



Bell Tower Property Owner Association's

BELL TOWER NOTES

SEAHORSE CAMPAIGN EXCEEDS GOAL

By Suzanne Ferguson



MS BELLE, nearing completion

Special points of interest:

- New CAM (P. 2)
- Benches Donated (P. 4)
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- Social Events (P. 8-10)
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- New Activities (P. 13)

When the "A Seahorse Dream" campaign for the new Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida (to be built on the Lee Memorial Health Park site) was presented to the Bell Tower Park POA Board in September by resident area-wide project steering committee members Paula and Dave Eberhardt, the hope was to raise a minimum of \$3500 in our community to sponsor a decorated seahorse to participate in this community art project. With the energy and imagination of BTP co-chairs Jane and Tom Kearns and their committee, the effort has gone well over the \$5,000 mark, with several weeks still remaining for fundraising. "This endeavor has required a tremendous amount of time, work and cooperation by our six fundraiser steering committee members, but we all feel that a more appropriate project could not have been chosen, nor a more rewarding outcome envisioned, than 'A Seahorse Dream,' " commented Paula and Dave. They added, "Thank you, all BTP Contributors."

The BTP Seahorse (appropriately named MS BELLE) was designed and painted by resident artist Rick Sanford. It will be on display in our

Clubhouse until early March, when it will be auctioned at the grand \$150-per-person celebrity Gala on March 7th at the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa, with the additional auction proceeds also going to the new Hospital.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

By Richard Roux

Since the publication of our last newsletter, our POA has purchased its own automatic external defibrillator (AED) and located it in the clubhouse exercise room. This location offers air conditioned storage, security, and a centralized location for our most strenuous activities including basketball, pickleball and tennis.

The POA has also sponsored on-site AED/CPR training from the South Trail Fire Department. Approximately 20 residents have now attended this training, which has a nominal cost of \$5. Additional on-site CPR/AED classes are planned. The next class is scheduled for Feb 26th at 1:30-3:30 p.m. These classes fill up early. Residents should sign up at the CAM office.

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MEET OUR NEW CAM

By Jim Stewart

As most everyone knows by now, our previous Community Association Manager, Dixie Cory, left Bell Tower Park in December of last year. She was replaced by Scott Thompson through the Cardinal Management Group.

Scott and his wife moved to Ft. Myers from Troy, NY, in 2004. He recently worked for a portfolio management company here in Ft. Myers, managing 14 associations, all of them on Fort Myers Beach.

Before moving to Ft. Myers, Scott had a 30-year career in the hospitality industry which encompassed hotels, resorts and nightclubs as well as motor-coach tours and travel agency businesses in upstate New York, New Hampshire, and Marathon, FL.

Scott and his wife share a home just off McGregor Blvd. in Ft. Myers. His hobbies include music, NASCAR, boating and travel. Scott noted, "I try to get to the beach as often as I can and enjoy dining with friends as often as possible," adding that he is looking forward to working with our Board of Directors, vendors and all of our committees. □



REMINDER: NEW STORM SHUTTER RULE IN EFFECT

Owners should be aware that a new rule on the installation of long-term storm shutters was passed last summer and is now in effect. In brief, anyone wishing to use storm shutters for longer than the period of a specific storm needs to seek a variance from the POA Board and use shutters that will be unobtrusive in the community. Ask at the CAM Office or consult the POA Board "Rules and Regulations" on the BTP Website. (Or read the story in *Bell Tower Notes* 2.4, July, 2013, p.2, archived on the Website.) □

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETINGS ANNOUNCED

By Suzanne Ferguson

All of Bell Tower Park's Associations will be meeting over the next month. Owners should definitely sign and return their proxies as requested, so that a quorum will be guaranteed and such actions as waiving an audit and rolling over surpluses can be completed. Elections, if any are required, will be held.

If you are able, also attending your annual meeting would give encouragement to your Board members, who put in many hours on your behalf all year long. All the meetings are held in the Clubhouse Annex.

Courtyard II, Tuesday, February 10th, 7 p.m.

Carriage Homes, Wednesday, March 19th, 7 p.m.

Property Owners' Association, Monday March 24th, 7 p.m.

Courtyard I, Thursday, March 27th, 7 p.m. □

NEWS FROM OUR CARRIAGE HOMES



By Robert Garland, President

The annual meeting of the Carriage Homes Association is scheduled for March 19, 2014. The meeting will be held at the Annex Building of the Bell Tower Park Clubhouse at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Directors and to conduct regular business of the Association. If you are interested in serving as a Director for the upcoming year, you would have had to submit a "Notice of Intent to be a Candidate of the Board" form by February 6, 2014. The form is always included in the Meeting Notice that is sent two months before each annual meeting. It was sent out on January 14, 2014. If you missed this year, the Board appreciates your interest and encourages your participation in the future.

The Association finished the 2013 fiscal year on a positive note. We only had a slight variance to our \$1.4 million budget, due mostly to unforeseen building maintenance issues and increases to our insurance policies. Also, the Association only has two units with substantial delinquencies over 90 days, due to aggressive collection efforts by the Board and Cardinal. This has allowed us to maintain a positive cash flow and to develop a strong budget for 2014. Good job to everyone!

Finally, the Board would like to bring everyone's attention a maintenance issue that is becoming a growing concern. Disposable wipes that are touted as "flushable" are clogging the sewer lines and causing sewage to back up into some units. This is not only a nuisance to the unit owners, but is increasing the Association's maintenance costs.

Since sewers from our buildings handle multiple units, it's difficult to place blame in many of these cases. Also, this problem is not unique to our units, but is becoming a concern across the nation. In view of these problems we've already experienced, we ask that you please throw the so-called disposable wipes in the trash, and do not flush them in the toilet, regardless of the advertising claims. Better safe than sorry!

I hope everyone has a safe and productive 2014. □

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

A Message from our POA Board President



By Dave Barnes

We all want to live in a secure, safe, and friendly community. After all, this is why we purchased our homes (or are renting here) in paradise at Bell Tower Park. In order to keep this a secure and safe community we all have to be aware of the world we live in and take adequate precautions. What can we do?

- Follow all speed limit signs and come to a complete stop at all Stop signs. Please report all violators to the office with vehicle type and license plate number.
- Make sure the walk-in gates lock behind you and are working properly.
- Always be on the lookout for bikers, joggers, walkers, and dog walkers, with whom you need to share the road.
- Keep your eyes open and report any suspicious activities.
- Take care of your neighbors and keep an eye on their home when they are away.
- If you see anyone who is not following the rules and regulations, please report them to the office.
- Make sure if your vehicle is left outside in your driveway, that it is locked at all times.
- If you have guests or children, make sure they know all the rules to keep them safe.
- Always keep the doors to your home locked and keep your garage door closed when you are not in the garage or immediate area.
- If a solicitor ever knocks on your door, call the Sheriff immediately because they are trespassing on our property. No soliciting is allowed at Bell Tower Park.
- Report any gate malfunctions to the office immediately. If the office is closed call the Cardinal 24/7 emergency number at 239-774-0723 and press 7 for the live operator.
- Report all safety issues to the office. □

COMMUNITY SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS (continued from the front page)

Another training class that was conducted was a water rescue class. This in-pool demonstration took place on Wednesday, February 5, at 11:00 a.m. It included the proper way to extract a person from the pool and featured the use of the Community's new rescue equipment (rescue tubes and backboard). These devices are now stored on the pool deck. The class was given by a licensed lifeguard from the FGCU Aquatics Center. Residents missing the demonstration can view a video of a pool rescue and extraction that has been on our WEB site since early January.

Pool safety remains a priority of our POA. Please do not bring glass items into the pool area. Also, pool and spa users should always avoid being in the water alone. Everyone should remember that the spas can be particularly dangerous to young children, the elderly, individuals on medications and those using alcohol. Spa users should always check the spa temperature before they enter the spa; 104 degrees is the maximum allowable temperature. The CAM should be immediately notified of problems. Spa users should also always abide by the maximum use time of 15 minutes.

Finally, all residents should be aware of the location of the three 911 call boxes on our property. One is located on both pool decks and in the exercise room. Bringing a back-up cellular phone to these areas is also recommended. Remember, when a hazardous event may be unfolding, call 911 right away. Each one-minute delay in obtaining proper help decreases the chances of survival for a non-breathing victim by 10%. [NOTE: our call boxes have recently been out of service when the phone lines were accidentally cut. When possible, residents should bring cell phones as a secondary 911 contact device.] □



BTP pool rescue training.

BENCH DONATIONS RECEIVED

By: Richard Roux and Suzanne Ferguson

In January of this year donations toward our first two community benches were received. One, given by Stan Gerwing, will be dedicated in memory of his late wife, Paula Gerwing, who passed away last September. She loved Bell Tower Park and her friends in the Water Aerobics Group, so Stan thought she would be pleased to be memorialized with a bench near the Clubhouse.

The second bench has been given by Don and Jackie Addis, to be placed alongside the Kensington Loop lake at the east end of Bell Tower Park Boulevard. The Addises enjoy looking out over the lake as they are walking their dog and wanted to give the bench for the enjoyment of the entire community.

The plan is to have both benches in place by April 1st. News of dedication ceremonies will appear on the BTP Website.

The Bell Tower Park Community Memorial Bench Program was introduced in the July 2012 edition of *Bell Tower Notes* (archived on the BTP Website). In setting up the opportunity, the POA Board designated five potential bench locations. These first donations will occupy the two sites shown by the green circled stars lettered "A" and "B" on the BTP site map shown to the right.

The benches cost \$725 installed and may be designated in honor of a person or group as well as in memory. For details on how to give a bench, contact our CAM Office (239-454-4605). □



Donated bench locations

SEAHORSE CAMPAIGN (continued from the front page)

A 15-inch replica of the 5-foot polyresin statue, also decorated by Rick, will be displayed in our Clubhouse as a souvenir of this first ever community fundraising effort.

As reported in the November *Bell Tower Notes*, the project, “A Seahorse Dream,” is a five-county effort to supplement other gifts to the Lee Memorial Health Systems Foundation toward the building and furnishing of the hospital, which will be the only accredited children’s hospital between Tampa and Miami. According to the official www.a-seahorse-dream.org website, approximately 25 decorated seahorses will be auctioned at the March 7th Gala.

The BTP Seahorse Dream Committee, organized by Tom and Jane, and assisted by the Communications Committee with publicity, solicited local businesses for gifts that were given as prizes in games of chance, along with gift certificates and community “givebacks” from Ruby Tuesday and Patinella’s Chicken Grill (see related story on p. 12). A Wine and Beer tasting was held in the Clubhouse January 11th to benefit the cause, as well as a boat excursion January 25th on Pine Island Sound (see story on p. 6).

As of January 30th, nearly 50 businesses and 35 individuals and couples had made gifts toward the BTP Seahorse. The Ruby Tuesday “givebacks” came to \$236, and the totals from the Wine/Beer tasting and the Calusa Queen excursion garnered \$1235 altogether. Jane and Tom have expressed their sincere thanks to all BTP residents who have taken part in our successful campaign, whether by individual gifts or participation in one or more of the events. Jane reflects, “When we reached our first goal of \$3500 with time to spare, we set our sights on \$5000. Now, through the generosity of our BTP community, we’ve passed that also! Thanks to one and all!”

It’s not too late to be a part of our Seahorse campaign: fundraising will continue until the March 7th Auction. Individual checks can be made out to the Lee Memorial Health Systems Foundation [LMHSF] with the notation, BTP Seahorse, and sent to or dropped off at the Kearns’s at 5571 Berkshire Dr. #102. Or you can print the Patinella’s giveback coupon (from the newsletter or the BTP WEBSITE) and eat out for the campaign between February 15th and 27th! □



BTP Co-Chairs, Jane and Tom Kearns

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Susan Knutson, Chair

The Activities Committee has had a busy schedule over the past few months. Since the Sock Hop in November we have held our monthly Coffee Hours each third Sunday morning (except December) and hosted the Holiday Party as well as a Wine/Beer Tasting in conjunction with the Seahorse Dream Fundraiser (see articles in this newsletter).

Thanks to the results of our website survey we are pleased to have started weekly Mahjong classes run by resident Bee Horner. Thanks so much, Bee! The group meets in the Clubhouse on Wednesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. All are welcome to attend – this is a very popular game that everyone can enjoy! If there is interest in daytime lessons these may also be arranged at a future time.

Our next big event will be the Tiki Party, to be held on the Clubhouse Pool Deck on Saturday, March 8th. We all look forward to welcoming back the Jesse Allen Trio, the wonderful band that performed at the Sock Hop! Keep on the lookout for more information on the Tiki Party and check the website for photos of our events as well.

The Activities Committee appreciates the continued support of the POA as well as our neighbors and friends at Bell Tower Park. You need to know that this will be my last update to *Bell Tower Notes* as Chair of the Committee. After over 1 ½ years, it’s time to pass the baton. The new co-chairs will be Kathy Gambino and Ronnie Vaccarino, both of whom have been committee stalwarts since the new committee formed in the fall of 2012. I will remain on the committee as a member. Thank you for all your kind words and participation. It has been a pleasure for me to work with this wonderful committee. Hope to see you all soon! □

CRUISING FOR THE CAUSE: A SEAHORSE EXCURSION

By Jane Kearns

On the cool, partially sunny Saturday morning of January 25th, a party of 23 Bell Tower Park residents and friends set out from Burnt Store Marina on the Calusa Queen for an Eco-Tour of the back waters of Pine Island, an event held in conjunction with the Bell Tower Park “A Seahorse Dream” campaign (see page 1). The destination was historic Tarpon Lodge, where we enjoyed a cozy lunch. En route, supported by his assistant, Jim, Captain Bill kept our attention as he provided interesting information about the various small islands and told stories about the human and wildlife inhabitants he has encountered over his years as a captain.

After lunch, we crossed the road to stroll the 2/3-mile Calusa Heritage Trail with a docent, learning about the Calusa Indians who inhabited our area before the Spanish came. We all climbed their biggest shell mound in South Florida for a view out toward Sanibel and the Gulf.

Once back on the boat we all enjoyed a Chinese Auction of small items that had been donated to benefit the Seahorse Dream project. This encouraged comradeship and made the return boat trip an event in itself. The final chances for the Bradley Jewelry Store 14-kt gold diamond-studded seahorse charm were purchased. Susan Knutson, one of our residents, was the fortunate winner of the charm, and luckily enough, Susan was on board, which allowed all of us to participate in her pleasure.

A post-trip financial tally showed a welcome \$705.00 from the excursion in addition to our previous donations, for a grand campaign total (as of February 1) of \$ 5,434.90. □



Excursion Group



Disembarking at Tarpon Lodge



At Randell Research Center



Seahorse pendant winner
Susan Knutson

LATE BREAKING NEWS: CAMPAIGN REACHES \$6000!!!!

Thanks to a "topping up" gift received on February 7th, the BTP Seahorse Fundraiser has reached \$6,000, which qualifies us to join the elite group of sponsors with a "banner" ad in the Program of the Grand Gala March 7th! What a wonderful finale! Congratulations and Thanks to All Who Participated! ☐

Donors to Bell Tower Park's Seahorse Dream (as of 2/7/2014)

Businesses:

ABC Liquors
Ada's Organic Market
Harris-Newman Team (RE/MAX Realty)
Bamboozles
Bahama Breeze
Bed Bath and Beyond
Bell Tower Marketing
Boat Safety Academy (Calusa Queen)
Bonefish Grill
Bradley's Fine Jewelers
Citrus Salon
Envera
First Watch
Fresh Market
GolfTEC of Ft Myers
IRMS (insurance)
Jackson Pool
K-Nine Connections
Lee Lighting
Lumpy's
Mario's Meat Market and Deli
Massage Envy
Megan at Cut Ups Salon
Mel's Diner
Mike Powell, Realtor
Mirage Boutique
Ooh La La
Outback Steak House
Patinella's Chicken Grill
Pinch a Penny Pool
Pincher's Crab Shack
Play It Again Sports
Ruby Tuesday (Giveback)
Skinny Pantry
Sky Zone
Souplantation and Sweet Tomatoes
Sun Nails on Summerlin
Sunshine Grill
Tony Sacco's
The Clam Bake
The Grind

The Sandy Parrot
Wilford and Lee
Zoomers Amusement Park

Individuals: Cash Donations

Don and Jackie Addis
Karen Bella (in Memory of Paula Gerwing)
Edith Berg
Alex Blagojevic and Elizabeth Kelly
Joel and Mary Bloom
Frances Maria Bremer
Sam and Jeanne Bryceland
Beth Champion and Albert Avitabile
Christine Cottone
John and Kathy Davenport
Constance Dunn
Paula and Dave Eberhardt
Suzanne Ferguson
Shirley Foust
Bill and Bee Horner
Gloria and Ron Johnson
Jo and William Johnson
Tom and Jane Kearns
Frank and Janet Kersanty
Joseph Krahling/Carolyn Thornton
Andrew and Lila Kusiak
Ron and Joyce Lindabury
James and Betty Ann McCarthy (friends of the Kearns)
Pat and Howie Melancon
Michael and Barbara Moccia
David and Rita Morgan
John and Jeanne Newton
Mike Powell Real Estate Agent
Marilyn Rak
Richard and Kerry Roux
Kenneth and Connie Shotton (in Memory of Paula Gerwing)
Harold and Charlotte Shotwell
John Smail
Irina Gershin and James Stevens
Ronnie and Vincent Vaccarino
William and Mary Waldau
Rhonda Watson

BTP HOLIDAY PARTY PLEASURES

By Susan Knutson

Our annual Holiday Party was held at the Clubhouse on December 14th. Approximately fifty residents joined the fun for a lovely buffet dinner catered by Mario's. The Italian feast included various antipasti, eggplant rollatini, Italian chicken, sausage rigatoni, Caesar salad, rolls and butter, along with a sumptuous dessert table assembled by committee members and supplemented by Costco!

Holiday music played in the background during the meal and afterward the group sang a chorus of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and was regaled with a guest's impromptu reading of "The Night Before Christmas." An optional "Secret Santa" gift exchange and door prizes of Bonefish Grill gift cards rounded out the evening.

The beautiful tree and decorations previously put up by a team headed by Maggie and Lou Martinez, Vince and Ronnie Vaccarino, John Davenport and a crew of artistic and energetic resident volunteers established a magical holiday atmosphere! It was heartwarming to spend the evening with friends old and new.

Many, many thanks to the Activities Committee members who worked so hard to make this a memorable event, including Kathy Gambino, Chris Merritt, Dolly Milek, Barbara Dalen, Kathy Soares and Ronnie Vaccarino. □



An evening of enjoyment



Grand Italian buffet

COURTYARD II BLOCK PARTY HELD

By Suzanne Ferguson and Alice Tuthill

For the first time ever, the Courtyard II Association (and friends) held a block party on Saturday, January 18th in the street at the east end of Cheshire Drive between the guest parking and the small pool.

A team of George and Alice Tuthill, Martha and Chuck Schaffer, Betsy and Jim Stewart, and Bill and Mary Waldau planned the event, invited everyone, and set up tables and supplies for a splendid potluck of hors d'oeuvres, hot and cold entrees, salads and desserts. About thirty people braved the cool but bright weather to nosh and schmooze from 3 p.m. until the sun departed over the rooftops.

The weather had cleared from a blustery morning into a crisp, glorious, Florida winter day. Our former realtors and continuing friends, Arnie Harris and Ralph Newman, arrived with a special gift basket of goodies that was won in a drawing by Stan Vogel. Quite a few new residents came to be welcomed to the neighborhood, and old acquaintances caught up with each other.

Plans are already afoot for next year's party! □



Courtyard II— good friends



Courtyard II— good food

SOCK HOP MEMORIES



Ready to Rock and Roll



Jesse Allen Trio
(Resident Ross Mannina on bass)

CHAMBER CONCERT AT THE CLUBHOUSE MARCH 30TH

By Suzanne Ferguson

On Sunday, March 30th at 3:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse, a new kind of event for Bell Tower Park will debut: a chamber music concert. All residents are invited to this free, one-hour concert, which will feature BTP member (and *Bell Tower Notes* Editor) Suzanne Ferguson with her consort of violas da gamba, “Green Flash,” and other groups and individuals studying this year with international gamba great, Mary Springfels. As a special treat, Mary will be playing in a virtuoso duo with Pompano Beach resident and viola da gamba teacher at Florida International University, Mikaho Somekawa.

The viola da gamba (also called “gamba” and “viol”) is a family of string instruments developed in the 16th century and played generally through the mid-18th century in homes and coffee houses. Once concert halls became the main venue for musical audiences, the violin family—much louder than the viols—relegated most viols to the attic until the early music revival in the early 20th century. However, these fretted, 6-stringed instruments, all played held like a cello, but with the bow used underhand, have had their own revival to become popular recreational instruments for amateurs and professionals alike, and to regain a place in small public halls—like our Clubhouse!

The professional and advanced amateur performers in this concert are in a program of study that brings an outstanding teacher to our area for four weekends of lessons and coaching during the school year. The concert will be their “student recital.” In the tradition of the house concert and the coffee house, light refreshments will be served.

The music is a mix of dances and variations on popular tunes from the late 1500s through about 1690. The pieces are being chosen with an accent on fun for the performers and audience, and the event is totally informal—come as you are and prepare to hear something different; then try the instruments yourself. □



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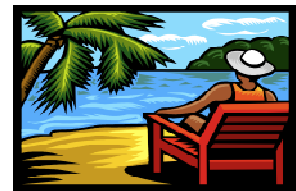


Bell Tower Park Tiki Party
Saturday, March 8, 2014
3PM until Dusk/Rain or Shine
\$25.00 per person
Live Music by The Jesse Allen Trio
Tropical Feast by Gulf Coast Kitchen
BYOB – NO Glass Allowed

Set ups for margaritas and daiquiris as well as soft drinks will be provided.

Ticket Sales – Cash Only- clubhouse
 Feb 16th – 9:30 to 11:30 AM
 Feb 19th – 4 to 7 PM
 Feb 22nd – 12 to 2 PM
 Feb 25th – 4 to 7 PM
 Feb 27th – 5-7 PM
 Feb 28th – 11 to 2 PM (last day)

Info call -239-288-6958



Note: Due to insurance considerations we can no longer purchase or serve alcoholic beverages at social functions

TWO NEW BUSINESS NEIGHBORS OFF ANDREA LANE

By Jim Stewart

As you exit Bell Tower Park through the side gates, look to your right to see that two new businesses have opened in the Park Shoppes Center. The one on the north end has the intriguing name, Live Like You Mean It. Owner Michael Lias is a personal fitness trainer. Michael started his career as a State Trooper in West Virginia, then became the strength trainer for all sports at West Virginia University.

After moving to Florida, he decided to get his Associate's Degree in Nursing from Edison State College before starting his fitness business. Michael has clients ranging in age from 4 to 94. His facility has several unique training machines that help people work on strength, endurance and balance. He does both half-hour and hour-long sessions for individuals or groups. He also has someone who comes in to teach yoga. Michael works by appointment only, and you can reach him at 239-340-0645. Michael's wife is a teacher here in Ft. Myers, and they have two daughters, ages 5 and 2.

Next door to Live Like You Mean It you will find a mother and daughter business, Vintage Chic Boutique. Owners Cindy Nye and Natalie Montgomery have a vintage furniture store that renews, repurposes and restores furniture and antiques. They offer a great selection of high-quality furniture and related items they say are "unmatched by any other furniture distributor in the U.S." They custom paint furniture using CeCe Caldwell paints.

In addition to restoring furniture, Cindy and Natalie have many one-of-a-kind gifts for the home. And to top it all off, they give workshops and painting lessons. Vintage Chic is open Wednesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. □



PATINELLA'S CHICKEN GRILL JOINS IN PROMOTION

The Final Scheduled A SEAHORSE DREAM Fundraiser

By Jim Stewart

A restaurant owner who lives in Bell Tower Park has offered to help with our Seahorse Dream promotion. Brett Law, who came to Fort Myers from New York 16 months ago, lives here with his wife and three children, ages 5, 4 and 2. He and his brother are two of three owners of Patinella's Chicken Grill restaurants. They have offered to donate 10% of your bill for meals purchased Feb. 15-27, 2014, at all Patinella's locations (see coupon).

Patinella's has 3 locations. The original and closest to BTP is at 6810 Plantation Drive. If you are on US 41 and you go east on Daniels about three miles, the restaurant is in the strip mall on the right behind the Walgreens at the Plantation Drive intersection, across from the golf driving range. The other locations are 8595 College Pkwy. in Ft. Myers and 1201 Pipers Blvd. in Naples.

The founder, Shelly Patinella, noticed customers were changing their eating habits, so nine years ago he founded Patinella's. The customers still wanted to be served quickly but wanted a healthy alternative to the "normal" fast food choices they had--and at a fair price. He introduced his grilled chicken rice bowls to much diner appreciation, then added his "world famous" gyros to the menu along with soups and fresh, made-to-order salads.

The bowls come in three different sizes depending on your appetite. I stopped at the restaurant after I had eaten lunch at home and saw meal after meal coming off the cafeteria-style serving line and wished I had not already had my lunch. Give them a try for a great lunch or dinner. And remember Feb. 15-27 and your coupon to benefit the BTP Seahorse Dream campaign for the Golisano Children's Hospital! ☐





THREE FORT MYERS LOCATIONS INCLUDING THE SHOPPES AT PLANTATION DR FT MYERS, FL 33912 239-337-2333 www.patinellaschickengrill.com

Dine-in or carry-out from any Patinella's Chicken Grill location and provide this coupon, and 10% of your bill will be donated back to Bell Tower Park's "A SEAHORSE DREAM" fundraiser. This offer is good Feb 15-27, 2014.

(THIS COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE CASHIER.) Additional coupons are available on the Bell Tower Park Community WEB site.

COUPON

NEW ACTIVITIES ON THE WAY

Some Resident-Directed Initiatives Beginning, Others Waiting for Coordinators

By Richard Roux and Suzanne Ferguson

In September 2013, our Activities and Communications Committees collaborated on a survey on the BTP Community Website, also available on paper in the Office, asking people to express their interest in possible new affinity groups or kinds of activities for Bell Tower Park. As a result, several new activities have begun or have reached the drawing board, including tennis classes, a pickleball group, pilates, and weekly Mahjong at the Clubhouse.

Over 20 separate desired activities were named in the survey. Six individuals expressed interest in a summer golf league, and one of them volunteered to organize this activity. The prospective leader, Mike Powell, will be contacting the others in the near future so that they can get organized in April, in preparation for summer golf at various courses around the area. (Mike would be happy to hear from additional residents regarding summer golf. Contact him at 292-3051 or Mike@MikePowell Realtor.com.)

The search has begun to find leaders or coordinators for some of the other activities that came up in the survey. All activities here at BTP are coordinated by volunteer leaders, whether they take place on community property or go outside. Coordination can involve a spectrum of tasks from convening the group, circulating the meeting times, dates and locations, and leading follow-up discussion groups. In some cases, as with the pickleball and Mahjong, there could be participant training included. In the case of activities requiring BTP facilities, POA Board approval may be required.

Some activities mentioned in the survey that did not initially gain a coordinator were bird watching, exercises including Tai Chi, Stretch Yoga, Zumba and line dancing, and a book club. Another intriguing notion that came up several times was starting a “game night” at the Clubhouse, for which people would bring their own board games and decide what they wanted to play on the spot. There was also some interest in group excursions to museums and attractions, dining out, theater parties, and trips to sporting events.

The Communications Committee is starting to notify survey respondents with common interests, in hopes that someone in the group will come forward to coordinate. If you have ideas about activities and could be a coordinator, please let us know directly, as that will speed things along. (Suzanne Ferguson is Communications Committee Chair and can be contacted at scf@case.edu.)

Note: While waiting for the new activities to start up, residents may wish to contact the nearby Wa-Ke-Hatchee Recreation Center featured in our Nov. 2013 issue; some of the desired activities are available there at low cost. □



Mahjong



Tennis Class

DID YOU WANT TO KNOW?



By Jim Stewart

Q. As I am a golfer, tell me about the new driving range off Alico Rd.

A. A first class facility, Alico Family Golf is located north of the light at the intersection with Lee Rd., across from the Family Dollar store between U.S. 41 and I-75. They have 60 grass tee boxes and 10 covered tee boxes with cooling misters. There is an 18-hole miniature golf course, a putting green, a chipping green and a green to practice your sand shots. They have a 9-hole course for beginning golfers. The holes are only about 60 yards long, and you play with a plastic club and hit balls similar to tennis balls. There is a Pro Shop that is fully equipped, and PGA professionals offer lessons, clinics and camps for all ages. The lighted facility is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Q. How many alligators and crocodiles live in Florida?

A. More than 1 million alligators make their home in Florida, but fewer than 1 thousand crocodiles live here. The only place in the world where crocodiles and alligators coexist is in the Florida Everglades.

Q. How are the construction projects at the airport coming along?

A. The taxiway expansion project is just about complete. It will enhance the area around the passenger terminal for safe movement and parking of aircraft as well as additional taxiways. The gas station/convenience store is scheduled to open on April 30, 2014. The I-75-Airport Direct Connect project is making progress. The planned bridges over I-75 and Treeline are underway, as is the road itself. They hope to have it done in the spring of 2015.

Q. How many citrus trees are there in Florida?

A. I found some figures as of the year 2000. There were 857,681 acres of citrus groves (or 106.7 million citrus trees) in the state. That year, Florida alone produced more grapefruit than any other country in the world.

NOW YOU SEE IT—MAYBE

COMMUNITY CHANNEL 195 BACK ON-LINE

By Suzanne Ferguson

After nearly two months off-line and numerous calls to Comcast from our manager, our Community TV Channel came back to life at the end of January. At first, it was only in the Clubhouse and along West Hyde Park Dr., but by January 29th it was working throughout Bell Tower Park. It's thought the signal was disconnected when Comcast was laying new cable around the end of November.

Channel 195 is essentially a community bulletin board, with slides for pertinent information such as where to send communications for Cardinal Management, hours the office is open, the office phone number, and numbers for BTP Vendors such as Bugs or Us (remember, we have a contract with them, and they will come for free if you have pests inside your house). Other slides keep you up to date on regular and new activities, such as water aerobics, the Coffee Hours, the Library, and—best of all—parties! It's easy to check anytime your TV is on.

And just in case 195 should go off again (you will get an error message), be sure to use the BTP Website incident form to report to management, as it's likely NOT your equipment, but Comcast's signal. Or call the office to report an outage. □



**SUZANNE FERGUSON,
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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As usual, we are enjoying a busy "season," seemingly welcoming back more of our snow-bird neighbors for longer than usual because of the wretched winter up north. The Activities Committee has kept up a full calendar of social events; new sports and games have started; and other initiatives will soon be under way as a result of the fall activities survey. We are also pleased to have had an AED device installed in our Clubhouse, with instruction sessions provided, as well as water safety instruction.

The Communications Committee has played a supportive role in publicizing the successful fundraiser for the Golisano Children's Hospital, "A Seahorse Dream," now in its final weeks (see several stories in this issue). A bit of late-breaking news was that we are to have new benches installed near two of our lakes, thanks to the generosity of two of our families.

We also note with thanks the outstanding service of Susan Knutson as our Activities Committee Chair as she steps down after nearly two years of marshaling an extraordinary schedule of events for BTP residents.

Finally, I am delighted to welcome an experienced proofreader, Dee Isakson, to our *Bell Tower Notes* team. If you notice a higher level of consistency in our style, thank her! (We are still looking for a photographer and more reporters. Please contact: scf@case.edu). □

Suzanne Ferguson
Editor, *Bell Tower Notes*



CREATING A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE

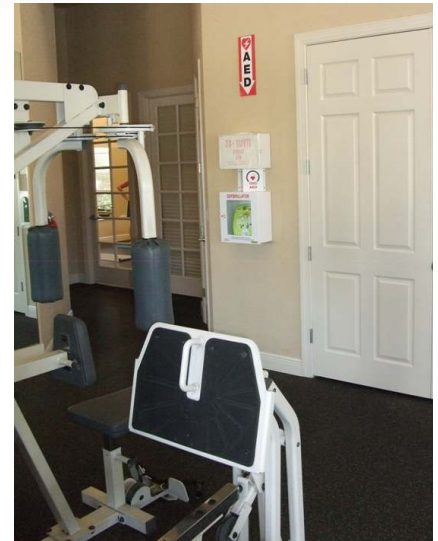
By Richard Roux

Resident safety has been a theme of this edition. The POA hopes that as many residents as possible will take the AED/CPR training that is being offered here on site and residents will know the location of our safety equipment including our pool rescue tubes and backboards, our AED device (Clubhouse exercise room) and 911 call boxes.

A special thanks go out to the men and women of our South Trail Fire Department who have provided us with training and advice on the purchasing and positioning of our safety equipment, and who stand ready to help us in emergency situations. □



Pool safety equipment
(main pool)



AED location
(Clubhouse exercise room)