

By **Bill Parsons**, Vice Chairman, Seven Oaks CDD

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

I N C R E A S E D



Events Done Bright adds lights to a palm tree at Ancient Oaks Blvd entrance

To say that holiday decorations at Seven Oaks increased in 2012 is an understatement. The CDD Board budgeted \$20,000 to increase the decorations for each entrance (i.e. Ancient Oaks Blvd., Mystic Oak Blvd., Summergate Blvd., and Eagleston Blvd) and the clubhouse as well as decorate the clock tower area for the first time.

Theresa Flores, Clubhouse Manager, and Bryan Cooper, Staff Supervisor, embraced this project with the same zeal that they use managing the clubhouse to ensure positive results. For the outside lighting, Theresa hired Events Done Bright, a company that has done an outstanding job for other communities in Tampa Bay. They installed over 175,000 lights.



Melanie Appel (left) and Sarah Horn (right) of the clubhouse management staff add decorations to the Christmas tree in the cafe.

Clock Tower, Holiday Lights and a Full Moon



Inside the clubhouse, Theresa had lots of help. The clubhouse management staff worked feverishly to ensure the clubhouse entrance and café were decorated so all Seven Oaks residents would not only enjoy it, but be very proud to show it to anyone. Denise and Daniela, of the clubhouse staff, decorated a very large tree that was positioned in the Clubhouse entranceway. A smaller tree was located in the café and was decorated by Sarah and Melanie. Holiday decorations were also placed throughout the clubhouse by Sheila, Sue and Katie to include the gathering room. Garland strung throughout the clubhouse was done courtesy of Jeremy and Brian from the maintenance staff. Outside lighting of the clubhouse was done by Theresa and Bryan. Excluding all pre-lit garland and trees, there were over 7,000 lights installed.



Bryan Cooper, Clubhouse Staff Supervisor, and Theresa Flores, Clubhouse Manager, add holiday lights to the trees in front of the clubhouse.

Not many managers can come in “under budget and ahead of schedule”, but Theresa did just that. Of the budgeted \$20,000, she spent less than \$16,000. To insure she got the best value, she contacted several vendors and chose the one with the best price, but this was not the only criteria. She chose the one who proposed more lights and decorations than the competing companies. The installation for the lights was \$13,000, and Events Done Bright agreed to install the holiday lights for the 2013 season for \$10,000, a 23 percent discount. The holiday decorations for the clubhouse were \$835.04. To take advantage of the pond water fountain at the S.R. 56 and Ancient Oaks Blvd entrance, Bob Semple, Field Operations Manager, hired Fountain Design Group to install colored lenses for \$450. Also positioned by the water fountain on the pond side is a menorah for the Jewish holidays. Vivicon, Seven Oaks landscaper, added 78 poinsettias for \$974.10. ❖



Daniela Orellana of the clubhouse management staff helps decorate the gathering room.



Denise Algarin (left) and Katie Murphy (right) of the clubhouse management staff decorate the Christmas tree in the entrance to the clubhouse.



At the Ancient Oaks Blvd entrance, a menorah, a traditional symbol of Judaism, was added this year.