



The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

*Your
Community Resource*

August 2021

Rivendell Reflections

Editors Note: This is a new feature in the Woodlands Word. We invite residents to submit photographs, essays, poetry or any other artistic endeavor inspired by our Rivendell surroundings to frank@ditwebb.com.

Sunset On Mill Pond
Yelitza Leon photographer



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Wildlife Window: Great Blue Heron & Tricolored Heron

By the Rivendell Ponds & Preserves Committee

Great Blue Heron <i>(Ardea herodias)</i>	Meet Our Herons	Tricolored Heron <i>(Egretta tricolor)</i>
	<p>Which Heron Is Which?</p>	
(Nancy Dobias photo)		(Sheila Pies photo)
<p>This stately Great Blue Heron with its subtle blue-gray plumage often stands motionless as it scans for prey or wades belly-deep with long, deliberate steps. They may move slowly, but this Heron can strike like lightning to grab a fish or snap up a gopher. In flight, look for their widespread heron's tucked-in neck and long legs trailing out behind.</p>		<p>Appearance</p> <p>The Tricolored Heron is a sleek and slender heron adorned in blue-gray, lavender, and white. The white stripe down the middle of its sinuous neck and its white belly set it apart from other dark herons. Tricolored Heron fly with legs extended and head drawn back to the shoulders using strong, steady, evenly spaced wing beats.</p>
<p>Frequent visitors in Rivendell along our pond shorelines, this tall, slow-moving heron is also found long river banks, edges of marshes, estuaries, and lakes across much of the U.S. Great Blue Herons also feed in meadows, farmland, and other open fields.</p>		<p>Habitat</p> <p>This fairly small heron wades through coastal & pond waters in search of small fish, often running and stopping with quick turns and starts, as if dancing in a ballet. It builds stick nests in trees and shrubs, often in colonies with other wading birds.</p>
<p>Great Blue Herons can hunt day and night thanks to a high percentage of rod-type photoreceptors in their eyes that improve their night vision.</p>		<p>Unique Trait</p> <p>Their white belly readily separates them from Little Blue Herons and Reddish Egrets. Their active foraging style separates them from the slow and more methodical Great Blue Heron.</p>
<p>These herons have specialized feathers on their chest that continually grow and fray. Great Blue Herons comb this "powder down" with a fringed claw on their middle toes, using the down like a washcloth to remove fish slime & oils from their feathers as they preen.</p>		<p>Fun Fact</p> <p>Angry teenagers are not just a human phenomenon. As Tricolored Herons get older, they often lunge and snap at their parents when they arrive at the nest with food. To appease the youngsters, parents greet them with bows.</p>

Protect their Habitats. Let's keep our ponds and preserves healthy and attractive for these majestic Herons and all our wildlife friends. We can enjoy them, enhance our quality of life, and keep our property values strong. We remind you to view the amazing P&P Wildlife Photo Gallery.

[Visit: rivendellcommunity.com/ponds & scroll down to the Gallery.]



Rivendell Calendar of Events - August 2021

Several committees and groups have opted to postpone meeting until September. Some groups are meeting virtually via Zoom. Others are considering reinstating in-person meetings sometime in the Fall. For the most up-to-date information check the Rivendell website at www.rivendellcommunity.com

August 5 and 19...Bridge Group meets the first and third Thursday of the month. Contact Barbara Loe at 651-398-2256 for more information.

August 12...Communications Committee meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. For more information contact Kristine Nickel at 941-918-0016 or kristine@nickelcommunications.com

August 12... Watercolor in the Woodlands is held the second Thursday of the month via zoom from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. All experience levels welcome. Contact Maria Ilioff at 607-427-4192 or milioff85@gmail.com for more information.

August 17...Rivendell Book Club II will meet via Zoom at 7:00 pm. The book under discussion is *Red Notice*, by Bill Browder. Contact Maria Ilioff at 607-427-4192 or milioff85@gmail.com for more information.

August 31...Architectural Review Committee (ARC) meets the last Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm. The meeting will be held via Zoom. For more information contact Greg Warner at 941-504-1710 or greg1790@gmail.com

Rivendell Board of Directors Meeting will not be held in August. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8.

Maintenance Committee (MC) will not be meeting in August. For more information contact Chuck Pertile at noplans12@gmail.com or 847-337-3710.

Rivendell Book Club I will not be meeting in August. The next meeting will be held on September 13, which is the second Monday of the month. The book under discussion will be *American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins. Contact Adele Kellman at adele.kellman@gmail.com or 908-464-7003 for more information.

Rivendell Euchre Group will not be meeting in August. For more information contact Mike and Annie Francis at 585-749-0430.

Social Committee is canceled for August. Contact Carolyn Kenney at kenneycsrq@gmail.com for more information.

Mix and Mingle Social at the Rivendell Community Pool has been put on hold until October. Contact Kathy Halaiko at ha-laiko@yahoo.com for more information.

Dine In and Dine Out Groups are canceled for August. For more information contact Kristin Ellison at kristinellison1@gmail.com

To make additions or corrections to the Calendar of Events, please contact Kristine Nickel at kristine@nickelcommunications.com.

<div data-bbox="126 1577 269 1719"> </div> <div data-bbox="297 1577 643 1719"> <p>EDWARD ROSS CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="131 1726 652 1749"> <p><small>SERVING SARASOTA & MANATEE COUNTIES AND CITY OF VENICE</small></p> </div> <div data-bbox="224 1772 550 1814"> <p>941-408-8500</p> </div> <div data-bbox="259 1829 553 1900"> <p>FREE Estimates SIDING / ADDITIONS</p> </div> <div data-bbox="172 1898 639 1925"> <p>•Composite Roofs • Screen Rooms • Windows & Doors</p> </div> <div data-bbox="227 1927 583 1957"> <p>ACRYLIC / VINYL WINDOWS</p> </div> <div data-bbox="162 1957 651 1984"> <p>• Rescreens • Glass Rooms • Concrete Slabs • Carports</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="755 1570 1117 1803"> </div> <div data-bbox="764 1806 1136 1911"> <p>Mobile Home Repair & Remodeling. Specializing in Kitchens, Baths, Room Additions & Flooring</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1166 1570 1526 1780"> </div> <div data-bbox="1141 1759 1403 1919"> </div> <div data-bbox="737 1919 1515 1986"> <p>**Laminate Floors** Find your favorite laminate....I'll lay it beautifully. References Available Licensed & Insured • State Certified General Contractor • CGC1523858</p> </div>
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Our Preserves are Wildlife Habitats. Enjoy the Views.

By the Ponds & Preserves Committee

The protection of native habitat and wildlife has long been a priority for Sarasota County, which has adopted standards that protect specific types of native habitats to ensure that their values and functions are retained for future generations. The most common habitat in Sarasota County is freshwater wetlands, which typically have an upland buffer surrounding them. Important benefits of having upland and wetland preserves include water quality, flood control, aesthetics, privacy/screening by native vegetation, wildlife habitat, and property value.

Leave our Preserves alone. We are so fortunate to live in Rivendell with its beautiful greenspaces, lakes, ponds and natural preserves. Together with our ponds, these preserves are also an integral part of our stormwater management system and also add significant aesthetic value to our community. With one-third of the homes in Rivendell bordering designated preserves, we share the County's commitment to protecting our preserve areas. Homeowners who live adjacent to a preserve need to be aware of their special responsibilities. Please leave our preserves and buffer areas alone.

Sarasota County Code - as per Section 124-251, Article 13 – Subdivision or Site Development Plan Regulation of Sarasota County's Unified Development Code (UDC):

Subsection 124-251(a)(2) states: "All activities involving filling, excavating, disturbing of vegetation (both trees and understory) and storing of materials shall be prohibited within preservation or conservation areas and buffer areas".

[Read [Sarasota County's Preservation Areas Facts Sheet](#).]

In addition, Rivendell has its own land use restrictions that reinforce this code [Covenants under Articles 4.01 (k) and 4.01 (l)]. In a nutshell, homeowners or renters are not allowed to plant, disturb, remove from, build or store anything in preserve areas. They must not cut or remove dead vegetation, deposit yard waste, nor allow grass or invasive vegetation to migrate into preserves.

Know Your Property Line. It's important for homeowners to know their property lines so they are not encroaching on community-owned or preserve land to minimize incursions. Consult the survey map of your property which you should have received when you purchased. You can also find the Plat for Rivendell and your lot on the County's website.

[Search by "Rivendell" at <https://secure.sarasotaclerk.com/subplatssearch.aspx>.]

Regular Maintenance and Inspections. The Rivendell Community Association (RCA) is responsible for maintaining these preserve areas in accordance with requirements by SWFWMD and the County. As part of their preserve management contract, Aquagenix routinely inspect the preserve and buffer areas to remove invasive and nuisance plants that can displace and negatively affect native plants in a habitat.

Although the buffers might look aesthetically unpleasant due to layers of fallen branches, palm fronds and vines, they generally do not need to be "cleaned" up. Instead, leaving buffers in their nature state encourages the decomposition cycle - an important biological process that creates microhabitats, food sources, nesting areas, and returns valuable nutrients to the soil.

No Incursions. Our contractor also routinely inspects the land behind resident properties bordering preserves for any incursions. Homeowners will be advised of any incursion issues and corrective actions will be taken. Buffer and preserve areas are monitored regularly to ensure compliance with the community and County rules.

Together, let's enjoy and protect the beauty of our wetland and upland preserves. After all, isn't that one of the main reasons we choose to live in Rivendell?

Protection of native habitat areas and wildlife has long since been a community priority for Sarasota County and Rivendell.

(Gary Mruz video image.)



(Continued on next page))


(Our Preserves continued)



Know your property line. Protect our preserves – leave them alone! Enjoy, but don't touch.




Preserves, along with our ponds, are an integral part of our stormwater management system and add significant aesthetic value to our community.
(S. Remy photos.)



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WELCOME TO RIVENDELL

The many recreational offerings and country feel of The Woodlands at Rivendell make it a highly desirable community. Located in Osprey Florida, just minutes from Osprey Sarasota, this suburban style neighborhood features many parks, lakes, nature trail and more to fulfill the Florida lifestyle. The Woodlands at Rivendell offers residential choices from village, estate and executive homes to maintenance free patio homes. Nestled among 400+ acres of lakes, preserves and open spaces, the community was carefully planned to highlight and blend with its natural surroundings. The Woodlands at Rivendell is also directly adjacent to the popular Pine View School, a highly acclaimed educational facility for intellectually gifted students grades 2 through 12. Nature lovers will appreciate the proximity to Oscar Scheier State Park, located just south of the community and viewable from many homes.

**The Rivendell Community Web Site
is available at**
WWW.RIVENDELLCOMMUNITY.COM
**Please contact Lighthouse Property
Management for the password to the
RESIDENTS / INFORMATION section.**

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Fixing Noises

John and Sally came in to try out the new smart chip hearing aids. John has worn hearing aids for decades and this would be his fourth or fifth pair. They are not new to trying demos.

However, this time the impact these new chips had on their lives came from an unexpected area.

They know from prior demos with me to take the new hearing aids out and about in your everyday life. Take them out to a restaurant you usually struggle to hear in. Take them downtown for a stroll and into the ice cream parlor for a sample. Go to Publix and hear the clanging of the carts. Go out to the pier and see how the wind sounds with the demos.

The surprising experience occurred at home. Not the place where we usually see a vast improvement in hearing, since most of our clients don't normally have kids at home. Most of our clients live in a quiet home. Apparently, not John and Sally.

When John got home with the demos he heard his house. There were some rattles and squeaks that he was unaware of. Sally had been trying to get John to fix these annoying sounds for weeks but they didn't bother John and he thought Sally was being too sensitive. Then he came home with the new technology and spent the weekend fixing all the squeaks and rattles.

Wearing the new technology enabled John to hear the high squeaks and the intermittent rattles that would be lost to him with his high frequency loss. Having technology that can identify sounds versus noise at the highest level allowed John to understand Sally's frustrations.

John did decide to keep the new technology. I'm curious if it had something to do with the happy wife, happy life motto.

If you would like to try the new technology in your everyday world, call for a free demo, 941-244-9300.

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Senior Citizen Day - August 21

Senior Citizens Day History

Senior Citizen Day aims to honor and support our elders. Senior Citizens play an important role in our society as they help us understand the past while teaching us life lessons for the future. Seniors are valued due to their achievements, knowledge, and contributions to society. President Ronald Reagan is credited with the origin of this observance in 1988. There are many businesses that offer discounts for senior citizens on this day.

Senior Citizens Day Facts

According to prb.org, there were 52 million Americans aged 65 or older in the US in 2018. That number is expected to increase to 95 million by 2060.

The average life expectancy in the US increased from 68 years in 1950 to 78.6 years in 2017.

According to prb.org, between 2019 and 2060 the older US population is projected to become more racially and ethnically diverse. The percentage of older non-Hispanic whites is projected to drop from 77% to 55%.

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Rivendell Community Contacts

Committees

Block Captain Committee

Chair: Rachel North Zipay (mobilrach@verizon.net)

Board Liaison: **George Smith**

CERT Committee

Chair: Paul Englert (paule253@hotmail.com)

Board Liaison: **Cathy Daignault**

Members: Need Volunteers. Please contact Paul if interested.

Communication Committee

Chair: Kristine Nickel (kristine@nickelcommunications.com)

Board Liaison: **Larry Dobias**

Newsletter: Frank Diteljan, Carol Heckert

Directory: Open

Webmaster: Gary Mruz

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Chair: Greg Warner

Board Liaison: **Greg Volack**

Questions or Submissions: rivendell@mgmt.tv

Members: Joe Casale, Rich Bunce, Maria Ilioff, Joe Zwerling, Jim Duncan

Fine Administration Committee (FAC)

Chair: Robert Thierfelder (rcthierfelder@gmail.com)

Board Liaison: **George Smith**

Members: Ken Alerie, Bill Bloom, Mary Kennedy

Maintenance Committee (MC)

Chair: Chuck Pertile (noplans12@gmail.com)

Board Liaison: **Greg Volack** (gregvolack@gmail.com)

Members: Carole Myles, Mark Giordano, Dave Cook, Kevin Humbert

Ponds & Preserves Committee

Chair: Bob Frank (frank@ohio.edu)

Board Liaison: **Larry Dobias**

Members: Dave Gill, Ken Heckert, Tom Hurban, Edith Norby, Sue Remy, Norma Lee Rhines, Allie Sandow, Melle Lee Warren

Social Committee

Chair: Carolyn Kenney (kenneycsrq@gmail.com)

Board Liaison: **George Smith**

Members: Kristen Ellison, Kathy Halaiko, Sallie Hawkins, Maria Ilioff, Deb Jones, Adele Kellman, Kathy Lysak, Lenora McComas, Karen Price, Melle Lee Warren

Rivendell Board of Directors

Larry Dobias, President, dobiasle@gmail.com

Greg Volack, Vice President, gregvolack@gmail.com

Cathy Daignault, Treasurer, catdaignault@yahoo.com

George Smith, Secretary, georgeandnadia@gmail.com

John Fitzgibbon, Director, john.fitz48@gmail.com

Sub-Association Boards of Directors

The Cottages: Marilee Casale, President, (marileecasale@gmail.com); John Martin, 1st Vice President, (4johmartin@gmail.com); Carole Myles, 2nd Vice President, Bob Metelko, Treasurer (bob@csdsinc.net); Kathi Webber, Secretary, (kathi.travel@gmail.com).

Patio Homes: Bob Thierfelder, President; Dan Tavares, Secretary; Randy Price, Treasurer.

The Villas: Sherry Sholtis, President; Merdeith Pike, Vice President and Secretary; Barbara Loe, Treasurer.

Lighthouse Property Management:

941-460-5560 Ext. 225

Property Manager: Crystal Mierow (crystalmierow@mgmt.tv)

Rivendell Website

www.rivendellcommunity.com

Contact Lighthouse Management for password to RESIDENTS section.

Woodlands Word Deadline:

Submit articles and information to Frank Diteljan (frank@ditwebb.com) by the tenth of the month.

Updates to the Contacts Page:

Frank Diteljan (frank@ditwebb.com)

Nuisance Alligator

Call Florida Fish & Wildlife - SNAP 866-392-4286
Do Not Call Lighthouse Property Management

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