



Your
Community Resource

The Woodlands Word

August 2023

Letter from the President

Things have been moving well for our community. Sarasota County has been working on completing the sidewalk repairs and they had to remove a tree on Rainbow Point Way because of excessive roots that were under the sidewalk. We will be seeing a lot more of our Sarasota County workers in Rivendell over the next few weeks. They will be trimming all the trees on Rivendell Blvd that fall under their purview of required maintenance. This will also include Rainbow Point Way. For the 12 years that I have lived in Rivendell, the community has been paying to trim the trees planted by the county. Our community has spent thousands of dollars trimming trees that were the responsibility of Sarasota County. I am grateful that we now know that the County will handle that expense.

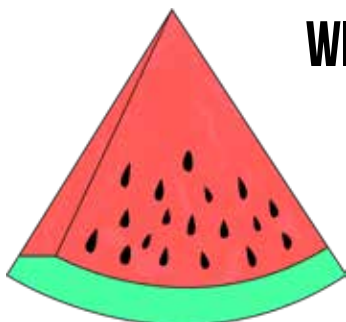
With Casey Management at the throttle the Rivendell train is moving at a fast rate. This is the best move our community has made in two decades. They have streamlined all the paperwork for the ARC, Compliance letters, Billing, and Homeowner's yearly assessment processes.

I would like to stress that we are working on a shoestring budget that needs to be adjusted to keep up with rising costs. Services and costs have almost doubled in price since early 2022. It is imperative that we address this issue. Greg Volack, Cathy Daignault and I have been working diligently to economize and keep all our expenditures at minimum costs to the community.

I would like to announce that Casey Management has hired a new LCAM Property Manager -- Fred Marks -- for our beautiful Rivendell Community. We are all looking forward to working with him.

Bruce

**KEEP COOL
THIS SUMMER.....**



**WITH COOL
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TREATS!**

Editor's Notes



I promised myself I wouldn't write anything about the weather. Unfortunately, I'm breaking that promise only to remind everyone to take it easy in this unending heat. Fall cannot arrive quickly enough and hopefully we'll have a break in the heat. What we will have are two events

that require your attention:

The first is the Veterans Day Celebration planned for November 11 @ 11 am in Crescent Park. If you are a veteran, please let us know so that we may contact you prior to the event. Even if you never served, please come to honor those who have. More details to follow. Please email Kristine@nickelcommunications.com or Jane Stevens, Janie0114@gmail.com.

The second event is the preparation for the Board of Directors election early in 2024. If you have any inclination to serve this community in the capacity of a director, please reach out to Greg Volack, gregvolack@gmail.com. Stay cool!



The Rivendell Community Web Site
is available at
WWW.RIVENDELLCOMMUNITY.COM

Best of Venice Winner for 2022



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

Best of Venice

I want to say thank you to everyone who voted for us in the Best of Venice Awards from Venice Gondolier.

I appreciate each of you. Thank you for taking time to vote for us.

Your support and continued encouragement has resulted in us being awarded Best of Venice year over year as both winner and finalist, Reader's Choice year over year, and Small Business of the Year. I have been honored and received so many awards that our wall of awards has expanded onto a second wall.

Twenty-two years ago, when I chose this profession, I was inspired by my mother MaryEllen. She was already wearing hearing aids due to an ear surgery. I focused on helping her hear her best and engage in life. Fifteen Years ago, I opened my office and chose to treat all my clients as if they are family. If she was still with us today, I know she would be celebrating all the people who have been able to engage in their own life with more ease and confidence when hearing.

Every day I hear stories about how hearing problems have interfered with enjoying life. I've always had one mission, to help everyone who comes to me to hear their best and engage in life.

Thank you for entrusting me with your hearing, I am glad I earned your respect.



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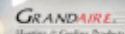
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REAL ESTATE CORNER

by Barbara Gahry, AUG. 2023

Real Estate Changes to Consider

Land and property ownership in Florida has taken on some new restrictions via SB264. The bill, which became effective as of July 1, 2023, restricts foreign ownership of real estate in Florida. The bill prohibits designated foreign principals from purchasing agricultural land or any type of real estate property near military installations or critical infrastructure. For clarification, foreign principals are those who are NOT U.S. citizens or who are NOT legally permanent residents of the U.S. The designated countries are China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, Venezuela, and Syria. It also prohibits governmental entities in Florida from contracting with or providing economic incentives to those foreign countries of concern.

Here are some of the key provisions of Florida SB264:

- Foreign principals are prohibited from purchasing any type of real estate property near military installations or critical infrastructure.
- Foreign principals are prohibited from owning more than an insignificant indirect interest in agricultural land. Governmental entities in Florida are prohibited from contracting with or providing economic incentives to those foreign countries of concern.
- Knowingly violating the statute is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

The bill was passed in response to concerns about foreign influence in Florida's real estate market. Supporters of the bill argue that it is necessary to protect national security and critical infrastructure. Opponents of the bill argue that it is discriminatory and will harm the Florida economy. There are many details in this law that are not yet well understood. There are some exceptions to the law, as well as some conflicts with the Fair Housing laws. Keep in mind that violations of the law have civil and criminal penalties to buy or knowingly sell property. It would behoove a seller or buyer in these circumstances to contact an attorney for clarification.



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Wildlife Window: Wildlife That Love Our Pond Plantings. Plants Provide Shelter, Food, and Nesting Benefits.

Sue Remy, Ponds & Preserves Committee.

Wandering around Rivendell's ponds and preserves is a never-ending lesson about Florida wildlife. Visit any lake, river, or wetlands, and you are almost certain to see some type of bird in the water, whether it's a duck searching for food in the shallows or a heron stalking prey along the shore. Rivendell has made a significant commitment to installing low-maintenance zones (LMZs) and shorelines plantings to help control erosion and absorb excess nutrients, to improve water quality and attract more wildlife.

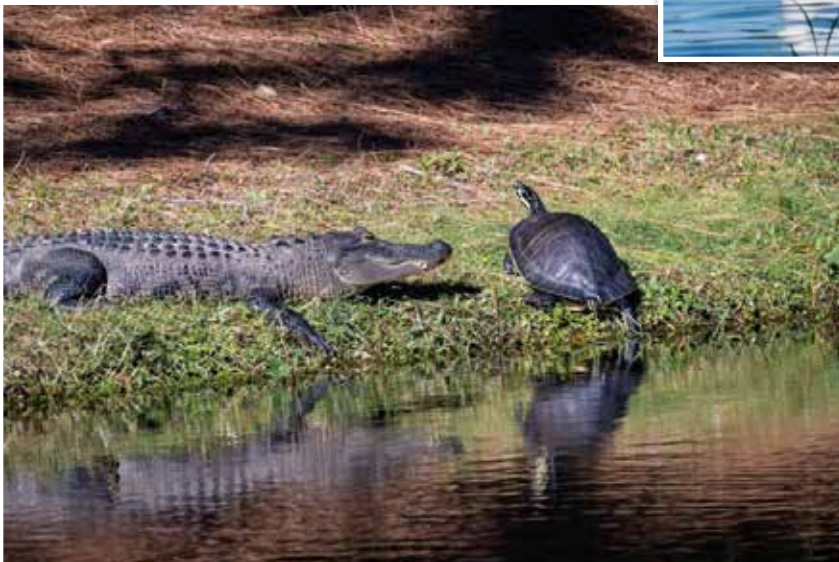
These plants serve as primary food producers for plant-eating (herbivorous) animals, who in turn become food for flesh-eating (carnivorous) animals. In addition, pond plants increase much-needed wildlife habitat in the urban landscape by providing a seed source and foraging areas for waterfowl and wading birds along with a safe haven for small fish and other aquatic life.

Creating a complex and healthy habitat, shoreline aquatic vegetation provides food and shelter to many of our wildlife friends. Let's learn more about the wildlife animals that use our Rivendell ponds to live, mature, and grow their families.



Wading birds & Waterfowl feast on freshwater invertebrates that live amongst the shoreline plants. Roseate Spoonbills, Herons, Egrets and Ibis, etc., eat small fish, crabs, shrimp, and crayfish.

Photos: Bob Frank



Ponds with aquatic plants attract amphibians and reptiles providing food sources and breeding habitat.

Alligators, Turtles, Frogs eat fish, snails and other invertebrates, along with birds, frogs and mammals that come to the water's edge.

(Yes, alligators do eat turtles.)

(Continued on Pg. 5)

(Wildlife Window continued)



At the top of the food chain, Birds of Prey, such as Eagles, Hawks & Ospreys, will eat anything they can get their hands — or talons — on. This includes many small mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and insects

Click here to visit the Ponds & Preserves website at <https://www.rivendellcommunity.com/ponds>.



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Q&A with Forest Crooke, Natural Assets Manager, SGCC. Realistic Expectations Ensure Better Planting Successes.

Sue Remy, Ponds and Preserves Committee.

Sarasota County's commitment to improving water quality has brought together leading experts and HOA community members to learn about the challenges we all face with our ponds and to share effective solutions. One local HOA community expert, **Forest Crooke, Natural Assets Manager, Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club (SGCC)**, recently shared his experiences about pond plantings around his community. Forest also personally visited Rivendell to see our planting progress and provided valuable insights we will use to finetune our pond planting strategy.

Q. Please tell us a bit about your community, your ponds, and your role.

A. Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club has approximately 470 acres with 167 acres of wetlands, wetland buffers, and upland preserves, and 58 acres of stormwater ponds. Over the past nine years as Ponds Manager, I have been managing the ponds and plantings here.

Q. What are some of the lessons you have learned over the past nine years of installing plants around your ponds?

A. We have 36 stormwater ponds here in Stoneybrook and they all have different personalities. Some ponds are better at growing a particular aquatic species than others. Maybe only a particular species will grow in certain parts of the pond, or at a different water depth. Believe me, we have killed a lot of aquatic plants over the years trying to figure out where they want to grow and not grow. Having realistic expectations of your planting results goes a long way toward mitigating the disappointment of seeing plantings possibly falter. Even with what looks like a perfect planting, in perfect conditions, there are still things that you can't control that could affect the outcome. WHAT to plant, WHEN to plant, and WHERE to plant, are all factors to consider.

Q. Realistically, what plant survival rate is considered a good benchmark?

A. In a perfect world all of them will make it, but I already know that won't be the case. Out of a recent planting of 5,750 plants, if half or more survive, I will be ecstatic. If a quarter of them survive, I would be really pleased. If ten percent make it past the first season in a pond that originally had no plants, that would still be okay. The only time I would ever be disappointed is if none of them make it and I can't figure out why. The opportunity with any of these survival percentages is to learn which plants found their happy place and build on that success. In my mind, the return-on-investment says that makes a very successful pond planting.

Q. For optimal survival, when is the best time to install aquatic plants and where?

A. The best way for new aquatic plants to survive is to plant them on exposed pond bank when the ponds are low and at least 3-4 weeks before heavy summer rains raise the pond water levels above the root systems. Try to avoid planting underwater. Most young aquatic plants have little to no root systems when first planted. They need time to grow into the soil and get established. If pond water covers them at this stage, many can be dislodged by typical wind and ripples to become floaters. Plus, if the pond level rises before the plants can get established, algae can act like a life-preserver and uproot the plants by their necks. Avoid using chemical herbicides around new plantings.

The Rivendell P&P wishes to thank Forest Crooke for lending his valuable time and expertise. We are learning that pond planting is a process, with successes and disappointments. It is not a "plant once & done" solution. A successful planting strategy must also include a provision to ensure that HOAs have a plan, resources, and monies earmarked for ongoing planting, regular maintenance, and replacement efforts. Nature is unpredictable. An effective planting strategy must allow for unforeseen challenges and failures.

Click here to visit the Ponds & Preserves website at <https://www.rivendellcommunity.com/ponds>.



Forest Crooke, Natural Assets Manager, Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club, with P&P Chair, Bob Frank, visited Rivendell ponds and provided useful insights to help us finetune our planting strategies. (Photo: S. Remy)

(Continued on Pg.7)

(Q&A continued)



The best opportunity for new aquatic plants to survive is to plant them when the water level is low and at least 3-4 weeks before heavy summer rains raise the pond water levels above the root systems. Young plants need time to grow roots into the soil and get established.



Stoneybrook GCC Pond #9 & #10 plantings installed last spring and summer, with 5,750 total plants. While many plants did not survive the initial planting, some of each species planted did find their happy place and multiplied beyond the original planting numbers. Having realistic expectations of your planting results goes a long way toward mitigating the disappointment of seeing plantings possibly falter.

(Photos: Forest Crooke, SGCC)



The opportunity with any survival percentages is to learn which plants found their happy place and build on that success. A successful planting strategy must include a plan, resources, and monies for ongoing planting, maintenance, and replacement efforts.

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ARC Meeting - July 25, 2023

Meeting held at: Cottages Meeting Room - 4:31 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ARC Members & Board Liaison Present: Bruce Lorie, Maureen Emmons, Janet Lorie & Joe Casale

ARC
Member
Reviewing

No.	Address	Description	Comments	ARC Member Reviewing	Approved	Denied
1	556 Meadow Sweet Circle	Rain Gutters Back Side of house & approx. 20ft. along West side of house Color will match Trim. Downspouts Color will match Body of House.		JC	X	
2	622 Rivendell Blvd.	Paint Exterior of House Benjamin Moore "Rivendell Suggested Paint Palette" Palette Group Scheme 13 - Body of House BM Pashmina AF-100, Trim - BM Deep in Thought AF-30, Front Door - BM Flint AF-560		JL	X	
3	675 Rivendell Blvd.	New Roof - Westlake - Villa 900 Barrel Concrete Tile - South Beach Blend Color Coat		ME	X	
4	682 Clear Creek Drive	Paint Front Door - Benjamin Moore - Flint AF-560		JL	X	
5	723 Shadow Bay Way	Storm Catcher Strap & Buckle Screen permanently attached to the interior part of Lanai. Not visible from exterior or home. Storm Catcher Curtain Color - Gray.		BL	X	
6	739 Shadow Bay Way	Hurricane Replacement Windows by Anderson Color White with White Grids in Front Windows all Windows to be the same size as existing windows.		BL	X	
7	907 Scherer Way	New Roof - Eagle Tile - Malibu - Barrel Tile - Color Code - 2664 - Color - Terracamba/Range of Terracotta		JL	X	
8	922 Eagle Isle Court	Remove Queen Palm Diseased - Ganoderma Fungus & Grind Stump. Located in the front yard Left side.		ME	X	
9	1115 Mallard Marsh Drive	Remove 2 Lion Statues & Pillars that they stand on in front of house. Replace with Mulch for now.		JL	X	
10	1159 Mallard Marsh Drive	Remove two trees Oak & Magnolia approx. 14 ft. in back of patio and remove Stumps		BL	X	
11	1163 Mallard Marsh Drive	Install Generator - Upgrade In-Ground Propane Tank to 500 Gallon Tank. Have Survey & Neighbors Letter.		JD	X	
12	1073 Mallard Marsh Drive	Change Color of Tiles from Sierra Madre (that was Approved 05/30/2023) to **Cocoa Range for New Roof. Eagle Roofing - Capistrano Cement Large Barrel Tile - Color #3743 Cocoa Range - Range of Dark Brown**		JL	X	
13						
14						
15						
16						
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18						

Rivendell Community Association, Inc

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2023

A Board of Directors meeting was called on July 19, 2023, at the Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2705 N. Tamiami Trail, Nokomis, FL 34276 as well as virtually via zoom.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bruce Lorie at 6:00 pm.

Proof of Notice

Notice of the Board of Directors Meeting was delivered to each director and posted on the property according to the requirements of the Association Documents and Florida State Statute 720 including a sign posted out in front of the community.

Determination of a Quorum

A quorum was established with Board members, Bruce Lorie, Greg Volack, Cathy Daignault, Mary Angell, and Kevin Boggess

Committee Reports

ARC committee – Phillip Breeding of 1019 Scherer Way addressed the board concerning his application for solar panels on the roof. The ARC approved the panels with the condition that they include solar skins. Mr. Breeding does not want to use solar skins as they will reduce their effectiveness by 15%. He also provided documents about the laws in Florida as they pertain to solar panels. Mr Breeding was also concerned about the availability of solar skins in Florida. There was a rebuttal from Jim Duncan of the ARC committee.

A motion was made by Greg Volack to table the discussion for 10 days to review the law before making a decision. The motion was seconded by Cathy. All approved

Maintenance committee – Greg Volack reported that Treescapes is doing some work around the community and the county will be trimming trees.

Ponds and Reserves Committee – Larry Dobias reported that the board has information on

present. Bridget Spence and Fred Marks of Casey Management were also present.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the June 21, 2023, meeting were presented. Greg Volack made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Cathy Daignault seconded. All approved by voting aye.

President's Report

Bruce Lorie welcomed Fred Marks from Casey Management as the new CAM for Rivendell. Treasurer's Report

Bridget Spence reported that Lighthouse has not updated their portal since May 27 so Casey is unable to produce a financial report. Numerous requests have been made to Lighthouse with no response. We may have to ask our attorney to send a letter to Lighthouse. Vendor payments are being made and all bills are current. \$57,000 has been paid out in the first half of the month with another \$28,780 scheduled for the second check run.

Secretary Report -none

projects that need to be addressed. The cost of these projects is about \$41,000.

Greg Volack made a motion to speak with an attorney to recover \$8700 to correct an incursion into the preserve home located on Eagle island. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Greg Volack made a motion to put Mary Angell in charge of the finance committee.
Motion approved unanimously

Greg Volack made a motion to fine 8 homeowners \$100 per day up to \$1000 for non-compliance. The motion passed unanimously.

Greg Volack made a motion to change the name of the fining committee to the compliance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Greg Volack made a motion to send out 9 compliance letters. Motion passed unanimously.

Bruce Lorie made a motion to approve a rental unit to store association records. Greg seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Homeowner Comments – none

Adjournment – With no further business, Bruce Lorie made a motion for adjournment. Greg Volack seconded the motion and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Fred Marks

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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: Bruce Lorie
Marylin May, Jim May, Barbara Gahry
Nancy Giordano, Chris Smith, Dana Schroeder

Adjunct Members & Woodlands Word reporters:

Adele Kellman & Sue Remy

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Chair:

Questions or Submissions:
Patricia.Goldstein@mgmt.tv
Board Liaison: Bruce Lorie
Members: Joseph Casale, Maureen Emmons,
James Duncan, Janet Lorie

Fine Administration Committee (FAC)

Chair: Bob Thierfelder (rcthierfelder@gmail.com)
Board Liaison: Kevin Boggess
Members: Bill Bloom, Mary Kennedy, Ken Alarie
Gary Glick

Maintenance Committee (MC)

CHAIR. TBD

Board Liaison: Greg Volack (gregvolack@gmail.com)
Members: Larry Dobias, Chuck Pertile, Carole Miles
Terry Siemsen, Kevin Humbert, Alexis Spaulding
Peter Daignault

Ponds & Preserves Committee

Chair: Bob Frank (frank@ohio.edu)
Board Liaison: Kevin Boggess
Members: Larry Dobias, Sue Remy, Tom Hurban
Dave Gill, Ken Heckert, Allie Sandow Frank,
Ray Ellison

Social Committee

Chair: Maria Ilioff

Board Liaison: Mary Angell
Members: Lisa Boggs, Kathy Halaiko,
Adele Kellman, Kathy Lysak, Allie Sandow
Jane Stevens

Block Captain Committee

Chair: Rachel North Zipay (mobilrach@verizon.net)
Board Liaison: Cathy Daignault

Rivendell Board of Directors

Bruce Lorie, Director - President

Liaison to the Communications Committee
blorierivendell@gmail.com

Greg Volack, Director - Vice President

Liaison to Maintenance Committee
gregvolack@gmail.com

Cathy Daignault, Director - Treasurer

Liaison to Pool Committee & Cert Committee
catdaignault@yahoo.com

Mary Angell, Director - Secretary

Liaison to Block Captain Committee &
Social Committee
meangell06@gmail.com

Kevin Boggess, Director - Director at Large

Liaison to ARC Committee & Fine Admin Committee
& Ponds & Preserves Committee
kbogg@msn.com

Sub-Association Boards of Directors

The Cottages Board of Directors

RU1NA=Rivendell Unit 1 Neighborhood Association

Marilee Casale, President (marileecasale@gmail.com)
Steve Bragg, 1st Vice President (snbragg@ilstu.edu)
Bob Metelko, 2nd Vice President (bob@csdsinc.net)
Jim May, Treasurer (jdmay333@gmail.com)
Tom Hickey, Secretary (Hickeytd@gmail.com)

Patio Homes Board of Directors

Bob Thierfelder, President rcthierfelder@gmail.com
Dan Tavares, Secretary dtavares1507@gmail.com
Barbara Lewis, Treasurer bprcl@comcast.net

The Villas Board of Directors

John Barron, President (johnbarron@gmail.com)
Alex Elshimy, Vice President (alexelshimy@aol.com)
Ronald Grinnell, Treasurer(rongrinnell@hotmail.com)

Rivendell Website

www.rivendellcommunity.com

Woodlands Word Deadline:

Submit articles and information to Kristine Nickel
(kristine@nickelcommunications.com)
by the tenth of the month.

Updates to the Contacts Page:

Kristine Nickel kristine@nickelcommunications.com)

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