



# Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

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## Pro's Points



Courtside Family Members,

Another season here in Florida is coming to an end, many of our part-time members are heading back north, but our work is not done! Between now and the end of the summer we have several projects that we will be researching and other projects we will be completing. The Board of Directors approved these projects and scheduled them so that they impact our members as little as possible.

We are still slated to have many trees trimmed and cleaned up around our property (this will probably happen even before this article is printed).

We will be getting a new parking lot light installed, so our parking lot is safer at night.

We are due to have our parking lot resurfaced.

We will be getting a new larger ball machine/storage shed.

I will be setting up a club ladder to start in the fall, so doubles teams can have the bragging rights to who is the best team at Courtside!

Our website updates will continue and I will be updating the pictures with more current ones.

We will also be looking into how we can have Courtside merchandise for our members!

We have several more projects, other than the ones listed, that we are looking into to see if they are feasible. All of these projects are good, positive changes/up-dates that will make Courtside an even more pleasant and desirable place to be! They will continue to help us be the Place for Tennis in Venice!

Matt Liverman

Tennis Director/Head Tennis Professional

## President's Corner

Within the next 2-3 months, Courtside Tennis Club could be affected by a proposed zoning change from "Low Density Residential to "Commercial" status. The proposed change is part of an overall update of many properties within the City of Venice currently designated as improperly zoned.

Recently, Courtside Vice President, Tom Lanigan and I appeared at a public meeting of the Venice Planning Commission in order to present our club's rationale for resisting the proposed zoning change.

Please find below a position statement that I've written and submitted to the Planning Commission regarding the zoning issue. It is now offered in an effort to keep Courtside Members apprised of the matter. As further details emerge, they will also be presented to keep Members informed.

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

The purpose of this communication is to express the concern of the Courtside Tennis Club's Board of Directors regarding the proposed zoning change of the club. Currently, Courtside Tennis club is zoned as Low-Density Residential. If enacted, the proposed zoning change would change the designation to Commercial.

Courtside Tennis Club is incorporated as a 501C.7, "Not For Profit." It is not a typical commercial enterprise. It is located in a Residential Area also bordered by a church and a synagogue.

Although the club is not a charity, it has a record of engaging in a myriad of philanthropic initiatives during its forty-five year history. The club has welcomed Venice High School and Venice Christian School to utilize its courts free of charge. It actively supports the South County Food Bank each holiday season. Recently, the membership has demonstrated support of Meals on Wheels and Ukrainian Relief activities.

The majority of Courtside Tennis Club Members are Seniors ranging in age from 50-88. The club provides a viable venue for healthful recreation for its members at a reasonable cost. The club has not raised its dues structure since 2015. It has been able to sustain financial viability in spite of an increase in its taxes from \$5,000 to \$9,000 in recent years. Any further increase in taxes will adversely affect the ability of the club to operate without levying a dues increase on individuals who will have difficulty affording it. A possible result might be a decrease in membership.

It is the contention of the Board of Directors that Courtside Tennis Club does not fit the typical rubric designation of being zoned as Commercial due to the foregoing factors.

Any consideration of our request will be genuinely appreciated.

Respectfully,  
Dr. James R. Flynn  
President, Courtside Tennis Club

## Courtside Board of Directors

Jim Flynn—President  
Tom Lanigan—Vice President  
Debbie Cavness—Secretary  
Mitchell Betty—Treasurer

Sandy Allen—Director  
Karen Scott—Director  
Janet LeBlanc—Director

## May Birthdays

Philippe Bouclainville 5

Al Guaspari 8

Vicki Rudnitsky 13

Larry LeBlanc 13

Laurie Mooney 25

John Koziol 29

## Summer Tennis Membership

4 months for \$267.50 single & \$342.40 for family  
(includes tax)

Valid May through August

### AMENITIES INCLUDE

- \*9 Clay courts
- \*Junior Tennis Program
- \*Players for all levels
- \*Private & Semi-Private Lessons
- \*Social Events
- \*Round Robins
- \*Weekly Group Clinics



Pat Appolonia  
Nina & Philippe Bouclainville  
Thomas Hayes  
Chris Vann

## New Members

### “Quote of the Month”

Start where you are.

Use what you have.

Do what you can.

Arthur Ashe, American Tennis Player



# Remember!

Tuesday—Ladies Clinic with Ula 11:00-12:00

Wednesday—Ladies Early Bird Clinic with Matt-8:00-9:00

Wednesday—Men's Weekly Clinic with Matt-9:00-10:00

Thursday—Shot of the Week with Ula 11:00-12:00

Call the office and reserve a spot or sign up on the bulletin board outside the office.

\$10.00 members—\$15.00 non-members

## Dates to Remember

Mark your calendar!!

May 8th—Mother's Day

May 11th Board Meeting @ 1:00

May 30th Memorial Day



## After School Jr. Tennis Program

Tuesday & Thursday  
4:00 pm-5:30 pm

Ages: 8 & up

\$15.00 per session per child

Sign up sheets are in the office or please call 941-485-2000 for more information.

### On-Line Reservation

(for courts 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, & 9 at either 8:00 am., 9:30 am., or 11:00 am)

#### BOOK/CALL ON

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

#### TO PLAY ON THE FOLLOWING:

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

The on-line reservation system will now be open all year around including all holidays.

Sunday (Office is Closed)

\*Court 4 is reserved for lessons.

\*During League Play ladies and men will use designated courts as assigned by the Director of Tennis.

# Meet Your Courtside Family!

Tami Roadarmel



## What brought you to Courtside:

I moved to Venice in August last year from Ojai, CA. In Ojai I belonged to the Athletic Club which had a strong tennis program. Prior to CA, I lived in NJ and belonged to a tennis club there as well. I visited 3 different clubs in the county and by far I felt most at home at Courtside. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming. I have not once regretted my decision. I am thoroughly enjoying all the tennis I'm playing and new friends I have made.

## How long have you been playing tennis and why tennis?

I have been playing tennis for approximately 21 years (give or take). I won't even mention how much I've spent on lessons! As for why tennis, I have been an avid tennis fan for most of my life so it made sense for me to take up the sport. The recent spate of GOATS (Williams sisters, Federer, Rafa) definitely inspired me to do so.

## Do you play other sports? Which ones?

I was a runner for many years, but stopped about 5 years ago. I do love pickle, but have not played since I moved to Florida. I love competition so I'm happy to play anything I can. And yes I prefer winning over losing. LOL

## Where have you travelled to and where would you recommend your fellow Courtside family travel to and why?

I have travelled quite extensively in my life throughout Europe, Asia, South America and many islands. I have also done 4 cross country trips, most recently from CA to Florida stopping at 8 National Parks which I did with my mom. Some of the parks were on her bucket list. I was so thrilled to be able to fulfill this dream for her. Our country is so beautiful, so this is the trip I would recommend to anyone and everyone.

## What did you do for a career?

I had a varied career, starting out at a painting and wallcovering contractor in NYC. I then moved to northern CA and began to work selling advertising for a newspaper chain. Here I worked my way up to Publisher at Metro Santa Cruz. After 12 years in northern CA, I moved back to the east coast and bought a home in New Jersey. I then published my own magazine. I published this for approximately 2 years. I then took a Vice President position at a newspaper in Philadelphia. Finally the last step in my career was at a digital media company Rentpath. I was the Vice President of Sales for the eastern states. I retired early once the CEO changed and, well I have some choice words about him I will not share...Turns out he was the best thing that could have happened to me as now I get to play tennis to my hearts content.

## What do you wish you knew more about?

The combustible engine. I don't even know how to open my hood and if I did would just stare at the engine with a dumb look. I pretty much quote Seinfeld whenever anything seems to be wrong with my car, so I always say "it's the Johnson rod."

## What are some things people at Courtside do not know about you?

That I'm a grown woman who still plays video games. Yes, I just admitted that.

## What talent do you wish you had?

X-ray vision and invisibility.

## What is the best thing about you?

The only way to answer this with humility is what I have heard from friends and acquaintances throughout my life. So what comes to mind is my sense of humor.

## Meals on Wheels

This past weekend, Courtside hosted the Meals on Wheels Art Auction featuring artwork from our own Kim Macalister. The event was hugely successful; six of the eight pastels that Kim created sold, raising \$6,910.00 for Meals on Wheels. Courtside members also raised an additional \$1,350.00 for cash cards, so the total donation to Meals on Wheels from the two programs at Courtside was \$8,260.00. **This was the largest fund raiser to date for the local Meals on Wheels Charity!**

I am very happy that Courtside members rallied together and contributed to this charity, it truly was a team effort! Many members helped make the event a success and I'd like to recognize them for helping (my apologies if I leave anyone out): Katherine Moen did a great job coordinating, organizing the event and helping set up, Arthur Quinby (Q) and Kim Macalister donated the art work and helped organized the event, Steve Meyers baked pastries for the event, Jorg Rauthe took great pictures to help document everything, Tom Lanigan, Leon Weatherall, Sandy Allen, Mitchell and Darlene Betty, Deb Cavness, and Dale Cole all helped set-up, run the event, and clean up afterwards.

Thank you again to all who helped make the Meals on Wheels Art Auction a successful event! Having members work together to help a local charity is one reason why Courtside Tennis Club is the Place for Tennis in Venice!

Matt Liverman

Tennis Director/Head Tennis Professional

## Our 70+ Women's 3.5 USTA Team came in Second Position

CONGRATULATIONS: Courtside Women's USTA team concluded their league season placing second in the Stats & Standings, right behind Island Walk.

Team members were:

Betsey Dale, Sue Hackney, Linda Pinder, Sally Pym, Suzanne Heslop, Darlene Newman, Lorraine Lynn, Beverly Bollman, Grace Mahoney, Beverly Lannon and Prudence Bell.

Teams which participated were from Longwood Hall, Island Walk, The Meadows and two teams from Payne Park.

Joan Feldmeier served as team captain.