

# Views from **On Top of the World®** Communities

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### World-class golf ... and plenty of it

**OCALA, FLA.** – Three, 18-hole, par-72 golf courses – one boasting Florida’s longest Par 5 hole at 669 yards – roll across On Top of the World’s landscape, starting with the Candler Hills Golf Club, which opened in 2005.

This semi-private course is the community’s newest ... and longest at 7,333 yards from the championship tees. Designed by golf course architect Gordon Lewis of Naples, Fla., Candler Hills boasts a fourth hole nicknamed *The Monster*, not only because of its intimidating 669 yards fairway, but the fact it must be played uphill and, usually, into the wind. Moreover, this well-bunkered course is noted for its greens, like the 12<sup>th</sup>, which runs 42 yards back to front.

The community’s two other courses – both private and each totaling 6,200 yards – are The Links – which underwent a major renovation to install Tifdwarf bermuda grass in 2008 – and The Tortoise & The Hare, considered a “shot maker’s delight” with its picturesque, natural setting.

LPGA professional Sally Collins, director of golf at On Top of the World, has been

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a teaching and club professional for 29 years and is a certified fitter for PING and Cobra equipment. Meanwhile, PGA member Matt Hibbs is head golf professional at Candler Hills. Both pros offer private and group lessons, and regular clinics at all three golf courses.

There are two golf pro shops: one is near On Top of the World's signature Health and Recreation Center to serve residents, and members of the two private courses, while the other, Candler Hills Golf Shop, is open to the public across the street from Circle Square Commons. Both locations offer a large selection of equipment and clothing. The Candler Hills Restaurant, adjoining the golf shop, serves breakfast Saturday, while lunch and dinner are served daily.

Candler Hills Golf Club hosts the annual Ocala Open Pro-Am and Golf Tournament, bringing some of the world's best golfers and world-class golf competition to the community. The 2009 tournament drew nearly 125 golf pros who shared a \$100,000 purse. For the past two years, this annual tournament has benefitted two local charities – Interfaith Emergency Services of Ocala, and Go Red for Women, the local component of the American Heart Association's grassroots campaign for research and education about women's heart disease.

There are five sets of tees at Candler Hills, ranging from 4,877 to 7,333 yards, to appeal to golfers of various handicaps. The USGA handicap system is available at all three courses.

Annual memberships are offered at Candler Hills for individuals and couples, as well as a flexible corporate membership that allows businesses to use rounds of golf as incentives or rewards.

The Tortoise & The Hare and The Links are exclusive to On Top of the World residents and their guests. Play is on a first-come, first-served basis and there are no

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initiation fees or club minimums. Residents also have access to a driving range, short-game and practice putting green areas.

There are active leagues for men and women; planned mixers, tournaments and best-ball scrambles; featured programs for “duffers” as well as newer golfers; plus game-improvement clinics.

For more information regarding golf at On Top of the World, call the pro shop at (352) 854-8430. To learn more about Candler Hills golf, call (352) 861-9712 or visit *CandlerHillsGolfClub.com*.