



Bell Tower Park Property Owners' Association

BELL TOWER NOTES II

Published four times annually by your Communications Committee.

Inside this Edition . . .

	<u>Page</u>
Mystery Wine Tasting	1
Euchre Tournament	2
Meet Linda Nunez	3
Longest Continuous Resident?	4
Salvation Army	4
Landscaping Contract	5
BTP Elections & Results	6
More Results-CY1, CY2, CH	7
Tony Reed Passing	9
BTP Furry Friends	10
Did You Want to Know?	10
Farewell Gatherings	12
Social Committee Updates	13
Communications Report	14
Tea & Fashion Show	16
Travel Bug	18
Special Activities/Events	19
New Resident & Artist	20
Safety Committee	21
Restaurant Review	22
Contract Corner	24
Donna Cleary	25
Palm Tree Update	26
BTNotesII Volunteers	27
Boards & Committees	27
Recurring Activities/Events	28

MYSTERY WINE TASTING

Photos & Text by Kim Walerius



Dennis Hutchings busy pouring wine for Wanda Niss and Peggy Hutchings.

In February the Social Committee hosted a new event, Mystery Wine Tasting! Those who attended were asked to bring a bottle of wine for the tasting and an appetizer to share. As guests arrived, their bottle of wine was placed in a numbered burlap wine bag. We started off tasting white wines and collected the votes to select the winner for that category. Mike Moccia's wine was chosen and he won a gift card to one of the restaurants nearby.



Mike Moccia, winner in the white wine category, with his wife, Barbara



Two of the evenings wine servers, Mike Moran and Dan Walerius

Next up was the tasting of the red wine which included a dessert chocolate wine. The chocolate wine, brought to the party by Peg Rousey, daughter Julie and granddaughter Lexie, was chosen the favorite in that category. They also won a gift card prize. The wine tastings were poured by Dennis Hutchings, Mike Moran and Dan Walerius. DJ Sykes provided background music for the evening. This event was very successful. Everyone had a great time and left asking "when will you do this again"!



EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Ron McEwan



On March 22, the Euchre Club hosted a well-received Euchre Tournament. The club founder, Marsha Wulpi, together with her husband, Jim, did an excellent job designing the event. They organized the games, set up play sheets, provided prizes, and basically took on the whole event.

Twenty players attended, as well as an additional dozen of onlookers, spouses, friends of the club, etc. As it was a chilly, rainy Friday night, it was perfect weather for an abundant pot luck, which started at 5:30. Most everyone brought a dish, dessert, etc., so there was plenty of delicious food. The Euchre tournament began around 7 PM and ended close to 10 PM. The players rotated tables, enabling each player to play with most of the other players. At the conclusion, Jim Wulpi had the most points and was the first-place winner. Dan Walerius was the runner up.



Tournament winner Jim Wulpi, and runner up Dan Walerius

Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to another tournament next Spring.



MEET LINDA NUNEZ, our new Community Manager



Our new interim BTP manager is Linda Nunez. On short notice, we asked her for a quick bio. She got right back to us with this . . .

I've been in property management for 12+ years and understand all the roles of a management company. As I grew out of each position or company, leaving was always on a good note and off to a higher role. For me, each position has a very important role, from a front desk role, making sure that phone calls are answered in a professional yet friendly and approachable manner. The assistant role, making sure that follow ups are being done in a timely manner, helping with lease/purchase applications so that move-in dates can be as seamless as possible and at the same time making sure new residents are aware of the expectancy of living in a community. The role of a manager is to build relationships with the Board as it is critical for success so that strategic,

financial, and managerial responsibilities can be planned and accomplished.

I can say that I have personally been in almost every position in a management company, except accounting and each is as important as the next. In my experience, I've also worked for a HOA/Condo attorney where I learned the importance of having the governing documents as up to date as possible. Any associations documents are their own bible to the way things are run and what a manger can enforce. Without a clear or up to date set of documents, enforcing rules for any manger will be difficult and could end up costing more headaches for the association along the way.



On a more personal note, I'm also a mother to Angelina who is 22 and Marcos who is 17. Who can forget our two fur babies, Cameron, Boston Terrier (brown) and Meeko, Shookie-Poo (black). There is never a dull moment at home, but when I need to get away from all of them, I usually can be found near Park Shore enjoying the beautiful beach scenery, or of course shopping for something that I do not need.



I thank all of you for welcoming me into your community and look forward to meeting everyone.

TOP





WHO is the Longest Continuous Resident at BTP??

By Annie Granatino



To follow up on our quest for the longest continuous resident here at Bell Tower Park, The BTP Communications Committee is creating two categories: Carriage and Courtyard (One or Two). This can be either snowbird or year-round. Our current candidates are:

Frank and Karen Coriddi, who have owned their Carriage Home on West Hyde Park Drive since June 2005. They still travel back and forth seasonally from Rochester, NY. (Frank says before we crown the Coriddis, we should check out Doug and Jackie Fenniello or Danny Wenner. If you know them, tell them to contact us.

In the Courtyard group, **Valerie MacDonalds**, 13862 Bently Circle, moved in as a continuous resident in 2003.

Although our next newsletter issue won't be until August, we think it is important that we get this right. So, if you bought your home and have lived here (full or part time) since before June 2005 (Carriage) or 2003 (Courtyard), be sure to step forward. We want to interview you and celebrate you. Let us know at: BTPCommunications@hotmail.com **Thank you!**



SALVATION ARMY – Essential Baby Items

By Kim Walerius



The Salvation Army notified us of the need for essential baby items for local families. We asked our BTP community to help and wow, did we get a response!



Donations of many baby items: diapers, wipes, bottles, bowls, blankets, toiletries and so much more were brought to the Clubhouse. Jackie Moran and Kim Walerius collected the items during March and brought the collection to the Salvation Army office in Fort Myers



on March 29. Our vehicles were full! Thank you to the amazing residents of Bell Tower Park who contributed to the Baby Essentials Drive!



LANDSCAPING – NEW CONTRACT ISSUED

Ron McEwan

Since its inception, Bell Tower Park has employed several landscape companies to maintain our property. Currently, Green Heron has been on site since 2017. It seems as though after contractors service an area for a while, many vendors' quality of work diminishes. Thus, the BTP Landscape Committee has recommended that we change companies.

At the March 19th POA Board of Director's meeting, the Board voted to dismiss Green Heron and bring in a new Company, Greenscapes of Southwest Florida. The firm originated in 1962 and services over 300 customers in Lee and Collier Counties, with a workforce and support staff of over 300 trained employees. Their start date is scheduled to be May 1st.

The Landscape Committee investigated numerous companies before settling on Greenscapes. Although they were 5% more expensive than the lowest bidder, they will provide us with several additional services that we didn't enjoy with the previous company.

- A dedicated Client Service Manager who will interact with both residents and management to solve issues with their property as well as common areas.
- An Operations Manager who will provide weekly reports on conditions, issues and improvements, as well as biannual horticultural reports
- A resident's help line: the use of Greenscapes' **Zendesk** to process requests for work to be done. (A description of how this service will work will be provided after they begin work here on May 1st)
- Work with the Landscape Committee, community management and the Board, to develop a short- and long-term plan to bring BTP back to pre- Hurricanes Irma and Ian landscape conditions.
- Their contract provides a more stable and more frequent schedule of: turf control (weeds, etc.), pest control (beds and turf) and an ongoing trimming schedule to keep trees and bushes looking good. Plus, they will provide an enhanced fertilization program.

Landscaping has been an issue here since Hurricane Irma roared through in 2017. Then Ian's arrival two years ago made things even worse. Given the promise from Greenscapes to do more than just maintain the status quo, the Landscape Committee made the recommendation for change and the Board agreed.

With the additional benefits and services listed above, as well as the promise to help make BTP a prettier community, we're excited to see what Greenscapes will do.

TOP



ANNUAL BTP ELECTION CYCLE AND RESULTS

By John Fuller

After candidate filings were received, a “Meet The Candidates” event was organized by Linda Bye and held on Wednesday, March 13th.

Annual meetings of the POA and various sub associations were held in late March. All of the meetings satisfied the requirements of having a quorum, with the exception of Courtyard (I). The Courtyard (I) meeting was postponed until April 25th.



POA Board candidates listen to a resident’s question, as event organizer, Linda Bye, looks on. Candidates, left to right, are Mike Lewis, John Scardella, Paul Niss, and Jodi Harrison.

See Annual Election, P. 7



TOP

Annual Election (Continued from Page 6)

Only the POA Board needed an election because there were four candidates seeking the three seats up for reelection. This basically resulted in the confirmation of two previously appointed board members, Paul Niss and Mike Lewis. At their organizational meeting, Ron McEwan was elected President, Paul Niss/Vice President, Michael Lewis/Treasurer, and Jodi Harrison/Secretary.



MORE RESULTS – Courtyard(I) & II & Carriage Homes

By John Fuller

Both organizations’ meetings concluded with their boards unchanged.



The re-elected Carriage Homes Board members (L to R) Matt Christie/Sec, Martha Harrie/Treasurer, & Robert Garland/President

The re-elected Courtyard (I) Board members (L to R) Tim Kidd/VP, Mike Tew/Secretary, & Robert Van Teeffelen/Pres -Treas

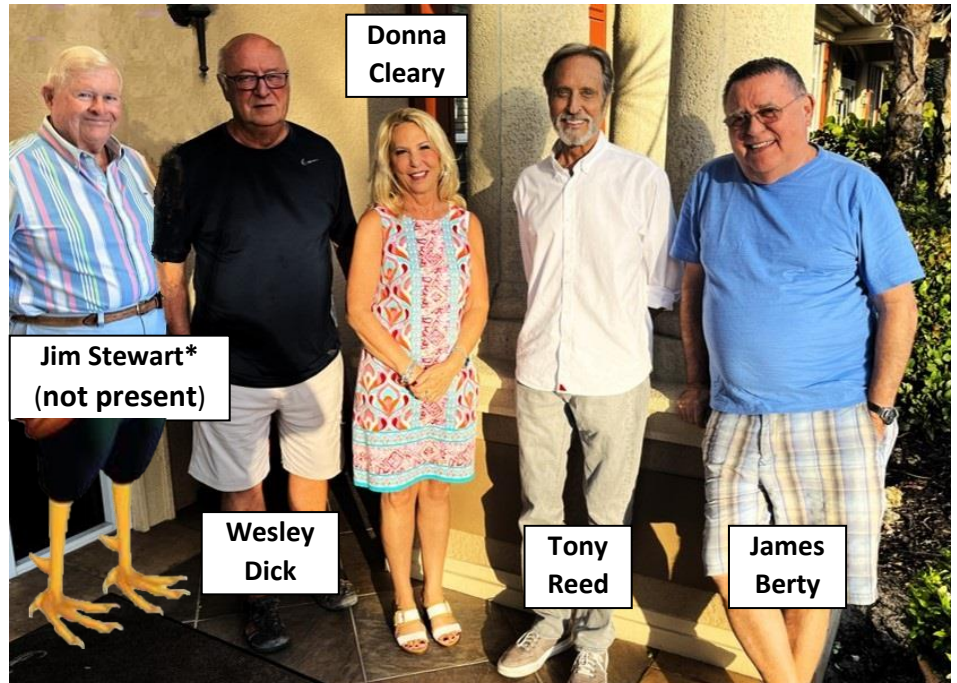


See More Results, P. 8



More Results (Continued from Page 7)

The Courtyard II meeting concluded with Tony Reed continuing as President, Wesley Dick as Vice President, Jim Stewart as Treasurer, and James Berty as a Director. A vacant board seat was filled by appointment of Donna Cleary, who became the new Secretary.



**Jim asked us to note that this picture has been altered. His legs don't look this good. – Ed.*

Bell Tower Park

Association Board Members & Term Expirations

Revised: April 15, 2024

Property Owners Association(POA)		Office	Courtyard Homes II		Office
Ron McEwan('25)		Pres	Tony Reed('25)		Pres
Paul Niss('26)		VPres	Wesley Dick('26)		VPres
Jodi Harrison('26)		Sec	Donna Cleary ('26)		Sec
Michael Lewis('26)		Treas	Jim Stewart('25)		Treas
John Davenport('25)		Director	James Berty ('26)		Director
Courtyard Homes (I)		Office	Carriage Homes		Office
Robert Van Teeffelen('26)		Pres/Treas	Robert Garland ('26)		Pres
Tim Kidd('26)		VPres	Matthew Christie ('25)		Sec
Michael Tew('25)		Sec	Martha Harrie ('25)		Treas

TOP

TONY REED PASSING

By Jim Stewart

Courtyard II is sad to announce that Tony Reed, their President of many years, passed away on April 14th at the age of 72. Tony was a car enthusiast (you probably saw him driving his Porsche), an avid golfer, and loved aviation both as a hobby and as a profession, as he sold airplane equipment to airlines all over the world.

Tony was raised in West Texas and early on had the aviation bug. At a young age, he learned to fly small aircraft and soon thereafter had his license to be a flight instructor. He held FAA Commercial, Multi-Engine, and Flight Instructor certificates, and was an NRA-certified firearms instructor.



Along the way, he lived in France for 10 years. Tony traveled to nearly 100 countries -- extensively throughout Greater Europe, the Middle East, Far East and Asia Pacific. One of his travel highlights was meeting Mother Teresa on a British Airways flight.

*Tony left us only 19 days after presiding over his last neighborhood meeting.
(See picture on previous page.)*

RIP, Tony. 🏰

One of Tony's daughters offered the following service details:

Saturday, May 18th 11am - 3pm

Blossom & Brie, 8250 Nalle Grade Rd., North Fort Myers Ph. 239-385-0415

Most of the time will be to just mingle and bring back a few memories, but any formal part of the day will be between 11:30 and 12:30.



BELL TOWER PARK FURRY FRIENDS

By Kathleen McClanahan-Gruhl

To start off our inaugural Furry Friends column, please meet Quince. Quince is a black and white tuxedo 13-year-old domestic cat, belonging to Ann Granatino, one of our newsletter volunteers residing on Avon Park Circle. She adopted Quince through Nextdoor, the local neighborhood app, in May 2020. Not only did Quince provide much needed pandemic companionship, but he



has also evolved to be the “boss” of the house, setting feeding times, sunning times, play times and petting times to suit his needs regardless of Ann’s needs. However, the two have settled into an amicable relationship.

As Quince has Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV – the feline version of HIV), Ann can’t get a feline companion for Quince unless she finds one that also has FIV. Ann has had several cats over the years with FIV, and the cats can only infect other cats, not people, dogs, or other species of animals. So long as she can keep Quince infection and stress free, there is little risk to his health or longevity. If anyone knows of an FIV-infected cat, please let Ann know (granatinoa@yahoo.com). She would love to find a friend for Quince, as she has a bit of the travel bug and is often visiting

friends and family throughout the world. Quince does not like this, so would love a playmate to keep him company during her trips.

Please contact Kathleen, as per below, to share your Furry Friend with the community.



Contact: Kathleen at Sanibel17@yahoo.com or 317-446-1188.

DID YOU WANT TO KNOW?

By Jim Stewart



Q. What are those large ant mounds all about?

A. Not all ant species create large ant mounds. Some ants build smaller ant craters between concrete gaps and asphalt slabs that pavement ants build. Mounds are one of the most obvious indications that an ant colony is present. However, what you see above ground represents only a small portion of what occurs with overall construction of the ant nest.

Ant mounds are built by worker ants that remove below ground soil they excavate during tunneling and nest chamber construction. That soil is then deposited above ground, thus forming the mound.

See *Did You Want to Know*, P. 11



TOP

Did You Want to Know (Continued from Page 10)

The ant mound has three major purposes. The mound serves as the entrance to the below ground nest; the mound helps control the nest's internal temperature; and it helps protect the nest from predators or other intruders that might damage or destroy the nest. Ant mounds usually consist of fine particles of soil or perhaps bits of plant material.

In addition to bites and stings, the presence of ants and their mounds may include damage to landscape grasses and ground cover, and an overall reduction to the property's aesthetics. Regardless of the problems, managing ant nests and mounds is a job best left to pest management professionals because they know how to deal with the problems created by ants and ant mounds safely and effectively.

Many (or all) of the mounds we see at BTP are from fire ants. Never put your body parts in the mounds. Recently, I put a 12-inch stick in a mound and within seconds there were dozens of ants on the stick to protect the mound. And remember, you can kill some workers, but if you do not kill the queen, the nest will remain active.



Q. Any trivia for us this time?

- It takes 3,000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather for a year's supply of footballs.
- The average life span of a major league baseball is 7 pitches.
- The airplane Buddy Holly died in was the "American Pie", thus the name of the Don McLean song.
- The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle: **GP**.
- $11,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$

Q. How is the "Get Er Done" project going?

A. We have only had 2 requests for help. Volunteers responded quickly to help solve both problems. Pass the word around as we only communicate on the BTP unofficial Facebook page. And let's not let the same people be the helpers. If you can help, please do. Remember, all requests should be made to **Jim Stewart** at **317-439-1008** or **iuking@aol.com**.

Q. Jim, you were raised in Texas. Any southern sayings that would help us old people get going in the mornings?

A. Yes, Ma'am! When you awake: **RISE STABILIZE MOBILIZE**





FAREWELL GATHERINGS

By Linda Bye

Pickleball Ladies: As the season winds down, many snowbirds are heading to their northern homes. The ladies pickleball group and the Mahjong players said their goodbyes over luncheons. The pickleball ladies had lunch at the Eatery at 41 and Alico. What a great place for sandwiches and salads. The ladies had a great lunch and will be looking forward to a great pickleball season next year (hopefully on the new courts).



Linda, Penny, Jan, Kathy, Sheila, Jennifer, Chris, Cindy



Front row – Jane, Joyce, Penny, Jan, Cindy
Back row – Chris, Linda, Jim (oops, he snuck in), Jennifer

Mahjong Group: The Mahjong group had brunch at Skilletts, a wonderful breakfast/lunch restaurant. What a great turnout! They are excited to pick up next year right where they left off. They're also happy to say that their group has grown quite a bit this year and always looks forward to new players. 🏮



Susan, Louise, Penny, Peg, Bee, Vicky, Connie



Connie, Louise, Susan, Jan, Penny, Peg, Vicky

Social Committee – March Food Truck Event

By Kim Walerius

Food Trucks returned to Bell Tower Park on March 12! Kings Tacos & Burritos and Two Brothers Kitchen arrived at the Clubhouse parking lot for residents to enjoy dinner out. Both trucks took many preorders that were picked up as well as guests ordering that evening.



Many residents enjoyed their food at the tables that were set up along the pool area and visited with our wonderful BTP neighbors. DJ Sykes provided music for the evening. It was a perfect late afternoon/early evening in the neighborhood! 🏠



Social Committee – Saturday Coffee

By Kim Walerius

What's better than Sunday Coffee? The Social Committee decided to host a Saturday Coffee. There was a great turnout on March 2 for coffee and treats. Neighbors and guests enjoyed decadent "Kronuts" from Divine Donuts and several varieties of pastries. Coffee and tea were a natural pairing to those treats! Be on the lookout for a Welcome Back Coffee next fall.



Communications Committee Report

By John Fuller



Your Bell Tower Park Communications Committee (the “CommComm”) has had a relatively narrow focus for the last two months. The two main activities have been:

- the production of this newsletter, and
- seeking approval for the development of a website that is owned and exclusively managed by your community, through its POA Board of Directors.

Good News! That POA Board, on March 19th, unanimously approved a proposal from RGB Internet Systems, Inc. of Naples, Florida (RGB) to build a dynamic and user-friendly website for us all. In its 23-year history, RGB has serviced over 1200 clients and more than 2600 web projects. They are increasingly specializing in community websites.



In the weeks since the approval, technicalities of establishing a web address, domain registration, channels of communication, and a transition team have been completed.

The transition team is comprised of five BTP residents appointed as temporary CommComm members: Linda Bye, Jodi Harrison, Ron McEwan, Mark Lovelace, and John Fuller. This team attended a “Kick-off” Zoom meeting hosted by RGB from its office on April 18th. Discussed were actions needed to identify and create log-in procedures, a resident directory, a Google Business Profile, logo, colors, and text fonts to be used. Desired categories of content were discussed to include announcements, news, community, amenities, useful links (e.g., to utilities and services), visitor info, for sale/rent, etc.

From this meeting, RGB will produce a checklist of items for the team to accomplish by May 7th. A few similar meetings will be held in the coming weeks to work through the checklist. A projected time frame for the new website to be functional is mid-summer.

RGB has been communicating with Cardinal Management to coordinate the necessary links between our existing Frontsteps website and the new website.



CommComm (Continued from Page 14)

As reported in the February Bell Tower Notes II, the new website will contain content ***“such as activity reports, events, calendars, business/restaurant reviews, personalities, photo galleries of amenities, online forms, Board/Committee info, etc. A major goal will be the re-establishment of a combined Resident Directory, including only owners who agree to be listed. The directory would be searchable to the point of finding that owner whose dog is named “Bowser,” but you don’t remember the owner’s name! Active links to external info such as utilities, county agencies, news and weather will be readily available and easy to find.”***

The cost of the website will involve an initial deposit of \$700, followed by 10 monthly payments of \$230 – a total of \$3,000 for the actual design work. Outside of that are additional one-time fees of \$300 for securing the domain and \$700 for Google support. Continued maintenance after that will be \$75/month for the entry level package. No long-term contracts are involved, so the agreement can be terminated at any time, with BTP retaining control of the site and its content.



THANK YOU TO THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE FOR A
ROCKIN’ VALENTINE’S DAY IN THE CLUBHOUSE

TOP

TEA AND FASHION SHOW

By Kim Walerius with pictures by Kim & Marian Fuller

A favorite Social Committee event at Bell Tower Park, Tea & Fashion Show, was held on April 13 at the Clubhouse. A fun afternoon of lunch, fashions, games, and prizes were enjoyed by those who attended this event!



Jodi Young modeling a fun summer dress



Kathy Brewer dressing up denim with a beautiful shawl.

The tea lunch, catered by Pinocchio's, was delicious and plentiful! There were four types of sandwiches, scones, muffins and a variety of yummy desserts. The fashions modeled by our lovely Bell Tower residents

(Suzett Lindquist, Nancy Enos, Jodi Young, Carol Horton, Mary Lekan, and Kathy Brewer) were provided by Hollie's Boutique.

Check their amazing fashions out at 9671 Gladiolus Drive. After the Fashion Show, several games of "tea bingo" were played, and many lucky winners received a variety of prizes.



Preparing the tea/lunch setup!

See Tea & Fashion Show, P. 17



TOP

Tea and Fashion Show (Continued from Page 16)



The event's models – Jodi Young, Carol Horton, Mary Lekan, Suzett Lindquist, Nancy Enos, and Kathy Brewer.

Hollie, from Hollie's Boutique, and Kim Walerius start the show.

Below: The Social Committee: Barbara Moccia, Peggy Hutchings, Kim Walerius, Suzett Lindquist, Jackie Moran, Gayle Hunt



Travel Bug

By Annie Granatino



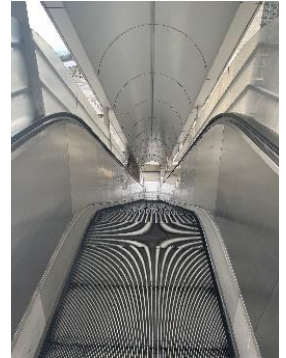
By TUBS - This SVG map includes elements that have been adapted from:

CC BY-SA 3.0

Click [HERE](#)

to see more details on Perugia.

This winter I had the good fortune to spend six weeks visiting family in Perugia, Italy. To my delight my sister, Cathy, and her husband, Jack, moved there last summer and are using Perugia as a base while they seek out a permanent spot for retirement. This leaves me in the enviable position of visiting them whenever I want. Although a bit out of the typical mainstream of Naples-Rome-Florence-Venice, Perugia is conveniently located almost equidistant between Florence and Rome. It is the capital city for the Umbrian province and sits high up on a grouping of hills that overlook the Umbrian Valley. The Apennine Mountains are viewable in the distance. The city itself is quite steep which explains the presence of escalators throughout as well as a convenient “mini-metro” system, which carries you from the top of the city to the bottom, with many stops in between.



Escalators assist in navigating the City's steep hills.

The city is famous for housing two universities, The University of Perugia, and The University for Foreigners of Perugia, thus boasting a lively student environment. Two events each year draw visitors from throughout the world – the Eurochocolate Festival draws more than 800,000 visitors per year. This year the festival takes place October 18-27, and participants may enjoy chocolate tasting events as well as chocolate workshops offered by chocolate manufacturers from throughout the world. In addition to the chocolate festival, Perugia also hosts a Jazz Festival each summer that is very popular. This year's festival is July 12-21, showcasing Italian artists as well as musicians from throughout the world. The event started in 1973 and was celebrated at fifty years last year.

The Umbrian region is also full of ceramic manufacturers, making stunning, individual artistic pieces, and your more functional everyday service ware. It is all beautiful to me.



See Travel Bug, P. 19



TOP

Travel Bug (Continued from Page 18)



I was fortunate enough to arrive for the Spring artichoke season. Delizioso!

Perugia has its own airport and there are many flights within Europe, especially during the summer. One can also easily access Perugia by train from Rome or Florence.

My trip was spent mostly living the slow lifestyle of Italy, enjoying local food, visiting neighboring hill towns, notably Assisi, Gubbio, and Spello. Of course, no trip to Italy is complete without a visit or two to Rome, which I took advantage of. I had lived in Rome 24 years ago, so it was nice to visit with many former colleagues and friends.



Escalator Alternative

I'm sure many of us living in Bell Tower Park have visited Italy, maybe more than once. If you haven't visited Perugia, it may be time to go back and take in the sights of Umbria.



Wanted - Travel Bugs

By Annie Granatino

Are you a travel bug? We'd love to hear of your adventures. Feel free to send the Communications Committee any articles and/or photos of recent trips you'd like to share. We would love to travel with you.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES or EVENTS

By Ann Granatino

Community Picnic **Sunday, April 28, 2024** **Social Committee**
At Lakes Park 11 AM – 4 PM

Mighty Mussels Baseball **Thursday, May 9, 2024** **Social Committee**
Game (vs. Dunedin Blue Jays) 7:05 PM **Hammond Stadium**
Gates Open 6:05, Food Served 6:30-8:00 PM, Skydeck Party -\$35.00

NEW RESIDENT AND ARTIST – MARTHA BRYCE

By Linda Bye



Brian & Michael Karol

We have an artist as our new neighbor in BTP! Martha Bryce recently moved into her house on Chelsey Lane with her husband Bill. Brian & Michael Karol hosted an art open house/happy hour at their house on Bently Circle showcasing Martha's art. It was a huge success. Many fellow neighbors came out to meet Martha and view her various forms of art. Thanks to Brian & Michael, they also enjoyed some beverages and snacks. Many of our residents left with some beautiful pieces. 🏠



Donna Cleary, Kathleen McClanahan-Gruhl, Liz Christie, Heather Matheny Trail, Barbara Bates Raber, and her daughter, Sherry Bates. Seated in front is our new resident artist, Martha Bryce

A sampling of Martha's vibrant art



SAFETY COMMITTEE AND THE POOL

By Nancy Enos



On April 16, Amy E. Bollen, Director of Public Relations, South Trail Fire & Rescue held a safety seminar at the main pool. A group of 25 residents gathered at the pool to learn about safety in their homes and at the pool.

Several items were discussed:

- The number one reason for rescue calls is FALLS. Making simple changes such as shoe wear (closed toe instead of flip flops or crocs), checking area and scatter rugs to ensure they are flat and secure, and staying hydrated were discussed. Hydration improves physical and cognitive performance. We get dizzy and unsteady when we have not had enough water to drink, even while in the pool!
- Getting up too fast when in the sun can cause dizziness and wearing good quality sunglasses is important.
- Never swim alone, especially young children. Drowning is the #1 killer in Florida for ages 0-4. Last week alone there were 4 “honor walks” taking a small child into Golisano Hospital to be an organ donor. What a sobering thought. When an adult is “watching” a child in the pool, but actually focused on something else such as scrolling through their phone, a child can slip underwater. Drowning is a silent accident.
- The current challenge for Fire Departments is Lithium Batteries. Do not leave cordless tools on the charger after they are fully charged. Old Lithium Batteries can be recycled at: Lee County Solid Waste, 6441 Topaz Ct. Fort Myers, FL 33966 239-533-8000. Or click this link: [Topaz Court Solid Waste Facility \(leegov.com\)](https://www.leegov.com/topaz-court-solid-waste-facility) These batteries can also be recycled at Home Depot and Lowe’s.
- The importance of smoke alarms was discussed. Call Amy Bollen if you need help checking the expiration date of your smoke alarms. They last 10 years and have an expiration date on them. The Fire Department is happy to help you replace batteries, or replace a smoke alarm with the same type. If you change the type of smoke alarm, you require an electrician or handyman.
- Knox Boxes were also discussed. If you live alone, it’s a great idea to have a Knox Box installed on your door. If you call 911, the first responders have a key to your Knox Box and they can get in to help you without causing damage to your doors and windows. If you have a garage door key pad, you can give the 911 operator your garage code for their access, but that would depend on your ability to give them the information. A home Knox Box guarantees that First Responders can get in to help you. How to get one? Click: [HERE](#)



Pool Safety (Continued from Page 21)

The rescue equipment at the pool was demonstrated. The large red floating “belt” can be worn by a rescuer, floated on front or back, and thrust at a person to grab onto from a distance. The yellow backboard has handles all the way up the sides and front, allowing 3 people to help on each side. The grooved side is placed downward as a skid to make it easy to move with a person on the board. If these items aren’t available, use a beach towel in the same manner as a sling to help someone up.

The Safety committee will schedule another safety seminar in the Fall for those who could not attend this session. Let the Safety Committee know if you would like to attend a future safety event and specify your preference for a weekday morning, evening or Saturday.



RESTAURANT REVIEW

By Kathleen McClanahan-Gruhl



Park Road (16440 S. Tamiami Trail). A group of us from Bell Tower are there numerous evenings a week primarily for the great entertainment, the exceptional service and the yummy entrees. They have bands almost every night, including Pearl & Antoinette, Michael D'Amore, Split Decision, Girl Krush, Gatlin's, Rocker, Jacobs Ladder, Alter Ego, and many more.

Their Entertainment Menu includes Raspberry Walnut Salad, Grilled Chicken Teriyaki, Beef on Weck, Homemade Lasagna, and Stuffed Crab Mushrooms, along with a Chicken Finger Basket.

It is always such a treat for me to promote a business that has truly made a difference in my life and highlight the employees who make that experience so special. One of my favorite restaurant/bars in our neighborhood is "MANGO RITA'S RHYTHM HOUSE" located south on 41 just before Island



Jason and Jacinta
"JJ" Ingram

Mango Rita's (Continued from Page 22)

The regular lunch/dinner menu is 50+ items, lots of sides, fabulous desserts and a Kid's Menu. Some of my favorites are chicken parmigiana, pizzas and flatbreads, grouper blackened or with jerk seasonings, spectacular burgers with fries (or cole slaw). Also, five beautiful salads, yummy tacos, killer chili and almost 20 appetizers to choose from including great quesadillas and coconut shrimp. AND ~ THE MOST FABULOUS ICE CREAM SHOP in Fort Myers is right next door (owned by JJ and Jason) and the cocktails are always flowing with very generous pours!

Owners, Jacinta "JJ" and Jason Ingreem greet everyone who walks in the door and get you promptly to a table. Then their darling waitresses, Hailey, DyAna, Jen, Thad and DeeDee, make you feel so very "special" and never fail to say "THANK YOU" for coming in tonight!

Joining me one night last week were members of our Communications Committee, John and Marian Fuller, Ron McEwan, Annie Granatino, Linda and Rick Bye, and Barbara Bates Raber, along with the outstanding Mango Rita's management team!!!!



Mango Rita's Rhythm House is open daily.

Their hours are:

Monday – Saturday 11 am – 11 pm, and Sunday 11am – 9 pm

Check them out online at - <https://www.mangoritasfmb.com>.





By Ann Granatino

CORNER

“A verbal contract isn’t worth the paper it’s written on.”

--- Samuel Goldwyn

Communications Committee plans to share information on a specific contract in each newsletter. As you can imagine, the POA is party to many contracts. It can be confusing looking through them and sorting the details. We hope to share the details with you, to remove some of the mystery of contracting and make life that much easier. This issue we will review the swimming pool maintenance contract with Neptune Pool Services, Inc.

All contracts are available to property owners on our web site following the tabs:

Documents&FAQs/CommunityDocuments/Contracts/POA – or click: [BTP Contracts](#)

Two of the nicest features of life in Bell Tower Park are the two swimming pools located on the complex. Both pools are meticulously cared for by Neptune Pool Services, Inc. of Cape Coral. Bell Tower Park has had a Commercial Maintenance Agreement with Neptune since at least 2017. Under the Agreement, Neptune is to provide a qualified pool technician to our complex to conduct chemical maintenance of the pools five times weekly, plus clean the pools three times weekly. In addition, they agree to clean each pool’s filter as needed and to inspect all pool equipment each time they are on the premises.



Of course, when mother nature interferes and we experience a hurricane, flood or other disaster, services to restore the pools to their original condition will be additional. In addition, the HOA bears the responsibility of keeping all pool equipment in good working order.



DONNA CLEARY – Welcome Baskets & a Board Seat

By John Fuller

The newest member of the Courtyard II Board is Donna Cleary. Having served six years on a POA Board in Chesterton, Indiana and having run for the Bell Tower Park POA Board, she was asked to fill a vacancy at CII and serve as Secretary as well.



Donna became a full-time resident of Bell Tower Park on December 1st, 2021, moving from Valparaiso, Indiana. She heads back to that area every two months for a week to visit her two daughters, two sons-in law and 3-1/2 year-old granddaughter. She has managed many different businesses over her career, including restaurants, auto & body repair, and retail. The more unusual business was a partner in light aircraft sales and brokering.

Donna has been an active community member from the start, organizing a garage sale, for example. Many of our newcomers will recognize Donna as likely the first BTP resident they met. This was the result of her taking the initiative to start the Welcome Basket Program in November of 2022 – and at first, on her “own dime”. She goes to places like the Salvation Army for some \$3 baskets, then fills them with small useful items and gift cards. She convinced some of our next-door businesses to donate the gift cards. She wanted to be sure that this article recognizes those businesses, which are House of Omelets, Bonefish Grill, Summer Moon, Edible Arrangements, Pizza 2000, Experia Hair and Kathryn Ringland, DDS.

More recently, our POA Board has supported Donna’s Welcome Basket program with \$200 per year.



Donna says, “If you would like a basket let me know. If a neighbor knows of some new homeowner let me know. Beta gives me addresses and names of new owners when they finish their interview.” donnacleary1@comcast.net



Palm Tree Update

By Jim Stewart, Photos by Linda Bye and John Fuller

We are all aware that the Board was able to make a deal for what turns out to be about 90 Foxtail palm trees. The terms will not only save us a lot of money but also allow us to plant trees years ahead of what we probably could have put into our budget. When residents saw some trees



being transported off our property, you probably could have written a book with the rumors going around. But in the end, we learned that the first trees delivered had root balls too large for the courtyard homes without causing too much damage to existing landscaping. An exchange for



smaller trees was arranged at no additional cost to BTP. Many of the trees have already been planted, and it appears most of the underground structures have been marked. As the saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers". . . We can say "April breeze will bring palm trees". What a wonderful addition to bring our property back to normal, as it was before the two



BELL TOWER NOTES II - Volunteers

Contributors:

Linda Bye
 Kathleen McClanahan
 Nancy Enos
 Ron McEwan
 Ann Granatino
 Kim Walerius
 Jim Stewart
 John Fuller

Proofreading:

Dee Isakson
 Linda Bye
 & CommComm

Photography:

Kim Walerius
 Marian Fuller
 Kathleen McClanahan
 Ann Granatino

Editor & Layout:

Ann Granatino

Assistant Editor:

John Fuller

Office Contacts

Community Manager:

Linda Nunez
 (239) 774-0723 Ext. 220
l.nunez@cmqflorida.com

Assistant Manager:

Beta Bond
 (239) 774-0723 Ext. 219
b.bond@cmqflorida.com

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

**Occasionally a need may arise to re-schedule a meeting -- proper notice of that will be sent to residents.*

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>*DATE & TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
POA Board	4 th Tuesday, 6 pm	Office Annex	Ron McEwan
Carriage Homes	Annual & As Needed	Office Annex	Robert Garland
Courtyard Homes I	Annual & As Needed	Office Annex	Robert Van Teeffelen
Courtyard Homes II	Annual & As Needed	Office Annex	Wesley Dick
<u>COMMITTEES</u>			<u>Chairperson</u>
Landscape	3rd Thursday, 2 pm	Clubhouse	John Woodard
Amenities	As Needed	by notice	Keith Miller
Safety	As Needed	by notice	David Shaw
Communications	1 st Thursday, 1 pm	Clubhouse BTPCommunications@hotmail.com	John Fuller
Social	1st Tuesday, 4 pm	Clubhouse	Kim Walerius
Finance	As Needed	by notice	Martha Harrie
Fining	As Needed	by notice	[None Required]

As of now, messages for board or committee members should be sent to the office. The CommComm is using a generic email address (see above) which is monitored by one of its members.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES or EVENTS By Ann Granatino

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE & TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
BTP Music Jam	[2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays] 7-9 PM-Start Date TBA	Clubhouse	Jan Jones guitarjan@att.com
Book Club	2 nd Tue, 10 am	Clubhouse	(Nov-Apr) Jackie Moran Jackierae3445@aol.com (May-Oct) Kim Walerius kawalerius@gmail.com
Euchre Club (cards) & BYOB	Each Wed, 4 – 6 pm	Clubhouse	Marsha Wulpi 260.479.0416 & Ron McEwan 239.823-6708
Mahjong	Each Wed, 12:30 - 4 pm	Clubhouse	Bee Horner/Vicky Barnes
Pickleball	W, Th, Sa, Su, 8:30 am	Courts	Bill Johnson 239.281.8970 Bill_jo68@yahoo.com

