Your Community Resource

JANUARY 2016

Candidates for 2016 Board of Directors; at least One More Candidate Needed



I was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army and have an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering. I am a Master Electrician with 35 years in the electrical industry. I served as Rivendell Pool Committee Chairman when the pool complex was painted. I was also President of the Rivendell Board of Directors in 2012 and a member of the ARC 2014.

(Continued on Pg. 2)

It's always been my belief that a

Bruce Lorie, Candidate for collegial atmosphere during Board
Board of Directors Meetings is more productive than one
that appears dictatorial in nature. To that end I believe that
residents should be allowed to voice their concerns at Board
meetings. I may or may not agree with you, but I will listen

My wife Dorene and I moved to Rivendell in December 2003 after selling our business in Old Bridge, N.J. We have been married for 53 years and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. I owned a Chevrolet dealership for 23 years with 38 employees. I served as President of the Monmouth County Auto Dealers, Chairman of the New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Dealers, and was a member of the Chevro-

Joe Sefack, Board Mem- and was a member of the Chevrober, running for re-election let Dealer Council. I have served as Little League coach, Cub Scoutmaster, and President of the Mountainside Little League. I was treasurer for the Old Bridge Rotary Club, and a director for the Woodbridge Township (Continued on Pg. 2)

Rivendell's Annual Meeting will be held at 5:30 pm, Feb. 1st 2016, at Bentley's Boutique Hotel, 1660 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey.

Be sure to return your voting ballots for Board of Directors to Lighthouse Management to ensure we have a quorum for elections. Or bring your ballots in person Feb. 1; please remember also to complete the form permitting the rollover of surplus funds to 2016 as well as the Directory Update Form. We hope to see all Rivendell residents at the meeting!

Highlights of December Budget & Board Meeting By Carol Heckert; Reviewed by Bobby Merrill

ATTENDING: Joe Sefack, Bobby Merrill, Walter Perkowski The Annual Budget was attached to each agenda.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Street lights cleaned; soap dispensers being placed in pool restrooms; budget prepared.

Board approved uncollected fee from sold house to be written off as bad debt.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

We were under budget by \$50,000 as of October, preceding tree trimming. \$32,000 owed in past dues and fines. MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

No meeting in November.

Tree trimming has been completed.

\$3,540 was approved for repairs to playground equipment.

ARC REPORT:

12 applications in October; 9 approved. 6 applications in November: 6 approved.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:

The Annual Meeting will be held on Feb. 1, 5:30 PM, at Bentleys.

2016 BUDGET

The Annual budget for 2016 was reviewed and approved. The dues will remain the same as in 2015. HOMEOWNER COMMENTS:

Budget:

- · Movement of funds among line items.
- · Funding for plants and trees.
- Funding for new playground equipment.

(Continued on Pg.5)

(Bruce Lorie continued from Pg.1)

to your argument. If your argument has merit, I believe I'm open-minded enough to give it consideration and to represent your arguments to the other Board members when the issue comes up for a vote. We're all in this together and together we can build a better Rivendell. Divisive issues serve no one. A new beginning, a new chapter, a new idea, a new direction... stay the course, persevere, be patient... Which direction should you go? Which position is the right one to take? I'm sure you have many issues that concern you when you decide which candidates best fulfill what your dreams are for the future of Rivendell. I also believe that we candidates may have differences of opinion as to how that is best realized. We are fortunate this year to have so many candidates willing to volunteer their time and expertise in directing the affairs of our community. Who will those people be? That will be up to you, but I'm hoping that I'll get one of your votes and be able to serve on the Board of Directors for Rivendell.

Next Maintenance Committee Meeting

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

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(Joe Sefack continued from Pg.1)

Jaycees. I am presently a member of the Rivendell Board, and Board liaison to the Architectural Review Committee. I am familiar with our association Covenants and Guidelines.

I want to maintain and improve the aesthetics of our community and uphold our deed restrictions to preserve our community's appearance and values. I will work with other Board members and residents to solve problems and get things done in a timely and cost effective manner.

Candidates Sought & Running for Board of Directors 1
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January Free Events at Gulf Gate Library

January 7, Thursday, at 2:00 PM
Rivendell Resident Paul Sarno, lecturer on Southeast Asia, will discuss the recent election in Myanmar/Burma.

January 19, Tuesday, at 2:00 PM

Richard Zamoff, director of The Jackie Robinson Project at George Washington University, will present, "Jackie Robinson: More Than A Baseball Player."

Next Rivendell Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 20th 2016 at 6pm

Our Savior Lutheran Church 2705 N. Tamiami Trail Nokomis, FL 34275

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





The line of people waiting at a suburban polling place and then checked on the voters list. ~ photos by Paul Sarno

The 2015 Burmese (Myanmar) Election By Paul Sarno

(Paul Sarno will speak about the election on January 7 at 2p.m. at the Gulf Gate library; free admission. He will also teach a Southeast Asia course at Lifelong Learning Academy in Sarasota on eight Tuesdays at 12 noon starting January 12.)

After almost fifty years of military-dominated governance and one manipulated parliamentary election, the Burmese people prepared for a second such poll on November 8th. The President, head of the army and Chair of the Union Election Commission, promised it would be free and fair. I decided to witness it on my twelfth visit to that country.

I hired two guides to assist with my interviewing candidates, prospective voters and NGOs (non-gov't org.); observing the campaigning; attending rallies, and viewing of the voting itself. They also translated the Burmese press for me, now relatively free to report and comment on these proceedings.

The election was to select representatives in the two houses of the national parliament and the legislatures of fourteen regions and states. However, under the Constitution, these lawmakers would be augmented in each chamber by an additional 25% military officers.

On voting day, the Burmese lined up early at more than 40,000 polling stations. I visited ten and found people in good humor, anxious to record their preferences after such a long hiatus. Over ten thousand trained foreign and domestic observers and news media were also there to make certain the extensive rules were followed. The process was largely open, fair and regular.

At the close of voting, I saw that the sealed ballot boxes were opened and each vote was displayed, announced, recorded and counted. The process, frequently involving five contests, took at least three hours. The unofficial results in the news media preceded by days the formal Election Commission announcements of the outcome of about fifty contests at once. I, and many other commentators, did not expect the overwhelming victory in virtually all contests by the National Democracy Party, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, who had been held under house arrest by the military for almost fifteen years. She is barred by the Constitution from being President or Vice-President but has announced she will be "above the

President" and direct government policy.

It remains to be seen who will serve as chief executive and as ministers of Defense, Home and Border Affairs. Also in question is the extent to which the military will cooperate with her party's governments, both national and local. The newly elected national houses will meet in late January to choose a President and two Vice-Presidents. Each of those bodies will nominate a candidate and the military representatives will separately select one.

In sum, this is a fairly large, early step in the advancement toward democracy in Myanmar. However, many significant problems exist and it is hoped that the developed world can assist. The Burmese deserve it.



Spanish Point in January

ART HISTORY WITH BAILA MILLER: FRIDA KAHLO Thurs., Jan. 7, 12 noon

Best known for her self-portraits, Frida Kahlo was born in Mexico and the culture of her country was pivotal to her work. She married fellow countryman muralist Diego Rivera. This lecture includes lunch. \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Reservations with payment necessary. Call 941-966-5214.

ART AND HISTORY OF CITRUS Thurs., Jan. 14, 2 PM

Join historian Liz Coursen for a fascinating look at the history of citrus crate labels in FL. The idea started in CA in the late 1880's and spread to FL as citrus growers designed labels unique and specific to their groves. Members \$10, non-members \$15.

Rivendell Reminders

Although we no longer publish the official approved Board Minutes and Budgets in this newsletter, both may be found on the Rivendell Website.

The deadline for paying your HOA dues is January 1, 2016.

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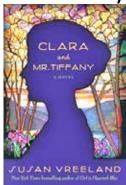
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Book Group Schedule By Marilyn Probert



Happy New Year to all! The Book Group will start the year with *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*, a historical novel by Susan Vreeland. Clara is an important part of the team that designs and produces the famous Tiffany lamps. Although her employer, Louis Comfort Tiffany, values her contributions, he gets all the credit for them and Clara is miffed. Barbara Gahry will host the group on January 11 at her home at 699 Rivendell Boulevard. Please call her at 941-966-5828

if you'd like to attend the meeting.

The February selection is *Hausfrau* by Jill Alexander Essbaum. Anna, an American ex-pat, lives in a suburb of Zurich, with her Swiss husband, Bruno, and their three children. Anna feels that she should be happy, but something is missing. In an effort to fill the void she takes German lessons, undergoes Jungian analysis and embarks on love affairs that are difficult to end.

In March we will discuss *The Boston Girl*, a novel by Anita Diamant. Born in 1900 and now eighty-five years old, Addie Baum, the daughter of Jewish immigrant parents, tells her life story to her twenty-two year-old granddaughter who has asked her "How did you get to be the woman you are today?" The answer is engrossing.

The Book Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:30pm. All Rivendell residents are welcome; please notify the month's hostess if you plan to attend.

(Highlights of Budget continued from Pg.1)
General:

- Much dissatisfaction about lack of pool maintenance by new pool vendor. (Shannon Banks has notified them and is observing the pool weekly).
- Need for more tree maintenance in Crescent Park
- Lack of response from Board and Lighthouse Mgt. to certain persons.
- Lighthouse maintenance person? (Yes, recently hired).
 NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 20, 6 PM, Our Savior Lutheran Church.

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Top 40 Professionals 2015



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Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences American Conference of Audioprosthology

Loving the Streamer

I have a business owner who works in a noisy environment, and he uses his cell phone often. Whether calling clients or following up with his staff, he is on his phone frequently. I recently introduced him to a streamer for his hearing aids. A streamer enables his phone to connect to his hearing aids wirelessly. His phone call sounds are in his hearing aids. He told me he loved his streamer since the sound clarity is amazing.

A couple days later another one of my clients came in complaining about his phone. I asked if he was using his streamer, he hemmed and hawed, and finally admitted he had gotten a new phone and couldn't figure out how to pair the two technologies. We set an appointment so I could show him how to use it.

When he came in we got his streamer and phone connected. I reviewed with him how they work together so he could use the streamer with ease. During this appointment I showed him how to connect his smart phone to the streamer and how to stream music from the phone directly into his hearing aids. Now he was hearing music clearly for the first time in quite a while. He had avoided listening to music since he said he couldn't hear distinctly enough, it was too distorted and too cluttered of a sound for him. Now with the streamer he hears it so clearly and has been able to enjoy music as he did in years past.

If you are interested in trying the hearing aids that stream into smart phones or TVs, or want to see if your current hearing aids are compatible with streamers, call me, 941-244-9300.



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On Venice Island, between the lights at Miami Ave and Milan Ave on southbound side. Set back from the road with FRONT DOOR parking.

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Crystal River Catherine Middleton

I had an unexpected day off from work in mid-November and decided to take an impromptu road trip up to Crystal River. It is a 2½-hour drive north of Osprey through some lovely, slightly hilly terrain, or at least what are considered hills in Florida. I had always wanted to visit this little town and stay at the Plantation Resort which is right on the river. The river is most famous for its manatees which come in from the Gulf in the winter months when the water gets cold. Unfortunately, since this year was exceptionally warm, they were still happy out there in the Gulf! I took a river cruise and we only saw two manatees, but it is always delightful to be out on the water on a beautiful Fall day. Swimming with the manatees is also available at certain times of the year with advance reservations.

The resort itself has been there for over 50 years but has been nicely renovated and features beautifully landscaped grounds, a golf course and a large swimming pool facing the river to name just a few amenities. I had a marvelous dinner at West 82° Bar & Grill, the hotel restaurant – pan seared grouper with a lemon caper sauce cooked perfectly.

The next day I ventured south to Homosassa Springs and visited the Wildlife Park. If you start in the main visitor center, you can take a riverboat to the park itself, or you can drive there. I'll never pass up a boat ride and it was narrated by the Captain including some very interesting history of the area. The park has at least one of just about every bird and animal native to Florida, plus one hippopotamus named Lu!

And there are four "resident" manatees which put on quite the show 3 times a day when they are called over to a lagoon for feeding. There is an underwater tank which affords you a close-up view of these gentle giants eating their romaine lettuce...

I would highly recommend adding both of these venues to your list of one-tank trips. Websites are: www.plantationon-crystalriver.com and www.floridastateparks.org/park/Homosassa-Springs





RESIDENTS HELPING RESIDENTS

MATHEMATICS TUTORING: Calculus and Statistics. Specializing in AP courses. Retired Math teacher from the NE with 30+ years experience in public and private schools. New Rivendell resident. Your home or ours! Multiple student discount available. Ref: Who's Who in American Education, New Jersey Governor's Teacher Award. Call Carol: 941-866-0270 OR email gdontheroad@yahoo.com.

BABYSITTER: 15 year-old Rivendell Pine View student has certified American Red Cross Babysitter's Training with Pediatric First Aid and CPR. I absolutely love kids! Call **Zoe Gavette** at **941-918-8200**.

LAMPPOST REPAIR: Rivendell Resident **Bill Bloom** is offering lamppost repair services. Is your lamppost light staying on? Charge is \$40 for parts, labor and cleaning. Replacing a burned out bulb is \$15, and this includes new bulb and cleaning. Call **941-918-8386**.

BABYSITTER: Sivan Yohann, 941-408-5549, a Pine View senior and a very experienced babysitter. I will keep your kids busy with soccer and crafts and all sorts of activities. I am extremely friendly and responsible! References available upon request.

BIKE REPAIRS, KAYAK AND BIKE RENTALS: Mike and Sheila Lewis offer free delivery and pick-up to Rivendell residents for bike and kayak rentals, bike repairs and maintenance. Call 941 346-1797-or email ssrentals@aol.com or visit their web site at www.siestasportsrentals.com

COMPUTER REPAIR AND INSTRUCTION PLUS ALL HOME ELECTRONICS (TABLETS, SMART PHONES, TV's, DVD's, NETFLIX and MORE): For Rivendell & Willowbend residents I charge a very reasonable \$25 an hour rate. I also offer flat charges such as \$50 max for any computer virus repair taking over two hours. I am a Rivendell resident with thirty years computer and home automation experience. Call Gary Mruz 941-786-6019 or email gary.mruz@gmail.com

WANTED: CAVALIER KING CHARLES OWNERS! Do you have a well mannered, potty trained Cavalier and would like to reciprocate sitting services with me while you or I are away, or use as back-up in case of emergency? Must be up to date on all shots and flea/heartworm protected. No monies involved, just assurance that our babies are being well taken care of and loved while we are on vacation. Apollo would love to have a new friend. Call Anita @ 941-321-0452 if interested.

PETSITTER, HOUSESITTER: An adult resident of Rivendell for 15 years, I love cats, dogs, birds, and bunnies. I am 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, if you prefer. My experience and references will provide you with peace of mind that your pets and/or house are being well-cared for. Call **Carolanne Haddock** at **941-539-6176.**

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





LOOKING FOR RIVENDELL CLASSIFIEDS?

ITEMS FOR SALE, ITEMS WANTED, LOST AND FOUND, HELP WANTED, GARAGE SALES, RESIDENTS HELPING RESIDENTS and SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

All Rivendell Classifieds are now on the community website

www.rivendellcommunity.com

Contact Lighthouse Management for the password to the residents section of the website.

For other information regarding the Rivendell classifieds please contact Gary Mruz (gary.mruz@gmail.com)

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?



All communication regarding maintenance issues or community infractions must be sent directly to Lighthouse Property Management for handling. For example, if you spot a broken street light, or issues with the pool janitorial duties, communicate the information to Lighthouse Property Management via email, phone call or a letter.

If you have ideas, suggestions or feedback regarding the common areas, trees, plants, ponds and pool (all items under the MC responsibility) attend a Maintenance Committee meeting to discuss.

If you would like to request any official Rivendell document, contact Lighthouse Property Management in writing. Some information may be in the website but Lighthouse Property Management has ALL official documents for Rivendell.

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Community Directory Update Form

To: Rivendell Homeowners

From: Rivendell Communications Committee

Please check the information about yourself in the current Community Directory to see if it is correct. If you have changed your phone number or email address since your last submission, please fill out this form and return it to Lighthouse Property Management. The form can be returned via email (melissaderisier@mgmt.tv), fax (941) 966-7158, or mailed to the Lighthouse office at 16 Church St, Osprey, Florida 34229.

Your update will:

- 1. Provide correct information for the 2016 Community Directory
- 2. Enable Lighthouse Property Management to correct their Masterfile
- 3. Ensure correct information in the community website within the next few months

Lighthouse Property Management needs your complete information. However, you may opt out of having much of this information included in the Community Directory by checking off the options at the bottom of this page.

Owner(s) Name:			
Home Address	_ Phone #:		
Alternate Address:	_ Mobile #:		_
	_ Mobile #:		_(optional)
Email Address:			
Email Address:		_ (optional)	
Do NOT include my landline number in the directory	/		
Do NOT include my mobile number(s) in the direct	ctory		
Do NOT include my Email address in the directory			
The Association cannot control distribution of the directory homeowners to not provide information from the directory effect for all future directories while you are a unit owner.			
Owner signature	 Date		-

Architectural Review Committee Report - 11/24/15

Attendees: Maggi Verhagen – Committee Chair, John Fitzgibbon, John Martin The ARC meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM with a quorum of Committee members present. The following applications were reviewed and decided for action.

ITEM	ADDRESS	WORKPLAN	RESOLUTION
1.	580 Meadow Sweet Circle	Repaint house	Resolved: Approved Motion: John F. 2 nd : John M. Also approved by Cottages
2.	1060 Scherer Way	Repaint house	Resolved: Approved Motion: John M. 2 nd : John F.
3.	648 Rivendell Boulevard	Replace gutters	Resolved: Approved Motion: John M. 2 nd : John F.
4.	626 Rivendell Boulevard	Remove 3 trees and replace with 1 tree	Resolved: Approved Motion: John F. 2 nd : John M.
5.	812 Foothill Court	Remove 2 trees	Resolved: Approved Motion: John F. 2nd: John M.
6.	763 Fordingbridge Way	Remove trees	Resolved: Approved Motion: Maggi V. 2 nd : John F.

Next meeting December 29, 2015

Next Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Meeting

The ARC meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm Location: Cottages Clubhouse

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



A Special THANK YOU to Jeff Zych and Nancy Dobias for the Holiday Decorations throughout Rivendell this past Holiday Season! Jeff once again made Rivendell's entrance and Rivendell Blvd look quite merry! Nancy Dobias added holiday cheer to Rainbow Point Way!

Rivendell Community Contacts

Committees

Communication Committee

Chair: Carol Heckert (carolheckert@verizon.net)

Architectural Review (ARC)

Chair: Margaret Verhagen (drmaggiv@gmail.com)

Maintenance Committee (MC)

Chair: Jim Stepien (jimstepien@gmail.com)

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

Lighthouse Property Management: 941-966-6844

Property Manager: Shannon Banks

(shannonbanks@mgmt.tv)

Assistant Property Manager: Melissa Derisier

(melissaderisier@mgmt.tv)

For a more detailed list of committee members and contact information please see the printed Rivendell Directory or the Rivendell website.

Rivendell Board of Directors

Gwen Stepien, President (gweninthesun@msn.com)

Joe Sefack, Vice President (jr.sefack@gmail.com)

Walter Perkowski, Secretary (walter@SRQmoves.com)

Bobby Merrill, Treasurer (bobbymerrill3@aol.com)

Sub-Association Boards of Directors

The Cottages: Ken Alarie, President; Steve Bragg, 1st Vice President; Bill Vanik, 2nd Vice President; Margery Arendt, Treasurer; Carol Costa, Secretary.

Patio Homes: Edward Diggs, President; Jayne Irene, Secretary; Bruce Whalen, Treasurer.

The Villas: Dianne Enger, President; Sherry Sholtis, Vice President/Secretary; Fred Hawkins, Treasurer.

Deadline: Submit articles and information to Judy Sokal (judysokal@gmail.com) by the tenth of the month.

Sarasota County Sheriff

Non-emergency Contact number for our area is: 316-1201
Please use this number for non-emergencies



The Rivendell Community Web Site is available at

WWW.RIVENDELLCOMMUNITY.COM

Please contact Lighthouse Management for the password to the RESIDENTS section or check your annual voting ballot/proxy mailer.



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Kathy White FAR, NAR, SAR Realtor[®] / Interior Designer 941.225.2122 whitekw1@gmail.com

Karie Backman ABR, CNE, CRS, GRI, ILHM Broker Associate / Certified Stager 941.404.8389 kariebackman@gmail.com



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