



*Your  
Community Resource*

# The Woodlands Word @ Rivendell

*JANUARY 2012*

*Annual Membership and Election Meeting  
Monday, February 6th, 2012  
6:00 pm at Bentley's*

## **CANDIDATES SOUGHT FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**By Barb Gahry**

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominees for the Board of Directors. Four people will be elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting on February 6, 2012.

Interested candidates should submit a biography and a photograph to the Nominating Committee. The biography should contain two paragraphs. The first paragraph should summarize your background and any experience that qualifies you as a candidate. The second paragraph should describe what you want to accomplish for the community as a member of the Board of Directors. The word count for the biographical information should be between 250 to 350 words. (Two candidates had declared as of press time; please see page 9.)

*(Continued on page 3)*

## **Proposed Amendment to Deed Restrictions By Ken Heckert**

Currently our covenants do not permit Rivendell's Home Owners Association (HOA) to enter the yards of unoccupied or foreclosed homes.

The purpose of this amendment is to enable the HOA to address the problem created when an owner abandons his/her home and stops maintaining it so that it falls into a state of disrepair, becomes an eyesore, and negatively affects neighborhood property values.

In order to better protect neighborhood property values, this amendment will enable the Association to give the owner notice of the problem, demand that the owner correct it within a reasonable time frame, perform the needed maintenance if he/she does not, and assess the responsible owner accordingly.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## **Highlights of December 8, 2011 Board Meeting By Carol Heckert**

At its December meeting, the Board:

- Agreed to renew the preserves contract with Aquagenix, as County officials are pleased with what they have done in Rivendell.
- Authorized hiring Water Equipment Technology to replace the main irrigation pump in the front of the community with a floating submersible pump.
- Authorized hiring Sarasota Glass & Mirrors to replace the bathroom doors and frames at the pool with fiberglass doors.
- Authorized hiring Terry Lee Painting to paint the pool facility surfaces with a color to be approved by the ARC.
- Approved all Pool Committee members.
- Accepted the resignation of Board member Judy Sokal.

*(Continued on page 6)*

**Rivendell Board Meeting**  
**NEXT BOARD MEETING**  
**WILL BE**

February 6, 2012, following the Annual Meeting/Election  
 at 6:00 pm at the First Baptist Church of Osprey

Address: 265 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey (just north of Bay Street traffic  
 signal and on the west side of the street).

**The Architectural Review Committee (ARC)**

meets the last Tuesday of each month  
 at the Cottages Clubhouse.

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

The ARC recommends that applications  
 be received one week before the next meeting.

Applications received after the monthly date will have to wait until following month.

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## Message from the President January 2012

Rivendell is a community of 498 homes covering approximately 440 acres, containing:

- 22 lakes and ponds = 65 acres
- 14 areas designated as wetlands/preserves = 94 acres
- 1.5 miles of property along Oscar Scherer with 8 acres of buffer
- 15 acres of common areas that are 75% grass and 25% trees and plants.
- The community pools and facilities

We are required to maintain our lakes, ponds and wetland/preserve areas following the standards of State and County agencies. Our common areas and pool facilities must be kept up to homeowners' expectations, which are often widely divergent. On any given day, a Board member might receive a phone call, email, or letter from a homeowner with a suggestion, request, complaint, or demand. No matter which path the Board takes, there are often some very dissatisfied people.

To maintain Rivendell, the Board must identify numerous companies, secure proposals, negotiate contracts and oversee the work. In 2011, we dealt with more than a dozen different independent contractors and managed a budget of \$377,000.00. To assist with its work, the Board has established committees. We have Landscape/Environmental, Pool, Communications and Architectural Review committees. My sincere thanks go to the folks who have volunteered on these committees. I also want to commend Kyanne and Shannon at Lighthouse for their professionalism in handling our account.

Our By-Laws, Covenants and the Florida Statutes impose many rules governing the duties and powers of Board members, as well as the rights and obligations of homeowners. However, these governing rules are sometimes extremely subjective. This puts the Board in the position of interpreting the rules in situations where individual homeowners have very different ideas about what they and their neighbors are permitted by our Deed Restrictions. And, currently there are issues of unpaid Association dues and collections questions. Our attorney must often be consulted.

An HOA like Rivendell is essentially a local government unit and the Board members are like a City

Council. However, unlike other government leaders, Board members are strictly volunteers. In fact, the Florida Statutes prohibit HOA Board members from receiving any financial benefit whatsoever from service to the Association.

Serving on an HOA Board can be a trying, thankless job. But somebody really does have to do it. My time on the Board is coming to an end. I offer my best wishes to the community members who will volunteer to manage Rivendell's affairs in the future.

*John Greco*

*(Candidates, continued from page 1)*

Members of the Nominating Committee are Ken Heckert [kenheckert@verizon.net](mailto:kenheckert@verizon.net) (Board Liaison), Mike Bergman ([MBBergman@aol.com](mailto:MBBergman@aol.com)), Barbara Gahry ([BGahry@aol.com](mailto:BGahry@aol.com)) and David Tomer ([dtomer64@comcast.net](mailto:dtomer64@comcast.net)).

If there are more than 4 candidates for the Board, there will be a "Meet the Candidates Night" in January 2012 (to be announced).

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## Pool Committee News Minutes from December 6, 2011 By Bruce Lorie

**Attending:** Bruce Lorie, Chair; Judy Sokal, Board Liaison; Walter Perkowski, Alexis Spaulding, Janet Lorie, Carol Anne Haddock.

**Guests:** John Beatty, Rosanne Beatty.

### New Business

Open discussion on selecting a painting contractor for the pool complex. The contractor that was selected is Terri Lee Painting.

Replacement doors for the men's and women's bathrooms was also selected, Sarasota Glass & Mirror.

Estimates were presented to The Board of Directors at their meeting on December 8, 2011 and were approved.

Work will commence in about four weeks. Please be advised that the pool complex will have some random closings. During the renovation of the pool complex, bicycles cannot be left chained to the bike rack or fence. All parents please make other arrangements for your children's bicycles during this time frame. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause you and your cooperation is appreciated in this matter.

Homeowners will be kept informed by signs posted at the pool regarding pool-closing dates.

## Landscape Environmental Update By Dave Gill

The following are the updates for Landscape/Environmental items.

These issues will be on the Agenda for the December 13th Landscape Environmental Committee Meeting:

1. Valley Crest Arbor Division will begin tree-trimming 12/12/11.
2. Both our Lakes Contractor (Aquatic Systems) and our Preserves contractor (Aquagenix) were on site working the week of 12/5.
3. Some Slash Pines in parks and preserves are turning yellow and may die. Not much we can do about it. Will have plans to replace some of them.
4. We are considering proposal to improve the drip irrigation on the bridge on Rivendell blvd to help the stunted Arbolacola.
5. We are reviewing proposals to plant new plants and trees in four locations:
  - a. The point of the island median on Placid Lake Drive at Rivendell Blvd.
  - b. The three mulched areas in front of Pine Pond along Placid Lake Drive.
  - c. The three mulched areas in front of Golden Pond along Placid Lake Drive.
  - d. The three mulched areas in front of Placid Lake along Scherer Way.
6. The main irrigation pump will be replaced to give us much better water pressure to handle all the zones.

### Nuisance Alligators Notice

Please contact Lighthouse Management if you are concerned about an alligator in the development.

The management company will assess the possible danger, liability, homeowner sentiment, previous calls, etc. and contact the appropriate authorities.

Call Kyanne or Shannon at Lighthouse Property Management, 966-6844

'Tis the season to be Thankful...  
to resident Jeffrey Zych



Our thanks to Jeffrey Zych  
for purchasing and hanging  
the Holiday Decorations at  
the front entrance and along  
Rivendell Boulevard!

## Landscape Along Pond Shorelines

### By Frank Freestone

Rivendell's unique profusion of ponds, parks, wetlands and preserves establishes our connection with the natural world and sets us apart from other nearby developments. We are different from any other community in Sarasota County. The shorelines of our ponds are a major visual feature of our community, contribute to the natural character of the area, and are home to many beautiful birds and native wildlife species.

In making our landscaping choices related to those shorelines, as a community or as individuals, we all want our community to look attractive and our property values to be maintained. However, as good citizens, we also want to be responsible stewards of our land so future generations may enjoy these natural resources.

Our community has at least twenty-two ponds with over three and a half miles of shoreline. Some of this shoreline is now kept in a natural state, such as that of Scherer Lake adjacent to Oscar Scherer State Park. Other shoreline that is visible from our roads is mowed by our community contractor nearly to the edge of the pond with a small low maintenance zone. Finally, some homeowners who live on ponds are responsible for maintaining the community-owned property adjacent to the pond and may choose to create a low maintenance zone or mow to the edge. There are advantages to each approach.

**Mowing to the Edge** is relatively easy to implement, is less costly than some other approaches and appears satisfyingly uniform. Most of our community's ponds now look largely like those of some neighboring communities or golf courses. But perhaps this goal should be reconsidered in light of the environmental price we pay for it. We should also consider the unique character of our community and make choices that enhance and protect the natural beauty we all enjoy.

With mow-to-the-edge, some grass clippings are discharged from the side of the mower and land in the pond, even if the main discharge is on the uphill side, or if the mower is a mulching design. These clippings decompose, release their nutrients into the water and, in combination with runoff of fertilizers, contribute to the growth of algae in our ponds.



*Pond on the entrance road to Waterford golf community in Venice ~ photo by Frank Freestone*

Our nutrient-laden pond waters ultimately flow into Little Sarasota Bay, contributing to algal blooms and, possibly, red tide. For this reason, allowing clippings to enter the pond is contrary to Sarasota County regulations aimed at minimizing the environmental effects of our community. The purpose of these regulations is to protect the water quality of our bays and near-shore Gulf waters—an important consideration that affects tourism as well as our property values. Rob Wright of Sarasota County has been very helpful in reviewing this information.

**A Low-Maintenance Zone** is a practical and attractive solution and may be implemented in several ways. One easy way is to simply allow a four-to-five foot wide strip of grass to grow to about one foot tall. This zone can be maintained at a uniform height with a weed-whacker, taking care to avoid sending clippings into the ponds.

With care, the top of the low-maintenance zone can be kept flat and relatively uniform, providing a well-maintained but slightly more natural appearance. In fact, a band of taller grass fits well visually between the mowed area and submersed shoreline vegetation growing in the pond. This type of low-maintenance zone has several environmental benefits. Not only does it reduce eutrophication and shoreline erosion, it attracts birds and other wildlife.

*(Continued on page 7)*

*(Highlights continued from page 1)*

### Treasurer's Report

We are under budget for this time of the year. However, receivables in arrears by 90 days or more amount to \$35,082. This is largely due to abandoned/foreclosed homes.

### Committee Reports

Architectural Review: (John Greco) All requests approved.

Communications: (Judy Sokal) The Community Directory will come out in March. For this issue, please submit photos of gardens in the community to Barb Gahry.

Landscape/Environment: (Dave Gill)

1. Tree trimming begins December 14.
2. Aquatic Systems will be removing underwater growth in the lakes.
3. Some slash pines are yellowing and dying, due to urbanization (water too alkaline).
4. Valley Crest says the arboricola bushes on the bridge are not thriving due to an irrigation problem. Drip lines plug up. They have proposed installing new irrigation with a filtering system.
5. The palm tree that was shedding over the pool has been trimmed.
6. The L/E Committee recommends upgrades to the Placid Lake Drive Island, and the grassy areas in front of Pine Pond, Golden Pond, and Placid Lake. The committee will review 4 proposals for these areas at its Dec. 13 meeting.

Pool: (Bruce Lorie) There are plans to paint the pool and replace doors and frames to the bathrooms. Recommend hiring Terry Lee Painting and Sarasota Glass & Mirrors.

### Manager's Report

Seventy-six compliance letters were sent out; the majority for unsightly yards or lights out on mailboxes. Unanswered final letters were discussed. All but three are for abandoned houses. The Board authorized fining all who received final letters, as fees can sometimes be recovered after the house is foreclosed.

### New Business

See beginning of this report.

### Homeowner Comments

1. Rosanne Beatty opposed renewing the contract with Aquagenix, claiming they sprayed toxins on Pine View Path for three weeks without notifying the public.

2. Carole Myles requested that the schefflera hedge on the Rivendell Boulevard island be trimmed, as it blocks the view of motorists crossing Rivendell Blvd. and has caused an auto accident.
3. Joe Sefack requested feedback on the proposed deed restriction amendment that would permit the RCA to go onto the lot of an abandoned house to maintain the lawn and driveway. A response has been received from our attorney, and the next step is for 2/3 of the community to approve the amendment (see article on page one).
4. Mary Kennedy requested access to Rivendell's monthly operating budget. Kyanne Merrill said a copy is available upon request to Lighthouse Property Mgt. Mary requested that this information be placed in The Woodlands Word.

*(Deed Restrictions continued from page 1)*

An attorney has written the proposed amendment for Article 4, Land Use Restrictions, and you will receive the full text in the Annual Meeting Packet. If you have questions prior to receiving your packet, contact Ken Heckert.

In order to become effective, the amendment must be approved by 2/3 of the entire membership of the Association, followed by approval by the Board of Directors. We need your vote to pass this amendment.

**How to vote for the amendment:** You will receive the Annual Meeting Packet in mid-January. Your packet will include a form that states the amendment and requests a Yes or No vote. Please return this form in the enclosed envelope to Lighthouse Property Management, prior to or at the Annual Meeting on February 6. If you fail to return this form, your lack of response will count as a vote against the amendment.

**Sarasota County Sheriff**  
**Non-emergency Contact number**  
**for our area is: 316-1201**  
**Please use this number for**  
**non-emergencies (reporting**  
**suspicious looking people, lost pets, etc.)**

(Shorelines continued from page 5)

When properly maintained, a low-maintenance zone keeps grass clippings from entering the pond. The taller grass has deeper roots, which bind the soil on the bank of the pond and reduce erosion. The taller grass also reduces erosion by slowing the flow of runoff water during heavy rains, which reduces the amount of soil that washes into the ponds. Erosion is further reduced when heavy mowers do not operate near the immediate pond edge. Finally, birds and other pond-edge species attracted to this area contribute to mosquito control and healthier ponds.

If you live on a pond and are responsible for shoreline maintenance, please think about the environmental impact of your choices. You can make a difference in your own backyard. Whether or not you live on a pond, think about the choices we make as a community. Those choices also make a difference. All of our ponds ultimately connect to the Bay and the Gulf. If you would like to see a community with a low-maintenance zone as described above, check out Waterford, a golfing community, located on Edmondson Road in Venice. While their grass is a different variety from ours, the character of a uniformly-maintained low-maintenance zone is apparent.

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*Youth Version*

- Each person is important.
- Be kind in all you do.
- We're free to learn together.
- We search for what is true.
- All people need a voice.
- Build a fair and peaceful world.
- We care for our planet Earth.

**Worship Service and Youth Religious Education  
Sundays, 10:30 a.m.**

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Minister: Rev. Don Beaudreault  
Youth Religious Education Program Assistant: Anne Cederberg

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## Run through Rivendell Race for Jena

**Saturday, January 14th, 2012**

### Race Details:

1k Walkers/Runners will stay on Pine View Grounds.

5k Runners will start at Pine View Track. Proceed South on Old Venice Avenue to Rivendell. Runners will run in Rivendell for 1 mile then turn around and end race on Pine View track. Expect 75 runners to run through Rivendell. Anticipate runners entering Rivendell at 8:10 am and exiting Rivendell by 10:00 am at the latest. The police will close one lane only and volunteers will be on site as well. Traffic should be light. We welcome any homeowners to participate, volunteer or cheer on the runners.

**Web site:** [Smiles929foundation.org](http://Smiles929foundation.org)



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## Directory Update Form will be mailed in January By Barb Gahry

It's time to update the Rivendell Resident Directory for 2012.

In order to provide accurate entries, a form will be mailed to all residents, which allows for updating any information to be published. **We publish owner names, addresses, home phone numbers and an email address.** If you would like to opt out of having any of this information in the directory, you can indicate this on the form. If you only want certain information published, this, too, can be noted. You also have the opportunity to provide a cell phone number(s) or additional email address for inclusion.

**A pre-addressed, stamped envelope will accompany the form for your convenience.** All owners of record will be published in the directory, even if the home is used as a rental property. We encourage all residents to return the completed form as soon as possible after receiving it. If you do not receive this form in January, please contact Barb Gahry at [bgahry@aol.com](mailto:bgahry@aol.com)

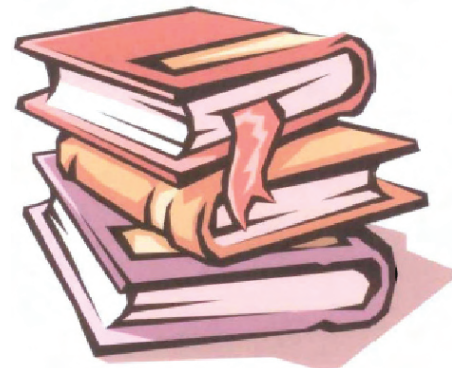
## BOOK GROUP SCHEDULE By Marilyn Probert

The Book Group will meet on Monday, January 9, to discuss "*March*," Geraldine Brooks' novel about the absent father of Louisa May Alcott's "*Little Women*." Loosely based on the life of Bronson Alcott, this historical novel gives us a look at what the world was like in the nineteenth century. The discussion will take place at Barbara Gahry's home at 699 Rivendell Boulevard. Her phone number is 966-5828.

On Monday, February 13, the group will consider "*The Bread Givers*" a novel by Anzia Yezierska. The youngest of four daughters, Sara Smolinsky and her family are facing starvation in the 1920's in Manhattan, so little Sara goes out on the street and sells herrings for two cents each. Her father is an Orthodox Jewish rabbi who studies all day and doesn't believe that it's up to him to provide for his family. Consequently, he relies on his daughters to get jobs and to marry so as to provide him with their dowries. As she sees her sisters forced into unhappy marriages, Sara becomes determined to forge her own future. Her journey to independence has a price, however. Carol Heckert will lead the discussion and Elaine Roeter will host at 1133 Scherer Way; her phone number is 966-9816.

The March selection is "*Nemesis*" by Philip Roth. This novel follows the life of Bucky Cantor, a play-ground director who contracts polio during a 1944 outbreak in Newark, New Jersey.

The Book Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and all Rivendell residents are welcome. If you'd like to attend, please call the month's hostess so that she'll know how many to expect (and how much food to prepare!)



Please complete and return this card **ONLY** if you have changes or additions to your listing in our 2012 Rivendell Directory.

OR:

For convenience, you may instead e-mail your changes to: [arguswmoa@netzero.net](mailto:arguswmoa@netzero.net)

Our directory is intended for the use of residents only and should not be given to any non-residents. Our local publisher, SunDown Publishing, will only distribute directories inside of the community of Rivendell and your listing information will remain private.

Last Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
If more than 1 last name, do you want both listed? \_\_\_\_\_ (If not, the first name on this form will be listed only)

Rivendell home phone # \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

cell phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 cell phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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# \_\_\_\_\_ Our annual directory is provided to our homeowners at no cost to the community. If you need more than 1 copy, our publisher will make them available for cost. Show the number of extra copies you need and return a check made out to SunDown Publishing. The cost is \$8.00 per extra copy.

**THIS FORM, OR YOUR E-MAIL, MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN February 15<sup>th</sup>**

Each Year your Rivendell Communications Committee strives to provide our residents with an accurate, useful and private directory. Thank you for your cooperation and help.

*This is an example of the directory information form*



## CURRENT CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS



**Rosanne Beatty**

My family and I have lived in Rivendell for five years. We initially rented here and enjoyed the natural beauty of Rivendell so much we became homeowners and moved here from Wisconsin. My husband John volunteers at Spanish Point and bikes on the Legacy Trail. I have a passion for watercolor painting. My daughter Anna is a senior at Pine View with plans to attend college in New England; I guess I'll have to keep that winter parka.

Before I became a full time mom and watercolor artist, my education prepared me for a career in business. I have a Masters and Bachelors of Business Administration and ten years experience as a marketing professional with major corporations. I produced marketing campaigns that came in on time and on budget; the same skills necessary for successful implementation of community projects.

I have volunteered on the Landscape/Environmental committee for six months and understand the complexity of maintaining our community property. There are currently four vendor contracts and the costs associated with these services account for over half of our operating expenses. The management of landscape and environmental services has a major impact on our expenses, community appearance and property values. As a board member I would responsibly manage these important services.

The participation of homeowners on the Landscape/ Environmental committee and other committees is key to our community's success. I would encourage homeowners to participate on committees such as a safety committee to make recommendations on how to prevent speeding violations and vandalism in our community.

I'd also like to improve communications between the board and homeowners by implementing a new



**Bruce Lorie**

I served in the United States Army, Honorably Discharged 1970. Served an apprenticeship of The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and graduated with an Associates Degree in Electrical Engineering. Master Electrician for 35 years, Qualified New York City Electrical Inspector 1984, Electrical Forman for The Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority, in charge of all bridge and approach street lighting. I worked for the Managing Agent at The Anchorage Town House & Marina in New York as Superintendent & Liaison for homebuyers prior to closing on their units, and organized the formation of the Board of Directors 1986-1990. Appointed to the Board at Town & Harbor Co-ops in New York 1991-1999. I am presently serving as the Rivendell Pool Committee Chairman.

My goals for Rivendell will be:

A more friendly environment at Board Meetings for homeowners with open discussions, with clear and objective information on what is going on in our community. A more comprehensive approach to our By Laws and the way we award contracts. Competitive bidding will keep our costs down.

---

*(Beatty, continued)*

user friendly and attractive website. We need a timely communications medium for frequent postings of meeting notices and reports on community improvements. The website could also promote the unique and attractive features of Rivendell, improving the marketability of our homes.

As a board member, I will make decisions based on the guiding principal that my job is to improve property values and maintain our quality of life in Rivendell.



# Cottages Postings



## UPDATES and ACTIONS

Property revitalization program...

Meadow Sweet Circle looking much fresher, after many homes improved their appearances. Thanks to all for attending to your homes!

## RU1NA BOARD ACTIONS

2012 Budget ratified - Unanimous.

Seeking candidates for 2012-2013 Board Seats.

## BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday, February 23rd – including Annual Members Meeting and Board Elections.

Thursday, April 19th

## SOCIALS for January 2012

January 8 10 a.m. Sunday coffee in the clubhouse.

January 12 7 p.m. Trivia nite; Four persons = one team.

January 26 7 p.m. Board Meeting in the clubhouse

January 28 ANNUAL COTTAGES GARAGE SALE

## FLAG DAYS

Sunday, January 1 – New Year’s Day

Monday, January 16 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sunday, February 12 - Lincoln’s Birthday

Monday, February 20 - President’s Day

Wednesday, February 22 - Washington’s Birthday



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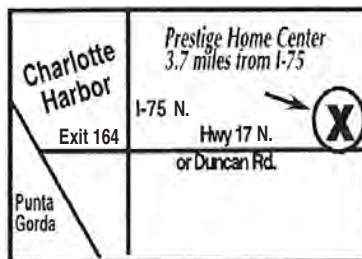
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## Rotator Cuff Surgery

By Mike Bergman

Anyone who's ever had shoulder surgery, raise your hand. A little higher, please. Still a little sore and tight? Welcome to the club. It seems that when we get to a certain age, our shoulders wear out faster than we do. Over time, every pitched fastball, basketball shot, volleyball slam, hammer strike, tennis serve, palm frond removed, house painted, or hedge trimmed takes its toll. My shoulder problems started thirty years ago from handling countless cases of merchandise and tossing them onto an overhead storage area as part of my job. The pain and inflammation ebbed and flowed over the years until a seemingly minor event set it off again.

It was a dark and stormy night. Rosalind and I were driving home from the east coast, white knuckles fighting to keep the car from hydroplaning on less than ideal roads. My right shoulder had been aching with every turn of the wheel. Finally, Rosalind took over the driving, and I vowed to have it checked out.

I was put in touch with Dr. Christopher Sforzo, a shoulder specialist on Bee Ridge Road in Sarasota. He ordered an MRI, which showed a significant tear of one of the three major tendons holding the arm to the shoulder—probably due to my age, he told me. In addition, the bicep tendon had ruptured, so I agreed to have the shoulder surgically repaired. I got lots of well-wishes and advice from friends and neighbors. Joanie Moscoe recommended getting used to doing things with my non-dominant arm, in advance of the surgery. Bill Bloom advised diligence in doing the stretching and strengthening exercises that were to come after the procedure. This advice turned out to be very helpful to my recovery.

On August 26th, I was operated on at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. I awoke with a heavily padded abduction sling strapped to my body. I wore it for six weeks, with a half hour exception daily to allow for showering. I soon longed to do the things I'd always done with my right hand, and now had to do lefty: wash, comb my hair, brush my teeth, shave, cut and eat my food, write, type, use the bathroom, zip a zipper, tighten a belt, tie my shoes, and on and on. I also missed sleeping in a bed and driving the car. The surgeon banned me from working for six weeks. He finally let me get back on the job, but

only to "type and breathe," as he put it.

Along with back to work is Physical Therapy a few times a week, to stretch the shoulder back into pre-injury form. I didn't realize that PT really stands for Pain and Torture. I endured pulleys, arm rotations, strengthening exercises, and the magical hands of Kevin Wicks, my therapist at Gulf Coast Physical Therapy on Clark Road. He made sure that the adhesions and tight muscles and tendons in the joint were loosened to the point that I could work and drive comfortably again. Now, about three months down the road from the surgery, I'm feeling pretty good, doing all those things we take for granted. I've got a way to go before I'm 100 % again, but I'm getting there, a day at a time. I'm sleeping better, doing some yard work, and doing my at-home stretches that supposedly go on forever. My advice to any of you who are contemplating Rotator Cuff surgery—find the right surgeon, practice using your non-dominant arm, and plan on wearing easy on-off clothing. Oh, and don't forget—do your exercises.

### **Rivendell Directory Slated for March 2012 Publication**

**Sundown Publishing will be producing  
The Rivendell Directory for 2012.**

**If you wish to advertise, please call  
Craig Tirgrath at 941-485-8800.**

**Rivendell residents will be given  
priority for ads submitted.**

**Please contact Barb Gahry  
to change or remove your phone number**

**or**

**email address,**

**or**

**to make**

**any other changes to the Directory.**

**Barb Gahry can be reached at**

**941-586-3936**

**or [bgahry@aol.com](mailto:bgahry@aol.com)**



*Photo by Kay Mruz*

## Through The Lens: Bobcats

By Kay Mruz

It just occurred to me that it has been a little over two years since I first saw a bobcat in Rivendell - to be precise, December 31st , 2009 at 9:30 a.m. A large male came out of the woods and trotted across the road right by Rivendell Lake East. He was no more then 20 feet from where I was walking.

Bobcats have the greatest range of all North American cats. Males range from 16 to 30 lbs, while females weigh around 20 lbs. Body length for both sexes is 36 inches. Bobcats are solitary, elusive animals. Except during breeding and the raising of kittens by the female, bobcats remain alone throughout their entire lives. They are most likely to be on the move hunting and protecting their territory between early evening and early morning. A male's territory can be small or large but is generally 25 square miles. A female's territory is considerably smaller at around 5 square miles.

Perimeters of their territories are scent marked. Bobcats travel specific routes on a daily basis searching for food. Males are more accepting of territory overlap by other males as long as they are not in close proximity to each other. Females rarely cross over into another female's territory. There is one main den and several small shelters located in a bobcat's territory.

Whether lying in wait or stalking its prey, bobcats are stealthy and patient hunters. A bobcat's sense of smell is not as refined as that of a wolf or coyote, so they rely on their eyes and ears to locate prey. A bobcat's diet consists of small rodents, squirrels, rabbits, birds and fish. They are also capable of taking down a deer. Any leftover food from a large kill is buried for later meals.

Nationwide, young are born between March and July. Kittens are born in a secluded den. Average litter size is two to three kittens. The female raises the kittens without any help from the male. After mating she will chase him away because he could be a threat to the kittens once they are born. Within three to five months they are able to travel with their mother and she will teach them to survive on their own. By the fall they are able to hunt by themselves and will head off to establish their own territories soon after.

Every time I walk by that spot I wonder if I will see the bobcat again. I was somewhat new to photography and would love the opportunity to get a better photo. It would also be wonderful to experience the absolute thrill of seeing a wild bobcat one more time!

## ARTS and EVENTS IN SARASOTA

### 5th Annual Downtown Venice Craft Festival January 14th & 15th, 2012 Saturday & Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM



Free Admission, located on Miami Avenue in Downtown Venice

Art festival link: [http://www.artfestival.com/Festivals/Downtown\\_Venice\\_Craft\\_Festival\\_January.ASPX](http://www.artfestival.com/Festivals/Downtown_Venice_Craft_Festival_January.ASPX)

The handmade crafts include stained glass, jewelry, painting, photography and more along with a Green Market filled with plants and homemade soaps will be available.

### 10th Annual St. Armands Winter Art Festival Sat, January 28, 2012 - Sun, January 29, 2012 Time: 10:00am - 5:30pm

St. Armands Event Calendar Link: <http://www.starmandscircleassoc.com/events.cfm>

Over 175 artists and craftsman display their original artworks. Pottery, oils, watercolors, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture and more.

### Van Wezel Performing Arts Center 2011-2012 Event Calendar

The event calendar: <http://www.vanwezel.org/index.cfm>



### Recipe Round-up Ratatouille By Marilyn Probert

1. 1 16 oz. can diced tomatoes (or 5 fresh)
2. 3 medium zucchini, sliced
3. 1 medium eggplant peeled and diced
4. 1 cup sliced onions (I needed about a half hour to prepare the vegetables)
5. 3 Tbs. flour
6. 3 envelopes chicken bouillon
7. 2 tsp oregano leaves
8. ½ tsp sugar
9. ½ tsp salt
10. ½ tsp garlic powder or 1 fresh garlic bud crushed

1 hour before serving (or earlier) drain tomatoes. Put juice and ½ cup water in deep skillet or stockpot. Toss numbers 2 through 10 to coat vegetables with flour and seasonings. Add to skillet and top with tomatoes. Simmer, covered, 30 minutes. Uncover and continue cooking until the liquid is reduced. Serve and enjoy! This is also good cold.

6-8 servings

### Osprey Library at Historic Spanish Point

337 North Tamiami Trail - Enter through the main Visitors Center Door

The Osprey Library is open  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

#### Services:

- A library drop box is available 24-hours a day and free parking is available.
- Free on-site computers
- Free Wi-Fi access
- Online availability of the entire library catalog
- Pick-up and drop off service for items from other libraries
- Porch adjacent to the library for comfortable seating
- Meeting Rooms available
- Librarian Peg Mendon to assist

Call 941-918-4037 or visit

<http://sclibs.net/Libraries/osprey.aspx>

## The "Dirty Dozen"

By Judy Sokal, Adapted from an article by Mehmet Oz & Michael Roizen



To buy organic, or not to buy organic? That's been my question until I read a short column in the *Herald Tribune's Health* section recently. The following is a quote from the authors.

"...plenty of fresh produce, which we hope you're eating lots of, is coated with pesticides that pose unique risks to children and aren't so good for you either (think birth defects, nerve damage, cancer). By contrast, some organic, pesticide-free produce has as much as 60% more phenols-powerful, disease-fighting plant nutrients.

You can reduce your exposure to these toxins by 90% if you concentrate your organic money on just 12 products: peaches, imported nectarines, strawberries, apples, imported grapes, spinach, lettuce, potatoes, celery, kale/collard greens, domestic blueberries and sweet bell peppers. Their non-organic versions are so soaked in pesticides that they're known as the "Dirty Dozen."

Since reading the article I shop differently and buy the above-named produce only in organic when I possibly can. When I can't find the products I want in organic, I either do without, or wash the outside of the produce thoroughly. Remember The Dirty Dozen and pass on this important information to family and friends. It might make a big difference in your lives.

## Photographic Exhibit of Works of Palladio and Canova, sponsored by Sister City Treviso, Italy and USF

By Norma Lee Rhines



"*Photographic Exhibit of Works of Palladio and Canova*," a photographic exhibit by Cristina Madeyski from Treviso, Italy, will be exhibited at the University of South Florida next spring beginning Feb. 6th. Alexandra De Stefanis, resident of Rivendell and a director for Sarasota Sister Cities Association says, "This is an exhibit not to be missed." Both SSCA and USF are sponsoring this show.

Photos exhibited feature Cristina Madeyski's works of Palladio and Canova. Palladio is a famous Italian architect and considered to be the father of Neo-classical temples. His influence is evident in Jefferson's Monticello and the Capitol in Washington, DC. Antonio Canova was an Italian sculptor and is most noted for sculptures of women, including Paolina Borghese and Three Graces and the Dancers. Cristina photographed these sculptures and buildings in a natural way through reflections giving a sense of movement. As a result, her photos offer extraordinary and unpredictable views of her subjects. Her photographs are never touched up to the moment of printing.

Ms. Madeyski, born in Trieste, Italy, has been interested in photography since 1980 and has devoted herself to natural macrophotography. Since 1996 she has exhibited in Australia, Italy, Austria, and Florida and participated in photographic competitions earning her various awards.

Exhibit Information: William G. Selby and Marie Selby Auditorium, University of South Florida, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, tel. 941-359-4200. February 6 - March 5, 2012. Refreshments will be served on opening day, February 6, 11AM – 1PM.

## SERVICE PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

**Computer help and technical support, 941-504-7064, Chris Dower.** We heartily recommend Pine View senior Chris Dower for your computer needs. He has not only made repairs to our computers, but he is helpful in teaching us new skills and speaking at our level of understanding. And his prices are reasonable. Chris can be reached at 941-504-7064 or [dowertechnologies@gmail.com](mailto:dowertechnologies@gmail.com). *Marilyn Probert, Judy Sokal and Jon Lewis*

**Greenway Carpet Care, 941-228-1917, Dave Eschenbach.** I have used Greenway Carpet Care multiple times over the past few years and each time I am more impressed with the quality and professionalism of this firm. The business is owned by Dave Eschenbach and he is the most knowledgeable and professional individual I have ever used to clean my carpets. His phone number is 941-228-1917 and his website is [www.GreenwayCarpet.com](http://www.GreenwayCarpet.com). *Dave Swanson*

### In the Mail

Lighthouse Property Management will be mailing the Agenda for the February 6th Annual Meeting, as well as candidate biographical information, ballots, and proxies. If you do not receive the ballot and information, please contact Lighthouse Management, 941-966-6844



## CLASSIFIED ADS

**MOTHER'S HELPER/BABYSITTER: Sivan Yohann, 966-7766.** Pine View 8th grader would love to play with your toddlers after school while you're trying to get dinner ready, or babysit your kids so you can have a well-deserved evening out! I am extremely friendly and responsible!

**MUSICIAN/BAND: Daniel Yohann, 966-7766.** Pine View 10th grader fronts Sarasota's Most Exciting Teen Band, *Uneven Lanes*. The band is available for private parties, charitable functions, and events. Check out our Facebook page to hear three of our songs!

**COMPUTER HELP AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT:** Senior at Pine View, and experienced. Most work runs \$20 an hour, and I have a flexible schedule. Call **Chris Dower, 941-504-7064** or email at [dowertechnologies@gmail.com](mailto:dowertechnologies@gmail.com).

**BABYSITTER Available: Molly Benkaim, 941-961-3385.** 11th grade Pine View female student available for babysitting. Former camp counselor and CPR certified. Please call Molly for references.

**PET SITTING: Eve Day, 941-780-0821.** Rivendell High School Senior who does pet sitting. Will follow all instructions and pricing is very reasonable.

### Send in your favorite Service Provider!

Please send us the name and phone number of your favorite plumber, electrician, hair stylist, landscaper, you name it- and we'll list it!

**If you have a service provider you'd like to recommend, please email Norma Lee at [nlrhines@verizon.net](mailto:nlrhines@verizon.net)**

## We Need Photos for 2012 Directory

Our Directory Theme for 2012 is "The Gardens of Rivendell". We'd like photos of your gardens, flowerbeds, or even individual flowers.

Please submit high-resolution photos by January 10th to Barb Gahry ([bgahry@aol.com](mailto:bgahry@aol.com)).

We have a new number!

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[www.michaelsaunders.com](http://www.michaelsaunders.com)

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## COYOTES IN RIVENDELL

Please be aware that coyotes are around and they can be dangerous to pets and people.



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**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of Nov. 29 2011 Meeting**  
**By Barry McClure**

Attendees: Barry McClure – Committee Chair, John Greco – Board Liaison, John Beatty, and Frank Pafumi

Guest: Clyde Behanna (Homeowner)

The ARC meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with a quorum of 4 Committee members present.

The minutes of the prior ARC meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

The following applications were reviewed and decided for action.

ITEM	ADDRESS	WORKPLAN	RESOLUTION
1.	1104 Mallard Marsh	Pine tree removal	Resolved: approved Motion: Beatty 2nd: Pafumi Notes:
2.	490 Meadow Sweet Circle	Update to landscaping in ARC application (July)	Resolved: approved Motion: Pafumi 2nd: Greco Notes:
3.	966 Scherer Way	Re-coat driveway pavers to match house colors	Resolved: approved Motion: McClure 2nd: Pafumi Notes:
4.	751 Fordingbridge Way	House painting	Resolved: approved Motion: McClure 2nd: Beatty Notes:
5.	563 Meadow Sweet Circle	Re-paint front door	Resolved: approved Motion: McClure 2nd: Pafumi Notes:

New business: (none)

ARC meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

**Next Meeting December 27, 2011 6:00 p.m.**

**Question? Complaint? Concern?**  
 Contact Lighthouse Property Management

**Lighthouse Property Management**  
**16 Church Street, Osprey, FL 34229**  
**Tel: (941) 966-6844**

**Property Manager: Kyanne Merrill, CAM [kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv](mailto:kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv)**  
**Assistant: Hope Korte [hopekorte@mgmt.tv](mailto:hopekorte@mgmt.tv)**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Minutes of Nov. 3, 2011 Budget Meeting

*Editors' Note: The following are the official minutes of the Rivendell Board of Directors. As such, they are published as they were received. The Woodlands Word is not responsible for any errors in spelling, grammar, or content. The official Board Minutes can also be viewed on-line through the Rivendell website at Lighthouse Management.*

A BUDGET MEETING of the Board of Directors was scheduled at 6:00 P.M. at First Baptist Church, located at 265 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL.

The meeting was called to order by President John Greco at 6:01 P.M.

Notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with the Bylaws of the Association and the requirements of Florida statutes.

The following Directors were present: John Greco, Ken Heckert, Judy Sokal  
Bobby Merrill and John Critser were absent.

A quorum was declared to be present.

On matters relating to the Minutes of the previous meeting of September 8, 2011, the minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report, In Mr. Merrill's absence, Mr. Greco provided a report. Mr. Greco summarized how the proposed budget is drafted.

Homeowner's comments on the proposed budget,

Some items addressed were:

- Line item 7530 Irrigation Pump-
- Line item 7610 Landscape Contract Maintenance
- Line item 7820 Wetlands
- Reserves -landscape replacement nothing budgeted.
- Lakes
- Maintenance items relative to pool

The Board discussed some of the line items and reserves and made some minor changes.

Mr. Heckert made a motion and Ms. Sokal seconded

**MOTION 11-32:** to adopt the 2012 budget and reserve schedule as amended. Motion passed.

Appoint Nominating Committee, Mr. Greco reported Mr. Heckert has agreed to chair the 2012 nominating committee. Ms. Sokal made a motion and Mr. Greco seconded

**MOTION 11-33:** to appoint Mr. Heckert as 2012 Nominating Committee Chair and the following Committee members.

- Barb Gahry
- Mike Bergman
- Dave Tomer

Motion passed

A motion was made by Ms. Sokal and seconded by Mr. Heckert

**MOTION 11-34:** to approve Bruce Lorie as chairman of the Pool Committee. Motion passed.

The next regular meeting date was scheduled for December 8th, 2011.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Kyanne Merrill  
Managing Agent

Dated: This 17th day of November 2011

## RCA Committees 1/2012

### Communications

(nlrhines@verizon.net)

**Board Liaison**, Vacant

**Chair**, Norma Lee Rhines

**Directory**, Barb Gahry

**Block Captains**, Cindy Schmidl

**Newsletter**, Norma Lee Rhines, Linda Pearlstein,

Editors; Marilyn Probert, Copy; Pam Babbitt,

Reporter Assignments; Mike Bergman, Reporter

Representative

**Reporters**: Barb Gahry, Carol Heckert,

Mary Kennedy, Charles Kiblinger,

Jane Lettich, Ed Lin, Kay Mruz, Anita Voth

### Architectural Review (ARC)

(ARC.BMc@gmail.com)

**Board Liaison**, John Greco

**Chair**, Barry McClure

Frank Pafumi, Allen Roeter, John Beatty

### Landscape/Environmental

(davidegill@verizon.net)

**Board Liaison**, Ken Heckert

**Chair**, Dave Gill

Mike Bergman, Frank Freestone, Sallie Hawkins,

Carol Heckert, Denny Pavlock, Walter Perkowski,

Dieter Schmitt, Carl Schubert, Nancy Schubert,

Jim Stepien

Participants: Carole Myles, Rosanne Beatty

### Swimming Pool

(brucelorie@yahoo.com)

**Board Liaison**, vacant

**Chair**, Bruce Lorie

Carol Anne Haddock, Janet Lorie, Walter

Perkowski, Bo Potter, Alexis Spaulding

### Access the Rivendell website at:

[http://www.lighthousepropertymanagement.net/portal\\_login.html](http://www.lighthousepropertymanagement.net/portal_login.html)

## Rivendell Board of Directors

**John Greco, president**

(jgreco8054@aol.com)

Liaison to ARC

**Bobby Merrill, treasurer**

(bobbymerrill3@aol.com)

**Ken Heckert, director**

(kenheckert@verizon.net)

Liaison to Landscape/Environmental

## Subassociation Officers

### The Cottages Board of Directors

Jane Lettich, President

Dave Perez, 1st Vice President

Mickie Konner, 2nd Vice President

Carole Myles, Treasurer

Mike Georgopolis, Secretary

### Patio Homes Board of Directors

Edward Diggs, President

Jayne Irene, Secretary

Bruce Whalen, Treasurer

### The Villas Board of Directors

Dianne Enger, President

Sherry Sholtis, Vice President, Secretary

Lory Turner, Treasurer

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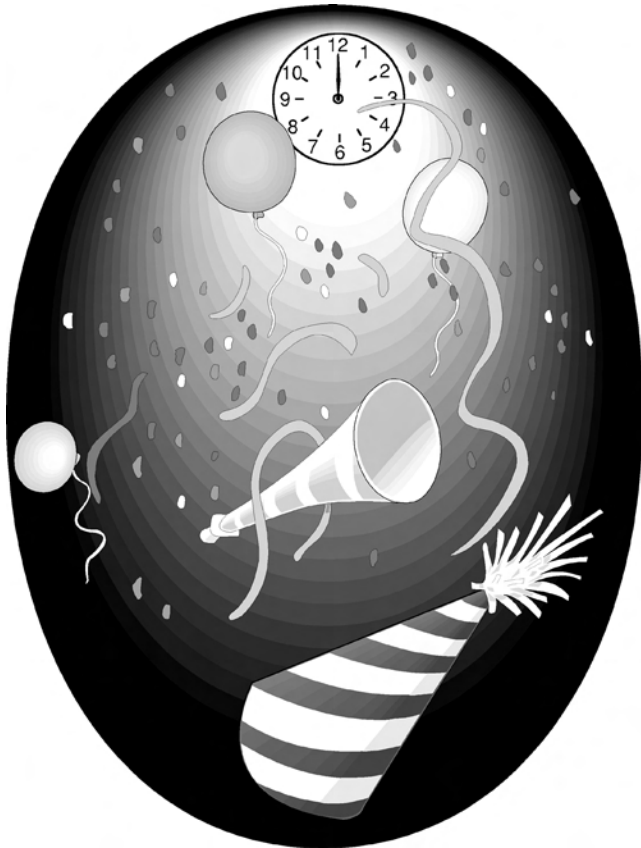
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Lighthouse Property Management, 966-6844

Kyanne Merrill: [kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv](mailto:kyannemerrill@mgmt.tv)

**Deadline** - Submit articles and information to [pbbabbitt@comcast.net](mailto:pbbabbitt@comcast.net) by the tenth of the month.

**Your input and feedback are always encouraged and welcomed.**



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