Always a beautiful day in

RIVIERABAY

Welcome to the stormy season



Sept/Oct 2021 Edition Riviera Bay Civic Association Coyotes!

a few things to know

Gifts For Any Occasion

Located in Bayview Plaza, we feature Citrus Blossom Brand products that are made on site. We also carry locally made items, goods from women owned businesses, and other hand-selected treasures that you'll love to give and receive!



Soaps



Hand Poured Soy Candles



Men's Gifts



Jewelry



Make Your Own Candle Events



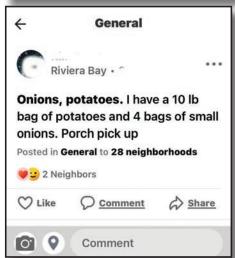
Happy Flamingo Gift Shop 11006 4th Street N., St. Petersburg, FL 33716 727-914-7449 www.happyflamingogifts.com hello@happyflamingogifts.com

Riviera Bay Members Support Each Other in Tough Times

Riviera Bay is a really special place to live, because when everything in this world is pushing us apart, we've pulled together. Here are a few of the ways this showed up over the past year.

Many neighbors offered to run errands, pickup groceries,







medicines or other essentials.

A couple of neighbors gave away food including bread, mushrooms, onions, or potatoes at the height of the shutdown for people in need. Others are giving away fresh mangoes, our most delicious Florida summer treat.

A neighbor's Christmas yard lights were damaged last year and several got together to buy them new ones.

And what about our new feathered resident? Whether you call him Percy or Petey, I think we can all believe he's beautiful!



Did you know we have three Little Free Libraries? The adult libraries are on 87th Ave and 2nd and a children's library on 94th. Check them out. Pickup a book and leave one for the next person!





From wildlife watches, returning lost puppies, offers to repair lawnmowers, our neighbors in Riviera Bay are the best.

YOUR LOCAL RIVIERA BAY REAL ESTATE AGENT!!



BRAD BESS

love our wonderful neighborhood and love helping my neighbors achieve their Real Estate Goals.

Our neighborhood is consistently one of the most desirable areas in St. Petersburg.

Feel free to contact me anytime with advice on selling your home or simply asking about our current Market. I take calls all the time from neighbors asking me about what they should or should not do to their home.

My family and I are committed to making this neighborhood the best that it can be, whether it is the 4th of July Flags, Footballs leading up to the big game, or sponsoring the Memorial Day Concert at the Sandbar!

I am a neighbor first, so feel free to call anytime with questions or assistance!









Hear what your neighbors have to say about me:

"Purchasing or selling a home can be the most stressful undertaking a family can endure. From the first day we met Brad, me and my wife were 110% satisfied with not only his professionalism, but the fact that he truly cared about our purchase." — *Trevor L McCarthy*

"Brad Bess is hands down the best Realtor we have ever worked with. He is incredibly knowledgeable, energetic and attentive." — Wayne & Rebekkah Perry

"Brad adeptly walked us through an internet purchase of our new home while we were living overseas. He went above and beyond even after the sale, connecting us the services required to set up housekeeping." — Desiree and Rick Panlilio

"Brad Bess recently helped my wife and I purchase and sell a home. He was an aggressive advocate for us on our purchase and literally worked day and night to make sure everything went smoothly. He was honest and knowledgeable, especially about the Riviera Bay market. I would highly recommend Brad to anyone buying or selling a home!" — *Brenton J. Ross, Esq.*

Call Today: 727-324-3077 Email: BradBess@gmail.com

These neighbors have trusted me with marketing and selling their home!

Call me anytime and I would be happy to assist you as well!

727-324-3077

233 96th Av N - Pending Sale • 220 98th Av NE - Sold!!!!
9008 Bay St NE - Sold!!! • 9466 Treasure Lane NE - Pending Sale
9543 Treasure Lane NE - Pending Sale





by Sean Singh

In our July/August 2015 issue we published an article titled "Co-Existing with Coyotes." With the recent uptick in sightings and encounters with coyotes in our neighborhood we thought a refresher on how to live with these animals would be a good idea.

Let's first learn to identify coyotes:

- They tend to be more slender than dogs, have wide, pointed ears, a long, tapered muzzle, yellow eyes, slender legs, small feet, an uncurled, bushy tail which is carried low to the ground.
- Generally have coats that are a grizzled-grey or reddish gray color with a cream or white underside.
 - Typically weigh between 24 to 37 pounds.
- Typically measure 4 feet long from the nose to the tip of the tail and stand 15 to 20 inches at the shoulder.

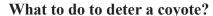
Coyotes came to our area in the 1970s and have found our parks and preserves to be nice places to inhabit. They are extremely adaptable and can make a home easily. They are omnivores and eat everything including wild fruits, insects, birds, other small mammals (like cats and small dogs). They are always looking for an easy meal. When you leave pet food outside or if you forget to dispose of your leftovers from the secret family pulled pork recipe, well who can say no to that? Remember the motto "KEEP WILDLIFE WILD." According to the Pinellas County Animal Services website, "The problem comes in when people start leaving food outside their homes, or leave trash available, or allow their cats and dogs to roam the neighborhood. Then, we are providing easy meals to wild coyotes, inviting them into our areas and encouraging them to lose their natural fear of humans."

A few tips to making your walk safer in our neighborhood:

- Avoid walking dogs during dawn or dusk hours, which are coyotes' normal feeding times. Avoid using a retractable leash. Coyotes will notice a dog walked frequently on an extended leash. The coyote will come back, grab the dog, and leave the owner holding an empty leash. While this piece of information is published on the county website I have not been able to find any information of an incident like this happening in our neighborhood or surrounding area.
- Keep pets indoors, especially at night. When not indoors, keep dogs and cats leashed at all times there is a Pinellas County Ordinance that prohibits dogs or cats roaming freely.
- It is very rare but keep an eye on young children left alone in areas where coyotes are known to be. There

have been a few cases of coyotes injuring children. Once again, no indication of this happening in our neighborhood or surrounding area.

They like to hide in brush and dense weeds. Be aware of your surroundings when in those areas.



The first thing is not to panic. This is easier said than done. My wife can attest to the fact that I panic when I come across a mouse in our garage. Use negative reinforcement and harass the coyotes with loud noises. Air horns, whistles, yelling, throwing rocks or sticks and just make yourself seem bigger and more intimidating. Spraying them with a hose is also a good way to get them away from you and your yard.



How do we get rid of coyotes?

Pinellas County Animal Services does not trap or remove coyotes or other wildlife. Coyote reporting is for informational purposes only. Pinellas County Animal Services gathers this data for confirmation of coyote locations. A private commercial wildlife removal service should be contacted for the removal of individual offending animals.

Being educated about a situation makes it much easier for us all to find solutions that will make us safer and our neighborhood more enjoyable.

We can be SMART about Coyotes.

S top. Don't run. If you do, the coyote may chase.

M ake yourself look big. Put your hands over your head or pull your shirt or jacket up over your head. Look as big as you can to scare off the coyote.

A nnounce forcefully, "Leave me alone!" Repeat if necessary. This lets the coyote know you're a threat, and it lets people around you know that you may be in trouble.

R etreat. Back away slowly. But don't turn your back on the coyote.

T each your friends and neighbors about coyotes, and instruct children to report coyote encounters to adults.

Remember, with a few simple steps we can coexist with all of the magnificent wildlife found in our amazing neighborhood.







Enjoy your 2021

HALLOWEEN Safely



Remind your little ghouls, goblins, super heroes and fairy princesses to follow these tips for a safe and happy Halloween.

TIPS FOR TRICK OR TREATERS

- 1. Start with a well-fitting fire-resistant costume that doesn't drag on the ground.
- 2. Make sure motorists can see you, fasten reflective tape or use glow sticks, bracelets or necklaces to light up your night.
- 3. Make sure your makeup is safe too, using non-toxic materials, and always test in a small space before Hal-



loween to make sure your skin doesn't have a reaction.

- 4. Remove all makeup before bed to prevent skin and eye irritation.
- 5. Always accompany younger children, especially in less lighted areas.
- 6. Leave the phone in your pocket, not in your hand so you can fully enjoy the experience!
- 7. If your older children are going out alone, help them plan their route and ask them to stick to it, so you know

where to look if there are any problems.

- 8. Set a time for your children to come back and set regular check-ins with them while they're out.
- 9. Remind your children to never enter a stranger's house or car, no matter how cute that puppy looks.
- 10. Inspect all candy before allowing your children to eat it.

TIPS FOR MOTORISTS ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT

- 1. Be aware that more people will be out after dark than normal, and adjust your driving to allow for more reaction time.
- 2. Watch for children and adults in dark clothing walking on sidewalks, driveways and roads.
- 3. Discourage newer, less experienced drivers from driving on Halloween.

TIPS FOR PEOPLE DISTRIBUTING TREATS

- 1. Consider individually packaged treats instead of a bowl everyone touches.
- 2. Keep physical distance in mind, perhaps using a grabber or building a candy chute to deliver the treats.
- 3. If you can't provide either, only put enough candy in the bowl for the kids at the door, and use disinfectant between visits.

Although we're still in a scary time, remember that this world's been spinning since the beginning and everything will be alright.

After all, we're all neighbors, and this can be a great way to beat



off the pandemic blues, so get out and have a great time!

St Petersburg Stormwater Improvements

We were all taken off guard when Tropical Storm Eta impacted our neighborhood last fall. Did you know your St Petersburg Stormwater crew is making lots of improvements to protect our homes?

Before TS Elsa and Fred, the Rio Vista retention pond was lowered to absorb the potential surge. The crew has since added a large generator to keep the pump working even in a power outage.

The crew has also fabricated a custom-made water barrier on the bridge connecting Riverside Dr North and South that, along with sandbags, will give our neighborhood an extra 18" of flood protection.

We're inviting our representatives to join us and talk about the improvements during our next community meeting.

Way to go City of St Petersburg Stormwater Department!









St. Pete Events

FRI NIGHTS AT THE ST. PETE SHUFFLEBOARD CLUB. Free for members and their guests. \$10 per non-member, kids are free. First come first served. Become a member online or at the club and play free for a year. 559 Mirror Lake Dr N, St. Pete, FL 33701. info@stpeteshuffle.com

FRI NIGHT CLAY AT MOREAN CENTER FOR CLAY.

Spend your Friday evening playing in clay at the Moeran Center for Clay. Be prepared to get dirty for two hours from 7-9 p.m. of wheel throwing and hand building. Bring a towel, your favorite beverage, and a group of friends for a fun get-together. Select your favorite piece at the end of the night and they will bisque and glaze it for you. Tickets \$30. 420 22nd St S, St. Pete, FL 33701. 727.822.7872.

SAT MORNINGS: ST. PETE WALKING MURAL TOUR. There is a firm limit of 10 attendees, book online by 4 p.m. the day before. Hear the inside stories of the making of murals found in the Central



Arts District in downtown St. Pete. The 4-block tour begins at Florida CraftArt, 501 Central Ave., each Sat morning at 10 a.m. and concludes at 11:30 a.m. 727-821-7391 to book a tour. Oct 15-24, SHINE ST. PETE MURAL FESTIVAL will take place.

TUES: GULFPORT FRESH MARKET. 9AM - 3PM (October - April) - Summer hours (May through Sept.) 9AM - 2PM. Fresh produce, bread, cheese, nuts, honey, seafood, crafts, music and more. 3101 Beach Blvd., Gulfport, FL 33707. 727-344-3711.

2ND SAT: ST. PETE ARTWALK. Monthly on the second Sat. Studios and galleries all over St. Pete swing open their doors, inviting anyone and everyone to check out their latest

work for free. Meet the artists and gallery owners during this casual, festive evening at over 40 studios and galleries in the five Art Districts. For a virtual Artwalk, check out Curate St. Pete (https://curatestpete.com/). 2955 Central Ave., St. Pete, FL 33701. 727-754-6404.

3RD SAT: YOGA AT THE DALI.Join Lucky Cat
Yoga at The Dalí
– where Dalí's energy infuses the
physical, mental
and spiritual in-



spiration of yoga. Classes in the Raymond James Community Room or Avant-Garden, with incredible views of the waterfront. 1 Dali Blvd., St. Pete, FL 33701. 727-823-3767.

3RD SUN: YOGA ON TAP AT GREEN BENCH BREW-

ING. Enjoy a fresh rotation of Body Electric Teachers for a feel-good flow and kick off another beautiful day in the Burg. The Bench opens at Noon, just in time for a cold brew or booch. 1133 Baum Ave N, St. Pete, FL 33705. 727-800-9836.

SUN, OCT 3: ST. ANTHONY'S TRIATHLON. Downtown St. Pete. A safe and scenic waterfront course and high-caliber competition. There are three USA Triathlon-sanctioned races during the weekend: St. Anthony's Triathlon, Sprint Triathlon, or the Meek & Mighty Triathlon. Early registration is recommended due to field limits. St. Anthony's Triathlon has served as a qualifier for the Ironman Triathlon World Championship. Athletes from 44 states, six U.S. territories and 17 countries have participated in recent years.

OCT. 21-24: REGGAE RISE UP FESTIVAL. Vinoy Park. Features Damian Marley, Slightly Stoopid and Dirty Heads in addition to many more artists. 701 Bayshore Dr. NE, St. Pete, FL 33701. Reggaeriseupflorida.com









NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Via ZOOM Tues, September 21st • Starting at 7 pm

For September, we will be utilizing ZOOM and doing a VIRTUAL MEETING for several reasons. Invites and Registration will be shared via email and social media. zoom

City Staff will be in attendance to speak about flood mitigation in Riviera Bay.

www.rivierabay.org • www.facebook.com/RivieraBaySTPETE • www.nextdoor.com/neighborhood/

2021 RBGA EVIENTS

Please check with our Facebook page or website for updates

GENERAL MEETINGS - Sept 21, Nov 16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET - Oct 12,

Dec 14

ADOPT-A-MILE - Nov 6 YARD SALES - Oct 1-3



NEIGHBORS!



Join FaceBook & NextDoor

You can see what your neighbors are up to, post pictures, events, and more!

www.facebook.com/RivieraBaySTPETE www.nextdoor.com/neighborhood/

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MAYOR'S ACTION LINE -

893-7111 (For any dept & # in the city) Brandi Gabbard - 893-7117 NON-EMERGENCY POLICE

893-7780

COMMUNITY POLICE SERVICE **SOUAD - 551-3182**

For ongoing problems and response within 24 hours

MAYOR RICK KRISEMAN -893-7201, Mayor@stpete.org /

DISTRICT 2 COUNCILWOMAN

Brandi.Gabbard@stpete.org

Membership Renewal Info

We are your neighborhood civic association and we work for you to maintain and improve your neighborhood. If you have not joined or renewed your membership in the Riviera Bay Civic Association, please take a moment to fill out this membership form and bring it to the next meeting or send your dues to the address below. Please show your support by sending in at least \$10. (A larger amount would be appreciated!) One association membership per household includes your spouse and children, to be purchased each calendar year.

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I would like to join/rejoin the Riv association dues for our family for	era Bay Civic Association. Enclosed please find at least \$10. (more is always appreciated) January through December:	1
Name: Address:		Ĺ
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Phone:	Email:	l
Please make checks payable to: Riviera Bay Civic Association		ı
Mail to: Riviera Bay Civic Association, PO Box 55883, St. Petersburg, FL 33732		ı
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