

The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

Your Community Resource

September 2021

RIVENDELL...A COMMUNITY LIKE NO OTHER

By Larry Dobias, President RCA

Since the beginning days of the Woodlands at Rivendell, our community has had a strong culture of volunteerism. When Rivendell was turned over to the members in 2004, the infrastructure may have seemed complete, but there were still a lot of final touches to add. Committees were formed, volunteers stepped up and work began.

A look back through past issues of the *Woodlands Word* will illustrate the numbers of volunteers and the effort that was put into establishing our many parks and creating the intrinsic beauty and overall uniqueness that we know as Rivendell.

I find it amazing that some of the folks who were part of the initial volunteer teams continue to serve on committees all these years later. Still, every year we lose a few, for even though their minds and hearts are willing, bodies age. There is a constant need for new members to step up and share in the responsibility for managing the community.

In 2021, many new faces heard the call and came forward to participate in various committee functions. Some volunteers have more active roles and others are support or helpers. All participation is welcomed and needed to help share the workload.

The ARC and Maintenance Committee are active with some folks that are relatively new to Rivendell. Both are doing a

great job in keeping up our community standards. The Pond and Preserve Committee is working to maintain and improve nearly 50% of the total land mass in Rivendell. There is new leadership in the Communications Committee that is actively seeking out ways to keep our members better informed and connected. Soon the Social Committee will resume activities and be polling our residents as to what activities they most enjoy and would like to see continued.

Yes, Rivendell is fortunate to have many volunteers working on behalf of the community.

That being said, all the committees mentioned could use additional members as we start planning for next year. There is a current need for someone to organize next year's community directory. Writers and contributors for the Woodlands Word are always needed and there are openings on just about every committee. I am sure there are many homeowners with the time, talent and expertise to contribute to Rivendell. Please consider participating in the management of the community or at a minimum saying yes if you get the call to help.

A huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who has volunteered in the past and to those who will step forward in the days ahead. Together we continue to ensure that Rivendell is a community like no other!



Join 665 of your fellow Rivendell Residents on the NEXTDOOR social network www.nextdoor.com

Are you seeking a service provider recommendation?
Do you have an item to sell?
Do you have any questions about Rivendell or other topics residents can help with?

Nextdoor is the world's largest social network for the neighborhood.

Nextdoor enables truly local conversations that empower neighbors to build stronger and safer communities.

Meet Yely by Kristine Nickel

If you live in the vicinity of the Villages portion of Rivendell, you might already be acquainted with Yely Staley. She's the one with the ready smile, exuberant curls and adorable blue merle Cockapoo, Wilton, named after the street Yelv and her husband Steven lived on in Chicago. This calm and mindful pup seems to be practicing yoga and meditation, following in his "mom's" footsteps. Before Yelv became a certified Yoga teacher, she was an attorney with a master's degree in law from the University of Illinois. Following their life in Chicago, Yely and Steven moved to Silicon Valley, California, where she owned a yoga studio. They

moved full time to Rivendell during early 2020. Yely is certified with 600+ hours of yoga training, registered with Yoga Alliance with **E-RYT 500H and YACEP** certifications in Vinyasa Yoga, Functional Yin Yoga, Meditation and Yoga Anatomy.

After approaching the Rivendell Board earlier this year about the possibility of delivering a dedicated yoga and meditation class via Zoom, she sent out a survey to gauge interest. It was met with overwhelmingly positive responses by Rivendell residents.

I caught up with Yely to find out more about the upcoming FREE monthly class, whose purpose is to give students foundational teaching to assist them in creating a personal practice of either yoga, meditation or both. These disciplines are well documented to increase physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Did you expect the reaction to be so positive? To be honest I didn't have any expectations. I offered the possibility to teach yoga with the hope that there may be some neighbors that could benefit from the practice, so we can build a stronger sense of wellness within our community.

What does that tell you? It may be that some people are seeking holistic ways to mindfully connect with themselves



Since the ages of the respondents are so wide ranging, how are you going to set up the class? My approach will be to start teaching the basics of yoga and meditation, while offering variations for everyone in class so they can feel included and empowered in their own bodies as they are. Every month, neighbors who join the class online will be given a variety of yoga styles (restorative yoga, yin yoga, chair yoga, gentle

yoga, hatha yoga, vinyasa yoga, etc.) so they can suggest their favorite option as a group.

It is also very important for me to take the time to get to know the neighbors and to build a relationship of trust with each of them so I can better assist them in their journey. My teachings are adaptable to the needs of all skill levels.

When do you anticipate the class to begin? September. As of today, the Survey indicates that roughly 70% prefer the class to be in the morning and 57% prefer the class to be on Monday. If these results remain the same, it's fair to say that the class will be on the first Monday of the month at 9:00 AM via Zoom. I will be emailing more details about the class to those who have taken the Survey.

I hope that by meeting once a month, it gives everyone a sense of joy, excitement, and something to look forward to. With consistency, I am sure the group will grow stronger together!

If you are interested and would like to participate, please click the link below by August 31st to take the survey and register.

CLICK THIS LINK TO TAKE THE SURVEY: https://forms.gle/opVSTK3KWaQhKugK8



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Rivendell Calendar of Events - September 2021

Note: These were the only two events submitted to the Woodland Word for September. If you wish to have your event listed, please submit to Kristine Nickel (kristine@nickelcommunications.com) by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the calendar for the following month. We welcome your submissions.

For the most up-to-date information check the Rivendell website at www.rivendellcommunity.com

Rivendell Yoga and Meditation Class via zoom on September 6 @ 9:00 am. Participants must have filled out survey and registered for class. Contact <u>yogayely.com</u> for more information.

Rivendell Book Club I will be meeting 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.

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

Maintenance Committee JULY 2021 Activities

The Maintenance Committee accomplished the following during the very hot month of July.

Kudos to the members plus the extra volunteer help that responds so willingly when a larger project is scheduled.

1) Fertilization of the following:

Rainbow Point islands

Lagustrums trees

Rivendell park trees

Clear Creek statement trees

Rear entrance by Willow Bend

Golden Pond, Pine Pond Jathropias

Bush in front of pool and pool bougainvilleas

Plants at bridge

Rivendell entrance bougainvilleas

Butterfly Park trees

2) Assorted projects:

Replaced 7 caps on entrance fence

Installed hose in pool pump room

Cleaned out pool returns

Cleaned pool equipment room

Installed irrigation system filter

Pine View path cleanup and hornets nest removal

Completion of Eagle Isle landscape project

Relocated Placid Lake sprinkler heads

Removed dead tree at Clear Creek

Replaced 4 lights at Rivendell entrance



Bougainvilleas planted and then fertilized enhance the landscape.

Photo by Nancy Dobias

Out and about in Osprey

By Nancy Dobias

Lots of changes going on in our neighborhood! Across from THE ARBORS on 41 a gigantic storage facility, CUBE SMART, is coming to Osprey.





The site will offer climate-controlled units, as well as outside parking for cars, trucks, boats, trailers, and Class A RV's.

Closer to Rivendell is SEASIDE SPRINGS, the 55+ resort living complex, at the intersection of Old Venice and Tamiami Trail. It looks ready for occupancy. If so, there doesn't seem to be any difference in traffic congestion...yet....



Right next to Seaside Springs is another new storage facility called SPACEBOX STORAGE.



Although not as large as CubeSmart, it markets itself for convenience offering 24/7 access, keypad entry to units, free use of moving truck and carts when moving in, climate controlled, etc. It also will sell moving supplies like boxes, tape, bubble wrap, locks, etc.



Moving off 41 and going down Old Venice Road, you'll next notice that ARAVILLA, the planned assisted living and memory center that is to be situated between the Palms of Casey Key and Seaside Springs has now cut a road into its property. Could construction be starting soon?



(Continued on next page))

(Out and About continued)

Then, across from the Old Venice entrance to RIVENDELL an office type of building is being constructed by Caithness Construction. Time will tell what business(es) will be located there.



For those of you interested in the buying/selling of exotic cars check out CAR CAVES. You need an appointment if you should want to do business with them.



There's also a marijuana dispensary located in the mall where Frankie's Pizza is.

Who would have thought???? Now, where is that Dairy Queen....



Labor Day September 6

2017 Small Business of the Year



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

Look What the Wife Dragged in..

Look what the wife dragged in, was the opening line from a new client. Karen burst out laughing and tried talking through her hysterics. It was one of those rare days when Karen was at the front desk.

You might think it was funny to Karen since it is a riff on what the cat dragged in, but it was funny since it brings to mind our theory that the only way to drag in a husband for a hearing test is to bash him over the head caveman style and drag him in. (We are not encouraging violence.)

Karen and Madge talked about how she was able to drag in her husband. To be fully transparent here, there was a threat of violence but no harm came to any husbands.

Madge owned up that she did threaten to suffocate him in his sleep if he didn't get this corrected and soon. Apparently, lack of breathing was the initiating factor in his decision to come in and see Blair for new options.

I would love to help all the wives who have struggled with husbands who don't hear well. I wish I had that one line, that recommended saying that could get him to make an appointment and get his hearing tested, unfortunately I haven't discovered what it is.

Although I have noticed that Karen is still searching for a line that can get husbands to do what a wife wants them to do, maybe she wants me to do something.

If your husband struggles to hear at the dinner table, you might suggest "pillow" therapy or he could set an appointment for a free hearing test and demo, 941-244-9300. Wishing you peace in your home.





WILDLIFE WINDOW: The Swallowtail Butterfly Want Them Visiting Your Garden?

By the Ponds & Preserves Committee

Big and flashy, **Swallowtail Butterflies** (*Papilionidae*) are a delight in your garden and include over 550 species. The Swallowtail Butterfly has unique bottom wings that are forked, especially visible when it is still with spread wings. These tail-like appendages resemble the tails of the swallow family of birds, hence their name. Most (not all) of these large, brightly colored butterflies feature tails on their hind wings. Everyone can plant a garden to attract more of these beauties to their backyards. Let's learn more about these large and colorful native Florida Swallowtail butterflies.

(Bob Frank photos)



Giant Swallowtail

(Papilio cresphontes) are the largest swallowtail butterflies in the U.S., with a wingspan of up to 6 inches.

They are striking, wonderfully exotic-looking butterflies and are also an excellent example of countershading, being dark on the topsides of their wings and bright yellow on the bottom. This gives them better camouflage against predators.

Giant swallowtails lay eggs on citrus trees, as well as prickly ash and common rue.



Black Swallowtail

(Papilio polyxenes) have a wingspan of 3-4 inches. The upper-sides of its wings are dark blue to black with rows of yellow spots along the edges of its hindwings and forewings.

The larvae are often known as "parsley caterpillars" since that is one of their most common host plants.

This swallowtail butterfly is found in much of the U.S., except the northwest.



Spicebush Swallowtail

(Papilio troilus) are generally black and marked with broad, black hind wings bordered with pale, greenish spots and a wing span of about 4 inches.

Whereas Black Swallowtails have a tiny black dot in the orange circle at the base of their

lower wing, the spicebush swallowtails do not.

As the name might suggest, this swallowtail butterfly often hosts on Spicebush.

Butterfly Habitats are threatened. Swallowtails, like many butterfly populations, have been declining in recent decades. Loss of habitat and breeding grounds are likely due to increased use of pesticides, over development, clear-cutting, and deforestation.

How You Can Help! Plant a butterfly garden in your back-yard. Butterfly-friendly plants are colorful and add beauty to your yard. Most butterfly gardens are also a magnet for hummingbirds, birds, and beneficial insects. A productive butterfly garden does not require a large land area—even a few key plants can make a huge impact. To attract these delicate creatures, your butterfly garden must provide food for both the adult butterflies and their caterpillars. Though many butterflies will drink nectar from a variety of flowering plants, their caterpillars are often limited as to which plants they can feed on. Visit UF/IFAS Extension Service's: Butterfly Gardens for more helpful information.



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.

Attract butterfly beauties to your yard – plant a Butterfly Garden. It's easy with so many colorful native Florida to choose!

(Wildlife Window continued)



Spicebush Swallowtail Caterpillar.

While Caterpillars feed on leaves, avoid using pesticides so the adults can evolve into beautiful butterflies. Be patient.



Polydamas Swallowtail.

Your butterfly garden must provide food for both the adult butterflies and their caterpillars. Help us create more butterfly habitats and make your backyard beautiful too.

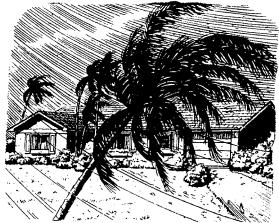


Rivendell Reflections

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.



Dawn Over Crescent Park.Photo by Jack Klingensmith.



HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE!

Please secure all loose items outside of your home if you are going to be away for more than a week. Protect your home and your neighbors' homes.



Our Pond Shoreline Efforts Are Earning Recognition! Your Actions Make a Difference. Thank You!

By the Ponds & Preserves Committee

It has been a busy year since our ponds' planting & LMZ trimming program began. Mandatory Low-Maintenance Zones (LMZs) had already been installed on all ponds and are being trimmed by our landscape contractor. We have already planted thousands of aquatic plants along the shorelines and will add more plants until all pond shorelines are planted as planned. While still a work-in-progress, we are making positive strides.

Our Ponds Efforts are being Recognized! Rivendell has been the recipient of grant funding to help support our pond planting project. We have earned grant funding from START - Solutions To Avoid Red Tide (\$1,000) and the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (\$4,000). In addition, we have received preliminary approval for a grant from Sarasota County Neighborhood Initiative and are hopeful to receive their granted funding of \$10,000 for plantings. Rivendell is also a Featured Project of Sarasota County's NEST (Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team) and was named a "Water Quality Champion" by the Science and Environment Council (a consortium of local public & private organizations). (Click here to learn more: https://www.sarasota.wateratlas.usf.edu/nest/#nest-home)

LMZs & Plantings - Our Rivendell Natural Shorelines. Our HOA (Rivendell Community Association) owns and has title to our ponds, which are managed in compliance with Sarasota County and SWFWMD as part of our stormwater system designed to manage rainfall runoff. LMZs and shoreline aquatic plants work together to help erosion control, reduce nutrient flow, enhance wildlife habitat, and keep property values strong. Experts from the County recommended three specific species we are planting: Duck Potato, Pickerelweed and Gulf Coast Spikerush for their deep roots, adaptability to seasonal water level changes and growth to stay near the shoreline edge. (Read more: SWFWMD's Stormwater System brochure.)

Thank you for your support and patience as we all work together to control erosion, strengthen our wildlife habitats and improve water quality. We are making great progress – let's keep it up! Our wildlife friends seem pleased with our progress as well. Recent sightings on our ponds have shown many shoreline birds among the LMZs and plants. In fact, folks remarked the birds were spotted mainly in the grasses and plants for protection and feeding. While they are more difficult to spot, we suspect many other pond creatures also thrive in our pond shorelines. Enjoy the wonderful wildlife photos from our ponds. Thanks to our talented photographers – keep those photos coming.



Our ponds shoreline efforts are being recognized. Your actions make a difference – Thank You!

(Photo: Paul Remy)



No Zoom meeting for the White Ibis, Glossy Ibis and Black-bellied Whistling Ducks
- pond meeting in progress. (Nancy Dobias) (Continued on next page)

(Our Pond Shoreline continued)



A Sandhill Crane and Colts feeding while feeling safe and protected in their habitat.

(Sheila Pies)



Colorful Gallinule (Moorhead) and Little Blue Heron out for a pond stroll.

(Nancy Dobias)



Magnificent Great Blue Heron in flight (& shadow) over Rivendell Lake.

(Sheila Pies.)



Great Blue Heron enjoying the protection of shorelines plants on Rivendell Lake.

(Sheila Pies.)



Autumn begins September 22

Rivendell Book Group Continues with Zoom for September

The Rivendell Book Group meets at 7:30 pm on the second Monday evening of each month. Meetings for July and August were suspended but the Group will resume meeting on Zoom for September. We are asking participants to log on 10-15 minutes early to avoid online glitches.

On Monday, September 13th, 2021, we will be discussing American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins, which will be led by Mirinda Roy.

If you would like to join the group at its next meeting, please contact Adele Kellman <u>adele.kellman@gmail.com</u> <u>or on 908-464-7003</u>) to receive an invitation. We welcome newcomers.







Management for the password to the RESIDENTS / INFORMATION section.



Live on a Pond? Please Maintain Your LMZ to 3-foot Width

By the Ponds & Preserves Committee

If you are fortunate enough to enjoy the benefits of living near a pond, please help us keep the mandatory LMZ adjacent to your house maintained to Rivendell's policy of **three** feet wide from the pond edge. This applies to homeowners who have contracted lawn maintenance services as well as those who do their own lawns. Homeowners are responsible for mowing their property and community common-ground up to the 3-foot LMZ. West Bay is responsible for the trimming the **height** of the LMZs, while homeowners are asked to maintain the 3-foot **width**.

Keeping the LMZs looking nice and working well is a joint effort between our homeowners and West Bay, our community landscaper. On a regular schedule, West Bay trims the LMZ to a height of 8-12 inches to create a "neat, uniform, manicured" appearance, with a rounded upslope edge. The carefully-trimmed three-foot width of LMZ is an aesthetically acceptable compromise that provides the erosion-control and nutrient-management benefits of a turf-based LMZ.



Help us keep our LMZs to 3-feet – a 3-foot LMZ and aquatic plants work together to control erosion and excess nutrient run-off.

(Nancy Dobias)









Rivendell Community Contacts

Committees

Block Captain Committee

Chair: Rachel North Zipay (mobilerach@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,

(<u>marileecasale@gmail.com);</u> John Martin, 1st Vice President, (<u>4johmartin@gmail.com);</u> Carole Myles, 2nd Vice President, Bob Metelko, Treasurer (<u>bob@csdsinc.net</u>); Kathi Webber,

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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
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Sarasota County Sheriff

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