# 2025 Howl-A-Ween Pet Costume Contest

Enter by Oct. 15. Vote online Oct. 17-19. Details on page 6 and on the Box Office website.

# ON TOP OF THE WORLD NEWS

October 2025

**Published Since 1968** 

57 Years of Only Good News

Volume 57

No. 10





(OTOW News file photos by Mary Lou Wall)

# Find a clever costume and join the Halloween Dance on Oct. 25

By Mary Ann O'Neil Welcome back everyone!

We hope you are ready to enjoy great entertainment provided by your On Top of the World Entertainment Committee.

on Saturday, Sept. 20, for our monthly dance. As usual, this band brought wonderful songs and great entertainment to our stage. Our residents had their dancing shoes on and enjoyed a tun night of dancing.

Our Sunday Meet and Greet on Sept. 21 was well attended. Before our horse racing got underway, we had a short meeting to introduce the nomination of officers for 2026.

The nomination of officers for 2026 is as follows: Mary Ann O'Neil, president; Karen Safee, vice president; Tim Beaver, treasurer; Sherry Ivey, assistant treasurer; Robyn Harker, secretary; Lucille Greenhalgh, assistant secretary; and Sue Carlson, Mike Wood, and Charlie Wood directors.

The Entertainment Committee Executive Board election will be coming up on Sunday, Nov. 23, at our Sunday Meet and Greet. A slate of officers has already been nominated for the 2026 executive board. Anyone with a valid activity card can contest any of the nominated positions by presenting their intent in writing before Nov. 7.

Prior to Nov. 7, nominations may also be made to contest any office provided that the nominee has presented their intent in writing to seek office. You must present your qualifications and a copy of your up-to-date OTOW Activity Card by email to entcom2014@gmail. com or call 727-449-9243 for more in-

formation.

The election will take place on Nov. 23 in accordance with the bylaws during the Sunday Meet and Greet.

The nominating subcommittee will The band At Large entertained us interview these applicants and report their qualifications for office to the full board for approval.

Our first show after our summer break will feature The Beatle Maniacs, who turn imagination into a reality, bringing the sounds of the "Fab Four"

Spectacular visual lighting effects accompany multi-media and costume changes as The Beatle Maniacs span the music and history of the Beatles.

Songs you will hear from this fabulous group include Twist & Shout, Yesterday, Come Together, and Hey Jude just to name a few.

Our shows have sold out this year, so be sure to get your tickets ahead of

Halloween is just around the corner and our Halloween dance is Saturday, Oct. 25. The South Shore Cruisers Band will be entertaining us. This band plays music from the '60s, '70s and beyond. So be sure you have your dancing shoes on.

The Entertainment Committee spends many hours decorating and those who have attended in the past are amazed at how we transform our Auditorium into a fantastic Halloween party theme.

Remember that our Halloween dance features a Halloween costume contest. So, get your costumes ready and come and join in the fun.

This dance is one of our largest

dances. Come purchase your tickets clude New Year's Eve. The cost for a so that you will not miss an evening of fun. You do not need to wear a costume to come to the dance. The cost is \$15. Don't wait! Tickets are almost sold out.

Those of you who have not yet purchased your New Year's Eve tickets, this is an enjoyable time to do so. This is our biggest dance of the year and we always sell out.

You will not want to miss celebrating with our community to bring in the new year. The cost is \$30 per person.

This is a special night, so please dress appropriately (no jeans, T-shirts, or shorts).

The Entertainment Committee has been working hard on lining up entertainment for our 2026 shows and dances. Please stop by the Entertainment Committee table in October to pick up your pamphlet for 2026.

Just a reminder to those who are season ticket holders for shows or dances, you can renew your tickets starting Thursday, Oct. 2. You have until Oct. 31. If you do not renew your season tickets by this time, your seats will be open for anyone to purchase.

Those of you who are not season ticket holders and would like to be, you may purchase season tickets starting Monday, Oct. 13.

Starting Nov. 3, tickets will be available for everyone to purchase.

We will have eight shows, \$20 a show, so your season show ticket will cost \$160.

There will be 12 dances, which in-

season dance ticket is \$145 (\$10 per dance, except for Halloween which is \$15, and New Year's Eve which is \$30).

All attendees to shows and dances must present their ticket to the ticket takers upon entering the event. If you do not have a ticket, you can purchase one at the front entrance if the event is not sold out.

Look for our banner outside the East Activity Center on Monday and Thursdays indicating ticket sales for all clubs from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

The Entertainment Committee has donated old equipment to the music department at Calvin Hunsinger School here in Clearwater. This school is a special needs school and they have little sound equipment. Mike Wood and several volunteers sorted through their old equipment and made donations, such as speakers, cables, microphones and lighting equipment. This donation will get the school's music department up and running a little smoother.

Thank you to all involved.

For information regarding tickets, please call (727) 449-9243 or (215) 431-4799.

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

On behalf of your On Top of the World Entertainment Committee, thank you for your support.





# ESCAPE THE AUTUMN CHILL THIS OCTOBER

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# Electing dedicated board members is crucial in keeping this community stable

In this article, I hope to address an understanding about the Condominium Board's purpose and function. I believe it is timely to reflect on and discuss this in light of the December election for seats on the Board.

First and foremost, a condominium association operates as a business entity. Therefore, the On Top of the World Condominium Association, Inc., functions as a corporation.

Like any corporation, it has Articles of Incorporation that outline its purpose and establish its existence. The bylaws further define the operational scope and entitlements of the corporation, detailing the rights and responsibilities of both the condominium corporation and its members.

Additionally, the Declaration of Condominium addresses all matters concerning real estate, individual owner rights and responsibilities, and the common elements shared among owners.

By common elements, we mean anything other than the inside of the actual condo occupied by an owner, excluding recreational amenities and utility plant, and the land under them. Common elements include the building structure outside the individually owned unit, land area between buildings, parking lots and roadways.

Simply put, the Board's sole responsibilities are to ensure the financial stability of the corporation (the Association), to arrange for execution of its responsibilities as spelled out in the governing documents (hiring a management company, adopting rules and procedures, and enforcing the same), and to generally adopt policies that ensure the uninterrupted operation of the community.

There is also a strategic component to the Board function and that is to be looking forward at both threats and op-



portunities for the community/corporation.

But let me be clear, Board service requires each member to demonstrate a commitment to the operation and integrity of the condominium association.

The Board should be asking each other "how can we better support the Management Company" while at the same time the Management Company should be asking "how can we support the Board to the betterment of the Community."

The current and prior Boards have sought other community management firms. They have pretty well determined that only the current Management Company is suited to manage the complicated processes of the On Top of the World Community.

Bottom line is, both the Board and the Management Company need to cooperate constructively and together.

The Association's Board plays a crucial role in ensuring the community's success, and to achieve that success, directors must carry out their duties in good faith. This involves acting in a manner that serves the corporation's best interests while exercising reasonable care and inquiry, akin to that of

a prudent business person. Directors must strive to advance the objectives of the common interest of the community, make decisions aligned with the governing documents, while adhering to Board adopted policies.

From my perspective of lengthy Board service, and also speaking as an active community manager, I believe individuals best suited for service are people who have organizational experience working collaboratively with others as team members.

This brings to mind ex-military officers, engineers and corporate leaders. In other words, people with mission driven teamwork experience. They understand both the mission (of the Association) and the importance of accountability to each other, the team, and to their community.

The sole focus of a board member needs to be on Association operations and its sustainability.

The Board's duties go beyond simply following the rules. It requires board members to put the community's needs above their own personal interests.

Board members must act honestly and in good faith, making decisions for the benefit of the entire Association.

The Board is not a social organization which provides entertainment for residents, nor can it be a clearing house for resident requests.

Board decisions must be made with care, diligence, and a commitment to fairness and transparency of all actions.

The Board's responsibilities are established in the bylaws. If you wish to read the entire bylaws, you will find them at otowclearwaterinfo.com, or in AppFolio under "shared documents."

Looking ahead to the next decade and beyond at the On Top of the World Condominium Association of Clear-

water, I recognize that this community will face numerous challenges, not the least of which is navigating regulatory compliance and ensuring that both buildings and common elements are maintained to the highest engineering and architectural standards.

Additionally, the evolving needs of this community's diverse resident demographic will intensify. This will take steady and thoughtful leadership to steer the course over the longest term. This requires Board members who will demonstrate the ability to engage with these future challenges under the broadest of scope and those that possess the qualifications necessary for long-term success.

It is important to vote securely. When it comes to national and state elections, that is certainly true. Even at our community level, it is just as important.

Do not let anyone fill out a ballot for you and then ask or tell you to sign it, or ask you to sign a blank ballot.

Unfortunately, this type of vote harvesting was reported in the last election for the condominium board. Particularly at prey are frail neighbors who may not get out as much as they used to and are not well informed about the events happening in the community.

Vote harvesting is a form of fraudulent activity and is prohibited under 718 F.S.

The safest and most private way to vote is electronically through otow.conduu.com. The Association has used this company for several years. I encourage you to visit www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/ Electronic-Voting today and enroll in electronic voting (if you haven't already done so).

Who you choose to serve on the Board really matters. It is important to vote privately and securely.



# PREPARE TODAY FOR A HURRICANE

Don't wait for a bad storm to be hours away.

Don't think, "It will never hit here."
The photo at left was taken Aug. 4, 2024. It did hit here.

## Your Pre-Storm Checklist

- 1. Map out an evacuation route and choose a final, fortified destination well-inland. Tell family and friends where you intend to be during a storm. You should have one post-disaster contact one person who is out of the danger zone, who you can contact and who will share your information with other loved ones. You may be short on power so consider limiting your contacts to one person.
- 2. If you stay behind, keep the following in stock: 1 week supply of bottled water and non-perishable foods, refill prescriptions, bottle opener, flashlight and battery operated radio. Do you know where these items are stored? Don't go searching for them as a storm is closing in. Keep tape and cardboard handy should a leak develop.
- Create an inventory of your home. Use photos and videos in case some day you need to replace your items or determine the value of items lost. Special items should be stored away from your home in a safe place. Store important documents in sealable, water proof containers.
- 4. Bring in porch items and anything outside that could become a projectile.
- 5. Fill vehicle with gas. Don't wait until the mad rush starts.
- 6. Don't assume a storm is over. Stay indoors. Please use a flashlight and not candles. Keep refrigerator closed as much as possible.
- 7. Get cash. Money machines could be out for weeks.
- 8. Review your insurance policy once a year to make sure you are covered for a major storm. If you need to file a claim, do so immediately after a storm. Make a list of damaged items. Keep receipts. Be patient.
- 9. The OTOW activity centers are not storm shelters. They will not be open during a storm. If you live on an upper floor or may need assistance after a storm, plan ahead. There are nearby evacuation shelters.

# OTOW will provide weather updates if possible using RAVE, OTOW-TV 901 and the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). WHEN A STORM HAS PASSED

- A. If you evacuated, do not return home until authorities give you the OK.
- B. Do not go outside. Do not begin cleanup on your own. Let OTOW management personnel remove limbs, wires and all damage.
- C. Do not drive into a flooded road. Turn around don't drown.
- D. Traffic lights may be out. Stop at all intersections where a traffic light is not working. Treat each intersection as a four-way stop.
- E. Do not use sink water until authorities give the OK. Do not eat spoiled food.
- F. Do not wear flipflops outside. Wear sturdy shoes.

Sign up for RAVE alerts.

Community updates will be posted on RAVE,

OTOW-TV Channel 901 and the

www.nhc.noaa.gov

Box Office (otowboxoffice.com).

# Board election coming up in December Very basics of storage room

### **Storage Rooms 101**

Your Management Company has been receiving questions regarding storage rooms lately.

For example, does my building coordinator assign my storage space?

Does my storage space size ever change?

Can my neighbor place their items in my space?

Well, no, your building coordinator does not assign your storage space. Spaces are determined by the Association in accordance with rule No. 17 and are conveyed to the new owner at the time of property transfer.

No, the size of your storage space doesn't change.

And last but not least, your neighbor can place items in your space, but only with your permission.

Storage room allocation methodology falls under the Third Amended and Restated Rules of the On Top of the World Condominium Association, Inc. under No. 17 and it is provided in the box at right for your information and convenience.

Still unsure and have additional questions?

Write them down and take them to the Community Service Office. Put them to my attention and be sure to include your name, building and unit, and your current contact information. You will receive a call back, an email, written response, or a visit from Inspection Services, who can assist you in better understanding of the dos and don'ts of storage rooms and allocation methods.

### Electronic Voting Did You Know

If you haven't registered to vote electronically, you may want to do so as soon as possible by visiting otow.conduu.com.

With a board election coming up in December, every vote counts. If you have already registered to vote electronically, you do not have to opt-in again. When the time comes to vote in the December election you will simply login and vote online.

If you have not previously voted electronically, you first need to de-



termine the designated voting owner of the unit and opt in. If you wish to vote electronically, take time now to fill out the "opt-in" form online at https://www.otowclearwaterinfo.com/electronic-voting/.

In order to vote electronically in the December election, you must first submit the "opt-in" form. Any "opt-in" form received after the cut off will not apply for that election.

Once you "opt-in" to vote electronically, Conduu will email you instructional information on how to register to vote using their secure software.

### Paint/Waterproofing

The front of Building 79 and the rear of Building 78 will be the next two structures to see crews from the painting contractor arriving in October.

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

# Construction, Roofing and Large Scope Projects

The Management Company's state licensed elevator division will begin the planning portion of its next elevator modernization project which is scheduled to begin on Nov. 3.

(Continued on page 5)

# Rule 17: Storage Rooms

"The Common Elements of each condominium building include one or more storage rooms. The Association will allocate to each unit a portion of the building's storage room floor area in accordance with the methodology set forth in Exhibit "B" of the On Top of the World Condominium Association, Inc. Third Amended and Restated Rules. The location of the storage space allocated to each unit will be determined by the Association.

Storage rooms may not be used for workshops of any kind. Any workspaces currently in existence and installed by unit owners within the Common Areas must be removed by the applicable unit owner within 30 days after receiving notice from the Association or Management Company. The Association may (but shall not be obligated to) remove any owner-installed workstation remaining in the Common Areas after the expiration of the said 30-day period at the applicable unit owner's expense, including, but not limited to, the costs of demolition, hauling, and disposal of debris and repair to the storage room

Unit owners are responsible for maintaining their assigned storage spaces in a safe, orderly condition. No material may be placed or stored in any storage room in violation of applicable laws or codes. No amount of any explosive material, flammable liquid, or flammable gas (i.e. propane tank and the like), regardless of type of container, may be placed or stored in any storage room. No bicycles with lithium batteries may be stored in storage rooms. Boxes and containers may not be stacked in a way that presents a safety hazard to others. No owner shall cause or permit any obstruction of the central aisle in any storage room or use any portion of the storage area of any storage room not specifically assigned to that owner by the Association. No shelves may be installed in any storage room unless the proposed design and location of the shelves are approved by the Association prior to installation.

The assignment of a specific portion of a storage room for the use of a particular unit shall continue indefinitely until it is withdrawn or changed by the Association and it shall automatically pass with, and be inseparable from, the ownership of the applicable unit. However, at transfer of ownership, the prior owner's personal property must be removed from the storage room. If any personal property of a prior owner remains in the storage room after 30 days, the Association may (but shall not be obligated to) attempt to notify the prior owner to remove all personal property from the storage room within 30 days after the date of the notice. If sent, the said notice shall be sent by hand delivery, by certified U.S. Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or by a commercial next business day courier service such as Federal Express, to the prior owner at the latest address of the prior owner set forth in the records of the Association. A copy of the notice shall also be placed on or immediately adjacent to the prior owner's personal property in the storage room.

If any personal property of a prior owner remains in the storage room after the expiration of the said 30 day period following the date of the Association's said notice to the prior owner, all personal property of the prior owner which remains in the storage room shall be deemed automatically and conclusively to have been abandoned by the prior owner. The Association shall have the option, to be exercised by the Association in its sole and absolute discretion, to do one or more of the following: (A) Take and assume exclusive ownership of, and control over, the personal property, as a gratuitous transfer of title thereto, free of any right, title, interest, or claim of the prior owner, and thereafter use, sell, donate, or otherwise dispose of the personal property in any manner deemed by the Association to be in the best interest of the Association, and to retain for the benefit of the Association any monetary or other benefits derived from any such use or disposition. (B) Reject ownership of the personal property, remove it from the storage room and store it, as agent for the prior owner and at the prior owner's expense, in a location selected by the Association until such time as it is picked up by the prior owner or the Association elects to proceed with any other option under this paragraph. (C) Cause the personal property to be destroyed, recycled, or discarded. None of the Association, the members of the Board, the Management Company, or any officer, director, employee or agent of the Association or the Management Company shall have any liability to any prior owner for any action taken pursuant to this rule."





# Water heaters traditionally last 10-15 years.

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

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



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

Alternatively, you may visit the Community Service Office to apply. OTOW-ALERTS can provide information of critical concern to the residents.

# - are you ready to vote electronically?

# management in your building

Because of the timing of the work, this update is being provided in this month's newspaper.

The elevator on the east end of Building 96 will be taken out of service on Nov. 3 at 7 a.m. The scope of work involves replacing operating components to provide for decades of future reliability.

The remodeling of the elevator cab interior is also part of the process which provides new, updated laminate surfaces for residents and visitors to the community.

The entire undertaking should be completed in roughly two weeks, barring any unforeseen conditions.

The elevator at the west end of the building will still be available for use.

Residents and visitors to Building 96 should be aware of active work zones and exercise caution in and around these areas while the elevator is out of service.

As of this update, the award of the next cycle of railing improvements has occurred and the projects will be entering the engineering and county permitting phases of the process.

The Management Company anticipates that the projects will begin sometime in the late fall/early winter months and will pass along that information as soon as it becomes available.

As with the previous projects, the work entails the removal of the 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

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

As has been referenced in the newspaper, on the community TV channel, and the bulletins posted in all building center core lobbies, these items will be removed and disposed of without further notice. These ongoing efforts help keep the areas safe for first responders as well as maintain an aesthetically pleasing community for all to reside in.

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

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

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

The community's response for compliance was astounding, as has been the feedback regarding these efforts.

Once again, thank you for your support in this undertaking.

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

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

### After-Hours

Emergency Information
The OTOW emergency after-hours
phone number is 727-799-1115.
Please call this number after hours in

phone number is 727-799-1115. Please call this number, after hours, in the event of an emergency, such as a water intrusion into your condo.

For all other inquiries regarding general issues or questions that are not service-related, you will need to come in person to the Community Service Office

### **OTOW** Alerts

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

You can also sign up from the "Stay Informed" tab located at the top of the home page.

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

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

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

As a reminder, when signing up for community and emergency alerts, be sure to enter your building number.

You can select to receive notifica-

tions via text, telephone call, and/or email. You can select one, two, or all three notification options.

Should you wish to change your notification options you can do that by visiting the Community Service Office, calling 727-683-6981, or email at www.associationinfo@otowfl.net.

# Community Service Office Information

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

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

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

The goal of the CSO is to make an initial assessment of the request and to determine if it is an emergency or non-emergency. Once the matter is assessed, a plan to resolve will be made and work scheduled.

Generally, all non-emergency service requests are assessed and addressed in the order in which they are received.

From time to time, it may become necessary for us to contact you with questions or clarification of your request.

It is not necessary to report service requests more than once.

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

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

## Storm Shelters - Get Informed Before A Hurricane Arrives

Pinellas County has 3 storm shelters available to people who are dependent on electricity or need assistance with medications. But the time to get informed about these shelters is not when a hurricane is here. The time is now. You must be pre-registered to be accepted at a county shelter.



Please note, during inclement weather, you may experience loss of elevator service or loss of power. Please plan ahead.

The shelters are available through the Pinellas County Special Needs Evacuation Program. Transportation to shelters is available. No pets are allowed. If you cannot find someone to take care of your pet, Pinellas County Animal Services may be able to help. If you choose to stay at a shelter, you must bring your own medical equipment, medications, blankets, pillows, change of clothing, batteries, special dietery items, sources of activities, personal hygiene products, radios, ear plugs, important papers and a list of emergency contacts.

For more information, please visit PinellasCounty.org/specialneeds or call (727) 464-3800

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Tara Still 727-577-8145 taracpa@gmail.com,



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

The owner will be contacted when each portrait is finished.

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

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

Irene also can be reached at 617-921-3272.

# Pet of the Month

Meet our Teddy - a 13 year old Yorkie! Many people know Teddy, who will grin or grit at people on our walks around the lake.

We think he's the cutest guy on the block.

Teddy sports a variety of winter attire and is the best dressed guy in On Top of the World.

His favorite thing to do is chase squirrels and play with his toys!

His parents, Lorraine and Jerry Grubba, love the no-shed feature of this breed.

If you walk by our unit, you will often find Teddy looking out the window watching the world go by.



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





Winner receives a \$50 card to The Dog Stop

TheDogStop.com/Clearwater

All submitted images will be placed online at otowboxoffice.com.

Browse for this ad and enter.



2025 Howl-A-Ween Pet Costume Contest

Dress up your pet in any costume.
Then simply take a picture (with official logo in picture) and email it to On Top of the World News.

## otow.newsroom@gmail.com

This contest is open to OTOW pets only. Your pet's photo and information must be received by OTOW News by Oct. 15 to qualify. Email one picture and in the email include your name, your pet's name and your building number. Please include the name of the costume your pet is wearing. Contest is open to any pet - dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, etc. You cannot use photos of your pet from past years.

All entries must be new photos taken Oct. 1-Oct. 15, 2025. PLEASE NOTE: The contest logo at right must be visible in the picture you take. Cut out the logo at right and place it near your pet when you take the picture. No exceptions.

Don't cover up your pet up with the logo!

No photoshopping. Just have the logo nearby your pet when you snap the picture. Photos sent to OTOW News that do not include the logo will be disqualified. Winners will be announced in the November newspaper on Oct. 31.



Anyone in the world can vote! Visit otowboxoffice.com between Oct. 17-19, look for this ad, click, and vote online.



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RETAIL

# Fall Festival 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Nov. 1

### Fall Festival

The 2025 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo will take place on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium and back parking lot.

New vendors of every variety will be here, inside and outside!

There will be free stuff, raffle prizes, arts and crafts vendors, OTOW club vendors, CVS vaccinations, food trucks and more!

As a reminder to OTOW clubs, unless you are an arts or crafts or outdoor sport club, your table will be inside the Auditorium this year. All inside vendors will choose their own table location except for the Good Neighbors Association, the Entertainment Committee, CVS and St. John's Hearing Institute. These vendors will have assigned locations.

Also, indoor vendors have the option to decorate their table the day before the event on Friday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. The goal is to cut down on traffic jams that sometimes occur at the elevator outside.

As always, we ask our OTOW resident vendors to carpool or be dropped off at the East Activity Center due to limited parking.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the event!

## Attention OTOW Residents

Ceramics

We are seeking residents interested in reviving a ceramics club.

Everything you need is available. We have three kilns onsite as well as greenware ceramic supplies.

We are seeking at least three resident volunteers with kiln experience. One resident with teaching and kiln experience has already reached out. However, two more residents are still required to revive the group.

### **Certified Fitness Instructors**

We are seeking residents with experience and certification or a willingness to obtain certification to lead weekday morning exercise classes.

Two groups currently exercise in the East Activity Center Exercise Room, one at 8 a.m. and one at 9 a.m., but are currently exercising to a video. These groups would prefer to be led by a certified instructor.

The Bonesavers exercise group also would like a certified instructor. This class meets in the EAC Largo Room at 8 a.m.

So, we are seeking an instructor for three groups that already meet.

In addition, the EAC Exercise Room is available from noon to 3 p.m. to introduce new exercise classes to the community if instructors are available.

Please contact Nancy Rogers at general\_activity@scaclw.com if you are interested.

### YMCA Healthy Steps

Healthy Steps for Older Adults, a fall prevention workshop, has been



rescheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 9 am – 12 pm in the EAC Clearwater Room (downstairs). Registration is required.

Cathy Caceres, healthy living coordinator with the Clearwater YMCA, will lead this fall prevention workshop. This class will have a maximum 30 students per class and as of this newspaper going to press, only 15 additional slots were still available.

The workshop also will return in the winter

Healthy Steps for Older Adults is an evident-based fall risk screening and education class for adults ages 65-orolder. This program consists of one three-hour workshop focused on fall prevention, proper footwear, safety at home, good nutrition for bone health and the importance of exercise.

Participants will learn at-home exercises to improve strength and balance and receive information about other fall prevention programs.

It's a powerful session with practical takeaways and it's free!

Each attendee will receive fall-prevention gifts to take home, for example a grabber stick, night light and anti-slip mats.

To register, please email: Nancy Rogers at general\_activity@scaclw. com. Include your name, address, and telephone number, and reference "Healthy Steps for Older Adults."

### One Blood

The Big Red Bus will be at the East Activity Center front parking lot on Thursday, Oct. 9, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Residents can register online at Nancy's Bulletin Board located at otowclearwaterinfo.com, in the Community Service Office or just show up

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

Take this opportunity to save lives. See flyer below to learn how to register, or you can also just show up that day.

Thank you for saving lives!

The Honor Roll for September is as follows: Shana Cutler, Ron Ohanna, William Keane, John Arrington, Eugene Abood, Kristin Cousineau, Rex Doty, Maureen Walker, Anthony Richichi, Henry Nelson and Gail McNeil.

### Medicare Open Enrollment

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) will present a Medicare Open Enrollment seminar on Wednesday, Oct.8, at 10 a.m. in the EAC Auditorium.

Medicare open enrollment dates are Oct. 15-Dec. 7. SHINE will outline the different Medicare paths and the election options during the open enrollment period.

A SHINE volunteer also will be available to answer any questions you may have. No registration is required.

SHINE is a program offered by the Department of Elder Affairs in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco & Pinellas.

Specially trained volunteers can assist you with your Medicare, Medicaid, and health insurance questions by providing one-on-one phone or virtual online counseling and information. SHINE services are free, unbiased and confidential. SHINE Counselors can be reached by calling 1-800-963-5337 or 727-217-8111

### OnSpot Dermatology

The OnSpot Dermatology mobile unit returns with a "Derma Drive" on Friday, Oct. 24 at the EAC front parking lot off of World Parkway Boulevard East from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Be sure to get regular check-ups with a dermatologist and here are some skin cancer prevention tips:

- 1. Avoid the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., which are the peak hours of sun strength in North America, even in the winter and on cloudy days.
- 2. Wear sunscreen at least sun protection factor (SPF 30) throughout the entire year. Reapply sunscreen every two hours or more frequently if you're swimming or sweating.
- 3. Wear sun-protective clothing with ultraviolet protection factor (UPF) of 50-plus, which blocks 98 percent of the sun's rays. Hats with wide brims and sun-protective clothing that covers your arms and legs are helpful to protect your skin from harmful UV damage. Sunscreen doesn't block all UV rays, which cause skin cancer.
- 4. Avoid tanning beds. Tanning beds operate with UV lights, damaging your skin and potentially leading to cancer.
- 5. Self-check your skin. If you notice differences, talk with your healthcare

Here are the facts:

- 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70.
- More than two people die of skin cancer in the US every hour.
- Having five or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma.
- Here's the good news! When detected early, the five-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent.

To make an appointment with OnSpot Dermatology, visit onspotdermatology.com/otow, click on the flyer/link posted on the OTOW website www.otowclearwaterinfo.com or call: 941-444-0011.

### Movie Night

On Top of the World Movie Night will take place on Wednesday, Oct 8, 4 p.m. in the EAC Auditorium.

The movie will be "Wicked."

Beat the heat and come inside the beautiful East Activity Center Auditorium.

Wicked was produced in 2024 by Runtime Studio with Director Jon M Chu. It is rated PG.

The cast includes Cynthia Erivo, Ariana Grande, Jonathan Bailey, Jeff Goldblum and Kristin Chenoweth.

Wicked is the untold story of the witches of Oz. Elphaba is a young woman misunderstood because of her unusual green skin, who has yet to discover her true power. Glinda is a popular young woman, gilded by privilege and ambition, who has yet to discover her true heart.

### Shredding

Many residents have inquired as to when I will bring back a shredding event to On Top of the World and it's time to explain. The shredding events were provided by Pinellas County Consumer Protection and/or the Sheriff's Office at least twice a year in the past.

However, approximately two years ago, the county reduced their budget for these types of events. I promise to keep asking for a return trip to OTOW.

A Largo ShredFest will be taking place on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Starkey Road Collection Center, 1551 Starkey Road, from 9 a.m.-noon, or until full capacity has been reached.

This easy, drive-through event allows residents to bring up to five boxes of documents for free and secure onsite shredding and recycling. All patrons are to remain in their cars during the event.

ShredFest is part of the City of Largo's sustainability initiatives. To learn more about ShredFest or other upcoming events, visit LargoRecycles.com or call 727-587-6760.

A Pinellas County Consumer Protection shredding event will take place in Tarpon Springs on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9-11 a.m. at East Lake High School, 1300 Silver Eagle Drive, Tarpon Springs.

Do you have any documents with personal information that should be disposed of properly to keep your identity safe?

Bring your personal papers for safe disposal to this shred event. A deputy will be in attendance to answer any questions.

### Nancy on Vacation

I will be on vacation, Monday, Oct. 13-Friday, Oct. 17 with limited access to phone or email. If you are planning to reserve the facilities during the week of Oct. 13, please reach out to me by Thursday, Oct 9.

If you have any questions regarding room availability during the week of my absence, please contact Doug Kates in the newsroom for instructions: 727-799-3216.

# How do I make a reservation on the calendar?

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

Send an email to: general\_activity@scaclw.com or call 799-2734. This starts the process.

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

Visit otowclearwaterinfo.com, click on "Community Activities" and "Forms" and select the SCA Online Facility Request Form. Complete and sign the form with your mouse or finger and click submit. I will acknowledge receipt in an email.

This form works better if you use Google as your browser.

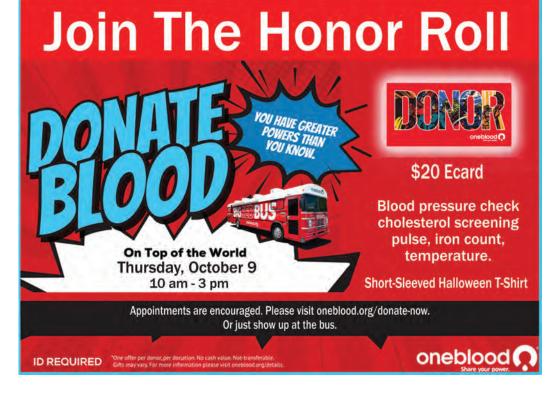
Paper forms are still available and can be picked up and dropped off in the Community Service Office where I have a mailbox. Please complete the form outside of that busy office and then drop it off. I will acknowledge receipt in an email or phone call.

### **Activity Card Renewal**

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

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

If you do not have your most recently issued Activity Card or Access Card, the fee is \$25 for a replacement.



Club members

participating in the 2025 Fall Festival on Nov. 1

can pick out and decorate

their club tables from 10 am to 10 pm on Friday,

Oct. 31 in the Auditorium.

# October Calendar

# Special Events

Wednesday, Oct. 1 - Association Board Meeting, 1 pm, East Activity Center Auditorium (also Live OTOW-TV)

Saturday, Oct. 4, 1, 18, 25 - Farmers Markets, 11 am - 4 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot

Tuesday, Oct. 7, 5 - 9 pm, New York-New Jersey Club Sports Shirt Night, East Activity Center Auditorium

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 10 am - 12 pm, SHINE Medicare Open Enrollment, East Activity Center Auditorium

Wednesday, Oct. 8 - Movie Night, 4 pm, "Wicked," East Activity Center Auditorium

Thursday, Oct. 9 - Good Neighbors Association Get Acquainted Coffee, 9 - 11 am, EAC Auditorium Thursday, Oct. 9 - OneBlood, 10 am - 3 pm, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot

Friday, Oct. 10, 10 am - 2 pm, Good Neighbors Association Food and Clothing Drive, East Activity Center Pavilion

Saturday, Oct. 11, 12-5 pm, Bingo Marathon, East Activity Center Auditorium

Saturday, Oct. 18, 3:30 - 7 pm, Good Neighbors Association Music Bingo, East Activity Center Auditorium

Thursday, Oct. 23, 7:30 - 9:15 pm, Entertainment Commitee Show, Beatle Maniacs, East Activity Center Auditorium

Friday, Oct. 24, 7:30 am - 3:30 pm, OnSpot Dermatology, East Activity Center Front Parking Lot

Saturday, Oct. 25 - Entertainment Committee Halloween Dance, 7:30 - 10:30 pm, EAC Auditorium

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 am - 2 pm, 2025 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo, East Activity Center indoors and outdoors

Club Information Tables, Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 - 10:30 am, East Activity Center Auditorium

# **Clubs and Groups**

Art Guild - Board Meeting: No board meeting this month

Art Guild - Business Meeting: No business meeting this month

Art Guild - Club Meeting: 1-3 pm, Friday, Oct. 17, Largo Room

Art Guild - Autumn Art Program: 1-4 pm, Thursdays, Largo Room

Art Guild - Painting Pals: 1-4 pm, Wednesdays, room open to club members

Art Guild - Acrylic Painting: 1-4 pm, Thursdays, room open to club members

Baby Boomers: 5:30-6:30 pm, Wed., Oct. 1 and Thur., Oct. 16, Largo Room

Baby Boomers Acoustic Jam: 10 am-1 pm, Thursdays, Learning Lab

Bible Study: 2-3 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach Room

Bingo: 6 - 10 pm, Mondays, East Activity Center Auditorium

Canadian Club: Off for the summer

Caring and Sharing: 9 am-12 pm, Tuesdays, Clearwater Room

Chorus: Last day to join is Oct. 21

Coloring Book Club: 12-3 pm, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room

Computer Club: 8:30-10 am, Wednesdays and Saturdays, Learning Lab

🌉 Democratic Club Board: 2-4 pm, Thursday, Oct. 23, Crystal Beach Room

Democratic Club Meeting: 2-4 pm, Thursday, Oct. 9, Pavilion

Democratic Club Happy Hour: 6-8 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 28, Learning Lab

Entertainment Com. Board: 10:30-11:30 am, Monday, Oct. 13, Crystal Beach

Fixers, Fiddlers, Fumblers: No upcoming events

Freebirdz Weight Loss Group: 10:30 am-12 pm, Fridays, Crystal Beach

🚟 French Language & Culture: 11 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Dunedin Room

🚝 Good Karma Book Club: 10-11:30 am, Thursday, Oct. 16, Crystal Beach Rm 🥯 Good Neighbors: 9-11 am, Thursday, Oct. 9, Get Acquainted Coffee

High Vibe Tribe: 7-9 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 14, Kitchen

Irish Club - Pizza Party: 4:30-8:30 pm, Monday, Oct. 27, Pavilion

🚟 🕌 Italian-American Club: No events scheduled

Nesters Board Meeting: none

Jesters Meeting: 6-9 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 8, WAC Belleair Room Kibitz Corner: 9-10 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, Kitchen

Knitting Group: 9-11 am, Wednesdays, Crystal Beach Room Lambda Social: 6-10 pm, Friday, Oct. 10, Pavilion

Lambda Chat: 10:30-12, Fridays, Safety Harbor Room

Lawn Bowl Club: No upcoming events

Music Group: 3-6 pm, Tuesdays, Dunedin Room

New York-New Jersey: Nothing scheduled

Philosophy Club: 10-11:30 am, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Rom

Plant-Based Living Club: 3-4 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 8, Learning Lab

Pickleball Club Board Meeting: 1-3 pm, Monday, Oct. 20, Crystal Beach Pickleball Club Game Night: 6:30-9:30 pm, Monday, Oct. 20, Belleair Rm

Pray For America: 10 am-12 pm, Saturdays, Crystal Beach Room

Press Association: 1:30-2:30 pm, Thursday, Oct. 2, Crystal Beach Room

Republican Club Meeting: 6-9 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 7, WAC Belleair

Republican Club Events: None scheduled

Speak English: 10-11 a.m., Thursdays, EAC Dunedin Room (all winter)

Tennis Club: No upcoming events

Texas Card Game Club: 3-10 pm, Friday, Oct. 31, Clearwater Room

Theater Workshop Picnic: 6-8:30, Wednesday, Oct. 1, Pavilion

Travel Club: 2-4 pm, Friday, Oct. 3, EAC Oldsmar Room

Yeterans Club: No upcoming events

World Quilters: 9 am-2 pm, Tuesdays, Largo Room

Writer's Ink: 1:30-3:30 pm, Thursdays, Dunedin Room

# **Exercises and Games**

Aqua Aerobics: 9-10 am, Mondays through Fridays, EAC Pool

Bonesavers: 8-9 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Largo Room (Oct 31 Crystal Beach Room)

Co-Ed Exercises: 10-10:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Exercise Room

Cornhole: 1-3 pm, Mondays, Belleair Room

Gentle Movement Exercises: 11 am-12 pm, Tuesdays and 3-4 pm, Fridays, Auditorium (no 10/24, 10/31) Kaboom: 11-11:45 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, EAC Exercise Room (no classes week of 10/20) Ladies Exercises: 8-9 am, Monday-Friday, Exercise Room

Line Dance Club: 1-3 pm, Tuesdays, Auditorium

Moving 'n Grooving Line Dance: 9-10:45 am; Tuesdays | 1-2:45; Fridays, EAC Auditorium (no 10/24, 10/31)

Qigong: 3-4 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Exercise Room Slimnastics: 9-10 am, Monday through Friday, Exercise Room

Snowbirds Line Dancing: 8 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Auditorium (starts Oct. 15)

Social Dance with Howard: 1-3 pm, Thursdays, West Activity Center Belleair Room

Tai Chi Flow: 3:15-4:15 pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Exercise Room

Yoga Align and Stretch: 10-11:30 am, Mondays, WAC Belleair Room and Thursdays, EAC Exercise Room

9 Ladies Golf: 8:30 am, Tuesdays 18 Ladies Golf: 8:30 am, Tuesdays Billiards 8 ball: 6-10 pm, Mondays and Tuesdays Billiards: 9 ball: 1-3 pm, Tuesdays and Fridays; 6 - 10 pm, Thursdays; Billiards Events: 2-7 pm, Friday, Oct. 3, Cookout at the Pavilion Mens Golf: 8 am, Wednesdays Mixed Golf: 9 am, Fridays

Lawn Bowling: 6:15 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays | 9 am, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays Pickleball: 10am-1pm Mon, Wed, Fri | 8-10am, Tue, Thu, Sat | 5:30 to 7:30pm Tue, Wed, Thu | 9-12 Sun. Ping Pong: 10-1, Tuesdays-Fridays, Belleair Room

Shuffleboard: 4 pm, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Softball: 8 am, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Tennis: 7:30-10 am, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays | 10-1 Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays

Swimming Pools (October-April): 8-6:30 Mondays-Saturdays, 9-6:30 Sundays

Swimming Pools (May-September): 8-8 Mondays-Saturdays, 9-8 Sundays

All-In: 2-4 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 1, Crystal Beach Room

Board Games: 1-3 pm, Wednesdays, Palm Harbor or Belleair Room

Blackout: 6:30-9:30 pm, Thursdays all year, Belleair Room (Canadian Club members)

Bid Euchre: 6:30-9:30 pm, Tuesdays, Crystal Beach Room Casual Bridge: 1-4 pm, Tuesdays | 9 am-12 pm, Thursdays, Ozona Room

Cribbage: 10 am-12 pm, Wednesdays, Ozona Room

Dominos: 5:30-8 pm, Tuesdays, Ozona Room

Double Deck Pinochle: 1-3:30 pm, Wednesdays and Sundays, Ozona Room Ladies Bunco: 6-9:30 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 15, Crystal Beach Room

Mahjong: 1-4 pm, Tuesdays, Fridays, Palm Harbor Room Beginner Mahjong: 3-5 pm, Sundays, Safety Harbor Room

Mexican Train: 1-5 pm, Thursdays, Safety Harbor Room

Qwirkle: 1-4 pm, Mondays, Dunedin Room

Rummikub: 12:30 - 3:30 pm, Mondays, Ozona Room Samba Hand & Foot Canasta: 5:30 - 9:30 pm, Fridays, Ozona Room

Alonzo Poker: 5-8 pm, Mondays, Safety Harbor Room Barry's Poker: 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, Ozona Room Bob's Poker: 6-9:30 pm, Tuesdays, Safety Harbor Room Carol's Poker: 6-9 pm, Wednesdays and Fridays, Safety Harbor Room Laura's Poker: 5-9 pm, Fridays, Safety Harbor Room Richie's Poker: 5-8 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, Ozona Room Tom's Poker: 5-9 pm, Wednesdays, Safety Harbor Room

# **Building Events**

Bavarian Chalet, Saturday, Oct. 4, 5-8 pm, Pavilion Polynesian, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2-6 pm, Pavilion

Woodshop: 8-12 Monday-Friday, EAC Woodshop Lapidary: 1-3 pm, Monday-Friday, EAC Lapidary Room Library: 10-12 Mondays & Thursdays, 1-3 Wednesdays

# Schedule released leading up to Dec. 10 board election day

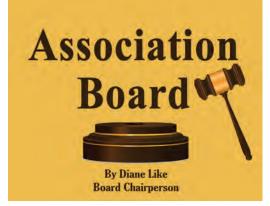
At 10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 10, there will be a Membership Meeting, followed by a Board of Administration Meeting in the East Activity Center Auditorium

This is election day for the board.

Now is the time to confirm the Association has your current mailing address on file. You may do this by checking your AppFolio portal or by visiting the Community Service Office. If you still need access to AppFolio, please visit https://parkwaypinellas.appfolio.com/.

The absolute best way to ensure that your board election vote is received timely is to vote electronically (online voting) for your chosen candidates for the board.

If you have already registered with Conduu to vote electronically, you do not need to reregister. They will send an email notification announcing online voting is now available. This email will arrive the day after the printer informs



the Association that the Second Notice of Election has been mailed via United States Postal Service (USPS). Voting electronically will save you from waiting for the USPS to deliver your voting packet.

If you have not previously signed-up for online voting, please visit the website otowclearwaterinfo.com/electronic voting/ then scroll down and complete the "Consent to Electronic Voting" form located toward the bottom of the screen

and press submit.

Once you have opted in to electronic voting, Conduu will send you an email to complete your registration through the On Top of the World Condominium Association's electronic web portal.

For those of you thinking of running for a seat on the board, or just want to know the timeline for the elections, listed below are some important dates for you to remember - many are mandated by the State of Florida statutes.

Oct. 11 - First notice of election must be mailed not less than 60 days prior to the meeting. We anticipate mailing them prior to that date.

Oct. 31- Written notices of candidacy must be submitted to the Association (not less than 40 days prior to the election.)

Nov. 5 - Candidates must submit their OPTIONAL information sheets not less than 35 days prior to the election.

Nov. 14 - Second mailing will be sent out, including the written annual

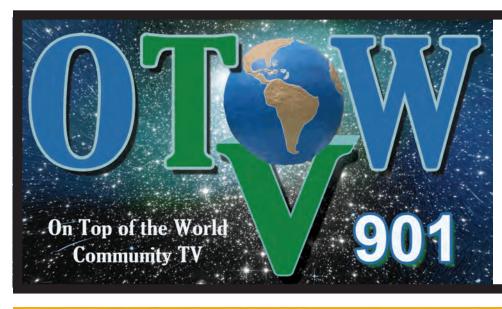
meeting notice, agendas, ballot, envelope and any information sheets.

Nov. 24 – Meet the candidates at the East Activity Center Auditorium. Sessions are scheduled at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. For those who cannot attend, the 1 p.m. session will be shown live on OTOW-TV channel 901 and on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). The rebroadcasts on Channel 901 will begin starting on Nov. 26 and will air a few evenings after the live sessions.

Dec. 8 – Electronic Voting closes at 10 a.m.

Dec. 10 – All ballots must be received by 10 a.m. when the Membership Meeting begins.

We encourage all owners to participate in the election and vote for the candidates you believe are best prepared to meet the challenges of managing our Association. Effective governance is vital to the well-being of all residents and members, and serving on the board is much like managing a small city.



### **UPCOMING LIVE BROADCASTS ON OTOW-TV 901**

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1 pm
Association Board Meeting & Town Hall, live TV 901
Rebroadcasts to follow and uploaded to the Box Office

Monday, Nov. 24, 1 pm
Meet the Candidates live on TV 901
Rebroadcasts to follow and uploaded to the Box Office
(A 6 pm session will not be televised live or recorded)

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 10 am
Election Day Membership and Board Meeting live on TV 901
Rebroadcasts to follow and uploaded to the Box Office





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# Every building has a story to tell, but some buildings lack a storyteller

Your community newspaper is looking for new people to join our staff.

No journalism degree is needed. However. You do need to be a person who enjoys meeting other people in your building and you should be a regular attendee at social events that take place at your building.

Yes. We are looking for building writ-

Wait. Stop. Let me rephrase that. We are looking for storytellers. Can you tell a story?

We are looking for people who want to have fun while getting your building news into our newspaper – maybe three times a year.

In the On Top of the World community there are 91 buildings. Our newspaper currently has 33 residents telling stories about the people in their build-

Unfortunately, there are 58 buildings that have been left out.

In the past 12 months, there have been no stories on the people who live



## Press Association

in those 58 buildings. No stories on 100 year old birthday parties or 50th wedding anniversaries. No stories about socials in the core or a group of friends going out for a meal.

Your building may be one of the 58 places left out. See complete list on page 52 of this newspaper.

If you join the Press Association and

an article about anything fun that happens at your building. You get to tell the rest of the community.

You don't have to represent your building by yourself. Your building can have a few storytellers. You can take turns writing stories. The only catch is, only one storyteller can write each story and your building is allowed one story per month.

And how about this for an incentive - you get to submit photographs, too!

You already enjoy browsing through each community newspaper to see happy residents getting together for social activities. Imagine how much fun it would be to open the next newspaper and see a photo of people from your own building.

On Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., representatives of the Press Association will host an information table at the 2025 On Top of the World Fall Festival & Expo in the East Activity Center Auditorium. President Tom

become a storyteller, you can submit Butcher, Vice President Donna Gagnon and Secretary Joanne Cordes will be there.

> You can fill out a form to become a storyteller for your newspaper. You can ask questions.

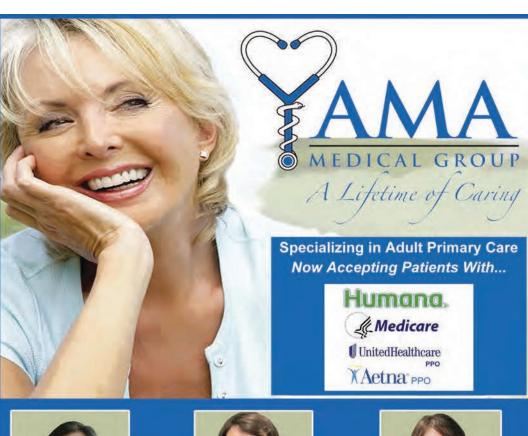
> If you join our staff on Nov. 1, you can attend our annual Writer's Workshop at 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 6, in the Auditorium. This special night is a chance for everyone on staff to learn how to be a better storyteller. OTOW News Editor Doug Kates teaches a one-hour class.

But wait! There's more!

If you stop by our information table at the fall festival, you can fill out a simple six-question survey about our newspaper. Everyone who completes a survey will receive a raffle ticket for five bottles of wine from Aspirations Winery.

Yes. Five bottles of wine in a gift bas-

The winning number will be displayed on OTOW-TV channel 901 on Sunday, Nov. 2, and the winner will be called on Monday, Nov. 3.



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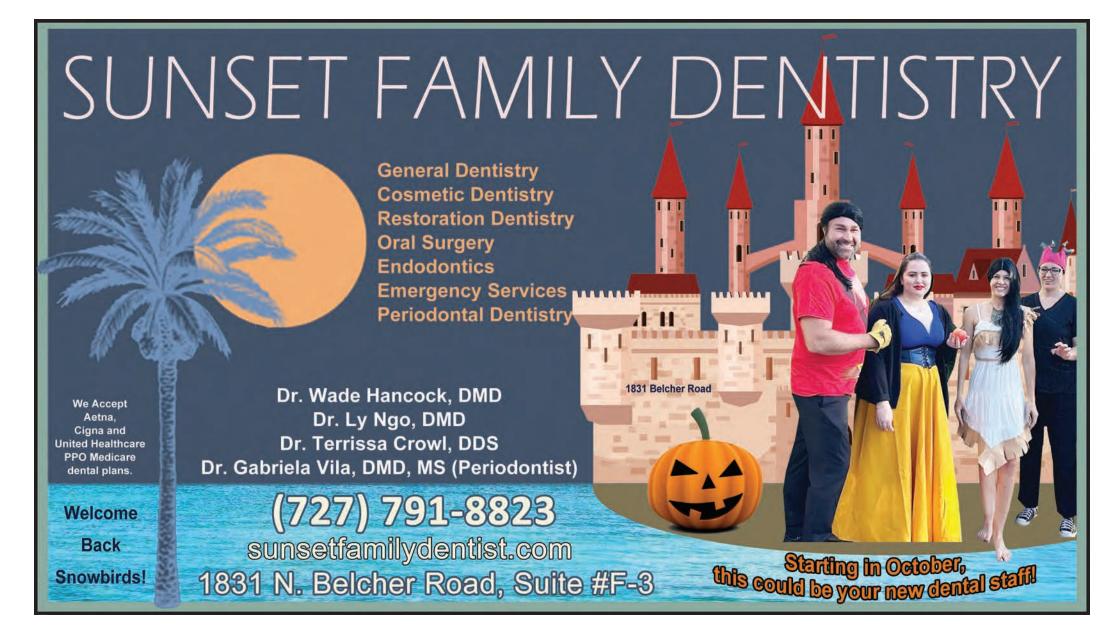




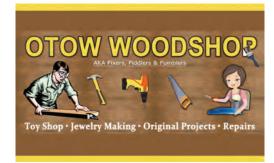


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# From now on, Fixers members will never ask, 'where are the tools?'



### By Jesse Tiamson

When Snowbird members of the Woodshop start coming back to On Top of the World, a big surprise awaits them.

For two weeks, Gary Anderson, Joe Miranda, Lloyd Seabolt, Jesse Tiamson and Henry Santos have been working on an ambitious project - building a tool cabinet to replace the smaller one that had been in the woodshop since the 1980s.

The idea was to consolidate all the tools in one spot and make it easier for members to find tools rather than wasting valuable time looking for them.

The project was the brainchild of Fixers Club Vice President Gary Anderson and was approved by the Fixers Club Board.

Several iterations took place before everyone settled on the final design.

Although the shop was closed to the general membership for a whole week, the five members mentioned above worked on the cabinet for eight hours a day for five days.

They even ate their lunch on site



thanks to a club member who donated food!

The new cabinet was built to last for as long as the woodshop exists.

There were several challenges that confronted us after the old cabinet was taken down, but our five members and their ideas were up for the task.

But that's where we used our magic Fixers members, left to right, Gary Anderson, Lloyd Seabolt, Joe Miranda and Henry Santos stand in front of a homemade cabinet built inside the woodshop to store all woodshop tools. At right is what the tool cabiet looks like once closed. It looks like a fine piece of furniture in the woodshop.

(Photo by Jesse Tiamson)



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# Mah Jongg classes were so popular that another six classes have been scheduled for November

### By Barbara Moon

The game of Mah Jongg is becoming the game that people of all ages are eager to learn to play.

Residents Rose Fiore and Barbara Moon love to play the game with others and on their computers.

When On Top of the World seasonal residents go north, it becomes difficult to get enough players for a live game, so during the "off-season" Rose and Barb decided to offer six free classes to anyone who wanted to learn the game.

It was such a huge success, we are going to do it again.

Fellow Mah Jongg players Ava Ciolli and Sandy Hone also volunteered to assist with the class we taught. It allowed more individual assistance to the participants.

The first two lessons were dedicated to learning the names of the domino-like tiles and the various categories of hands on the 2025 Mah Jongg card.

The next two lessons taught everyone how to deal out the tiles and how to do the "Charleston."

Putting these skills to use, the players were able to spend the last two sessions actually making hands and playing the game of Mah Jongg by matching the tiles on their racks to one of the hands on the Mah Jongg card.

When the first person completed a hand and called "Mah Jongg," the entire class applauded to show their congratulations and enthusiasm for the game!

Living in a retirement community like On Top of the World, we all know how important it is to continue to challenge yourself to stay active and continue to learn new things.

When asked, "Why do you want to



teach Mah Jongg to others?" Rose and Barb focused on different aspects. Rose stressed the mental exercises taught of sorting, categorizing, sequencing numbers, learning new names for the tiles and new terms and strategies associated with the game. Barb added the importance of the physical and social aspects of providing the opportunity for people to gather together, meet new people and socialize.

Mah Jongg is a great way to do just that!

The women who attended the classes made new friends and exchanged phone numbers so that they can form their own groups.

The Palm Harbor Room in the West Activity Center is reserved for anyone who wants to play Mah Jongg on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-4 p.m. Bring a Mah Jongg set for the table, 2025 Mah Jongg card, and have an enjoyable afternoon!

The next Mah Jongg classes begin on Nov. 3 and will run through Nov. 19. Each class is a Monday and Wednesday from 3-5 p.m.

This class is for beginners.





Pictured above is one of several tables filled with On Top of the World summer residents who recently learned how to play Mah Jongg. Another six-class session is starting Nov. 3. Mah Jongg is so easy to learn, even dogs play.

Preregistration is required because class size is limited. Call Rose at 609-330-7788 or Barb at 727-215-1034 to reserve your seat.



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# Get Acquainted Coffee, Music Bingo and Food and Clothing Drive set for October



### By Sue Trost

Hope everyone had a great summer and stayed cool.

Our next Get Acquainted Coffee will be on Thursday, Oct. 9, from 9-11 a.m. We will not be having entertainment, but you will have an opportunity to visit all of our clubs and vendors.

Coffee and donuts will be provided and music will be playing in the background

The Good Neighbors Association Fall Food & Clothing Drive will be held on Friday, Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the East Activity Center back parking lot by the Pavillion. We ask for new or lightly used clothing and non-expired food (canned goods, pasta, pasta sauce, coffee, tea bags, etc.).

Our Fall Social will be Music Bingo which is coming back due to over-whelming requests.

This will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 3:30-7 p.m. Tickets will be on sale in the East Activity Center Auditorium every Monday and Thursday from 8:30

**Good Neighbors Association Presents** Flea Market & **MUSIC BINGO Craft Fair** Saturday, October 18 Saturday, November 15th 2025 3:30 - 7 pm 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM **EAC Auditorium** East Activity Center Auditorium Tables are \$15 or 2 for \$25 Tickets \$13, includes hot dog meal and are on sale at The Good Neighbors table on Mondays and Thursdays From 8:30 AM until 10:30 AM First Come, First Served!

Tickets and more information are available at the Good Neighbors Association information table, 8:30-10:30 am, Mondays and Thursdays in the Auditorium.

-10:30 a.m

Tickets for Music Bingo are \$13 and includes three games and a hot dog meal. There will be three prizes (one for each game) and also several door prizes.

Our Fall Flea Market and Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the EAC Auditorium.

Tables went on sale Sept. 4 and are available at the Good Neighbors Asso-

ciation information table every Monday and Thursday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Tables are \$15 apiece or two tables for \$25, first-come, first-served.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this coming fall!







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# Entertainment Committee





# Entertainment Committee Calendar



# **OCTOBER**

23 - Beattle Maniacs (show), 7:30 pm, \$20

25 - South Shore Cruisers (dance), 7:30 pm, \$15 \*

# Halloween Dance and Costume Contest

\* Please note, the South Shore Cruisers are now the entertainment for Halloween

# **NOVEMBER**

- 20 Divas of the '70s and '80s (show), 7:30 pm, \$20
- 22 Flashback (dance), 7:30 pm, \$10
- 23 Sunday Meet and Greet Horse Races

Annual Entertainment Committee Meeting

# DECEMBER

- 18 Voices of Jazz (show), 7:30 pm, \$20
- 31 New Year's Eve Ball (dance), 9:00 pm, \$30 (no tickets sold at door)

# Last day to join Chorus and be a part of our holiday concert is Oct. 21

By Ka-Rim Troyli

The 2024-25 chorus season, including two well-received concerts and a five-month summer break, is now behind us. It is time for On Top of the World Chorus to come back together again and begin crafting this season's winter program.

Chorus meets on Tuesday evenings and is always a highlight of my week. Whenever we gather, the room buzzes with the activity of chairs being repositioned, people sharing hellos and smiles, papers shuffle as music is organized, and lots and lots of singing!

Chorus boasts a group of OTOW residents all with different levels of experience. They share a love of music and are comprised of sopranos, altos,

traditions with fresh, eclectic flavors

- creating dishes that celebrate

the best of both past and present.



## Chorus

tenors and basses.

We are led by our very patient director, Gordon McMann, and guided on the piano by our accompanist, the stalwart Caroline Veach.

Together we rehearse to create a single "voice" with which we hope to cember!

Hard to believe it has been a year since I first mustered up the courage to trek over to the East Activity Center to learn more about the OTOW Chorus. I am so glad I did and I am hoping you will consider it as well.

We welcome more voices and we invite you to participate. We encourage folks to come be a part of our lively, weekly rehearsal process. Come grow with us as we develop our winter program. Everyone is welcome. Last day to join is Oct. 21.

Won't you join us?

No auditions necessary!

The OTOW Chorus meets and rehearses on Tuesday evenings from

delight and entertain audiences in De- 6:30-9 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

> Be sure to mark your calendars. Performances will be on Saturday. Dec. 6. at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

> Tickets can be acquired by reaching out to a Chorus member neighbor in or near your building, or in advance at our information table at the East Activity Center Auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. As of this newspaper going to press, no start date has been set to begin ticket sales.

> Tickets will be available at the door the evening and afternoon of the concerts. Suggested donation for tickets is \$5 each and both performances are open seating.

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# On Top of the World News

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Publisher: Kenneth Colen

**Editor: Doug Kates** 

Press Association President Tom Butcher Vice President Donna Gagnon Secretary Joanne Cordes

On Top of the World News - 2069 World Parkway Boulevard East, Clearwater, Fl.,33763 Phone: (727) 799-3216 Hours: 9-5 Monday through Thursday, 9-2 Fridays Deadline to advertise is the 15th of each month | Next delivery is Oct. 31, 2025

OTOW News can be read online at otowboxoffice.com | Advertising Rate Sheet is online under the front page

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

## **Proofreaders** This Edition

Joanne Cordes Pat Hayes Patti Branch Tara Still Mary Ann O'Neill Mary Lou Wall Lyn Taecker

# **Around The World**

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West Activity Center



East Activity Center First Floor



East Activity Center Second Floor

**East and West Activity Centers Room Maps** 

**EAC Pavilion Park Grill Map** 



**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS** 

**Community Service Office** 727-683-6981 **Activities Office** 

727-799-2734

Water Turn-On/Water Turn-Off 727-799-3417 Option 6 **Emergency After Hours/Weekends** 

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Association Board Members: Chairperson Diane Like, Vice Chair Dave Kelly, Treasurer David Everett, Secretary Russell Bolin, Mike Elza, Janet Hooper, Les Meneilly, Dale Prunoske, Kathleen Cassel. Send emails directly to the board: ClearwaterInfo@otowfl.net



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Dr. Alexis Honigbaum, MD, FAAD, is a board-certified dermatologist specializing in medical and surgical dermatology. Originally from Massachusetts, she obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Miami and medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School. She then completed her Dermatology Residency at the University of South Florida, which eventualy brought her back to the Tampa Bay area and private practice. She has been published in peer-reviewed journals, presented at national meetings, and was recognized in Newsweek magazine's America's Best Medical Dermatologists in 2022. She is excited to join Dr. Priya Nayyar and the team at Dermaclinique, where she looks forward to providing compasionate, high-quality dermatologic care to the community

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# If you plan on marrying someone highly in debt, talk to your lawyer first

Q. I was divorced about 15 years ago and now I plan on getting married to a very nice gentleman. Recently, he admitted to me that he owes the Internal Revenue Service some money (he didn't tell me how much but said it was quite a lot). Do I have any worries if he can't pay what he owes?

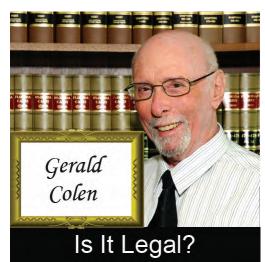
A. Probably not, because he incurred his obligation before he planned to marry you. However, the wisest thing for you and him to do, BEFORE you get married, is to have a pre-nuptial agreement drawn up by your own attorney. Your future husband should get his own attorney, too.

After you get married, you should keep your funds separate from his funds. It might be OK to have a "working" bank account in both names, but I would not advise you to have a lot of funds in it. Of course, once his obligation to the IRS has been satisfied, you won't have to worry about the matter.

One caveat (warning): Do not even consider helping him to pay off that debt with your money.

Q. Is it legal for my boyfriend to buy ED drugs when he and I are on a cruise and we stop off in (a foreign country? He is 79 and I am about the same age.

A. I get this or similar questions fairly often. Since I consider these questions



to be serious legal issues, I'm willing to answer them in this column.

If it is truly ED drugs, then I am sure it is legal to do that. I think, though, what you really want to know is whether it is legal to buy ED drugs in a foreign country and bring them back into the U.S. It depends on a few things. The most important issue is whether he intends to use them himself or intends to sell some or all of it.

Q. My will leaves everything I have to three different relatives and I have named one of them as the executor of my estate. The will says that all my debts have to be paid upon my death. Does my executor have any personal responsibility to pay off my debts? I don't want that at all.

A. The executor (I prefer the term personal representative) should not have any personal responsibility to pay your debts out of his personal funds, unless, of course, he enters into an agreement to do so. And no, I don't know why he or she would do such a thing.

Q. How many witnesses are needed in a will?

A. In the state of Florida, two witnesses are required. I believe there still are a few states where three witnesses are required, but not very many.

Although it is not a legal requirement, I believe that a will should also be notarized because that makes it self proving in Florida. When a will is self-proving you don't need to locate the witnesses because their signatures have already been notarized at the time you executed the will.

Q. About two years ago, I married a woman who told me she had never been married before. She is 78 and I am 75.

A few weeks ago, she received a letter from someone who claims that my wife is her mother. My wife then told me she had a baby out of wedlock when she was 16. She asked me if I wanted to divorce her.

A. You are talking about something

that happened close to 60 years ago. Anyway, I've looked and looked but I can't seem to find a question in what you wrote. So, an answer doesn't appear to be necessary.

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

# Art Guild general meeting

By Katie Bajis

The On Top of the World Art Guild will convene a General Meeting for all members on Oct. 17 at 1 p.m. in the East Activity Center Largo Room.

Current and prospective members are invited to a tend to discuss activities for 2025-2026, especially the May 2026 Art Contest.

The guild will also raffle off donated art during the meeting.



# Bingo Marathon

12-5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 11 EAC Auditorium Doors open at 10 a.m. Marathon starts at 12 pm.

This event was expected to be a sellout by the time this newspaper was out.



### Guidelines for Riding the Shuttle Bus

- 1. You MUST have a valid Activity Card and present it to the driver upon entering the bus. The SCA bus service is exclusively for use by Association approved residents and lensing only. If you do not have a valid Activity Card, you may not ride the shuttle bus.
- Reservations are REQUIRED please call 727-759-3417 Option 7 no later than 10 a.m.
  The day prior to your planned trip, Manday's trip deadline is 10 a.m. Friday.

  Please be present in the core of your building at your scheduled pick up time.
- Shapping time is one from for grocery stores and one hour for Walmert. Shapping time tegins when you are dropped off at your destination.
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   Please do not ask the driver to do so:
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  The pick-up schedule will rotate welly between low and high buildings, meeting one week pick-up will start with lower numbered buildings and the following week it, will start with the higher numbered buildings.
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- II. Seatherto must be fastened during this movement and must remain testened until the tips somes to a complete stop.
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  10. All route changes are at the discretion of management.

# Bus Schedule October | SCA - OTOW Shuttle Bus NC - Neighborty Car Bus NC - Neighborty Car Bus No - Ne

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SHOP	BUS
Mondays	10:00 AM	Publix	1 hour	NC
Tuesdays	No Rides			
Wednesdays	10:00 AM	Walmart	1 hour	NC
Thursdays	10:00 AM	Walmart	1 hour	SCA Shuttle
Fridays	10:00 AM	Aldi	1 hour	NC.

For next day reservations, please call before 10 a.m. Call (727) 799-3417, Option 7



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# Farmer's Market

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# ACTIVITY REPORTS

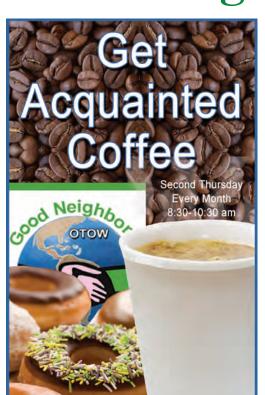






Skirt and Ties sings 'Proud to be an American' during Get Acquainted Coffee on Sept. 11. The morning was a tribute to the memory of 9-11. A slide show (right) accompanied the singers. (OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)

# Get Acquainted Coffee fell on Sept. 11 so Good Neighbors Association held a tribute to 9-11



The first Get Acquainted Coffee of the fall season took place on Sept. 11 so it was only fitting for our On Top of the World community to come together and remember 9-11.

Good Neighbors Association turned the traditional social morning into a time to sing, stand and remember those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11, 2001.

We have residents who live with us today who were dance at Get Acquainted witnesses to what took

was highlighted by the bar-

bershop quartet group "Skirt and Ties," which is led by resident Mike Wood.

Skirt and Ties opened with the Canadian and American national anthems and remembered those we lost from both countries 24 years ago.

The group then sang "Proud To Be An American" in tribute to today's first responders who keep our country safe every day.

Everyone in the East Activity Center Auditorium stood during the song.

What people in atten-Coffee may not have realized was that Skirt and Ties The morning program had less than a week to prepare for this tribute.

Carla Hines was originally scheduled to perform live, but she was unable to attend. Mike volunteered his group and in one week was ready to be on stage.

Charlie Wood prepared a slide show with patriotic images and everything came together in a hurry.

Mike was even able to get a replacement singer when one of the original Skirt and Ties was unable to be there.

with information tables hosted by many On Top of the and raffle drawings. World clubs and groups.

were passed out at 9 a.m., followed by morning news, introduction of sponsors,



The morning started out Skirt and Ties, music provided by DJ Scott McParland

The next Get Acquaint-Free coffee and donuts ed Coffee is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 9. There will be music, but no live performances are scheduled.

# Italian-American Club trying something new - eating pizza while wearing your PJs

By Sam Gonnella

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, 5 p.m., at the East Activity Center, the Italian-American Club has planned a relatively new event. It is a Holiday PJ Pizza and Game Party.

Bring your favorite board game, cards, dice or dominoes to set up with others. The optional dress for the evening is some sort of pajamas, if you desire, or not.

Pizza choices are cheese, pepperoni, sausage or veggie. Coffee and dessert are included. Bring your own dinner beverages. Cost is \$10 for members and \$13 for non-members.

On Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026, our club will host a Gasparilla Party 5 p.m., in the Auditorium.

Pirates and pirate queens are encouraged to attend. Come join us for a pirate-themed festivity.

Eat, drink and be happy. The grub being served is chicken fingers with dipping sauce, mini rice balls with sauce, macaroni and cheese, pulled pork slid-



ers, tossed salad, bread and butter, coffee and cookies. Please bring your own beverages.

DJ Les 'N More will provide the musical entertainment. Cost is \$25 for members and \$28 for non-members.

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, and Friday, Feb. 27, 2026, club members will be going to Tampa Bay Downs for A Day at the Races.

Enjoy a day at the track to experience the thrill of horse racing.

Walk around the paddock area to see the horses close up.

Included in the ticket price is entrance to the clubhouse, a racing program and a full buffet luncheon.

A flyer with important details can be picked up at our information table when purchasing tickets. Cost of each event is \$45.

Our most popular event of the year is the traditional St. Joseph's Dinner Dance scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 5 p.m. in the Audito-

The menu for the event will be baked ziti pasta, chicken parmesan, string bean saute', tossed salad and pastry for dessert. Bread and butter, and coffee and water also will be available.

Music for the event will be Les 'N More. Cost is \$30 for members and \$33 for non-members.

Italian-American Club Dessert and Game Night is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Creamy ice cream and sumptuous cake items will be served.

Make an ice cream sundae with the sweet toppings available - just like the old days at the soda shop.

Remember, it's also game night so bring to the party a favorite game, or a deck of cards or dominoes, and put together a group of fun-seekers to play.

Coffee and water will be available. Cost is \$7 for members and \$9 for nonmembers.

Tickets and detailed Information will be available at our information table in the Auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-10:15 a.m. Come pick up a flyer.

Our club is open to all On Top of the World residents. You do not have to be Italian to join. The goal is to have fun, and enjoy good food and entertainment all at reasonable costs.

We encourage new members to join and for our existing members to re-new memberships so they may purchase tickets for events in 2026.

# Are you curious about artificial intelligence? The OTOW Computer Club has answers

### By Joe Wisinski

Artificial intelligence has been a prominent topic at On Top of the World Computer Club meetings in recent months.

The club has conducted two sessions about AI and plans another one soon. We've stressed how useful AI is in our daily activities.

"AI is amazing and helpful," said club Vice President Rowland Hetrick. "I have used AI to create a PowerPoint presentation that I could never have done myself. I also use it in photo-ed-



iting software, where it saves me hours."

Al can assist you in numerous ways. Here are only a few:

### Getting better search results

For years at the Computer Club, we suggested using Google to answer questions. Now we suggest using Al. The difference is that Google search provides links to websites, but AI provides comprehensive answers.

### Writing an email or letter

For example, one situation we might need help with is when our insurance company denies a claim. We can ask AI to write a letter to dispute their decision.

### Drawing and editing photos

Al does much more than copy images from the Internet. It creates new ones from information provided by users.

As an example, see the photo accompanying this story? Al created the photo in seconds, following instructions to "draw a photo of a senior couple walking hand-in-hand on a tree-lined street."



Does this photo look real? Artificial intelligence drew it.

These are only small samplings of Al's power and versatility.

Two of the most-used Al apps are Google's Gemini (gemini.google.com) and Microsoft's Copilot (copilot. microsoft.com). Both programs also have apps for iPhones and Android phones, and Copilot comes installed on newer computers.

Try experimenting with Al. Ask it anything. You'll be amazed at what it can do for you.

### About the Computer Club

The Computer Club meets every Saturday morning. Our sessions usually consist of presentations or discussions led by club members or guest speakers.

Time is also made available to ask questions.

We also conduct Wednesday morning help sessions, where we assist OTOW residents with technology-related questions or issues. Our services are free. Computer Club membership is not required to get assistance.

Both Saturday and Wednesday sessions run from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in the Learning Lab, which is in the West Activity Center. Saturday sessions are also conducted on the Zoom virtual meeting platform.

For more information about the Computer Club, email otowcc@gmail.com, visit our website at www. otowcc.com, or click our link or scan our QR code on the OTOW Box Office, otowboxoffice.com.



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# Canadian Club will be at the Fall Festival on Nov. 1 - sign-up and become a member



### By Connie Stanley

The Canadian Club is wishing all of our friends and members a harvest of blessings, good health and good times on Monday, Oct. 13 - it's Thanksgiving in Canada.

May you and your families enjoy a bountiful and very happy holiday!

The Canadian Club will participate in the On Top of the World Fall Festival in the East Activity Center Auditorium on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come over to visit with us, register for only \$5 and learn what we're all about. You don't have to be Canadian to join - just have a current OTOW Activity Card.

Registration Night will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 12, in the EAC Auditorium starting at 6 p.m. Don't forget to bring a valid OTOW Activity Card and \$5

This is a great opportunity to make new friends and renew old acquaintances! Also, when you register, you will receive a ticket for a Canadian Club gift basket, but you must be present to win.

By registering, you will have the opportunity to enjoy a wine and cheese social following the meeting.

By joining our club, you may participate in our social game - Blackout - which runs weekly, Thursday evenings, year round in the Belleair Room at the

# What can \$5 buy?



# **Membership to the OTOW Canadian Club!**

Visit our information table 8:30-10:30 am Mon, Thu starting November 13 EAC Auditorium Your Membership Comes With:
A wine and cheese social in November
A Christmas happy hour and sing-along
Pizza Night and Dance on Members Appreciation Night
A wine and cheese social in March

New members can sign-up at Registration Night November 12 in the Auditorium

Don't let our club name fool you!

Any resident with a valid activity card is welcome to join our club for just \$5!

West Activity Center.

We would like to take a moment to remind all persons playing Blackout that being a member of the Canadian Club is a prerequisite for this activity and if you haven't joined yet, we hope you're enjoying the "grace" period.

Signing-up for our club also includes Membership Appreciation Night free with pizza, a Golf Fun Day, a Blue Jays preseason baseball game, and a Day at the Races at Tampa Bay Downs alongside the Italian-American Club and the Travel Club.

Members also will be attending a matinée theater buffet lunch and show, a picnic, and enjoy membership pricing for any or all of our four dinner dances during the 2025-26 season!

Lydia Côté, ticket sales coordinator, will be selling tickets for our Dec. 8 Christmas Dinner Dance. We'll be

offering a traditional Christmas dinner with all the fixin's. Prices are: Members \$25 and non-members \$30. After dinner there will be a great night of dancing to our favorite DJ service - Les 'N More!

We are also asking attendees to donate new, unwrapped toys for the Pinellas County Marines' "Toys for Tots" campaign. The two target groups for this year's campaign are 0-2 years of age and 10-12 years of age, both genders. Ages 3-9 years are in good shape.

During Registration Night, our activity/event coordinators will be ready at the "sign-up" tables for various functions

It should be noted that your membership not only includes a wine and cheese social on Registration Night, but also a second wine and cheese social at the annual General Meeting at

the end of March. Don't forget, our first membership Appreciation Pizza Party and Dance, for members only, will be at no additional cost to members!

None of the fun can happen without volunteers. On Registration Night, please sign up as a volunteer at the volunteer table because, as they say, "Many hands make light work!"

We continually need to add new people to help and it's a great way to get involved and meet new people.

We hope that everyone enjoys a Happy Canadian Thanksgiving and a safe, happy and healthy Hallow's Eve with the little trick-or-treaters.

Don't eat too much of that sweet stuff!

Safe travels to all coming home to OTOW. Your executive committee looks forward to seeing everyone again

# Sign up for Jesters on Oct. 8 and be a part of our spring show 'The Times of Your Life'

By Rodger Hillier

The Jesters had their first meeting in September.

Current members and new members convened. The room was invigorating, with many people conversing about what they would like to do in the show titled, "The Times of Your Life."

Our main goal is to present the best show we possibly can.

This year we plan to have a giant scrapbook on stage to help describe the different times of your life. The scrapbook will be made by our own Fixers Club in the woodshop.

We also will have an array of costumes from hippie attire to tuxedos.

The show will have plenty of music and dances that we all grew up with.

Skits will be about the life events

with which we are all are familiar, like school, work, marriage, children and retirement.

The Jesters are not only growing in numbers, but also individually. I started with the Jesters performing in one skit. Four years later, I am a director, writer and performer.

Michelle Fournier started with helping in the dressing room. Now she is the Jesters president, writer and the emcee of the show.

Millie Cantone began as a dancer. She has grown in many ways. She has been the club secretary, choreographer and person in charge of scenery and more.

There are so many members that have expanded their horizons.

Being a part of the Jesters is not

just something to do to keep busy. Being part of this group can broaden your knowledge, experiences and opportunities. You will love the feeling of camaraderie and accomplishments.

Join and find out for yourself!

You may join the Jesters at our information table on Mondays and Thursdays in the East Activity Auditorium from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. or at our next meeting in the West Activity Center Belleaire Room on Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

We will have open auditions (membership not required) for singers, actors and dancers in the East Activity Center Auditorium on Wednesday, Sept. 24 between 10 a.m. and noon, and Thursday, Sept. 25 between 2-4 p.m.

Questions? Contact Rodger Hillier at (309) 231-0971.



# Qigong (Chi Kung) and Tai Chi

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Classes are now free to OTOW residents.

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Ruth Pittman, Instructor

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More than 20 Years of teaching.



Mondays 10:00 - 11:15 am

West Activity Center Belleair Room

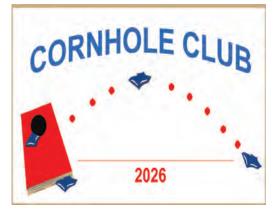
Thursdays 10:00 - 11:15 am

East Activity Center Exercise Room

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- Create Sense of Well-Being and Calm Reduce Pain and Tension

30 years yoga instructor. For more information call or text Marilyn at 239-464-9421

# Registration for Cornhole Club will take place Nov. 1 at the Fall Festival



By Carlee Layton

Hello cornhole friends - both present and future.

September was a busy, fun month for the On Top of the World Cornhole Club.

On Labor Day, the snack table was full and by day's end so were the players. Thank you for bringing such great goodies to share.

A few days after the holiday, we moved the good times to a Clearwater Theshers minor league baseball game. Since we reserved the Thresher's Club, we were treated to a great buffet, including beer, soft drinks and desserts, all in air conditioned comfort.

What a wonderful time. Good food, great friends and we were lucky enough to witness a no-hitter.

Unfortunately, it was not in favor of the Threshers.

As the month moved on, we had begun our membership drive for the 2025-26 season. Existing members are renewing their membership and our new members can join now.

To join or renew, you will need just



Seven cornhole players get their picture taken with Phinley, the Threshers mascot.

three things: 1. Your activity card which must have the current punch. 2. Your annual dues of \$5. 3. A big smile ready for fun

Look for the Cornhole Club informa-

tion table at the Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the East Activity Center Auditorium.

This event will be a great day to check out many of the clubs and orga-

nizations in our community.

If you haven't tried cornhole yet, stop by any Monday. You will find us in the West Activity Center Belleaire Room from 1-3 p.m.

# September Movie Night

On Top of the World Movie Night in September featured the hit film 'ET.' Nearly 30 residents sat in the air conditioned East Activity Center Auditorium and watched ET go home. Each resident received a free bag of popcorn. The featured film for October is 'Wicked' which will be shown Oct. 8 starting at 4 p.m.

(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)



# "Where There is a Will, There is a Way"

## By Marchell Short

(513) 404-0819 | mgshorttaxsvc.com



# Now available for \$30

A user-friendly estate planning guide designed to help you get organized - whether you're creating a will or leaving instructions for your executor.

Topics include: Power of Attorney, Living Will & Health Directives,

Beneficiaries & Social Security, Passwords, Monthly Bills and Subscriptions, and Estate Planning Essentials.

This book has large print and short chapters, real-life scenarios, space for taking notes, and one-page sample will worksheets.

Marchell Short is a year-round On Top of the World resident. She is an income tax preparer, and former high school teacher.

# Theater Workshop takes step back to Prohibition Era

## By Audrey Strong

Some history buffs credit Prohibition with the beginning of the Caesar Salad. In 1924, during the height of Pro-

In 1924, during the height of Prohibition, an Italian gentleman named Caesar Cardini was unhappy that he could not serve drinks at his restaurant in San Diego. So he moved to Tijuana, Mexico.

One busy weekend in 1924, Caesar discovered he was out of a number of ingredients that comprised his usual salads. Working with what was left, the Caesar salad was born.

This is just one highlight from the Prohibition era.

There are two couples who will be the focus of our Theater Workshop show this spring. No. They won't be ordering Caesar Salads during their stop at the Speakeasy, but they'll certainly have a memorable evening of songs, dances, new friends and learning more about other day-to-day events that took place during the Prohibition Era.

Our young gentlemen, afraid of com- to join us.



mitment, will observe the value of a long-term relationship and the happiness it can bring to your life, as well as the lesson that overdoing anything can be detrimental.

Come join us on any of the three days we perform in March and be part of the evening.

On. Oct. 1, Theater Workshop will hold a picnic at the Pavilion from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in seeing what Theater Workshop is all about is welcome to attend. This picnic is open to club members and anyone who wants to join us.

# Chicago-style hot dog picnic scheduled for October - leave your ketchup at home



### By David Beaven

October is a busy month for the Democratic Club.

Some of us are attending a Masquerade Ball on Oct. 4. It's a fundraiser for the Pinellas County Democratic Club.

Yes, there will be costumes. I am planning to go as the Phantom of the Opera while my husband, Jack, will be my assistant Phantom.

I'm sure our other attendees will be creatively attired as well.

Our monthly club meeting in October is going to be a hot dog party at the Pavilion at 2 p.m. on Oct. 9. I was in Chicago this summer where they take their hot dogs seriously. The proper way to serve a Chicago hot dog is to start with an all-beef hot dog and a poppy seed bun. Sounds easy enough, but then you add layers of mustard, sweet green pickle relish, chopped onion, tomato wedges, a dill pickle spear, sport peppers and celery salt.

But under no conditions any ketchup.

So we'll do our best to follow this recipe.

As usual, we will be collecting food items for Dunedin Cares, which is a food pantry that serves needy people in our area.



Pictured above are Democratic Club members who attended a Clearwater NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet in September. From left to right are Mike Foss, Anna Foss, Dave Beaven, Jack Kilgen, Glenda Greenman, Joanne Cordes and Katie Wilson.

The picture you see accompanying this article is club members attending the Clearwater NAACP fundraiser last month. It was quite the classy affair and we were glad to be a part of it.

This month we are collecting candidate petitions to put Bryan Beckman on the ballot for the Florida State House election next year. Anyone here can sign it even if you are not a Democrat. Just drop by our club information table at 2 p.m. in the West Activity Center on Mondays and Thursdays in the Auditorium for 8:30-10:30 a.m.

At the table we also will have information on renewing your mail-in ballot eligibility which now has to be done every two years due to a change in the

Our Democratic Club usually meets on the second Tuesday of every month Learning Lab. The exception is this month when we'll be at the Pavilion.

We also have a happy hour once a month where we eat, drink and solve all of our country's problems. At least among ourselves!

Find out more at our webpage: worlddemsclub.blogspot.com or call me (Dave) at 727-410-7566.







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# County Tax Collector Adam Ross stops by to talk to Republicans



By Deborah Russell

The Ronald Reagan Republican Club has been very busy gearing up for the midterm elections in 2026.

On Sept. 2 we welcomed our members back from summer break with a light supper of sandwiches and dessert during our meet and greet at 6 p.m.

The general meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m., opening with a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the National Anthem.

We welcomed five visitors from as far away as Georgia and Boston.



Pictured at the Sept. 2 Republican Club meeting are, left to right, Deborah Russell, Pinellas County Tax Collector Adam Ross, Louanne Feist and David DiNardo.

(OTOW News photo by Jesse Tiamson)

There was no old business discussed. New business included the announcement of the date and time of our annual Christ-

mas party. It will be held 12-3 p.m., Dec. 6, at the Pavilion and will be catered by a Mexican restaurant.

More information will follow in my email blast to club members.

Deborah Russell mentioned the urgent need for volunteers at the East Activity Center information table on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8 to 10:30 a.m. So far we have relied on three people to man the table. Your participation is vital to the club. It's a great way to meet new members and stay on top of current events.

Our guest speaker on Sept. 2 was Adam Ross, Pinellas County tax collector, who also oversees the Department of Motor Vehicles

Adam began his career in public service as an assistant to serve as executive director general in 2011.

In 2018, he became executive director at the State Attorney's Office.

At our meeting, Adam discussed many issues Florida faces. His focus is on the

next mid-term elections. He is encouraging everyone to participate in volunteering, handing out brochures, distributing handouts and answering questions.

Adam's leadership at the Department of Motor Vehicles has greatly improved the overall performance of the department. This includes the average in-person wait time reduced to 27 minutes from an average of 45 minutes!

The DMV now has a 98 percent approval rating!

In-person customers are down to 49.5 percent in Pinellas County by allowing only Pinellas County residents to use our DMV. In the past, people would come from as far as Miami and as close as Hillsborough County.

The online website FLHSMV has a portal where you can easily access your motor vehicle needs, including renewing your tags. Please visit this site for all information available.

Adam discussed many aspects of school budgeting, stating that our school budgeting process differs from other entities. All monies for schools are sent to Tallahassee for distribution, and the State decides on the amounts counties receive. Small, rural areas receive more funding.

Home values dropped after the three hurricanes in Florida last year. Adam believes there will be some tax relief for homeowners. The county spent \$55 million in reserves for hurricane relief.

For more information about all the positive changes Adam Ross has made to our county, please visit his website: pinellastaxcollector.gov.

We closed the meeting with our 50/50 raffle and adjournment.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. Our speaker will be County Commissioner Dave Eggers.

Please contact me, Deborah Russell, president, with any questions or concerns at 727-515-8211 or email debruss11@gmail.com.

Leave a detailed message and I will return your call or email as soon as possible.







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# Attend High Vibe Tribe and get a free QiGong lesson from Ruth Pittman

By Laurie LeClaire

The High Vibe Tribe is so blessed to have a wonderful community filled with guiding light-personalities here at On Top of the World.

14, Ruth Pittman has agreed to share some special QiGong movements with our club and discuss her background and teaching practices.

Some people new to our community may not realize the impact that Ruth has had on creating a healthy QiGong and Tai Chi practice here in our community, which

she has personally offered for more than 25 years.

She recently celebrated her 90th birthday with us and is still going strong.

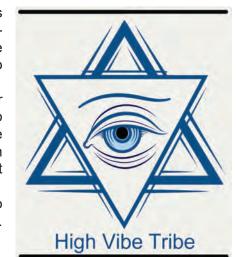
Ruth's impact on the health of our se-I am happy to announce that on Oct. niors has been widely acclaimed. Eastern practices lift the spirit, improve balance, and strengthen the body.

I do many of Ruth's exercises on my own as I wake up and stretch each morning. However, there is magic when a group gathers, as Ruth says, "the Chi can be amplified hundreds of times with a large group."

Many people testify that their bodies feel much better with added strength, improved posture and balance, and some even have been able to delay and forgo surgeries.

We welcome residents to attend our metaphysical society as it is a free group that currently meets once a month on the second Tuesday evening from 7-9 p.m. in the Clearwater/Kitchen Room of the East Activity Center.

For any questions, you may write to Laurie LeClaire at otowoowoo@gmail. com.





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# Bingo players make incredible donation to benefit local veterans in need



By Pat Hayes

Many thanks to On Top of the World Bingo.

During a recent night at bingo, residents dropped off enough donations for veterans to fill five large boxes.

Bingo volunteers collected the donations. More volunteers delivered them to the Bay Pines Veterans Administration Healthcare System.

The donations included clothing, food and items for hygiene purposes.

In addition, \$40 in cash was donated. All of this was raised in just one bingo night!

It was a pleasure for myself, Pat Hayes, and my assistant, Gene Amature, to deliver these valuable items



A table at bingo is full of donations destined for veterans. Bingo volunteers offered to bag and sort the variety of items that were dropped off.

directly to Bay Pines.

Thank you from the On Top of the World Veterans Group and local veterans.

More good news.

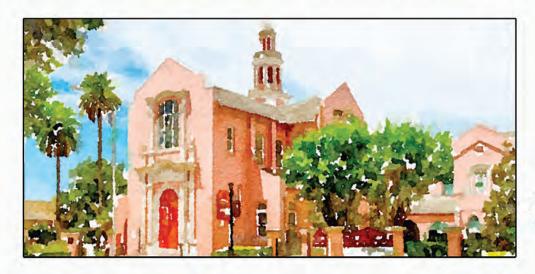
OTOW resident Pete Caffentszis has returned to information table

duty for the Veterans Group. Our table will be open in the East Activity Center Auditorium every Thursday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Pete will greet potential new members and educate our residents regarding the many benefits available to our veterans.

New and existing members should stop by the information table and introduce themselves to Pete.

Our group is open to all OTOW residents - both veterans and non-veterans. Please note there is never a membership fee.

# Peace Memorial Services & Concerts



# Worship

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

# **Concerts**

Second Sunday, October-March

# **Upcoming Concerts & Special Musical Services**

Sunday, Oct. 12, 3 p.m.
"The Three O'Clock Big Band"



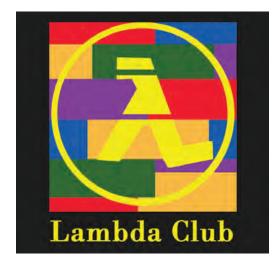
Sunday, Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m. Jazz Trio in Worship

Sunday, Oct. 26, 10:30 a.m. Kirking of Tartans with Pipe Band

# PEACE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# Lambda bowlers throw strikes to raise money for HIV/AIDS support



### By Earl Ballance

Lambda Club ended the summer with members throwing strikes at a Hollywood-themed fundraiser event held at the Dunedin Bowling Lanes.

This was an event organized by Epic, a non-profit organization that provides HIV/AIDS services and support to the Tampa area and beyond.

This is just one of several fundraisers Lambda participates in throughout the year.

Ah. and now it's October!

October is that magical time of the year when the air gets a little crisper, the leaves start to fall, and we all breathe a collective sigh of relief as we wave goodbye to the dog days of sum-

You can practically feel the excitement as our beloved Snowbirds return to their winter nests.

Welcome home!

The September social theme was Sports Night and it started with a bang — or should I say a touchdown?

Members were encouraged to don their favorite team colors and logos. You know the drill: some folks looked like they were ready to hit the field, while others resembled walking billboards for their teams.

The Gold Post Bar offered up its Touchdown Punch while the appetizer table was the starting point before heading over to the buffet table we call the obstacle course.

The theme for October is Salsa Night on Friday, Oct. 10, in the Pavilion.

Members are encouraged to dress



Members of Lamda pose at Dunedin Lanes where they took part in a fundraising bowling event.

as if they just stepped out of a piñata - bright, bold and utterly fabulous!

The Tiki Tavern will be serving up its Caribbean Punch. The buffet will have a Caribbean flair, with salsa music to put you in that laid-back mood. And yes, there will be someone there to teach anyone wanting to learn those salsa dance moves.

Just be careful not to dance too close to the buffet line. You might accidentally salsa your way into someone's plate!

Lambda is gearing up for the Entertainment Committee's Halloween Dance and Costume Contest.

If there's one thing that can be said about Lambda, is we know how to dress for any occasion. Whether it's a costume that's a little more, "Who wore Bill Raymond at braymond3@gmail. it best?" or "What on Earth is that?" we embrace it all.

Looking forward to it!

Lambda's weekly calendar of

Lambda Chat: 10:30 a.m. - noon, first and third Fridays in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room.

Lambda Walkers: noon, Wednesdays at the Countryside Mall, then lunch.

Lambda Zoomers: 5 p.m., Fridays with Howard Harville.

Lambda Pool Meet-up: 6:30 p.m., Mondays.

Lambda Bookclub: Meets at pre-determined locations. For details contact

com or call Bill at (727) 599-8317.

Need more information about Lambda events? Go to the official webpage http://lambdaclearwater.blogspot. com or contact David Beaven at (727) 410-7566.

Last, I want to confess and apologize for being the reason Lambda failed to share any news with our beloved community in September. I thought I sent the news in (and there goes my brain thinking again). I made a mistake.

Now, who knew that confessing my forgetfulness could be as liberating as finally finding that elusive sock that disappeared under my bed?

# Start searching for an ugly Christmas sweater

# Annual Sports Shirt Night Oct. 7 and Karaoke Christmas for everyone on Dec. 14

By Pat Hayes

The New York-New Jersey Club will continue its summertime fun with Sports Night at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 7. Tickets are just \$18.

We will be serving a large variety of subs from Felice's Italian Catering, along with pasta salad.

Also, we have a new disc jockey for this event, Scott McParland.

Tickets must be purchased in advance so come visit our information table and select your sub. Your choices are sausage and peppers, meatball parmigiana, chicken parmigiana, Italian (the Godfather), and tuna or turkey with Swiss cheese.

We will provide coffee and water.

We are very happy to be serving "desserts by Lou."

After Sports Night, our club will finish the year in style with our annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party in the East Activity Center Auditorium at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 9. Cost is \$28.

Our very popular DJ, Frank Lebano from Brooklyn, will once again judge our Ugly Christmas Sweater contest



New York - New Jersey Club

and award two prizes - one for ugliest and one for prettiest sweater.

Be prepared to dance all night! Food will be catered from Felice's Italian Catering. We will be serving ham, mashed sweet potatoes, ziti and meatballs. Dessert will be served along with coffee, water and ice.

We are hosting a free event for the



Sports Shirt Night in 2024 included attire from the University of Tennessee, the Tampa Bay Rays, Chicago Cubs, Philadelphia Phillies, New York Knicks and more. What teams will be represented this year? (File photo by Mary Lou Wall)

entire community on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 5 p.m. in the East Activity Center. Auditorium. Lenny Segal and Kathy Ahrens will bring us a free night of karaoke Christmas tunes.

There will be free hot apple cider and hot chocolate. There will be a raffle for a gift basket. Bring grandchildren if they are visiting because Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting!

There are no tickets or club membership requirements for this one event.

At the October event we will reelect our existing board members: Pat Hayes - president and secretary, Joe DeChiaro - vice president and Anna Amature - treasurer.

The club thanks them for their continuing service to the community. Also, we will release our schedule for 2026.



# ORIS



# Ladies 18-Hole Golf League starts on Oct. 7

### By Arlene Hanson

Please welcome the newly elected board for the On Top of the World 18-Hole Ladies Golf League for the 2025-2026 season.

The president is Becky West, vice president is Donna Irwin, secretary is Mary Patterson and treasurer is Arlene Hanson.

Our golf league begins on Oct. 7. Please call 727-517-5030 or email Sherry Ivey at iveysher@gmail.com no later than Oct. 1 to be scheduled to play on Oct. 7.

Check in at the green starter shack by 8 a.m. Don't forget to bring your renewed OTOW Activity Card for the 2025-2026 season 716-445-2704. and your dues of \$35. Checks to be payable to OTOW Ladies 18 Hole Golf Association.

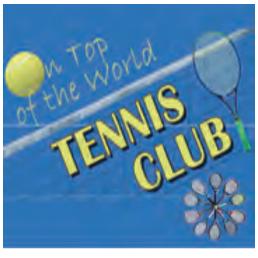
Tee off time begins at 8:30 a.m.



New golfers are welcome. To join, contact Joy Walker at 585-703-0757 or Mary Beth Devine at

We will be present at the 2025 OTOW Fall Festival & Expo on Nov. 1. Please stop by to see us for further information.

# Join tennis and you get an experienced coach



By Bruce McMaster

Rich Brauer is the tennis pro at On Top of the World.

He has taught our club members for the last five years and improved their tennis game tremendously.

He has a very storied past as a player and a coach. He was a college coach at Monmouth University. He has also won many tennis tournaments as a player at a very high level.

His whole life has been dedicated to tennis and teaching others this won-



Rich Brauer

derful sport.

We at On Top of the World are very lucky to have Rich with us.

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# Shuffleboard resumes Oct. 6



Shuffleboard game nights resume starting Oct. 6. We play Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. at the East Activity Center shuffleboard courts. The Shuffleboard Club will hold its annual business meeting on Monday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. in the East Activity Center Clearwater Room. Anyone is welcome to game night or the meeting, including first-timers. Questions or concerns, call President Tim Lewis at 207-441-3472.

# A few net 50s emerge on days it was dry enough to golf 18 holes

### By Barney Hanrahan

Wet weather did not allow the Men's Golf Association to participate in league play every week in August and September, but there were a few brave souls who got out when they could play.

On Aug. 13, Stanley Doran shot a 57 in Flight A, and Ken Nield shot a 58 and Robin Hendricks a 59 in Flight D.

On Aug. 20, Peter Gauvin shot the low round with a 57 out of Flight C. Tennyson Spiceland shot a 59. In Flight D, Sonny Morris shot a 58.

On Sept. 3 there were no 50s, but still some good scores. Bob Beals led Flight A with a 63, Paul Cairns and Mike Schuyler led Flight B with 62s, Maranto Vincenzo and Roger Shockley led Flight C with 62s and Jeff Martin led Flight D with 63.

Hopefully conditions will be drier in October.



**MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION** 

## August 13

Flight A: Stanley Doran, 57, Mike Crittendon, 60, Nilson Sabadin, 61, Lester, 62, David Johnson, 62.

Flight B: Tom Sullivan, 60, Mike Schuyler, 60, Paul Cairns, 61, Pete Gagnon, 62, Mike Smith, 65.

Flight C: Henry Rejman, 60, Vincenzo Maranto, 63, Jim Cadwell, 63, Roger Shockley, 64, Len Picone, 64.

Flight D: Ken Nield, 58, Robin Hendricks, 59, Tim Palmquist, 60, Harry Crawford, 63, Joe Ventimiglia, 63.

### August 20

Flight A: Mike Crittendon 62, Stanley Doran, 63, David Johnson, 64, Bob Beals, 66, Jere Keiser, 66.

Flight B: Mike Smith, 63, Paul Cairns, 65, Mike Schuyler, 65, Andy Poselli, 76.

Flight C: Peter Gauvin, 57, Tennyson Spiceland, 59, Jay Laracuente, 61, Jerry Jordan, 61, Jim Caldwell, 62.

Flight D: Sonny Morris, 58, Harry Crawford, 60, Ken Nield, 61, Joe Ventimiglia, 62, Tim Palmquist, 63.

## September 3

Flight A: Bob Beals, 63, David Johnson, 64, Doran Stanley, 64, George Mead, 65, Fred Peace, 66.

Flight B: Paul Cairns, 62, Mike Schuyler, 62, David Saccone, 63, Pete Gagnon, 69, Mike Smith, 69.

Flight C: Maranto Vincenzo, 62, Roger Shockley, 62, Glen Meyers, 64, Sal Vasapolle, 65, Jerry Jordan, 66.

Flight D: Jeff Martin, 63, Jack Drewiega, 66, Bob Ellis, 67, Tim Palmquist, 68, Robin Hendricks, 69.





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# Robin Henderson, Art Reilly and Gary Piccoli take first place in Mixed Golf League action

By Sheryl A. Barbin

The Friday Mixed Golf League championship season begins on Friday, Oct. 31 and runs until Friday, April 24.

Initial membership fee is \$20 and then \$5 weekly. We are looking forward to a fun season.

### Results for Friday, Aug. 1

We had 32 golfers on a hot, muggy day. First place went to Robin Hendericks with a plus-8, Warren Levene took second place with a plus-7, third place went to Jerry Jordan with a plus -7, fourth place went to Mike Palermo with a plus-7 and fifth place went to Gary Piccoli with a plus-5.

Ties were broken by a match of cards.

Closest-to-the-pin on the short course on holes No. 3 and 15 went to Warren Levene. On the nine-hole course, Rick Muchler won hole No. 1, Warren Levene hole No. 2, Mike Palermo hole No. 4 and Kyong No hole No. 6.

Skins were awarded to Warren Lev-

Friday Mixed

Golf League

ene on holes No. 4 and 15 and Rick Muchler hole No. 1.

Low Gross went to Warren Levene with a 63 for 38 points. Nice round Warren!

Results for Friday, Aug. 8
We had 33 players on a hot, muggy

day. First place went to Art Reilly with a plus-8, second place went to Sheryl Barbin with a plus-8, third place went to Peyton Grogan with a plus-6, fourth place went to Ken Smith with a plus-6 and fifth place went to Bob Beals with a plus-5.

Ties were broken by a match of cards.

Closest-to-the-pin on the short course went to David Saccone on hole No. 3, Bob Beals on hole No. 15 and Joe Wisinski on hole No. 16. On the nine-hole course, hole No. 1 went to Fred Schick, hole No. 2 went to Harry Barbin and hole No. 4 went to Art Reilly.

Skins were awarded on hole No. 3 to David Saccone, hole No. 14 to Andy Polselli and hole No. 15 to Bob Beals. Nine-hole skins went to Rick Muchler on hole No. 2 and Bob Beals on hole No. 7.

Harry Barbin won low gross with a 66 for 35 points. Nice round Harry!

Results for Friday, August 15th We had 36 players and they played

in 3.5 hours.

First place went to Gary Piccoli with a plus-7, second place went to Bob Beals with a plus-6, third place went to Mike Dietterich with a plus-6, fourth place went to Art Reilly with a plus-3 and fifth place went to Joe Ventimiglia with a plus-2.

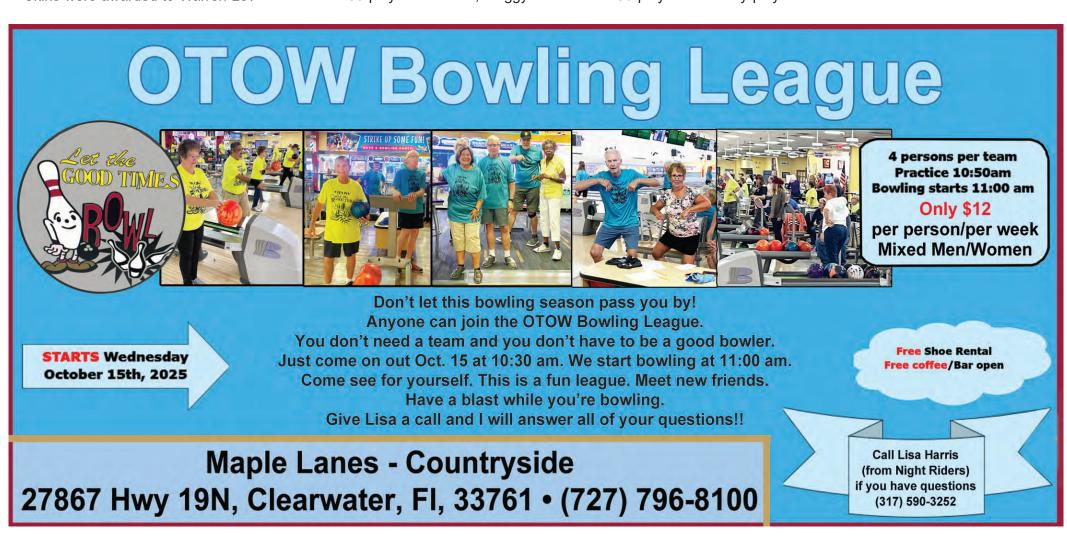
Ties were broken by a match of cards.

Closest-to-the-pin on holes No. 3 and No. 13 went to Bob Beals, hole No. 5 to Harry Barbin, hole No. 6 to Paul Meyers, hole No. 9 to Gary Piccoli, hole No. 15 to Jerry Jordan and hole No. 16 to Rick Muchler.

Skins were awarded on holes No. 8 and No. 12 to Joe Wisinski and hole No. 15 to Rick Muchler.

Low Gross went to Bob Beals with a 69 for 33 points. Nice round Bob!

For more information about our league, please contact Harry Barbin at 215-514-1280 or email him at HarryBarbin1@gmail.com.





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# When Marge Sivek puts on her white hat, it's time to start golfing again in October

By Paula Ergang

Can you believe that it's already October?

That means the On Top of the World Ladies 9-Hole Golf League is resuming after our summer break.

Our first day of play is Tuesday, Oct. 7. Meet at the little house by the first tee at 8:30 a.m. Be sure to bring your current On Top of the World Activity Card.

One member who we know will be there is Marge Sivek. She's always one of the first ones there Tuesday mornings, ready to play, with her signature white hat and big smile.

Marge and her husband, Tom, moved to Florida in March, 1959. They settled in Dunedin and raised seven children.

In 2002, Marge moved to OTOW. She says that she has enjoyed every minute of it. And no wonder because she is busy all the time.

Marge plays cards and Mah Jongg and bowls twice a week. She also enjoys dancing.

She joined the 9-hole league in 2010. She says she loves the game and enjoys the friendship of the girls.

Marge added that she is still waiting for that first hole-in-one. If you keep track of her scores reported in our articles, you can see that that just might happen soon. Marge consistently has low weekly scores.

Just as a personal note: Marge was one of the first ladies I golfed with when I joined the league. She was very welcoming and I got to see her golf skills. She shoots straight down the fairway with accurate chips and putts. Add to that her great sense of humor and posi-

Marge is an excellent example of how we can continue enjoying our senior years here at OTOW.



If you're thinking of joining our league, you have to achieve a handicap. All it takes is golfing on the 9-hole course with a current league member who can verify your scores. After you have five scores with an average of 55 or less, submit your cards to President Carroll Harris. Your handicap will be calculated, dues will be collected and then you're eligible to participate in all activities and prizes of the league.

If you were a member more than two years ago, or played in the 18-hole league, you'll have to follow the same steps for your handicap. And there is a two month time limit for everyone to complete the requirements.

We start golfing in October with a Play for Fun Day. And, of course, after a few other weekly themes, we'll end the month with our Nine and Wine snacks and 50/50.

Keep an eye on the course bulletin board for the complete 2025-26 sched-

If you want more information, contact Carroll at 432-528-8684. There's also information posted on the OTOW Box Office website, otowboxoffice.com.



Marge Sivek ready to head out for nine holes. How do we know this is really Marge? The white hat.

Find the club page and click on Wom- Marge pointed out, developing friend-

en's 9-hole Golf. As you can see, we play golf and also have fun activities each month. As ships is a great bonus about our league. See you Oct. 7!



# Softball season is underway and we already have home runs and outstanding defensive plays

By Bob Rittner

In a break from tradition, the On Top of the World Softball League began its season in September rather than October, braving the threat of hurricanes to get back on the field.

And good luck followed us.

In a brief dry period, we were able to play a full nine inning game on Sept. 9 between a rainy early morning and a rainy late morning.

The final score was Red 12 and Blue

Many heroic moments livened up the game.

For the Red team, leadoff hitter Robert Bannick was 4-for-4 and made a spectacular running catch of a hard line drive into left field.

A rookie, Mark Manns, showed off a major league arm at third base and his three hits included a long double that drove home two runs late in the game to extend the Red lead by three runs.



With his Red team down 2-0 in the top of the second inning, Bo Voigt sparked a rally with a leadoff triple to the fence in right field, hustling to beat the throw. Henry Zussman then drove a ball deep into left field to bring home the first run for Red.

Two defensive gems stood out for

the Red team. With the bases loaded and two outs, catcher Jim Tiano hustled in front of the plate to grab a soft batted ball and lunged back to tag the plate ending the inning.

game for Red was Meg Allen, who, in the eighth inning and with the bases loaded, raced to her right to catch a streaking line drive that would have driven in three runs had it not been caught. That play ensured victory for Red.

Blue had their share of stars as well. Left fielder George Morgan made two running catches of hard hit balls and sped around the bases to score three runs in the game.

Charles Kovarik played an errorfree third base, catching a number of scorched line drives and contributing four hits, including an inside-the-park home run.

The good feeling of old friends being

back together and new friends in the making was palpable.

Although starting early this year, we will still have a meeting at noon at the Paradise Restaurant on Thursday, But by acclimation, the MVP of the Oct. 16, to introduce our league to new

> As rookies pay their \$65 in annual dues, they will receive three shirts (Red, Blue and White) and a hat with the league insignia and our sponsor, Paradise Restaurant, emblazoned on

> We also will have a batting practice day on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at the Safety Harbor City Park fields at 940 7th Ave South. After that, our regular schedule of games every Tuesday and Thursday morning will begin at 8 a.m.

> If you have any questions pertaining to our softball league, you may contact Bob Rittner by text (727-735-1762) or email bobrittner@yahoo.com.

## A live exercise class with a certified instructor

KABoom is a fun, 45 minute class divided into segments consisting of warmup, moderate to high intensity cardio, exercises using light weights, cool down and stretching. It also focuses on improving balance, agility and mental acuity. No chairs. Scheduled start time is 11 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays in the East Activity Center Exercise Room. Please arrive by 10:45 a.m. to pre-register. No classes the week of Oct. 20.

> The instructor is Kevin Archibald, a certified instructor. Class size will be limited to 30. Bring your activity card. This class will be free to all Silver Sneakers members and \$2 a class to non-members.







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# Sixty-two participate in veterans fund-raiser

By Joe Ventimiglia

On Sunday, Sept. 14, a veterans fundraiser golf tournament took place at the On Top of the World 18-Hole Golf Course.

Sixty-two players participated, which made up 16 teams of men and women, veterans and non-veterans.

"It was a beautiful, sunny day and everyone had a great time," said Tournament Coordinator Joe Ventimiglia.

The first place team was Scott Rogers, Tony Zina, Kevin Holm and Eurick Ellison.

The second place team was David Saccone, Nilson Saladin, Jerry Jordan and Jay Laracuente.

The third place team was Sonny Morris, Bill Lepping, George Mead and Maryann Morris.

After the tournament finished, all the players had pizza and refreshments.

There were 16 silent auctions in which players were able to bid on various items and a 50/50 raffle.

"I would like to thank the following people who helped me with the golf tournament," Joe said. "Harry Barbin, who took care of documenting the scores and letting me know who won, and assisting with the silent auctions.

"I would also like to thank Izzy Polseli for serving the pizza to players and taking the tournament group player's picture.

"I would like to thank Joda, the maintenance superintendent, for having the golf courses ready for tournament play, and Deb Young for taking care of the 50/50 tickets."



Pictured above is the winning team from a veterans fundraiser tournament in September. Team members, not in order, were Scott Rogers, Tony Zina, Kevin Holm and Eurick Ellison. (Photo by Izzy Polseli)

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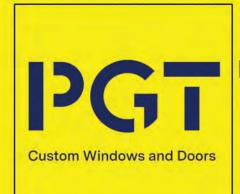


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# Who's ready for 5 events in October

By Tom Chalupka

The goal of the On Top of the World Travel Club is to inform, educate and create interest in travel for OTOW residents and to organize trips to destinations of interest.

The club is open to all residents of OTOW and has grown to more than 400 members, currently making it one of the largest clubs in our community.

Joining our club is a great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends as we explore the state of Florida and the Tampa Bay area.

At this time, we'd like to welcome the new members who have become a part of the travel team over the summer.

Besides being one of the largest



clubs, we are also one of the busiest clubs. At a minimum, we schedule at least one day trip and one lunch every month (except July and August) but over the last year we have continuously expanded on that goal.

For example, in October the events

we have planned are:

Oct. 1 we have booked a fishing charter.

Oct. 8 we will meet for lunch at Bahama Breeze.

Oct. 10 we will meet for breakfast at a local spot.

Oct. 17 we will be sharing laughs at the comedy club.

Oct. 22 we will take a day trip to Solomon's Castle for a tour and lunch.

This December will be the most active month that the club has ever seen. As of now, 10 events have been scheduled with an amazing three in one day.

On Dec. 10 we'll start the day with a guided tour of Christmas decorations at Safford House in Tarpon Springs. Afterwards, we'll have our monthly lunch at Ozona Blue and then we'll spend the evening on a Jolly Trolly Christmas Light Tour.

Then we'll need a good night's sleep because on Dec. 11 we're having our annual Christmas dinner.

The OTOW Travel Club has a monthly meeting on the first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. in the East Activity Center Oldsmar Room. If you are interested in buying tickets to any of our events, they are available at our club information table in the EAC Auditorium on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30 – 10 a.m. and before our monthly meeting.

There's always room for more so come and join us. We're going places.



# COMMUNITY REPORTS



# Englander world traveler visits Buckingham Palace, Penny Lane, Loch Ness and more on tour abroad

Our very own George Algozzina is at it again - globe-trotting and making music along the way!

Before we take you through his latest travels, you need to know that George is no ordinary neighbor. Since moving here in 2012, he's been the soundtrack of our community – from his Christmas condo party concerts, to his nightly piano sessions during COVID when we sang "God Bless America," to his regular gigs at local restaurants and his church.

So it's no surprise that music was woven through his recent trip to England and Scotland.

George began his most recent journey in London, taking in some of the city's most iconic sights - Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and Westminster Ab-

He hopped on a double-decker bus through Piccadilly Square, cruised the Thames, and joined a London Music Walk that fittingly ended at a local pub.

But the highlight for any music lover?

George stood on Penny Lane – yes, that Penny Lane - where the "blue suburban skies" once inspired the Beatles' timeless song. "It's more than a street."

George said, "It's a living echo of the Beatles' youth, a song brought to life."

From there, George made his way to Mathew Street, the beating heart of Liverpool's cavern quarter. This legendary street is home to the Cavern Club, where the Beatles played during their early career.

Today. Mathew Street is alive with music, pubs and Beatlemania, buzzing with visitors who share George's love



for the Fab Four.

George didn't miss the "Wall of Fame," either — featuring 54 Liverpoolbased artists whose songs hit number one on the United Kingdom charts since 1952. Fittingly, the first name on the list is Lita Roza, who topped the charts with "How Much is That Doggie in the Window?"

And then it was on to Scotland where George's musical adventure took a traditional turn.

From the pubs of London to the taste of Scotland and the haunting and unmistakable sound of bagpipes, George's evenings were full of flavor and song.

"Well, I may have changed my opinion of bagpipes - well, just for a bit tonight anyway," he laughed.

One highlight was being marched from the hotel to a traditional Scottish dinner by Spud the Piper, who also led the blessing and presided over the ceremonial Cutting of the Haggis (opening ceremony for starting dinner).



George Algozzina and Spud the Piper arriving at a restaurant in Scotland.

His Scottish itinerary was full and fascinating: an Edinburgh tour, the Scottish Parliament, the National Museum of Scotland, a stroll along the Royal Mile, Edinburgh Castle, the Crown Room, the Scotch Whisky Experience, and even visits to Loch Ness,

Loch Lomond and the Kelpies.

With music, history and a few culinary adventures along the way. George returned home ready to share stories — and to begin planning his next jour-

# Thank you letter touches heart of our captain who makes sure every event is special



With summer ending and fall at our doorstep, what will Linda Faust think of next?

Linda, our building captain, makes our building community a pleasant place for everyone to live and enjoy.

All summer she has been providing everyone with ice cream cake for birthdays or ice cream cones at our "Meeting on the Green" gatherings.

We cannot wait to see what she does for the fall months. She is the queen of potluck dinners so perhaps a pumpkin will be on the menu?

Linda also volunteers for "The Wreaths Across America." They place a wreath on graves across America in support of remembering those who have sacrificed their lives and served

our country. Their mission is to teach the next generation the value of freedom.

You can join in by sponsoring a wreath in honor of your hero. Please contact Linda for further information, (563) 588-1379.

Our building residents also would like to thank Sophia Paparodis, who was the latest winner in our 50/50 drawing. We thought she was going to charter a boat to the Bahamas for everyone with her winnings, but instead she decided to recycle the money and donate back to our building fund.

Our building fund pays for special building needs including decorations, flag poles and new Christmas wreaths.

Thank you, Sophia, for your generous contribution!

In October we hope everyone will sign up for our monthly building luncheon at Rumba Island Bar and Grill, 1800 Gulf to Bay, Clearwater. We will gather at Rumba on Monday, Oct. 13, at 4 p.m., and enjoy the "Early Bird" specials.

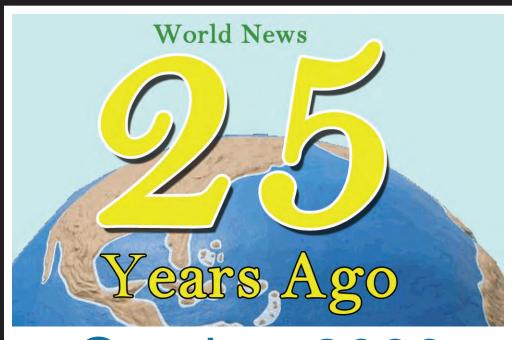
Our next Meeting on the Green will be held on Thursday, Oct. 30, 4-5 p.m. Bring your ideas for any new and exciting upcoming events or projects to improve our building, meet and greet your neighbors and enjoy.

Until next month, blessed and let not

your hearts be troubled!



Linda Faust, left, proudly holds a thank you letter she received for helping out with building socials. At right, Sophia Paparodis donates 50/50 winnings toward building projects.



# October 2000

#### By Randae Van Denover

#### World News

Continuous human presence in space began when U.S. astronauts left the Earth on Oct. 31 with the launch of the first residential long-duration crew to the Interantional Space Center. The Soyuz TM-31 spacecraft carried NASA astronaut William Shepherd and Russian cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev and Yuri Gidzenko.

#### **Business World**

In the fall of 2000, hundreds of theaters closed across the U.S. due to the increasing number of large multiplexers. This includes General Cinema, United Artist and Carmike. Closures were more pronounced in single-screen and small multi-screen cinemas and in small towns.

#### **Technology News**

New trends emerging in October 2000 included introduction of text messaging in the United States. AT&T was the first company to do so. The average texts per person was 35 in a month. By 2002, over 250 billion texts were sent worldwide. Texting surpassed phone calls within the next decade.

#### Medical World

A suspected Ebola outbreak in northern Uganda was identified by health officials. The outbreak causes victims to bleed to death. It persisted until Jan. 2011. It served as a crucial learning experience that significantly shaped the strategies and approaches used in future Ebola responses and global health security initiatives.

#### Sports World

On Oct. 15, Dale Earnhart Sr. won his 76th and final career NASCAR race at Talladega. Just four months later, he died in a crash during the last lap of the 2001 Daytona 500. Dale Earnhardt Sr.'s immense popularity stemmed from a combination of factors, including his aggressive driving style, record-breaking achievements, strong personality, and a connection with his working-class roots.

#### Movie Business

"Meet the Parents" was the top movie in October 2000. A Chicago male nurse meets his charming girlfriend's parents before proposing. But the super-suspicious father is an over-protective former CIA agent who becomes every date's worst nightmare to this chronic under-achieving prospective groom. Ben Stiller played the boyfriend and Robert De Niro played the father in this successful comedy.

#### Florida News

A significant, heavy, tropical rain event occurred over southeast Florida on Oct. 3 and 4, 2000. Rainfall totals ranged from 12 to 18 inches. This caused extensive flooding to homes and businesses. An estimated 93,000 residences were flooded.

# Saturday Farmer's Market



East Activity Center Front Parking Lot

October 4, 11, 18, 25 11 am - 4 pm

# Core parties/meetings to resume at Siboney

Siboney has started up its monthly core parties again. They will take place 4 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month. Look for posters on the information bulletin board in the core and in the elevator.

The core parties will be a potluck dinner with everyone bringing a main dish or dessert to share with neighbors.

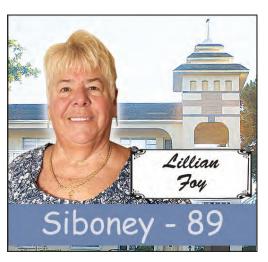
Because of the lack of people attending our building meetings, we will include brief meetings at our core parties instead.

We plan on having a holiday party in December and an end-of-the-season pizza party in April.

We do collect membership dues of \$5 to handle the cost of party supplies and any replacement of building material such as flags, water hoses and deodorizing supplies for the trash room.

Everyone in the building, including renters, are welcome to all of our functions, so come join us. This is your building, so please try to attend our core parties. It's a great way to meet your neighbors.

Recently we had an overabundance of trash in our trash room. If you notice any residents throwing away large black bags filled with household items, please let them know that household items and



things they want to get rid of do not belong in the trash room according to the

With people moving in and out, especially when family is coming to help, some people don't know the rules so please be a good neighbor and try to explain to them.

In the long run, it will benefit us because we don't want reminders from management to clean up.

Hope everyone enjoys this fall's cooler temperatures. Have a great Halloween if that is your holiday of choice. Hope to see everybody at the core party this month.



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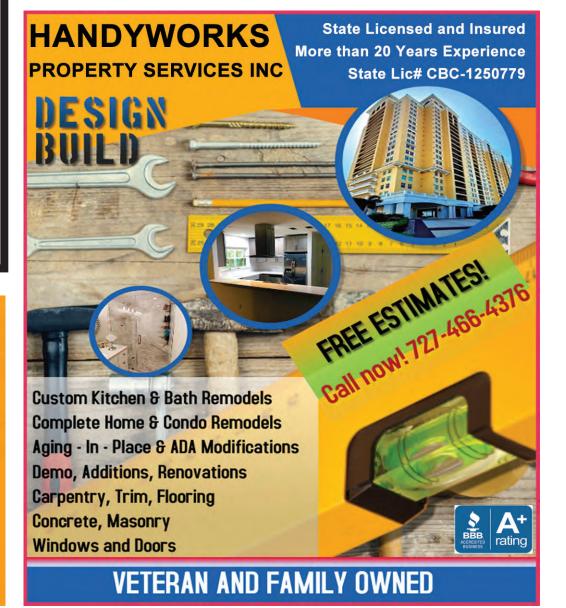
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# Dinner is more enjoyable in fall



For someone who is originally from up north, welcoming fall is hard to adjust to in Florida.

Northerners get to enjoy all four seasons and witness colorful fall leaves.

Floridians ... well?

Fall is just another season.

However, there is one change that fall brings to Florida. We can finally go outside and enjoy life with family, neighbors and friends.

Bedford is a small building with only two floors. Currently, only 13 condos are occupied so there are not a lot of activities going on, but we do still meet for lunch and dinner.

Eleven residents enjoyed our bimonthly dinner outing at Pineapple Jacks in September.

Joe and Cindy Popelik, Kathy Alexander, Richard Huovinen, Sandi and Clarence Cole, David and Robin Becker, Gerald Jordan, Sally Herman broke out the long-sleeved shirts! and Phyllis Dumdie all attended. Some



Eleven residents enjoy dinner at Pineapple Jacks.

having birthdays this month. Happy nard and any other residents with Oc-Bedford has at least two residents birthday to Janet Green and Mary Bertober birthdays.

Association Board Meeting and Town Hall, Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1 pm, Auditorium Live coverage on OTOW-TV channel 901 and on the Box Office (otowboxoffice.com). An edited version of the video will appear on the Box Office at a later date.



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# Did you know we have a book club?



Eleven members of the Good Karma Book Club share their thoughts and insights after reading the book 'Prophet Song' by Paul Lynch. On Oct. 16, the group will be reviewing the book 'The Many Lives of Mama Love' by Lara Love Hardin. If you would like to join this group, just read the book by Oct. 15 and join the book club in the East Activity Center Crystal Beach Room at 10 a.m. There's a good chance someone will be bringing snacks, too.

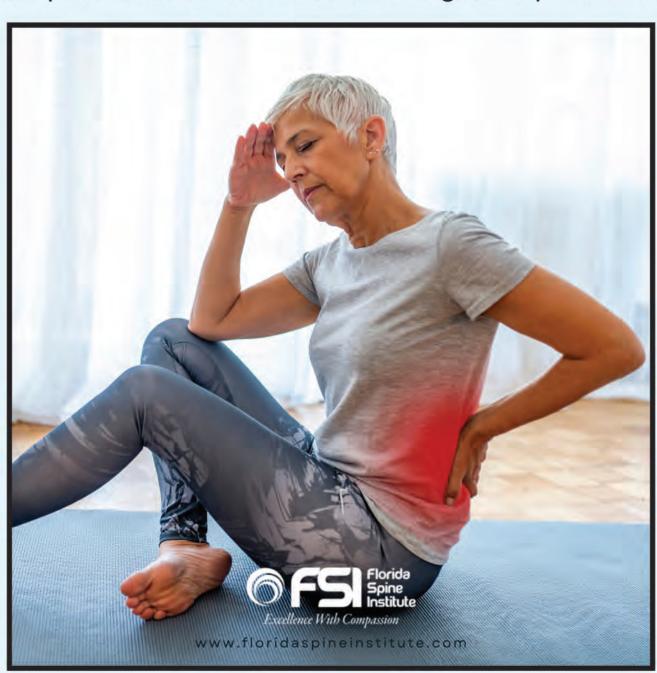
(OTOW News photo by Doug Kates)



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Palm Harbor Office 4114 Woodlands Parkway Suite 302 Palm Harbor, FL 34685 St. Petersburg Office 1700 66th Street North Suite 403 St. Petersburg, FL 33710

# If you volunteer to drive, you could get hitched - maybe for 68 years!



Brahman residents would like to begin this story by saying congratulations to Jim and Pat Laof on their 68th wedding anniversary.

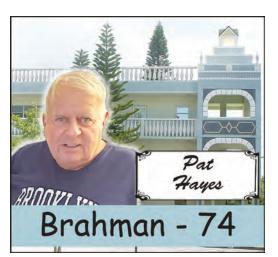
They met in college in Erie, Pa. Jim volunteered to drive for a group of nursing students and one of them turned out to be his beautiful wife-to-be.

When you see Jim and Pat, be sure to congratulate them.

Also, we have new neighbors. Bill Wallace and his son, William.

Finally, Paul Cairns has joined the Tuesday morning breakfast club. Yes, we still meet in the core at 7:45 a.m. Everyone in the building is always invited to join us. We go to the Clearwater Family Restaurant and use the valuable coupon in this newspaper each month. It gets you a free cup of coffee.

Brahman residents are eagerly awaiting the return of our summer travelers so I have booked our first gettogether at Queen's Pizza on Tuesday



Oct. 28 at 5 p.m. I have reserved the back room, so please sign up in the building core.

Also, encourage your neighbors to join us. The more the better. Come with ideas for our annual holiday gettogether!

At left are Jim and Pat Laof who originally met in Erie, Pa.

Correction: In the September edition of OTOW News, there was an article on page 35 about a resident getting a table refurbished by the Fixers Club. The author of the story was Irene Pappas, not Irene Piper. The editor made a mistake and a correction was made in the September newspaper online.



# Even retired seniors can be dedicated Disney fans

One of the joys of living in the On Top of the World community is meeting new people and hearing stories about their life, their education and what brought them to live here.

My neighbor, John Kozojed, was raised in the Chicago area. After high school graduation he attended Niles College of Loyola University and earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology and World History.

To continue his education, John attended St. Xavier University and received his Masters In Education and Administration.

John taught 41 years in high school and was assistant principal at Marian Catholic High School.

During his teaching career, John met the love of his life, Diana. Soon they were married and one of his first responsibilities as a new husband was to choose a honeymoon destination.

John chose Disney World because his new wife had never experienced the beauty and excitement of the Magic Kingdom.

John was fortunate enough to enjoy the theme park as a teenager.

That first trip to Disney did indeed turn magical. After leaving Orlando, John and Diana knew they wanted to live in Florida near Disney World. Both were still working yet they knew they could be Snowbirds and always find time to visit the theme park.

They met with a real estate agent at On Top of the World and found their perfect home in the Bavarian Chalet building (25).

- it is a small world after all.

The most recent adventure for John and Diana was on the Disney Cruise ship, "The Dream," which was classi-

John said he and Diana discussed the condo, the location and all the wonderful amenities here, and he signed the documents to purchase their new home.

He mailed everything from Disney World.

Finally, after many trips from Illinois pass for 13 years.



to Florida, they moved here permanently in 2023.

Because of John's love for world history, they alway enjoy Epcot Center. When visiting there, he hears wonderful stories about the many countries represented there and meets people from around the world.

They also enjoy having their nieces and nephews bring their children to visit Disney. There's nothing that compares to seeing those little smiles.

It makes Uncle John and Auntie Diana smile and their hearts beat a little faster.

Recently, John and Diana were invited to go on a pontoon boat ride to watch the fireworks at Disney from a different perspective. During the ride, John learned the captain of the boat was from his childhood neighborhood - it is a small world after all.

The most recent adventure for John and Diana was on the Disney Cruise ship, "The Dream," which was classified as a Vacation Club Cruise. They loved it so much that they have already booked a second trip on Disney's "The Destiny."

John and Diana have been members of the Disney Vacation Club since 2012 and have held an annual Disney pass for 13 years.



John Kozojed holding a Mickey Mouse collectable, which also is a popcorn cup.

Inside their beautiful OTOW home are many original paintings of Disney World, Mickey Mouse and a full curio

cabinet of adorable Disney characters. You can see Mickey and Minnie everywhere you look. Thank you John and Diana for giving me the opportunity to hear your stories and see your many Disney treasures. We are grateful and thankful you chose Bavarian Chalet as your permanent home.

### Make A Donation to Bay Pines Veterans Administration

Throughout the month of October, the On Top of the World Veterans Group will have a donation box set up inside the OTOW newspaper office in the East Activity Center. You may drop off donations for veterans in need from 9-5 Monday-Thursday or 9-2 on Fridays. Donations go right to Bay Pines Veterans Administration. Suggested donations include men's T shirts, long-sleeved shirts, pants and shorts, tennis shoes, and men's and women's hygiene products, including deodorant, body wash, shaving cream, tooth brushes, body wipes and more. Donations must be new, unopened items. Items cannot be used or slightly used. Thank you. You also can drop off items at bingo on Monday nights.





# Fourteen shopping tips



Here at On Top of the World, we live within five miles of many types of grocery stores. They range from Walmart and Aldi to Whole Foods and Fresh Market.

Also, don't forget all the local produce stands and, of course, our very own OTOW Saturday Farmer's Market.

Shown below, I have put together a list of things to think about when planning and doing your grocery shopping.

We all know that today's food costs are very high and working with a budget is very important. These are some suggestions.

- 1. Never shop on Sunday afternoons. Sunday is one of the most crowded times at a grocery store.
- 2. Always shop with a list: It's easy to think you'll remember every item you need once you're browsing the aisles, but you always forget something. Also, stick to your list. If you don't, you will have a tendency to buy things you really don't need or cannot afford. This is a budget buster.
- 3. Never shop hungry: Going to a grocery story hungry makes it hard to concentrate. It can also cause an increase in your spending. Hungry shoppers have the tendency to buy items they don't need or to fill their cart with unhealthy snacks.
- 4. Shop alone when you can: It's a good idea to avoid shopping with other people. When you're shopping with grandkids, they grab food that is not on your list. Every item adds up. Shopping alone when possible can help you stay focused on the food you need, spend less money and spend less time in the store.
- 5. Don't buy an item just because it's on sale: It's hard not to pick up an item when it's labeled with a brightly colored SALE sticker, but look at other items and prices. Just because an item is on sale doesn't mean it's the least expensive option. Check store brand products, too, as they often will be the cheapest option.
- 6. Sign up for discount programs and loyalty cards: There's no telling what specials or discounts your grocery store may offer for customers. It's possible your store offers extra saving for particular groups, from senior citizens to students. Be sure to inquire about a discount card or a store membership program.
  - 7. Don't go shopping without looking



at the sale ads. If you don't have time to clip coupons, glancing at sale ads is a smart, quick way to save money. Compare prices at local stores and look for potential discounts on items you know you'll buy. If an item you buy frequently goes on sale, stock up. Many common foods can be frozen, including staples like milk. Plus, most foods are often on sale past their expiration date. This means you can stock up without worrying about having to throw food out as frequently.

- 8. If a store offers buy one and get one free, you can share the cost with a friend
- 9. Buying in bulk, choosing generic products, and shopping in season can reduce cost.
  - 10. Shop for non-perishable items:

Products like protein bars and dried fruits are ideal for buying from online retailers like Amazon or your local store's online site. It saves you money because you won't have to pay food tax. If shipping is free, that's an added incentive.

- 11. Limit your purchase of ready-prepared foods: Convenience is great until you have to pay more for it. Go to the deli or refrigerated sections for ready-made foods only on occasions when you're willing to pay more for the convenience. You pay a higher price to have someone else prepare the meal.
- 12. Use your imagination with leftovers. The possibilities are endless when it comes to using your creativity. Make great soups, casseroles and new dishes with your leftovers to avoid toss-

ing out unused food. If you run short of ideas, browse websites for recipes or uses for leftover ingredients.

- 13. Look for outlet stores such as day-old bakeries: Buying products from these outlet stores can help you stick to your grocery budget. Prices are reduced by more than 50 percent from store prices. Bread products freeze well and are versatile. You can use them in sandwiches, in recipes calling for bread crumbs and for stuffing.
- 14. Avoid portion-controlled snack packs: Not only are they more costly, they may not save you calories either. Remember that fat-free doesn't mean sugar-free, and vice versa. Always keep an eye out for the labels to decide if these snack packs are worth the splurge.

# Eggplant Parmesan Boat

#### Ingredients

One 1 ½ pound eggplant
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
½ teaspoon Italian seasoning
½ teaspoon kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
¼ teaspoon garlic power
½ cup marinara sauce

1 cup mozzarella cheese 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

#### Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment.
- 2. Halve the eggplant then use a paring knife to cut vertical and horizontal slits into the flesh about ¾-inch apart. (You will want to create crosshatches across the whole surface without piercing the skin on the other side.) Place the halves on the lined baking sheet flesh-side up.

3. Spread a tablespoon of olive oil over each of the halves, then sprinkle both with Italian seasoning, salt, pepper and garlic powder. Roast until the eggplant is softened and golden brown on top - 15 to 20 minutes. Remove the eggplant from the oven and spread ¼ cup marinara on each half, then top with the cheeses. Return to the oven and bake until the cheese is golden and bubbling - another 8 to 10 minutes. Garish with fresh basil. Allow to cool slightly before serving.

# Something new for OTOW News!

Do you have a special family recipe that you would be willing to share with the rest of the On Top of the World community?

Here's your chance!

OTOW News is going to start publishing recipes that have been in your family for generations! All you have to do is email a list of ingredients, a description of how to make your recipe and tell us how your family has cherished this recipe for years. The recipe can be for anything - breakfast, lunch, dinner, appetizers, desserts and beverages.

YOU MUST ATTACH IN YOUR EMAIL A SELF-TAKEN PHOTO OF A FINISHED RECIPE. YOU CANNOT EMAIL A PHOTO FROM THE INTERNET.

**OTOW** Residents Only

Email your recipe to otow.newsroom@gmail.com Include your name, building number and condo number. Email must include an original quality picture taken by you, plus list of ingredients, instructions and family history story. Your story will not be published without all conditions above.









Women's History Told Through Wedding Fashions

> 1890 - Present. By Leigh ann Brown, Collector. Leigh Ann exhibits wedding gowns from her vast collection. Saturday, October 18, 2025 - 12:00 PM to

3:00 PM **Luncheon Included** Tickets \$18.00 - Limited Tickets

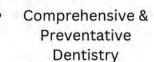
Good Samaritan Episcopal Church 2165 N.E. Coachman Road Clearwater, Florida, 33765 Thone: 727-461-1717 for Tickets





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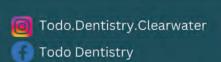
COMPLIMENTARY \*CONSULTATION SECOND OPINION

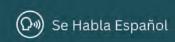












# On your next walk, stop by Valencia and visit our classical music bulletin board

Are you ready for an interesting destination for your daily walk?

Well, lace up those "sneaks" of yours and head on over to the Valencia building (72), Swedish Drive, on the West side.

Please come visit our core lobby bulletin board display, which will stay up until the end of October.

Our "Bulletin Board Guru" (and, yes, she does deserve that title), Karen Pedersen, has a delightful display for you to enjoy.

Since September is National Classical Music Month, Karen was inspired to feature photos of composers and information about each composer, in a fun display.

Since age 6, Karen has been a lifelong pianist and a singer. Her grandmother was a professional singer. Her mother was initially a big band singer and then an elementary school music teacher. There is so much musical talent that runs in her family!

Karen attended West Chester Uni-



versity in Pennsylvania as a music major. During her career in the travel industry, she kept sharing her talent and love of music as the pianist for local equity theaters.

Here at the Valencia building, we are always surprised and delighted by the seasonal displays Karen continues to create for us as another outlet for her creativity. We do hope to see you on one of your walks. Who knows, you



The bulletin board at the Valencia building is a dedication to classical music this month.

might get a chance to chat with one of our friendly neighbors.

In building news, we had a lovely Ladies Brunch Bunch gathering in September at Rhumbas.

In October we will do an "all call" for all residents to gather at one of our favorite locales, O'Keefe's Tavern, as it is likely to be closing soon to make way for a new housing project.

# Happy 80th birthday!



On Aug. 27, Irene Pappas, of the Mandalay building, celebrated her 80th birthday with family and friends. In the photo, left to right, are Irene, Robert McQuillin, Irene Gandjos and Plato Gandjos. Plato, who is Irene's first cousin, also shares the same birthday and he turned 88 years young. Robert, who is relatively new to the community, resides next door to the Mandalay building and generously treated nine guests to an amazing dinner! Robert is a graphic designer and his apartment reflects this talent. Irene feels so fortunate having such a wonderful, generous and interesting friend!

OnSpot Dermatology will be at the East Activity Center front parking lot from 8 am - 4 pm on Friday, Oct. 24.





# OTOW NEWS PRIVATE BUSINESS PAGE

Businesses on this page represent proprietors who are in business for themselves. On Top of the World does not endorse the products or services offered. Everyone on this page has passed a basic background check.







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# On Top of the World Movie Night

presents "Wicked" on Wednesday, Oct 8, 4 pm, EAC Auditorium



Free Admission Seating Is Limited, First-Come, First-Served One Free Bag of Popcorn Per Resident

Directed by Jon M. Chu Produced in 2024 **Universal Pictures Studio** Rated PG Runtime 160 minutes

#### CAST

Cynthia Erivo, Ariana Grande, Jonathan Bailey, Jeff Goldblum, Kristin Chenoweth

Wicked is the untold story of the witches of Oz.

This film stars Emmy-, Grammy- and Tony-winning powerhouse Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba, a young woman, misunderstood because of her unusual green skin, who has yet to discover her true power.

Also starring Grammy-winning, multi-platinum recording artist and global superstar Ariana Grande as Glinda, a popular young woman, gilded by privilege and ambition, who has yet to discover her true heart.

# On Top of the World Community TV 901

#### Pull Tabs for Tampa Shriners benefits Children who need Wheelchairs

Hey On Top of the World neighbors. Just a little reminder.

Please continue to collect pull tabs from any soda cans, beer cans, juice cans, food cans, etc. I'll be back at OTOW by mid-October to collect them.

Just contact me, Connie Stanley, at 727-475-8888 or bring the pull tabs to the Canadian Club information table on Nov. 1 during the Fall Festival.

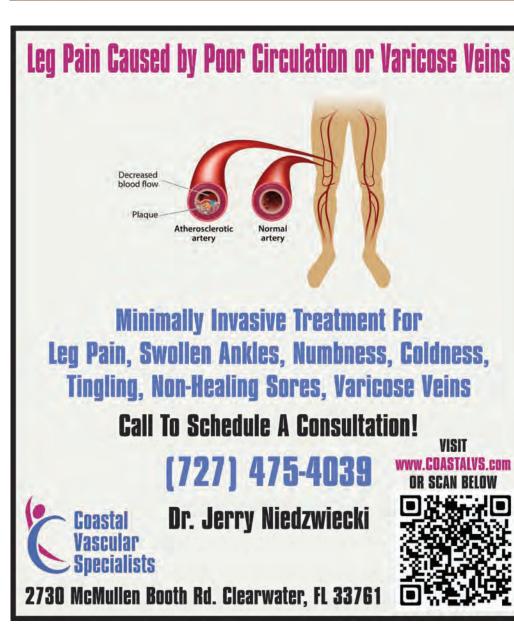
You also can drop off the tabs at our club information table after Nov. 13 on any Monday or Thursday from 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the East Activity Center Auditorium. Also, OTOW clubs with dinner-dances, I'll be back with red solo cups again!

Thank you for contributing to such a worthy cause.

# Pickleball Labor Day



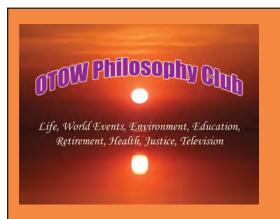
There's more to life than just pickleball! The On Top of the World Pickleball Club enjoys playing games on the court and eating a lot of food off the court. On Labor Day there were picnic tables full of food for members who took a break from playing. It was a beautiful day, a lovely picnic and delicious food.











#### Philosophy Club

Guest speakers. Share opions. No politics. No religion. No complaints.

Every Tuesday 10-11:30 am EAC Crystal Beach Room

Freebirdz
(formerly TOPS)
10:30 am -12:00 pm,
Fridays
Crystal Beach Room
Sit, talk and
lose weight.





#### Gentle Movement Exercises

11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Tuesdays, EAC Auditorium 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Fridays, EAC Audtorium movingandgroovingotow@gmail.com

# Miss a Board Meeting? Need To Watch Again?

The Box Office has you covered.



otowboxoffice.com • More than 670,000 views.

Can't watch meetings on OTOW-TV 901?
The Box Office is broadcasting
Association Board Meetings live.

Plus, you can visit the Past Board Meetings page and review any meeting since June 2023.\* Just visit the Box Office, click the Past Board Meetings link, select the correct date ... and watch.

#### **Association Board Meetings**

June 12, 2025 (annual meeting) June 5, 2025 Information Meeting on Voting and Reserves April 30, 2025 April 17, 2025 February 27, 2025 March 27, 2025 January 30, 2025 January 16, 2025 Meet The Candidates Morning - January 9, 2025 Meet The Candidates Evening - January 9, 2025 Nov. 7, 2024 Hurricane Response Review Nov. 22, 2024 Dec. 19, 2024 Oct. 15, 2024 Oct. 2, 2024 Sept. 20, 2024 Sept. 11, 2024 Selection Committee Created September 5, 2024 July 25, 2024 July 18, 2024 July 15, 2024 June 13, 2024 June 4 and 6, 2024 May 22, 2024 April 24, 2024

\* Not all past board meetings are archived on the Box Office.

Interviews with management companies are not available.

Some future meetings may not be available.

But the dates listed can be watched anytime when Internet access is available.

All videos are copyrighted. Recording, downloading and uploading are prohibited.

#### Social Dance with Howard

1-3 pm, Thursdays
West Activity Center Belleaire Room
Singles or couples. Men needed!
Residents pick the dances to learn.

### **Qwirkle Group**

Qwirkle is a fun tile game full of colors and shapes.
Residents are getting together now to play together.
It is easy to learn but challenging to master.
Come join us. No experience necessary.



Mondays 1-4 p.m.
East Activity Center Dunedin Room
Everyone Welcome!
Call Sherrie Markey at 717-873-1066.

# Blackout

Year-Round
Thursdays
6:30-9:30 pm
WAC Belleair Room
Must have a valid activity
card and be a member of
the Canadian Club.
Bring spare change.



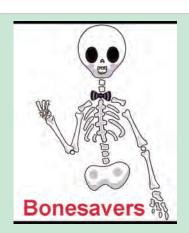
Learn how to play at 5:50 pm

French Language and
Culture Society
11 am - 12 pm
Wednesdays
EAC Dunedin Room



#### **Bonesavers**

Mondays, Wednesdays,
Fridays
8:00 - 9:00 am
Clearwater Room



#### Mah Jongg in a Condo

There is a group of Mah Jongg players at On Top of the World which plays on Thursdays in people's condos throughout the year. We play 1:30-3:30 pm. We also teach if you want to learn the game. Interested? Call Libby at 727-669-1486.

#### Shuffleboard

Open to all OTOW residents with a valid activity card.

Join us during league play and we have equipment available. Mon-Tue-Wed 4 pm East Activity Center



### Speak English

A new class at On Top of the World taught by Lola Dickert and Eugene Z. We meet for 1 hour every Thursday from 10-11 am in the East Activity Center Dunedin Room.

The class is free. There is no homework.

This is your chance to learn how to speak English more fluently. Just bring your Activity Card.

# Bohemia now has a men's outing

For many years, Bohemia has had a girls' night out once a month.

Museums are one of our favorite destinations.

We have been to the Plant Museum in Tampa, the Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg and the Dunedin History Museum to name a few.

We also enjoy art museums. Our favorite art museum trip was a private tour of the Dali Museum. We learned Christmas is the best time to do it. The museum staff goes all out to make it a festive occasion.

Sometimes our nights out are not cultural. We have been known to go out just for fun. We have gone bowling,



played miniature golf and even taken some overnight trips.

Well, the time has come for change. Now the men want their own night out. They've decided they need one,

Hence the creation of the new Guys Breakfast Club. It will be meeting the first Saturday of every month.

The Guys Breakfast Club has already had a few meetings. They have been trying a variety of restaurants. No indication yet if there is a favorite one.

Last month everyone in the building was invited to our dinner out. The choice was BJ's Grill at the Countryside Mall and 21 residents participated.

It was interesting that for many of those 21 people, this was their first time dining out with us. They were pleasantly surprised by the environment and food. The comments were, they would definitely patronize it again.

As publicized in previous editions of this newspaper, Bohemia residents take great pride in collecting food for those in need.

It is also with great pride that I announce success with our Labor Day food collection. Our year-long goal was to collect 1,000 pounds of food. We have now passed half of that goal.

We have three more collections planned and we may reach our goal!

# Get Acquainted Coffee 9-11 am, Thursday, Oct. 9, Auditorium







# Classified

OTOW News classifieds are for On Top of the World residents only. You may place an ad to sell or seek to buy using up to 40 words. You cannot sell anything for a price of more than \$500. You cannot sell condos, cars, bedding or used clothing. No business ads. No companion ads. Classifieds must be dropped off at the newsroom in person before the 16th of each month. You may be asked to show your activity card. One classified per household per month. You must ask to have your ad run twice.

#### **Beach Chairs**

For sale: Two Tommy Bahama beach chairs with attached cooler. Excellent condition. \$25 each. Call John at (727) 463-8240.

#### Poodles Need New Home

Two lovely OTOW poodles/bichons need a new home. All shots current. Vet says perfect health. Non-allergenic. No shedding. Libby is 6 and Eddy is 3. They love other people and kids. Call James at (727) 515-1994.

#### TV, Soundbar, DVD

For sale: 43 inch TV (TCL) and soundbar with wireless woofer (Samsung). DVD player (Sony). All in good working order - like new condition. All three \$99. Call William at (727) 482-3996.

#### **Clothes Dryer**

For sale: Panda Clothes Dryer. Small. White. Fits on counter top. Almost new. Call Iris for price. (727) 253-9735.

#### Manican

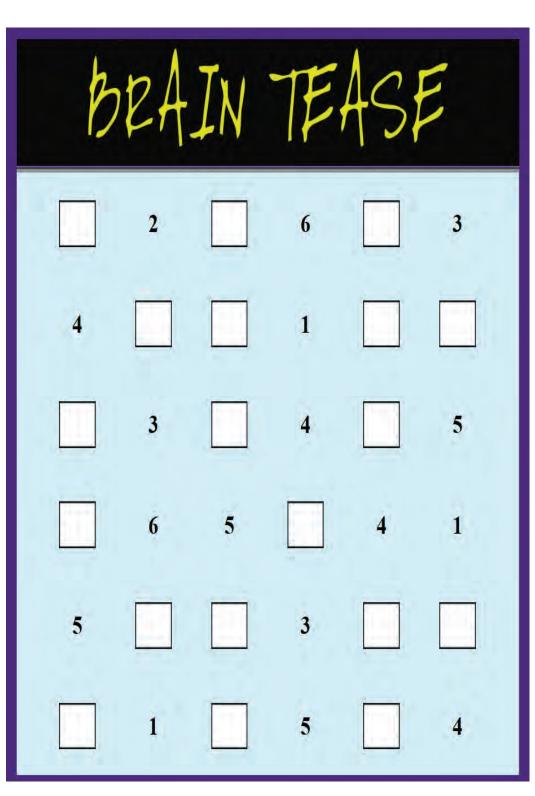
For sale: Full-dress manican for "resting" your fanciest outfit. Make offer. Call Walter at (727) 669-2539.

#### Life Magazine Anthology

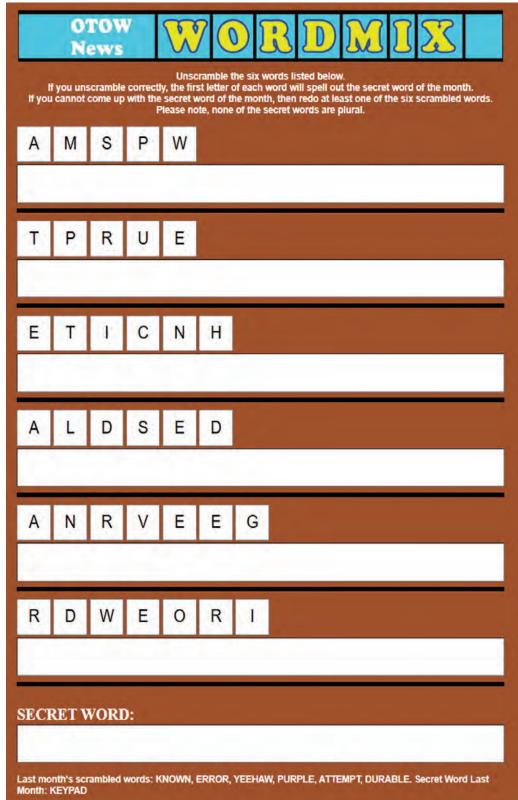
For sale: Life Magazine's Anthology of World War II. 350 pages. More than 600 photos. Was \$60 new. Asking \$10. Call Laurence at (727) 472-0656.

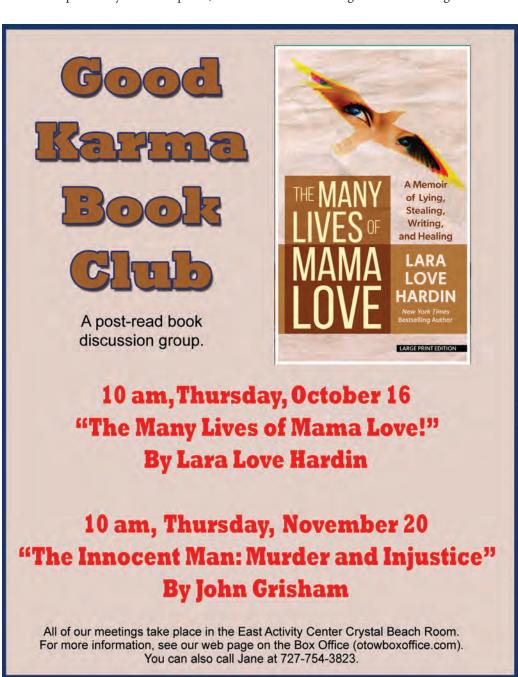
#### Walker

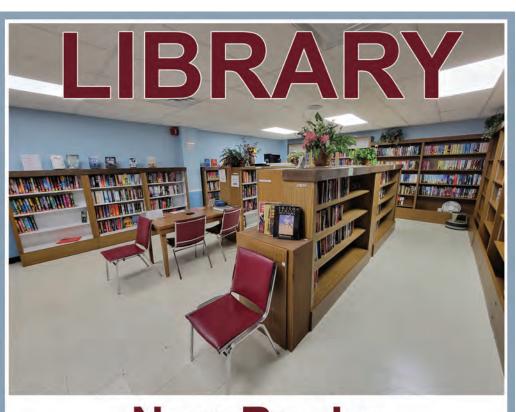
For sale: Like new, Hi Boy Walker. Paid \$300. Will sell for half price. Call (727) 307-9483.



To do the Brain Tease above, you must put a number 0-9 in each white square. The trick is, each number can only appear one time horizontally and vertically. Start with a row or column with only one white square. As you fill in squares, the rest of the board will get easier to manage.







### **New Books**

"The Secret of Secrets" by Dan Brown
"Framed In Death" by J. D. Robb
"Smugglers Cove" by Fern Michaels
"The Girl From Devil's Lake" by J. A. Jance

Join the OTOW Library for \$5.

Renew your membership so we can buy new books.

Hours: 10-12 Mondays, 1-3 Wednesdays, 10-12 Thursdays

# **Storytellers Wanted**



ottow News,
your community newspaper,
is looking for residents to tell stories
about the people and
social activities
going on in your buildings.

OTOW News is seeking storytellers
for the 58 buildings listed below.
There is no pressure to write each month.
All we ask is 3 stories a year.
Help is available to assist you with your first story.
You can write about people in your building,
events in your core, group outings to restaurants,
milestone birthdays or anniversaries, unique vacations and more.

Plus, the newspaper staff has a one hour class coming up on Nov. 6 where everyone learns how to be a better writer. Join our staff and you are invited to attend the class!

If this sounds like something you want to try, visit the Press Association information table at the 2025 Fall Festival from 10 am - 2 pm on Saturday, Nov. 1, in the EAC Auditorium. You can meet the Press Association Board, ask questions and fill out a storyteller form. To join our staff, you must be an OTOW resident, have a home computer and know how to send emails. It is recommended that you attend monthly meetings, but it is not required. Is your building on the list below? Join us.

2-Danish Modern
3-Chalet
4-American Colonial
6-Grecian Classic
7-English Tudor
8-Alsace Lorraine
9-Polynesian
10-Mid-East Moorish
12-Swiss Alps Chalet
14-Rancho Del Mundo

51-Avila I 67-Brisbar 52-Avila II 69-Hemm 54-Brittany Farmhouse 70-Key W 55-Saratoga 73-Cordo 59-Moor 75-Manda 63-Williamsburg 76-Royal of 64-Avalon 77-Souther 65-Curacao 80-Orizab \* Current storyteller would like to step down

16-Corinthian Kapal 17-Southern Georgian 18A-The Gables 19-Azteca 21-Punjab 22-Roman Byzantine

22-Roman Byzantii 24-Americana 26-English Gothic 31-Contemporary 32-Villa Riviera

67-Brisbane 69-Hemmingway 70-Key West 73-Cordoba 75-Mandarin 76-Royal Chateau 77-Southern Colonial 80-Orizaba 82-Capistrano 33-Aruba

34-Hawaiian Towers 36-Baghdad

38-Monaco 39-Mallorca

41-Rila Renaissance 42-Victorian

43-American Gothic \*
48-Meditteranean
49-Loch Lomond

84-Malaguena 85-Espana 86-South Seas 87-Delhi 88-Viking 90-Queen Victoria 91-Antigua I 92-Antigua II 95-Waterford 96-Sir Lancelot