \$3 and your expiring/expired card. If you do not have your card, you will need to bring \$25 for purchasing and processing of a new card.

Please note that cards will not be punched or processed without proper identification and address verification.



# Master the Possibilities



## Distance Learning

### Live Broadcasts and Recordings from Ocala

#### Body, Brain & Spirit

**Cammy Dennis**

**Oct. 20, 2-3 p.m.**

*\*Live Virtual Program\**

Discover how lifestyle practices can either undermine or positively influence your physical and mental health. Come away with wellness tips that will boost health, better the brain and inspire your spirit.

**Course Fee: \$2**

#### Invasive Plants

**Pat Burns**

**Oct. 21, 10-11 a.m.**

*\*Live Virtual Program\**

Plants are on the move! Whether it's from wind, rain, animals or lawn mowers the plants we have in our yard can jump fences and find new homes in our natural areas. How is a plant considered invasive and why should I care if there is one in my yard?

**Course Fee: Free**

#### Oceans, Winds, Weather and Hurricanes

**Capt. Kenneth Puckett**

**Oct. 21, 1-2 p.m.**

*\*Live Virtual Program\**

Join Captain Puckett for an outline of the world weather systems and an overview of the history and development of Hurricanes.

**Course Fee: \$2**

#### Healthy Living for Brain and Body

**Connie Storms**

**Oct. 22, 10-11 a.m.**

*\*Live Virtual Program\**

Join us to learn about the effects of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity, and social engagement. Hands-on planning tool provided.

**Course Fee: Free**

#### Forgotten Killer: 1918 Flu Pandemic

**Bryant Shaw, Ph.D.**

*\*Pre-Recorded- Watch Anytime\**

In just over a year, the 1918 flu killed 675,000 Americans. Global death estimates range from 50-100 million. Where did the flu start? How did it spread? How did Americans cope? What were the repercussions for America and the world?

**Course Fee: \$2**

#### The Scopes Monkey Trial

**Jerry Colen**

*\*Pre-Recorded- Watch Anytime\**

Many remember the story of the Scopes Monkey Trial from the movie "Inherit the Wind." Jerry Colen explains, through his historical research, that the entire affair was little more than a publicity stunt designed to get the attention of the nation focused on a small town.

**Course Fee: \$2**

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# Hand-written wills not valid in Florida

**SCAM ALERT:** In an earlier column this year, I discussed income tax filing as being April 15, which it was at the time I wrote that column.

Of course, the IRS changed the date to July 15. So, for us, what that means is that the IRS will probably be calling and demanding some sort of payment because you messed up and didn't file your return or because you "shorted" the government by several bucks.

Everyone reading this column already knows that the IRS is NOT going to call you—NEVER has, NEVER will (unless, I suppose, if it's a return from a call you made).

So, if you get that call, you all know to hang up.

Well, yes, you know. But there may be friends or relatives who do not know or who might be fooled by some new way the scammer uses to intimidate the person to whom they've called.

So, please, spread the word.

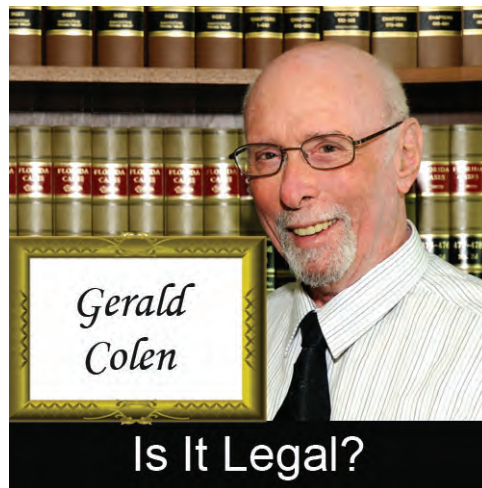
The IRS does NOT call you to demand money. Thus, no matter how legitimate a caller may sound, it's a scam.

Do this: in your computer, go to <https://www.irs.gov>. Then, in the "search" window, type in "scams." It's very helpful. NOTE: In that <https://> that "s" is critically important. Always look for that "s".

**Q.** I understand that a holographic will is one that I write in my own handwriting. It would seem to me that folks could save a lot of money by just writing out their wills and wouldn't need an attorney.

**A.** Yeah. Well. You are correct that a holographic will is one written in your own handwriting. The thing is, they are NOT VALID in Florida. Period.

**Q.** What if I wrote a holographic will



in another state?

**A.** Again. A holographic will may be valid in another state, but is not valid in Florida.

**Q.** What if someone makes handwritten changes to his or her already signed valid will? You know, the will you signed some time ago and now you've changed your mind, so you just want to make some handwritten changes to it.

**A.** That is NOT VALID in Florida either. More than likely, if you make handwritten changes right on your previously validly executed will, when you pass, and your will is filed in court, those changes will be ignored as if you never made them.

And for that matter, depending on what specific handwritten statements were made, it might invalidate the entire will.

**Q.** What about an oral will - one you just speak?

**A.** Florida Statute 732.502 is clear that a will MUST be in writing.

**Q.** OK. So, can I, myself, make a completely valid will in Florida that is not written by a lawyer or attorney?

**A.** Sure. All you have to do is make sure the will fully complies with that statute. The way you do that is you must sign the will at the end and have it signed in the presence of at least two witnesses. Both must say they saw you sign it and both must say it was your will.

And while I am discussing witnesses, it is very wise NOT to have one of the witnesses also be a beneficiary of that will.

Actually, beneficiaries for a will should not even be in the room when the will is being signed.

**Q.** Does a will need to be notarized?

**A.** No, it does not. But, if it is not notarized, then it is not "self-proving" and that means that when the Testator passes, the witnesses will need to be located and sign an affidavit to the effect that they saw you sign the will.

**Q.** How much money can I give away without having to pay any gift tax?

**A.** I assume what you mean is how much can you give away to folks without having to file a gift tax return.

If so, in year 2020 it is \$15,000 per person.

If, however, you were discussing how much you can give away without having to pay out money to the I.R.S., as a gift tax, then that is a much different number. In 2020, it's \$11.58 million per person.

If you need much more income and estate tax information, you need to speak with an attorney who handles estate and gift tax matters.

**Q.** My 58-year-old son has never been married. Recently, while walking in his neighborhood, he met a woman who has been married three times and has four children. She invited my son to her home for a glass of wine and, as he told

me, to "interview me about my work, why I never married, what my family was like and would I like to have dinner with her some time." I don't know for sure how long this has been going on, but my son now wants to marry her. I am asking you about this because I suspect there are legal issues here.

**A.** "Legal issues here?"

Hmmm. I don't think masks are required inside someone's residence. Nor is social distancing required inside someone's home, should either of those be your concern.

----

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

## The original Tonight Show host

The Tonight Show, the longest running show on TV, premiered on NBC in 1954.

Most people who can remember back that far, probably would say Jack Paar was the original host. However, it was not Jack. It was Steve Allen.

Steve created the show and was host from 1954 to 1957.

Steve was born in Chicago. His parents were a comedy team that appeared around the country on the Vaudeville circuit. Milton Berle once said that Steve's mother was the funniest woman in show business.

Being a multi-talented performer, NBC gave Steve the Sunday night time slot opposite the Ed Sullivan Show on CBS. It was a ratings battle for a number of years.

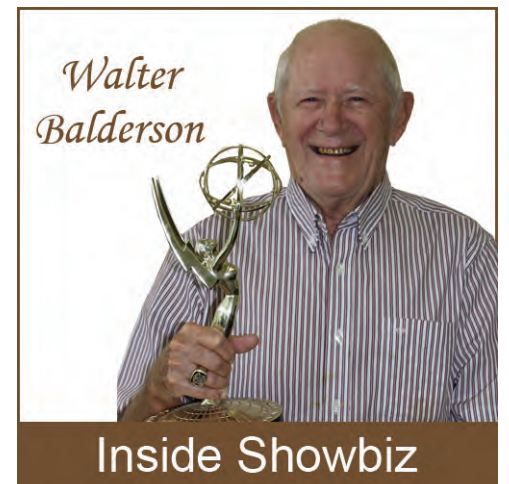
In the realm of the theatre, Steve wrote the music and lyrics for the Broadway musical "Sophie" which was based on the early career of the woman billed as "The Last of the Red-Hot Mamas," Sophie Tucker.

The show got panned on the road. It opened at the Winter Garden Theatre on Broadway on April 15, 1963, and to poor reviews, closed after five performances.

Steve was a comedy writer and author of more than 50 books, including his autobiography. He also wrote children's books and a series of mystery novels. Twenty of his books were concerned with his views about religion.

Steve married Jayne Meadows, sister of actress Audrey Meadows, on July 31, 1954, and remained married until his death in 2000. Steve died on Oct. 30 at the age of 78 due to a ruptured blood vessel caused by a chest injury he suffered during a car accident the same day. He was laid to rest at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in the Hollywood Hills.

The New York Times Magazine in 2019 listed Steve Allen among the hundreds of artists whose material was destroyed at a Universal Studio fire in 2008.



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Follow this map and you can successfully make a safe donation to Helping Hands or Bay Pines without ever leaving your vehicle.

# Safely donate food or clothing items during Good Neighbors collection on Oct. 23, 24



By Jim Bjorgo

It seems our community is slowly emerging from the confines of the Covid-19 virus rules that have been a restricting force for all of us.

Good Neighbors Association is extremely thankful for the health and well-being of all residents here at On Top of the World. We are also grateful to see some activities beginning to occur again inside our activity centers as well as outside.

Our club's plans for a fall food and clothing drive are still set for Friday, Oct. 23, and Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, but unlike previous years, we have switched locations. Please proceed through the East Activity Center North Parking Lot, toward the pavilion, and make the right turn. Board member

volunteers will take your donations and you don't even have to get out of your vehicle. You will not have to have face-to-face contact with any other person.

Your donations should be sealed and contain unexpired food products, and clean, gently-used clothing.

All the food items collected will be donated to Helping Hands, a local food bank which we have partnered with for several years. During current times, with high unemployment, there is an increased need for donations.

If you cannot make the food and clothing drive, there is a Helping Hands barrel in the East Activity Center Community Service Office which is monitored weekly.

Clothing items will be collected and go to veterans at Bay Pines and the Shepard Center in Tarpon Springs. All items are given away, not resold.

Thank you for your continued support. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Good Neighbors Association still has blinky safety lights and safety vests in stock. You can make a purchase by calling (727) 725-4048. Blinky lights remain at \$1.25 apiece and are great for people who walk, run or ride bikes when it is dark out. Batteries are 50 cents for two and vests are \$7.50 for all sizes, medium through double extra large. Be safe. Be seen. The days are getting shorter and darkness is coming quicker.

Please continue to be safe, keep your distance and be a masked man or woman for everyone's safety.



**OTOW News**

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*Angel*

Introducing Angel.

Angel is a 10-year-old Yorkie who lives with Ed and Michelle DeJoy in the Southern Georgian Building (17).

Angel is 50 percent Yorkie, 50 percent sassy.

Angel enjoys visiting neighbors and playing with toys that squeak.

She does not like when her owners go places without her and she does not like thunderstorms.

Ed and Michelle adopted Angel in May 2019 after finding her in a rescue shelter.

Angel has called On Top of the World her new home for the past year.

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

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Expires 10-31-20



## Everyone can vote online Oct. 13-14

# Deadline is approaching to enter your pet in OTOW Halloween Pet Costume Contest

The final day to enter your pet in the 2020 On Top of the World Halloween Pet Costume Contest is Sunday, Oct. 11.

This annual event is online this year because of health safety concerns. There will be no live event at the dog park.

Between now and Oct. 11, pick out a costume for your dog, cat, bird, fish, guinea pig or hamster and email one photo to the OTOW newsroom - otow.newsroom@gmail.com.

Your entry photo must be a new picture. Somewhere in the picture, the official entry logo at right must be visible. Cut out this entry logo and place it next to your pet when taking the picture.

Please, one pet per photo - one photo per entry. You may enter more than one pet per household, but they must be separate pictures.

Please do not put any humans in the picture.

Do not drop off photos at the newsroom or the Community Service Office. For health safety reasons, all entries must be emailed with photo attached.

If there is more than one pet in a photo, or the quality of the picture is bad, your entry will be rejected.

You and your pet must be OTOW residents as of Oct. 15, 2020, to qualify.

When you submit your entry, you must include (1) Name of the pet (2) Name(s) of the owners (3) Building number (4) Condo number and (5) Phone number. If any of these five criteria are missing from your entry, your pet will be disqualified.

There are no divisions this year so all entries will be competing for like prizes to be given away by sponsors. This year's sponsors are State Farm, Woof Gang Bakery, Publix, Harborside Animal Hospital and Creating Smiles Dental.

When your entry picture arrives via email, the picture of your pet will be placed on the 2020 Halloween Pet Costume Contest official web page on the Box Office - otowboxoffice.com.

Photos will appear in the order they



If you are entering a pet in the 2020 OTOW Halloween Pet Costume Contest, this official entry logo above must be cut out and placed alongside your pet when taking a picture of your pet in costume. Entries without the logo will not be accepted.



## DEADLINE TO ENTER OCT. 11

were received.

The winners will be announced in the November newspaper, which will be delivered to residents on Oct. 30.

Anyone in the world can vote, but voting has to be done Oct. 13-14 on a home computer - sorry - no cell phone voting.

Every person who enters the voting booth will receive 10 virtual Candy Korns. Each Candy Korn represents one vote.

You can give all your Candy Korns to one pet, you can give one Candy Korn to 10 different pets, or you can divide your Candy Korns any way you want - vote for two pets, four pets or nine pets - the choice is yours.

You can go online right now and practice placing votes as many times as you want until Oct. 13. There is a fantasy list of presidential candidates you can choose from to practice.

Once you officially enter the voting booth, you will not be allowed to re-enter. You can only enter once per router (or basically one trip inside the voting booth per home).

There is no limit to the amount of times you can visit the official contest web page and view all the entries, but you can only vote one time.

Contest entries can be viewed all over the world and everyone from around the world is welcome to vote.

Good luck!

## RULES

1. Contest is open to On Top of the World-Clearwater residents and pets only. Must be a resident as of Oct. 15, 2020.
2. From Sept. 1-Oct. 11, 2020, email one good quality picture of your pet in costume to the OTOW newsroom (otow.newsroom@gmail.com). The photo must contain the official entry logo above. Cut out the logo from this newspaper and display it somewhere in the picture. One pet per photo. No humans in the picture.
3. In the email, you must include your pet's name, owner's name, building number, condo number and phone number. All this information must be included or the entry will be disqualified.
4. Costumes must be in good taste. Costumes reflecting today's health concerns will be rejected. Also, costumes must not represent a political message.
5. Voting will take place Oct. 13-14. Anyone in the world can vote one time per router (basically this means you can enter the voting booth once per home computer). Sorry, no voting by cell phone. You can visit the entry display page as many times as you want, but once you enter the voting booth, you cannot leave and then return.
6. Everyone who enters the voting booth will receive 10 virtual Candy Korns. Each Candy Korn represents one vote. You can give all 10 votes to one pet. You can give one Candy Korn to 10 pets. Or you can distribute your 10 votes any way you wish to up to 10 pets.
7. There are no divisions this year. Top vote recipients will get prizes for first, second and third places to be given away by sponsors. Winners will be announced in the November newspaper on Oct. 30.



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

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

On Top of the World News does not accept an advertiser solely because it is willing to pay to advertise.

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Press Association Volunteers This Month:

Bob Rittner

Lyn Taecker

Anna Georgiadis

Cheryl Butcher

Donna Lukas

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East Activity Center Ground Floor

East Activity Center First Floor

East Activity Center Second Floor

West Activity Center

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map

East and West Activity Centers Room Maps

EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map

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Activities Office  
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Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off  
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Emergency After Hours/Weekends  
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# Former bar owner continues happy hour tradition despite Lambda Club slowing down for pandemic safety

By Bruce Lovett

What do “The Rat Pack,” “The Blue Collar Comedy Troupe” and “The Lambda Club” all have in common?

Well, all three organizations are made up of incredibly good looking, kind-hearted people hoping to pass on their sense of fun and enjoyment to their friends and neighbors.

And each has a member famous to the outside world for their love of “Happy Hour.”

The Rat Pack had Dean Martin. Good old Dino sang and joked throughout casinos and nightclubs with a drink in one hand and a cigarette in the other.

The Blue Collar group had Ron White, who like Dino, is famous internationally for having a scotch in one hand, a cigar in the other hand and the catch phrase “You can’t fix stupid!”

Ron started in comedy clubs, pushing a two drink minimum, before moving on to concert stages and TV.

The Lambda Club has Howard Harville.

Anyone who knows Howard has probably never seen him without a scotch in one hand, but because of changes in social norms and common sense, he no longer has a cigarette in the other.

Although Howard has been known to sneak the occasional vape.

Out of Howard’s three favorites, he truly knows the value of Happy Hour the most. He was a bar owner for many years, and it was his bread and butter.

Howard is a born-and-bred Florida boy. But because of work and personal commitments, he found himself in Kansas in the 1980s.

In 1986, when Kansas law allowed bars to open to the public, Howard



**Lambda Club**

opened the first public access gay bar in Wichita. Previously all LGBT watering holes were members-only establishments.

By 1994, Howard owned and operated two locations: one a night club, the other a neighborhood “Cheers” type bar.

Kansas liquor laws can be tricky, but whenever he was allowed, he always offered happy hour, sometimes as early as 3 p.m.

In 1994 Howard gave it all up, sold both bars and moved back home to Florida. Eventually he got into real estate.

Howard had listed, showed and sold many a unit here in On Top of the World. When he finally retired he, himself, bought a unit on Australia Way West.

Not only is this reporter a satisfied real estate customer of Howard’s profession, but I am proud to call him a friend.

Many a time my spouse and I have been to Howard’s home for one of his famous Happy Hours. We have always tried to repay the favor by having a get together prior to Lambda’s monthly socials.

Alas our Lambda socials are on hiatus because of Covid-19, but that doesn’t



Lambda Club members recently held a Zoom meeting which looked more like the introduction of a Brady Bunch show.

keep Howard down. He was the first of our members to embrace Zoom technology and Howard’s Happy Hour lives on every Friday at 5 p.m. attracting members from as far away as New York, Michigan and even Canada.

Sometimes only seven people show up and other times there are 17. One week there were nine Zoom squares and Marion Spitzley, an artistic member of our club (and mother of the OTOW Pet of the Month for June, Agatha), had some fun with it. We made it a Brady Bunch Happy Hour.

Thanks to Marion and Howard for keeping up our spirits.

Move over Dino and Ron, the King is here.

Should you have any questions about Howard’s Happy Hour or Lambda, a club that services OTOW’s LGBT community and their friends and neighbors, you can visit our official web page: <http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot.com>.

We are also on the Box Office at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com) or you can contact us by e-mail at [lambda@gmail.com](mailto:lambda@gmail.com) or call Dave at 727-410-7566.

## Canadian Club suspends all activities until late 2021

By Connie Stanley

Hello to friends at On Top of the World in Clearwater and to those reading this newspaper worldwide on the Web.

Well, it’s that time of year again and the seasonal clock already finds us in fall 2020!

In light of the continuing circumstances with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Canadian government’s priority of keeping Canadians safe and borders closed, I am disheartened to announce that we have suspended the club for the 2020-2021 season.

I look forward to enjoying a heartfelt Canadian Thanksgiving on Monday, Oct. 12, and Halloween on Oct. 31 in our “summer” home and I hope you all do, too, wherever you are in the world.

I realize that while many people will remain in the North for the winter, I am very hopeful we will all be able to return to Clearwater shortly and enjoy our paradise again, soon.



**Canadian Club**

Again, I am hoping you and your family, are well, safe and healthy during this time of uncertainty.

Watch this newspaper and the Box Office ([otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)) for updates.

## 18-Hole Ladies Golf League No start date yet for beginning league play

By Gloria Sayer

It looks like we may have a month or two remaining to read, garden or enjoy a hobby before our Ladies 18-Hole Golf League will be allowed to resume at On Top of the World.

We have had so much time off this summer. Our gardening and new hobby skills are probably very good by now.

As you know, our league normally begins in October.

Because of Covid-19 and safety measures taking place at OTOW, we have not been given permission to start a new season. But this is very important to understand: OTOW has not canceled our winter league. The truth is, they have not given us a start date and don’t know what month in the future that start date will fall into.

The golf courses are open under strict guidelines, but there is no league play and no tournaments. For a complete set of guidelines, visit [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com)

Our golf officers plan on meeting in the near future to discuss options for starting up. You may receive emails on their decisions. You can also read future articles in this newspaper, occasionally view the Box Office Website ([otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)) for further updates, or if you are currently in Clearwater, watch OTOW-TV Channel 732 for updates not only on golf, but all activities within the community.

See you soon.



# Jesters' first outdoor rehearsal takes place



By Evelyn Flam

Last month, I wrote about one of the most major musical events of 1969 - Woodstock.

This month I'd like to give you a little background about country music, which became "Country Rock" or "Folk Rock" in the late '60s when the hippie movement was in full swing. Anything that was old-style country western was looked down upon as "establishment."

Country fans may remember that the music of the era reflected the fight for civil rights for minorities and women, and the anti-war movement.

People like Bob Dylan, and others who had appeared at Woodstock, led the change away from old-style country.



How often has an On Top of the World theater rehearsal taken place outdoors after a little rain? Probably never. But in mid-September, this was the scene as Jesters held one of their first rehearsals for the 2021 movie. From left to right are Pat Sprouse, Lyn Taecker, Connie Ballard, Tony Baker and Will Peterson. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

The 2021 Jesters show will use a combination of the older and newer '60s and '70s country music. Both styles influenced the New Country Movement of the late 1980s, but we'll save that for a future show.

This year's show is now cast, and, as promised, we're using safe-distancing at our rehearsals and we are scheduling people so there is a specified time for each act.

The creative team loves seeing the enthusiasm that our stars are expressing for the music they'll be performing. We enjoy

hearing the music and bringing back the fond memories.

Rehearsals began on Sept. 15 and will continue to be held, by appointment only, at approximate 15 minute intervals. The dates are Tuesdays at the East Activity Center Pavilion from 3-5 p.m., on Thursdays in the EAC Crystal Beach Room from noon to 2 p.m. and on Fridays at the Pavilion from 9 a.m. to Noon.

If you still want to inquire about joining us, call 797-1761 or email us at

JestForFun21@gmail.com.

Jester policy is to get everyone involved. As always, we're happy to answer your questions about the show (movie) and how you can sign up to order your copy.

You can renew your membership, or become a new member by contacting our Membership Chairperson Lillian Foy at 727-474-6307.

We look forward to hearing from you and getting together "Jest For Fun!"

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# Oct. 8 meeting in auditorium

Members of the Press Association had a great time getting together for a morning meeting at the pavilion in August, but were disappointed the staff had to be divided up for safety reasons.

So, for the Press Association monthly meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8, staff will meet in the East Activity Center auditorium. All current staff are welcome to attend, including building writers, club writers, sports writers, proofreaders and photographers.

Under the current health-safety guidelines, this is the only place available inside the community where up to 40 people can gather at the same time. Our usual meeting location, the Crystal Beach Room, currently has a maximum capacity of 12 people and the pavilion has a maximum capacity of 25 people.

The meeting in the auditorium will



begin at 1:30 p.m. There will be no snacks or beverages, and be aware there will be no tables - just chairs - safely spread out

on the floor.

Editor Doug Kates will discuss getting ready for the fall season. Stories and advertising should begin to pick up, so staff has to go back to writing just about their buildings, their groups and their sports leagues.

As previously announced, there will be no live Writers Workshop in November. Doug has created an online tutorial for all staff writers to view online. The tutorial covers everything related to journalism and you will need about 30 minutes to review.

Doug is asking everyone to put aside 30 minutes in November to watch and learn. The goal is to not award journalism degrees, but to remind staff of basic grammar rules they may have forgotten since the era of email writing began. The goal is to eliminate writing shortcuts and

bad habits.

The tutorial will be great in helping new reporters get used to OTOW News guidelines and will be a great refresher for even veteran writers. The tutorial will be posted online on Nov. 1.

The Press Association will hold a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5. There are three options.

(1) The meeting may be 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium like the October meeting.

(2) The meeting could be 1 p.m. at the pavilion and include a grilled hot dog lunch, but staff would have to divide into two groups again.

(3) If health-safety standards are loosened, the ideal November meeting would be grilled hot dogs in the evening with everyone on staff present. Stay tuned for updates.

## Republicans set two indoor meetings in October

By Marvin Lazernik

The Ronald Reagan Republican Club of On Top of the World held its first meeting since February 2020.

The "old timers" have told me that in the past 15 years they cannot remember ever going that long without a meeting taking place.

It was very nice seeing eyes and hearing voices at the pavilion twice during September. We held two meetings but still had to turn some Republicans down due high attendance and the safety concerns all clubs are under

Don't misunderstand. We do not consider these safety concerns a restriction - they are simply in place to keep us safe. Thank you management for allowing us to hold a meeting and looking out for our safety.

This is an election year and that is what all our meetings will be focused on between now and Nov. 3. The September meetings focused on the various Republican candidates who are running for both partisan and nonpartisan offices in our districts. Information sheets were passed out naming incumbents as well as new candidates and Republicans. We will also furnish any/all of this information to anyone who calls (951) 377-0909 or



(951) 377-0913. If you prefer, email Marvin at [suemarvlaz@gmail.com](mailto:suemarvlaz@gmail.com). You do not have to be a member to get this information. These information sheets can be taken to either polling place where you are instructed to vote.

Mail-out ballots will begin to be mailed on Sept. 29. If you have not received your ballot, or need any other information about this election, we have all of the phone numbers to give you.

Good news! Our October meeting dates have been finalized along with the guidelines. Both meetings will be in the East Side auditorium on Thursday, Oct. 15 and Thursday, Oct. 22. These meetings will focus on the various Republican can-



Jim Bjorgo holds the American flag while members of the Republican say the pledge during an outdoor meeting in September. (OTOW News photo by Mary Lou Wall)

didates that are running for both partisan and non-partisan offices in our districts.

All OTOW Republicans are welcome to join in these educational discussions.

Chairs will be set up when you arrive, but everyone must be 6 feet apart. Everyone must wear a mask and everyone must be an OTOW resident with a valid Activity Card.

There will be limited seating. Please call (951) 377-0913 or (951) 377-0909 or email [suemarvlaz@gmail.com](mailto:suemarvlaz@gmail.com) to confirm your reservation now.

If you are new to the OTOW and Republican - one of these meetings is a must. Any changes in election rules will also be discussed.

## Wood Shop is now open

The Wood Shop is open to On Top of the World residents with a valid Activity Card, but strict guidelines must be followed.

Anyone in the wood shop must maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between other residents.

Masks are required.

Only four people are allowed in the shop at a time. Please limit your time in the shop so others may use it.

The shop is open 8 a.m. to noon,

Monday through Friday. No guests are allowed.

You must sanitize equipment after you use it. Towels and an alcohol-based spray will be provided. Do not spray directly into electrical outlets.

Please wash your hands after you leave the shop.

Anyone who does not follow these guidelines will be denied future access to the shop. Questions? Please ask a board member.

## Co-Ed Exercise Class is back

The Co-Ed Exercise Class at On Top of the World is back and there is space for you.

The group is led by Jerry Thomas and meets from 10-10:45 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the East Activity Center Exercise Room.

Please bring a mask and a mat. We will supply the fun. Social distancing rules are in effect and we are limited on class size.





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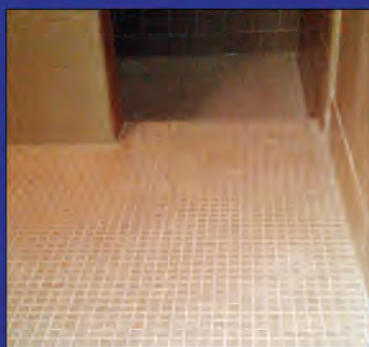
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# Maybe you cannot travel to Italy right now, but you can still paint it

By Mary Slack Maynard

The Art Guild hopes that all our friends and art lovers at On Top of the World are having a productive and creative fall.

My mind always turns to crafts and creating at this time of the year.

Generally, I would be in the middle of promoting the fall art classes in October. Since things are a little different this year, check out the Art Guild Box Office page. Go to [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com), then click on the picture of a paint palette and brushes. This page has a number of offerings for you to enjoy.

The Box Office page has a link to paintings of various OTOW buildings done by Victor Sutcliffe. These paintings show the wide range of architectural styles in our community.

Wendy Colquhoun was the featured Artist of the Month in September. Wendy has taught the Chinese Brush Painting class for a number of years, and a sample of her art was featured on the Box Office pages last month.

There is a link called "How to Im-

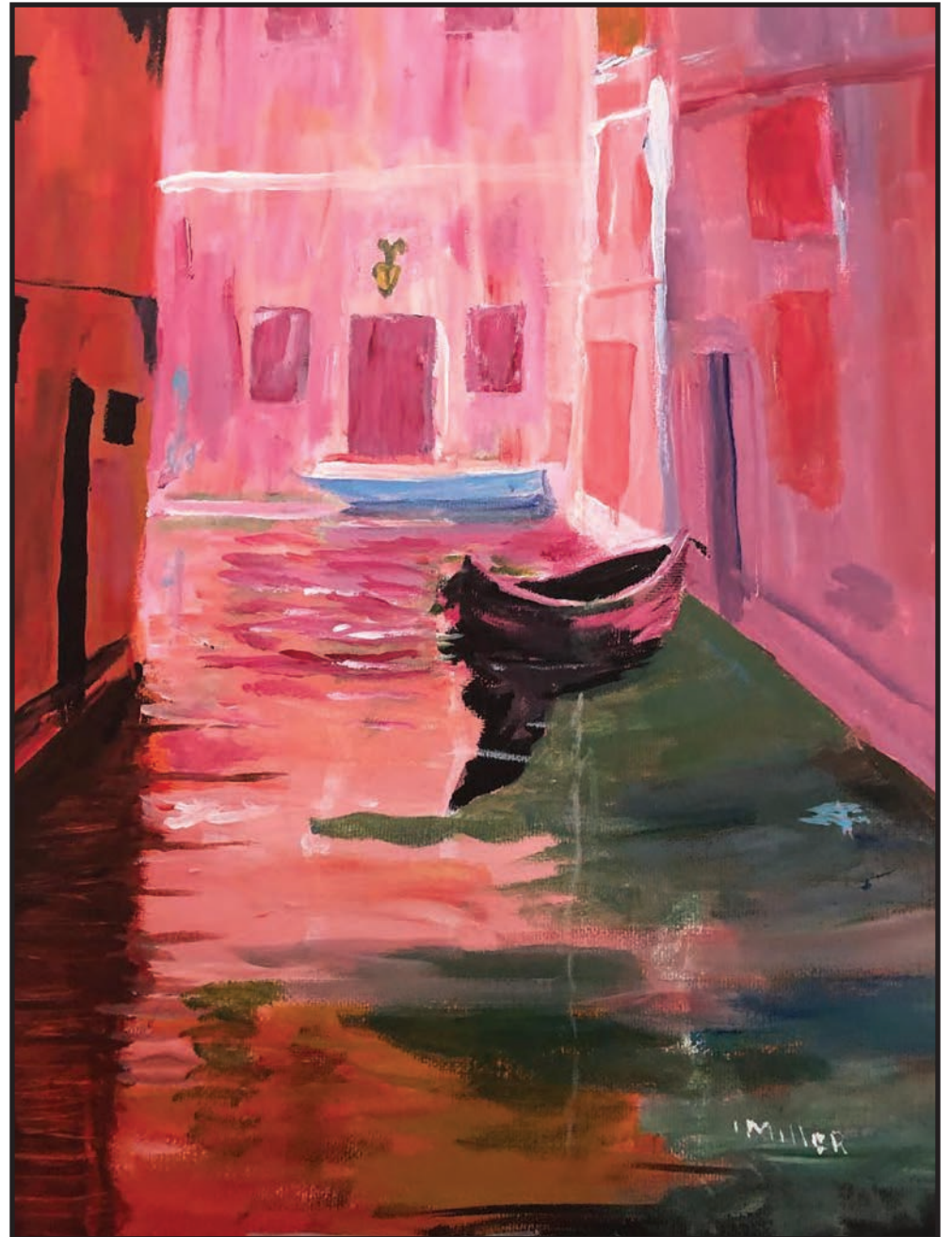


prove Pencil Drawings" that is a beginners guide to drawing with pencil. If you always wanted to take a drawing class, this page will get you started.

Israel Miller, better known as Butch, who taught our drawing class last year, is also an accomplished painter.

Butch said that in the last few months, "while having nowhere to go except Venice, at least in my mind, I painted."

He created the painting that is featured with this article.



Butch Miller has spent the last few months wondering what it would be like to visit Venice this year. But instead of just wondering, he put his brush to work and painted what his imagination has been thinking about.

## Following all safety guidelines

# Come socialize with fellow knitters

By Cheryl Butcher

Are you bored at home?

Would you like to have some socialization and still be safe and secure?

The Good Neighbors Knitting Group is now meeting every week within the guidelines that have been established by On Top of the World.

We wear masks and practice social distance.

Join us and help us supply nursing homes and hospitals with lap robes, baby hats and blankets. Everyone is welcome.

Or, if you would rather work from home, we will gladly accept your personal crochet or knit creations. Lap robes should be 36 by 36 (or thereabouts) made with acrylic yarn.

We'd like to thank Phyllis Butler's family for donating a huge supply of yarn and knitting paraphernalia to our group. They know how important those donations are to our group.

We will miss Phyllis greatly and her extraordinary knitting ability.

With all of the free time we had during the quarantine, a huge supply of lap robes accumulated over these last few



## Knitting

months, but over the last few weeks we have been delivering bags of goodies to various nursing homes in the area.

And a big bag of baby blankets and hats was given to the nursery at Mease Countryside Hospital. They were very happy to receive them.

If you have an interest in knitting or crocheting, we would love to have you join us in the Crystal Beach Room on Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. The knitting group operates under the auspices of Good Neighbors Association.



## Announcing A Second Location

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exp 10/31/20 - 3 treats per customer per day



# Democratic Club prepares for Election Day

By Donna Lukas

October may be bringing us cooler temperatures, but election fever is keeping everyone hot.

The schedule for mailing out Pinellas County ballots was Sept 29. If you do not receive yours soon after that date, you had better check your mail ballot status on [VotePinellas.com](http://VotePinellas.com). The U.S. Post Office is advising everyone to vote early.

Pinellas County is the Florida star of handling mail ballots. They have been doing it very successfully for years and are very efficient, setting the gold standard for the rest of the state.

Mail ballots that are signed and received on time will be safely counted on Election Day. "On time" means by 7 p.m. on Nov. 3 in the Supervisor of Elections office.

Unsigned ballots account for the largest number of rejections. Make sure you sign your name and complete the contact information on the sealed envelope, so they can contact you if there is a problem.

You can track your ballot at [VotePinellas.com](http://VotePinellas.com). A "received" status means your ballot is valid as submitted. The status will change to "counted" after Election Day.

At the On Top of the World Democratic Club meeting in September, we discussed all the ways that you can return your mail ballot. You can return it through the U.S. Mail as soon as you receive it. You can take it in person to any of the three



## Democratic Club

Supervisor of Election offices any time after receiving it.

From Oct. 19 through Nov. 1, you can put it in the official election drop boxes at locations listed in your ballot packet. The SOE office in the Starkey Lakes Corporate Center at 13001 Starkey Road, Largo, is the one that has a drive-thru service from Oct. 19 – Nov. 2.

If you would like someone from our club to take your signed, sealed ballot to the Supervisor of Elections office, call Donna Lukas at 727-460-4123 or bring it to our next club meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 12:30 p.m. at the East Activity Center Pavilion.

At our September meeting, we also discussed the candidates, six state constitutional amendments and a county referendum that will appear on our Nov. 3 ballots.

Members voted to give financial assistance to the following candidates on



Members of the Democratic Club held their September meeting at the pavilion.

our ballot: Dawn Douglas for state House District 67, Eliseo Santana for sheriff, Joe Saportas for tax collector, Trevor Mallory for property appraiser, Don Helm for supervisor of elections, and Janet Long and Charlie Justice for county commissioners.

Joe Saportas, one of our own OTOW residents running for tax collector, asked for volunteers to make phone calls on his behalf. You can make the calls from your own home. Call him at 727-492-5799. You can get more information on Joe and contribute to his campaign at [www.electJoeSaportas.com](http://www.electJoeSaportas.com).

Dave Cordes is accepting members on our club's new Facebook page. If you are a paid member of our club, access for the Facebook page is at On Top of the World Democratic Club, Clearwater. Answer three questions for potential membership.

If you have not paid your annual \$12 club dues, or if a new member would like to join, you can send a check made out to OTOW Democratic Club to our Treasurer Glenda Greenman. Mail it to 2470 Rhodesian Drive, Unit 28, Clearwater, FL, 33763.

Keep looking for information through emails, [otowboxoffice.com](mailto:otowboxoffice.com) and OTOW television channel 732.

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# Sources say travel industry is making safety upgrades

By Janice Berman

I have been wondering how quickly travel will return to normal, especially cruises, which are a favorite means of travel for many senior citizens.

Lucky for me I have a trusted source for that information - fellow Travel Club member Gerri Jaeger.

For those who don't know, Gerri has lived at On Top of the World for 20 years. She has been a member of the OTOW Travel Club for the last five years. She owned her own travel-related business in New Jersey and has been cruising and traveling for more than 35 years.

When asked how she sees the travel industry doing in the near future, she was quick with this response.

"I don't know about you, but I am ready to get traveling again," she said.

"Yes, the virus is still out there and we all need to be careful when we are out and about, however we also need to live our lives. I'm scheduled to sail from Tampa and I am keeping my fingers crossed that it's not cancelled."

Gerri said we should all keep in mind that the cruise lines, as well as the tour op-



erators, are being very flexible right now with their terms and conditions.

You can actually cancel a cruise up to 48 hours prior to sailing and incur no penalties and move your sail date to another date.

If a cruise line cancels a trip, you can get a full refund or possibly more than 100 percent back for a future cruise credit.

Gerri said cruise lines are also giving shipboard credits, beverage packages, wifi and upgrades on many of their sailings.

All passengers will be screened before they board a ship to make sure they are not sick. All ships have had their ventilation systems totally upgraded and new cleansing protocols are in place.



This is what it looked like when you were able to safely take a cruise.

Cruise ships have always gone through rigorous sanitation inspections and now they are even better.

For people still not ready to cruise, there are other ways to see our country. There are reputable tour operators ready to show you our great land, from Niagara Falls to our National Parks to the beauty

of the West Coast.

Don't forget our Canadian neighbors and the many wonders they have to share.

Thank you Gerri for sharing this information. We now have a better idea of what the industry has done to improve overall safety.

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## Advice for Snowbirds not flying home this winter

The Covid-19 Pandemic has been a tragic event in our world and has changed “normal” life for people throughout the globe.

But still, life goes on.

People are finding ways to entertain, educate and socialize safely while our governments and scientists try to find ways to keep us safe and bring us out of the pandemic.

There is a light ahead. We just have to wait patiently for it.

In the meantime, there is a need to find things that make us smile and lessen the stress – even if just for a moment.

So, for the next five minutes, let us reflect on how our Northern friends will be dealing with life back home this winter. In case you haven't heard, most Canadians will be safely staying home this winter. Rather than spending six months in sunny Florida where the average temperature will be in the 70s and the average sky color will be blue, our friends will be spending an extremely rare, freezing-cold winter north of the border where zero will be a warm number.

As a former Buffalo-area resident, who only moved south a few years ago, I believe I have the expertise to help Northerners get through the next six freezing-cold blizzard-like months of their lives. I am providing you with 15 tips, deep-down from the goodness of my heart. I write this not because you will soon be shopping for a new pair of winter gloves, knit hats and warm boots, but because I care.

(1). Starting in November, put away your shorts. C'mon. Let's be honest here. You won't be needing them until next May.

(2). Go to your local toy store. It would be a wise investment to purchase a board game, such as Scrabble, Monopoly or Clue. When it gets so cold that electrical wires snap, you will have no power for days: no television sets, no Internet access and no Alexa. Playing a nice board game over and over again will help you pass the time.

(3). Scented, lit candles smell great when your power goes out and you are freezing cold in your own house, but real flames can be dangerous. There are alternative candles out there that don't use live flames and are safer. If you do prefer scented candles, I recommend pine. At least it will smell like Christmas all the time.

(4). You should stock up on food now in case 10-foot snow drifts cover your local roads and you are stranded at home for days. I recommend putting your Molson and Labatt in a 10-foot snow drift to leave you more room for food in the fridge. You did remember to stock up on Molson, right?

(5). Keep track of who was the last person to take your dog out for a walk. When it reaches minus 10 celsius outside, there will be no reason to argue about whose turn it is to walk Fido. If you keep a list, there is proof whose turn is next.

(6). Make sure you have a strong shovel for driveways and sidewalks. White, light, fluffy snow is one thing, but when it is time for you to drive somewhere, snow comes down heavy and wet. Safety first. Stretch before you shovel. Next, know your limits. Third, don't get frustrated. It's a fact of life that when you get done shoveling, it snows again, or just as you take off your boots, a snow plow goes by and blocks your driveway entrance again. Really sorry about that.

(7). I promise you, no one in Florida is going to call you in January and ask you “How's the weather up there?” Come on. We are a little more sensitive than that.

(8). Good news! When it does get bone-aching cold up there, water freezes. You can visit your nearest lake, cut a hole in the ice and actually fish to pass the time. Just keep in mind, the poor fish you pull out of the water will freeze in mere seconds, so please return the fish to its warm southern home before it gets too cold.

(9). Chili is a great meal to make in bulk and store for the long winter months ahead. Why make it ahead of time? Obviously, you want it already made in case it takes a while to restore your electricity.

(10). Refrain from reading OTOW News online from November-April. There's no sense in seeing all the fun we are having while you change your calendar for the next 180 days.

(11). Don't try licking a metal pole outside when it's below zero. It's true. Your tongue will stick.

(12). What is the coldest temperature a cell phone will work at outdoors? I honestly don't know the answer to this question. When it is zero outside, try your cell phone and let me know if it works. When it is minus 20 outside, try your cell phone and let me know if it works. When it is minus 40 outside, try your cell phone and let me know if it works.

(13). Don't worry. There's always hockey. Maybe.

(14). To build a snowman, start with one really big circle of snow for the lower body, one medium size circle of snow for the upper body and one smaller circle of snow for the head. You can use seashells you collected from beautiful, warm Clearwater Beach to use for the eyes and nose. You can let the snowman wear your Buccaneers hat, because you won't be needing it where you are. You can have the snowman holding a margarita glass, just like the one you would be drinking if you were wearing your sandals at the beach.

(15). Lastly, keep this in mind. White is a very peaceful color which brings relaxation and tranquility. When you are snowed in and can't go outside, look out a frozen window and take deep breaths. Take advantage of it. Winter only lasts through April.



Doug  
Kates

Newspaper Editor



Above, members of the Pickleball Club enjoy a pizza social at the new pavilion. The afternoon was a fun event and social distancing was in order.

Below, Bill Clark celebrates his 89th birthday during a celebration held by the Tennis Club.

## Pickleball and tennis clubs enjoy having the pavilion so close

By Joe Dechiaro

On Sunday, August 23, the Pickleball Club hosted their second pizza social event of the year.

It was a Dominos Pizza party where everyone brought their own drinks and the pizza was paid by the club dues.

President Lenny Segall and Vice President Kathy Ahrens served the pizza and enforced safety protocols.

Each member played pickleball for two hours and then enjoyed pizza and company of fellow club members - all while maintaining social distancing.

The hours for pickleball were 9-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday mornings through September, but may change in October if the courts are open past 2 p.m. If this is the case, the club will play every day in the evening.

The Tennis Club enjoyed their month-



ly luncheon at Rusty Lyon in Dunedin.

All members who attended enjoyed a delicious brunch as well as a beautiful day walking through downtown Dunedin. The club also celebrated Bill Clark's 89th birthday at the end of July.

When is the last time you checked out  
Nancy's Bulletin Board on the Box Office?  
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# Softball season starts Oct. 8

## - just show up and play

By Bob Rittner

Softball Opening Day is Thursday, Oct. 8.

Please arrive by 7:45 a.m. We like to begin play at 8 a.m. Even if you show up late, we will still get you on a team.

This is a magnificent time of the year that lifts our spirits and On Top of the World softball players are inviting you to join us.

We are set up to embrace any player who wants to play ball, no matter their experience or talent.

Meanwhile, we have been playing stickball, our off-season version of baseball, and also open to all who would like to try it.

Our most recent stickball results are as follows:

### Home Team 7

#### Visitors 6

Two extraordinary plays marked this game.

George Plasterer launched a majestic homer over a towering tree and into a gully deep in homer territory. Only Bill Holland has ever reached that area.

Lenny Segall batted a sizzling line drive up in the air and then chased it down to make a catch - a breathtaking athletic play. He also homered.

There were also contributions from Eddie Ramirez, who tripled for the second game in a row, and Dick Le'Tourneau, who set down the side one-two-three on three strikeouts.

Joe Farrell protected a one-run lead in the ninth inning with two strikeouts and a ground ball out.

### Visitors 6

#### Home Team 5

The visitors bookended a pair of three-run innings in the first and ninth innings.

The home team scored in four of the first five innings to create a 5-3 lead. The

advantage was built on three homers by George Plasterer and a single, double and two walks by Joe Farrell.

All three visiting players got key hits in their narrow victory as Dick Le'Tourneau was on base seven times via four singles and three walks, while Doug Kaiser doubled three times and walked three times and Bob Rittner had six singles and a walk. The walk drove in the sixth run of the game.

### Home Team 4

#### Visitors 1

The home team of Lenny Segall, Dick Le'Tourneau, Eddie Ramirez and Bob Rittner edged the visitors, Joe Maley, Joe Farrell, Jim Costello, George Plasterer and Doug Kaiser, getting key hits from Dick and Eddie as well as a long double from Lenny.

Jim returned, after a long hiatus, pitching two scoreless innings.

The lone visitor's run came on a line

drive homer by George. Otherwise, the home team pitchers recorded 15 strikeouts and allowed only one other extra base hit, a double by Doug.

### Visitors 6

#### Home Team 0

Joe Maley stars.

Opening a scoreless game in the fifth inning, Joe lashed a hard single, later scoring and then smashing another hit in the same inning to drive in the second run.

He helped extend the lead with a single that drove in Lenny Segall, who had tripled to open the seventh inning. Joe walked to bring home the third run of the ninth inning to close the scoring.

For information about our softball/stickball league, call Lenny Segall (560-2620) or Bob Rittner (729-7970) or visit us on the Box Office Website at [otowboxoffice.com](http://otowboxoffice.com)

## Interacting with residents can keep your neighborhood safe

By Dave Beaven

In Neighborhood Watch, we often say: if you see something, say something.

It's important that residents keep an eye out for suspicious activity.

We all want On Top of the World to be a safe place to live and that takes effort.

But it's not only about preventing crime. A safe place is also one where neighbors care for one another.

This can range from checking in on each other now and then, giving someone a ride to the doctor, having a chat out in front of the building, etc.

Little actions like these, which go on



every day, help to make OTOW the special place that it is today.

Becoming involved with your neigh-

bors is an easy thing to do.

For one thing, smile when you see them. Say "hello." That's easy enough and it communicates that you're glad to see them.

Here are some other tips that come from a man named Francis who lived almost 1000 years ago:

Make me an instrument of peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

The man who wrote those words was St. Francis of Assisi. The message is

clear enough. By showing concern for our neighbors, we make our community better for all.

It's not always easy to be as positive as Francis. After all, he was a saint. But if you try to model them, you'll be surprised at what comes back to you.

Neighborhood Watch is a group of OTOW residents who want to live in a peaceful and secure environment based on mutual consideration and respect. To find out more about our group, visit our webpage: [areawatch2020.blogspot.com](http://areawatch2020.blogspot.com).

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

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(3) Go Online to [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) and fill out a service request.

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

You must be present when your water is turned on.





On Top of the World has benches scattered in many beautiful locations across the community. The bench above is on the West Side in front of the Key West Building. Take advantage of our autumn weather. Find a bench. Enjoy the cooler temperatures. Listen to the birds. And don't let anyone take your bench!

(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

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# Celebrating 50 Years ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

## After a brief pause, Entertainment Committee hopes to bring back its 50-year tradition in 2021

By Marvin Flam

The Entertainment Committee canceled its 2020 scheduled events as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the past 50 years, the Entertainment Committee has presented outstanding professional entertainers and bands. They have included both local Florida entertainers and those who have appeared in Las Vegas, Branson, Broadway, on radio and TV, and other top entertainment venues.

When the Entertainment Committee can provide safety and support at future events for On Top of the World residents, performers and volunteers, we will resume presenting shows, dances and free Meet & Greet events.

For now, let me take you for a walk down memory lane.

From the very beginning, the Entertainment Committee has been operated by resident volunteers who presented shows, dances, dinners and bingo. They ran trips and tours to Disney World, Silver Springs and Biloxi, and organized cruises and more.

As the years passed, several of the original events, like bingo and trips, were taken over by other groups of volunteers.

In 1974, the Entertainment Committee, along with Good Neighbors and Chorus, presented an annual Easter Sunrise Service.

Some of the more than 400 shows presented over the years have been: The Diamonds, Bill Haley's Original Comets, The Mickey Finn Show, Joey Dee, The Fabulous Hubcaps, The Four Aces, Phil Dirt and The Dozers, The Platters, Tommy Cash, The Mystics, The Marlins, and Smokey Joe's Café to name a few.

All the Entertainment Committee



dances are themed, such as Hawaiian Night Dance, St. Patrick's Day Dance, Valentine's Day Dance, Halloween Dance, Veterans' Day Dance, and the annual New Year's Eve Ball, which was sold out for 50 years.

The dances have also included attendees' birthday and anniversary celebrations, door prizes, costume contests and other fun surprises.

Local bands and groups have been featured for these fun nights, such as Flashback, Sequel, Louie Bravo, The Retros and more.

In 2005, when it was brought to our attention that some OTOW residents were spending lonely Sunday afternoons at home, the Entertainment Committee developed and presented our "Sunday

In The Park" once a month in the East Activity Center, which at the time had a park-like interior décor with artificial trees. This was a free event that presented professional entertainment, snacks, and the opportunity to meet and greet your neighbors and make friends.

The event was renamed in 2018 to "Sunday Meet & Greet" and is more popular than ever.

In 2021, if safety improves, the Entertainment Committee will present an exciting lineup of new shows, dances, and free Meet & Greets.

If you purchased tickets to any 2020 cancelled show or dance, contact Mary Ann O'Neil at 727 449-9243 or email: entcom2014@gmail.com regarding a credit for tickets to 2021 shows and dances or to

request and receive a refund.

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

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

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

We look forward to seeing you soon.

In the meanwhile take care and be safe.

"The Fun Will Continue!"



## Labor Day gathering

The Baby Boomers Club reserved the pavilion on Labor Day and had a party with music, singing and plenty of food.

Everyone social distanced.

Everyone wore masks.

The group came together, followed social distance rules and turned a holiday into a good time.



Baby Boomers



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# BUILDING REPORTS



## OTOW resident among 12 worldwide finalists who have ideas on how to make our planet a better place

By Doug Kates

On Top of the World resident Carl Hebinck looks out his front window every day and sees beautifully constructed buildings providing housing for a wide variety of people.

But he also knows there are millions of people worldwide who are homeless - 150 million according to wikipedia.

Carl is one of many people across the globe who entered a competition to share ideas for improving our environment from a construction viewpoint.

In August he was notified he was voted one of 12 finalists.

And in case you can't tell - Carl is the "silver-haired" gentleman among the group of "young people" in the photo at right.

The other finalists came from the United Kingdom, Australia, Uganda, New Zealand, South Africa, Indonesia and India. Some were already professionals. Others were students with bright ideas.

"I love our Earth," Carl told OTOW News. "We need to take care of her."

"The world needs to adopt a better technology to save our planet."

Most recently, Carl was the president and chief executive officer of AMHOME USA, Inc., which builds energy efficient homes based in Wesley Chapel. He has also been a training coordinator for various other businesses.

In 2011, Carl went to Haiti as a volunteer home builder. The first house he built was for a 15-year-old lady who sacrificed her body to save her younger brother during an earthquake.

The boy escaped the earthquake unharmed. His sister broke her back and will be confined to a wheelchair the rest of her life.

If the same earthquake had taken place in an average neighborhood in the United States, probably no one would have suffered a life-changing injury. But because of the poor quality houses in Haiti, the houses were no match for the earthquake.

Carl wanted to change this conclusion.

With help from the Santa Clara University School of Engineering, a structurally insulated steel panel house was built for the sister and brother in Haiti (SIP



Homes).

Carl then went on the offensive to try to raise money so that more SIP Homes could be built the same way in Haiti and give the country the means of constructing their own SIP materials.

Unfortunately, the project did not gain enough investors and Carl was very disappointed for the people in Haiti. There was not enough financial support to continue the project.

Years later, Carl discovered a similar problem exists right here in Pinellas County.

Carl came across the Community Service Foundation of Clearwater, which has a goal to build safe, affordable, economical housing for everyone who needs it in our own backyard.

According to the Florida Dream Center, there are 55,000 homeless people in the state of Florida, including 7,000 in Pinellas County - and those stats were before the Covid-19 crisis.

The Community Service Foundation is currently planning to begin a small demonstration cluster of these homes in St. Petersburg and it plans to follow up building smaller "backyard homes" on more than 100,000 lots in Pinellas County which

would provide an abundance of Affordable Homes for low-income people and extra rental income for home owners of those single family home lots where the houses will be built.

Carl vows, if he wins this contest, winnings will go toward this project.

"People all over the world need affordable housing," Carl said. "What we are proposing is building affordable homes for low income persons beginning in Pinellas County with ambitions to scale it globally."

The competition is organized by Construction Industry Solutions Ltd based in England.

Some of the other ideas among the finalists included better infrastructure management; using mine waste to create proprietary polymers (chemicals for such products as plastic bottles); cost efficient packaging materials; recycled wall framing materials; more cost effective cement materials; 3-D "antibots" for remote construction; nano-fluid for more energy efficient cooling systems and reduced power consumption; and the creation of smart buildings through tech energy management.

Carl is the veteran finalist of the

group, but he is very proud to see our young people thinking of creative ways to help the planet.

"It provides pride and hope for our future generations," Carl said. "So much is going on and grabs the news about fighting ourselves. It's refreshing to see people, younger and older, shaking off the negativity and dedicating themselves to making this world better for all of us."

It might sound over-obvious, but everything built on our planet since the first sunlight was built using materials provided by our planet.

Could those materials some day run out?

"Nothing we have here is from outer space," Carl said. "It all comes from our Mother (Earth). Her resources are limited though. She just has so much to give."

So maybe a contest and a \$150,000 first prize will stir some new ideas.

A final decision on selecting a winner took place on Sept. 24 - the same day this newspaper went to press. If you would like to see which idea won, you might be able to see results at coins-grandchallenge.com.

Carl may actually go there himself to check.





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## A look back at the OTOW News October, 1995

- **Married Women's Club:** It's good to see some familiar faces and dear friends back from vacation and their summer homes. I will give you a synopsis of what's ahead. Oct. 11, 1995: ticket sale at the East Activity Center for the Musicana Dinner Theater, price \$24. Oct. 20, 1995: meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the card room at the East Activity Center. More to come.
- **Shalom Club:** "Shalom" means "Peace." It is an ancient wish that we can all use today. Our Shalom Club president, Rae Weisenfeld, and her officers hope that your summer season was a time for joyous happenings, moments of reflection and renewed enthusiasm. The first meeting of the Shalom Club will be held Sunday, Oct. 22, 1995, at 7:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center. After a brief but important business meeting, we will be entertained by "Tommy D," a musically exciting piano artiste.
- **Irish Club:** Over the summer, we traveled to Sackets Harbor, N.Y. The visit was in late July, just after high winds hit near Pat and Jim Murphy's summer residence. It seemed almost unbelievable to see ancient trees over three feet in diameter toppled like toothpicks. The luck of the Irish was with the Murphy's as little damage was done and the worst was the power outage for a few days. Here is a reminder that our "Start of the Season" is Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1995, in the Veranda Room.
- **Great Lakes Club:** You've heard that old saying, "c'mon down, c'mon down," and that's what you should do. Treat yourself and yours at "Oktoberfest," sponsored by the OTOW Great Lakes Club. The partying, dancing and eating will start at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, 1995. In no time flat, you will have the party spirit, which is to say, "Gemutlichkeit." You can dance to the music you love to hear, as played by Bill Murphy and his Orchestra.
- **Art Guild:** "Everyone paints" at the Friday, Oct. 13, 1995, meeting at 1:15 p.m. with a unique, fun-filled afternoon of hands-on-painting. Marquerite McDonald has planned a workshop-type program for us, so don't wear your good clothes (or at least bring a smock or apron). Bring your favorite large brush and an interested friend! All of our creative results will be displayed on the East Recreation Center walls for one week.
- **Men's Golf:** Our Snowbirds are starting to drift back to OTOW. We summer residents had the last laugh on most of the northerners. Though it was hot here in Florida, most of the north had higher temperatures than we had at OTOW. A reminder: Remember fellows, we're all getting older each year, so, on our hot and humid days, take it easy and drink lots of liquids.
- **Moor Building:** In July, Ed and Barbara Reilly went to Denver, Colo., and from there they toured the rest of Colorado and Wyoming. They had beautiful weather and the scenery was gorgeous. On returning to Denver, they visited their son, Richard. Shortly after their return to OTOW, they went on a 10-day bus trip to Weaverville, N.C., with 27 other OTOW folks.

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ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS 1975



ACCORDION CLASS

## ACCORDION CLASSES TO START THURS. OCT. 9

Caught by the camera in a tense note, the TOW Accordion Ensemble rehearse a passage of music. This group began sessions before summer vacation, played three engagements. None of them had ever played an accordion be-

fore. Registration for new beginner students is Thursday, Oct. 9 from 9 AM to 11:30 AM in the Lecture Room. Clarence Spievak, instructor, guarantees to teach almost anyone to play the accordion (furnished to all beginners).

"If you forgot to sign up, look what you missed!" A historic artifact from 45 years ago: The OTOW News of October, 1975, ran this interesting story and photo about an accordion class that had begun in the spring of that year.

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## Building food drive exceeds goal for the year

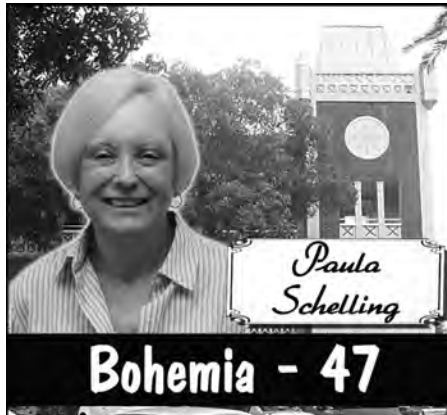
Each January our social committee develops a calendar of events for the year and sets a goal for collection of canned goods for the local food bank. For the past two years our goal has been 500 pounds.

When an event rolls around a flyer is posted with the details and a reminder about bringing a canned good. Most of our functions unfortunately have been put on hold except for our food drives.

Over Labor Day weekend we were able to hold our food drive and collected over 200 pounds of food. With three months remaining in the year, we have exceeded our annual goal by a hundred pounds. We are proud of our accomplishment and the food bank associates are ever so grateful.

We want to recognize the Bohemia Women's Walking Group on its upcoming 11th anniversary of inception. It is with pride that they announce that there are still four of the original group together. They can't begin to count the number of miles over the years they've traveled together.

It is common for columnists to introduce new additions to their buildings. With the lack of current interaction within the building we felt it time to introduce longtime residents to our new people.



Larry Veras, who has written for the St. Petersburg Times in the past, has agreed to aid with this ongoing section. I asked Larry to begin by writing about himself.

Alicia and Laurence Veras grew up together in the Bronx, New York. They have a photo showing the couple together when Alicia was four and Laurence was five.

They moved into the Bohemia Building on Nov. 26, 1997, their 37th wedding anniversary.

Alicia, a retired medical administrator, is an avid Mahjongg player. Larry is a retired copy writer for a New York advertising agency.

Their extended family includes four children, nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.



Granada residents enjoy a September luncheon at Carrabba's Grill.

## Granadans look to a welcome season change

We are looking forward to our changes in the seasons, such as they are in Florida. I for one, am looking forward to the end of the rainy season. I love the lush greens of the lawns and plants from the rains, however, I really crave the sunshine.

We look forward to our building luncheons. In September, we went to Carrabba's Italian Grill and enjoyed a nice lunch with our Granada friends.

In October, we will be going to Ozona Blue on the 12th at noon. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

I also posted the information for our holiday luncheon at Alfano's which is on Monday, Dec. 7. Details are on the bulletin board.

The "gathering on the green" continues to be on the last Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. Bring a seat and a drink and visit for an hour with friends, old and new.



As I'm writing this, I can't believe this article is for the October paper. Where did 2020 go?

The holidays will be here soon. Watch the bulletin board for details on the holiday decorations get-together on Dec. 5. Looking forward to getting together with all of you.



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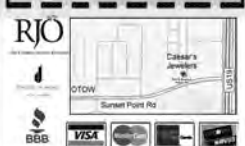
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# Siboney history includes first building reporter columns



Welcome to our building's 35th anniversary. Most of our residents, including myself, have heard many interesting stories of what our building was like in 1985.

We asked our long-time original resident Cele Radeloff to give us some history of life at our building 35 years ago.

"It was October 1985, the Siboney building was just completed and the residents were moving in. It was a fun-loving group of retirees and nothing was too much for us.

We established the Siboney Club and elected four officers with a monthly meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Sunrise Room (now the Belleair Room).

We voted to hire an artist to paint a Spanish-type motif on the wall in the core. It cost \$1,000. Next, we bought a wallpaper type of mural and put it on the second floor wall.

A committee was formed to get carpets installed in the walkways and in all four staircases. A letter was sent to all second and third floor owners, who shared the cost.

Rita Tombari and a decorating committee placed pictures, posters and planters on the wall. A completed jigsaw puzzle glued on heavy cardboard was hung on the walls in our laundry room. We were told we had the nicest laundry room in OTOW! We bought a large table and a much-needed fan.

Then we bought Christmas decorations, lights, candles, reindeers and Santas. Siboney was lit up like Luna Park. We won first prize in 1988 in the lights contest and was one of the top-three winners every year thereafter. Tour buses would come to OTOW to view our Christmas decorations.

Several years later, Rita Tombari, Al Tannuzzo and Nevin Frisch built the NOEL signs and placed one on each side of the building, all lit up.

We were an active building and very much involved. The men played golf and shot pool every Monday while the ladies went golfing or went to line dancing

## First articles from Siboney Building in OTOW News

### SIBONEY

Ethyle Lee

An organizational meeting of the Siboney building residents was held on Jan. 30. Fifty nine attended and the following officers were elected:

President - Charles Petrantonio  
Vice President - Fred Neiman  
Secretary - Ethyle Lee  
Treasurer - Alice Schmitz

The name of Siboney Club was adopted by those present. Among the order of business, the beautification of our building was discussed. After the meeting residents were served refreshments and had an opportunity to get better acquainted. It is urged that all apartments be represented at the next meeting which will be held on March 27 at 7 P.M. at the West Activity Center.

## March 1986

on Tuesdays. We had many bridge and Mahjong groups.

I was in Jesters and many singers were in the chorus. A number of residents were volunteers at hospitals or drove the Care Van or Care Lift. Others delivered Meals on Wheels.

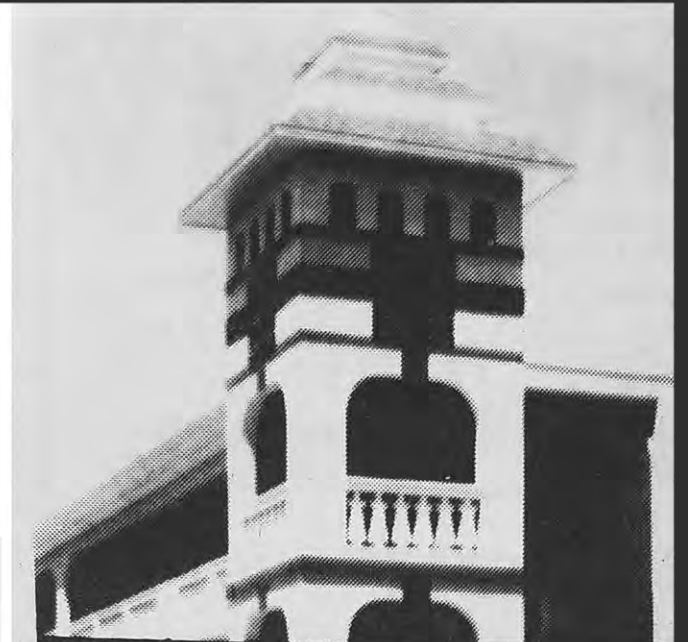
Bowling was also very popular in the 80s. We traveled, too. Locally we enjoyed Derby Lanes, Jai Alai in Tampa, sightseeing cruises, the Lady Anderson dining yacht and luncheon outings to area restaurants.

We traveled by double-decker bus to O'Keefe's and took the Jolly Trolley to the

beach. We enjoyed the bus to Island Grill at Christmas time.

To top that, we all flew from Siboney to Las Vegas twice in 1993. There we witnessed the implosion of the Dunes Hotel and Casino. Then we flew to Nashville, New Orleans and Biloxi.

We had a great group. Nothing stopped us — we decorated hats for Easter and we came to core parties in Halloween costumes. We had continuity, as Ethyle Lee was president for 10 years, Rita Tombari was treasurer for 25 years and I was your reporter for 25 years."



### SIBONEY

Ethyle Lee

If you haven't been down to our lake and watched a sunset from the dock, you don't know what you are missing. It is well worth the short walk!

The pot-luck supper held on April 30 was a "smasher." What food to tickle the palate! A cake was a surprise presented to Isa and Bert Cleghorn on their 46th wedding anniversary. After everyone enjoyed the cake, Bert sang one of Isa's favorite songs, "I love you like I never loved before" and looking around I saw several teary eyes, yours truly included.

The new carpeting has been installed on the second and third floor walkways. It looks lovely and the residents are very pleased.

## May 1986

Thanks, Cele, for the memories!

Now it's up to the new generation of Siboney residents to step up and preserve our reputation of being the finest building at OTOW. Attend our meetings and get involved. And remember to have fun!

A message to our new residents: Unfortunately at this time of uncertainty we are keeping our distance. I promise we will all be together as soon as this is all over.

Please look for information on the bulletin boards and in the elevator. Happy Halloween everyone. Please stay safe.

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# We welcome new couple from Florida's east coast

We're so lucky to have neighbors in our lives, especially during this time of social distancing. Here at the Azores, we've developed creative ways to connect (outdoor visits are the best) and to help keep each other safe.

This month we're very excited to welcome new neighbors, Rod and Debbie Rivera.

Rod and Debbie, who moved to On Top of the World from West Palm Beach, have been married for 41 years. They have three children and five grandchildren.

An interesting fact is that Rod and Debbie, and my husband, Kelly, and I were married on the same exact day 41 years ago!

Rod is retired from the U.S. Air Force and is currently working for Garmin. Debbie is semi-retired from her career as a teacher's assistant and in school administration.

As avid bicyclers and overall exercise enthusiasts, they look forward to exploring our many wonderful local trails. The Rivera's also share a passion for music. Rod plays guitar and drums. I don't believe Debbie plays an instrument but I can tell you she bakes a mean banana muffin!

Debbie's muffins are a great example of the baking that has been happening here at the Azores. I'm not the cook in the family but I recently made a plum torte that was just perfect with our morning coffee.



I highly recommend the recipe, which can be found in the New York Times. Apparently, it is an all-time fall favorite.

Fellow Azorean Anne Rostick sent me one of her favorite new dessert recipes. It's for key lime pie! With just four ingredients and Anne's enthusiastic endorsement, it looks like a keeper:

Ingredients:

1 pkg (3 oz.) lime Jello mixed with  
1/4 cup boiled water

2 containers key lime yogurt

1 container (8 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed

One 9" graham cracker crust

In a large bowl, combine the Jello and the yogurt. Fold in the Cool Whip. Pour into crust. Refrigerate at least 40 minutes before serving.

Yum, I'm thinking we need an Azores recipe exchange!

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## ***Emerald Isle officers still able to plan an outing each month***

As the old saying goes, you can't keep a good man down. Or in this case, you can't keep a good building down.

Our building officers have managed to organize an outing every month this year for the residents. So far they have all been on the grounds or in the core.

In a nice change of pace, the August outing was a luncheon at Clearwater Family Restaurant. That venue has a private room, and it was perfect for our small group of eight residents to dine safely and still have some friendly comradery.

Our newest residents, Henry and Loraine Rejman, attended, and it was really nice to have this chance to get to know them better. They recently moved here from the St. Paul/Minneapolis area, and they are a great addition to our neighborhood.

Happy Birthday to Dan Day. He celebrated his 88th birthday in August with a party organized by his wife, Joyce. And his daughter Doris traveled from Portland, Ore., to make it a very special celebration. Other relatives and neighbors attended to wish this very special resident a wonderful day.



Welcome back to Marge and George Hotaling, David Bucchiere, and John Hooker. It's great to have them back in the fold.

Believe it or not, the holidays are approaching and the building officers are trying to make event plans. If you have any ideas on how or where we can plan this event, please let either Cheryl Butcher or Marge Gipperich know. They would love to have your input and/or assistance.

As this hot summer comes to an end, enjoy the fall and be safe.



Dan Day on his 88th birthday. Many friends and family members attended, some coming from as far away as Oregon. (Photo by Dan's daughter, Dory Day)

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Blackout Club players will hopefully enjoy themselves again soon in the Belleair Room.

## Blackout Club hopes to resume play soon

By Tom Jamrozy

Although we don't have the official word from On Top of the World as to a start date when we will be able to play, we will be in the Belleair Room on the West side on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Please check the OTOW Clearwater Web site: [www.otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com). On the first page, the plans to open activities per the CDC Guidelines will be listed. Also check OTOW-TV (channel 732) for postings for the Blackout Club. We look forward to seeing our friends again and having a lot of laughs and fun times.

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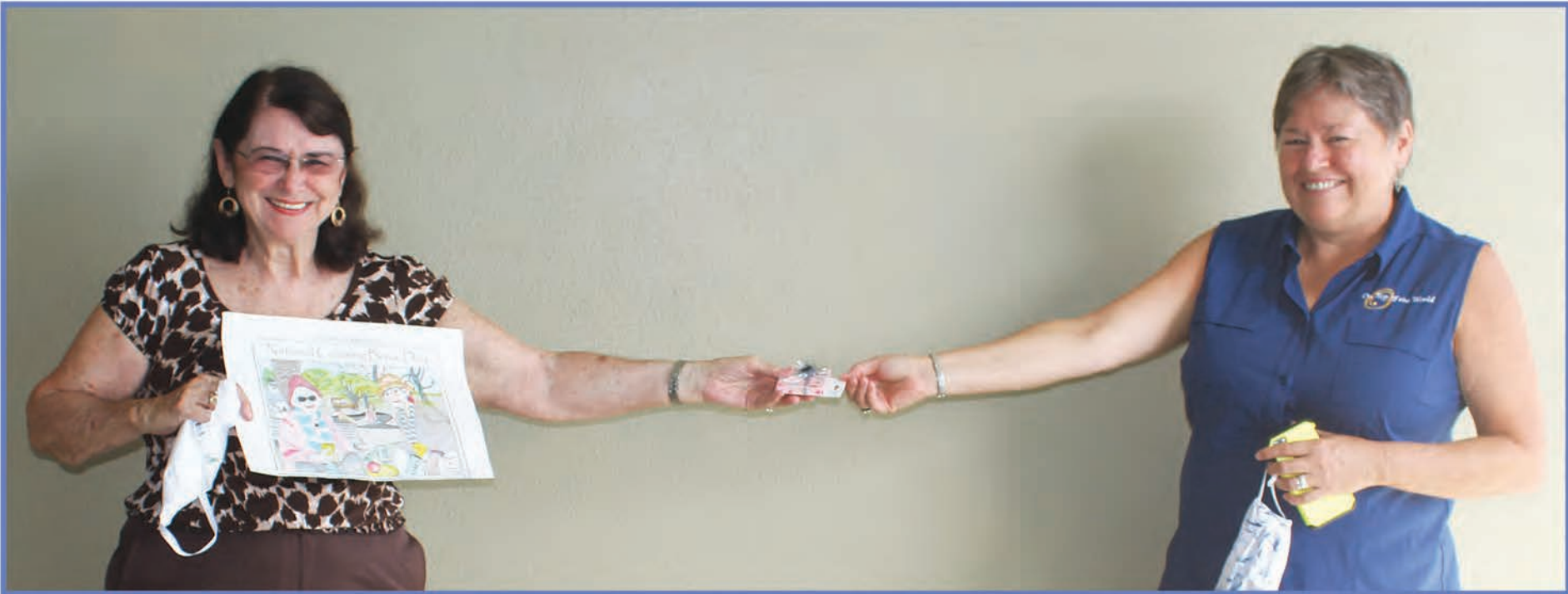
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# Coloring Book Contest winner



Helen Crombie, left, of the Americana Building was this year’s winner of the third annual Coloring Book Club contest. Helen submitted the drawing which appeared in the August newspaper and used three forms of coloring tools in her entry. Activities Director Nancy Rogers presents Helen with a \$20 gift card from Wal-Mart. Watch for the contest again next year. Aug. 2 is always National Coloring Book Day and in case you didn’t already know, On Top of the World has a Coloring Book Club which meets in the Crystal Beach Room 12-2 p.m. on Wednesdays. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)



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# Here's how to display our flag properly and proudly

By Milton Bronson

I am a new owner/resident of On Top of the World.

I am also a retired Air Force veteran of 20 years, whose duties at Air Force bases around the world included displaying and caring for OUR flag. I have also been a military honor guard member.

Our flag deserves the honor of being displayed and cared for in an honorable way.

In order to do this, we should abide by the rules outlined in Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1.

You can access the complete code by Googling: Care and Display of the American Flag.

I would like to point out a few thing that I would like to see changed to abide by the rules:



It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on flag staffs in the open.

However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is flown.

There are specific rules for when the flag should be flown at half-staff.

For instance, on Memorial Day the flag is flown at half-staff until noon and then raised to the top of the pole.

Note: When flying the flag at half-staff, it must first be raised to the top of the pole and then lowered to half-staff. When lowering the flag at the end of the same day, it is again raised to the top of the pole prior to lowering for the day.

In this regard, I only saw two flags on poles around the community that were displayed at half-staff on Sept. 11. This should be a community-wide action.

When a flag is raised in the morning or lowered at dusk, it should be done by two people. The reason is because the flag must be correctly folded and not allowed to touch the ground.

If you need directions on how to properly fold a flag, please seek help on Google.

Some of the no-nos include wearing a flag. Do not wear anything with a flag on it that would touch the ground.

The flag should not be draped over the hood, top or sides of a vehicle, and never on a railroad train or boat.

When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right front fender.

There are several more rules that, for the most part, do not pertain to us at On Top of the World, but as previously stated can be Googled.



Have a safe and enjoyable Halloween!



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# Discovering rugged Ecuador, sitting on the Earth's equator

The word Ecuador means "equator" and the equator's location here was first measured in the 1700s.

Subsequent measurements with very sophisticated gauges found that this initial measurement was only off by 250 feet. Of course there is a bustling tourist trade here at the equator, 00.00.00 degrees latitude, where you can stand with one foot in the northern hemisphere and the other in the southern.

In the year 2000, Ecuador adopted the American dollar as its currency but they do have some native coins still floating around. They have a habit of giving these as change, but be careful as they cannot be turned in at the end of your stay.

Another revelation is that Panama hats are made in Ecuador. The tighter the weave the more expensive is the hat. We were told that they would be cheaper the next day at the famous market in Otavalo. They were, and I now own one I've never worn.

What makes Ecuador so special is its extraordinary scenery. From the Andean forest up and down mountains into a cloud forest we went in our large bus. How the driver managed the sharp curves without catapulting us into the unmatched beauty of the many gorges remains a mystery.

Our next adventure began at a Swiss lodge on the Napo River, a tributary of the Amazon River which arises in Ecuador's highlands. My expensive German hiking shoes were no match for the mud we had to slog through on many of our outings, so



Sue Naylor with volcano in background.

the lodge furnished us with smelly rubber boots. There were not only for the mud but also to protect our feet from ants.

After lunch we set out upstream in longboats to a small Quechua settlement where we had their particular brand of "chicha," the native beer.

Departing in the pouring rain, we journeyed to a hacienda at 6,500 feet with another spectacular view including several snow-capped volcanoes. The next morning we were treated to the sight of Tungurahua Volcano erupting at 18,000 feet. Actually all it was producing was thick black smoke.

A visit to a local school to be entertained by the native kids resulted in us taking up a collection for a new toilet.



Huge markets are a common sight in Ecuadorian towns.

(Photos by Sue Naylor)

Our \$127 allowed the principal to purchase a toilet, a sink, and all connections at a local hardware store. Since we had \$25 left we also purchased three gallons of paint, five paint brushes and two brooms.

Next, we visited the "casa," or private home, of a noted artist, Aida Lopez, and her late husband. The large, rambling adobe house had artistic touches in every room, nook, and cranny. A special staff created our lunch in the huge kitchen. Its many courses included a crepe with cheese and yucca on a tamale leaf; a salad of celery root, raisins, cucumber and avocado; cubed chicken in a tasty sauce, splendid mashed

potatoes, all accompanied by a tasty beer. Homemade ice-cream was our dessert.

I found it necessary to forego our next hike at 12,000 feet due to the fact that I was having real trouble breathing at this altitude and was quite dizzy.

For our last dinner in Quito, we went to a highly recommended local restaurant called The Magic Bean. Alas, it was very American so my final meal in Ecuador was a delicious cheeseburger panini.

The Strong forgive, the Weak remember is a great Ecuadorian proverb. I'd love to return to Ecuador, a hidden gem of beauty and graciousness.



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# Of awnings, paint jobs, gardens, sofas and alligators

“I-yi-yi Chihuahua!” my Villa Riviera neighbor exclaimed rather loudly. “Eight to ten weeks? I thought this was your slow season.”

“It normally is,” the man from West Coast Awnings replied patiently and quietly. “But with so many people being housebound, they are working on home improvement projects, and with Covid, people are wanting to entertain outdoors.”

Actually, this reporter knew exactly what he was talking about, because that’s what I was planning on doing and for the very reasons he had mentioned.

It wasn’t by accident that I was sitting outside on my patio with friends from another building trying to get the scoop on the cost of installing an awning with fan. So I got a quote from the gentleman, as did my friends.

I found that a number of other Villa Riviera inhabitants were making home improvements. Some were quite obvious — like Linda Pregonzer, who had her front stoop painted, moved out some very nice wicker furniture and added a couple of beautiful large plants.

Not to be outdone, Margaret Whiticar, two doors down, has been outside rearranging her front garden with her new little puppy, Augie, to dazzling effect.

Linda, Margaret and I are rather high-profile residents, and doing outside



work is quite noticeable. But as my mother once told me you have to watch out for the quiet ones....

Carl Christianson, seen daily walking his dog, Rusty, is a quiet, reserved man who enjoys a good cigar and, if asked, will happily reminisce about his days in the cinema business. Who knew that just under the surface there was a Captain Kirk just waiting for the right moment to break out? Beam him up, Scotty!

Soon as his Covid stimulus check came in, he used it to help stimulate the economy. He had Fran, his beautiful better half, throw out the living room carpet, buff up the floors, get rid of three of the living room loungers and invest in a sofa that would be right at home on the bridge of the USS Enterprise.

Look Ma, no hands! Everything is remote controlled: from putting your feet up to reclining. And if you flip open the top of the middle seat you get some space-age-looking lights. The bottom half has cup holders along with portals to plug in phones, computers, and who knows what else. Mr. Spock would be proud!

But even quieter is another Villa Riviera resident, Robert Peigler. Bob has lived here close to five years. He, too, can be seen walking his dog and is always ready with a friendly, mild-mannered greeting.

But his decorating style says it all. During the summer, a truck could be seen parked outside. Some days you could hear a little commotion coming from inside. Bob had decided to get his bathrooms redone. He put in nice sedate new floors and tasteful vanities. But that’s where mild-mannered Bob turned into one of those “crazed property brothers” types.

He obtained the most outrageous, colorful shower curtain, depicting an alligator emerging from his tub! Next to the tub is a little alligator holding a roll of toilet paper. On the walls are three alligator pictures. I really might not be comfortable sitting on that toilet — who knows what lives there!

Lately I have been hearing saws and hammering from a couple of other places in the building. Home improvements are taking over!



Villa Riviera resident Robert Peigler is among a number of dwellers who have updated their condos this summer. Check out his new alligator-themed bathroom.

Wash your hands often, use your mask and practice good social distancing.

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## Bike/Walking Trails Near On Top of the World

A map showing various trails and landmarks. Key features include: Philippe Park to the north, Moccasin Lake Park in the center, and K-Kapok Park to the south. Trails are marked with numbers 3 through 7. Service stations are marked with 'S' and parking areas with 'P'. Roads shown include Drew St, Gulf to Bay Blvd, Old Coachman Rd, NE Coachman Rd, Belcher Rd, Fairwood Av, McMullen Booth Rd, Bayshore Blvd, and Bayshore Bridge. The map also shows the coastline and the Gulf of Mexico.

- 3** DRUID TRAIL, Opens 2018
- 4** DUKE ENERGY TRAIL
- 5** REAM WILSON CLEARWATER TRAIL
- 6** BAYSHORE TRAIL
- 7** COURTNEY CAMPBELL CAUSEWAY TRAIL

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# Here are a couple of Oktoberfest suggestions

Happy October — whew! That was one hot, steamy September!

Let's see if we can have a few degrees less weather this month. The ninth month seemed a lot wetter and steamier than normal, so it was good to say farewell.

October is not a month to allow the doldrums to have their way, that's for sure!

Are you in the mood for some Oktoberfest fun with good food and the chance to kick up your heels? There are two events nearby, and my sources indicate that other communities and organizations are making plans cautiously and judiciously.

Unless you already have an Oktoberfest destination planned, you might like to check out the Dunedin Brewing Company hosting kid-and-family friendly merriment in Coachman Park the weekend of Oct. 6–8.



If you miss it, don't worry, because the German American Society of Pinellas Park is celebrating for three whole weekends: Oct. 2–3, Oct. 9–10, and Oct. 16–17. Specifics are posted on the bulletin board. As always, stay safe.

## PING PONG

### A Fun Activity which is Cool in the Summer!

The OTOW Ping Pong Club is looking for new members. We play in the West Activity Center Belleair Room (Sunrise Room) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You may come and play anytime. If you like it, join us for a year, whether you are a permanent OTOW resident, a renter or a Snowbird. Membership includes daily coffee, snacks and club equipment. Ping Pong is like tennis. You need to be able to move from side-to-side and front-to-back. We normally play doubles but there's also a table to play singles.

## Attention OTOW News writers ...

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

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or return form to the East Activity Center drop box during business hours.

Owner(s) Name(s):

Current Mailing Address:

Please update my/our mailing address to:

Effective date of address change:

Signature of Owner Requesting Change

Date

*On Top of the World*  
Clearwater Florida

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



# DID YOU KNOW?

All applications for occupancy of a condo are available in the Community Service Office or on our Website!



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## Which application do you need?

Application for Approval of Owner	<b>If you...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are purchasing a condominium</li> <li>have inherited a condominium</li> <li>are being added to a deed of a condominium</li> </ul>
Application for Approval of Residency	<b>If you...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan to reside in a condominium in which you are NOT the owner (you are NOT listed on the deed)</li> </ul>
Direct Owner Application for Lease Approval	<b>If you...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are leasing (renting) a condominium</li> </ul>

# Good Karma Book Club



The Good Karma Book Club is making plans to reopen on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 10:30 am.

The first book will be "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" by John Berendt

Space will be limited and safety guidelines will be in place.



## Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Events

**Saturday, October 10, 2020, 9:00am to 2:00pm**  
**Seminole High School**  
 8401 131<sup>st</sup> Street North, Largo

**Saturday, October 24, 2020, 9:00am to 2:00pm**  
**North County Satellite Site**  
 29582 US Hwy 19 North, Clearwater

## Important Notice!

### Event Information:

- For details about accepted items and quantity limits, please visit <http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/mobileoptions.htm>
- Collection may be delayed or canceled due to severe weather.
- Electronics and chemicals generated by businesses are not accepted at mobile collection events. For business collection dates, visit: [www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste](http://www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste)
- For questions or live chat, please call Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste at (727) 464-7500 or [www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste](http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste)

### Special instructions:

For the safety of customers and staff:

- Before the event, customers are asked place electronics and chemicals in the vehicle trunk, back of a pick-up truck, SUV, or trailer bed.
- During the event:
  - Social distancing of at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) will be observed.
  - Customers are asked to remain in their vehicles.
  - All items must be in the vehicle trunk, back of a pick-up truck, SUV, or trailer bed.
  - Staff will not remove items from vehicle interiors.



# Introductory line dance class starting up on Monday mornings

Hi.

I'm Margaret LeTourneau, an instructor with the On Top of the World Line Dance Club.

Even though I'm interested in many activities and sports, dancing is and has always been my lifelong passion.

Did you know that line dancing makes you feel amazing?

It reduces stress while improving your brain function and your motor skills.

It can also boost your memory while improving your balance and your endurance level.

How fantastic is that!

As an educator for 40 years, it's still second nature to me to want to teach to all levels and to all abilities.

So starting Oct. 5, I will be teaching an Easy Beginner Class every Monday, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the East Activity Center auditorium.

The beginning of each session will be a fun, easy, musical introduction to the line dance steps. Students will find themselves dancing easy one-wall dances that I have choreographed to a variety of music



on the first day!

Seriously!

Then I will gently add a few more basic skills to the program so that students can be exposed to two-wall dances, as well as to four-wall dances.

Even though this program is an introduction to line dancing, it can also be enjoyed as a great review for many line dancers.

When you come, please follow our

safety rules, outlined below...

- Practice social distancing (maintain at least 6 feet between you and others).

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. If you need a break, please go outside for some fresh air, until you feel better. This will help protect us all.

- Bring bottled water, if desired (water fountain is disabled).

- Bathroom in auditorium is open.

If you love music and dancing and want to experience this easy and fun approach to learning, please join us on Mondays.

You are welcome to just come in and check it out. If you have any questions, you can email our club secretary at [hopenetra@gmail.com](mailto:hopenetra@gmail.com) or call/text her at 914-217-9206.

As always, you can catch a demo of some of our other dances on OTOW-TV channel 732, weekdays at 11 a.m. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays the videos showcase the OTOW Line Dancing Club. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, the videos showcase the Snowbirds Line Dance Club.



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Some people put roses in their gardens. Other people put beautiful shrubbery. But if you are out walking around the West Side in October, you might stumble upon the garden above which also has a witch and a skeleton ghost. Happy Halloween month! For your safety, you might want to avoid the haunted side of the Capistrano Building.

(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

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

- (1) CALL: 727-799-3417 (Option 6)  
Messages are retrieved Mon-Fri, 7-5 p.m.
- (2) Visit the East Activity Center Community Service Desk from 8:30-3, Monday-Friday.
- (3) Go Online to [otowclearwaterinfo.com](http://otowclearwaterinfo.com) and fill out a service request.
- (4) For emergency service, call 799-1115 from 6-9 p.m. weekdays and noon-9 p.m. on weekends. A \$35 payment (by check) will be required

### Service Policy

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

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- Website – [Fireavert.com](http://Fireavert.com)
- Cost \$150
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- Must have functioning Smoke Alarm!!!!



Smoke alarm will sound.



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### How does FireAvert Work?

No special tools needed. You may order the unit directly online.

### Available In The Community Service Office





# Anniversary celebrated in fine style by family and friends

BOO! Happy Halloween! Buy and enjoy your favorite treat.

Minnie and Dom Bucella celebrated their 70th anniversary with a gala celebration here at the Villa. The second floor core was festooned with decorations including streamers, balloons tables adorned with delicious foods and of course a head table for the guests of honor Minnie and Dom.

Their children, not being able to celebrate this momentous occasion with them, made arrangements with Karen Beaver to buy all the prepared foods and drinks including champagne and a beautiful cake to be brought in. Karen and a group of her friends decorated, did all the serving and cleaned up. They did a great job.

My son Mike Leonard created an anniversary poster which was signed with messages by those in attendance and some from afar. Earl, being very creative, made a movie of the festivities complete with music for Dom and Minnie to share with their children.

Everyone brought their seating, stayed socially distanced and wore masks. It was a grand party. Sheryl McKay recently returned from England after a month visiting with her daughter, son in-law and two grandsons. After quarantining the UK's mandatory two weeks Sheryl was able to travel about the countryside visiting castles, palaces, small hamlets and enjoying the various British foods. Lunch on the Thames was especially enjoyable.

Weather was hot and of course a bit



rainy. Sheryl reports the British strongly enforce social distancing, masks, gatherings and sanitizing, more so than the U.S.

Flying first class, Sheryl was well-separated; however, upon returning to the States, she was quarantined for 14 days. Glad she had such a fun time and is home safe and sound.

It certainly has been a rather strange summer. Having the pool open until 7 p.m. on three days is a blessed relief on hot afternoons. This is evident by the number of folks taking advantage of the extended hours.

On Labor Day, the "Balcony Babes," joined by Dana Garlick, Pat Brennen and Goca Kranenburg had a "cook-in." The George Foreman grill does a great job on burgers and hot dogs. Of course, we had all the "fixins." Fun way to unofficially end summer.

Here's a handy hint for ice cream



Minnie and Dom Bucella celebrate their 70th anniversary. (Photo by Fran Fairfield)

lovers. Use a fork to scoop that rock hard ice cream instead of a scoop or spoon, it's a breeze.

Some generous soul left some rolls and bread visibly wrapped in cellophane in the bin for neighbors. I came upon a squirrel having a grand time dining. Don't think he's the neighbor it was intended for. It's great to share things, however best not leave visible edible things, since we are not to feed the wild animals here.

Birthday and Anniversary greeting to all celebrants. As ever, thanks to the crew for keeping the Villa clean, neat and pretty and for blowing out the AC drains.

Please close rubbish room door lights off in both laundry and rubbish rooms as well.

Until next we meet. Wear a mask and stay safe. Any news fit to print, send along to fresca@maine.rr.com.



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# Box Office Sudoku

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	6	7	4		0	8	2		3
7		0		8		3		1	
9	8		5		3		7	0	6
4	0	8		2		7	1	3	5
					5				
3	5	6		7		1	4	2	0
8	3		1		7		6	4	9
			2	3		9	8		
	2	3	0		8	5		7	1

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.

N

U

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R

M

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H

D

W

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B

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E

L

T

R

E

E

M

B

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O

N

SECRET WORD:

Last month's scrambled words: saber, olive, cactus, crater, epicure, redwood. Secret Word Last Month: soccer

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OTOW NEWS

CLASSIFIED ADS

This classified ad listing is a service to the On Top of the World community. There is no charge to residents for this service. Items must be priced under \$500 and copy must be 20 words or less, including phone number. Submitter's name and building name must be included, but will not be published. If submitters's name, building and unit number are not included with the ad, it will not be accepted for publication.

Please note: We do not accept ads for automobiles, firearms, yard/building sales, apartments for sale or rent, or employment. Drop off ads at the newspaper office. We cannot accept ads over the phone. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Ads received late will be placed in the next available issue. Only one (1) ad per person per month will be accepted. Unless otherwise stated in the ad, phone numbers are within the (727) area code.

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Department 56 Snowbabies, 20 different ones available, boxes included. Prices vary. Leave message to see collection. Call 474-5917 or text 864-378-8515

Beautiful, stylish dinette set, 4 chairs/2 leaves, solid, medium shade wood, like new. Must sell, moving. Negotiable. Photos available. 239-464-9421

Bedroom set; chairs; end tables; coffee table; antique desk; antique bottle; TV stand; standard desk; couch; other misc. items. Negotiable. 491-9124

Dehumidifier, large Samsonite suitcase, bed rail, sofa, swivel rocker, end table. All great condition. 777-5127

Pet gate, easily spans 36" doorway, 27" tall, lightly used, dark walnut stain \$15. 286-7291

Check out OTOW-TV Channel 732

Wash your hands often, wear your mask and practice good social distancing.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK



Never park your vehicle on the driveway at the front entrance of the EAC!

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