



THE TOWER

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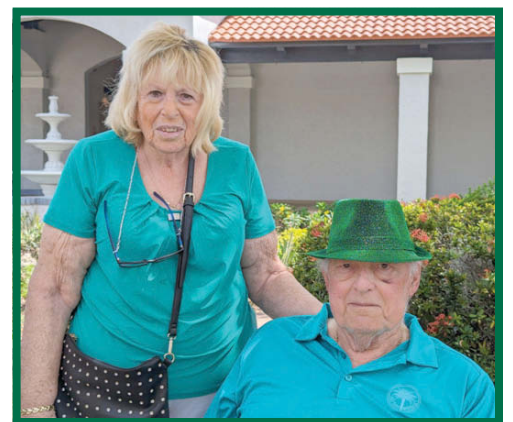
For more information on these HOA Sponsored Events see center section

- ▶ A Night of Comedy
- ▶ Spring Dance - The Magic Moment
- ▶ Jimmy Wilson Memorial Golf Tournament



DEL TURA'S ST. PAT'S DAY CELEBRATION

Thanks to Nick, pub owner! Thanks, Nick! Great job!



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



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: dttoweredit@gmail.com or drop them at the office. Thank You





VETERAN'S CORNER

By Steve Banko

In 1982, I was at the dedication of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington DC. I found the name of the hero who saved my life on December 3, 1968 at the cost of his own life. While I could never forget John Holcomb or his sacrifice on that terrible day, my rifle company sustained more than a hundred casualties during a five-hour battle. On the memorial, the killed are listed chronologically so that those who died together are remembered together. When I found John's name, I was ambushed by the shame of having forgotten so many of the names of the other comrades who perished that day. Scores of names, representing the lost futures and the unfulfilled dreams of nearly 60,000 men and women who died in Southeast Asia. I was both ashamed that I had forgotten many of those with whom I shared so much and grateful that the cold, granite panels of the memorial could remind me of those to whom I owed so much.

Therein lies the true purpose of such memorials - remembrance, appreciation, and thanks to those who sacrificed tomorrows for our collective todays. The Vietnam Memorial is somewhat unique in that the crux of it is the names. There is no heroic replication of soldiers. The focus of visitors to the memorial is centered on the personal sacrifice and the collective cost of the blood tax a few have paid for the many. Since our founding, more than 1,200,000 servicemen and women have given the last full measure of devotion in the protection and defense of our nation.

If you haven't been among the many millions more who have worn the uniform, it might be easy to forget what our memorials mean. If you have, it would be impossible. I've been privileged to speak at many memorial dedications in big cities and small towns. Each occasion has felt almost religious for me. Some of those memorials include the names of friends while others honor strangers. But at all of them, I could feel the presence of the fallen. I could imagine them looking down on our ceremony and elbowing each other, saying "I told you they wouldn't forget." That's our mission as Americans, veteran or not.

I pass the Del Tura memorial almost every day and when I do, I say a brief prayer that our just and gentle God will not just embrace those who have been sent before Him, but all those who have suffered the death of a loved one in war. I have often said that my hero is my wife Shirley who suffered my excesses for longer than she should have but

also saved me from drowning in those excesses. I know she's not unique in that mission of redemption. There are wives and girlfriends and moms and siblings who were the reinforcements we veterans needed when the shooting stopped but our misery continued. Why don't we all make it a practice to say a little prayer every time we approach our memorial? I know a lot of us need it and would appreciate it.

But my story, like my wife's heroism, is not unique. I know there are scores of veterans in our community whose story is waiting to be told. My hope in writing these essays each month is that it might stimulate others to share their stories. We aren't getting any younger and your stories need to be told and remembered. If you need a little assistance telling your story, you can get it here. Just ask. The stories can be funny. They can seem mundane to you, but they are of interest, I assure you, to the Del Tura community.



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!!!



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| SATURDAYS | SUNDAYS | MONDAYS | TUESDAYS | WEDNESDAYS | THURSDAYS | FRIDAYS |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 3/30 LIVE MUSIC 2-5PM | 3/31 EASTER SUNDAY CLOSED | 1 SMOKN BILL LIVE MUSIC 5-8PM | 2 KARAOKE PARTY 5-8PM | 3 LIVE MUSIC COLTON 5-8PM | 4 LIVE MUSIC BANDSTAND! 5-8PM | 5 LIVE MUSIC MIKE GLEAN! 5-8PM |
| 6 CHARLIE LIVE LIVE 2-5PM | 7 \$5 DRINK SPECIALS | 8 SMOKN BILL LIVE MUSIC 5-8PM | 9 KARAOKE PARTY 5-8PM | 10 LIVE MUSIC COLTON 5-8PM | 11 LIVE MUSIC BANDSTAND! 5-8PM | 12 LIVE MUSIC BOB G! 5-8PM |
| 13 KENNY G LIVE 2-5PM | 14 \$5 DRINK SPECIALS | 15 SMOKN BILL LIVE MUSIC 5-8PM | 16 KARAOKE PARTY 5-8PM | 17 LIVE MUSIC COLTON 5-8PM | 18 LIVE MUSIC CHARLIE! 5-8PM | 19 LIVE MUSIC MIKE GLEAN! 5-8PM |
| 20 CHARLIE LIVE LIVE 2-5PM | 21 \$5 DRINK SPECIALS | 22 SMOKN BILL LIVE MUSIC 5-8PM | 23 KARAOKE PARTY 5-8PM | 24 LIVE MUSIC COLTON 5-8PM | 25 LIVE MUSIC CHARLIE! 5-8PM | 26 LIVE MUSIC JAY/CHERYL 5-8PM |
| 27 KENNY G LIVE 2-5PM | 28 \$5 DRINK SPECIALS | 29 SMOKN BILL LIVE MUSIC 5-8PM | 30 KARAOKE PARTY 5-8PM | 5/1 LIVE MUSIC 5-8 | 5/2 JERRY'S BACK TRIVIA NIGHT? | 5/3 LIVE MUSIC MIKE GLEAN 5-8PM |

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 3-6PM



PRESIDENT'S CORNER By Cindy Baron

Hello to Del Tura. We have made it through another election period and it is my honor to introduce myself. My name is Cindy Baron and I am the new president of the HOA. Thank you to all who attended the annual meeting held on February 21st. My thanks to Daniel Cruz and his committee for another well run election and to the Statutory Committee for their work on behalf of the community. I congratulate the new board members, Darla Greer, Margie Hill, Bob Hilton and Bill Shell. Together with the other board members, I hope that we can have a cohesive group that will work together for the good of the community.

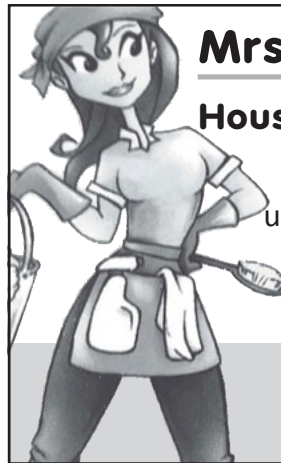
I look forward to working with all of the homeowners and HTA over the next year. Del Tura is a wonderful community mainly because of the people who live in it. It is my hope that we all work together along with HTA to make sure Del Tura remains the community we all love. Practice kindness and remember that we all have bad days. Think and act responsibly and please don't hesitate to contact me or any of your board members with questions or concerns. Our contact information is in this issue of the Tower. I wish you all a wonderful day and a Happy April.



BOWLING By Cindy Baron

Week 17 of the Del Tura bowling league shows the The Turkey Hunters, Steve Thibodeau, Chris Bunker, Danny McDonald and Sue Brown in first place with 75 points. The second place team is Ball Blasters with Marianela Tamayo, Jane Larsh, Ken Baron and Pat Henry with 71 points. High Game Scratch was Tom Larsh (239) and Sue Smith (195). Week High Series scratch was Pat Henry (605) and Cindy Baron (487). League play will end on March 26 with a fun tournament and banquet on April 2.

We will begin league play again in November on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 at Bolero Cape Coral. 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. 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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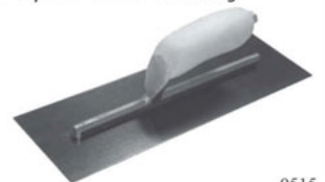


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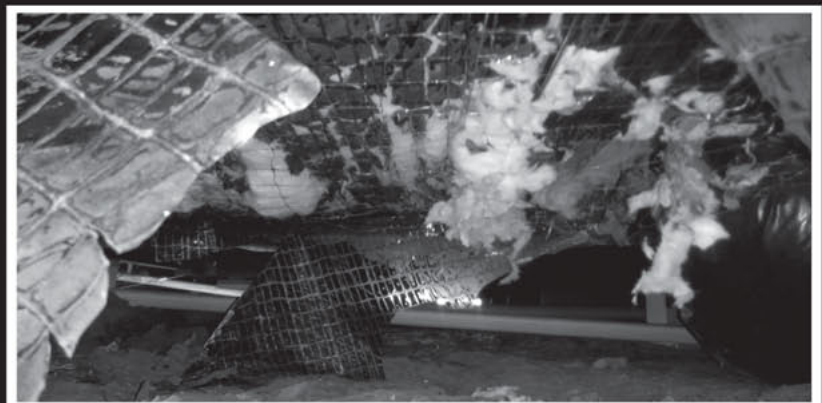
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AT-THE-HYDRANT *By Justine Fitzgibbons*

This month is a review of the rules and courtesy of the community.

- Not all dogs are dog park dogs, therefore, having their entertainment and walks in the community. ALL dogs should be registered with the office. Shots should be up to date and each dog should be licensed.
- Dogs should be on a leash at all times and under the owners control.

Long and retracting leeches can make it hard to keep the dog under control.

- All waste should be picked up and taken with you. Dog walking on the golf course is not allowed.
- Please be thoughtful of your neighbors so everyone can enjoy their pets.



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!



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 date: **April 14th.**

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REFLECTIONS

By Dianne J. Roderick

"Seasons of Change"

Here I am sitting, enjoying my second cup of tea, reflecting back on the seasons of my life here in Del Tura, and making comparisons with who I was twenty springs ago. I often think back on how the decision to retire here gave me new opportunities to grow over the years. Do you ever think about that? It seems that we all go through life each day sticking to the routine of our retirement lives. Some days we are busier than others, other days we are thankful for the peace and quiet of a non-scheduled day. Cherishing the mornings that we can just sleep in, or leisurely watch the morning news while sipping our second cup of coffee, or tea. I appreciate those days so much more now! Don't get me wrong, I still love my social life but twenty springs ago ... well you know how that was!

There were never enough hours of fun in the sun! Each day started out with some form of physical activity; an early morning walk, followed by a class of aerobics, or yoga. Afternoons and evenings were equally as busy... karaoke, dancing, bowling, golf, tennis, shuffleboard, etc. Our choice of activities may have been different, but we were determined to enjoy! Why not? We

worked hard and now it was our turn to frolic in the sun. So many fun things to do here in Paradise! I've just exhausted myself thinking about it.

Oh, just to have the energy to do the things that we did without having to think about scheduled time outs to re energize. Those time outs seem to come more frequently for me lately. Twenty minute power naps sound good, but some days they are just short of being enough. No, I'm fibbing! Truthfully, they are never enough...just another ten, please? Nowadays, my daily mantra is, "I give myself permission to rest."

Along with the physical rewards of the many activities here in Del Tura comes the benefit of lasting friendships, meeting new people and learning about their talents and the interesting places they have come from. Talented, gifted, supportive people who have shared many of their gifts with our community. I, for one, have grown from each of them in many ways. I am thankful for all the support from all of the special people, past and present, that I have met over these many seasons. You have given me the gift of confidence and beautiful friendship. Because of you I continue to write, found my voice as a chorus member, had the opportunity to tap dance in my retirement years and so much more.

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DEL TURA GARDEN CLUB *By Sandy Gove*

The Garden Club has enjoyed a busy but awesome season of fun activities! The recent Plant Sale boasted its greatest assortment of garden items yet, and shoppers clearly appreciated the variety as reflected in brisk sales. In addition to specialty plants the Club normally provides, there are many to thank for their contributions including our members of course, but also those who generously shared items from their yards: we appreciate each one. The very few plants remaining will be planted in the Demonstration Garden and/or donated to the Hammock area.



Above are some of the many members who volunteered to make the Plant Sale a success!

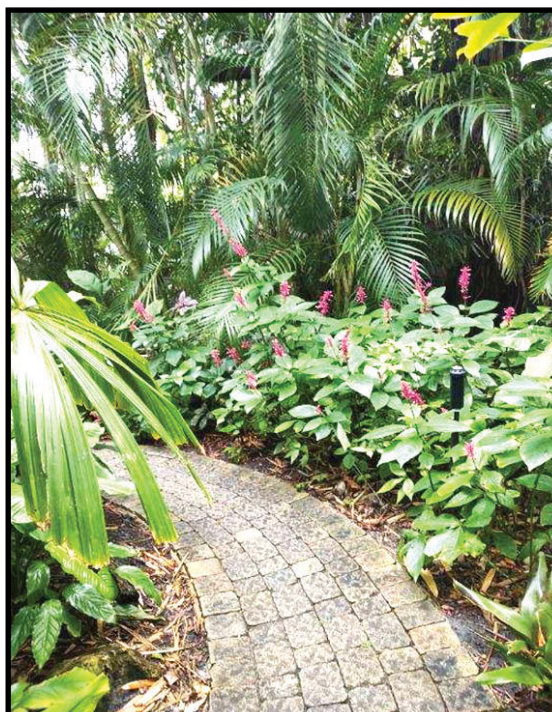


LEFT: Steve Gove, Drawing Chairman; Al Clark & Bob Dubel, Plant Sale Co-Chairs, presenting the 1st Place award.

- 1st Place: A Garden Bench, Ann Abrameczyk
- 2nd Place: Yellow Dancer Plant, George O'Malley
- 3rd Place: Hanging Plant, Linda Shell
- 4th Place: Gift Certificate, Darlene Fincham

Forty Deltura Garden Club members and friends traveled to Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota by coach on a perfect February day to enjoy the newly expanded gardens, offering something of interest around every corner. A dream fulfilled for Rosemary Eiden who organized the trip.

A picnic lunch in a pavilion was enjoyed at the Whitaker Gateway Park a short ride from Selby overlooking Sarasota Bay. Then, a relaxing ride back to the Del chatting with friends-a great way to spend a day!





TENNIS AT DEL TURA *By Mike Raymer*

Wow, it's the end of another tennis season here at Del Tura. By the time you are reading this article our four ladies tennis teams will have finished their season, as well, our men's travel team, our league Level 1 and 2, our final tournament and our end of the year Banquet will have been completed. So, let's recap. First, we would like to thank Unlimited Tennis Club (UTC) in Fort Myers and the owners Mary and Hakan Ugdur for hosting at least 20 women from Del Tura Tennis to a 2-hour free session of individual training drills with Denys Massdorp the "Tennis Pro", as well as some competitive matches while Denys and Mary instructed each court. There was complimentary food and drinks to all afterwards. We can't thank you enough U.T.C!

Second, we completed our last and final tournament of the year. The "Spring Invitational Tournament" was held on March 9th, organized by Denny Erickson, Ann Marie Marie York, as well as our Vice-President Nancy Joseph and her awesome team of volunteers - Carol Hancock, Mary Jane Wolfe, Debbie Moore, Patti Somers, Jim Dana, Mike Raymer and Bob Harmon.

A special thank you to Bob for grilling all day for us, thanks Bob! This team of volunteers organized an amazing breakfast and lunch for the entire 32 players and family and friends.

Winners of the A Division:

- 1st Place Mike Raymer and Jodee Siriano
- 2nd Place Jim Kaminski and Jacqueline St Jean
- 3rd Place Denny Erickson and Lucille Leone.

Winners of the B Division:

- 1st Place Debbie Moore and Rob Stephens
- 2nd Place Julia Lamon and Joe Pollock
- 3rd Place Anne Stephens and Jack Finger

Third, our incredible Banquet and Awards Dinner held on the 24th of March in the Starlight Ballroom at the Clubhouse. We ate some tremendous catered food from Mel's Diner and awards were handed out for League Play. Also, a special presentation to some players who have participated and contributed to Del Tura Tennis and are some of the longest standing

players in our community. A great night for all who were there.

As this is our last "Tennis" Article until the Fall League starts up in October and the women's leagues, please remember a few things: "Open Tennis" continues all summer long and runs seven days a week from 8am - 10am. Please come join us at the courts! Sign-up for teams and leagues begin as early as September, so head to the bulletin boards in the screen room by the tennis courts for details.

I would like to lastly thank my Tennis Board here at Del Tura, we had a successful first quarter of running tennis. Enjoy your summer Nancy, Patti, Deb, Eric and Jim L. Finally, I would like to personally thank my Vice-President (my wife) Nancy Joseph for all your support, ideas, and hard work to help everything work/run well here for Del Tura Tennis members. Also, congratulations to Nancy and all her 4.0- team players at UTC who finished 1st in their Lee County division this year. Awesome job ladies! Enjoy your summer everyone. Blessings to all from your DTTA.



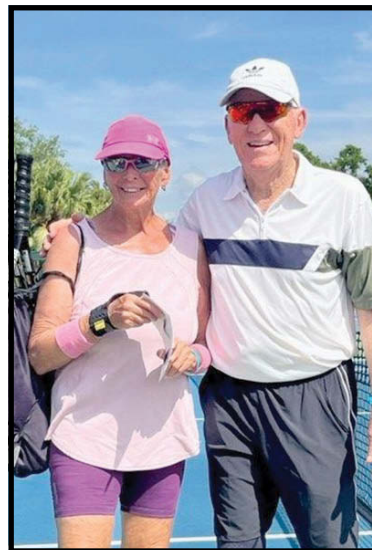
Denny Erickson & Ann Marie York



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Debbie Moore & Rob Stephens



Lucille Leone & Denny Erickson



Jim Kaminski & Jacqueline St Jean



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F.I.S.H. NEWS

By Laura Dritts

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to make our Pick a Purse fundraiser a huge success! The purpose of this fundraiser is to raise money so we can have a luncheon for our over 90 residents. 150 purses were donated to the cause. On Wednesday March 13th, people were able to purchase raffle tickets and distribute them among all of the purses.

Between raffle ticket sales and outright donations, we raised \$750! That is fantastic

and gets us well on our way to being able to have the luncheon. Again, I would like to thank everybody who helped. Thank you for the purse donations. Thank you to those of you who participated in the raffle and gave us donations. Thank you to those who helped run the raffle. It was all a lot of work but it has paid off.

As a side note, please don't donate any more purses. Now that the raffle is over, we no longer need the purses.



HOLIDAY OUTDOOR DECORATING COMMITTEE

We are so excited to introduce our new chairpeople for the Outdoor Decorating Committee. They are Margie Hill and Darla Greer.

Now that everything for 2023 has been put away neatly, the committee is organized and ready for the 2024 holiday season. In addition, fundraising has been done and there is a good amount of money available to purchase new decorations to add to the current inventory.

The electrical issues were reported and repaired. Darlene and I will review everything we learned in 2023 with our new Chairpeople. The volunteers were wonderful, and I am sure that a majority of them are willing to come back to help make Del Tura festive again this holiday season.

If you would like to help with the committee, please reach out to Darla at DGreer.DelTuraHOA@yahoo.com or Margie at mhill.delturahoa@yahoo.com



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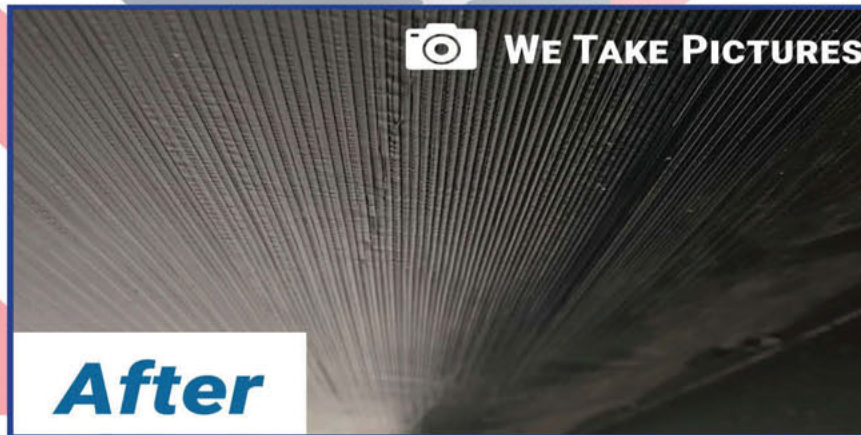
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DEL TURA CERT *By Lisa Bellanca*

Time is just flying by. We are getting closer to Hurricane Season (June 1st) and want everyone to be prepared. This month CERT will be hosting a Hurricane Preparedness seminar. Once we have a firm date, we will post the date, and invite all residents to attend. Although you may have already attended one of our presentations, please come and consider it a refresher course. You can never be too prepared in the case of emergencies. The CERT team is always doing training. On April 3rd we will be taking a class, and getting certified on Crowd Management, and at our May 1st meeting we will be brushing up on our AED and fire extinguisher knowledge and skills.

On May 10th, we have scheduled another community Blood Drive. More information will

be provided as that date gets closer.

On March 8th, the North Fort Myers Fire Department hosted a picnic for all the local community CERT teams. A variety of local resources were there to share information with us. We also watched as the fire department did a live demonstration of how they cut apart a vehicle in crash situations. Thank you to Christie and Beth for always being there to support CERT members. The food and desserts were awesome, as was the company.

Another CERT training and certification class will be held in November. If you are interested in joining the Del Tura team, please contact Bertie Dugo at 617-974-8502.



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Stephanie Norris

Del Tura Resident

DEL TURA BALLROOM DANCERS *By Ken and Cindy Baron*

A huge thank you and shout out to the folks who attended our ballroom classes in January and February. We had such a great time with all of you.

We enjoyed teaching others about ballroom and all of you did such a marvelous job. We are very impressed with your dedication and willingness to learn.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your wonderful card and gift.

We absolutely love Del Tura and the wonderful people who live here. We are hoping to teach again in January and February 2025 and hope to see old and new faces.

We look forward to seeing you all on the dance floor!

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| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
|  Del Tura Contact Info | | |
| Choralaies | 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 | | 239-731-3461 |
| HOA GROUNDS Committee | Denny Andrews | 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 & Sound Coordinator | Susan Brown Dave Gabrielcik | 847-531-3726 724-762-2635 |
| 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

| | |
|--|---|
| 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**
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANS AND TRANSPORTATION
 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*

We're approaching the end of our fifth season, and looking forward to meeting Monday, April 8 and Monday, April 22, 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.

A recent challenge was to make a sensory observation by 'tuning in' to our senses and focusing upon the incoming data drawn from what we see, hear, smell and touch, enabling us to become more specific in our descriptions; then to draw our reaction to our observations. Here's an example:

The Beach by Nancy Davy (from my book, Dreaming In Color)

A cacophony of sunlit sounds live at the beach. I crest the tufted knoll and am assailed by the smell of salt spray. Sandals slip off; toes slip into sun-warmed sand as balmy breezes lift my cares and carry them away. Waves roll in from the horizon under summer's cloudless sky. Here is life, and it is everywhere, and in all sizes. Children splash as waves rush and retreat. Shells sparkle in the shifting sand. Egrets stalk stiff-legged, poking beaks into the sand, then cock their heads and chortle as they find a tasty morsel. Gulls screech and squabble, undaunted by my presence. A sand crab scurries for cover.

Pelicans ride the breeze majestically, then wheel and dive. Brightly covered canvas chairs march in even rows along the private hotel beach fronts; sun worshippers recline. Tinkling laughter and conversation permeates my outer conscience. I daydream. I walk slowly, watching as my footprints fill with water, then are whisked away by the next tide's pull. How pleasurable, this exercise of just observing nature.

It draws me to a yearning to never leave this undemanding place, so full of life and yet so far removed from it. Priorities are re-discovered here.

Childhood by Katheryn Krupa

Shattered fragments of ice spinning and dancing across the ice around me within each prism are shards of my childhood strangely distorted images layered mirrors like vacant eyes a crazy kaleidoscope of memories...

I feel like I've been swept into a dream peering into each jagged piece of ice I see a different fleeting image trapped inside...

The delicate, earthy smell of a dandelion pulled up and crushed in my chubby, little fingers a spring surprise handed lovingly to my mother...

Her wet kiss on my forehead as she braided my damp hair I squirmed and wiggled in my new red satin dress that she so patiently sewed night after night exhausted after long hours of teaching kindergarten...

A chorus of giggling and laughter as all five of us ran screaming gleefully from the ear monster my Dad crawling around the living room growling menacingly ready to nibble our ears if we got too close...

Laying alone on the back roof of our garage watching the stars wink on and off in the darkening summer sky listening to the cricket's song and the plaintive notes of a distant train imagining myself as Jane with Tarzan, so brave and self-reliant in the jungle living wild and free among the animals...

Bundled up in scarves, hats and snow suits, the five of us a jumble of arms and legs crushed together with Dad on our Toboggan zipping



down the snowy hill and tumbling out laughing and breathless into the snow...

Is this what heaven is? A chance to return to the long-lost moments of our childhood?

Yet this time with the wisdom and experience of lessons learned to live them each again like Scrooge savoring every precious smile or tender embrace; promising to do better...

Let me live my life with more love and patience let me take the time to stop and truly see - to listen to my children. Help me remember each sweet sacrifice my parents made. Let me savor every reassuring word. Each memory woven with anger, sadness, love or affection. A worn and imperfect cloak to wrap around me.

Don't let me ever forget the precious moments of my childhood, each prism a window into heaven.

Continued of page 24

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Del Tura Presents ...



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



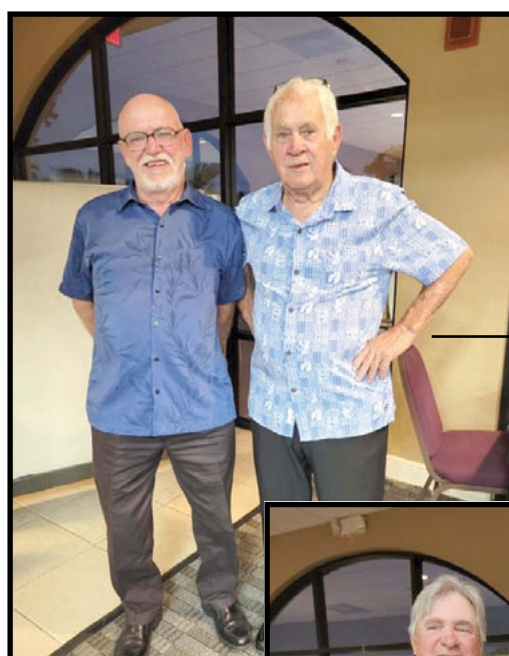
MEN'S GOLF

By Dan Haag, President DTMGA

It's April and golf balls are still flying but the DTMGA has completed their season. Whew, it went fast and we'd like to thank everyone that participated in our seven events. As of the last writing we have completed the 2 Ball Tournament. The winners were: White Flight 3, Dave Matthews and Karl Muller. White Flight 2, Bob Francis and Bill McFerrin. White Flight 1, Donnie Soper and Dave Liddle. Gold Flight winners were Joe Mustari and George Baird. The Blue Flight and overall winners were Tim Trout and Vaughn Wedge! Congratulations to everyone.

The Member/Member was another fun event held in February. The winners were Mike Nash and John LaRocco. March 1st and 2nd was our largest event of the year. Fifty teams participated and the winners were: White Flight, Marcel Bedard and Andy Bedard and in the Blue Flight overall winners were Chic Palmer and guest Al Hasher. At this writing the prestigious Club Championship is going on, and we don't know the outcome yet. We will have all the winners announced in the next *Tower*.

As always if you have any questions or comments please contact me at 614-206-9002. Thank you.



Andy and Marcel Badard



Chic Palmer and Al Hasher



Mike Nash and John LaRocco



Tim Trout and Vaughn Wedge

Spring Dance

This Magic Moments



50's – 70's Music by DJ Anthony
Saturday, May 18, 2024

Starlight Ballroom, 7:00 PM

Ticket Sales

HOA Members \$10 Tuesday April 30th @ 7:30 AM
 Non-HOA Members \$12 May 7th & 14th @ 8:00 AM

Box Office in Clubhouse Lobby

Thursday, May 2nd, 9th, 16th 6:00 – 7:00 PM

HOA Sponsored – No Refunds

For more information call Lynn Brenfleck 603-738-1001



NINE HOLE WOMEN'S GOLF

By Nancy Ashe

March had arrived with our annual member/guest golf outing. The tee time was scheduled for 8:00 a.m. but mother nature decided to pull a tantrum and rained heavily upon us as we waited under the portico for the rain to cease. After a while, we were advised to enter the building since we were getting very wet.

Our clever weather advisors kept us informed and by 9:00 a.m. the rain slowly disappeared and off we went to the links. It was a great event with gifts for guests and members, a lovely luncheon and fantastic punch and desserts. Thanks to all.



Tied for first place on West 1 Flight are left to right: Patti Guarrera, Pam Black, Tammi Carlton, Bonnie Bisignano, Bobbie Asper and Kathy Klein.



First Place South 2 Flight Nancy Moyer and Gail Gulino



First Place South 1 Flight Kim Bartleson and Diane Skinner



First Place West 2 Flight Sue Berlin and Martha Stockinger



Save. This. Date.

April 6, 2024

Jimmy Wilson Memorial Golf Tournament

Benefiting St. Jude's Research Foundation
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6 Players/Team and 24 Teams
Sign up sheets go up in Dungeon on March 6, 2024
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Golf Course Members - \$45.00

Non-Golf Course Members/Non-residents - \$65.00

Donations requested for baskets, golf course signs, \$\$

Contact Bill McFerrin @ 402-618-4653

or Darla Greer @ 239-470-0851



THE DEL TURA REPERTORY COMPANY

By Jacqueline Keen

THE NIGHTINGALES have now flown away. We had three nights of very supportive audiences for which we thank you so much.

I am now working on my next show. I have many ideas swirling around in my head. This repertory company is always looking for new members for on stage, back stage, sound and lighting etc. It takes many different talents to put on a show. It takes months of planning. The cast have plenty of time to learn lines and help is always available. If you would be interested in joining us in any capacity, please call, text or email me. Being part of one of our productions is very rewarding and we do have a lot of fun. It is a great place to meet people and feel part of a family group. I love working with all levels of ability. You do not need to have experience.

If you would like to have some excitement in your life, chat with me to find out what is involved in whatever department interests you. Without your support we cannot continue to give you your very own Del Tura community theatre.

I look forward to hearing from you. Do not be intimidated, one of my actors this year had not acted before and one, only once before. you will be surprised at what you are capable of achieving. Jacqueline Keen (Director) 239 464 5544.





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THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO *By Jack Blevons*

Welcome to April. As you all should know, our bingo ended the last Thursday of March. The month of March we had some record crowds that came to play our bingo & being that, we really gave away a lot of money as we really paid out some really big pots to those lucky enough to win. Writing this article on March 8th, last night we had our biggest crowd of the season, with 128 people coming to play. We've had over a 100 people coming to play about the last 7 weeks. Crowds like that really make running bingo a lot more enjoyable.

Now like we do every April, we want to thank the following people who are on our team every Thursday night helping Janet & myself run bingo for our HOA. Our callers were Allison Rosen, Jane Shaeffer, Joyce Frase & Peter Moreton. Our other team members are Sheri French, Barb Clancy, Karen Rivet, Liz Poniatowski & Cindy Brinton. Without all you people we could never handle this job by ourselves. We have a great team & we hope when we come back in October again that you all will still want to continue working with us. As long as we have you all helping us, we will continue running Thursday night bingo for our HOA. It's a lot of work every Thursday night but as long as we have you all on our team, we will continue to keep running it.

I won't be writing an article for the May Tower because when you get this Tower, Janet & myself will be in Jamaica enjoying a 2-week vacation like we do every April so we won't be here to write one for the May Tower. Then come May, we head up to Wisconsin to spend 5 months of the Summer up there near our families.



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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 | Starlight Ballroom | 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 | OPEN | OPEN | OPEN | OPEN | OPEN | OPEN |
| 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 | Bob Crawford 239-777-8290 | | | 6:00-9:00 | | | | |
| 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 | Wendy Wells 309-264-9147 | | 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 | | | | | | |



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AROUND THE GROUNDS *By Darlene Fincham*

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with you all over the past 3+ years, however it is time to pass the baton to our new Grounds Chairperson, Denny Andrews, effective April 1, 2024. Denny and his team plan on using the same email address delturagrounds@yahoo.com.

With temperatures starting to heat up and many people having visitors, that translates into more pool use so it's important to talk about ways we can keep ourselves safe and healthy and our pools free from contaminants. One of the best ways to prevent black algae is to wash your swimsuits and body prior to getting into a pool. If you've spent the day at the beach, don't use the pool to rinse off. Ocean water is a unique exposure because it deposits foreign bacteria onto the skin. Pool water will clean your body, however those particles being rinsed from your body will go directly into the water lowering the level of protective balance in the water.

The CDC says that those who don't shower prior to entering the pool are bringing their own unwanted hitchhikers along with them, including trace levels of pathogens and fecal matter. Please do your fellow swimmers a favor and always shower before getting into the pool

to prevent dirt, sweat, lotions, oils, or even worse, pathogens or fecal matter on your body from getting into the pool causing an imbalance of the pool's pH.

To keep things in our community nice and available when we need them, please close umbrellas when you leave a table so that wind from a pop up storm doesn't destroy it. If you move tables together or add chairs from another table, please be respectful to the community by putting tables and chairs back the way you found them. Just to reiterate, residents are not authorized to move furniture from one area to another. This seems to be causing a lack of furniture in certain areas. If you need furniture (chairs, tables or umbrellas) moved please work with the administration office. If you spot something in a common area that needs repair, please send an email including pictures and exact location (very important), to delturagrounds@yahoo.com and a work order request will be opened with Hometown America. Residential property issues are outside the Grounds Committee jurisdiction so you must work directly with the Administration office.

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DEL TURA REPERTORY COMPANY FEATURES "THE NIGHTINGALES"

Don VanderVeen

Del Tura's 2024 feature stage production allowed audience members to regale with *The Nightingales* for a night of comedy, frustration and introspective reflection.

Directed by Jacqueline Keen, the ensemble cast performance explored the complexities of relationships of a vaudeville family set in 1950s London. The single-set play, written by playwright Peter Quilter, took place in the living room of an English countryside villa. *The Nightingales* is rife with issues of a love that lost its luster as the lead characters grow apart and more into their own self importance than continuing to embrace and build on the lives they had created for themselves and family.

The mundane seriousness of the subject is broken up by a comedic element brought to life by family patriarch Charlie, played by Arthur Keen, and matriarch Beatrice, played by Becky Nilson, and their self indulged son Jack, played by Michael Dinko. "Family dysfunction has many layers," Jacqueline Keen said. "Looking into the room where it is happening can seem funny if the tension between family members is not too serious." The ensemble cast also included Maggie, played by Jackie Totaro, and housemaid Geraldine, played by first-time performer Leigh Anne Lawson.

"My cast came together as an ensemble very well and very quickly," Jacqueline

Keen said. "We talked at great length about characterization. With a play as wordy as this, it took time to achieve good timing. I think we did pretty well in that regard. When I cast the actors, I told them I was looking for a hint of the English accent. To go for the full accent was a big ask. However, when we started rehearsing in January, they were all giving me more than a hint."

Although written years earlier and on a different continent, *The Nightingales* characters seem reminiscent of the American vaudevillian comedy husband and wife team (Jerry) Stiller and (Anne) Meara and their ultra successful son, Ben Stiller. The parents were successful to the extent of making a decent living on stage, but their greatest achievement was marked by the successful creation of their son, who may or may not take his own success for granted. The crux of *The Nightingales* is a rediscovery of the love and commitment to each other that once was their strength.

"I would like to think this play was a success although that has yet to be determined by others," Jacqueline Keen said. "The elements needed to be successful are the characters need to be believable, and the actors and the director have to have a deep understanding of the characters. The set has to have character too. It takes a lot of study, patience and repetition for everything to come together."

"The success of a small theater like this relies on the hard work and commitment of everyone involved, and I am blessed to have a wonderful group of people willing to work with me," Jacqueline Keen continued. "The actors, script coordinator, set builders, technical teams, wardrobe, props, box office, front of house management. It is my job to bring all these elements together. Everyone is always excited and committed to help make my shows as good as they can be."

"At the end of the day, it is important to me that everyone enjoyed the experience."



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DEL TURA SOFTBALL *By Art Keen*

Del Tura Softball 2024 Fan Appreciation

The boys of Spring really hit the ball a long way on Saturday, February 24th when the Amigos and the Delturos hosted their annual Fan Appreciation Event. A community wide golf tournament was followed by food, fun, and camaraderie when

the Starlight Ballroom hosted the post party and presentation.

Both teams would like to heartily thank all the fans who came out and supported them and enjoyed the golf and the food.

Without you, Del Tura Softball would be nothing

more than a sweaty group of guys running around in the park wearing colorful shirts. We invite all residents to continue to support us by coming out to the games each Monday and Wednesday evening, January through March. For more info, Call Art Keen at (210)279-2093.



DEL TURA AMIGOS SOFTBALL WINS ANOTHER CHAMPIONSHIP *By Don VanderVeen*

The more things seemed to change, the more they remained the same for the Del Tura Amigos softball team. Despite the departure of seven players from last year's championship team, the Amigos repeated as Ford League champions again this season. The Amigos clinched their third upper division league title in four years by winning 15 of their first 16 games during January, February and March at Carmelita Fields in Punta Gorda. Strong defensive play and timely hitting throughout the lineup were cornerstones of the Amigos third championship run in four years.

First-year Amigos players Mark "Clark" Kent, Jim Schetter and Tim Walker all stepped up to help enhance and extend Del Tura's Ford League championship softball tradition. "The newcomers came in, stepped up and played their roles with great attitudes," Amigos player/manager Jim Hamilton said. "Everybody who played did their roles and contributed when it counted." The Amigos took care of business early and often, winning games with their hitting and then having their defense turn it up a notch to win games down the stretch.

After starting off the first half of the season with two walk-off victories en route to a perfect record against the other seven teams in the league, the Amigos set their sights on the top division that featured teams from Herons Glen and Lake Fairways, along with Del Tura's other team, the Del Turos. The Amigos avenged their only loss of the season and clinched the 2024 championship with a 13-3 victory over Lake Fairways on March 9 with three games left to play. That win followed a 6-1 victory over Herons Glen and a 12-2 victory over the Del Turos.

"Those are all good teams we beat," Hamilton said. "They were all high-intensity games."

The infield was anchored by the stalwart keystone combination of Hamilton at shortstop and Jim Yeakle at second base, while third baseman Kent and first baseman Mick "Ultra" Kidwell manned the corners. That infield unit averaged nearly two double plays per game during the season, and turned 11 over the three-game stretch that clinched the title.

"We had by far the best defensive team in the league," Hamilton said. "Double plays are rally killers for the other team, and we were able to pull off some big ones, whether it was Jimmy (Yeakle) starting it, me starting it or Mark Kent starting it at third. We played really well as a team."

Rick Ichenburg, Walker, Craig Lindahl, Bruce "Smitty" Smith and Don VanderVeen held it down in the outfield, while utility man Schetter and Glenn Holmes were both solid behind the plate and in the field. Amigos pitcher Donnie "Three Ys" Yaschynchyn was spectacular throwing strikes and mixing up pitches behind the screen, while Danny McDonald provided solid relief. Recently retired Amigos players Dick Rose and Rick Antaya provided expertise as the first-base and third-base coaches, and Rita Szukhent served as the bench manager and scorekeeper.

"We've been having fun," Hamilton said. "Everybody was upbeat and everybody was rooting for each other and having fun. The attitude of this team was the best ever, and we had the results to match."



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What should you know about long-term care?

We all hope to remain healthy and independent throughout our lives – but life can be unpredictable. If you were ever to need some type of long-term care, would you be financially prepared?

Long-term care encompasses everything from the services of a home health aide to a stay in an assisted living facility to a long residence in a nursing home. You may never need any of these kinds of care, but the odds aren't necessarily in your favor: Someone turning age 65 today has almost a 70% chance of needing some type of long-term care services and support in their remaining years, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

And all types of long-term care can involve considerable financial expense. The median annual cost for a home health aide's services is more than \$60,000 per year, and it's more than \$100,000 per year for a private room in a nursing home, according to Genworth, an insurance company.

Furthermore, contrary to many people's expectations, Medicare usually pays very little of these costs.

Of course, some people expect their family will be able to take care of their long-term care needs. But this may not be a viable strategy. For one thing, your family members simply may not have the skills needed to give you the type of care you may require. Also, by the time you might need help, your grown children or other family members might not live in your area.

So, you may need to protect yourself and your loved ones from the potential costs of long-term care. Basically, you've got two main choices: You could self-insure or you could transfer the risk by purchasing some type of long-term care insurance.

If you have considerable financial resources, you might find self-insuring to be attractive, rather than choosing insurance and paying policy premiums. You may wish to keep an emergency savings or investment account that's earmarked exclusively for long-term care to help avoid relying on your other retirement accounts. But self-insuring has two main drawbacks. First, because long-term care can be costly, you might need to plan for a significant amount. And second, it will be quite hard to predict exactly how much money you'll need, because so many variables are involved – your age when you start needing care, interest rates or inflation, the cost of care in your area, the type of care you'll require, the length of time you'll need care, and so on.

As an alternative to self-insuring, you could purchase long-term care insurance, which can provide benefits for home health care, adult day care and assisted living and nursing home facilities. However, you will need to consider the issues attached to long-term care insurance. For one thing, it can be expensive, though the younger you are when you buy your policy, the more affordable it may be. Also, long-term care policies typically require you to wait a certain amount of time before benefits are paid. But policies vary greatly in what they offer, so, if you are thinking of buying this insurance, you'll want to review options and compare benefits and costs.

In any case, by being aware of the potential need for long-term care, its cost and the ways of paying for it, you'll be able to make the appropriate decisions for your financial situation, your needs and your loved ones.

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

Bill Hamilton took third in the main and is now one placement away from becoming a Southern District Hall of Fame. Good luck Bill! Deb Norton took first in the main in a tough tournament. Jack Norton and I paired up February 27th and swept the first series in two games.

Unfortunately, things didn't go as good in the second series. We met up against two players who were good enough to probably beat us with their eyes closed! Sometimes you just get on the wrong side of the bracket. Either way, we enjoyed ourselves. It's so much better than working for a living.

On Tuesday March 5th, Deb also took place in a tournament in Melbourne, FL. Taking first again, beating one of the best shufflers in the state. Way to go Deb. The season is wrapping up soon. My next tournament isn't until October. Remember, the Lee county courts are open several days a week for you year rounders. Soon it will be open at 9:00 playing three half hour games for beginners to pros. Cost is only \$20 for the year! With that said, isn't life just great? Have a wonderful, safe, and healthy summer.

ENDING SOON!
FRIDAY SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE

After one more week of regular play, we will run two tournaments simultaneously. The MAIN will consist of the best eight team records and the CONSTELLATION will consist of the second group of eight finalists. As of right now, there are two teams which could still make the top eight and two teams who could make the bottom eight.

The tournaments will be held on Friday March 22nd at 10:15 with a banquet to follow on March 26th. As of now, the top four teams are, Craig Evans and Deb Mormon at 33-10, Glenn and MaryKay Tointon and Bernie and Cyndi Grilli both at 30-13, and Bruce Mars and Judy Lessard at 28-14.

Please check the next Tower for final results. Starting Friday March 29th at 10:00AM, a free play day will be added to the already scheduled Monday night (7:00PM) and Tuesday afternoon session (2:30). Please join us if you are able.



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TUESDAY EUCHRE

By Marcella Carothers

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>2-13-24 1. John Thayer 2. Bruce Blackmore (tie) Jeff Czuchaj 3. Bruce Mars (tie) Tony Winn</p> | <p>2-20-24 1. David Augustine 2. Lynn Everett 3. Kathy Boesel 4. David Danzinger</p> | <p>2-27-24 1. Tony Winn 2. Greg Roberts 3. Bruce Blackmore 4. Lynn Everett</p> | <p>3-05-24 1. Kathy Boesel 2. Mary Jo Thayer (tie) Lisa Augustine (tie) Lynn Everett</p> |
|---|---|---|---|

WEDNESDAY PINOCHLE

By Marcella Carothers

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>2-14-24 1. Sonny Jalonek 2. Jeff Czuhaj 3. Al Oostema</p> | <p>2-21-24 1. Hennie Oostema 2. Sonny Jalonek 3. Gail Tylek</p> | <p>2-28-24 1. Ken Nicolosi 2. Diane Nicolosi 3. Rocco Guerreri</p> | <p>3-06-24 1. Chic Palmer 2. Hennie Oostema 3. Greg Roberts</p> |
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WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Continued from page 11

Early Morning on the Links by Maureen Monroy

We're just finishing the last of 9 holes of golf on the South course. It's about 8:20 on a cool foggy morning. By the 9th hole all my senses have perked up. From the Tee box I look out on the Fairway. It is wonderful to have our course looking so beautiful again. The fog softens the hue of the lawn that will be a vivid green in another hour or two. The fairway looks like a beautiful carpet, with sculpted edges by the pond. I'm sure the sand traps are beautiful - but they just look like trouble to me! The pond is alive with many birds and reptiles. Only adult Muscovy ducks are about. The turtles are poking their heads up. I don't see the gator this morning - but I'm pretty sure he's lurking about.

Golf courses have an interesting mix of smells - we're in a park setting, but we are also on the edge of our neighbors' backyards. One of the many reasons I love early morning golf is the smell of the newly mowed grass. The mower is finished - so we only have the fresh leafy smell - we don't hear the gas engine, nor smell the stench of the exhaust. Earlier this morning we could smell bacon cooking and fresh coffee from a house on 5 South. It is SOOO worth getting onto the course early in the morning!

As I'm walking up to my last Tee box, I can feel my wet socks. Why do they label some golf shoes "Water Resistant"? Only "Waterproof" shoes protect your feet from wet grass. What does Water Resistant even mean?? They could simplify their labeling system if they had "Waterproof" and "Not Waterproof"!

A golf course seems like a quiet place, but there is really a lot of noise. A small dog on Las Lomas yaps at the golfers incessantly! We hear cheers and laughter from the group ahead of us on the Putting Green. Someone had a great putt! The Sandhill Cranes have flown overhead - screeching their Jurassic Park cries. And there is the best sound of all - the "plunk" of the ball landing in the hole!

There is not much to taste on the golf course. But as we finish on 9, I am so ready for my Diet Coke and bagel in the Fountain Grille. Early morning golf satisfies all my senses - life is just fine!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4/01 Robert Beccarea | 4/10 Steven Downey | 4/21 Donna Seales |
| 4/01 Sal Ferro | 4/10 Karl Ruester | 4/21 Jeannine List |
| 4/01 Molly Brown | 4/10 Diana Camp | 4/22 Gary Scott |
| 4/01 Alice Harmon | 4/11 Karen Hoppe | 4/22 Andree Dearing |
| 4/01 Laura Green | 4/12 Howard Beale | 4/22 Pat McTamney |
| 4/02 Dianne Roderick | 4/12 Paul Ryan | 4/22 Mark Englert |
| 4/02 Hennie Oostema | 4/12 Thomas Deer II | 4/23 Mark Steckler |
| 4/03 Jon Opatz | 4/12 Barb Bennett | 4/23 Kathleen Doucette |
| 4/03 Mark Woodruff | 4/12 Charlene Maaske | 4/23 Kevin Wright |
| 4/03 Carolyn Cole | 4/13 Jeff Intini | 4/23 Sandy Gove |
| 4/03 Ruthie Kurza | 4/13 Jennifer Shaver | 4/23 Robin Green |
| 4/04 Barbara Radel | 4/14 Joe DeMandel | 4/23 Randy Whalin |
| 4/04 Barbara Green | 4/14 Chris Naumchik | 4/24 Michael Cousins |
| 4/05 Ian Slack | 4/14 Marianela Tamayo | 4/24 Peggy Terrasi |
| 4/05 William Boyd | 4/15 Stan Loson | 4/25 Louis Hone |
| 4/05 Cheryl Pryor | 4/15 Casey Quinn | 4/25 Rosemarie Egizi |
| 4/05 Theresa Halek | 4/15 Wendy Dowling | 4/25 Nancy |
| 4/05 Deborah Flanagan | 4/16 Kevin Dowling | Vandenwyngaert |
| 4/05 Connie Larson | 4/16 Richard Masse | 4/25 John Vommero |
| 4/06 John Young | 4/16 Patty DeVost | 4/26 Carolyn Jovanelly |
| 4/06 Daniel Duffy | 4/16 Charles Healy | 4/26 Don Brown |
| 4/06 Debra Opatz | 4/17 Vern Swisher | 4/26 Dan Larson |
| 4/07 Reno Regulbuto | 4/17 June Andrews | 4/26 Margaret Ellmann |
| 4/07 John Brassem | 4/17 Debra Reimer | 4/27 David Matthews |
| 4/07 Lori Angelilli | 4/18 Jeffrey Ritrovato | 4/27 Michele Reese |
| 4/07 Jan Erickson | 4/18 Betty Scheetz | 4/28 Ron Moniz |
| 4/08 John Healy | 4/18 Trudy Wilson | 4/28 Donna Roberts |
| 4/08 Linda Furlong | 4/19 Kat Rossman | 4/29 Richard Taylor |
| 4/08 Dalia Shahar | 4/20 Donna Moore | 4/29 Martin Christiansen |
| 4/08 Ruth Ann Lugten | 4/20 Daniel Pearce | 4/29 Jane Sheaffer |
| 4/09 Gary Peck | 4/20 Richard Dohrn | 4/30 Red Hansen |
| 4/09 Joe Ping | 4/20 Debbie Gianino | 4/30 Charlotte L'Heureux |
| 4/10 Michael Flanagan | 4/21 Pat McGovern | 4/30 Vicki Kehl |
| 4/10 Juliette D'Apice | 4/21 Chuck Butts | |
| 4/10 Joan Dunham | 4/21 Sandy Weddleton | |

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---|---|
| 4/01/09 Daniel & Mary Sears, 15 years | 4/13/ Louis & Vicki Hone, ? years |
| 4/02/05 Michael & Teresa Abbitt, 19 years | 4/15/03 Matt & Kelly Shields, 21 years |
| 4/02/72 William & Karen Misztal, 52 years | 4/15/89 Randall & Diana Bair, 35 years |
| 4/03/65 Robert & Donna Crawford, 59 years | 4/15/78 Don & Maria Soper, 46 years |
| 4/05/73 Michael & Kathleen Jacobs, 51 years | 4/20/90 Mark & Cheri Dietrich, 34 years |
| 4/06/02 Donald & Diane Skinner, 22 years | 4/21/21 Jim & Kathy Kissell, 3 years |
| 4/06/13 Ken & Susan Goulette, 11 years | 4/21/90 Jay & Mary Fitzgerald, 34 years |
| 4/06/90 David & Melissa Wagner, 34 years | 4/22 Joe & Tracy Messina, ? Years |
| 4/06/91 Tim Brown & Bobbi Pett, 33 years | 4/24/04 Ron & Rochelle Clough, 20 years |
| 4/07/69 Dave & Pam Applegate, 55 years | 4/24/76 Lance & Adele Guthreau, 48 years |
| 4/07/72 Jack & Sue Dunigan, 52 years | 4/25/24 Martin & Donna Caskey, ? years |
| 4/07/79 James & Maureen Higgins, 45 years | 4/25/64 Carl & Joan LeCause, 60 years |
| 4/07/89 Bryant & Darla Greer, 35 years | 4/26/08 John & Kathy Schaub, 16 years |
| 4/08/95 Eric & Cheryl Pryor, 29 years | 4/26/69 Guy & Marietta Hansen, 55 years |
| 4/09 Bruce & Sandra Raymond, ? Years | 4/27/19 Christian & Rhonda Corey, 5 years |
| 4/10/71 Fred & Jan Hale, 53 years | 4/28/07 Dan & Marlene Haag, 17 years |
| 4/10/98 Scot & Jamie Wyman, 26 years | 4/29 Richard & Jodee Siriano, ? years |
| 4/11/64 Ted & Barbara Luke, 60 years | 4/30/03 Steven & Dawn Spanie, 21 years |
| 4/12/64 John & Linda Sullivan, 60 years | 4/30/14 Bob & Lisa Francis, 10 years |

MOWING SCHEDULE

April - 3 Mows
May - 3 Mows



APRIL 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--|---|--|----------------------------------|-----|--|
| 31 | 1 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 2 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM | 3 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM | 4 Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 5 | 6 Jimmy Wilson Memorial Golf Tournament |
| 7 | 8 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 9 Welcome Committee Get Together 4:30 Poinciana Room | 10 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM | 11 Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 12 | 13 BLOCK PARTY |
| 14 | 15 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 16 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM | 17 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM | 18 Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 19 | 20 A Night OF Comedy 7PM |
| 21 | 22 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 23 | 24 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM | 25 Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 1-3999) Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 30 Bulk Pickup (2 Items) 6AM | 1 Recycling 6AM (Addresses 4000-6110) Horticulture Pickup 6AM | 2 Household Trash Pickup 6AM | 3 | 4 |