



# The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

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June 2010

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**CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!**



## 11 Rivendell Homes Feature Florida Friendly Yards by Nancy Wettlaufer

Over the past two years, 11 Rivendell homeowners have participated in a Landscape Perception study conducted by a team of researchers from the University of Central Florida, (see *Woodlands Word April 2009 Special Feature*). Their efforts are now coming to fruition. You may have noticed the striking purples, yellows and reds in some Rivendell yards this spring.

Before planting our own yard in April, we asked some of the earlier participants for advice. The Heckert-Champer yards nearby represented the only collaboration in the study, and both families were pleased with the results, especially the colorful bromeliad pathway between the two homes. Several Phase I participants reported seeing many more migrating birds and butterflies this year. Vic McMurry commented, "We had 20 percent Florida Natives and 80 percent Florida Friendly. The percentages should have been reversed." His advice has now become the norm in phase II plantings.

*Continues on page 5*

## Message from the President of the Rivendell Board

By Mark Adler

*Editors Note: This message was also sent via e-mail on May 13, 2010*

Last week the Rivendell Board of Directors postponed its May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. This action was taken due to events beyond the Board's control. Specifically, there is a group of residents who have organized an ongoing opposition to all Board initiatives and activities creating nearly impossible impediments for the Board to overcome in its service to the Rivendell Community.

As you will recall, Rivendell held an election on February 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. There were 10 candidates for 4 open seats. The candidates split themselves into 2 separate slates and 2 independents. One of the slates swept all 4 seats. Except for a tight race between fourth and fifth place, the election results were very decisive.

*Continues on page 4*

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## Rivendell Attorney Addresses Rogue Website

Rivendell's attorney has sent homeowner Greg Warner a courier-delivered letter disavowing the Board of Directors' responsibility for the website called Rivendellnews.com. A copy of that letter, and the preface to it, appear on page 14 of this issue.

The Communications Committee, *The Woodlands Word*, and Rivendell's official website [www.rivendell-fl.com](http://www.rivendell-fl.com), try their best to provide all homeowners with important information as requested by the Board of Directors and its president. Publishing the letter in the newsletter also saves our Association the cost of a mailing to 500 homes. *The Woodlands Word* is not responsible for, or in any way expressing an opinion on, the letter's content, which was prepared by attorney Kevin T. Wells, consultant to the Rivendell Board of Directors.



Cavities, Dry Mouth, Diabetic, overweight?

# Eat More Candy!

Dr. Greenspan has been a proponent of a naturally occurring sugar substitute Xylitol and has found that using Xylitol gum and candies helps to keep the mouth moist, sugar levels down, reduces appetite and has an anti microbial effect.

Xylitol has very low glycolic index so it's diabetic friendly and tolerated very well by almost everyone.

Richard J. Greenspan, a Sarasota dentist for over 18 years, knows the importance of good nutrition and true mind body awareness. For years he has been informing and educating patients about the importance of a healthy life style and good oral hygiene practices.

We welcome you to visit us at Palmer Ranch Dental for free samples of Xylitol gum and candy.

Palmer Ranch Dental  
8800 South Tamiami Trail,  
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CAC1813521

## COMMITTEES AT WORK

### Communications Committee Update

The Communications Committee has delivered the 2010 Rivendell Community Directory to residents.

The <http://www.rivendell-fl.com> website is frequently adding new material and the Communications web page contains two links: The **Who We Are** page that lists committee chairs and their email addresses and **Riva's List** – this contains the recommended service providers for several years.

The name "Riva" was chosen because sometime in antiquity it was derived from a meaning of "riverbank"; in addition, it might remind one of an Angie's list and it's close to the sound of Rivendell (i.e. Riven / Riva).

There is also a new link on the [www.rivendell-fl.com](http://www.rivendell-fl.com) Environmental Committee page for the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster. On this page you will find many useful articles, maps and other information such as seafood safety, etc. While visiting the website be sure to check out the color photos that appear in issues of the *Woodlands Word* (under the Document and Forms button). ■

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## NEW WEB SITE ACCESS

[www.rivendell-fl.com](http://www.rivendell-fl.com)

**Four links are available:**

**Committees** for committees and links.

**Documents and Forms** are password protected - the user name is: Iamaresident (capital I necessary). The password is: Woodlands34229 (capital W needed). Look for ARC Application Form, Covenants, Amendments, Standing Rules, Board Minutes from 2004 to present, *Woodlands Word* newsletter from 2005 to present, guidelines, and financials.

**Event Calendar** for Board Meetings, Committee Meetings, Book Group dates, etc.

**Contacts** for Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and Management Company.

*continued from page 1 "Message from the President"*

In the 3 months since that election, some members of the losing slate and their supporters have made it very clear they were unhappy with the election results. Starting immediately after the election the community website was disabled by the past Webmaster and had to be replaced. One resident filed a complaint with the Post Office regarding delivery of our community newsletter, the *Woodlands Word*, which was ruled a "malicious complaint" by the postal inspector. Several complaints were filed with Sarasota County related to our solar irrigation systems, all of which were deemed to be unfounded by the county.

The Board and its committees are spending time and resources dealing with these distractions, taking them away from activities that would better serve Rivendell.

Since February, some members of this opposition group have been regularly attending and attempting to dominate Board meetings. Many of our other homeowners have stopped attending due to the discomfort level at the meetings.

People from this opposition group joined our landscaping and environmental committees. Their participation has consisted primarily of loud opposition to every activity and consistent demands to spend unlimited funds. In the days immediately preceding last week's scheduled Board meeting, numerous e-mail and personal attacks by some members of this group caused our landscaping committee chair to resign.

As the behavior and tactics of this group became more aggressive, and as more of our homeowners told us of their discomfort, it became evident that last week's Board meeting was in jeopardy of degenerating into an unacceptable confrontation.

This opposition group has been given every opportunity to participate and be heard, but the results were extremely disappointing. The above-described facts forced the Board to question the real objective of the group in question. It is our sincerest hope that their objective is not to undermine the normal functioning of the Board and committees in a misguided attempt to gain the power to govern the affairs of Rivendell that they were denied in the election.

Consequently, unlimited homeowner input will no longer be allowed at our meetings. Members will be permitted to comment on agenda items only for a designated period at the start of each meeting. It is the sincerest desire of the Board of Directors that we can work together with all the homeowners to make this community the best it can be for our families and the community at large.

The next meeting of the Rivendell Board of Directors will be Wednesday, June 2, 2010. ■

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**For property management:  
call Kyanne at Lighthouse Property  
Management, 941/966-6844**

**For lake management:  
call Russ at Beautiful Ponds,  
941/488-1942**

*Please note:*

**NEXT RIVENDELL BOARD  
MEETING**

**Wednesday, June 2, 2010  
AT 6 PM  
BENTLEY'S  
(formerly The Osprey Inn)**

**Where do you volunteer?**

**Are you a museum docent, tour  
guide, hospital volunteer, tutor?**

*We'd love to hear from you.*

*Please send an email to*

*merpike@mac.com*

*or*

*pbbabbitt@comcast.net*

*labeled "Volunteer Interests."*

continued from page 1 "Rivendell Homes Feature Florida Friendly Yards."

We had joined the study hoping to find an alternative to St. Augustine Grass, one that would eliminate fertilizing and watering. Our goal was partly to decrease lawn maintenance, especially while we were away, and also to protect the health of our lakes. We selected Sunshine Mimosa, a hearty native ground cover with little purple pompoms, based on the advice of neighbors who have grown it for years and the results of trials conducted last winter by Claudia Lewis, Ecologist and Project Coordinator. We also included Tampa Verbena (the showy purple flowers), Scarlet sage, and yellow and red Gaillardia in our palette; and an East Palatka Holly, dwarf wax myrtles and Beauty Berry to help feed the birds. All of the native plant species we selected for our yard had made it through this past winter's extreme temperatures in Phase I yards.

According to Claudia, "some South Florida or coastal native plants are cold sensitive, but in general most of them come back without a problem (for instance the Pineland heliotrope that Vic had in his yard). Firebush recovers even when frozen to the roots. Some, like beautyberry, are simply deciduous. Others, like Sunshine Mimosa, which is dormant during winter anyway, looked a bit brown after our extreme cold, but it came back to life, full and green as if nothing had happened."

"When choosing plants for their landscape, homeowners should read about the plants' characteristics, including cold tolerance, and plant them in appropriate locations within their yards (or not plant them at all if they don't want to deal with dormancy or cold sensitivity). The idea is to have enough plant variety so that a few dormant plants, or ones affected by frost, don't have a major visual impact; and, choose the appropriate yard micro-climates so that those that are cold sensitive can be somewhat protected and make it with no problem."

**Study Participants:**

One of the requirements for joining the study was to share the experience with others. At this point, Phase I participants, whose yards were planted in 2009, have more experience to share than those in Phase II, whose yards may still be in process, but all will be willing to talk with you.

**Phase I**, Rachel Bowman, Ken and Carol Heckert, Jim and Gloria Champer (who have since moved), Dora Limoncelli, Vic and Debbie McMurry, Greg Warner.

**Phase II**, George and Nancy Wettlaufer, Terri and Howie Post, Diane and Rocky Jankowski, Bill and Inge Saake, Paul and Anita Sarno.

*continues on page 6*



*L to R - The power team: Inge Saake, Paul Sarno, Claudia Lewis, Bill Saake, and Nancy Wettlaufer make short work of planting Sunshine Mimosa in the Wettlaufer front yard to replace the St Augustine grass.*



*Supervision Trio; Sandhill Crane Family making their morning rounds*

**Pelican Press Delivery**

The **Woodlands Word** will be delivered inside the **Pelican Press**, usually the first Thursday of each month. If you have problems with delivery, please contact Judy at [communications@rivendell-fl.com](mailto:communications@rivendell-fl.com)

**Seasonal residents:** if you want to suspend delivery of the Pelican Press, call 349-4949.

To reinstate service, call the same number.

**Remember you can still read the Woodlands Word online** by going to <http://www.rivendell-fl.com> and clicking the Documents and Forms button.

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**If you want to incorporate more native plants into your landscape**, the following resources have been recommended by Claudia Lewis. Russ Hoffman will also be happy to provide further information, based on his experience with the project.

You might want to start by browsing our website, [www.Rivendell-FL.com](http://www.Rivendell-FL.com). Under Committees, Environmental, you will find these very informative websites:

- Florida Friendly Landscaping & Plants  
SWFWMD Florida Friendly Landscaping
- University of Florida IFAS Extension  
[sarasota.extension.ufl.edu/](http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu/)
- FL Research & Demonstration Centers  
FL Research & Demonstration Centers
- Florida Friendly Landscaping  
Florida Friendly Landscaping

**Recommended Reference Books, available from the Sarasota Libraries or Amazon.com:**

- Gil Nelson, *Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants*
- Rufino Osario, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants*

**Native Plant Nurseries in our area:**

- Wilcox Nursery, Largo, FL. Bruce Turley, Landscape Design Consultant, created a number of the landscape plans in the UCF Project.
- Sweetbay Nursery: 10824 Erie Road, Parrish, FL: This is a wholesale nursery with a variety of inland and coastal plants that will also broker plants not in stock and offers installation services as well. Tom Heitzman, the owner, is frequently an officer of the Native Plant Society and the Audubon Society. Their website says they are open for retail the first Saturday of the month 8:00 am-Noon or by appointment (941-776-0501). [Sweetbayfl@aol.com](mailto:Sweetbayfl@aol.com).
- Pine Lily Nursery, Parrish, not far from Sweetbay. They have a great variety of native plants, in particular flowers.

Florida Native Plants, Sarasota, FL, (east of I-75) will be bidding for the maintenance of the 11 yards of the project. Homeowners who plant native plants might consider hiring them for maintenance or consulting. The owner Laura Schiller is extremely knowledgeable and they are fully certified, insured and licensed as a maintenance company. ■



*Paul Sarno in unlawyer position*



*The Magic Tool; Bill Sakke uses a planting augur attached to a power drill, great for digging 110 holes through sod for 4-inch mimosa pots.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Do you volunteer? Would you like to volunteer?

The *ivolunteer Sarasota* campaign was selected for funding by the Community Foundation of Sarasota as part of their "BOOST" initiative, which has pumped \$1 million into key non profit organizations, providing for basic needs in an effort to help them maintain their levels of service during this difficult economic time.

[ivolunteersarasota.com](http://ivolunteersarasota.com) is a initiative of the *The Friendship Volunteer Center*, providing placement for hundreds of community agencies throughout Sarasota County by matching volunteers of all ages, talents and interests in a variety of environments including the arts, mentoring, animal welfare, local events and so much more.

Volunteering is fun and rewarding, it greatly benefits our local community and enables volunteers to learn new skills, stay active and make friends. Whether you are a individual, business, teen, family or group you have talents and skills that others need. Help us, help them!

<http://www.ivolunteersarasota.com/>

1750 17th Street, Suite B  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
Phone: (941) 953-5965

### Sarasota County: Access to E-newsletter and Comprehensive Plan By Ken Heckert

Sarasota County has a new system for managing email communications. This electronic newsletter is replacing mailing postcards to interested citizens about upcoming public meetings. It will be the only direct notification to inform citizens of upcoming meetings about the Comprehensive Plan.

#### To Access:

1. **Go to:** <http://www.scgov.net/meetingsagenda.asp> This link is called Meetings and Agendas – Meetings on Demand. By submitting your email address, you will receive the Community Connections E-Newsletter allowing you to sign up for the mailing list of upcoming meetings, etc. You can also unsubscribe at anytime.

#### Comprehensive Plan Sarasota County, Florida YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR PLAN

Your comments are critical to identifying the major community issues that the comprehensive plan should address during the next seven years. Please consider taking part in this opportunity to steer the future direction of the comprehensive plan. This is your community, your future, your plan.

#### To Access:

1. **Go to:** <http://www.scgov.net/PlanningandDevelopment/CompPlan/CompPlan.asp>



L to R: Ellie Hartle; Scott Montgomery, Sarasota Emergency Operations; and **Jeannette Munger**, chair Emergency Response Committee.

## Jeannette Munger, our New Emergency Response Chair

By Mike Bergman

**Jeannette Munger** chairs our **Emergency Response Committee**, which helps us prepare for hurricanes or other natural disasters. Members currently include board liaison Tom Shola, Emelia Shola, Roger Parkhurst, and Barry Portugal, and they could use more volunteers. Their emphasis is on how to prepare yourself and your home prior to an impending storm.

Here is a list of some basic “need to know” info from the Committee:

1. **Decide ahead of time where you will go if you need to evacuate.** Let friends, neighbors and family know where you will be going, with address and phone numbers.
2. **If you know you need emergency assistance,** Sarasota County offers a special medical needs shelter that will help you evacuate to a shelter. Please register now with the Department of Emergency Management at

941-861-5000, and ask for the PSN desk, or get the form online at [www.scgov.net/EmergencyServices/HurricanePrep/documents/psn\\_final081506.pdf](http://www.scgov.net/EmergencyServices/HurricanePrep/documents/psn_final081506.pdf).

3. **Clean your yard and lanai** of potential flying objects, such as lawn furniture, potted plants, grills, garden hoses, flags, decorative items, etc. **Snowbirds have the responsibility of taking care of this before leaving.**
4. **Protect windows and glass doors.**
5. **Take emergency grab & go kit** containing important documents, medical, and financial info.
6. **Fill your car with gas** and see that it is in good working order. Gas station pumps don't work without electricity.
7. **Get cash.** ATMs and credit cards will not work without electricity.
8. **Stock up with emergency food and water.** Fill bathtubs with water for cleaning and flushing.
9. **Fill ice chests and secure fuel and supplies** for your grill in the event of a power loss.
10. **Make arrangements for your pets** to be safe and secure. Many shelters will not allow them. Have a pet survival kit ready to go.
11. **Get an old-fashioned plug-into-the-wall model phone,** as cell phones are the first to go.

In the event of an impending hurricane, Jeannette will be in touch with Scott Montgomery, who is with Sarasota's Emergency Operations control (EOC). She will relay information to you if you forward your e-mail address to [jeannette.munger@verizon.net](mailto:jeannette.munger@verizon.net). Tom and Emelia Shola are HAM operators, and will keep the lines open to the emergency providers if the phones fail.

The committee also hopes to partner with the EOC on their Emergency Services All Hazard Neighborhood Preparedness Program. This is a series of short lessons that include *Proper use of 911, CPR / AED Training, Pool Safety, and Neighborhood Prepared Program*, a helping hands program to help communities prepare, survive, and recover from an event, etc.

Jeannette's message to us is: **Be Prepared, Be Safe, Don't be a Victim.** ■



Photo by Kay Mruz

## NATURE'S NOTEBOOK

by Debbie McMurry

For the last few days I have been forced to sit on my couch with my feet up as I had foot surgery last week. Fortunately for me I have a doting husband and two great kids. One might think, "How boring sitting all day!" Actually I'm taking in everything, for my family room looks out over Scherer Lake. As the sun comes up over the woodlands, the lake shimmers like tiny Christmas lights. Many mornings we have breathtaking sunrises.

The white ibis come into view the same time every morning and evening. They travel in large groups, and I have seen as many as ten at a time. The Great Blue Heron fishes along the shoreline with his cousins the white heron. Our sand hill cranes hatched one chick; it's about six weeks old now. They, too, cross our backyard twice daily. This winter continued forever, completely throwing off the eagles' schedules, keeping the family here a few weeks longer. The eaglets are flying today, soaring next to each other. They appear to be teasing, or training as they dive and nudge each other, briefly causing them to be off balance. I am so envious of these beautiful birds - they have wings and I don't. Oddly, an eagle has been sitting on the old nest in Oscar Scherer Park around lunch and dinner hour, just hanging out. We also have egrets of every kind, and many cardinals, along with mockingbirds, hawks, red winged black birds, and ospreys.

I have seen only one alligator in our lakes -- he looks about six feet long. And last week, prior to my surgery, I was walking Mac about 9:00 AM when we came upon an opossum, very unusual, as these are nocturnal creatures. We watched him for about 10 minutes darting between the butterfly plants. When he crossed the street, his feet looked completely bare -- as if he had taken his shoes off. (I had only seen these funny little guys in grass.) It was so confused; it almost darted into our neighbor's garage! That would have been an enormous surprise for her. Not long after he was out of sight, another appeared from the butterfly plants. It displayed the same odd behavior - going back and forth between the plants, then crossing the street to the neighbor's bushes, and finally sprinting to the marsh behind the house.

You never know what to expect in this neighborhood! ■

## ON MY MIND

### Bay Friendly Landscape Practices for Sarasota County

By Russ Hoffman and Robert Wright,  
Sarasota County  
(NEST) Neighborhood Environmental  
Stewardship Team

By now you should have received your **2010 Rivendell Directory** along with a brochure that outlines the Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code. Robert Wright has summarized these guidelines for us and Rob also made the following comment about the positive impact Rivendell residents are having on our environment.

*"We really appreciate the efforts that Rivendell has made over the years to become a more environmentally friendly community. Your installation of landscape islands in community areas, pond shoreline planting projects, median tree projects and HOA landscape initiatives all help improve the health of our bays. Thanks for allowing us to be a part of that effort and keep moving forward."*

Over the past few years, Sarasota County has worked diligently to educate and train thousands of homeowners and dozens of landscape maintenance companies on the requirements of Sarasota County

*Continues on page 11*

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Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code (Ordinance 2007-062). The goal of this code is to help homeowners and communities reduce their nutrient pollution from storm water run-off flowing into our bays. Homeowners can help by choosing native and Florida Friendly plants that are right for their yard, limiting fertilizer use, checking irrigation systems and following local watering restrictions. Remember, an over-saturated yard weakens turf, promotes the flow of nutrients into the street and pushes water below the root zone so plants are unable to use it. Highlights of the code are:

Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code, Ordinance 2007-062

- No fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorous shall be applied to turf or landscape plants during the rainy season of each year (Restricted Season June 1-Sept. 30)
- Phosphorus applications to turf or landscape plants shall not exceed 0.25 pounds per 1000 square feet at each application or a total of 0.5 pounds per 1000 square feet per year
- Nitrogen fertilizer applied to turf or landscape plants shall contain no less than 50% Slow Release Nitrogen
- A maximum of 1 pound at each application and a maximum of 4 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet may be applied to turf or landscape plants each year

- No fertilizer may be applied to impervious surfaces and any spillage must be removed
- Fertilizer may not be applied within 10 feet of any water body or wetland
- A 6 feet Low Maintenance zone of appropriate landscape plants is recommended from any water body or wetland
- A deflector shield is required on all broadcast spreaders to prevent fertilizer from being applied within 10 feet of any water body or wetland
- No grass clippings, vegetative material or vegetative debris may be deposited in storm water drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies, or roadways
- All applicators of fertilizer (except homeowners on their own property) must receive training and certification in a Sarasota County approved Best Management Practices training program
- Enforcement actions will take place through the use of county Code Enforcement procedures or civil penalties

We encourage you to “Do the Right Thing” in your landscaping practices starting today! For more information, contact the Sarasota County NEST Program, Sustainability Program or UF/FAS Extension Service at (941)-861-5000. Visit our website: <http://www.sarasota.wateratlas.usf.edu/Overview>. ■

## **Trash Too Early is Unsightly**

Sarasota County Ordinance states that collection containers and other items should NOT be placed at the curb before 5:00 pm of the day *before* your scheduled collection day. Containers must be removed from the curb by 10 am the day after collection and stored inside the garage, on the side of, or behind the house. You may call Solid Waste Code Enforcement to report code violations at 861-5000. Neighbors who place their trash out days in advance make our neighborhood look terrible and attracts animals. Please be considerate of your neighbors.

For the exact wording:

**Sarasota County Code of Ordinances**

**CHAPTER 106 SOLID WASTE**

**ARTICLE II. COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING\***

**Sec. 106-47. Responsibilities of the customers.**

<http://library8.municode.com:80/default-test/template.htm>

(15) Curbside Containers, Recycling Bins and un-containerized Residential Waste shall not be placed at the curb earlier than 5:00 p.m. of the day prior to the designated Collection day. All emptied containers shall be returned to proper storage on the Premises no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day following the designated Collection day. Curbside Containers and Recycling Bins shall be stored between Collection days in side or rear yard and not Front Yard. Public easements and rights-of-way are not to be used as a storage location for Curbside Containers or Recycling Bins. Curbside Containers and Recycling Bins shall be stored within the perimeter of privately owned property.

## SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

**Dr. Alla Gruman, Dermatologist, 918-1900.** My family has been seeing Dr. Gruman for about two years now. We were so excited to hear that she moved her practice to the medical building on the corner of Old Venice Road and US-41. Dr. Gruman is an amazing, brilliant dermatologist. She is actually board-certified in *both* pediatrics and dermatology and therefore, has a rare talent for treating all ages, including children. Dr. Gruman has such a calm, friendly disposition with a caring staff that is prompt and attentive. I highly recommend Dr. Gruman for all your dermatological needs. *Michelle Andrews*

**Michael Adler, computer tech, 400-2455.** I have used Michael Adler for all my computer problems, and his skills are excellent. He is also prompt to respond, his rates are reasonable, and he is a patient teacher. I highly recommend him. You can also contact him at Michael@adlermail.com. *Judy Sokal*

**Sammy Mizel, palm tree removal expert, 407/383-2427.** Sammy has been removing Washingtonia Palms in the common areas of The Cottages. Individual homeowners are welcome to contact Sammy for similar work. *Mike Georgopolis*

## KUDOS

Many thanks to **Barb Gahry** for producing the new *Rivendell Community Directory 2010*. The photographs by **Kay Mruz** are beautiful. Our gratitude also to the many **Block Captains** who distributed the new directory -- we truly appreciate their service to the community. If you did not receive your copy of the new directory, please contact Cindy Schmidl at 918-1570 or cindycws1@aol.com.

## BOOK GROUP SCHEDULE

by Marilyn Probert

The Book Group will meet on Monday, June 14, to discuss "*The Help*" by Kathryn Stockett. This novel is set in Mississippi in the 1960s and describes three very different women and how they changed racial attitudes in their community. Sallie Hawkins will lead the discussion at her home on 716 Anna Hope Lane. Her phone number is 966-6916.

There will be no meetings in July and August. On Monday, September 13, we will tackle "*Cutting for Stone*," a novel by Abraham Berghese. Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born to an Indian nun and a British surgeon. They become estranged and their story concerns life, family, love, war, exile, betrayal, brotherhood, faith, death, and more. Pam Babbitt will be discussion leader at Elaine Roeter's home, 1133 Scherer Way. Elaine's phone number is 966-9816.

"*The Space Between Us*," by Thrity Urmigar, is the selection for October.

The Book Group meets on the second Monday of the month, and all Rivendell residents are welcome; just call the month's hostess so she'll know how many to plan for.

## Summer Sailing Sessions - Perfect for Kids and Visiting Grandchildren

The Venice Youth Boating Association offers summer sailing sessions throughout the summer - sessions begin on June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19 and Aug. 2. Each session runs Monday through Friday for two weeks. Sailors may sign up for either morning classes (9 a.m. to 12 noon), or afternoon sessions (1 to 4 p.m.). The program is held in the Pram Shed on the grounds of the Venice Yacht Club, and on the waters of Roberts Bay and Dona Bay. Each student will learn basic sailing techniques, water safety, seamanship and knots. For more information visit [www.veniceyouthboating.com](http://www.veniceyouthboating.com) and click on Summer Sailing.

# MINUTES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE April 27, 2010

Attendees: Barry McClure (Chair), Frank Pafumi, Allen Roeter, Gwen Stepien and John Greco - Board Liaison

Residents: Judith Sokal and Diane Janowski  
Old Business: Approval of ARC minutes from 3/30/2010

The Arc meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with a quorum of Committee members present with Judith Sokal and Diane Jankowski as the attending residents.

The March 30, 2010 minutes of Rivendell's ARC were unanimously approved as written.

The following applications were reviewed and decided for action as noted.

- Landscaping application from **804 Shadow Bay**. Add new patio outside of lanai outlined by hedge. Replace winter damaged plants within existing beds around Lanai. Add Pygmy Palm within existing beds around lanai. Unanimously Approved - Motion to Approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by Frank Pafumi.
- Application from **535 Meadow Sweet Circle**. Paint House Exterior Tan/Brown. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Allen Roeter, Seconded by Barry McClure.
- Application from **765 Placid Lake Drive**. Paint House Exterior. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Frank Pafumi, Seconded by Barry McClure.
- Application from **771 Fordingbridge Way**. Remove two Oak Trees from front yard, (Contact Sarasota Forestry Division for OK). Replace with Pygmy Date Palm and Silver European Fan Palm. Unanimously Approved – Motion to approve by John Greco, Seconded by Allen Roster.
- Application from **1188 Mallard Marsh Drive**. Extension of prior approval to install landscape curbing and rock around existing beds near House. (Extension approval until August 15, 2010). Replace winter damaged plants. Install small garden sculptures near front entrance not visible from Street. Unanimously Approved – Motion to approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by John Greco.
- Application from **699 Rivendell Blvd**. Remove winter damage, revise landscaping within current Beds. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Allen Roeter, Seconded by Frank Pafumi.
- Applications from **697 Clear Creek Drive**.
  - Extension of prior approval to install landscape curbing. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by Gwen Stepien.
  - Replace winter damaged plants. Unanimously Approved – Motion to approve by Barry McClure Seconded by Gwen Stepien.
  - Screen in the front entrance of the house. Unanimously **rejected** - Motion to reject By John Greco, Seconded by Gwen Stepien.
- Application from **1156 Mallard Marsh Drive**. Install Solar Panels. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Gwen Stepien, Seconded by Barry McClure.
- Application from **723 Fording Bridge Way**. Extend Driveway with pavers. Unanimously Approved - Motion to approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by Allen Roeter.
- Application from **800 Shadow Bay Way**. Paint House Exterior. Unanimously Approved –Motion to approve by Allen Roeter, Seconded by John Greco
- Application from **749 Placid Lake Drive**. Replace/add plants within existing beds and add plants to screen Well, with the stipulation to minimize plantings in the drainage swale. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Frank Pafumi, Seconded by Barry McClure.
- Application from **1176 Mallard Marsh Drive**. Replace winter damaged plants. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Allen Roeter, Seconded by Frank Pafumi.
- Application from **701 Fordingbridge Way**. Replace dead grass and winter damaged plants. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by John Greco.
- Application from **518 Meadow Sweet Circle**. Paint House Exterior. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Allen Roeter, Seconded by Frank Pafumi.



- Application from **1184 Mallard Marsh Drive**. Florida Friendly Garden Remove Palm Trees, replace with three or four small trees. Plant perennial peanut (on a basis of modifying to an area between the planned West Side and Central Beds. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by Frank Pafumi.
- Application from **934 Eagle Isle Court**. Install 18" high white vinyl fence by pool equipment. Unanimously Approved – Motion to Approve by John Greco, Seconded by Allen Roeter. Barry McClure abstained.

**A proposal was made to recommend that the Board adopt the following temporary Standing Rule:**

During the period from May 9, 2010 through July 10, 2010, ARC review and approval will not be required for the replacement of freeze damaged plants and grass provided that the new plantings are of a size which does not grow to a height greater than the plants being replaced. Additionally, the replacement plants must not have aggressive root systems or seed products, or be listed as not recommended by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Unanimously Approved – Motion to approve by Barry McClure, Seconded by Al Roeter

The Rivendell ARC meeting  
adjourned at 9:00 PM

Date for next ARC meeting  
May 25, 2010 at 6:00 PM ■

***Woodlands Word delivered  
with Pelican Press***

We apologize in advance for any problems during the delivery process. Please contact Judy at [communications@rivendell-fl.com](mailto:communications@rivendell-fl.com) for assistance.

**Hurricane Shutter Regulations  
Summarized**

(Reprinted from Woodlands Word, May 2006)

Clear (Lexan) hurricane shutters may remain up on the front of a house or street side of a corner house throughout the hurricane season, which lasts from June 1 to November 30.

Clear shutters or those painted to match the house or trim may remain up on other parts of the house that are visible from a street, alley or other home.

Any other shutters that are visible from a street, alley or other home may go up within 10 days of the expected arrival of a hurricane, and must come down within 2 weeks following a hurricane.

Because the amended hurricane shutter restriction gives every homeowner the ability to protect his or her house whether here or away, the new deed restriction will be strictly enforced.

(For exact wording consult **Rivendell Community Directory 2010**, p.9, 4.09 Hurricane Shutters)

**Rivendell Homeowner Landscape  
Repairs Due to Frost Damage**

During the period from May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 through July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, ARC review and approval will not be required for the replacement of freeze damaged plants and grass provided that the new plantings are of a size which does not grow to a height greater than the plants being replaced. Additionally, the replacement plants must not have aggressive root systems or seed products, or be listed as not recommended by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council.

**The Architectural Review Committee (ARC)**

meets the last Tuesday of each month;

At the Cottages Clubhouse

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

## ATTORNEY'S LETTER ON ROGUE WEBSITE

**Note: Following is the Board's letter, prepared by its attorney, on the rogue website established without the Board's permission or consent. We would like the membership to know that this website is not sanctioned or advocated by the Board. Moreover, we disavow any connection or participation with said website.**

**THE ASSOCIATION'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE IS: *Rivendell-fl.com*.**

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KAREN L. KUSKIN, ESQ.  
ROBERT L. TODD, ESQ.  
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May 6, 2010

***Via Courier***

Mr. Gregory Warner  
796 Shadow Bay Way  
Osprey, FL 34229

Re: In the matter of Rivendellnews.com

Dear Mr. Warner:

Please be advised that this firm represents Rivendell Community Association, Inc., (hereinafter, the "Association"). The purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with written notice and information of the Association through its Board's long standing policy of non-involvement with your personal website known as Rivendellnews.com.

The Association, through the Board, does not warrant, agree with, promote, advocate, suggest compliance with, or in any other form or fashion, sanction the existence or content of your personal website, Rivendellnews.com.

You are and shall remain solely responsible for the content of your personal website, Rivendellnews.com.

You are and shall remain solely responsible for the submissions and distribution of any and all opinions and content in any form under your user name and published within your personal website known as Rivendellnews.com.

Regarding your personal website, Rivendellnews.com, you are not now, nor have you ever been, nor ever will be, an agent for the Association and this Board.

Regarding your personal website, Rivendellnews.com, you are not now, nor have you ever been, an employee for the Association or the Board or a member of a lawfully formed committee of the Association.

In the maintenance of your personal website, Rivendellnews.com and your user name, you are not now, nor have you ever been an agent, employee, volunteer, spokesperson, or otherwise a representative for the Association with regard to your personal website, Rivendellnews.com.

May 6, 2010

Page 2

To our knowledge, no Director, Officer or Agent of the Association has contributed in any way to your personal website known as Rivendellnews.com. However, if any Director, Officer or Agent, past or present, has participated in any way with your personal website, Rivendellnews.com, it has been purely and solely in a personal capacity and not in the capacity as a Director, Officer or Agent, under the direction of the Board or on behalf of the Board or Association.

The Association, through its Board, has never granted you permission to speak, publish, or express opinions of or on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association.

The Association, through its Board, does not endorse the views, opinions, and/or content published on your personal website, Rivendellnews.com.

The Association, through its Board, owes no duty of any type, either express, implied, verbal or written, to monitor, police, edit, interpret or publish any material on your personal website, Rivendellnews.com.

The Association, through its Board, does not know, nor has it ever owed any duty or obligation to any party, homeowner, or member of the general public with regard to your personal website, Rivendellnews.com and the opinions published therein.

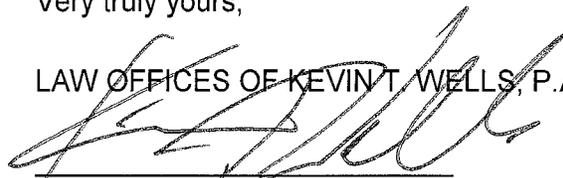
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The Association, through its Board, expressly reserves the right but disclaims any obligation or responsibility to bring whatever cause of action against Rivendellnews.com, you personally, and whatever user name is applied to Rivendellnews.com, as it deems necessary to protect and secure any and all interests of the Association.

To the fullest extent permissible, pursuant to applicable law, the Association, through its Board, disclaims all knowledge, warranties, content of speech, as well as opinions published by your personal website known as Rivendellnews.com.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICES OF KEVIN T. WELLS, P.A.



Kevin T. Wells, Esq.

KTW/hp

## Application for Architectural Review Committee Consideration

Homeowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address where work is to be carried out: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you live in the "Cottages", you are required to get approval from Unit 1 Board of Directors before submitting this application to the ARC.**

Please describe the proposed work including specifications and dimensions of the work and materials to be used. (If more space is needed, please attach a separate sheet.)

Proposed commencement date: \_\_\_\_\_ Duration of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

The ARC meets on the last Tuesday of the month. Please submit this application to the address below seven days prior to the meeting.

**Please attach the following to this application:**

- Site Plan or Survey showing the location of the proposed work.
- A letter signed by your neighbor or a certified letter receipt sent to your neighbor for any proposed work which will have a direct effect on your neighbor.
- Color sample, color name and reference # for proposed paint.
- Plat showing names of specific plants and locations for proposed landscaping.
- Plat showing location of proposed fence with manufacturer's brochure describing the fence material.

Please refer to the **Guidelines for Exterior Alterations** while planning your proposed work. If you would like to discuss your application prior to submittal, please contact the Architectural Review Committee Chair or Board Liaison, who are listed in the Woodlands Word.

All work must conform to all Zoning and Building Regulations. Owners are responsible for obtaining necessary permits after ARC approval. Owners are responsible for any damages to common areas or other homes caused by their contractors.

If any modifications or changes to existing structures and landscaping is done without prior approval from the ARC, fines or removal may apply.

Home Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit applications to: Rivendell Community Association  
C/O Lighthouse Property Management  
16 Church Street  
Osprey, FL 34229 Phone: 941-966-6844

## Who WE are

### Communications Committee

(Communications@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Chair, Judy Sokal**

**Newsletter,**

Judy Sokal and Linda Pearlstein, co-editors

**Website,** Tom Shola

**Directory,** Barb Gahry

**Documents,** Carol Heckert

**Block Captains,** Cindy Schmidl

**Newsletter Contributors:**

Mark Adler, Pam Babbitt, Mike Bergman, Barb Gahry, Carol Heckert, Russ Hoffman, Sara Jones, Mary Kennedy, Charles Kiblinger, Ed Lin, Debbie McMurry, Vic McMurry, Linda Pearlstein, Meredith Pike, Marilyn Probert, Norma Lee Rhines, Nancy Wettlaufer and Peter Wilson.

### Rivendell Committee Chairs

**Architectural Review:** Barry McClure

(ARC@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Communications:** Judy Sokal

(Communications@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Emergency Response:** Jeannette Munger

(ERG@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Environmental:** Ken Heckert

(Environmental@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Finance/Procurement:** Bob Gililland

(Finance@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Landscape:** Vacant

(Landscape@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Swimming Pool:** Tom Faessler

(Pool@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Published by OnTrac Publishing, 485-2644**

**Delivered by the Pelican Press, 349-4949**

**Deadline** - Please submit articles and information for publication in the next issue to Pam at pbbabbitt@comcast.net by the tenth of the month.

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

### Rivendell Board of Directors

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(mark@rivendell-FL.com)

Liaison to Communications

**John Greco, first vice president**

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Liaison to ARC

**Mary Marryott, second vice president**

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**Tom Shola, secretary**

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**Entire Board:** (Alldirectors@Rivendell-FL.com)

### Architectural Review Committee

(ARC@Rivendell-FL.com)

**Barry McClure, Chair**

**Frank Pafumi**

**Allen Roeter**

**Gwen Stepien**

**John Greco, Board Liaison**

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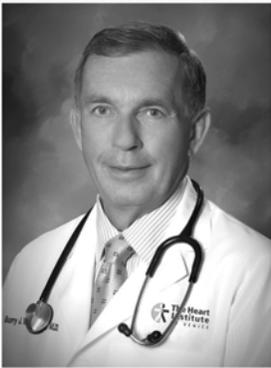
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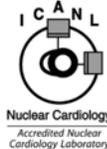
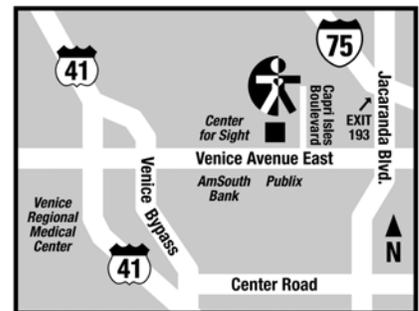


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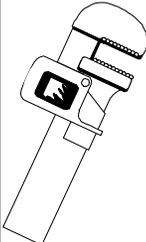
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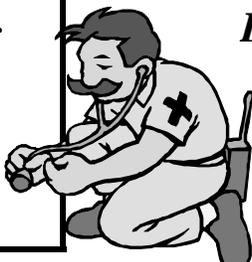
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