



Bell Tower Property Owner Association's

BELL TOWER NOTES

LUKE BROTHERS TO TAKE OVER BTP LANDSCAPING JUNE 1

By Dave Barnes

Starting next month, Bell Tower Park will have a new landscape service: Luke Brothers, a full-service landscaping company with over 30 years' experience in Florida, serving numerous communities in the Orlando and Tampa Bay areas as well as Naples-Ft. Myers. Their local office is just a few miles from Bell Tower Park, on Brothers Court, 33912. Luke Brothers holds many important certifications and memberships that are relevant to our needs at Bell Tower Park, including Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services certification in Pest Control and as a Dealer of Agriculture Products. They are also a Licensed Irrigation Contractor and certified by the University of Florida IFAS Extension Florida Green Industries for Best Management Practices.

In a special "plus" for our needs in Bell Tower Park, Pete Lucadano, President & CEO of Luke Brothers, recently earned the Tree TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualification) certification from The International Society of Arboriculture. ISA offers the only internationally-recognized certification in the arbor care industry. According to the company, "this certification allows Luke Brothers to provide an increased standard of practice and safety, and allows them to provide unique tree inspections that simply aren't available from uncertified landscape companies."

CONTINUED ON P.3 ➤



Special Points of Interest:

- **New Board Member (P.3)**
- **New Lake Bubblers (P.4)**
- **Pool News (P.5)**
- **New Benches Near Sports Court (P.7)**
- **Resident Works at Miami Open (P.12)**

Inside this Edition:

- Activities Committee News 6, 8-9**
- Hurricane Prep 7**
- Photo Essay 10-11**
- Q & A 13**

ALLIGATOR ALLEY IN BTP

By Richard Roux

Recently we posted a warning on our Website that spring is the season when alligators get aggressive and sometimes leave the lakes. In past years we have had gators at Courtyard Home front doors and hiding in shrub beds between courtyard homes.

This year we have had one walking on the lawn along Bell Tower Park Blvd., near Cambridge Dr. and Chelsey Ln. (see photo). It eventually went back into the lake, but as all the lakes are interconnected by culverts, there is no way to know where it might turn up again.

Be sure to use caution around our lakes and around your residence, even when going to your car if it's parked outdoors.

□



Gator near BTP Blvd.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ABOUT OUR LANDSCAPE



By Dave Barnes

As the Landscape Liaison to our POA Board, I have been working diligently since the first of this year with other Board members and our CAM to find a landscape care company that would meet our needs here at BTP.

Most of you know that the Board and many residents have not been happy with our current landscape company, Mainscape, for quite some time. They were given an ultimatum in January to live up to their contract or it would not be renewed. With the aggressive oversight of our CAM, they showed a little improvement the first month, but went back to their old ways. The problem was not with the workers, it was with the lack of on-site supervision and Mainscape's not fixing problems unless Cardinal Management or residents complained about them. It seems they did most fixes with a "band aid" mentality, rather than try to discover and address the underlying problem.

After several months of searching, we had three top finalists for the landscaping contract who came in and surveyed our property. Just by looking at our grounds they seemed to understand completely why we were looking for a new landscape company. The three finalists each presented a plan and a bid for taking over our landscaping contract. After lengthy discussions, checking feedback from current customers and then visiting at least two properties from each of the two top finalists, we are happy to announce the Board chose Luke Brothers Landscaping to be our new landscape contractor. (See the related story about Luke Brothers on p. 1.)

As of June 1st, please give the new landscape company thirty days to get their feet wet, and then please report all landscaping issues or concerns to our CAM office. Contact information will be available on the "Landscaping News" page of the BTP Community Website. Please do not email Mainscape or use the 800 number for Mainscape after the first of June. □

COURTYARD II HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

By Jim Stewart

On Monday, March 16th, Courtyard II held their annual meeting. Martha Shaffer and Jim Stewart were named board members as they ran unopposed. It was approved by the membership that we would roll over excess funds of 2015 to the 2016 fiscal year and that we waive the financial reporting for the 2015 calendar year, as an audit is already scheduled for the 2014 fiscal year. At the conclusion of the meeting, the board elected the following officers: Bill Waldau, President; Martha Shaffer, Vice President; Paula Castallo-Eberhardt, Secretary; Jim Stewart, Treasurer and Sandy Archer, Director. □

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Did you miss the special alert notification about coyotes being on our property, or the follow-up brochure about living with coyotes in a urban setting? Both items were transmitted and are still available on the BTP Website. All our residents should have an account on our Website. Access can be obtained at www.belltowerparkcommunity.com . □



NEW POA BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED IN APRIL

By Dave Barnes with Robert Forrest

To fill the vacancy left when Richard Roux declined to stand for re-election to the POA Board this spring because of other commitments, three residents came forward to volunteer. The Board thanked all three, and after consideration selected Robert Forrest III to be the fifth Board member.

Robert is a retired captain from the Lee County Sheriff's Department and will bring a new perspective to the Board. He has already accepted the positions of Risk Management Liaison and Security/Safety Liaison for the Board.

Robert started his Law Enforcement career with the Lee County Sheriff's Office in October 1982 and served in various capacities over the years, retiring in June 2011. Prior to joining the Sheriff's Office, he served as an Auxiliary Trooper of the Florida Highway Patrol here in Lee County for about three years. Subsequent to his retirement he was a Reserve Officer at the airport for about a year and a half.

In or out of uniform, Robert has been involved in helping individuals or charities as opportunities presented themselves over the years, including Rotary, Knights of Columbus and the Latino Officers' Association. He has also served as a member of the Lee County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board and the Advisory Board for the Hispanic Institute at Hodges University.

He presently sits on the Board of Directors for the abused women's shelter, ACT for SWFL, and is a member of the Edison Pageant of Light organization in Ft. Myers.

Robert Forrest was born in San Juan, PR, where his parents met, and was raised there until 10 years of age. His father worked for the airlines, and the family moved frequently until finally arriving in Ft. Myers in 1976. He is a devout, lifelong Roman Catholic who enjoys participating in various church-related activities. As a single father, he raised one daughter who is now a senior in college and is his greatest pride and joy. □



Robert Forrest III

LUKE BROTHERS (continued from the front page)

Additionally, they adhere to "green" practices. Their website tweet from Earth Day 2015 announces: "From utilizing water-saving irrigation methods, to planting Florida Friendly plant species, and promoting relationships between communities and their landscapes, we try to make every day Earth Day here at Luke Brothers."

Luke Brothers was selected through a rigorous process that included interviews by Board members and our CAM, Bill Berthold, and visits to properties already cared for by the three final candidates as well as checking references from their current customers. One of Luke Brothers' clients is the upscale Paseo development off Plantation Rd. north of Daniels Parkway, just a few miles east of us, should anyone wish to visit. In addition to Paseo, a newer community, the selection committee visited two other Luke Brothers-served communities in the area that are over 10 years old.

Luke Brothers Landscaping was the committee's top pick for many reasons, including their positive references, their work record at other communities, their management team, their office/maintenance area within a couple miles of us, and having a dedicated staff that would be on our premises for 40 hours a week with a dedicated manager on site supervising the workers during those 40 hours. In addition we will have numerous weekly and monthly visits by the senior staff.

To top it off, Luke Brothers want to start with a bang, so they have offered to revamp our entrance area as well as the gated four corners to show all of us what they are capable of. As a "signing bonus" they have offered to do \$7500 worth of beautiful landscaping for us at no charge.

The management of Luke Brothers foresees a lot of work to make Bell Tower Park the premier community it deserves to be. They hope to have their initial "fix" done within 90 days and are currently working on a long-term plan for Bell Tower Park. Because of this, we have signed a three-year contract with them, with the right to cancel the contract, with or without cause, with a 30-day notice. The new contract will hold all costs, except fuel, steady for three years so that we can plan and budget accordingly. We are happy to tell all residents that our current budget is in line with all our new landscape expenditures going forward. □

NEW AERATION SYSTEM FOR OUR SHALLOW LAKES

By Donald Boreman, Building and Amenities Liaison

It has been increasingly apparent that our lakes numbered 2 and 3, behind Bently Circle and between Bently and Avon Park Circle, are having a problem with increased bottom muck. Lake bubblers (air lift stations) are being put into these two lakes to increase aeration, thus reducing the formation of muck, which is basically dead vegetation, including algae. Of the nine lakes within Bell Tower Park, seven already have bubblers, which were added in early 2012. The water quality in these lakes is notably better than in lakes 2 and 3.

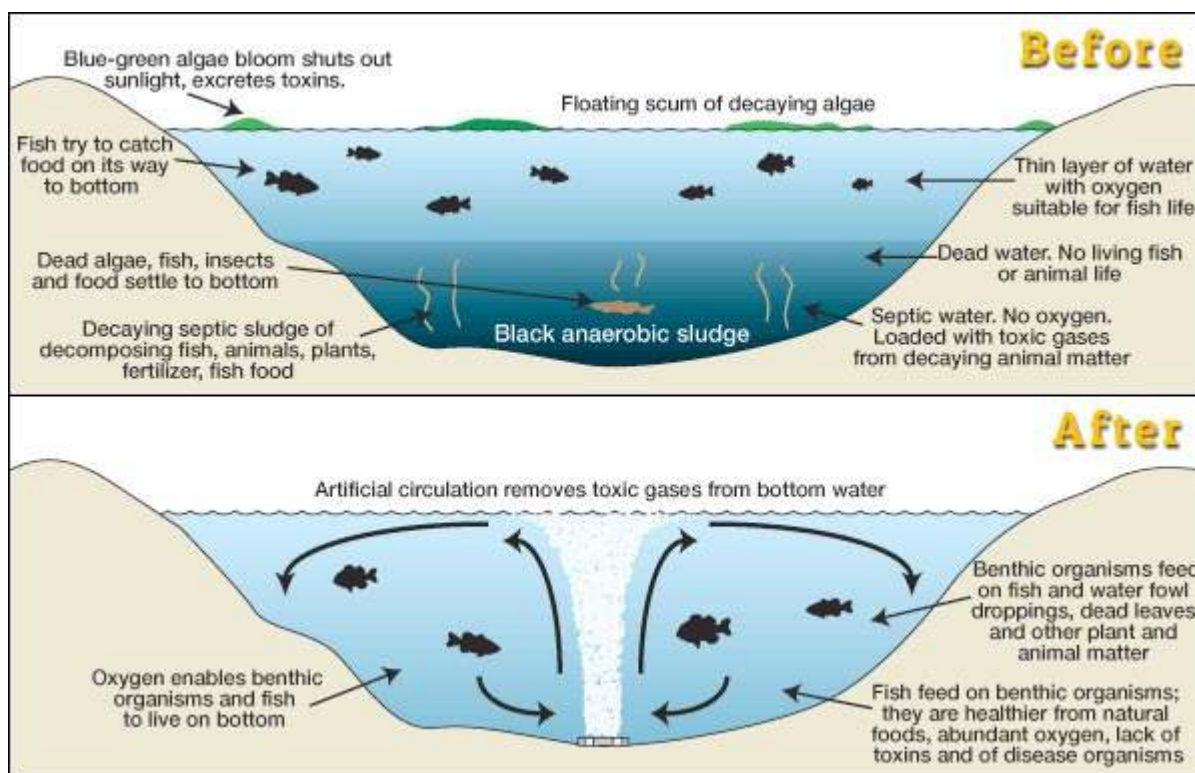
We asked our lake maintenance company, Lake Masters Aquatic Weed Control, Inc., to explain the process, and they replied:

The most efficient means to improve the overall water quality in most ponds and lakes is through the use of a bottom-diffused aeration system. These systems use a shore-mounted air compressor that pumps air through self-weighted tubing to the air diffusers located on the bottom of the lake. As small air bubbles rise through the diffusers and up through the water column, they create a mixing effect. This "mixing" promotes uniform oxygen levels throughout the water column and prevents the lake from becoming stratified.

Lakes that are "stratified" inhibit levels of beneficial bacteria and their breakdown of organics. As bottom muck accumulation increases and excessive nutrients are readily available for plant/algae growth, conditions become favorable for the production of noxious gases.

Bottom-diffused aeration systems create bubbles as small as 500 microns in diameter that form an ultra-wide column of upward moving water, "turning the lake over" and allowing oxygen to be absorbed at the lake's surface. The diffusers continuously lift bottom water to the surface where poisonous gases are expelled and oxygen is absorbed. Stratification and all its resulting problems are eliminated. Colonies of beneficial bacteria once again flourish along the bottom while nutrient levels decline and water clarity increases. Oxygen depletions caused by spring/fall turnovers are eliminated and sport fisheries are improved and fish can expand their territory into the formerly oxygen-deprived portions of the lake.

Lake Masters will be installing these bottom-diffused aeration systems as permitting is completed; in fact, those in lake 2 are already operating intermittently, as planned for initial start-up. Ultimately, there will be six air-lift stations in lake number 2 and seven in lake number 3. The number of air-lift stations needed is based upon the length of the lake. The Board hopes this remedy will solve once and for all the muck problem, making a "water view" of these lakes desirable rather than something of an eyesore. □



BELL TOWER PARK CLUBHOUSE POOL & SPA RENOVATION SCHEDULED FOR JULY

We have exciting news for our residents who use the main Clubhouse pool and spa. Jackson Pool Service has filed the necessary permits with Lee County and will be performing a complete remodel of the pool and spa beginning the week after July 4th, 2015. The pavers surrounding the pool and the Clubhouse pergolas will also be repaired at this time, so the pool deck will become a major construction site.

At the start of the project, both the pool and spa will be drained. This requires that Jackson neutralize the water to remove all chlorine to insure the safety for its disposal, after which the water is pumped into a lake or sewer drain.

People have asked whether the pool will be safe from “popping” out of the ground empty. Definitely so: Jackson Pool Service places well point pumps that will run 24 hours a day until the completion of the project, about 2-3 weeks, (depending on weather), insuring that any ground water beneath the pool is safely carried into the nearby lake or sewer drain.

The renovation will include new finishes and waterline tiling on both the pool and spa. In addition, all depth marker and No Diving tiles will be replaced with new ones. All pavers within a 5-foot perimeter of the edge of the pool will be removed, paver base and sand will be added, and the pavers will be reset in place. This will insure that we have no “tripping” hazards around the pool.

The National Plasterers Council, of which Jackson Pool Service is a member, recommends that after the pool and spa are filled with new water, a waiting period of 14 days be observed to insure the new finishes are “cured” so that we can have a new beautiful pool and spa for the long term.

During the renovation period, the Avon Park (small) pool will remain open. Additional seating will be made available from the main pool. Morning Water Aerobics will continue at the small pool. Also during the pool closure, the Clubhouse will remain available for social events and use of the exercise equipment and library. Residents using the Clubhouse will be asked to stay clear of the construction activity and use the front entrance of the Clubhouse for building access.

Ed note: Donald Boreman, Jackson Pool Service, and Richard Roux contributed to this article. □

MAKE A SPLASH AT THE POOL PARTY JUNE 27TH Pre-Renovation Celebration

By Suzanne Ferguson

The major Bell Tower Park social event of the summer will be the annual pool party, Saturday afternoon, June 27th, from 4-7 at the Clubhouse. Remember that the Clubhouse Pool is scheduled to be closed for maintenance through the month of July, and take advantage of this popular activity to enjoy it “before.”

Hot dogs and hamburgers will be grilled by committee members, and the price of admission will be a “covered dish” to serve 8 people. Those intending to bring a salad, appetizer, or other “side” should contact coordinator Jane Kearns (516-534-2427), and those choosing to bring a delectable dessert, get in touch with Dolly Milek (239-466-6679). As usual, bring your own beverage(s). Paper plates and plastic utensils will be supplied. □



ANNUAL TIKI PARTY OUTDRAWS ITS PREDECESSORS

By Ronnie Vaccarino with Suzanne Ferguson

The annual end-of-season Tiki Party was held on Saturday afternoon March 21st, with a record 103 residents and guests attending. On the strength of their catering last year's Christmas Party, Ruben's Smoke House was invited back and provided a sumptuous feast of roast chicken, pulled pork, potato salad, green salad, and mac and cheese, with banana pudding and a chocolate lava cake for dessert. No one went away hungry, for sure.



RONNIE VACCARINO

Taking it easy at the Tiki Party

This year's weather was good, as the duo "Dusk" played 60's and 70's music for dancing or easy listening. The Activities Committee provided set-ups for Margaritas and soft drinks, but otherwise people brought their own beverages. Linda Gratz and her



RONNIE VACCARINO

Lengthening Shadows

husband Rick took care of the bar area during the afternoon.

For door prizes there were five \$5.00 gift certificates from Bonefish Grill and one \$10.00 gift certificate from Cafe Napoli. These were all donated with no cost to the Committee. A drawing yielded \$140, which was won by a BTP resident. □

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE LOOKS TOWARD FALL

By Suzanne Ferguson

The Activities Committee is seeking expressions of interest for events that could be planned for a weekday in Fall. If you would be likely to go on one of these trips, please contact Ronnie Vaccarino (rvaccarino@ymail.com).

1) A trip to the Ringling Circus Museum and Mansion in Sarasota:

A guided tour through the fascinating Circus Museum plus a self-guided tour through the Ringling Mansion on the Bay at Sarasota. This would be a whole-day trip: bus transportation and admission included for \$50. We need about 40 people to do this.

2) A trip to the Holocaust Museum in Naples. This would be a carpool event, likely ½ day. Any number could be accommodated.

If there is an excursion you would like to take, let Ronnie know. The Committee is always looking for things we can do in groups from Bell Tower Park.

In addition to its scheduled events, the Committee will sponsor a "Singles Mingle" in early fall to help facilitate new friendships and companions for shopping, movies, beach trips, etc. Look for further information to come; if you would like to help plan the event, please get in touch with Ronnie. □

SPECTATOR BENCHES INSTALLED AT SPORTS COURT

By Richard Roux with Suzanne Ferguson

Earlier this spring it became obvious that players in our highly successful pickleball program and people observing them were having a hard time being comfortable while waiting for their turn to play. We have only two courts, which accommodate eight players total, but often during the season there are twice that many or even more wishing to play or just watch.

These individuals were forced to stand, sit in folding chairs, or even on the hard, hot court surface, with the bright morning sun beating down. Some of these individuals are less agile than others, making rising from the court surface (or even a low folding chair) as problematic as getting down. Shade was nearby, in a grassy area, but sitting on the grass presented the hazard of fire ants or other insects.

Several of the pickleball organizers approached the Amenities Committee with a request for one or more benches to be added to the shaded area, and the POA Board responded positively to their plea. Two benches were purchased and located between the trees, where the canopies could provide welcome shade. The benches are backless so that they can be used both by individuals facing the court activities and by any resident stopping to enjoy the reverse view of the nearby lake, which happens to be one of the most picturesque on the BTP campus. An unforeseen bonus was that the area frequently enjoys a cooling breeze. □



SUZANNE FERGUSON

Left to right: Richard Roux, Norm Smith, Danny Wenner, Jo and Bill Johnson, Jan and Frank Kersanty, Bill Berthold, Ralph Causarano.

REMINDER: IT'S HURRICANE SEASON PREP TIME THE THREAT IS REAL

By Richard Roux

While fewer than average storm events are being projected for the 2015 hurricane season, it takes only one direct-hit storm to wreak havoc on a community. As discussed previously in *Bell Tower Notes (BTN)*, Fort Myers last took a direct hit in 1910, so we are statistically overdue for such a storm. The extent of damage from the 1910 storm was so extensive it could not be properly documented.

Storm damage can come from both wind and water. General emergency planning guidance is to stay in place for a storm having mainly a wind threat, but consider evacuation for storms having potential for excessive rain and/or storm surge. Significant storm surge, which would come from a storm approaching from the southwest, is the greatest hazard. We have been advised to evacuate for predicted storm surge of 10' or greater. Storm surge could impact BTP because the waterways adjacent to BTP are directly linked to the Gulf and there are many unidentified impacts from all the development (including paved surfaces) that has occurred since 1910.

So, now is the time for our residents to pause and update their family emergency plan. Our snow birds should also insure their shutter installation plans and/or contracts are in place. Remember, there are specific rules in place for use of storm shutters. (See BTP's Restated Rules and Regulations, Section 2.3.2., available on the Website under the heading, "Documents".)

Identical storm-related concerns have been voiced by the POA's insurance company, IRMS, Inc. This firm has provided storm preparation information for our residents' use, including a comprehensive outline for a family emergency plan on their website: www.IRMSAdvantave.com/rhp-40.html. It's well worth a read.

Previous *BTN* articles on this subject can be found in Volumes 1.3 (Apr. 2012), 1.4 (Jul. 2012), 2.4 (Jul. 2013), and 3.3 (Apr. 2014), all of which are archived on our Website. □

SPRING COMES TO BELL TOWER PARK IN FASHION

By Joyce Berrian Ferrari

Bathing suits were retired for the day as eighty women dressed in afternoon tea finery, many adorned with fashionable hats and “fascinators,” entered the Bell Tower Clubhouse on April 11th for the Second Annual Bell Tower Fashion Show and Tea Party.

Co-chairpersons, Kathy Gambino and Ronnie Vaccarino, along with their dedicated Activities Committee, pulled off another successful Bell Tower Park event. The clubhouse was transformed into an English tearoom, with tables covered in white linens, with pink napkins, and rosebud centerpieces. A stunning collection of bone china teacups, each in a distinctive pattern, was donated for the day by committee members, and a variety of teas were served in delicate china teapots.

Plates of finger tea sandwiches from Publix were served for lunch, followed by a plethora of desserts made by the committee. Chocolate-covered strawberries, petit fours and other confections sweetened the afternoon.

CONTINUED ON P.9 ➤



JOYCE LINDABURY

Tea collage, Clockwise from upper right: Kathy Gambino sets the table; Bea Horner; table setting; ladies waiting; Susan Knutson in her “fascinator.”

SPRING COMES (continued from previous page)

Entertainment for the event was a fashion show sponsored by Chico's of Bell Tower Shops. Chico's fashion consultants worked with volunteer models from the Bell Tower community, selecting fashions from their new spring collection ranging from sportswear to cocktail dresses. There were seven models: Brenda Bula, Cheryl Fischer, Dawn Mannina Sanford, Mary Lekan, Kerry Conway Roux, Joyce Berrian Ferrari, and Janette Neumeister. Each presented three ensembles which had been selected earlier in the week. To the delight of both models and attendees, Chico's offered discounts for any purchases made in the week following the show.

The party closed with the award of gift certificates from SPADA Salon and Day Spa on MacGregor Blvd. in Fort Myers. One was given for the best hat worn by an attendee: Kathy Gambino claimed this honor for her frothy pink and white chapeau (see photo). It was a lovely afternoon, gathering with friends and making new friends at this distinctive Bell Tower Park event. □



Models, left to right: Dawn Mannina, Joyce Ferrari, Mary Lekan, Kerry Roux

PHOTO ESSAY: SIX-MILE CYPRESS SLOUGH PRESERVE

By Joyce Lindabury

One of our nearby treasures is Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, at 7751 Penzance Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33912. Open 8 a.m. to sunset daily, the Slough has an education center and offers free guided walks at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays throughout the summer. Visit <http://www.sloughpreserve.org>.



Clockwise, from upper right: Bromeliad on tree, Cardinal Bromeliad, Red-Bellied Woodpecker, Bald Cypress trees.



JOYCE LINDABURY

Clockwise from upper right: Swimming Alligator; American Egret; Boardwalk (1.4 miles); Pileated Woodpecker; Center, Young male Cardinal

MIAMI OPEN TENNIS 2015

By Tim Devins

Are you aware that a world-class tennis tournament takes place every year about three hours from our doorstep? Even if you don't like tennis, you might become a fan after you have attended such a colorful and exciting event in person. It takes place at the Tennis Center at Crandon Park on Key Biscayne, on the southern edge of downtown Miami.

This is actually the third home of Miami Open Tennis. It started in Delray Beach in 1985 and moved to Boca Raton in 1986 before permanently settling in Miami in 1987. The Tennis Center is also home to the United States Tennis Association's player development program headquarters for young players.

This year's tournament ran from March 23 – April 5. Attendance was 306,842 over 24 sessions/14 days. Although it is not a so-called "major" tournament, virtually all the big-name players are there, getting in shape for The French Open, Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open later in the year. Both Singles and Doubles are played, starting with "qualifying" rounds for the developing players and working up to the semi-finals and finals on the second weekend. It's a beautiful setting and always full of surprises.

This tournament received a new name and a new main sponsor this year. Before it became the "Miami Open presented by Itaù," a South American bank that is obviously big in Miami, it was at various times the Lipton Cup, Ericsson Open, Sony Ericsson Open and most recently the Sony Open. I had seen the name, Itaù, as one of the sponsors of other tennis events but I was not familiar with it. The Open also changed its uniform sponsor this year from Fila to Lacoste, so the chair umpires, line judges, ball "kids," and volunteers wore Lacoste clothing.

I have had the special privilege of volunteering at the Open for the last six years. The first year I worked transporting the players, coaches, and others to and from their hotels to the stadium, in probably the first and last time I will ever get to drive a Mercedes SUV. For the past five years I have worked keeping statistics on the three courts that are shown on television. Our stats are used by the TV commentators as well as the rest of the media, players, and coaches. It's a bit stressful but very rewarding.

Of course, volunteering means you don't get paid, so I have been lucky to be able to have a free place to stay in Miami. The perks that you do get are two shirts, a cap, a warm-up jacket, ten tickets to 5 selected days, and a \$5 Starbucks gift card. That being said, it has been a very gratifying experience for me because I have been able to get up close to a lot of the top tennis players. If anyone is interested in being a volunteer, more information can be found at www.miamiopen.com.

If you missed it, this year's champions were:

Men's Singles: Novak Djokovic def. Andy Murray 7-6, 4-6, 6-0

Women's Singles: Serena Williams def. Carla Suarez Navarro 6-2, 6-0

Men's Doubles: Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan def. Vasek Pospisil/Jack Sock 6-3, 1-6, 10-8

Women's Doubles: Martina Hingis/Sania Mirza def. Ekaterina Makarova/Elena Vesnina 7-5, 6-1

Both Djokovic and Serena Williams were ranked #1 before and after the tournament. Next year's tournament will be held from March 21 – April 3. If we could gather enough interest, we might be able to arrange a group trip from Bell Tower Park. Hope to see you there. □



NOTICE:

Summer Coffee Hours will be held May and June, but take a holiday in July and August, returning the third Sunday of September.

DID YOU WANT TO KNOW?

By Jim Stewart



Q. Do we have another new restaurant nearby?

A. Yes we do. KJ's Fresh Grill. Warren and Kerry Frye, also owners of two Beef O'Brady restaurants in Cape Coral, opened this steakhouse and seafood restaurant in the middle of February. Locating in the old Reserve Cigar and Wine Bar building at 10950 S. Cleveland Ave., they had to gut the building to get a fresh odor in the dining room. They are serving steaks, seafood, chicken dishes, burgers and salads. Besides priding themselves on using local products whenever possible, they also specialize in craft cocktails. On their website they advertise a lunchtime "Happier Hour" with martinis at 50¢. I haven't checked that out. The entire menu is available at kjsfreshgrill.com.

In other restaurant news, Bratta's Ristorante, that was practically next door to the KJ's space at 12984 Cleveland Ave., closed. The Maryland-based chain Mission BBQ will take over that space. Mission, which prides itself on its patriotism and hosts events for veterans, has more than 12 locations up and down the East Coast.

And finally, if you just can't get enough barbeque, a new Rib City is going in off Daniels behind the Walgreen's by the golf range, in the Shoppes at Plantation Drive, so you won't have to drive to Cape Coral or Estero any more!

Q. What candy was invented to withstand the summer heat?

A. Chocolate maker Clarence Crane made a mint in 1912. To differentiate his mints from other square or round pillow-shaped products, he punched a hole in the middle of his mints. Since the mints looked like life preservers, he called them Life Savers. Since its introduction, more than 40 flavors of Life Savers have been created. Years ago at checkout counters, you would find dozens of Life Saver mints on display. These days, you might find two or three flavors. You can also buy them on line, now.

Q. Do you know what the construction behind the Home Depot is?

A. Thanks to some research done by Dee Isakson, we've found out from Commissioner Pendergrass's office that the site is permitted for 330 multi-family residential units and infrastructure for 85,000 square feet of commercial use. The drawings indicate one-car garages.

Q. How does the recycle agency want us to put out our new recycle bins?

A. You should have the metal handle facing the street and the wheels closest to the house. Put the bin as close to the curb as possible or even in the curb (see photo to right) .

Q. Is there a summer golf league this year?

A. Indeed there is. As last summer, it is at the beautiful Hideaway Golf Club. We play every Thursday morning starting at 8 a.m. The cost is only \$33, and that includes golf, a cart and a very good lunch. If you want to get on the mailing list email Mike Powell at Mike@MikePowellRealtor.com. It is okay if you cannot play every week. Just come when you can and meet some of your neighbors and have some fun. ☐



RICHARD ROUX

Proper recycle container positioning



**SUZANNE FERGUSON,
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EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of Bell Tower Notes seems to be bursting with “new” developments: after a long process, a new landscaper, Luke Brothers; a new POA member, Robert Forrest; what will be, after the renovations, basically a new Clubhouse swimming pool; new bubblers in two lakes; new ideas from the Activities Committee and the Water Aerobics group for things to do; a new residential development south of us along with what seems to be the usual complement of new restaurants along U.S. 41 reported by Jim Stewart, and more.

What was a new feature in our previous edition, a photo essay by our staff photographer, Joyce Lindabury, has matured with a beautiful assemblage from Six-Mile Cypress Slough. Joyce also photographed the April Tea and Fashion Show—a “new” event last fall that was so popular it had to be repeated.

We’d like to put BTN on a new schedule, as well: our fall issue has been coming out in November or even early December. We would like to start volume 5 in late September or early October, to catch our snowbirds as they first arrive. Therefore, this issue, 4.3., will be the last until early fall. Remember that we are always ready to welcome new writers (we have some in this issue!); and we would love to talk with anyone interested in the technical aspect of layout for future issues.

Suzanne Ferguson, Editor

**REMEMBER: WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.BELLTOWERPARKCOMMUNITY.COM**

**WATER AEROBICS CLASS COMPILES A LIST OF GREAT ACTIVITIES
AND DESTINATIONS FOR THE BTP WEBSITE**

By Suzanne Ferguson

Those ladies do more than exercise! Recently we had a notice from the Webmaster that the Water Aerobics Class had compiled a list of their favorite activities in Ft. Myers and South Florida to share with all of Bell Tower Park. You can find the complete list in the BTP Website Home Page menu under Announcements, “Things to Do in the Area.” It will download to your computer if you click on “Get More Information.”

I took a look to see if my favorite outings were there—and pretty much, they were; but there were many more, and varied for all tastes. From cruises and a fishing charter to museums, the “Big M Casino Boat,” the Naples Zoo, numerous parks and preserves and farmers’ markets, from adult to family outings, this is a terrific list.

It also has restaurant suggestions and reviews, so if you’ve been wondering, for example, whether it’s worth the drive to Ft. Myers Beach to watch the sunset while you dine at the “Island View” atop the Lani Kai Hotel, you’ll be happy to see it listed there.

Web addresses and phone numbers are given for each item, and many have thumbnail reviews. Thanks, ladies! ☐