



*Your  
Community Resource*

# The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

**OCTOBER 2014**

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## Highlights of September 8 Board of Directors Meeting

By Judy Sokal (and reviewed by Bobby Merrill)

Attending: Gwen Stepien, Vinny Barone, Joe Sefack, Walter Perkowski, Bobby Merrill

Property Manager Report: Shannon Banks reported that the broken streetlight had been replaced and 5 sidewalks repaired. Also, 73 non-compliance letters had been sent out since the last board meeting.

Treasurer's Report: We are under budget by \$23,000, but that money has already been targeted for mulching and trimming. The pool is over budget by \$1,700, but that was spent for necessary repairs.

ARC Report: New committee member Margaret Verhagen was approved by the board. Joe Sefack distributed a full copy of the ARC Guidelines to webmaster Gary Mruz, after noting that the website did not contain all the necessary info.

Maintenance Committee Report:

Landscape: West Bay took over on August 1 and is doing a good job thus far. 95% of the electrical work on sprinklers and lighting have been completed. More dead trees need to be removed.

Additional littoral plantings have been added to Rivendell and Gator Lakes. The main pump to Rivendell Lake has been replaced.

The board approved the following:

Not in excess of \$13,500 for replacement of trees.

Not in excess of \$15,000 for tree trimming of all oaks and palms on common areas.

Not in excess of \$2500 for Aquagenics to inspect and treat invasives in common areas.

Not in excess of \$600 to clean up the common area behind the brick wall by the Cottages.

Not in excess of \$800 for annuals and stump removal on the island on Placid Lake Dr.

(Continued on Pg.2)

## 2015 Community Directory By Carol Heckert

Lighthouse Property Management maintains a master file of all homeowners in Rivendell. They have agreed to also maintain the file for our Community Directory. We are asking all homeowners to update their files for accuracy. The Update Form is on page 3, and is to be sent directly to Lighthouse Property Management.

**Master File:** This file is used by Lighthouse Property Management for all communication from them to you, either by mail, phone, or email. It includes notice of the Annual Meeting and election of Board members, payment of semi-annual assessment fees, violation notices, etc. Your email address will enable them to send you a newsflash in case of an emergency.

**Community Directory File:** This file is used for our Community Directory and now, in addition, a copy of the directory will appear in the password protected section of the Rivendell website. Whereas the directory is updated annually, the website directory will be updated monthly. The Update Form on page 3 will allow you to opt out from including your phone numbers and email address in the directory, if you wish.

**Default:** If you fail to send the Update Form to Lighthouse Property Management, your information in the 2014 Community Directory will be carried over into the 2015 Directory, with the exception of your email address. A recent Florida statute forbids homeowner associations from publishing an email address without the owner's permission. You should also note that some mobile phone numbers in the 2014 Directory are incorrect.

None of the information you provide will be shared with a third party. Please take a few minutes and fill out the Update Form. Do it now!!

(Highlights continued from Pg.1)

The Board tabled approving monies for the overgrown common areas along Old Venice Road pending a plan on replacement shrubs. The clean-up would cost \$1,500, and new Areca Palms would cost \$6,750.

Pool: The Board approved an expenditure of (not to exceed) \$4,500 to replace the second old pool heater.

Lakes: Aquagenics completed a detailed report (at no cost to Rivendell) of all native plants and trees around our lakes to present to the County. The hope is that the number of existing plants will offset plantings from a grant that had died or were removed. The Board is waiting to hear back from the County.

New Business: There was a presentation by Kevin Kalley of Perma-Seal, Inc. to explain his company's flexible ceramic coating. This was part of the appeal process of a resident whose request had been denied by ARC. The Board asked ARC to reconsider based on the new information provided.

The Board voted to fine two homeowners who did not respond after receiving their 3rd violation notice.

Homeowners' Comments concerned 1) replacing additional dead trees throughout Rivendell and 2) the fence and privacy issue along Old Venice Rd.

Next Meeting: The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Oct. 6.

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**Volunteers Needed**  
**By Carol Heckert**

The Laurel Civic Association sponsors a Homework Assistance Program for children attending Laurel Nokomis School. The program takes place Monday through Thursday, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. The children who receive help with their homework range from kindergarten to 6th grade. Some have no one at home who can help them with homework. The program is very informal, with each volunteer helping whichever children come to his or her table for assistance.

**Volunteers are needed** – it's only 1½ hours per week! If you wish to volunteer, please contact the Program Coordinator, John Jefferson, at (941) 483-3338 or laurelcivic@comcast.net.



**Next Rivendell Board Meeting**  
**Oct 6th, 2014 6PM**  
**at Historic Spanish Point**  
**in Osprey**

**Any changes to this date**  
**will be posted on the website**  
**www.rivendellcommunity.com**

**Next Maintenance Committee Meeting**

**The Maintenance Committee meets the last Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Cottages Clubhouse**

# COMMUNITY DIRECTORY UPDATE FORM

From: Lighthouse Property Management

To: Rivendell Owners

As a consequence of a change to the Florida statutes concerning published directories, the Association may publish a directory containing the names, parcel addresses, and phone numbers of the unit owners. No owner consent is necessary for this basic information. However, a unit owner has the right to notify the Association in writing that the owner does not want one or more phone numbers listed in the directory.

A unit owner may also choose to have additional personal information included in the directory, including a facsimile number, email address, and alternate address (any address other than the primary address for mailing of formal notices from the Association).

Please assist the Board in maintaining current information we have on file for you by taking just a moment to fill out the lower portion of this form, sign and return it to Lighthouse property Management via email (tinabeaver@mgmt.tv), fax (941) 966-7158 or mail it to our office.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Tina Beaver at Lighthouse Property Management (941) 966-6844.

Thank You.

Owner(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- No, do not include my landline number in directory
- No, do not include my mobile number in directory
- No, do not include my Email address in directory

I hereby consent to publication of my phone number(s), facsimile number, email address, and/or alternate address as set forth above in the resident directory to be provided to all owners. The Association cannot control distribution of the directory once delivered to the owners and asks all owners to be courteous and not provide information from the directory to any third parties. This consent will remain in effect for all future directories while you are a unit owner or until you rescind this permission in writing. Any termination of permission will take effect with the next publication of the resident directory.

-----  
Owner signature

-----  
Date



## Dining for Women

Changing the World One Dinner at a Time

### Dining For Women By Marilyn Probert

Several Rivendell Residents are participating in a worthwhile and fun non-profit, and would love for you to join them. Dining For Women is a national charitable organization that fosters good health, education, and economic and vocational training for women in third world countries. A national board studies and selects charities that meet strict criteria for aid. Each month the members gather to learn about the particular selected charity and its country's customs and lifestyle. We each contribute to a potluck dinner; and, although it's not required, many of us bring food that would be served in that country. Suggested recipes are available on the DFW website. At the meeting we each contribute an amount of money that could cover the cost of a restaurant meal; this is sent to the national headquarters, which distributes it to the charity.

At a recent meeting, we helped to fund scholarships for a school for young women in Tanzania. After 3 years of study, these young women will



**Tanzanian women at school**

be certified as nurses and midwives and able to return to their villages to help themselves, their families, and their neighbors to have access to competent health care.

Two attendees had been to Tanzania and their observations and insights were valuable. One interesting tidbit: although Tanzanians' diets consist mainly of fruits and vegetables, a source of protein

is cow's milk mixed with cow's blood. This was not served at our dinner, however!

Dining for Women provides an opportunity to help others while spending a stimulating evening with vibrant, interesting women. Preparing and sampling unusual foods that we don't often eat is an added plus.

For more information, visit [www.diningforwomen.org](http://www.diningforwomen.org).

For information on local gatherings please contact Beth Palmer at [beth.palmer3@verizon.net](mailto:beth.palmer3@verizon.net).



### Hey, Watch Out!

**That low-hanging limb from your tree, or those branches from your bushes, may be hitting neighborhood walkers, vehicles or other service personnel. Please trim low-hanging or protruding limbs & branches that may be hindering access to sidewalks, roads, mailboxes, lampposts or driveways!**

## Maintenance Committee Report - August 27, 2014

Committee Members attending - **Dave Gill, Sallie Hawkins, Carole Myles, Jim Stepien (Chair)**

We have finished what has probably been the largest and most significant project in the community since the builder turned over the Association to the homeowners. The irrigation/electric project has been successfully completed. The current Board of Directors deserves the entire community's thanks and appreciation for substantially improving The Woodlands at Rivendell for now and many years to come. See more details under Landscape Items.

### Landscape Items:

- The Board approved West Bay Landscaping to be our new landscape company for our common lands. They began servicing the community on August 1st. Our mowing and trimming day will move to Fridays. We anticipate and look forward to their professionalism and attention to detail to help our community look its best.
- The following common areas now have permanent irrigation - Pine Pond on Placid Lake Drive, Golden Pond on Placid Lake Drive, and Placid and Eagle Lakes on Scherer Way. Along with the new irrigation, we were able to install landscape lighting for the Sabal Palm plantings at the aforementioned irrigation locations and additionally on the traffic island at the intersection of Rivendell Boulevard and Placid Lake Drive, at the Sabal Palm plantings on Ibis Lake on Placid Lake Drive, the community signs located at the bridge on Rivendell Boulevard and the community entrance sign on Scherer Way.
- The Board will be asked to fund the distribution of bark mulch to all of the common areas in the community.
- The Board will be asked to fund an annual contract to have our taller oak and palm trees trimmed on a continuing basis throughout the year.
- The Board will be asked to fund an annual contract to control invasive grasses, plants and trees in all of our common areas to benefit the native and other landscape plantings throughout the community.
- A number of dead palm and pine trees have been identified on common lands and will be removed as soon as possible. These trees will be replaced if the location is consistent with re-planting.
- The Board will be asked to fund the removal and clean up of the area behind the fence along Old Venice Road and replant with areca palms to increase homeowner privacy.

- The Board will be asked to fund the clean up and removal of invasive plants behind the wall at the front entrance.

### Pool Items:

1. The Board will be asked to replace the older heat pump to assure a comfortable pool temperature can be maintained in the coming cooler season.
2. We will be reviewing the current pool furniture and will make a proposal to the Board for replacing deteriorating items.

### Lakes/Pond Items:

1. Littoral planting in Rivendell and Gator Lakes has been completed.

### Preserve/Wetlands Items:

No issues

### Other Items:

1. The main well pump used to replenish Rivendell Lake for our irrigation needs failed and was replaced by our new landscape company. This should stabilize the lake's level when we encounter low rainfall.
2. Two streetlights were damaged; one at the corner of Rivendell Boulevard and Rainbow Point Way was hit by a vehicle and had to be replaced, the second, on Rainbow Point Way, had its base damaged and was able to be repaired.
3. The County has repaired a number of sidewalks on Rivendell Boulevard, Rainbow Point Way and Shadow Bay Way that had been damaged by oak tree roots. We will continue to request that the remaining sidewalks damaged by oak tree roots be repaired as soon as possible by the County.
4. The Board will be asked to fund the restoration of the following items at Crescent Park: replace wood edging around the play area, remove and repair the concrete sidewalk, replace bulletin board, repair damaged wood on the play set and also on the gazebo and replace the slide in the play area.

I would encourage all homeowners to attend our monthly meetings for accurate information on any of our ongoing projects. We would also welcome new members to help with the MC's volunteer efforts to manage the many needs of our community.

Please report any problems you notice to Lighthouse Property Management.

*Next MC meetings September 24 and October 29, 2014 at 7pm in the Cottages Clubhouse.*



## Florida scientists warn: Don't touch this bug

Submitted by Judy Sokal, excerpted from Fox 13 Tampa Bay 09/04/2014

Photos courtesy of FOX 13 viewer Jason Hershberger.

<http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/story/26437401/florida-scientists-dont-touch-this-bug>

As far as bugs go, caterpillars are usually pretty tame – except for one. It's a fat, furry caterpillar that is popping up in trees across Florida, and it's known as the "puss caterpillar," or *Megalopyge opercularis*. Whatever you do, do not touch this bug. Stay away from it, scientists say.



Its fur is actually covered in venom. Doctors from the University of Florida say the second you touch this caterpillar you feel instant, intense pain. The pain is worse than a bee, jellyfish, or scorpion, and it can also cause vomiting and convulsions. Doctors say be aware of them while working outdoors because they are known to fall out of trees; most often they are found on oaks and citrus.



The poison center in Tampa provided the following information:

**Description:** A convex, stout-bodied larva, almost 1" long when mature, and completely covered with gray to brown hairs. Under the soft hairs are stiff spines that are attached to poison glands. When touched, these poisonous spines break off in the skin and cause severe pain. Florida has two generations a year, one in spring and the other in fall.

**Possible Symptoms:** Some people experience severe reactions to the poison released by the spines and require medical attention. Others experience only an itching or burning sensation.

**Recommended Treatment Protocol:** Place Scotch tape over the affected area and strip off repeatedly to remove spines. Apply ice packs to reduce the stinging sensation, and follow with a paste of baking soda and water. If the victim has a history of hay fever, asthma or allergy, or if allergic reactions develop, contact a physician immediately.



October 14th

## Places To Go: Sunken Gardens in St. Petersburg

By Pam Babbitt

<http://www.stpete.org/sunken/index.asp>

If you haven't been to the "Sunken Gardens" in St. Petersburg, you should go. The 4-acre attraction in downtown St. Petersburg is over 100 years old and is a botanical delight that features more than 50,000 tropical plants (representing over 500 species), butterflies, koi ponds, plus flamingos and other exotic birds (we saw a kookaburra when we visited).

Paved pathways make it easy to wander through the garden to view the tropical and sub-tropical plants. Markers have identified many of the plants. We were amazed at the size and height of the familiar plants that we have in our Rivendell yard – but ours are much shorter and smaller.

Visitors will enjoy caladiums, white birds of paradise, crotons, and orchids. The Gardens also feature Cuban royal palms and bougainvillea – among the oldest in the Southeastern United States. The colorful displays of bougainvillea cover tall walls – they are in full bloom during the spring.



The Sunken Gardens began in 1903, when a plumber named George Turner, Sr. purchased the land. Using clay tiles, he drained an ancient lake on the property, leaving a rich soil that was ideal for his garden. Neighbors enjoyed strolling through Mr. Turner's garden, and by the 1920's, he charged a nickel for a tour.

Three generations of the Turner family continued the garden until St. Petersburg purchased it in 1999 with funds from a voter approved tax. The city's goal is to preserve this historic garden and provide cultural and educational opportunities. The city restored the building and it is the

home for "Great Explorations", a children's science museum that offers touring exhibits: <http://greatex.org>

*Enjoy your relaxing visit to this small retreat in St. Petersburg.*

**Address:** 1825 4th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL

**Phone:** (727) 551-3102

**Hours:** Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: Noon to 4:30 p.m.

**Admission:** Adults \$8 Seniors (62+) \$6 Children (2-11) \$4

Free for garden members (or Selby Garden members) and children under 2-years of age.

Free parking is available on site. Most areas are handicap accessible.

Wheelchairs are available free of charge on a first come first serve basis.

**Guidelines** for safety, enjoyment, and to protect the garden:

- No smoking except in designated area
- No pets allowed (Seeing-eye dogs are permitted.)
- Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

**Restaurants nearby:** Carrabba's Italian Grill, Panera Bread, and Outback Steakhouse.



## Rainy Day on Pine View Path By Nancy Dobias

This is a photo I took in September 2013 after we had had some heavy rains. I had been walking on the path behind Pine View School and noticed that the land was flooded but it looked beautiful to me. I couldn't wait to get home to get my camera so I could take some pictures.

What was interesting was that when I was taking the photo, a man came along and thought I was recording how disgusting the sight was! He thought it was the ugliest



swamp he ever saw and he couldn't believe somebody wasn't doing something about it. I told him, "If you stop a moment to look deep into the preserve at all the shades of green, the reflection that's glistening off the water, maybe you too might see the wonder of it all..." His answer, "Nope, I'm in a hurry. It's an ugly swamp!" I guess my eye is drawn to the interior, to that tall grass...what might be there? Or what is just beyond that tree line.... or just around that bend to the right...or maybe, just maybe, what might be lurking in that water.... making his move as I'm focusing my camera? No, it'll never be an ugly swamp to me! It's a snapshot of Florida's past, the mysteries that she still holds if you only take the moment to look and marvel.

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**Michael Saunders  
& Company**

Licensed Real Estate Broker

(941) 966-8000 MAIN OFFICE

[WWW.MichaelSaunders.com](http://WWW.MichaelSaunders.com)

8860 S. Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34238

*Rivendell*  
**RESIDENT & AGENT**



## What We Can Learn From Dogs

### By Nancy Dobias



Did you ever look into a dog's eyes and notice the devotion, the love, the joy, the happiness that just seems to be at the very essence of their being? I always wondered if God gave us dogs to model what His love might be like. I know if I had modeled my life and behavior after all the dogs we had brought into our home, what a different person I would be....

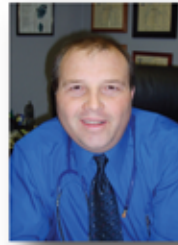
When the alarm would go off in the morning, I would celebrate the new day a'dawning and eagerly jump out of bed, run down for breakfast, get ready for work and then excitedly jump up and down at getting to go out that door!

When I would be working, I would be enthusiastically attacking all tasks before me. Undaunted, nothing would be too boring, or too mundane to not warrant my full and undivided attention. With zest I would revel in the work before me.

When I would return home, I would be all smiles with a boundless love awaiting all within that sanctuary that I call home. Making the most of what I have, safeguarding my "treasures" would become my paramount mission when I would open that door and enter within.

Yes, dogs can teach us a lot, and Larry and I loved and were loved by numerous dogs (and cats!) over the years. Although we no longer have any dogs in our home, we have certainly met and love those Rivendell dogs! This picture is of Ruby, the beloved and devoted dog of Debbie and Greg Volack, our neighbors. Ruby is a sweetheart and she just loves to eat whatever she can find on the Rivendell lawns, much to the dismay of Debbie and Greg...

## Top 40 Professionals 2014



## One Attempt

**Blair Post HAS, BC-HIS, ACA**  
Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences  
American Conference of Audioprosthology

I had attended a social gathering. As Karen and I were walking into the party my fellow Rotarian introduced me to his guest. Identifying me as the "hearing guy." I never heard anyone actually call me that and I am really ok with that title.

His guest owned up that she needed hearing aids but when she tried them she could hear herself chew and it was unpleasant. She even told the other man about her discomfort. He said she would get used to it.

Karen heard her and reassured her that no she doesn't have to get used to it.

When wearing a new technology level or hearing aids for the first time, your brain can be startled by sounds it hasn't heard for a long time (birds chirping) or sounds that are unusual (whir of computer fan). These type of sounds will not always startle your brain.

Hearing yourself chew is not a sound that is new to your brain. This is a program adjustment that is needed.

I've kept in my office a can of nuts for years to allow anyone with this complaint to actually eat while programming to ensure their comfort at all times during their lifestyle. And as we can see, eating is one of my favorite lifestyle moments.

It really saddened me that a business owner didn't look for a solution. Programming is blending your hearing loss with what you love to spend time doing, your best lifestyle.

I've met people who love playing bridge, fishing, boating (which is different), tennis, golf and guns. Each of these activities has a very different priority for hearing and then blend in each individual's loss to ensure they are experiencing the best they can for their lifestyle, that is proper programming.

**(941) 244-9300**

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Miami Ave and Milan Ave on southbound side.

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**ContemporaryHearing.com**

## Croissant & Co., French Artisan Bakery and Café By Catherine Middleton



A few months ago, Benjamin Cloarec, originally from Brittany in Western France, opened this quaint and very authentic bakery and café. He and his family came to Florida on a vacation and ended up moving to Venice to start this business. The café is small and seats about 36. It is furnished with tables and chairs as well as comfortable sofas and coffee tables. The atmosphere is light and airy and, of course, filled with the wonderful aromas of baking breads and pastries.

They have a lovely selection of hot and cold sandwiches (many served on croissants, of course!) as well as salads, quiche and my own choice: Fougasses. When I asked what that was exactly, our server said it would be easier to show me one than to describe it and so she did. On the menu it is listed as "bread dough with Swiss cheese, fresh cream and your choice of garniture." I had the smoked salmon and I will tell you, I could only eat half, it was so rich. It kept well and I had the other half the next day. My friend had the Brie and prosciutto sandwich. Both were served with a small side salad.

The display cases in the bakery itself are stocked with some very decadent breads, pastries and desserts. I do believe I gained weight just passing by them... I look forward to my next visit.

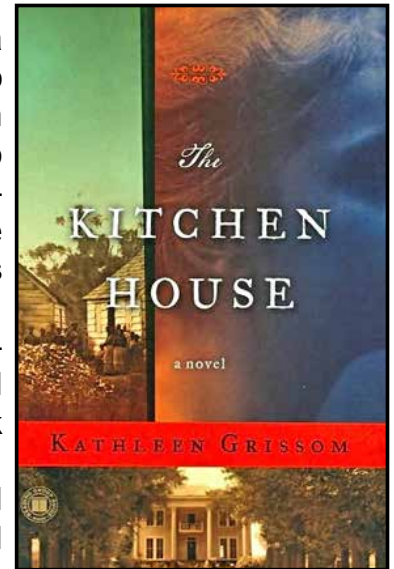
Croissant & Co. is open daily from 8:00 to 5:00. I have only eaten there once for lunch, and by the time we left, the line was out the door. They do not have an individual website, but I highly recommend visiting them on Facebook for more information and some fabulous photos of their offerings! The café is located on Venice Island at 323 W. Venice Ave. Venice, FL, and the number is 941-480-1700.



## Book Group Schedule By Marilyn Probert

The Book Group will meet on Monday, October 13 to discuss *The Kitchen House*, a historical novel by

Kathleen Grissom. Lavinia, a white 7-year-old, has been orphaned after her parents die on a ship on their way to America. The captain of the ship brings her to his home as an indentured servant where she lives and works with the other help, who are slaves. Lavinia comes to love and bond with her black family. After a time, she becomes accepted in the big house, and then she must attempt



to straddle both worlds. Cindy Schmidl will host at her home at 1100 Mallard Marsh Drive. Please call Cindy at 918-1570 if you'd like to participate.

The November selection will be *The Language of Flowers*, a debut novel by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. The protagonist, Victoria Jones, has grown up in California's foster care system. For various reasons, none of her placements have worked out, and now Victoria is eighteen and on her own. Victoria manages to alienate many who try to help her, but there are some who love her and forgive her antics.

In December we will discuss Harry Belafonte's memoir *My Song*, a recollection of his life as a beloved folk singer and as a civil rights activist.

The Book Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. All Rivendell residents are welcome; please call the month's hostess if you'd like to attend.

## RESIDENTS HELPING RESIDENTS

**KNITTING AND CROCHETING:** Rivendell Cottages Resident **Connie Woodward** is offering individual or small group crocheting or knitting classes in her home at 579 Meadow Sweet Circle. Bring your yarn and needles. You can have your project completed by Christmas! I have many different patterns to teach you. Please call **941-966-1259** to make reservations.

**CAT SITTER: Kay Adams**, a longtime resident of Rivendell and a stay-at-home mom, offers cat sitting service to Rivendell residents. Kay is very responsible and loves cats. Reasonable rate. Call **941-966-2939** or email [kayadamsart@gmail.com](mailto:kayadamsart@gmail.com).

**BABYSITTER:** 14 year-old Rivendell Pine View student has certified American Red Cross Babysitter's Training with Pediatric First Aid and CPR. I absolutely love kids! Call **Zoe Gavette** at **941-918-8200**.

**BABYSITTER: Natasha Nielsen**, Pine View School junior, can watch your children while you go out. I can also help with homework. I am polite and responsible and am CPR certified through the American Red Cross. Call **941-966-1419**.

**LAMPPOST REPAIR:** Rivendell Resident **Bill Bloom** is offering lamppost repair services. Is your lamppost light staying on? Charge is \$40 for parts, labor and cleaning. Replacing a burned out bulb is \$15, and this includes new bulb and cleaning. Call **941-918-8386**.

**BABYSITTER: Sivan Yohann**, **941- 408-5549**, a Pine View junior and a very experienced babysitter. I will keep your kids busy with soccer and crafts and all sorts of activities. I am extremely friendly and responsible! References available upon request.

**BIKE REPAIRS, KAYAK AND BIKE RENTALS:** **Mike and Sheila Lewis** offer free delivery and pick-up to Rivendell residents for bike and kayak rentals, bike repairs and maintenance. Call **941 346-1797**-or email [ssrentals@aol.com](mailto:ssrentals@aol.com) or visit their web site at [www.siestasportsrentals.com](http://www.siestasportsrentals.com)

**COMPUTER REPAIR AND INSTRUCTION PLUS ALL HOME ELECTRONICS (TABLETS, SMART PHONES, TV's, DVD's, NETFLIX and MORE):** For Rivendell & Willowbend residents I charge a very reasonable \$20 an hour rate. I also offer flat charges such as \$40 max for any computer virus repair taking over one hour. I am a Rivendell resident with thirty years computer and home automation experience. Call **Gary Mruz 941-786-6019** or email [gary.mruz@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mruz@gmail.com)

**WANTED: CAVALIER KING CHARLES OWNERS!** Do you have a well mannered, potty trained Cavalier and would like to reciprocate sitting services with me while you or I are away, or use as back-up in case of emergency? Must be up to date on all shots and flea/heartworm protected. No monies involved, just assurance that our babies are being well taken care of and loved while we are on vacation. Apollo would love to have a new friend. Call **Anita @ 941-321-0452** if interested.

**BABYSITTER, PET SITTER: Nathalie Michalowski**, resident of Rivendell, 25 years old, and certified babysitter/nanny, offers baby-sitting service. I'm very responsible, I love kids, and have 9 years experience. I also offer pet sitting service. References are available upon request. Please call at **941-726-5958**.

### Rivendell Residents

Please send your name, phone number, and a description of the service you can provide to other Rivendell residents.

Email your information to Marilyn at [marilynprobert@gmail.com](mailto:marilynprobert@gmail.com)



## Architectural Review Committee Minutes 08/26/2014

The ARC meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm with a quorum of committee members present. Committee Chair Jessica Fenton; Members: Jim Stepien and John Martin.

Board Liaison: Joe Sefack

The following applications were reviewed and decided upon for action.

ITEM	ADDRESS	WORKPLAN	RESOLUTION
<b>Old Business</b>			
1.	925 Eagle Isle Court	Addition.	<i>Resolved: On hold Motion: Jessica 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous Reason: Further information needed.</i>
2.	700 Shadow Bay Way and 1211 Lost Creek Court	Applications have been denied or dismissed.	Not up for a vote; an update of communications with applicants.
<b>New Business</b>			
1	1112 Mallard Marsh Drive	Repaint house	Resolved: Approval, with the understanding that door color is meant for the front door only. Motion: Jim 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous
2	669 Rivendell Boulevard	Landscaping	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jessica 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous
3	1035 Scherer Way	Landscaping	Resolved: Approved Motion: John 2nd: Jim Vote: Unanimous
4	1125 Scherer Way	Repaint house	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jessica 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous
5	727 Shadow Bay Way	Rescreen lanai	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim
6	913 Eagle Isle Court	Repaint house	Resolved: Approved Motion: Jim 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous

7	1156 Mallard Marsh Drive	Repaint house	Resolved: House & trim Approved door denied Motion: Jim 2nd: John Vote: Unanimous Reason: Color selection too dark.
8	ARC Candidate	Margaret Verhagen as new member of ARC. Jessica Fenton as new chairperson of ARC.	Resolved: Approved Motion: John 2nd: Jim Vote: Unanimous

Next meetings **September 30, 2014** and **October 28, 2014 at 6 pm.**

Motion to close the meeting: Jessica

Second: John

Vote: Unanimous

ARC meeting adjourned a 6:33 pm.

## Next Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Meeting

The ARC Meets the **last Tuesday** of each month at 6:00pm

Location: Cottages Clubhouse

Applications are due to Lighthouse Management by the **third Tuesday** of each month.

**NOTE:** The ARC recommends that applications be received one week before the next meeting. Applications received after the monthly date will have to wait until following month.

**REMINDER:** If you are submitting an ARC Application Form for landscape changes, you must attach a copy of your Site Plan (also called a Survey of Lot or Plot Plan or Plat). Your application will NOT be reviewed without a copy and this would delay your work. The Site Plan should show names of specific plants and locations for proposed landscaping or fencing.

*Dates, times, and locations of meetings are based on the information available at the time of publication.*



The Rivendell Website Classifieds  
has many unique items for sale  
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**RIVENDELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
A Corporation Not for Profit  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING June 2, 2014**

Editors' Note: The following are the official minutes of the Rivendell Board of Directors. As such, they are published as they are received. The Woodlands Word is not responsible for any errors in spelling, grammar, or content. The official Board Minutes can also be viewed on-line at the Rivendell website.

A *REGULAR MEETING* of the Board of Directors was scheduled to be held at 6:00 P.M., at the Historic Spanish Point at 337 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M., by Shannon Banks of Lighthouse Property Management.

Notice of the meeting was delivered to each Director and posted on the property prior meeting, in accordance with the requirements of the Association Documents and Florida Statutes.

The following Directors were present:

Vincent Barone, Bobby Merrill, Joe Sefack, Gwen Stepien, Walter Perkowski; A quorum was declared to be present.

On matters relating to the minutes of the previous meeting a motion was made by Ms. Stepien and seconded by Mr. Merrill to approve the Regular Board of Directors meeting minutes of May 5, 2014. The motion was passed.

#### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS,**

**Manager's Report,** Ms. Banks provided a report (see attachment #1).

**Treasurer's Report,** Mr. Marrill provided a report of the most recent financials stating that the pool repair expenses are over budget due to the installation of the new main drain cover. But overall the year to date is in good standing, showing under budget by approx. \$14,600.00. However there are projects coming up, like mulch and Tree/ Palm trimming.

#### **Committee Reports,**

**ARC,** Mr. Sefack reported there were nineteen (19) applications processed at the last meeting; fourteen (14) were approved; three (3) were put on hold and two (2) denied. Next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2014.

**Maintenance Committee,** Mr. Stepien reported the following:

- Right of way permit requested from the county to continue progress on the irrigation/ lighting project.
- Landscape services contracts discussed and a summary was provided to the Board. It is suggested the Board go with West Bay.
- Restroom upgrades are pending install within two weeks
- Lakes- Literal plantings to be in by the end of the week.
- Preserves and wetlands - no issues.
- Committee is requesting annual trimming contracts for Oak/Palms/ Pines over 15 feet tall
- It has been reported there has been positive feedback in regards to the new pool company, Pebble Pools.

Matters relating to the recommendation by the maintenance committee the Board consider awarding the landscape contract to West Bay Landscape. A motion was made by Mr. Perkowski and seconded by Mr. Sefack:

**MOTION 14-16:** to award West Bay Landscape the contract to maintain the community, pending an interview confirming the contract specifications.

Motion passed.

Communications, Ms. Heckert reported they met with Lighthouse to discuss how management can get involved the updating of the website database. The meeting was successful and a plan of action was prepared.

#### **Old Business,**

Matters relating to Association documents, a motion was made by Mr. Sefack to appoint a committee to review the current set of association documents and provide a report to the Board in regards to proposed amendments. No one seconded the motion and the matter is considered closed.



Matters relating to the truck parking rule, A summary of revisions to the existing rule was provided by Mr. Barone to Ms. Stepien for her review and input. The revisions were discussed, but since the entire Board was not provided these suggested revisions a motion was made by Mr. Merrill and seconded by Ms. Stepien:

**MOTION 14-17:** to table further discussion until the entire Board has had time to review suggested revisions.  
Motion passed.

The Board scheduled their next meeting for September 8, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

#### Owner Comments,

An owner added that the annual contract for trimming should include a hard prune. The committee chair responded that the overall feel is this is not favorable by the residents and not sure it is required.

An owner requested that a plan of action be formulated for the spending of the budgeted line of \$8,000.00 for tree replacement. A motion was made by Mr. Perkowski and seconded Mr. Sefack:

**MOTION 14-18:** to approve up to \$8,000 of tree replacement funds to be expensed once the approval from the county is received, so that the funds are available to offset the liability to the grant. Motion passed.

An owner requested a timeframe as to when he can expect the water fountain to be installed. LPM advised within two weeks.

With no further business before the Board, a motion made by Mr. Perkowski and seconded by Mr. Sefack, the meeting adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shannon Banks, CAM  
Lighthouse Property Management

Dated: This 9th day of June, 2014.

#### ATTACHMENT # 1

##### Manager's Report

##### On Site/Maintenance-

- Compliance drives through community (5.14.14)
- Requested street light repairs as needed (Done as of 6.2.14)
- Requested the cleaning of the street lights (Pending Scheduling)
- Bathroom Update- Items received and pending install
- Ordered new swing seat for playground (\$179.00)

##### Administrative-

- Forwarded financials to Board for review.
- Forwarded draft agenda to board for review.
- Forwarded draft minutes for review.
- Forwarded ARC requests to committee.
- Forwarded approved minutes to Ms. Babbit for publishing in the newsletter.
- Send out email blast in regards to BOD meeting.
- Process pool area reservations: 751 FB (6/8/201 1 to 3 pm)

##### Correspondence-

- Letters sent to homeowners regarding submitted ARC forms.
- Letters sent to homeowners with compliance violations.
- Email Correspondences.

##### Compliance-

- Compliance letters mailed to homeowners since last meeting.
- Letters mailed: 44

Shannon Banks, CAM Managing Agent





## Rivendell Communication Committee

Please volunteer to serve on the Communication Committee. Many opportunities are available to match your interests and time.

Get to know your neighbors and help your community by contacting Carol at [carolheckert@verizon.net](mailto:carolheckert@verizon.net)

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**Use of the Rivendell Website continues to grow!**

**Over the past 30 days (Aug 10 to Sep 9) the community website had 153 unique visitors. The website stats for the 30 day period show that 67% of those who accessed the website were returning visitors and the other 33% were people accessing the website for the first time. This month's website visitors came from the U.S.A. (92%), Brazil (4%), United Kingdom (2%), Canada (.5%), Italy (.5%), Malaysia (.5%), Argentina (.25%), Belgium (.25%), Spain (.25%) and Japan (.25%).**

**The most popular website pages are Contacts, Our Community, Classifieds, News, Documents and Information.**

**REMEMBER: Some of the website sections are password protected. When prompted for the password enter the word osprey in lowercase.**



## LOOKING FOR RIVENDELL CLASSIFIEDS?



ITEMS FOR SALE,  
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RESIDENTS, SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

All Rivendell Classifieds are now on the new community website

[www.rivendellcommunity.com](http://www.rivendellcommunity.com)  
(password is osprey)

For other information regarding the Rivendell classifieds  
please contact Gary Mruz [gary.mruz@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mruz@gmail.com)



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## RCA Committees 2014

### Communications

**Board Liaison:** Bobby Merrill

**Chair:** Carol Heckert (carolheckert@verizon.net)

**Database Liaison:** Barb Gahry

**Block Captains:** Cindy Schmidl

**Newsletter:** Linda Pearlstein, Judy Sokal, Kay Mruz, Marilyn Probert

**Reporters:** Mary Kennedy, Ed Lin, Pam Babbitt, Catherine Middleton, Norma Lee Rhines, Nancy Dobias

**Reporter Representative:** Mike Bergman

**Webmaster:** Gary Mruz

### Architectural Review (ARC)

**Board Liaison:** Joe Sefack

**Chair:** Jessica Fenton

**Committee Members:** Jim Stepien, John Martin, Cindy Caria, Margaret Verhagen

### Maintenance Committee (combining Landscape/ Environmental & Pool)

**Board Liaison:** Walter Perkowski

**Chair:** Jim Stepien (jimstepien@gmail.com)

**Committee Members:** Bill Bloom, Dave Gill, Sallie Hawkins, Carol Heckert, Carole Myles, Curt Kennedy, Joe Lucente

**Access the Rivendell website at:**

<http://www.rivendellcommunity.com>

**Your input and feedback are always encouraged and welcomed.**

**Deadline:** Submit articles and information to **Judy Sokal** (judysokal@gmail.com) by the tenth of the month.

### Sarasota County Sheriff

**Non-emergency Contact number for our area is:**  
**316-1201**

Please use this number for non-emergencies

## Rivendell Board of Directors

**Gwen Stepien, president**

(gweninthesun@msn.com)

**Vinny Barone, first vice-president**

(vabarone5@gmail.com)

**Joe Sefack, second vice-president**

(jr.sefack@gmail.com)

Liaison to Architectural Review (ARC)

**Walter Perkowski, secretary**

(walter@SRQmoves.com)

Liaison to Maintenance

**Bobby Merrill, treasurer**

(bobbymerrill3@aol.com)

Liaison to Communications

## Sub-Association Officers

### The Cottages Board of Directors

RU1NA = Rivendell Unit 1 Neighborhood Association

Ken Alarie, President

Steve Bragg, 1st Vice President

Bill Vanik, 2nd Vice President

Margery Arendt, Treasurer

Carol Costa, Secretary

### Patio Homes Board of Directors

Edward Diggs, President

Jayne Irene, Secretary

Bruce Whalen, Treasurer

### The Villas Board of Directors

Dianne Enger, President

Ruth Sellick, Vice-President

Fred Hawkins, Secretary-Treasurer

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**Question? Complaint? Concern?**

**Lighthouse Property Management: 966-6844**

Property Manager: Shannon Banks, shannonbanks@mgmt.tv

Assistant: Tina Beaver, tinabeaver@mgmt.tv

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