



VILLA TOWERS NEWS

FALL EDITION

SEP 2016



Photo by Cathy Newman

Owners: **VERY IMPORTANT**



Please watch your mail for your *Consent to Forego Sprinkler Retrofit* form to avoid costly construction. Sign & return to VT by Oct. 21.

From the Board of Directors

The Board and many of our owners have been very busy taking care of business during the off-season. Special thanks to Tom Newman who has coordinated and supervised many of the activities, to Tom Bernat who consistently lends a hand to complete projects, and to Kim Hetrick who has been assisting with administrative projects. Also, special thanks to all members of our various committees who support the activities and goals of our association.

All owners have been sent a **Consent to Forego Sprinkler Retrofit** form; mailed Sept. 23rd. If you do not receive yours by the end of September, please email Cathy Gill, cathygill@gmail.com, and one will be emailed or mailed to you. Background information from our attorney and instructions are included with the form. It is very important that we reach a quorum of Consent forms by October 21st. Otherwise, Florida Statute requires that we undergo costly construction to install sprinklers throughout the building, including our units. Consents will be counted at our Board meeting on Monday, October 24th. Questions: Please contact Bob Hellmuth.

Recent maintenance projects have been ongoing throughout the summer. A list of many of the projects is included in this newsletter. As well, with “the season” approaching, please remember that the Board must be informed of renters, guests (when owners are not present), movers, and contractors—see the article regarding required forms in this issue.

Thanks to all those who completed our **Fitness Room** exercise equipment survey. Owners were 98% in favor of upgrading the equipment. After much research, Rob Saari and Don Gill presented a proposal at our Sep 12th Board meeting that was accepted. Equipment, including an elliptical, recumbent bike, and treadmill, was installed on September 22nd. Come give it a try! (Pictures will follow in next issue.)

In November, please look for an email or mail regarding the proposed **Annual Budget** with proxies for signature and return. The Budget meeting will be held before the end of the year—date is TBD at this time. The Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2017. Notices will be sent accordingly for both of these meetings.

Contacting the Board—Email villatowers@att.net. Approved BOD meeting minutes are available upon request.

Recent Maintenance Activities

Heavy Maintenance

Generator—The rusted head parts were replaced on the generator.

Trash Chute—A new 14 gauge galvanized garbage chute pipe was installed to replace the rusted section in the Fire Control Room. This will prevent trash from being caught in the chute and eliminate odors in the lobby.



Please remember DO NOT place pizza boxes, large heavy items or recyclables in the chute. Please carry those items to the garbage room.

Doors—A new door was installed at the west entrance adjacent to the bike room. The hinges and locks on entrance doors have been inspected and replaced, as necessary.

Lighter Maintenance

Painting Projects—Projects in progress include the east stair case, the swimming pool and the Fire Control room.

Wall Mirrors—Deteriorating mirrors were replaced with new mirrors in the rest rooms poolside and in the fitness room.

Tool Room—This room has been renovated and a new work bench has been installed. Tools are available here for all owners who need a workspace for unit projects. This room is locked but any board member can open it for you.

Dryer Vent Hoses—The hoses in the laundry rooms have been cleaned and replaced, as necessary.



Lobby

Floor Mats—Lobby floor mats have been replaced with Villa Towers branded mats that are attractive and practical.

Mailbox Identification Tags—The unit number/owner name tags will be replaced with decorative, unit number only on the white mailboxes.

Cork Boards—New cork boards have been installed in the lobby adjacent to the mailboxes to assist with condo-related communications.



Additions—

Luggage Cart—A new, attractive luggage cart has been purchased to be used for luggage only. Other carts and hand trucks, stored in the bike room, are available to carry other items, such as equipment and supplies.

Safety & Preparedness

Non-skid Treads—Treads have been placed on the metal plates outside the laundry rooms on each floor, as necessary.

Emergency Preparedness—

Preparation equipment and hurricane supplies have been checked and replaced, as necessary. Let's hope they won't be used! (See pg. 5 for personal emergency preparedness tips.)



Annual Building & Grounds Maintenance

Check List has been revised to assist the Board with keeping our building safe and attractive.



VILLA TOWERS NEWS

Published periodically. Submissions & comments welcome! Committee: *Cathy Gill, Cathy Newman, Maria Palumbo, Diana Bello & Sue Perrett*

Welcome to Our New Friends

For sale—Unit 329



WiFi is available in card room
Password VILLATOWERS3640

Board of Directors Contact Information

Villa Towers email: villatowers@att.net

Bob Hellmuth - President

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Reminders to all owners regarding required forms

Forms are required for various reasons to inform the Board and to help keep our building safe and running in accordance with our Bylaws. It is a courtesy to all when you complete the forms. Forms are available in your white Owner's binder or contact Cathy Newman and a copy will be sent to you.

- **If guests or family are here when you are not**, you need to send the form with days of arrival and departure. The Board needs to know that people staying in the building are here appropriately, to ensure safety of our residents.
- **If you are renting your unit**, a minimum of 2 months is required. If not a prior renter, a security evaluation is necessary. Please send the completed application form for renters to Cathy Newman with a check for \$100 in order to have processed.

If approved for rental, please send a copy of the lease to Cathy Newman as well.

If you have an annual renter and are renewing the lease, you need to notify Cathy Newman prior to lease expiring and send copy of new lease.

- **When having furniture or large items delivered**, you need to fill out the form for elevator pads to be hung and send to a board member a few days prior to delivery, so we can make arrangements. These forms are kept in the lobby in the bottom right white mail box.
- **If you are having work done in your unit by a contractor**, you need to send the form to a board member with the dates the work is to be done. If the work being done is within your walls, i.e. plumbing and electrical, your contractor must present certification of license and insurance to the board.

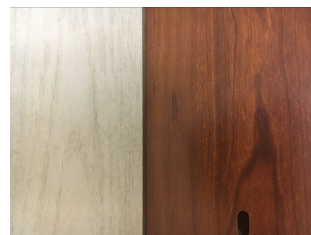


Mike Leach was treated to a surprise birthday celebration after a July Board meeting!

Decorating Committee Updates

The new floor has been installed in our billiard room and has created a clean, updated look that can be easily maintained. The billiard table was recently relevelled and the table has been recovered with new felt (see photo below).

Our elevator project has been approved by the board and we are now waiting for our permits to start the work. The decorating committee worked hard to select wall, floor and ceiling choices, that will give an updated look and be easy to maintain. Once the work begins, there will be one elevator in service at all times for a brief period of about two weeks in total—one week per elevator. We hope to have it completed by mid November.



Samples of selected elevator flooring and wall paneling

Once our new elevators are completed, we will be strictly enforcing the use of pads prior to deliveries. Owners must notify the board when pads are needed so they can be hung in our north (service) elevator, prior to delivery of large items and construction equipment. This is to ensure no damage occurs to elevators. Owners will be liable for any damage due to their negligence or that of their guests, renters or contractors, etc.

The decorating committee is open to suggestions for future projects so we can budget accordingly. Please join our committee if you'd like to be part of the process!

Billiard room enhancements:

- *New flooring*
- *New felt covering*

Turtle Facts!

Spending a summer on Singer Island is heavenly (and humid) and one can't help but fall in love with the mama turtles and then a few months later, her babies. We asked **Pattie Hetrick**, who volunteers at the Loggerhead Marine Center in Juno, to provide a few interesting tidbits for us. *Thanks Pattie!*



Cathy Newman took this photo in broad daylight this summer on her walk north to MacArthur Park. Usually mama is only spotted in the evenings!

South Florida beaches are the number one nesting location for 3 species of sea turtles, Leatherbacks, Loggerheads and Green Sea Turtles.

- Female's always come back to the place they were born to lay their eggs.
- The average age for reproductive maturity is around 30 years old.
- Females can travel 1000s of miles from foraging grounds to nesting beach.
- Males will wait along the travel path and mate with females on their way to nesting beach. A female can mate with more than one male. She will then compartmentalize the male donations separately.
- Once the Female gets close to her nesting location she will release her eggs, release the male part and will start making the shells around the eggs, this process takes approximately 2 weeks.
- Once the shell is formed she will come up on the beach and dig a hole about 3-feet deep and lay the eggs, spending about an hour covering them, then goes back in the ocean where she will duplicate this process every two weeks till she is exhausted.
- The eggs will take from 55-80 days to start hatching, and up to 3 days to allow all to hatch, then start the "boil" to come to surface of sand, where they will head towards the first light they see. Hopefully it is the reflection of the moon off the ocean, and not a condo porch light.



Social Committee

The 4th was celebrated with a poolside BBQ, complete with decorative watermelon, courtesy of Tom Newman!



Photos by Sue Perrett



There was a large turnout for this party with lots of good food and comradery.



Top Palm Beach Events by Month

Click the [titles](#) for more information!

Flavor Palm Beach

Get a taste for the local cuisine scene from Jupiter to Boca Raton, as more than 50 restaurants and bistros offer prix fixe menus for lunch or dinner. Whatever your appetite, tantalize your every craving with creative and inventive dishes found nowhere else.

Dates: Sep 1 - 30, 2016

Oktoberfest

A yearly celebration of authentic beer, food and good times held on ten acres of ground, under pavilion and massive tent; making this "Original Oktoberfest" one of the largest in the country. Celebrate Germany without leaving The Palm Beaches. **Dates:** Oct 7 - 9, 2016 & Oct 14 - 16, 2016

Boynton Beach Haunted Pirate Fest and Mermaid Splash

Look smartly, now . . . Boynton Beach will once again play host to swarthy pirates and mermaid beauties. For two days, swabbies young and old are invited to raise the Jolly Roger and have fun with all things pirate. No walking the plank is necessary in this free event, savvy?

Dates: Oct 22 - 23, 2016



LagoonFest

This free, family-fun event located on the West Palm Beach Waterfront, and guaranteed to be a treat for all. Listen to live music, enjoy the wildlife presentations, explore the exhibitions, and discover the many children's activities, lagoon tours, water sports and more. **Dates:** Nov 12, 2016

CANVAS

Watch art come alive in real time, as superior artists create and then unveil murals, construct public sculptures in parks and create installations – all in a walking distance of each other and free for all to see. **Dates:** Nov 11 - 20, 2016

Palm Beach Food & Wine Fest

Celebrate as a flood of epicurean talent descends upon the area for the Palm Beach Food & Wine Fest. Award-winning chefs and culinary personalities, authors, winemakers, journalists, and mixologists are creating a culinary event of a magnitude never before seen on the illustrious island. **Dates:** Dec 8 - 11, 2016

Palm Beach Holiday Boat Parade

Just when waterways are freezing over near you, winter festivities are kicking off in The Palm Beaches with the annual Palm Beach Holiday Boat Parade. **Date:** Dec 3, 2016



National Preparedness Month: What You Can Do

September is recognized as National Preparedness Month (NPM) which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for emergencies that could affect us where we live, work, and also where we visit.

First Responders may not always be able to reach you quickly in an emergency or disaster. Therefore it is critical to take the necessary steps so that you can take care of yourself and those in your care for at least a short period of time following an incident; the more people who are prepared, the quicker our community will recover.

The following are links to information from various organizations that can help you to stay informed, put together an emergency kit and develop an emergency plan:

[Red Cross Preparedness Brochure](#)

[FEMA For Seniors](#)

[WI Government](#)

[FL State Elder Affairs](#)

[FEMA Brochure](#)

[US Dept. of Health & Human Services](#)

[Red Cross Personal Support Network](#)

Presidential Election Year

Just a reminder that if you are unable to get to the polls this election day, please remember to vote by Absentee Ballot. The following link can be used for absentee ballot requests and voter's registration services.

<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/>

Helpful Links

News:

- [Singer Island Pulse](#)
- [Palm Beach Post online](#)

Getting involved:

- [COASI](#) - Condominium Owners Assoc. of Singer Island
- [Citizens for Responsible Growth for Riviera Beach, Inc.](#)