



THE TOWER

Volume 35 | NO 3 | MARCH 2024

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2024 HOA BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

On February 10, 2024 the Nomination and Election Committee (Committee) convened in the Jacaranda Room to open and count the ballots cast for the 2024 HOA Board of Directors Elections. Following is a summary of the election results.

A total of 631 members were eligible to vote and received ballots directed to their address on file with the HOA. A total of 423 valid ballots were received. After tallying the votes received, the ranked order of candidates, in order of the most to the least votes received, was as follows; Margie Hill, Darla Greer, Robert Hilton, Bill Shell, Don Dowell, and Dave Tomaszewski.

The NEC made its report of the election results to the HOA Board on February 21, 2024 and, pursuant to the Bylaws, the three candidates receiving the most votes were installed for three-year terms and next highest vote-receiving candidate was installed to fill the unexpired term of the vacant Board seat. When next you see your current

and newly elected Board members, and the unelected candidates, please thank them for their service to our community.

A copy of the election results was posted on the HOA Bulletin Board in the Clubhouse and the Tally Sheet has been posted on the HOA web page. Members who kept a record of their control and ballot number visit the HOA web page to verify their votes were correctly recorded.

If you have any questions about the election, please reach out to Daniel Cruz at daniellecruz@gmail.com or 239.443.7278.



HOA AT WORK

Your Nomination and Election Committee at Work!
- by Daniel Cruz

After months of careful planning, preparation, and hard work, your HOA Nomination and Election Committee convened on February 10, 2024 to count ballots for the annual Board of Directors Elections. As required by the HOA By-Laws, all votes were anonymously cast. The authenticity of ballots and vote count were verified by Committee members Ruth Blevins, Susan Brown, Michaelene Cruz, Neil Dorsey, Lisa Gabrielcik, Marlene Haag, and Daniel Cruz. The results of the election were presented to the Board, as scheduled, on February 21, 2024.

In addition to the Committee Members who worked hard to make this election run smoothly and transparently, the Committee thanks our Board Liaison Dorothy Cook, our HOA Tech Team Chair Cindy Brinton, and our Tower Editor Leigh Ann Lawson. Without their support a successful election would not be possible. We would also wish to thank the HOA office volunteers for their help in collecting and protecting our ballots during the election. Most of all, our Committee wishes to thank the Candidates for stepping up to serve their Community and our membership for casting their votes.

Our Committee is always looking for volunteers to serve on next year's Nomination and Election Committee. If you are interested in participating and having some fun along the way, or if you have any questions about the election, please reach out to Daniel Cruz at daniellecruz@gmail.com or 239.443.7278.



HELLO NEW RESIDENTS!

The Welcome Committee wishes to "welcome" you to Del Tura by hosting a table at our Coffee Socials every Tuesday beginning at 8:30 with a Welcome Session to share information about our community and North Fort Myers with you immediately following the meeting.

Please come join our table right inside the front door to the Ballroom or stop by and say hello.

RSVP Sherry Cottini, Welcome Committee Chair
239-770-7711

Spaghetti
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TOWER DEADLINE: The 10th of the month, for the following month's issue. All articles and flyers must be submitted in a Microsoft Word document format, or you may drop off at the HOA office in a TYPED or HAND PRINTED format only. Questions - please contact us via e-mail: dttowereedit@gmail.com or drop them at the office. Thank You





VETERAN'S CORNER By Steve Banko

Hardly a day passes when someone doesn't recognize military service with the now ubiquitous phrase "thank you for your service." But there was a time in our history when such recognition wasn't necessary because military service was more or less standard for American men. Patriotism and the draft once combined to give most men a taste of the military. If you were lucky, that service didn't entail wartime duty. If you weren't lucky, the memories of pain and fear and suffering of combat are scorched into the mind and memory like psychic scars that don't always hurt but never heal.

In 1980, nearly twenty percent of Americans were veterans. By 2022, that number dropped to about six percent. The end of involuntary conscription had a lot to do with the decline in military service. So did the aftermath of 9/11. While some felt it an obligation to strike back at those who struck us, most did not. Most decided that multiple deployments in southwest Asia was not part of the citizenship contract inherent in being American. While some wore Purple Hearts, others sported lapel pins to attest to their love of country.

Make no mistake about it, though, the history of our country includes a trail of bloodshed from Lexington and Concord to the mountains of Afghanistan and the mileposts along the way are markers recalling heroism and sacrifice. Some of us know heroes, others of us served with them, and still other Americans heard of the exploits of those who wore the uniforms of our armed forces.

In my own case, I relive – for better or worse – a lot of that heroism on virtually a nightly basis. I am alive because a guy decided to risk his life to save mine. So, while it often hurts to remember, it would hurt so much worse if we were ever to forget. And that's what the Tower seeks to do in each issue: remember service, honor sacrifice, and preserve the memories and stories of those who stepped forward to answer our nation's summons to service. We have a lot of veterans here in Del Tura and those veterans have stories and memories that must be preserved as the country counts fewer and fewer veterans among its number. The Tower seeks to memorialize service by relating the stories of our veteran community. Veterans are encouraged to submit their recollections to share and to preserve the legacy of service. Don't think for an instant that your story isn't interesting enough to be shared. We want to know what service meant to you, how you dealt with separation from your family, how you forged bonds with your fellow servicemen and women to help you succeed. And if you need a little help telling your story, we have people standing ready to help you. You could be interviewed or you could tell a rough draft to a veteran author and award winning writer to help give voice to your ideas. But please think about sharing your experience with the community at-large through the Tower's "Veterans' Corner." We want to know, to remember and to honor you for what you've done. You deserve it.

Please submit an article to or contact: dttoweredit@gmail.com for any questions.

In Memory of

RONALD COLE
(Passed away February 2, 2024)

PRISCILLA PETERSON
CAROLYN BROWN
JANICE GAYAN

❖ I'd like to reach out to thank our many Del Tura friends for their cards, phone calls, and expressions of sympathy and support after the recent loss of my beloved wife Carolyn. She was an inspiration to us all; a symbol of strength and courage as she battled cancer, and her loss will leave a mark in all of our hearts. Carolyn and I have been blessed to have many close friendships here over the years, and I thank every one of you for your love and prayers. ~ Don Brown

If you are aware of the passing of any of our residents, past or present, please email the information to us at dttoweredit@gmail.com or drop off at the HOA office so that we can post here as a memorial.

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DEL TURA HOMETOWN AMERICA!

A quick note from Julie: (Community Manager)

The HTA team would like to wish everyone a Happy St Patrick's Day, everyone breaks out their green for this special day. Enjoy, safely.

Party In the Clubhouse Parking lot!!!!

March 08, 2024 @ 5:00pm.

Del Tura HTA will be having our own resident D.J. Bob Lussi playing your favorite music. We will be bringing in a food truck or two for you to purchase food. This is a BYOB event. All Residents come join the fun!

Don't forget to Spring Ahead, on Saturday March 10, 2024. Turn your clocks ahead by one hour. Don't Forget Good Friday the Administrative office will be closed - 3/29/2024. Happy Easter to all Residents from the HTA Team.

DEL TURA EDITOR'S NOTE *By Jack Blevons*

The Prospectus is clear on stating "Dogs are not allowed on the golf course."

DEL TURA AN EVENT IS COMING BACK!

Del Tura has enjoyed this event for many years pre-Covid so we are bringing it back!!! Always a sellout and so much fun and great foods! **SAVE THE DATE MARCH 9, 2024** ****INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL**** Please contact me if you would like to prepare food. Questions/information contact Marylou Buss 612-718-7878. (Non HOA Sponsored Event)



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Sound and Lighting Team Is Growing!!! Ready to serve our Del Tura community and have fun doing so?

If you have an interest in music, comedy, or theater... and do not want to be on the stage, but prefer behind the scenes, then being a sound and or lighting entertainment volunteers could be just for YOU!

Our audio and lighting entertainment volunteer teams are expanding to support year-round and seasonal events here in Del Tura.

You do not need experience to be part of our teams. Just have a love for fun and have willingness to serve.

Training in sound and lighting systems will be available from experienced team technicians. All we ask is that future team members have the desire to learn, serve, and will commit to being available for the events of their choosing.

Our Del Tura entertainment committee will

finalize 2024/2025 concert and event plans in the next few weeks. Our desire is to assign sound and lighting teams for events scheduled for summer/fall 2024 and winter/spring 2025 by May 1 of 2024.

In the coming days we will hold an information meeting for those who express interest in joining our sound and lighting teams. At this session, any questions can be answered, and you will learn about special event benefits team members receive.

**Got questions?
Ready to learn more?**

To get started we ask that you email Lynn Brenfleck (co-chair of our Entertainment committee) at lynn.a.brenfleck@gmail.com, or text/call her at (603) 738-1001.



SUNNY DAYS ICE CREAM TRUCK

Be on the Look Out!!!! SUNNY DAYS ICE CREAM TRUCK is back for your Ice Cream enjoyment. Sunny days ice cream will drive around the community with your favorite novelty Ice cream treat for sale. From 4pm- Dark or Sell out on the following dates: **March 3rd and April 14th.**

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APRIL BLOCK PARTY

By Sherri Cottini Welcome Committee Chair

Well, it's been 7 years since we started having Del Tura Block Parties!!! Our first one was 11/11/17!!! What a great community! And thanks to Auntie Audrey, we have had huge successes with our past Block Parties! So, due to the many events and activities going on for the first quarter of our year, the Welcome Committee has scheduled the next one for April 13th!!

In order to not duplicate Block Captains,

however, I am willing to mark you down so if someone else wants to sign up, there won't be duplicate parties going on in the same neighborhood - or at least, I'll try to keep that from happening.

Please email: scottini6037@gmail.com with the addresses and street names you would like to invite. Thanks again and let's make this the largest one we've ever had!!!



SAVE THE DATE

Canada Day in Del Tura

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Email Greg and Donna Roberts at donnagregroberts@gmail.com to make sure you're on the mailing list or to volunteer to help with the golf tournament or to organize an event for non-golfers.



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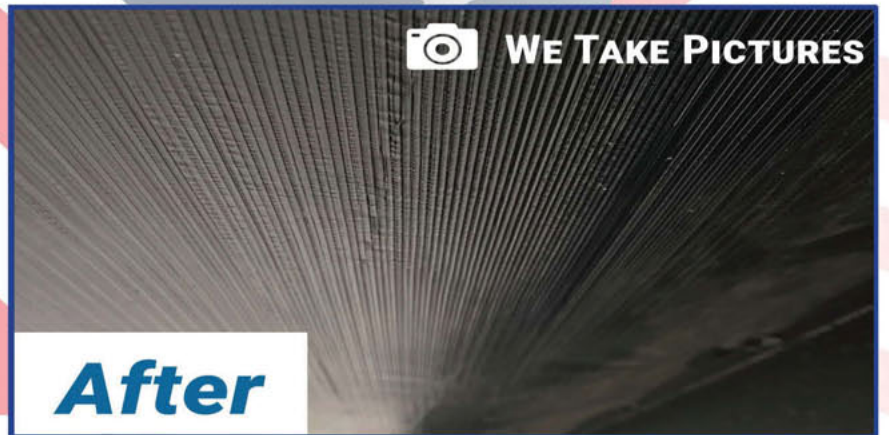


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THE DELTURA WAVE

By Stew Williams email: stew@fweft.com

When my wife, Esther, and I first bought our home in 2004, the year of hurricane Charley, our friends, Don and Bobbie Urbanke, explained the DelTura Wave to us as an important part of life here at DelTura. Don said that it was a simple fingers out wave, never exerting too much motion or energy. It was a simple acknowledgement of friendship and our feeling of "community" at DelTura.

The basic wave while driving is four fingers up while your hand remains on the wheel. A two finger wave, similar to the victory sign or peace sign, is acceptable as well. A single finger wave is rare but if using it, I would suggest it be the index finger. The response is a simple hand motion and can be accompanied by a smile or nod. Actually lifting your hand and waving it shows that you are in great shape and your extra effort is admired and appreciated. The other day I saw a person who was walking respond with extending their fingers straight down in a "low five" greeting which I thought was pretty cool.

If riding a bicycle or motorcycle, a simple nod and smile is a safer alternative to taking your hand off the handlebars. Dog walkers are also exempt, especially if they are holding a dog in each hand. Another situation occurs when you are passing a golf cart, bicycle or person walking going in the same direction.

A wave can also be used while passing and although you may not see the response, if any, you should know that the wave will be appreciated regardless. The DelTura Wave can also be extended to our DelTura workers and contractors who are here every week in appreciation for their good work and friendship.

Bottom line - the DelTura Wave is a good thing. It is a sign of friendship which gives us a feeling of a caring community. So what if someone doesn't wave back. Maybe they didn't see you, especially if in a car, or maybe they

are having a bad day. My suggestion - give the DelTura Wave whenever possible.

What do you have to lose? And you'll probably brighten someone's day even though you may not know it at the time.

Comments and additions to DelTura Wave article in May Tower by Stew Williams

Thank you for all your many comments to my DelTura Wave article which were 100% positive.

There were some questions which I will attempt to answer:

1. Do golfers do the DelTura wave?

As most everyone knows, men can only do one thing at a time, while women have the amazing ability to do two, three, even four things at the same time. (My wife, Esther, has explained this to me many, many times). Expecting a male golfer to think about his next golf shot and wave at the same time is way too much to hope for.

2. Is the DelTura Wave appropriate while passing a golf cart, bicycle or person walking while going in the same direction?

Yes the Wave is always good and will be appreciated, even if you cannot see a response, if any.

3. In addition to people on bicycles and motorcycles, is there anyone else who is "exempt" from waving?

Yes, dog walkers, especially if holding dogs in both hands.

4. Should I feel guilty for not waving?

Absolutely not. It's a fun thing! Let it go.

I hope this clarifies a few questions and remember... the DelTura Wave is a good thing.

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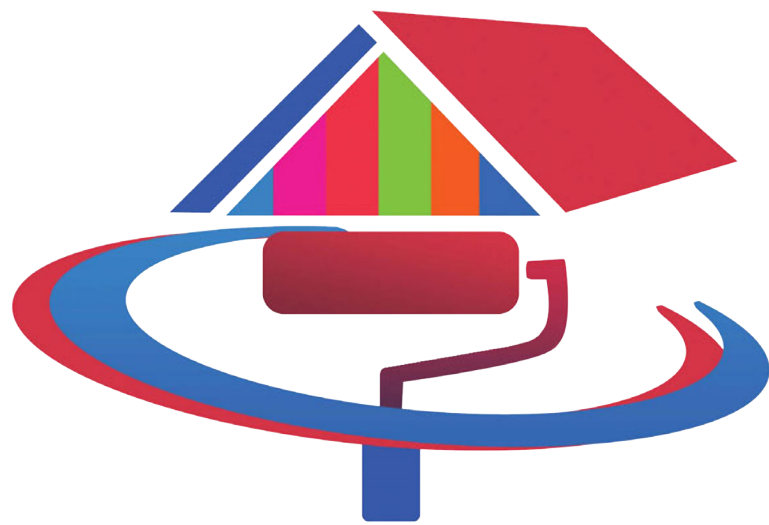
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AT-THE-HYDRANT

By Justine Fitzgibbons

Seven years ago a Dog Park Committee was formed and worked with HTA to have a dog park. After many meetings and planning the dog park opened 6 months later. Over the years many dogs have enjoyed the park and love being there. However, in order to keep this wonderful amenity rules must be followed. The below are the rules posted on the gate as you enter. PLEASE read them and more importantly PLEASE obey them.

DEL TURA DOG PARK RULES:

1. Dog owners must be in the fenced dog park at all times within view and voice range of their dogs. Dogs should come when called by their owner.
2. Dogs must be removed from the dog park at the first sign of aggression.
3. Aggressive dogs are not permitted on the premises.
4. Dog owners must have a leash in hand at all times

ADDITIONAL RULES:

1. Female dogs in heat are prohibited from entering the dog park.
2. Fill in any holes your dog digs.
3. No food of any kind allowed within the dog park.
4. Do not run within the dog park.
5. All dogs must have current licenses and tags.
6. Sick dogs are not permitted in the park.
7. All other general rules of Del Tura Park are also applicable within the dog park.
8. All dog owners who fail to comply with the rules can be expelled from the park. Repeat offenders are subject to banning from the park.
9. Property is not responsible. Handlers are liable for any injury or Damage caused by their pet.
10. Keep the gate closed at all times.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP THE DOG PARK SAFE & CLEAN

PS. Please don't park in front of the gate



THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO

By Jack Blevons

This will be the last Month of the HOA sponsored Thursday night bingo. Starting in April the regular Summer bingo will take our place until we get back in October again so you can still enjoy bingo all Summer long.

This past month we have been having some record crowds on Thursday nights which always means we have been giving out a lot of money to those people who are lucky enough to win. Winning always makes bingo a lot more fun. But, win or not, it's still an enjoyable night up at our main ballroom in our community. Always so enjoyable to spend a couple of hours with so many nice friends up there.

For any new people this month, doors open at 5:45 & we sell game sheets until 6:45 & then we

start playing at 7:00. To play you have to be there to buy your game sheets no later than 6:45. We are usually done playing by about 9:00. It's a fun way to spend a couple of hours on a Thursday night, gathered up there with a lot of friends & hopefully once in a while get lucky enough to go back home with more money in your pocket that you came up with. Even if you don't win every night, it's still a fun night so hopefully, we will keep seeing big crowds up there through the rest of the month of March.



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DEL TURA F.I.S.H. NEWS *Submitted by Ginnie Benjamins*

We are having a fundraiser for Del Tura's "Over 90" Luncheon.

What: Pick a Purse
Date: March 13, 2024
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Where: Starlight Ballroom

There will be gently used purses donated by Del Turians. We already have over 50 donations. It is a "Chance Raffle." You buy tickets and put them in a bag for the items you want. 5 tickets for \$5.00, 15 tickets for \$10.00. You do not need to be present to win. This is a great opportunity to change up your purse game. We look forward to seeing you there.

Donations of gently used purses are still being accepted. Please bring the F.I.S.H. table at Tuesday Morning Coffee or drop off at Laura Dritt's home, 263 Las Palmas. There is a bin on the front porch where they can be put.

~ Laura Dritt, F.I.S.H. President

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DEL TURA CRAFTIN' IN "THE HOOD" *By Wendy Wells*

Come join us on Tuesdays, after coffee until about 3:00, in the Starlight Ballroom. We quilt, knit, crochet, spin wool, and other various crafts. We all work on our own projects, but occasionally have a class to learn a technique. Bring your own equipment and supplies. If you bring a sewing machine, bring an extension cord as the outlets are few and far between. For more information, call Wendy Wells at 309-264-9147. I hope to see you there!



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REFLECTIONS

By Dianne J. Roderick

"Loves Many Faces"

Love over time can be defined in many different ways. As we go through each stage of our lives we learn that its meaning will change with the experiences that we are faced with along the way. Let's face it, when we are young we have a tendency to love everything at face value. We love everything! When you're young what's not to love! I know there are exceptions, but even if you grew up less fortunate than others there was always something to love. Love in those early years came in the form of unexpected hugs from mom, dad, or grandma and grandpa. (Especially from my gramps, he didn't give out too many of those). Or maybe love came in the form of a stray kitten, or puppy that Mom and Dad said you could keep. Ahh...love that was innocent and pure...and then we grow and love takes on additional meaning.


All too soon you find yourself leaving the warmth and safety of those arms and entering the world of unfamiliar territory. Welcome to elementary school! Mom said, "you'll meet so many new friends and you'll love your teacher!" I was so excited! I have to admit, meeting new friends was wonderful, but loving the teacher... not so much! She definitely had a different

definition of love, and a name that I still can't pronounce to this day. Thank God for recess!

Time goes by and you find yourself in high school and along with the studies there was the excitement of looking forward to those Friday night dances. Now love took on a new terminology "puppy love". Oh, the heartbreak of it all! Growing up ... going through adolescence could be difficult ... emotions always out of whack. The heartbreaks that we thought we would never get over actually turned out to be valuable lessons that most of us would be thankful for later in our lives.

As time went by we understood that life would teach us many lessons about love. Love means to remember to continue giving ourselves self-love, but moving beyond ourselves and making someone else the priority in our lives. Life's experiences are not always kind lessons, but they teach us what we need in order to develop lasting friendships and meaningful relationships with the partners we choose to be with in our lives. So remember during this season of love, it is not only about romance and roses, it's also about taking care of yourself, and showing love and kindness to each other.

Happy Spring Everyone! ~ Dianne



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 Del Tura Contact Info		
Choralaires	Janelle Shallenberger	765-437-2130
Coffee Hour - Tues. AM coordinator	Kathy Williamson	239-825-5708
Librarian	Barb Jones	239-543-6922
Del Tura Repertory Company	Jacque Keen	239-464-5544
Entertainment Committee Chair	Dot Barilla Lynn Brenfleck	239-850-2306 603-738-1001
Fish Medical Equipment Loans		239-997-3474
Loan Closet (Cots, Pack-N-Play, High Chairs, etc.)	Denise Rose Sandy Vassallo	815-222-6466 248-755-1176
FISH - Friends in Service Here	Laura Dritt	630-759-1757
FMO Membership	Susan Bell	714-454-9972
Front Gate Guard	Barbara Schmoltze	239-731-2523
HOA Membership Tech	Cindy Brinton	267-642-6477
HOA Membership	HOA Office	239-731-3461
HOA Office	Ruth Ann Blevins	239-220-9381
HOA GROUNDS Committee	Darlene Fincham delturagrounds@yahoo.com	
Homeowners' Issues/Grievances	Clubhouse Office	239-731-3433
Memorials	Kathy Williamson	239-825-5708
Name Tags	Wendy Wells	309-264-9147
Save Our Strays/ Feral Cat Information "SOS"	Sherry Plisch Karen Azza	239-707-5613 239-220-0563
Outdoor Electronic Billboard	Cindy Brinton	267-642-6477
Tower - Advertising - BrionPalmer@yahoo.com	Brion Palmer	941-312-0665
Tower - Editor	Leigh Anne Lawson	740.503.0085
Tower - Distribution Chairperson	Sue Brown	847-531-3726
Tower - Distribution Coordinators	Dan Larson Sue Larson	763-360-3193 763-360-3192
Veterans: Bricks 4 Vets	Jeff Meehan	651-398-6964
Welcome Committee	Sherry Cottini	239-770-7711
Lighting & Sound		
Lighting Coordinator	Art Keen	210-279-2093
Sound Coordinator	Art Keen	210-279-2093

Please send changes to Dennis Cottini 847-707-1435 or dcottini@comcast.net

NON-EMERGENCY CALLS - SHERIFF'S DEPT. (239) 477-1000

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

News Items for "The Tower" – Please email article, flyer, and photos (if any) to: dttoweredit@gmail.com

THE HOA WEBSITE - www.deltura-hoa.com

To have events listed on the HOA Website and/or the Electronic sign please email flyer, photos (if any) & text for electronic sign to:

Website Content: dttechsvcs@delturahoa.com

Electronic Board: dttechsvcs@delturahoa.com

HOA BOARD INFORMATION

Cindy Baron, President (2025)
603,398,8001 cbaron50@yahoo.com

Kathy Williamson, Director (2025)
239-825-5708, toocheep2call@aol.com

Dorothy Cook, Vice President (2026)
614-499-1864, dcook2023@yahoo.com

Lisa Bellanca, Director (2025)
847-833-3258, llbellanca@comcast.net

Darlene Fincham, Treasurer (2026)
609-617-6869, darlene.fincham@gmail.com

Margie Hill, Director (2027)
863-956-7236, mhill.delturahoa@yahoo.com

Darla Greer, Secretary (2027)
239-470-0851, dgreer.delturahoa@yahoo.com

Bob Hilton, Director (2027)
732-337-7061, bhiltonhoa@yahoo.com

Bill Shell, Director (2025)
612-209-4674, bshelldeltura@gmail.com

HOA office on 609 Sierra Madre reopened Sept. 5th

HOA OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY 1:00pm - 4:00pm
TUESDAY After Coffee - noon
WEDNESDAY 9:00am - noon
THURSDAY 3:00pm - 5:00pm
FRIDAY 9:00am - noon
SATURDAY & SUNDAY Closed
Should you need assistance contact Ruth Ann Blevins (239) 220-9381

**HOA ADDRESS: 609 Sierra Madre
239-731-3461**

THE TOWER EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor

Leigh Anne
Lawson

Distribution Coordinators

Dan Larson,
and Sue Larson

Staff

Darlene Fincham
Dennis Cottini

Distribution Group

Mark Donahue, Steve Fincham,
Sandy Rolando, Sandy Vassallo,
Patty Large, Karen Miller
and Sue Larson

HOA Website

Cindy Brinton

Distribution Chairperson

Sue Brown

And 60+ Delivery Volunteers

HOA Liaison: **HOA President**

Many thanks to all the volunteer residents who have donated their time to "The Tower".

We are looking for more volunteers. Please Help!

DID YOU KNOW...

If an HOA sponsored committee holds a fundraiser, it is raising funds for that committee only. All proceeds, after expenses, are deposited into that committee's financial account for that committee's use. HOA acts as the banker only and can provide all income and expense details.

The Del Tura Phone Book is not compiled by "The Tower". It is produced by Hometown America. Please contact the HTA office 239-731-3461 (clubhouse office) for errors and omissions.

GENTLE REMINDER

Please be aware that when you hire an unlicensed/uninsured person to do work at your home, you accept the liability.



**FISH
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Anyone Needing to borrow equipment or who needs a ride to an appointment Contact FISH at 239-997-3474.

NAME TAGS

Any resident wishing to purchase a "Name Tag" may do so on Tuesday mornings at coffee, before the start of announcements, or call Wendy @ 309-264-9147.

A name tag with magnet backing is \$8.00, cash only.

Tags are normally available for pickup the following week.

Tower - Advertising

Publisher: Island Visitor Publishing

To advertise in print, contact: Brion Palmer at 941-312-0665 or email us at BrionPalmer@yahoo.com

Contributing writers are acknowledged with bylines accompanying their submissions. Attribution for photos are not included unless supplied. We sincerely thank everyone for their contributions. Your articles help showcase the strong and diverse community that makes up Del Tura.

The Tower is published monthly from October through May. Summer issues are condensed: June/July and August/September. All ads are subject to the approval of the publisher. It is the responsibility of the party placing any ad for publication in *The Tower* to meet all applicable legal requirements in connection with the ad such as compliance with town, county and state codes in first obtaining an occupational license for business, permitted home occupation, or residential rental property.

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DEL TURA WRITER'S WORKSHOP

By Nancy Davy

Our venture into 2024 is proving to be enjoyable so far, and we're looking forward to meeting Monday, March 11 and Monday, March 25, at 4 pm in the Royal Palm Room. If you'd like to join us as a new member, please text (607-769-5766) OR email me to let me know you are interested. My email address is ndavy01@gmail.

com. You'll need to provide me with your name, your email address, and your cell phone number. Our last challenge was personification, which brings an inanimate subject we are observing to life. This time, we're taking that to another level, by showing your reaction to your observations.

Example:
Old Barn

By Nancy Davy (from my book *Dreaming in Color*)

The barn stands, tall and imposing against the naked fields. It feigns indifference.

Faded whitewash struggles to cling to its exterior. The door gapes open, great mouth undefended against the onslaught of bitter icy wind. Snow swirls and eddies, settling upon the dirty floor, broken planks, and rusted cans full of rusted nails. Odd bits of lumber, sorted by size, are stacked against the back wall. A couple vintage license plates, enamel old and cracked. Flower pots, tipped over, spew their dirt upon each other, and the gardening tools lie tumbled in a heap. A soft pair of gardening gloves, carefully hung on a hook, wait for their next summons. But the hands will come no more. A crack of sunlight through broken windowpane falls on shattered glass and dusty boxes and seems to be absorbed there, not radiating far enough to penetrate the dark and musty corners. A silence so profound that you can almost reach and touch it. The smell of dust and driveway dirt. A can of gasoline. Rafters, dry and brittle, are spattered by the swallows that frequent them to roost. Abandonment in wooden form, this structure stands, a shelter now to barn cats, darting transients that seek its darker depths.

Forgotten but forgiving, in a pose of patient waiting, the tired beams support each other bravely. As the wind howls through the rafters, an ache forms in my heart. It is the chilling sound of loneliness.

My Father's Garden by Mary DeJoseph

Look...there's the path right through the homemade garden gate. He's latched to the post with his wire hand. He stands there guarding my father's garden. He gladly swings open as you enter heaven. Welcoming you is a hand-laid stone path. Can you picture this scene? There are happy herbs lining up on both sides waving to you as you pass.

Fancy parsley, delicate oregano, swaying dill and, of course, basil, the leader of the pack.

You pass by a roly-poly fifty-gallon barrel who proudly collects the water off the slanted garage roof. Nothing is wasted. Everything has a purpose.

Stop there. You stare because this amazing garden is hiding behind the two-car garage. Your gaze sweeps across at the garden's amazing design. To the right, attached to the back of the garage is the fragile homemade greenhouse. Discarded windows and abandoned glass panes hinged to open up to a rich bed of compost collected over the winter. Baby plants, my father's children, are peeking out through their cribs made from cardboard egg cartons. These budding seeds were planted one by one, tended to one by one, and transplanted so gently. Our greenhouse incubator served as a surrogate mom to feed and promote her young seedlings.

Next to the greenhouse was a homemade arbor where Italian wine grapes bloomed in the fall. Their tentacles wrapped their arms around the wooden posts twisted and jumbled together. Dad never did make wine because my sister and I would sneak back there and pop those purple grapes into our mouths for a sweet treat. Dad would just smile and shake his head, never a cross word, only a gentle expression that warmed our hearts.

Continued on page 24



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Starlight Ballroom, 7:00 PM

Ticket Sales
 HOA Members \$22 Tuesday March 5th @ 7:30 AM
 Non-HOA Members \$24 ... March 12th & 19th @ 8:00 AM

Box Office in Clubhouse Lobby
 Thursday, March 7th, 14th, 21st 6:00 – 7:00 PM

HOA Sponsored – No Refunds
 For more information call Lynn Brenfleck 603-738-1001

Del Tura Presents ...



A NIGHT OF COMEDY

GARY DELENA

Saturday, April 20, 2024
Starlight Ballroom, 7:00 PM

Ticket Sales
 HOA Members \$20 Tuesday April 2nd @ 7:30 AM
 Non-HOA Members \$22 ... April 9th & 16th @ 8:00 AM

Box Office in Clubhouse Lobby
 Thursday, April 4th, 11th, 18th 6:00 – 7:00 PM


HOA Sponsored – No Refunds
 For more information call Lynn Brenfleck 603-738-1001

DEL TURA CERT *By Lisa Bellanca*

Can you believe that it is already March! As we approach the start of hurricane season, the CERT team is starting to plan for a seminar on being prepared for the upcoming season. We will be passing on important information as we get closer to June. Tornadoes and extreme weather are also addressed by CERT.

We are currently fundraising. Amongst other items, we are saving up for a portable trailer to store the items we use for emergencies. The profits from the HOA Spaghetti Dinner on March 20th are being donated to CERT, so we would appreciate your attendance. In addition, CERT is organizing a Golf Outing on March 30th. All of the profits from this fundraiser will be used for supplies and equipment to be used within the community.

After these events, we will be concentrating on our task at hand, preparing and training for the services CERT provides to the community in case of emergencies.



SAVE THE DATE



GOLF TOURNAMENT

CERT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

MARCH 30 | 6 MAN HIT & SIT
 SATURDAY 2024 | DEL TURA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

REGISTRATION 7:30AM
 SHOTGUN START 8AM
 LUNCH TO FOLLOW

MEMBER	NON_MEMBER
\$45	\$65

Bertie Duggo (617) 974-8502
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March 30th - 6 person Hit & Sit Donor Contribution

We are looking for our Community Residents' support. By supporting us with being a Hole Sponsor, a raffle basket or even a gift certificate or care that can be raffled off.

Please use the for below and return it to:
 Chris Bunker, Tournament Donation Coordinator @
 1066 La Paloma Blvd. no later than March 11, 2024.

DONOR CONTRIBUTION FORM
 DEL TURA CERT GOLF TOURNAMENT
 SATURDAY MARCH 30TH, 2024

Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Hole Sponsor \$35.00
 Gift Certificate / Card
 Raffle Item

Description of Donation: _____

Estimated Value of Donation: \$ _____ (tax deductible)

Make checks payable to: Del Tura HOA
 (in memo please put CERT)



18 HOLE WOMEN'S GOLF

By Tammi Carleton

Well, this is just my second article for the Women's 18 Hole Golf League and it looks like we have a little bit of catching up to do, in sharing good news and congratulations for past tournaments! First off, congratulations go out to the first place winners of the "2023 President's Cup":

- Bobbie Asper - Flight A
- Cherie Maxwell - Flight B
- Denise Rose - Flight C
- Joanne Liberles - Flight D

Next, congratulations are extended to the winners of the "2023 Club Championship":

- Jeannine Fitzgerald - Club Champion
- Flight A: 1st Place - Bobbie Asper; 2nd Place - Paula Lafreniere; 3rd Place - Debbie Overholser
- Flight B: 1st Place - Jean Reimer; 2nd Place - Mary Ciezadlo; 3rd Place - Cindy Baron
- Flight C: 1st Place - Wilma Antaya; 2nd Place - Sandy Vassallo; 3rd Place - Joanne Liberles & Julia McDonald (tied)
- Flight D: 1st Place - Darlene King; 2nd Place - Pat Bedard; 3rd Place - Pricilla Canney

Next, we have Maria Soper and Jane Glancy who celebrated being the winners of the "2023 Member/Member Tournament." Well done ladies!

Finally, this brings us up to date in congratulating the winners of this year's "2024 President's Cup":

- Sue Passineau - Flight A
- Connie Racine - Flight B
- Sandy Vassallo - Flight C
- Jean Wiley - Flight D

As you can see, our community has a lot of talented ladies who deserve accolades for their achievements over the past year! Don't forget, the "2024 Club Championship" is a three day event that takes place on March 21st, 27th and 28th. Be sure to sign up for this one and maybe it will be YOU who we will be acknowledging in our next articles!



Save. This. Date.

April 6, 2024

**Jimmy Wilson Memorial
Golf Tournament**

*Benefiting
St. Jude's Research Foundation*
HOA SPONSORED

6 Players/Team and 24 Teams

Sign up sheets go up in Dungeon on March 6, 2024

Golf, Music, Lunch and more!

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Four Hole-In-One Prizes

\$\$\$10,000 Dollars\$\$\$

Patio set with Fire Pit

Scotty Cameron Putter with 2 Titleist Vokey Wedges

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Golf Course Members - \$45.00

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or Darla Greer @ 239-470-0851

DEL TURA COMMUNITY



A great way to clean out your house and meet your neighbors!

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2024

8AM - 1PM

Register now to participate as a seller and get free **Red Balloons** for your yard

Sign up sheet will be available at every Tuesday Coffee Hour from Feb 6th to March 5th. Registration can also be made by calling Kathy Williamson at 239-825-5708 or email: toocheep2call@aol.com

Community garage sale is closed to the public

Guard house must be notified of any invited family or guest

A list of addresses and a community map will be available March 15th on the HOA website at www.deltura-hoa.com HOA Approved



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North Ft Myers, FL 33903
email: acustomcarts@yahoo.com



Del Tura Garden Club's
PLANT SALE

Saturday
MARCH 2
9AM - 1 PM

Located at the **Demonstration Garden** the **Plant Sale** offers a variety of plants, grown and/or donated by members - Hoya Vines and Herbs, to Coneflower and tomato plants, *and so much more!* Perhaps something new for your garden?

Funds raised from this event help support the gardens planted and maintained by Garden Club, Gardening Programs, Demonstrations and Special events.

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DAILY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

The Daily Activity Schedule is updated on a monthly basis. Contact Dennis Cottini, dcottini@comcast.net, or Leigh Anne Lawson, dttoweredit@gmail.com with any changes prior to the 10th of each month.

Activity	Location	Contact	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Exercise									
Lap Swimmers	Main Pool	Floyd Kruschke, 716-713-7887	8:00-11:00	8:00-10:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-10:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-10:00	8:00-11:00
Tai Chi		Bonnie Carrol 309-454-4329	8:00-9:00		8:00-9:00		8:00-9:00		
Tap Dancing	Starlight Ballroom	Deb Cali 239-567-2925				11:45-12:45			
Tura Zumba / Dance Fitness	Starlight Ballroom	Adele Guthreau 973-865-8336	9:00-10:00		9:00-10:00		9:00-10:00		
Water Arthritis (Nov-Apr)	Main Pool	Laura Strickland, Certified Water Arthritis Instructor, 614-805-2173		10:00-11:00		10:00-11:00		10:00-11:00	
Water Aerobics	North Pool	Betty Scheetz 609-477-9147	11:00-12:00		11:00-12:00		11:00-12:00		
Water Noodle Aerobics	North Pool	Marylou Buss 612-718-7878		11:00-12:00		11:00-12:00			7:00 PM
Water Walking	North Pool	Marylou Buss; 617-718-7878	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00	8:00-11:00
Yoga Relaxation	Starlight Ballroom	Dea Wells 283-5603			10:30 - 11:30		10:30 - 11:30		
Sports									
Billiards, Men's	Billiards Room	Ernie Page 239-599-4272	1:00-3:00						
Bocce (Nov-April)	Bocce Ball Court	Peggy Terrasi 603-236-2209 peggyterrasi@gmail.com	4:00 PM						
Bocce and Burgers (All Year)	Bocce Ball Court	Janet DeCosmo 239-776-9161							4:00
Bowling Mixed League (Nov-Mar)	Bowlero Coral on Santa Barbara	Denise Rose 815-222-6466		1:20					
Bowling For Fun	Bowlero Coral on Santa Barbara	Barb Green 302-463-7577						2:00	
Golf, Men's 18 Hole League		Bill Gronck 810-990-5878			8:00				
Golf, Men's 9 Hole League		Bart De Graaf 239-599-4404			8:00				
Golf, Women's 18 Hole League		Margie Blackwell 239-789-8060				8:30			
Golf, Women's 9 Hole League		Kathy Klein 715-927-1163				8:30			
Horseshoes	Horseshoe Court	Del Tura is in search of a Horseshoe Activity Contact. Playing time is TBD. Please contact Dennis Cottini							
Pickleball	Pickleball Court	Janice Dodge 608-225-5227	open play	open play	open play	open play	open play	open play	open play
Pickleball Practice	Pickleball Court			5:00		5:00			5:00
Ping Pong	Jacaranda Room	Joe Rivera 631-786-6430				2:00 - 4:00			
Shuffleboard, Fun Couples	Shuffleboard Court	Darlene Brinker 586-431-0022	7:00 PM						
Shuffleboard, Traveling Team (Dec-Mar)		Glenn Tointon 920-309-1294			12:30				
Shuffleboard Open (Oct-Mar)	Shuffleboard Court	Judy Lessard 239-217-0924		2:30					
Shuffleboard Open (Apr-Sept)	Shuffleboard Court	Judy Lessard 239-217-0924		10:00 AM			10:00 AM		
Softball	Punta Gorda	Jim Hamilton 208-313-1321	5:30		5:30				
Tennis, Mixed, Open		Alice Harmon 954 478 4033 allieoop33@gmail.com	8:00-10:00		8:00-10:00		8:00-10:00	8:00-10:00	
Games									
Bingo, doors open at 6:00pm, sales end at 6:45pm (Oct-Mar) (HOA Sponsored)	Starlight Ballroom	Jack & Janet Blevons 731-0892				7:00-9:30			
Bingo (all year)	Starlight Ballroom	Liz Poniatowski 800-2935	11:00-12:00						
Bridge, Duplicate	Jacaranda Room	TBD							
Bunco, (*All year, 1st & 3rd Wed of each month)	Poinciana Ballroom	Patty Large 559-285-2389			6:00-8:30				
Canasta	Jacaranda Room	Jean Cornwell 239-731-1580		1:00-4:00					
Dominoes	Royal Palm Room	Ruth Anten 997-9779			5:30-9:30				
Euchre	Poinciana Room	Marcella Carothers 239-233-6153		7:00-9:00					
Farkle	Poinciana Ballroom	Ruth Anten 997-9779	6:00-9:00						
Hand, Knee & Foot Card Game	Poinciana Room	Claire McNair 508-344-9920	12:45-4:00			12:45-4:00	12:45-4:00		
Left Center Right	Poinciana Room	Donna Henriques 239-540-1204			2nd & 4th Wed from 6:00 - 8:00 pm				
Mahjong	Jacaranda Room	Jean Cornwell 239-731-1580	1:00-4:00						
Mahjong	Card Room II	Pat Steele 863-446-2685				6:00			
Mahjong	Poinciana Room	Jean Sheaffer 330-201-6128		1:00-4:00					
Mahjong	Jacaranda Room	Ruth Anten 997-9779		6:00					
May I Card Game	Royal Palm Room	Jane Sheaffer 330-201-6128			1:00-4:00				
Mexican Train	Jacaranda Room	Barbara Turner 301-367-0917					1:00-4:00		
Pinochle	Jacaranda Room	Marcella Carothers 239-233-6153			6:45-10:00				
Rummi-kub	Jacaranda Room	Jean Cornwell 239-731-1580			1:00 - 4:00				
Samba	Royal Palm Room	Sandy Vassallo 248-755-1176 OR Debbie Welty 239-229-3928			1:00 - 4:00		12:45-4:00	Friday w/Claire McNair 508-344-9920	
Texas Hold 'Em	Card room 1	Mark Clover 239-980-3964	3:00		3:00		3:00		
Other Activities and Clubs									
Blood Pressure Readings (before coffee)	Starlight Ballroom	Marcella Carothers 239-233-6153		8:00-9:00					
Card Making (Oct-April)	Royal Palm Room	Mary Kay Tointon 920-309-2121 Gay Dye 614-519-8045			9:00-12:00				
Ceramics	Across from bocce court	Ruth Ann Blevins 239-220-9381	9:00-12:00		9:00-12:00		9:00-12:00		
Choralaires, (Sep-Mar)	Starlight Ballroom	Janelle Shallenberger, 765-437-2130		6:30					
Coffee & Social Hour	Starlight Ballroom	Kathy Williamson 239-825-5708		8:00					
Creative Writers Group	Royal Palm Room	Nancy Davy 239-599-4631	4:00 PM						
Garden Club, (*1st Friday of month)	Jacaranda Room	Rosemary Eiden 813-220-9269					10:00-11:00		
Good Timers, (*1st Tuesday of month)	Starlight Ballroom	Sandra Boykin 410-491-8824		4:00*					
Library, open every day	Clubhouse, Lower Level	Barb Jones 239-543-6922 Kathleen Quigley 239-543-1067							
Quilting/Sewing Club	Starlight Ballroom	Wendy Wells 309-264-9147		After Coffee until 3:00					
Wood Carving (Nov-May)	Ceramic Room	Bernie Forsey 239-217-6024	9:00-12:00						



DEL TURA HEALTH FAIR By Linda Shell

Del Tura Health Fair 2024 was a Huge Success!

The Del Tura Health Fair was held on Wednesday, January 24th with over 250 attendees. The Health Fair featured roughly 40 vendors representing a variety of health topics such as hearing loss, fall prevention, memory loss, dementia care, community and personal safety, massage, chronic disease, pain management, stroke prevention, addiction services and skin care.

Most attendees rated the event as excellent or good. Many comments were received regarding the variety of knowledgeable vendors. One attendee commented on their delight in having the hearing vendor connect their hearing aid to their cell phone for increased hearing. Attendees also benefited from being able to have their blood pressure assessed by a nurse with feedback on possible risks.

It would not go without saying that much of the success of the Health Fair is attributed to the fantastic group of volunteers that work behind the scenes each year to plan, organize and implement all the various elements of the Health Fair. It demands a lot of time and effort to put together such an accomplishment.

Much of that success is attributed to the leadership of Bertie Dugo, the outgoing chair of the Health Fair Committee. She has served tirelessly and successfully over the past five years. She leaves big shoes for me to fill as the new chair of the Health Fair Committee.

The 2025 Health Fair is already being planned and the committee is looking to add it up even more with mini workshops and other surprises so be sure to watch for more information coming this fall. If you have interest in volunteering to help with next year's event, please text or call Linda at 651.503.8885 or email linda@lindashell.com.

In the meantime, cheers to good health in 2024!

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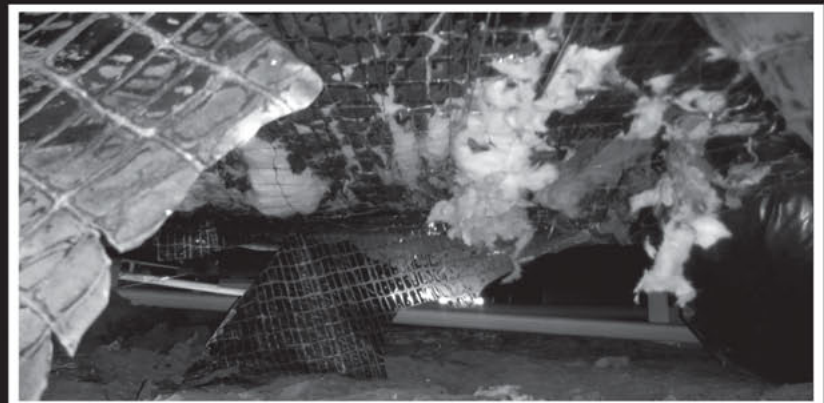
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TENNIS AT DEL TURA

By Mike Raymer/Nancy Joseph, DTTA President & Vice-President

Love, Love is how we start every match. So, for this month's article we want to send out some LOVE. Special thanks to all who have ever served on some level on the Tennis Committee/Board here in Del Tura. Thank-you, Thank-you.

We want to acknowledge some special people in our tennis community who have led various activities here. Jacqueline St Jean who has put together our Up & Down December tournaments for the last 6 years, plus taught beginner lessons held weekly during season, will be moving away and will be greatly missed. All the best Jacqueline on your new adventure!

Denny Erickson has done our Friendship tournaments in January and March for 20 plus years and continues to do them. Thank-you and Great Job! Rob and Anne Stephens are 2 of the finest members we have in our tennis community and sadly for us,

and gladly for them, they are moving on to the next chapter of their lives with family. We wish them all the best and will miss you both. Rob was a wonderful past President of this tennis community and Anne has volunteered in many aspects along with Rob. They were one of the first people to welcome Nancy and I to Del Tura when we moved here. Blessings.

We will be looking to add some fun events to our March calendar. We have a March Friendship Tournament coming up on March 9th and 10th and an AGM meeting for all members on March 3rd. So please watch for the posting in our screen room for sign-ups for these events and your emails.

Remember, if you have never joined us for tennis, please come out to our 7 day a week "open tennis" from 8:00am to 10:00 am. It's a lot of fun! There are levels for everyone. Contact myself at 416-557-0494 or any board member if you have more questions.

Pictures of January Friendship Tournament



SOFTBALL AT DEL TURA

By Don VanderVeen

DEL TUROS SOFTBALL TEAM EARNS TOP DIVISION BERTH WITH AMIGOS

Softball season is in full swing in Southwest Florida and Del Tura is making things twice as nice in one particular league. For the first time ever, Del Tura's two softball teams are competing against each other in the highest division of the Mark and Mary Ford Community League in Punta Gorda. Both the Amigos and Del Tueros were knocking the ball all over Punta Gorda's Carmalita Fields during the first half of the season in January and February. Games are played on Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The Amigos, who have won two of the past three overall championships, went 7-0 during round-robin play, including two walk-off victories in their last at bat. The Del Tueros punched their ticket into the upper division by going 5-2 in round-robin league play. The rivalry between the two teams took center stage on Feb. 7 with first place in the upper division on the line. The Amigos entered the game at 6-0 and the Del Tueros were 5-1 in the league standings. The game was originally scheduled two days earlier to kick off Super Bowl Week, but was postponed due to rain. Fans were forced to delay their trips to Las Vegas for the Super Bowl festivities in order to stay and watch the two Del Tura teams square off in what some considered the most important game of the week. Those who stayed and cheered on their favorite Del Tura team were not disappointed. The game was tied 3-3 after two innings before the Amigos erupted for two five-run frames to put the game away with a 16-5 victory. The Amigos entered the second phase of the season undefeated as the No. 1 seed as they attempt to win their third title in three years.

The Del Tueros are the No. 3 seed in the four-team upper division.

The Del Tura teams are scheduled to play each other two times in March with 5:30 p.m. games on March 6 and March 13. In case of weather postponements, the makeup games are played at 5:30 p.m. on Fridays of the same week.



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NINE HOLE WOMEN'S GOLF

By Nancy Ashe

As we approached the tee box on a sunny but wet day, we teed off and heard the words roll roll roll. Due to moisture from the cool night air the balls landed and remained stationary in the wet grass. No extra help in extending our drives!! Our 9 Hole League was just beginning our Club Champion round on West and hoping to get a few feet advantage on the course. Our two day event ended on the South course as we cheered our members at the finish line.

We had winners from all flights. It was a successful event ending with our general meeting and lunch in the Starlight Ballroom.

We had our Valentine's Couple Challenge on February 8th and the weather felt more like Florida then what we all have lived with in the past month. Great day with many players.

After our game we gathered in the Starlight ballroom for dinner and awards. Thank you to the social committee for a great presentation, Nick and Jay for a great dinner and Diane Skinner and her gang for making Decorated cookies and cupcakes.

It was a great time. Thank you to all.



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- **Developing a personal financial strategy** – Many factors go into creating a long-term financial strategy. What is your risk tolerance? When would you like to retire? What sort of retirement lifestyle have you envisioned? What are your other important goals? A financial advisor will ask these and other questions in getting to know you, your family situation and your hopes for the future. By taking this type of holistic approach, a financial advisor can help you create financial and investment strategies appropriate for your needs.
- **Avoiding mistakes** – A financial advisor can help you avoid costly investment mistakes. One such mistake is attempting to “time” the market. Investors pursue market timing when they try to “buy low” and “sell high.” In theory, of course, this is a great idea — if you could consistently buy investments — stocks, in particular — when their price is down and then sell them when the price has risen significantly, you'd always make some tidy profits. The main drawback to this technique, though, is that it's virtually impossible to follow, especially for individual investors. Nobody, not even professional money managers, can really predict with any accuracy when stock prices have reached high or low points. Consequently, those who try to make these guesses could miss out on opportunities. For example, investors who are determined to buy low might not want to purchase investments when the market is up — but this practice could lead to taking a “time out” from investing just when the market is in the midst of a rally. But a financial advisor can steer clients toward a more disciplined approach, such as buying quality investments and holding them for the long term, regardless of the ups and downs of the market.
- **Checking progress toward your goals** – If you were to invest without any guidance, you might not be looking at your investments' performance with the proper perspective. For example, some investors simply compare their portfolio returns against a widely used market index, such as the S&P 500. But this comparison may not be that useful. The S&P 500 only measures the stock prices of the leading publicly traded U.S. companies by market capitalization — but your investment portfolio, if properly diversified, will include investments other than U.S. stocks, such as bonds, government securities, international stocks and more. Consequently, the performance of your portfolio won't track that of the S&P 500 or any other single index, either. Your financial advisor can help you employ more meaningful benchmarks, such as whether your portfolio's progress is on track toward helping you meet your financial goals. Also, a financial advisor will review your portfolio and investment strategy regularly to determine what changes, if any, need to be made, either in response to the markets or to events in your life.

Investing for your future can be exciting and rewarding — and you can feel more confident in your decisions when you have someone helping you along the way.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Advisor. Edward Jones, member SIPC



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SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE By Glenn Tointon

LEE COUNTY SHUFFLEBOARD RESULTS
Several members of Del Tura's shuffleboard players also play in tournaments at Lee County courts representing the Southern District of Florida. Professional shufflers representing us are Bill Hamilton and Deb and Jack Norton. Amateur players are Judy Lessard, Martha Annessansley, Deb Mormon, Ron Abascal, Mariannella Meehan, and Glenn Tointon.

Here are the individual results:

Bill Hamilton: January, 3rd in consolation, 3rd in consolation, February, 4th in main.

Jack Norton: January, 4th in main, 2nd in consolation.

Deb Norton: January, 3rd consolation, 2nd consolation, February: 3rd in main.

Glenn Tointon: January, 4th in main, 4th in consolation.

THE TOP IS BUNCHING UP

Our Friday shuffleboard league is getting very crowded toward the top with just a few weeks left. Cyndi and Bernie Grilli, who have been on top since day one, have fallen one game behind Craig Evans and Deb Mormon. In third are Judy Lessard and Bruce Mars three games back at 20-10. There is a three way tie for fourth between Glenn and MaryKay Tointon, Ken Trombly and Darlene Wedyke, and Bruce Blackmore and Lynn Brenfleck at 19-11.

Our season will end on March 22 with an eight team main tournament and an eight team consolation tournament, all just for bragging rights of course! Our banquet will be held March 27th where all players, spouses, and substitutes will celebrate a season filled with a chance to meet new friends and a time to have some fun too.

BOWLING By Cindy Baron

Week 11 of the Del Tura bowling league shows the Ball Busters consisting of Nancy Harris, Ace Kelly, Kevin Trombly and Tom Demshak in first place with 51 points. The second place team is Ball Blasters with Marianela Tamayo, Jane Larsh, Ken Baron and Pat Henry with 49 points. We play Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 and play through

March. This is a fun league with bowlers of all skill levels and is a great afternoon to spend with friends and enjoy the sport of bowling. If you would like to participate, subs are always needed. League officers are Denise Rose, Cindy Baron and Sue Brown. If you are interested in additional information, please contact Denise Rose at 816-222-6466.

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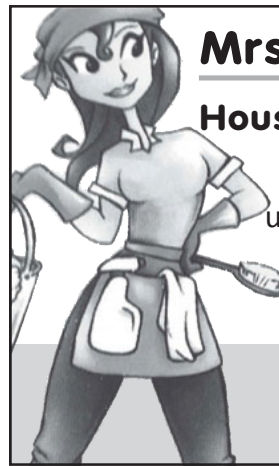
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2. Gail Tylec
3. Mike Nash
4. Wanda Perkins

- 01-30-24:**
1. Dave Ehrenman
2. Wanda Perkins (tie)
Tony Winn
3. Jean Wiley

- 02-06-24:**
1. Bill Shaver
2. Tony Winn (tie)
Geo Mick
3. John Thayer
4. Lisa Augustine

WEDNESDAY PINOCHLE *By Marcella Carothers*

- 01-10-24:**
1. Fran Rheinhardt
2. Chic Palmer
3. Marcella Carothers

- 01-24-24:**
1. Sonny Jelonek
2. Greg Roberts
3. Ken Nicholosi

- 01-31-24:** 1. Diane Nicolosi
2. Sonny Jelonek
3. Greg Roberts
4. Chic Palmer

- 02-07-24:**
1. Marcella Carothers
2. Jeff Czuhaj
3. Glenda Drew

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WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Continued from page 11

Turn around and face a wonderland of vegetables. Tomatoes were the main attraction.

Row after row of majestic plants clinging to helpful sticks which acted as their canes to support their massive size. Dad and I were always on the lookout for discarded abandoned broom sticks to give them a second life. These amazing plants were the babies planted in our kitchen in March.

Standing guard on both sides were Dad's pride and joy; his fruit trees: delicious apples, beautiful pears, and ruby-red cherries. Sometimes our bird friends would try to feast on their buds, but Dad devised a homemade distraction. He used a worn-out garden hose; poking more holes into it. He would turn on the water source gently, scaring the birds and watering the plants at the same time. I can see him standing there with a smirk on his face! But the birds got the last laugh. They returned at night and won the battle.

Romaine lettuce proudly grew along the back edge with garlic adding to the garden's wonderful smell. Stray forget-me-nots played tricks and grew wherever they were not planted, acting like disobedient children. They were thriving. They made a beautiful bouquet for Mom.

After dinner, Dad and I would sit under the arbor discussing our day, our problems, and the problems in the world! We watched over his growing garden. He watched his children growing tall and proud. We would talk to the strong ones and encourage the slower ones. Who would have thought that all that hard work would be remembered so vividly. I realize that he was nurturing me along with his garden. I was my father's garden!

Rose of Sharon by Charlotte Ping

I look out my kitchen window in early summer in Indiana. My Rose of Sharon bush is in full bloom. The name is so intriguing. It is mentioned in the Hebrew bible in the song of Solomon. What a beautiful name for the simple, hardy hibiscus plant.

My bush is very tall, almost twelve feet, and reaches above my two skylights. It is more like a tree than a bush. It has five paper-like petaled flowers; white with pink edges. There are two layers of petals; some varieties only have one. They attract bees and hummingbirds because of their nectar, the shape of the flower and the coloring. They have little odor. It is a hardy plant requiring very little maintenance. It likes to be in the sun, doesn't require much water and is able to survive in 20 below weather (in northern Indiana it often gets that cold in the winter).

I watch as it grows from fat green buds to full blooming white and pink flowers. It bursts into color in the summer, covering the entire bush. What a beautiful sight! This transformation is a slow process, and I've learned to be patient waiting for it to bloom.

I'm fully rewarded when I see a large group of hummingbirds eagerly drinking the sweet nectar it produces. The long cone shape of the flowers is ideal for the birds with their long slender beaks. But don't get fooled by their petite size. So docile and gentle in appearance, they are very territorial and will often chase any intruders trying to get to their food. They will even fight with other birds to keep control of the nectar.

Fifteen types of these birds live in North America. They can be green, brown, rusty orange or even blue in color. Some are red-throated and one variety has a black chin.

Observing them feeding is entertaining and more interesting than watching TV; plus there are no commercials!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/01 Hilton, Bob	3/10 Liedel, Jeanne	3/20 Dupell, Linda
3/01 Jerome, Barbara	3/11 Hughes, Randy	3/21 Fent, Tim
3/01 Miller, Bill	3/11 Pixley, Charles	3/21 McCray, Ellis
3/01 Rosamilia, Peg	3/12 Moehrle, Bill	3/21 Newman, Mike
3/01 Tiziano, Pavan	3/12 Thomas, Anne	3/21 Stockinger, Gregory
3/02 Brown, Donna	3/13 Cruz, Mickey	3/22 Glenn, Patt
3/02 Clayton, Jim	3/13 Lazarczyk, Stan	3/22 Lussi, Bob
3/02 Curtis, Norma	3/14 Bennett, Andrea	3/22 Talbot, Margaret
3/02 Smith, Terry	3/14 Coffey, Susan	3/23 Daniels, Sharon
3/03 Dorsey, Neil	3/14 Giannantonio, Tony	3/23 Harris, William
3/03 Drew, Jacquelyn	3/15 Antaya, Rick	3/23 Lewandoski, Donna
3/03 Fiedeke, Cindy	3/15 Beggs, James	3/23 Scialabba, Diane
3/03 Siriano, Jodee	3/15 Henches-Moore, Christine	3/24 Brown, Judy
3/03 Storminger, Patricia	3/15 Maaske, Mark	3/24 Hahn, Debbie
3/03 Tetreault, Christine	3/15 Mannion, Patti	3/24 Murray, Deborah
3/03 Trott, Lexie	3/15 Whalin, Gwindlin	3/24 Pizzuto, Maria
3/04 Baron, Cynthia	3/16 Ashe, James	3/25 Arnold, Sharon
3/04 Dowaschinski, Rita	3/16 Cusack, Jennifer	3/25 Brodsky, Rudolph
3/04 McFerrin, Bill	3/16 Durand, Tony	3/25 Gough, Michael
3/04 Mineo, Anthony	3/16 Fluery, Robert	3/25 Trott, Doug
3/04 Page, Ernie	3/16 Van Fleet, Pat	3/26 Zimmerman, Kevin
3/04 Parrick, David	3/17 Davy, Nancy	3/27 Arth, Roselee
3/04 Reimer, Dick	3/17 Schroll, Donna	3/27 Boucher, Stephen
3/05 Higgins, Maureen	3/17 Walsh, Margaret	3/27 Lawson, Leigh Anne
3/05 Kenney, Judy	3/18 Bagshaw, Jim	3/28 Brown, Susan
3/05 Seales, Tom	3/18 Hooper, Jim	3/28 Frase, Joyce
3/07 Bisignano, Bonnie	3/18 Lanore, Susan	3/28 Kidwell, Rita
3/07 Fiedeke, Steve	3/18 Palazzo, Denise	3/28 Lippard, Roseann
3/07 Miller, Kathy	3/18 Soper, Don	3/28 Wagner, Melissa
3/08 Quinn, Peggy	3/18 Walp, Catherine	3/29 Dubrosky, Michael
3/08 Smith, Edward	3/19 Apshaga, Judith	3/29 Hansen, Guy
3/09 Cahill, Bill	3/19 Brady, Pam	3/30 Immoor, Rita
3/09 Regalbuto, Laura	3/19 Mangeney, Betty	3/30 Jacobs, Michael
3/09 Turner, Barbara	3/19 Neeb, Jan	3/30 Pizzuto, Russell
3/10 Dix, Debby	3/19 Ritrovato, Jacqueline	3/30 Slack, Sue Ellen
3/10 Doll, Linda	3/19 Schuetz, Linda	3/31 Newman, Christopher
3/10 Gardner, Christa	3/19 Tointon, Glenn	
3/10 Hirschlein, Bruce	3/20 Alperin-Rosen, Allyson	
3/10 Keller, Janet	3/20 Archer, Michelle	

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3/11/95 Frank & Laura Regalbuto, 29 years	3/23/19 Jon & Carol Pollard, 5 years
3/16/90 Al & DJ Lorentz, 34 years	3/23/62 David & Ruth Ann Lugten, 62 years
3/17/87 John & Donna Brown, 37 years	3/24/04 David & Joyce Lewis, 20 years
3/17/99 Jim & Victoria Divis, 25 years	3/25/01 Mark & Mary Sandberg, 23 years
3/19/20 Vern & Bev Swisher, 4 years	3/26/77 Mark & Helen Clover, 47 years
3/20/50 Allen & Jean Bruck, 74 years	3/26/78 Mark & Margie Blackwell, 46 years
3/20/76 Mark & Charlene Maaske, 48 years	3/29/12 Daniel & Mickey Cruz, 12 years
3/20/99 Bill Pond & Joyce Horne, 25 years	3/30/00 Scott & Kathy Larson, 24 years
3/21/87 Michael "Pat" & Joyce Henry, 37 yrs	3/30/85 Eric & Margaret Ellmann, 39 years
3/23/13 Rick & Kim Manuel, 11 years	



MOWING SCHEDULE

March - 2 Mows,
April - 3 Mows, May - 3 Mows



MARCH 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM	27 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM	28 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM	29 Household Trash Pickup 6AM	1	2 PLANT SALE 9 AM
31	3 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM	4	5	6 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM	7 Household Trash Pickup 6AM	8
10 CANADA DAY	11 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM	12 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM	13 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM	14 Household Trash Pickup 6AM	15	16 GARAGE SALE 8 AM
17	18 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM	19	20 Spaghetti Dinner 5 PM Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM	21 Household Trash Pickup 6AM	22	23 Alter Eagles 7 PM
24	25 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM	26 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM	27 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM	28 Household Trash Pickup 6AM	29	30 CERT GOLF TOURNAMENT 7:30 AM