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Issue 6

41st Year



484-7488

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## Monthly Media May 2017 Riviera Estates MHP 29141 US Hwy 19N, Clearwater, FL Editor - Larry Dunnett #171 Co - editor Terri Walls #89

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Recreation Hall	733-1288
Ginetta MathisAssistant Comm. Manager	727-784-1320

## **Riviera Estates Homeowners Association Jan. - Dec. 2017**

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Marion Kelly, Sec	
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Julia Cardinalli, Director	

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### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Larry Dunnett #171 larryezvideos@gmail.com

riters Block slapped me right upside my head so most of this week's article is not originally mine, though it is something that I believe works well.

#### Gratitude

The world today is full of uncertainties and challenges, and the last thing that we want to do is to say "thank you". With the hardships, turmoil, difficulties, and problems that people are facing these days, it really becomes even harder to see the good sides of the world. Things become so irrational and unpredictable. The world becomes so different. Being grateful in this very ungrateful world is really challenging.



Still, one must understand that although the world seems so difficult and things might go the way you want it to be, there are still many things to be grateful for. No matter what good things happen in your life, if you don't have the attitude of gratitude, you will never be completely happy.

Learning to be grateful when things go wrong when problems strike when difficulties happen will make a huge difference in your life and the way you will feel about life itself. Life is always better once you feel blessed no matter how difficult things might seem.

Gratitude is seeing life as a great and wonderful gift. Once you feel great about the world and about your life, you will find real happiness and peace.

When everything goes wrong, it is really hard to be in the state of gratitude, but if you remain thankful about even those little blessings you have, your life will become happier. Learning to be grateful in this ungrateful world is something worth doing.

#### Learning to Be Grateful In an Ungrateful World

Developing an attitude of heartfelt and sincere Gratitude for all your current blessings unleashes the ultimate power for obtaining much more. Give thanks each day and you will see how being grateful for everything you have today can create great changes in your life.



"Thank you" – these two simple words can change one's life. With the problems that we may face every day in our lives, these two little words are often the most neglected words each day. We always see the worst in life that is why we never become truly happy.

Expressing your gratitude or even being thankful for the things you have is really important. This will change your entire life - the way you see life, the way you handle your problems and the way you cope with the daily challenges.

#### What does Gratitude Means?

Gratitude means counting your blessings, thankfulness, acknowledging things that you receive and noticing those simple pleasures in your life. The moment you wake up in the morning, say a little prayer, giving thanks to another life given to you.

Gratitude means learning to live a kind of life as if things were miracles, and it also means being fully aware on a continuous basis about how much you have been given.

Gratitude also shifts your focus from the things you lack in life towards great abundance that is now present. It is also good to note that psychological and behavioral research has shown the most amazing improvements in life brought by the practice of gratitude. Being thankful and appreciating life and the things life offers you makes us more resilient and even happier.

Resilient in the sense that no matter what challenges and difficulties we experience, we know that life is not cruel to give us something that we can't bear. It gives us strength with the belief and the mindset that no matter how many problems we may encounter, the blessings we receive are much greater than them. Gratitude strengthens relationships, reduces stress and improves health.

**How Gratitude Fits In With Abundance** (remember that abundance is not only physical processions – LD)

Once you develop an attitude of a sincere attitude for all the blessing you receive, this unleashes the power for you to receive even more than you already have. Having the feeling of gratitude essentially means taking nothing for granted and giving thanks for the abundance in life that you have obtained. Gratitude actually fits in with abundance in various aspects.

As a famous writer says, "A lot of people are trapped in the state of poverty by having a lack of gratitude." Abundance always goes with gratitude because we can always attract great wealth as well as the abundance of the power of gratitude.

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The word "thank you" means a lot of things and these are actually the perfect words that you have to say for just everything. Many people today are wondering why their life is not really abundant, why many good things don't happen to them, why aren't they completely happy. There are a lot of "whys".

Many people are living in a life full of complaints. This is actually one of the main reasons behind your lack of abundance in life. If you always see things negatively, you will never appreciate the good things you possess and the blessing you receive.

Once you start looking at everything in your life as a blessing and as good things to be grateful for, then your life will become meaningful and you will be happy. Your sense of gratitude will bring great abundance that you have been dreaming of. The way you see life, the way you think about the things around you, make a huge difference about how abundant you are in your life today.

The feeling of gratitude is really powerful and it an essential part of your life that has the ability to bring yourself to the things you want. When you start looking and focusing your own *...continued on page 10* 





energy on being truly grateful, you bring real abundance in your life.

Life is full of blessings. It is filled with a lot of things that you need and you desire. We just really complicate it with our negative thought patterns. Once you open your eyes for the best things around you and for all the simple things that can be great for you, you can see how rich you are and how abundant your life really is. Gratitude always fits in with abundance. They primary key towards obtaining real abundance in life is through learning to become grateful even in though you are living in an ungrateful world.

#### Deciding What to Be Grateful For

There are a lot of things around us to be grateful for; it's just a matter of appreciating the blessing you receive and acknowledging how blessed you for having them. Educating yourself for the feeling of attitude actually means taking nothing for granted and giving value to whatever you possess. Practice the attitude of never putting off action or the word for the expression of your gratitude.

Many individuals tend to take for granted the things that are present in their lives. There is actually a gratitude exercise instructing us to imagine losing few of the things that you are taking for granted today such as your family, your home, as well as your ability to hear and see, to walk or just anything that is currently giving you comfort.

Imagine losing them and then imagine that you are getting each of them back every day. Think how thankful you would be when it happens and when each one is given back to you.

#### Deciding

Starting finding happiness even in those small things you possess rather than holding out for great and big achievements like getting a job promotion, having a baby or getting married. There are a lot of things to be grateful for.

#### When you wake in the morning, be thankful for the life you have for another day.

Your happiness always depends on how you view life itself and how you see your life today. If you begin to think that there are much more things to be grateful for, you will see how happy your life will is.

If you want to fully appreciate life and your existence, you have to be really *mindful* about

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even those little things around you. A butter that flies around you that make you feel good, the food on your table, your good health – these things might be very simple for you, but if you begin to acknowledge them as blessings, your life will become happier.

Use gratitude in order to guide you in putting things in their right perspective. If everything around you seems wrong, and if things do not go the way you want them to be, bear in mind that in every problem and difficulty carries within it the seeds of a greater benefit. When you are facing any challenge in your life and when you are in the face of great adversity, just ask yourself about the good things that you can get from it. Understand how you can benefit from a certain situation.

When you begin to appreciate life and even the small things that may happen to you, you also begin to create a life of happiness, harmony, contentment, and bliss. If you are experiencing a difficult situation, never think of it as a burden or a punishment. Be thankful for the trials that you are facing because they can make you even stronger. Be grateful for your problems because they make you a better individual.

I am thankful for many things... things I have and things I don't have although I haven't decided whether Writers Block is something to be grateful for or not yet. Being mindful of things in your life to be grateful for leaves less time for being on a mental Pity Pot.

By the way, the term Politics is actually a very accurate description of what it is, Poli, in Latin means "many" and tics means "bloodsucking creature" –

Remember, Laugh, Love, and Live.

Larry D'

#### From the Desk of our Co-Editor Terri Walls

rello fellow Riviera neighbors and friends!

Here we are in August, and the heat has been extra overbearing since spring this year.

It is not a good idea to spend much time outside in this heat right now as it will zap your body of its H2O and electrolytes etc. It is imperative that you drink a huge amount of water to keep your body hydrated if you have to work out in this heat.

Everyone knows that, I am sure, but I did NOT know that sitting in the air conditioned

#### \*\*\*\*

home is also very dehydrating for your body. My last visit with my general doctor indicated that I was dehydrated. He informed me that sitting in the A/C also is very bad on your body. He said you are "cool" and therefore your body does not trigger the "thirsty" message to the brain and before you know it, you are not consuming enough.

And it needs to be water; cold, plain water. Iced tea is a diuretic, so it may cure your thirst, but makes you lose your fluids, plus it contains caffeine and tannin, etc. You can drink sparkling waters with added vitamins and nutrients. Anyway, a word to the wise, even if you are inside: DRINK! DRINK! DRINK! My doc says 64 oz. a day minimum. Take care of yourselves during these very hot humid days.

Most of you are aware that I have been struggling with mobility issues for quite some time now with my left hip. Saw the surgeon a couple months ago, who advised my left hip is fused and I have 5 degree movement in it. I definitely must have the hip replaced, but my weight is still an issue. He told me to lose 25# more and call for an appointment to schedule it. Well, I have managed to lose 15# more, however, these last 10 pounds have been beating me up pretty good. I have hit a plateau, and my appetite came roaring back about 2 weeks ago.

Grrrr. So, I am planning on swimming to exercise and hopefully that will get me over this hump and I can get this done. I am so very tired of the walker and sitting here. I have been doing this since January 19th and talk about going nuts that does it. But I cannot complain too much, my feet hit the floor every morning for which I am thankful. I prefer to swim in the evening, but the storms usually hit when I am putting on my suit to go down to the pool. Had to wait until the water was like bath water, because if there is the slightest chill to it, I cannot do it. The "chill" settles in my joints and I am miserable. So that is my update. I am now at a weight loss of 99# from my highest weight ever. I am proud of that. Very difficult to do. I was able to quit smoking, and give up my sodas, and other habits that I never thought I could.....but don't think I will ever be able to not swear with frustration when I drop everything and have to bend down and pick it up. And I don't think I will ever be able to NOT bake or cook. So I have had to re-educate myself on baking and cooking. I kind of enjoy that aspect of this. I am still kicking and fighting and am more determined than ever to dance again or walk without a walker or cane.

Speaking of a different way to bake, I have learned how to eat cake and other desserts that are delicious but "healthy" or "healthier" than the normal baking.

Here are some ideas you may want to try:

Take a cake mix - your choice of flavour, 12 oz can of diet soda and mix it together. Pour batter in a 9"x 13" pan sprayed with Pam. Bake per directions on box. Sift powdered sugar on top. I use chocolate cake mix, and Cherry Coke Zero. It is very moist and sort of crumbly, but my whole family loves it. I like to use Diet 7 Up or Sprite Zero with an orange cake mix or strawberry. Diet Orange Soda and yellow or pineapple cake mix. They are all very good. If you can find the cake mixes that are Sugar Free, all the better.

... continued on page 16





Take an angel food cake mix, the one envelope, just add cold water type. Dump mix in a large bowl and add 1 can (20 oz) crushed pineapple in its own juice. Mix it together well, with a spoon. It will foam up and then become a nice batter. Pour in 9 x 13 pan or angel cake pan and bake per package instructions. It is delicious.

Take a can of pie filling flavor of choice, put in sprayed 9"x13" pan. Spread out evenly. Sprinkle a white or yellow or pineapple cake mix over entire pan. Slowly pour a can of Diet 7-Up or Sprite Zero over the cake mix, making sure the entire cake mix is wetted down. You might have to use a spoon or your fingers to get to all the cake mix. Bake in oven, 350 degrees, until golden brown and bubbly. It is a great cobbler, and not nearly so many calories. Also, if you can make your own pie filling by cooking down canned peaches (Or other fruit of choice) sweetened with Splenda or Stevia, and thicken with corn starch, it eliminates even more calories, but still tastes great.

Always use sugar free, fat free jello and pudding mixes. Take SF Pistachio pudding mix, add one can of crushed pineapple (in its own juice) to pudding mix, juice and all. Mix it well, fold in 1 normal size Cool Whip (or store brand) that is Fat Free. (No milk in pudding mix, juice pineapple and juice) Add a couple handfuls of mini marshmallows, the colored ones if you can find them, and also a handful of chopped pistachio nuts. Chill before serving. This is a delicious dessert, but not full of calories. Get creative. Use chocolate SF pudding mix, and use pecans instead of pistachios, and that will help your chocolate craving.

Just some things I have learned to do to cut calories and yet still be able to splurge with a sweet dessert. My favorite dessert hack is a spice cake mix, and mix in a regular size can of pumpkin puree. Nothing else. Batter is thick like brownie, and spread it out in a 9 x 13 sprayed pan. Add nuts if you like, or raisins or mini chocolate chips, whatever you prefer. Bake as directed on package. This is a real moist bar that is great in the fall and Thanksgiving. Well guess I have rattled on long enough, but try some of these items when the heat dies down some and the oven can be used. You will be surprised at how good they are.

In closing I want to add that we have several residents that are suffering with some kind of illness or issue that is stressful for them. Please include them in your prayers for healing and wellness. Continue to pay it forward by helping someone with a Random Act of Kindness. You never know when you might need one.

It won't be long and the snow birds will return, and activities will energize again. In the meantime, take care of yourself, travel safe, and remember your friends in your prayers. Until next month.....

Terri Walls



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ounday	monday	
6	7	
13	14	
20 Pot Luck Dinner 6:00 p.m.	21	
27	28	

## **Riviera Estates**

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Koffee Klatch 9:00 AM
8	9	10	11	12 Koffee Klatch 9:00 AM
15	16	17 Ladies Luncheon	18	19 Koffee Klatch 9:00 AM
22	23	24	25	26 Koffee Klatch 9:00 AM
29	30	31	Special Announcement - the Coming Back Party is scheduled for November 17th	September 2017      S      M      T      W      T      F      S      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10      11      12      13      14      15      16      17      18      19      20      21      22      23      24      25      26      27      28      29      30









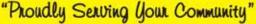


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### **Columbus' anchor salvaged from the depths**

team of explorers believe they've discovered an anchor from one of Christopher Columbus' ships in the Caribbean. According to a story on the Fox News website, an analysis of the anchor shows that it dates from somewhere between 1492 and 1550. It weighed 1,200-1,500 pounds and probably belonged to a 300-ton vessel, typical of Columbus' time.

The anchor is believed to come from a fleet of smaller ships called caravels, which included the Pinta. Captained by Vicente Pinzon on one of the "minor voyages" of Columbus' third expedition to the New World, the ship sank in a hurricane near the Turks and Caicos islands in 1500.



In addition to the anchor, the team brought up other artifacts at the shipwreck site, including grappling hooks used for salvaging cargo from shipwrecks, as well as pieces of pottery and an olive jar painted with indigo.

## Scientists create negative mass in the laboratory

Regative mass might sound like something out of science fiction, but physicists have created it in a laboratory. The BBC News website reports that scientists at Washington State University have created a particle composed of negative mass by using lasers to trap atoms of rubidium and then cooling them down to just above absolute zero. This caused the atoms to behave as a superfluid liquid, flowing without losing any energy.

Paradoxically, if you push something with negative mass, it accelerates in your direction, following behavior predicted by quantum mechanics. Scientist expect the technique to help them solve questions about black holes, neutron stars, and dark energy in the cosmos.

## Ancient bone raises modern questions

n artifact unearthed in Crimea may shed new light on our Neanderthal ancestors, according to the Sci-News website. It's a bone fragment from a raven, and it's approximately 38,000 years old. A mere 18 mm long, the bone bears a series on notches that are too evenly spaced to be the result of everyday butchery. Archaeologists believe that two notches on the raven bone could have been made intentionally by Neanderthals to create a pattern meant to be consistent or symbolic. The bone may have worn as a personal ornament, some speculate.





## Traditional books are alive and well

Publishers and traditional readers alike have long been worried about the rise of electronic books as sales of Amazon's Kindle and other devices have grown, but their concerns may have been at least somewhat overblown. New studies suggest that the growth of e-book sales is leveling out—and possibly declining.

According to the Chicago Tribune website, during the first nine months of 2016 e-book sales dropped by 18.7 percent compared with the same period a year earlier. On the other hand, hardcovers, paperbacks, and audiobooks did not suffer a similar decline. In the same time frame, e-books' share of the total market fell to 17.6 percent from 21.7 percent. In addition, sales of hardcover books in 2016

outpaced e-books for the first time in five years.

Don't panic—books don't look like they're being replaced any time soon.

## More Americans taking advantage of technology

The digital revolution continues gaining ground, according to the Pew Research Center. Seventy-seven percent of Americans own a smartphone, a figure that's almost doubled since Pew began tracking smartphone ownership in 2011.

Similarly, broadband access is on an upswing, with home broadband service rising 6 percent in 2016 (after a slight decline from 2013 to 2015). In November 2016, nearly three-quarters (73 percent) of Americans reported having broadband service.

Finally, 69 percent of U.S. adults are using social media, especially young people—86 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds are on at least one social media platform.

## New hope for headache sufferers

Iuster headaches, such as migraines, are rare, but they can cause intense pain to the people (mostly men) who suffer from them.

But there's hope. According to the NBC News website, the Food and Drug Administration has recently approved a device known as the vagus nerve stimulator for treatment of cluster headaches. Sufferers place the small device, named gammaCore, against the neck and send a mild electrical stimulation to the vagus nerve—a large nerve that runs from the brain to the colon. The jolt disrupts signals along the nerve, reducing the pain.

Vagus nerve stimulation is already used to treat ailments such as epilepsy and depression. Gammacore, manufactured by the organization electroCore, is available in Europe, but electroCore plans to begin offering it in the United States later this year. **INSIST on 8 ft. WIDE VAPOR BARRIER for a SEAMLESS FIT!** 



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Quote Details: -67 married male, vehicle driven for pleasure use, superior credit, 5 year clean driving record on all licensed household operators -2012 Chevy Impala LT, garaged in Pinellas County zip code 33771, equipped with Air-Bags, ABS and Anti-Theft device

\*NOTICE: Acceptability of all proposed applicants subject to underwriting approval, premium rates are subject to change. Rates will vary based on age of operator, driving record, credit history, garaging address and type of vehicle.











#### Coffee more popular than ever

For more and more people, a morning cup of coffee is part of starting the day off right. According to a National Coffee Drinking Trends consumer survey, the number of Americans drinking coffee daily has increased to 62 percent, up from 57 percent in 2016.



The biggest increase is in the 13-18 age bracket. Their daily coffee habit climbed to 37 percent in 2017, up from 31 percent in 2016. Adults ages 18-24 increased their coffee habit from 48 percent to 50 percent, and 63 percent of adults 25-39 drank more, up from 60 percent.

Sixty-four percent of Americans 40-59 drink a daily cup of joe, up from 53 percent last year. The 60-plus crowed moved to 68 percent in 2017 from 64 percent the previous year.

## **Consumers prefer the human touch**

Electronic self-service may be the wave of the future for many organizations, but lots of consumers are bucking the trend. The CRM Buyer website reports that researchers surveyed more than 24,000 consumers in 12 countries about customer interactions, and here's what they found:

- Eighty percent prefer customer service from a human instead of an automated system.
- Eighty-three percent say that interacting with a customer service rep is important on the phone or in a store.

• Sixty-eight percent believe they're more likely to get a better deal when negotiating in person instead of online.

• Eighteen percent said they would renew products or services because of good personal customer service, even if they were more expensive.

Mathematics—the unshaken foundation of sciences, and the plentiful fountain of advantage to human affairs. —Isaac Barrow



## Unclear on the concept

group of managers who had never taken the time to understand the technical aspects of their organization's product line took a tour of their plant. They made several disparaging comments about their manufacturing employees' intelligence until their guide decided to challenge them.



Pointing to a flagpole rising from the floor, the guide gave them a tape measure and challenged them to measure the height of the pole—without using a ladder. The managers all exclaimed how easy that would be and started in. But they

Then the guide asked a worker who was walking by on her way to lunch to measure the pole. The woman walked over to the pole and looked at its base. Seeing it was screwed into a stand, she unscrewed the pole, laid it on the floor, and measured it, all in about 30 seconds.

couldn't figure out a way to reach to the top of the pole to get an accurate measurement.

"Ha!" said one of the managers. "That doesn't count. We were supposed to measure the height of the pole, not its length!"

## The wrong assumption?

wo experts in business economics were out for a walk and noticed two men in buildings on opposite sides of the street yelling and screaming at each other out of their windows.

After observing the situation, one of the economists said, "I predict they will never find a way to agree and resolve their argument."

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"Why not?"
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"Because," said the first, "they are arguing from different premises."

#### One way to solve a problem



farmer invested his savings in building a pond to raise fish for sale. But after he stocked the pond, he discovered he would soon have a problem, A friend warned him that kids from the nearby town liked to sneak into farmers' ponds to go swimming. The farmer knew they would stir up the muddy bottom and kill off his fish.

One evening the farmer, carrying a pail, went down to the pond. Sure enough, a bunch of young people were getting ready to dive in. They outnumbered the lone farmer and showed no signs of fearing him. In fact, they taunted him and dared him to drive them off. But he simply reached in the pail and started tossing chunks of raw meat into the water.

"What the heck are you doing?" asked the trespassers. The farmer shrugged. "Just feeding the alligator."



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#### **ATTENTION RESIDENTS!**

Did you know this Emporium/ Classified listing reaches over 21,500 homes in Pinellas County? It goes into 60 community newsletters (just like this one) from Dunedin to St. Petersburg. This is a great market to sell items, advertise your next event, try and get help for a function, and many other great things. Remember to think about this the next time you're planning something.

-Monthly Media Staff

## **SEPTEMBER AD DEADLINE - AUGUST 10, 2017**

• Advertise BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at P.O. Box 1023, Venice, FL 34284. • Ads over 10 words must be accompanied by \$.80 per extra word or publisher will edit. • No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email. DEADLINE: 10th OF EACH MONTH.

## The science behind creative thinking

reativity may seem mysterious and magical, but scientists have been studying it for a long time. From the Fast Company website, here's some of what they've learned:

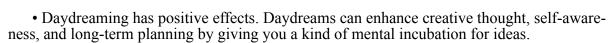
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

• Creative insights do come in the shower. In one study, 72 percent of participants reported getting new ideas while taking a shower.

• Solitude boosts creativity. The networks in our brains responsible for creativity and imagination work better when we're alone.

• Trying new things helps. New experiences can trigger dopamine, a neurotransmitter that facilitates mental flexibility.

• Trust your hunches. Intuition isn't well understood, but it's led to many creative insights. Learn to let your unconscious mind noodle on problems and ideas without forcing your brain to work.



#### Three levels of imagination

reativity and innovation come in many different forms. An article on the Bizcommunity website points to three distinct levels of imagination:

• Discovery. Sometimes you just see something that looks like a good idea. Keep an open mind as you look around you, and learn to find opportunities in everyday things.

• Invention. Apply the tools you've got to solve the problem in front of you. Look at all your available resources and see which will help you achieve the results you're looking for.

• Creation. Dig deep into your personal experience for something only you can create. Remember that ideas may be common, but how you put them to work is what makes them stand out.

It is a fair, even-handed, noble adjustment of things, that while there is

#### infection in disease and sorrow, there is nothing in the world so irresistibly

#### contagious as laughter and good humour.

#### -Charles Dickens



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#### **Riviera Estates MHP - Neighborhood Watch**

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Bob Merzendorf	729-2388
Victorino Pisa	804-5128
Gary Russell	(405) 306-7678
Pat Hoessle	781-0586
Frank Rigiero	785-2781
Pinellas County Sheriff's Department	(727) 582-6200

#### **REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE OR ACTIVITY IN THE COMMUNITY TO (727) 582-6200. DO YOUR PART TO DETER CRIME.**

The following information is for peace of mind for our residents. Our Neighborhood Watch Manager, Andy Cardinalli, and Ron Reger of Security Camera Pro Com would like to remind everyone to:

Lock ALL doors and windows.

If possible, leave outside lights on at night.

There is a safety in numbers; please do not walk alone at night.

Put locks on bicycles if left on carports.

Lock storage sheds.

Do NOT leave keys in golf carts.

Know your neighbors; keep a watchful eye on their home if you know they are away.

If you rent your mobile home, change all locks when tenants leave.

If you move into a new home, change and replace all locks with new ones.

## **Riviera Estates Shuffleboard Club Officers 2016**

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Jeannine Hennigar, VP	727-286-7390
Diana McNiven, Treasurer	
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