



The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

Your Community Resource

March 2019



RIVENDELL NOW REQUIRES AN APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PURCHASE OF A HOME

By Barbara Gahry

Let's be clear about what the application is NOT:

It is NOT about requiring a buyer to provide personal information.

It is NOT about deciding whether or not to allow the purchase to occur.

It is NOT about discriminating against anyone who wants to purchase a home.

When you purchase a home in a deed-restricted community, you must join a Homeowner's Association (HOA) and pay periodic fees for the upkeep of common areas, shared structures and other shared costs. Many deed-restricted communities in Florida have an application process that helps Buyers to understand the role of an HOA, the fee structure, the rules and regulations and other pertinent information.

The Buyer application process includes completing a form prior to closing on a home and then participating in an interview with a designated individual on behalf of the Board of Directors. The interview is nothing more than an orientation designed to help a Buyer understand the fees as well as the rules and regulations of our community. An interview may be in-person or may take place via a phone conversation. Additionally, it allows the HOA to obtain or confirm basic contact information, such as email and telephone numbers. It also allows for the HOA to obtain emergency contact information

(Continued on pg.2)

Highlights, Annual Meeting February 6, 2019

By Carol Heckert; Reviewed by John Fitzgibbon
Election Results:

- Ray Capuano and Larry Dobias were re-elected to the Board of Directors.
- Rollover funding was approved.
- New governing documents: 130 approval ballots and 8 disapproval ballots received to date.
- Nominating/Election Committee: Barbara Gahry, Mary Kennedy, Carolyn Kenney, Bill Bloom, Nicole Jurczyk

Presentation: Molly Holland, NEST Coordinator, Sarasota Ponds & Preserves Program

Ms. Holland spoke of the importance of conserving and using storm water, keeping storm water from emptying into the bay, and getting rid of storm water nutrients. Suggested techniques:

(Continued on pg.2)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Vote for the New Governing Documents ASAP

In January you received the Annual Meeting packet in the mail, which included the proposed revision of Rivendell's governing documents. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you return the signed and dated **ANNUAL MEETING PROXY SHEET** to vote to adopt the new governing documents.

If you no longer have the proxy form you can print a copy from the Rivendell website www.rivendellcommunity.com within the **DOCUMENTS** section.

Please mail the signed Proxy page to Lighthouse Property Management or drop it off at their office at 16 Church St.

Block Captains will be contacting homeowners who have not returned their ballots to remind them to vote.



Rivendell Social Committee Has Been Revived!
By Adele Kellman

The first meeting of the newly revived Rivendell Community Association Social Committee was held at Carolyn Kenney's home on January 15, 2019. An initial activity of the committee, organized by Sallie Hawkins, was the Community Garage Sale held on February 2nd. The committee is also discussing the feasibility of having community-wide social gatherings, possibly on an annual basis. Finally, we would like to have new events and interest groups that would be announced monthly in *The*

(Continued on pg.3)

(Highlights continued from pg.1)

- Floating islands and other structures to hide fish from birds, as fish eat algae and mosquito larvae.
- No fertilizer within 10-feet of storm ponds.
- Shoreline plantings and no-mow zones around ponds to prevent erosion.

Treasurer's Report: (Larry Dobias)

For the year 2018, income was \$386,000 and operating budget expenditures \$365,000. The community spent \$111,000 in reserves for the pool project. Dues were raised to replenish reserve funds, largely targeted toward preventing our ponds from needing costly remediation in the future.

Document Review Committee: (Joe Sefack)

Need 332 votes to approve the new governing documents. Have received 130 approvals so far.

Maintenance Committee: (Larry Dobias)

Projects for 2019 include replacing the pump house, tree trimming and planting, power washing sidewalks in common areas, putting a fountain in Rivendell Lake.

Social Committee: (Carolyn Kenney)

The first activity was a successful community garage sale in February, thanks to Sallie Hawkins. Interest groups being formed are Dinner In and Dinner Out groups, a Bridge Club, and a Mah Jong Group.

Welcome Committee: (John Fitzgibbon)

First meeting to be held shortly.

Ponds & Preserves Committee: (Frank Freestone)

- Much information on Rivendell website
- No-mow zones: Pilot projects on Egret and Bobcat Ponds. Grass within 6 feet of ponds will be trimmed to 12 inches.
- Five Pond Stewards are organizing no-mow zones on lakes. More Pond Stewards needed.

Homeowner Comments:

One homeowner criticized some regulations in the proposed Covenants.


Next Meeting: The Members' Meeting was not closed, allowing time to obtain the number of approval ballots needed to adopt the new governing documents. The next Board Meeting is March 13, 4:30 PM, at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Board Meeting following Annual Meeting

Officers were chosen for 2019. They are: Ray Capuano, President; Peter Strauss, Vice-President; John Fitzgibbon, Secretary; Larry Dobias, Treasurer; Maureen Emmons, Director at Large.

Check signers will be any 2 of these 3 officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer.

The Board Liaisons will remain the same as last year.



Next Ponds and Preserves Committee Meeting

The next Ponds and Preserves Quarterly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 2nd at 2pm in the Cottages Clubhouse.

(Application Process continued from pg.1)

in the event of an urgent circumstance. Rivendell has a homeowner directory that is distributed annually to each home. The directory includes, at the very least, the owner names and addresses. A new owner may decide to include contact information (email and telephone numbers) or not. As part of the interview process, it is explained that contact information is kept confidential and is not used for anything other than for what it was intended. The interview process also reviews the various committees and opportunities for volunteering.

The HOA is in the process of forming a Welcome Committee to assist in the application/interviewing process and to provide follow-up, when needed. If you have an interest in volunteering your time, please contact Board Member, John Fitzgibbon at john.fitz48@gmail.com or 773-332-0369.

Rivendell Now Requires Application.....	1
Highlights, Feb. 6 Annual Meeting.....	1
Social Committee Revived	1
Maintenance Committee Report.....	3
What Happened to My Backyard???	4
Rivendell Stormwater Ponds	4
Three Truths About Stormwater.....	5
Nuisance Alligators	5
Book Group Schedule	7
Peanut Butter Cookies.....	8
Residents Helping Residents	9
The Birds of Rivendell	10
Florida Burrowing Owls	11
Architectural Review Report.....	13
Rivendell Community Contacts	15

Next Rivendell Board Meeting
Wednesday March 13th, 2019 4:30pm
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2705 N Tamiami Trail, Nokomis

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



Come meet your neighbors at the newly formed Rivendell Social Committee's "Mix and Mingle" to be held at the Rivendell Community Pool on Wednesday, March 27, 5:30-7PM. BYOB (plastic glasses ONLY), a chair and an optional snack. Hope to see lots of neighbors!

Questions: Kathy Halaiko 941-914-6895 or halaiko@yahoo.com

Maintenance Committee Report

By Larry Dobias, Board Liaison

1. Pump house - *Water Tech submitted a more detailed plan that is under review.*
 2. Schedule pond structure inspection - *DS Franks will be inspecting the ponds in March for a price of \$2,500.*
 3. Community sidewalk power washing - Board has accepted the proposal from Dutchman to power wash the sidewalks that are HOA responsibility. This is to be started 2/11.
 4. Greentopps *removed dead pines, ground stumps, trimmed Ligustrums, trimmed Oaks in Rivendell Park.*
 5. Sod at bridge - *West Bay laid sod at bridge.*
 6. Alley potholes - *Potholes repaired by Absolute Asphalt for \$1,600.*
 7. Tree planting - *Greentopps to submit a proposal*
- Editor's note, the items in italics indicate actions taken since the prior meeting.*

(Social Committee continued from pg.1)

Woodlands Word like the Book Group, which already exists.

If you have an interest in any of the following areas and would like to be involved in relevant events, please email the committee member referenced below.

1. Monthly "Mix and Mingle": Kathy Halaiko – halaiko@yahoo.com
2. Dinner Club/Progressive Dinners: Kristin Ellison - kristinellison1@gmail.com
3. Mahjongg: Lenora McComas -snowy1066@usa.com
4. Bridge: Debra Jones - debraljones@gmail.com
5. Kayaking: Adele Kellman - adele.kellman@gmail.com
6. Contact Adele Kellman if you would like to organize events for other interests such as: poker; photography; bicycling - serious and casual; hiking; movies; foreign language conversation; or an activity you are passionate about and would like to share with kindred souls!

Next Maintenance Committee Meeting

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

Move your clocks ahead one hour...



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
Sunday, March 10

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WHAT HAPPENED TO MY BACKYARD???

By Larry Dobias



“Earlier you said we are losing ground. Could you be more specific?”

Anyone who has any interest at all in the community cannot escape the fact there is a new initiative with regard to pond maintenance. Some are questioning the sense of urgency driving the strategy to change how the shorelines are managed. The ponds look great, the algae for the most part is under control, there seems to be a reasonable level of birds and wildlife, so what's the problem?

The problem is erosion. This is a slow but continuous process that is eating away at the shoreline. The ponds in the community are nearing 20 years in age and shoreline loss due to erosion has been measured at 2-4 feet. This loss has occurred within the last eight years and continues in some areas at an accelerated pace. If nothing changes, the folks living along the ponds could see another loss of 3-6 feet of shoreline loss in the next 8 years. Rivendell is at a tipping point. If nothing is done within the next few years, future Boards will be faced with the cost of remediation. This option comes at a tremendous cost, possibly exceeding millions of dollars that will be shouldered by everyone in the community.

What is being done? The Ponds and Preserves Committee is working overtime to gather facts and best practices in order to implement change. They have been meeting with experienced people from the University of Florida, Lee and Sarasota Counties, and local developments dealing with the same problem. Pilot ponds have been established to study and verify the approach before rolling out recommendations to everyone. Some recommendations are well established by the State and County and can be found on the community website. Please consider the recommendations to keep mowers off the edge of the pond by your backyard... unless you prefer to go fishing a foot or two from your lanai.

~ Baldwin, Mike. “Erosions” (Cartoon), Licensed from Cartoonstock

Did You Know? Rivendell's Ponds: Natural Beauty and Stormwater Management

By the Ponds and Preserves Committee



Rivendell ponds not only add natural beauty to our community, they play a vital role in stormwater management. Rivendell has 180 acres of lakes, ponds and wetland preserves. There are 65 acres of open water, broken up into 23 named ponds and lakes that create a stormwater system designed to manage water runoff.

Beautiful and functional... who knew? Our wetlands were here before the developers started building. Our ponds were dug out to control stormwater and interconnected through pipes, channels and culverts. They were designed to prevent flooding, holding excess rainwater runoff from our streets, roofs and yards. This process allows sediment material to be filtered by aquatic vegetation and bacteria and settle to the bottom, removing pollutants from the water. Excess filtered water is slowly drained away to South Creek and the Gulf of Mexico.

How can we help? All residents can help to keep our wetlands both healthy and as valued aesthetic assets of Rivendell. Following Sarasota County's recommendations for fertilizer and irrigation management in your backyard can reduce nutrient pollution into our ponds and gulf waters. Installing a voluntary Low Maintenance Zone (LMZ) along pond shorelines can also help absorb fertilizer water and reduce bank erosion. Let's work together on these important actions to benefit our special community, maintain property values, help reduce the future possibility of major financial consequences, and enjoy the abundance of wildlife.

Wish to learn more? Click here: rivendellcommunity.com/ponds



Have You Checked out Your New Website?

The Ponds and Preserves Committee has created the Go-to place for news, information and updates about their activities and how they benefit our community.

- ✓ Visit www.rivendellcommunity.com
- ✓ On the home page, scroll down and click on the **Ponds and Preserves** program logo.
- ✓ Review the articles and click on the one you desire. You can also print any article.

Online? Click to reach this webpage directly: Rivendell Ponds & Preserves website



Please be courteous and pick up after your pets!



Three Simple Truths About Stormwater

Guest-authored by **Mollie Holland**,

Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team (NEST) Coordinator,
Sarasota County Public Works, Stormwater



Managing stormwater is complicated. Sure, we have these handy dandy ponds, lakes, and swales that collect it for us, but what then? How does one deal with erosion, algae blooms, fish kills – and where did all the wildlife go? Along the path of finding solutions to those questions, there are three simple truths:

- 1.) Inactivity exacerbates consequences
- 2.) There is not ONE product, practice, or technology that is the remedy
- 3.) Communities must lead the way to protect their own best interests

#1. Many communities in Sarasota, both large and small, are all seemingly dealing with similar pond/lake issues. And, almost without fail, **the older the community, the more pronounced are the issues with water quality and erosion.** That is the First Simple Truth to stormwater management: **Inactivity exacerbates consequences.** Failing to address the issues of erosion, algal blooms, or some other maintenance concern is almost always a guarantee for a costlier remedy later. Installing geotubes to combat shoreline erosion is the result of not dealing with erosion for years, if not decades. Having those hard **discussions about rules, practices, and funding mechanisms when the concerns are first brought to light (or soon thereafter) usually reduces financial expenditures and is also typically easier logistically.**

#2. Researching solutions for your issues will uncover a myriad of technologies, practices, products and advice out there to pick from, all of which seem to be the magic bullet. I can tell you for a fact, there is **not ONE practice, product or piece of advice that will solve an issue** (Truth Number Two). **It can take time to find the correct combination to achieve your goals.** Aerators are an effective way to improve water quality but work even better when paired with shoreline plantings and a nutrient reduction plan. **Each community must develop a plan that works for them, as each is unique.** Thankfully, there are a growing number of communities that are developing a similar plan, **so we can learn from our neighbors' trials and errors.**

#3. I am often asked for rules, laws, or other regulatory guidance that can help with stormwater management at the community level. There are quite a few regulations out there that provide specific guidance on how a stormwater management system is to be built. However, **with few exceptions, once that pond/lake and swale is built, there is very little on how to keep these features intact and functioning.** There is even less information on how to make this often-large portion of your community an amenity to enjoy. Quite a few **industries and agencies give recommendations and guidance in the form of Best Management Practices, but implementation of those practices is still voluntary.** It is still up to communities to seek out these Best Management Practices and institute them. Truth Number Three is a result of there being few rules to guide the process; **communities simply must lead the way and protect their own best interests even if it is not mandated by a rule or regulation.**

Editor's Note: The Ponds and Preserves Committee thanks Mollie for sharing her expertise.



Nuisance Alligators

By **Richard Pellicci**

I feel that many Rivendell residents overreact to alligators. Nuisance alligators are defined as those that are over 4 feet long and may constitute a threat to people, pets or property.

We all need to educate ourselves on the basic do's and don'ts when it comes to these creatures. Follow these simple steps to avoid any contact with them:

- Do not feed them, ever.
- Children should always stay away from them.
- Pets should always be on a leash, especially near any body of water.
- Simply put, just keep your distance no matter what size alligator you should see.

Here are some other things to keep in mind:

- Incidents between people and alligators are rare.
- April is when courtship begins.

- Mating season is in May and June.
- Alligators' eggs will hatch in August and September.
- They are seen basking in the sun to regulate their body temperature.

In 2017 there were 13,210 nuisance alligator complaints in Florida. This resulted in the removal of 8,455 nuisance alligators. Although we may want to think otherwise, nuisance alligators are seldom removed to another habitat. They are usually killed and the trappers are allowed to sell the carcasses to be used for meat and for alligator skin products.

Before picking up the phone to report a nuisance alligator, please ask yourself "Is this alligator really a threat to me, my children, my pets, or my property? If the answer is "yes," then by all means call Florida Wildlife & Fish - SNAP (Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program): 866-392-4286.

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Book Group Schedule by Pam Babbit



The March book selection is *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. The novel is about Eleanor Oliphant who struggles with appropriate social skills and says what she's thinking. Her work life ensures avoiding social interactions and weekends consist of frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy. But then Eleanor meets

Raymond, the office IT guy. Together they save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who fell on the sidewalk. The three become friends rescuing each other from their isolated lives.

The Book Group will meet on March 11, at Sallie Hawkins's home, 716 Anna Hope Lane. Please call Sallie at 966-6916 if you plan to attend.

The Book Group welcomes Rivendell residents and meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:30pm. Please notify the month's hostess if you plan to participate. Books are selected based on recommendations from group members who have read the book. Members take turns volunteering to either lead a book discussion or host the group in their home. Future dates and selections are as follows:

- April 8: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn
- May 13: *Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, A Daring Escape, and the Making of Winston Churchill* by Candice Millard
- June 10: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

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Confidence in Social Situations

The better headline is: **Being Sexy and Attractive in Social Outings.**

We have all been in a situation when we felt uncomfortable. And we have all had that one moment we looked great and knew it. **That confidence**, that indefinable "I feel great about me" that is the feeling I want you to have when you are out socializing.

Take a moment, think about the last four weeks and what activities you confidently participated in. Now, think about **any activities** you may have avoided since you knew it would not go well for you.

Are you limiting your lifestyle due to hearing challenges? If you answered yes, call me. I've met too many people who started limiting their life by giving up social situations simply due to their lack of confidence to hear well. Whether it was to stop attending their place of worship, stop going to certain restaurants or stop attending group meetings, so many social situations require you to hear well. Limiting your social options isn't the best solution.

The number one reason someone avoids a social situation is an inability to hear clearly. Usually the background noise is too distracting. You may experience a table behind you speaking so loudly you can't hear your friends or the clanking of dishes interrupts your conversation.

If you feel like you are losing your conversation to the background sounds I can help you prioritize speech over noise. Better technology recognizes various social settings using internal microchips that provide optimum listening experience.

CALL ME to have an evaluation and try the device best matched to you so you can have **Confidence in Social Situations.**

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Peanut Butter Cookies

Served by Carol Heckert at a Book Group gathering

- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 36 Hershey's Kisses (milk chocolate)

Combine egg, peanut butter, sugar, and vanilla. Mix well. Form into small balls. Place 2 inches apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake in preheated 350 oven for 9 minutes. Remove from oven. Place a Kisses chocolate in center of each cookie. Dough will crack. Bake 1 additional minute. Cool on rack. Makes 3 dozen cookies.



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COMPUTER REPAIR AND INSTRUCTION PLUS OTHER HOME ELECTRONICS (TABLETS, SMART PHONES, TV, Etc): I have been providing computer services to Rivendell and the surrounding neighborhoods for 6+ years! For Rivendell and Willowbend residents I offer a special \$20 an hour rate. I also offer a flat charge for any computer virus repair taking over two hours. I am a Rivendell resident with 35+ years computer & home automation experience. Call **Gary Mruz** **941-786- 6019** or email **gary.mruz@gmail.com**

COMPUTER REPAIR, TECH SUPPORT, AND TECHNOLOGY TUTOR: Setup-Build-Troubleshoot-Repair all your technology needs including virus removal, home technology installations and computer equipment. Learn more about all your devices. I have been a Rivendell resident for 12 years, attended Pine View School, and graduated UCF with a degree in Information Technology. For Rivendell residents only, my fee is \$25 per hour. Contact: **Ben McClannahan** Cell: **727-410-2413** Email: **Bmclann04@gmail.com**

HOUSE PAINTING, HANDYMAN WORK, & HOME WATCH SERVICES: Rivendell resident with 30 years of experience enjoys assisting neighbors with economical, meticulous, professional quality house painting - interior & exterior. Also help with general home upkeep - light electrical, plumbing & carpentry jobs, etc. Are you a snowbird or landlord? I can watch your home or help with rental upkeep (home detailing & deep cleaning for move-ins or move-outs). References provided upon request. Call **Charles Tanguy: 941-539-5647** or email **ctanguy@verizon.net**

IS YOUR LAMPPOST LIGHT STAYING ON or NOT LIGHTING AT ALL? Rivendell resident **Bill Bloom** will repair your problem. Replacing a sensor is \$45 and includes all parts, labor, and cleaning. Replacing a burned-out bulb is \$18 and includes a new bulb and cleaning. Call **941-587-8439**.

LUNA RESTORE: For pool/lanai deck restoration and staining, interior/exterior painting, and "fix-it" projects to update and improve the appearance of your home, contact **Vic** at **LUNA RESTORE 941-735-2324**.

MATHEMATICS TUTORING: Calculus & Statistics, specializing in AP. Retired math teacher with 30+ years in public & private schools. Rivendell resident. Your home or ours! Multiple student discount available. Ref: Who's Who in American Education, NJ Governor's Teacher Award. Call **Carol: 941-866-0270** or email **gdontheroad@yahoo.com**

PERSONAL WELLNESS COACH, PERSONAL TRAINER, PILATES AND YOGA INSTRUCTOR: Kelly McClannahan is a Rivendell resident since 2004. She is a certified Health Coach with the Dr. Sears Wellness Institute and a Certified Personal Trainer through NASM. I offer several tiers of coaching including nutritional coaching in which I will teach you simple changes you can make nutritionally for better health and weight loss. In addition, if you'd like to add fitness, we can group or personal train. I also offer cabinet makeovers and healthy cooking lessons in your home. Call me for information and details: **727-423-8208** or email **kellymclannahan@yahoo.com**

PET SITTER, HOUSE SITTER: An adult resident of Rivendell for 15 years, I love cats, dogs, birds, & bunnies. Also very qualified to take care of your home while you are away. A dependable daily (for pets), bi-weekly, weekly, or monthly visit can be scheduled. Or I can stay at your home. My experience & references provide peace of mind that your pets and/or house are being well cared for. Call **Carolanne Haddock** at **941-539-6176**.

PET SITTER SERVICE, HOUSE SITTER SERVICE: Rivendell resident and Pine View high school student who loves pets and has previous experience walking neighbors' dogs, will walk your dogs and care for any of your pets. As well, she can visit and care for your home daily or weekly to carry out chores such as water plants, check and send home updates while you are away etc. Have references. Please call **Erica** at **(941) 786-8478**.

POOL MAINTENANCE: Leslie Casanova, Rivendell resident, is the owner of a Pool Maintenance and Service company, Kraken Pool Service Inc., which services over 140 customers in the area. We offer full service weekly pool maintenance & bi-weekly programs. For Rivendell residents only, we offer a special price of \$39 for the first month of service to new customers. There are different options for service starting at \$57 per month. Please call **941-993-5548** or email **info@krakenpools.com**

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**

The Birds of Rivendell

Audubon-led bird walk around Rivendell Ponds - March 16

We have a great variety of wading birds visiting our lakes and ponds this year. Join us for a fun and enlightening stroll with Jack Foard, VP of Venice Area Audubon, as he shares interesting stories about our fine-feathered friends. Bring your questions and binoculars! (Loaner binoculars will be available.) We will meet at 8:30 at the pool. E-mail Norma Lee Rhines for more information (nlrhines@gmail.com).



White Ibis and Tricolored Heron



Little Blue Heron ~ all photos by Nancy Dobias



Osprey



Pied-billed Grebe



A big THANK YOU to all who participated in the Community Garage Sale! Hopefully your hard work paid off, and you met some neighbors and had fun. (The nice weather certainly helped!).

A special thanks to John Fitzgibbon, Wayne Davis, Carole Myles, Fran and John Marshall, Adele Kellman, Carolyn Kenny, and Ken and Gabe Zuwaki for all their help in organizing and making this project a success.

Any thoughts, good and bad, would be welcome; please email Sallie Hawkins at aa5pilot@verizon.net

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Florida Burrowing Owls

Excerpted from Wings & Things, Venice Audubon Newsletter, Jan/Feb 2018; Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission; and Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife

(myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/birds/owls/burrowing-owl; www.ccfriendsofwildlife.org; www.capecoralburrowingowls.com)



Athenea cunicularia: The little New World Burrowing Owl spends most of its time on the ground and in its burrows underground. It is active during dawn and dusk, and is a nester seeking open, treeless areas, from plains and pastures to golf courses and airports. Although lively, it can be squat and still one moment or upright and alert the next. Threats include people, pesticides, pets, construction and cars. Florida conservation status is Threatened.

Appearance: The burrowing owl is a pint-sized bird with sandy brown plumage providing camouflage from predators. One of Florida's smallest owls, it averages nine inches in height with a wingspan of 21 inches. Bright yellow eyes and a white chin accent the face. Long legs provide additional height for a better view from its ground-level perch.

Habitat: The burrowing owl occurs throughout Florida although its distribution is considered local and spotty. The presence of burrowing owls is primarily dependent upon habitat; they prefer open native prairies and cleared areas that offer short groundcover including agricultural fields and vacant lots in residential areas.

Cape Coral is home to the largest known population of the Florida Burrowing Owl. They do not migrate, so adults can be seen all year. During the summer, the owls stay out of the hot sun, so they are harder to find. Nesting season begins in mid-February and lasts through mid-July; typically, chicks are seen in late April through early summer, and by late summer they are fully grown. **To find them at Cape Coral:** Call 941-574-0552 for information or go to the Cape Coral Library. They have built nests for years around the library. Maybe they like to read. Speaking of reading, Florida author, Carl Hiaasen, wrote a young-adult book titled "Hoot".

It is about a middle-school boy and contains all things Florida - alligators, snakes, and the burrowing owl. There is also a movie titled "Hoot," 2006, with Jimmy Buffet.

Free options: Drive around town and look hard. This may be frustrating as the little owls blend in well with the Cape Coral sandy soil and vegetation. It's possible to find one sitting on a perch set out for them. The second free option is to visit the City of Cape Coral website for a free map of burrowing owl locations. This map was produced in 2005 and the sites have been over-stressed by visitors.

Cost options: Take a private or semi-private guided tour: Burrowing Owl Tour Information page. Or purchase maps of 20+ burrowing owl locations for \$20.00. Proceeds are used for educational purposes.

Burrowing Owl Etiquette: State and federal laws prohibit the harassment of burrowing owls. This includes throwing rocks, trying to catch them, offering food items, or getting so close that their normal behavior is compromised. Although the owls may appear tolerant of your presence, if you are too close they may be afraid to leave the nest area to hunt for food. If the owls start bobbing their heads it means they are getting nervous and you should back away.

When viewing burrowing owls and taking photos, do not stay around them for extended periods of time, and maintain a minimum distance of 15-20 feet. People come from all over the world to view and photograph them. The cumulative effect of too many people, too close, for too long, could be devastating to the young.



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WHAT'S IN STORE FOR RIVENDELL REAL ESTATE IN 2019?

The upcoming year promises to be an exciting one for homeowners in Rivendell. Take a look at the below chart. Inventory is low, demand is expected to be high. Sales this year could bring record prices, all good news for residents thinking of selling.

	# SOLD	CURRENT LISTINGS	MONTH'S SUPPLY	AVERAGE SALES PRICE
2018	30	10	4.3	\$442,230
2017	24	-	-	\$414,267
% Change	25%	-	-	6.75%

What will cause prices to jump in 2019?

- 1** Season is rapidly approaching. Many Rivendell residents are leaving the cold weather up north to enjoy Florida's wonderful winter climate.
- 2** The Mid-Term elections are history. The preoccupation with politics will diminish.
- 3** With 70 Million baby boomers retiring over the next decade, we are poised for tremendous growth.
- 4** Local demand also strong because of Rivendell's walking distance to Pineview School, recognized as one of the best in the nation.
- 5** Mortgage interest rates are climbing and could reach 6% in 2019. With rates rising, many buyers will take advantage of today's rates immediately rather than waiting.

ANYONE THINKING OF DOWNSIZING OR UPGRADING TO THEIR DREAM HOME IN THE FUTURE SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO BUYING NOW AS WAITING COULD COST THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS MORE.

As your neighbors and trusted advisors, we are here to help you with buying, selling, investing or even just helping you track the value of your most important asset...your home. Be sure to look for our Market Updates or just contact us today!



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Architectural Review Committee Report - January 29, 2019

Quorum present: Neil Agruss, John Greco, Susan Lanza
 Absent: Richard Jurik, Alex Castro
 Board Liaison: Maureen Emmons, Acting Chair

	Request	Address	Assigned To	Second	Status
1	Paint house same color	1119 Mallard Marsh Dr	Neil Agruss	Susan Lanza	Approved
2	New roof shingles	1025 Oak Preserve Dr	Neil Agruss	John Greco	Approved
3	Landscaping	1105 Millpond Ct	Neil Agruss	Susan Lanza	Approved
4	Landscaping – sod	1101 Mallard Marsh Dr	Neil Agruss	John Greco	Approved
5	Paint house – palette	1144 Mallard Marsh	na	committee	Approved
6	Rescreen/paint lanai	656 Clear Creek Dr	John Greco	Susan Lanza	Approved
7	Paint new front door	767 Fordingbridge Dr	Susan Lanza	John Greco	Approved
8	New garage door	1116 Mallard Marsh Dr	Susan Lanza	Neil Agruss	Approved *
9	Landscaping	960 Scherer Way	John Greco	Susan Lanza	Approved
10	Paint house	745 Shadow Bay Way	John Greco	Susan Lanza	Approved

* Emergency

Next meeting **Tuesday, March 26** at 6PM at the Cottages Clubhouse. Request cutoff **March 19th**.

Next Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Meeting

The ARC meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6pm in the Cottages Clubhouse

**ARC applications are due to Lighthouse Management
seven days prior to the meeting.**



The Rivendell Community Web Site is available at

WWW.RIVENDELLCOMMUNITY.COM

Please contact Lighthouse Property Management for the password to the RESIDENTS / INFORMATION section.



Join 454 other Rivendell Residents on the NEXTDOOR social network

www.nextdoor.com

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Rattan Blue/green upholstered chairs & footstool; \$150 each

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Erectile Dysfunction is a result of poor blood flow to the penis. Due to the narrowing of blood vessels, some men find it difficult to get and/or keep an erection. Temporary solutions like pills and needles may not be fully effective for some men.

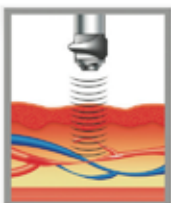


At Prime Medical Solutions we offer a breakthrough, evidence-based approach that treats the root cause of ED - called **Acoustic Wave Therapy**. It's FDA cleared and uses low intensity sound waves to help open new blood vessels and stimulate nerve endings in the penis.*

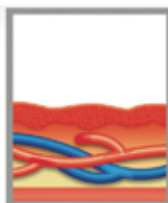
The *Therapeutic Advances in Urology Journal*** concluded that "Acoustic Wave Therapy is a revolutionary treatment of ED and can rehabilitate erectile tissue."

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**https://wellsprmedical.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Urology-Advances-Shockwave-Therapy_Mens-Health-Reference.pdf

Rivendell Community Contacts

Committees

Communication Committee

Chair: Barb Gahry (barbgahry@gmail.com)
 Board Liaison: John Fitzgibbon
 Block Captains: Cindy Schmidl
 Newsletter: Linda Pearlstein, Marilyn Probert, Pam Babbitt, Kay Mruz, Carol Heckert
 Directory: Kay Mruz
 Reporters: Catherine Middleton, Mike Bergman, Norma Lee Rhines, Lesley Sterling,
 Webmaster: Gary Mruz

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Chair: Maureen Emmons (mauremmons@ymail.com)
 Board Liaison: Maureen Emmons (mauremmons@ymail.com)
 Members: Neil Agruss Alex Castro, Richard Jurik, Susan Lanza, John Greco

Maintenance Committee (MC)

Chair: OPEN
 Board Liaison: Larry Dobias
 Members: Dave Gill, Carole Myles, Ken Heckert, Sallie Hawkins, Kevin Humbert, Greg Volack

Document Committee

Chair: Joe Sefack (jr.sefack@gmail.com)
 Board Liaison: John Fitzgibbon
 Members: Ken Heckert, Mike Bergman, Carol Heckert, Robert Thierfelder, Steve Bragg, Kenneth Alarie, Gary Mruz

Ponds & Preserves Committee

Chair: Frank Freestone (paddlemania@verizon.net)
 Board Liaison: Larry Dobias
 Members: Dave Gill, John Greco, Ken Heckert, Carolyn Kenney, Sue Remy, Norma Lee Rhines, Melle Lee Warren, Nancy Sinclair

Social Committee

Chair: Carolyn Kenney (kenneycsrq@gmail.com)
 Board Liaison: John Fitzgibbon
 Members: Kristen Ellison, Kathy Halaiko, Sallie Hawkins, Deb Jones, Adele Kellman, Lenora McComas, Barbara O'Brien, Melle Lee Warren

Rivendell Board of Directors

Ray Capuano, President
 (raycapuano1@gmail.com)
Peter Strauss, Vice President
 (peters Strauss@yahoo.com)
Larry Dobias, Treasurer
 (dobiasle@gmail.com)
John Fitzgibbon, Secretary
 (john.fitz48@gmail.com)

Maureen Emmons, Director At Large
 (mauremmons@ymail.com)

Sub-Association Boards of Directors

The Cottages: **Robert Volk**, President; **John Martin**, 1st Vice President; **Chris Smith**, 2nd Vice President; **Robert Metelko**, Treasurer; **Kathy Webber**, Secretary.

Patio Homes: **Bob Thierfelder**, President; **Dan Tavares**, Secretary; **Dave Rollinson**, Treasurer.

The Villas: **Dianne Enger**, President; **Mary Poremba**, VP/Secretary; **Sherry Sholtis**, Treasurer.

Lighthouse Property Management:

941-966-6844 x604
Property Manager: Beth Miller
 (bethmiller@mgmt.tv)
Assistant Property Manager: Lexi Robinson
 (Lexirobinson@mgmt.tv)

Rivendell Website

www.rivendellcommunity.com
 Contact Lighthouse Management for password to RESIDENTS section.

Woodlands Word Deadline:

Submit articles and information to Marilyn Probert
 (marilynprobert@gmail.com)
 by the tenth of the month.

Rivendell Community Contacts Page:

Kay Mruz (siestakeysunset6@gmail.com)

Nuisance Alligator

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

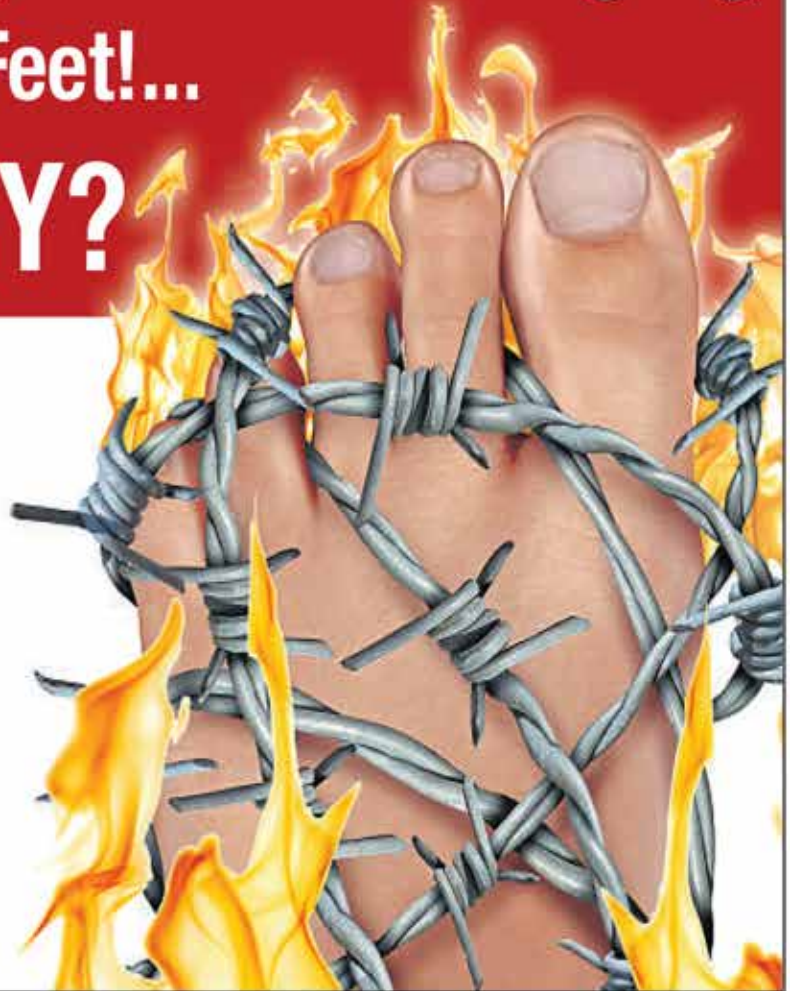
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