

Always a beautiful day in
**RIVIERA
BAY**

THANKSGIVING

**FALL
FEST**

**GOLF
CART
PARADE**

November / December 2021 Edition
Riviera Bay Civic Association



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CANDLES
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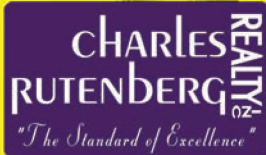
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ARE YOU:

- Thinking of buying or selling a home?
- Confused about today's changing home values?
- Unsure of Current Real Estate Values?

I am a 16+ year Riviera Bay Resident, helping Friends and Neighbors Buy and Sell Homes right here in our Neighborhood for more than 10 Years.

Convenient Office location at: **9079 4th St North, St. Petersburg**

727-235-3810 • email: TerriHammer@aol.com

Make Your Community Voice Heard!

Ever wonder how great things happen in our neighborhood?

Yes, we mean the Butterfly Garden, public art in the park, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt/Ice Cream social, food truck nights, neighborhood monument signs, canal and road clean-ups, Thanksgiving time gathering and golf cart parades—and no, the list doesn't end there! The association has been hard at work ensuring our neighborhood is thriving.

On our upcoming election night, we want to celebrate living, loving, working, and battling alongside one another! We'd love the opportunity to share a moment, tell you about our past accomplishments, our hopes for the future of our neighborhood and ultimately extend an invitation to you to get involved in big or small ways.

You can help by joining us on Tuesday January 18, 2022 and voting in our new leadership. Even if you haven't been to a meeting before we feel it is important to involve as many neighbors as possible in the selection of our board members.

Interested in being a part of the month-to-month decision making? Then board or committee service

might be for you. Feel free to join in the conversation and ask questions of current board members. Or, if you're ready to get to work, step up and offer to fill one of our vacant seats—we'd love to have you on the board!

If you have ever spent time volunteering, you know it takes all kinds of hard working and dedicated people to make things happen. Projects don't complete themselves;

art doesn't magically appear – people are the driving force. The same is true for our neighborhood, only in this case, neighbors must be the driving force!



Thanksgiving Fall Fest

Thanksgiving is a time to be family and friends reflecting on the blessings we've received through the year. This year our neighborhood has grown with new neighbors and new events to grow our community. As we have done in the past, the Riviera Bay Civic Association has held a Thanksgiving Dinner for its members and this year we're bringing it back, but in a different way.

Please join us on Saturday, November 20th from 4-6pm at the Large Pavilion at Southern Riviera Bay Park, 8131 Macoma Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702 for a Thanksgiving Fall Fest! This

is open to all residents and members will be able to register in advance for their free individually packed Thanksgiving meal up until Thursday, Nov 4th. Not a member? Visit rivierabay.org/product/membership and join! This event is open to families and is pet friendly. We'll have games/crafts, music, and a bounce house obstacle course on site.

For more information, please use the QR Code or visit rivierabay.org/fall-fest for additional details.

We are blessed and grateful for this year and to be able to share this time with our neighbors.





727-954-6365

- Live Shrimp	Open 7 days	Come in and say Hello
- Frozen Bait	Mon-Sat 6am-7pm	1106 94th Ave N
- Tackle	Sundays	St. Petersburg, FL
- Rods & Reels	6am-5pm	
- Ice		

Convenient Parking for all trucks and trailers

Protecting Yourself During The Holidays

As the holiday season draws near, the most important priority is to keep your family and home safe. In addition to keeping your family and home safe, you also need to remember those preventative measures to keep your holiday packages safe when shipping items to your home.

On the home front:

- Make sure all doors and windows have secondary locks (window pins, deadbolts, dowels, etc.) and use them!
- Don't hide spare keys in mailboxes or planters, or under doormats.
- Ensure that dark areas and entrances have outdoor lights that are turned on after dark or are activated by sensors.
- Keep trees and shrubbery trimmed so they do not conceal doors and windows.
- Place gifts where they can't be seen from the outside, network with neighbors, have packages delivered to work, leave specific drop-off instructions, install cameras, or use a smart lock.
- Consider safe deposit boxes for valuables.
- Mail cards, checks or gift certificates from the PO.
- Lock your vehicle and remove all the valuables. Yes, even in your driveway.

Visitors at Your Door:

- Use caution anytime there is a stranger at your door.
- Be suspicious of unexpected sales calls or deliveries. Ask for identification.
- Investigate charities before making donations. Ask how the funds will be used.

Leaving for the Holidays:

- Ask a trusted friend, or Neighborhood Watch member to watch your home.
- Use timers while you're away.
- Plan for mail and newspapers.

After the Holidays

- Don't advertise expensive gifts received by the boxes left for garbage collections.
- Add new items to your home inventory. Take photos or video and list make, model, serial number.
- Engrave new items to help identify them in the event they are stolen.

Happy Flamingo Gift Shop Offers 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!



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Men's Gifts



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Make Your Own Candle Events



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YOUR LOCAL RIVIERA BAY REAL ESTATE AGENT!!

BRAD BESS



I 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

**9750 2nd St - Sold!!! • 103 98th Ave - Sold!!!!
138 94th Ave - Sold!!! • 9198 Treasure Lane - Sold!!!!
9000 Bay St - Sold!!!**



Golf Cart Parades

Beep, Beep.... make way for our 2nd Annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade on December 18, 2021! Mark your calendars and deck out your electronic mobiles for some holiday fun through the neighborhoods. We'll have two parades going simultaneously in our Northern and Southern neighborhoods. Line-ups will begin at 6:00pm at each park and parades begin through the streets at 6:30pm. A Food Truck will be available at the Northern Park throughout the evening (this will replace our regular Thursday

service) for those that want to hang out and view the Northern parade from a central location or you hang out in your front driveway and wave as the parade passes by. Participants can toss candies or goodies if they choose and the top two most creative and festive electric vehicles will win a \$50 gift card courtesy of Printworks LLC. We can't wait to see everyone's holiday cheer!

Please check out rivierabay.org/event/golf-cart-parade, for more details and route information.



DECEMBER 18

NORTH & SOUTH ROUTES

GOLF CART PARADE

DETAILS COMING SOON



SCAN ME

Annual Boat Parade



It's hard to believe that it's time to start planning our annual Christmas Eve Boat Parade! This tradition is another great reason why our neighborhood is so fantastic. We have Lance Obst taking the lead once again and will captain the vessel that will lead the parade. Anyone with a boat that would like to join us should meet in the canal near the boat ramp at Sun Lit Cove at 6:30 pm, once on the water tune to channel 69 for all communication from Captain Lance. We would like to have the most boats that we have ever had, so please consider joining us. We would also ask that if you start in the parade with us, please stay with us until the parade is over so that the entire neighborhood gets to enjoy all of the decorations from each boat. The last part of the parade



ANNUAL

RIVIERA BAY

BOAT Parade

CHRISTMAS EVE

6:15 PM

\$100 to the boat with the best decorations and spirit!!!

RIVIERABAY.ORG

Sun Lit Cove Boat Ramp



will end in the large section of Sun Lit Cove. Also, looking for a Santa Claus this year (as the real Santa will certainly already be busy). If you're interested and have a boat, please contact me at 727-324-3077 to coordinate. Also, remember that the best decorated boat will get a cash prize of \$100 courtesy of Brad Bess. Let's make it the best parade ever!! It's a great day in Riviera Bay!



The market is still steadily moving and Riviera Bay continues to be one of the most sought after neighborhoods in all of St. Petersburg/Tampa. Our central location, water access, elevation, and overall quality of life here seems to be the reason why most buyers want to live here. Since our last newsletter 14 homes have sold, and the prices continue to rise. Everything that I am seeing in this market is that we will continue to climb as massive amounts of out of state buyers continue to look for homes here in Florida. We have so much to offer here in Riviera Bay with our two parks, community boat ramp, Christmas Eve Boat Parade, golf cart parades, Thursday night food trucks, the American Flags lining the streets on appropriate holidays, luminaries, and all the great people that make up our neighborhood, it's no wonder everyone wants to live here!

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Reflections On Candle Distributors

Every year we light up the streets of Riviera Bay with luminaries. Typically, volunteers go door to door selling these to families and residents. This year we'll also be selling our candles through our website. They will be delivered to your home or available for purchase and/or pickup at both Riviera Bay Parks (Southern and Northern) during food truck nights on Dec. 2nd and 9th. For more information and the online ordering link, please scan the QR code to be directed to the website link or visit RivierBay.org.

Our neighborhood has so many volunteers that donate time and have done so for several years. We appreciate all of our volunteers and want to take a moment to not only thank our current ones, but to reflect on our fellow neighbors who were also longtime candle distributors.

Sheryl Spencer started delivering candles for our community in 1993. When her son was young, he helped her for many years. She and her husband, Dan, have been living in our neighborhood for many, many years, and have always been wonderful neighbors, and great friends. We cannot thank Sheryl enough for her 27 years of loyal dedication.

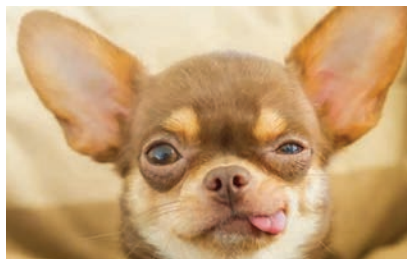
Roger Eitner lived in our neighborhood over 20 years and started helping with candle delivery in 2013. You could catch him sitting in his front yard as neighbor after neighbor stopped by to get their candles. Since his passing this year, we will miss his cheery holiday greetings, along with that big smile.



By Sean Singh

Yes, your dog is cute, but would you PLEASE leash it?!

I grew up with dogs in our home. At one time we had 6 dogs that ranged in size from a Chihuahua to German Shepherd. In the past few months, we have heard and read about dogs not being leashed in our neighborhood. I have witnessed some interactions myself. While I have not seen a dog bite a person, I have seen dogs be very aggressive to people and also seen people being aggressive to dogs that are not bothering anyone. Here in St. Pete, we have St. Pete PAWS. The program is a



pet-friendly proclamation that promotes compassion for St. Pete's animal friends and encourages all citizens to work together to provide a safe, comfortable and enjoyable environment. You can view a two minute YouTube video on this by searching "It's a great time to be a dog in St. Pete."

THE PURPOSE OF PAWS IS TO:

- Enhance and expand St. Pete's paw print with projects and education that promote happy, healthy, pets and pet families at home, as well as in the city's businesses, parks, and other public spaces.
- Build a framework of pet-friendly and pet-centric businesses and organizations, creating connections and partnering to maximize their collective skills and

passion to make a positive impact on pets and the community.

· Shine a light on St. Pete as a pet-friendly city.

Many of us have seen an unleashed dog race away from the owner, followed by the owner yelling "STOP FIDO" or "COME BACK FIDO" without actually pursuing Fido. While these are rare occurrences, it still gives dog owners a bad reputation as we tend to tell the story of the negative interaction versus the time an adorable puppy came up to you wagging everything on its body behind its ears.

Pet Friendly communities do well when WE (humans) are respectful and responsible. Picking up and disposing of dog waste is a great place to start. When dog waste is not disposed of properly, it can end up in our waterways and the bacteria found in the waste poses a threat to public health and water quality. Far too often, I come home to find dog waste in my yard. It is easy for someone



to blame the dog, but the real culprit is the owner.

IN PUBLIC LOCATIONS:

- Dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet long in areas open to the public, including City parks.
- Dogs may be off leash only in fenced, designated dog parks.
- Dogs may be off leash in enclosed or limited areas for an event of limited duration as designated by City Council.
- Dogs are prohibited from athletic fields and playgrounds.

IN PRIVATE LOCATIONS:

- Dogs must be on a leash at a location other than the dog place of residence, unless given permission by the property owner or occupant.
- Dogs may be off leash within a fenced area on or off the premises of the owner.

St. Petersburg has dog parks located throughout the city that you can let your dog run around without a leash. You can find a listing of the parks at <https://www.stpeteparksrec.org/dogparks/>.

ACCORDING TO THE FLORIDA STATUTES:

767.01 - Owners of dogs shall be liable for any damage done by their dogs to a person or to any animal included in the definitions of “domestic animal” and “livestock” as provided by s. 585.01.

767.10 - The Legislature finds that dangerous dogs are an increasingly serious and widespread threat to the safety and welfare of the people of this state because of unprovoked attacks which cause injury to persons and domestic animals; that such attacks are in part attributable to the failure of owners to confine and properly train and control their dogs; that existing laws inadequately address this growing problem; and that it is appropriate and necessary to impose uniform requirements for the owners of dangerous dogs.

767.11 - Definitions. (1) “Dangerous dog” means any dog that according to the records of the appropriate authority:

- (a) Has aggressively bitten, attacked, or endangered or has inflicted severe injury on a human being on public or private property;
- (b) Has more than once severely injured or killed a domestic

animal while off the owner’s property; or
(c) Has, when unprovoked, chased or approached a person upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, provided that such actions are attested to in a sworn statement by one or more persons and dutifully investigated by the appropriate authority.

(2) “Unprovoked” means that the victim who has been conducting himself or herself peacefully and lawfully has been bitten or chased in a menacing fashion or attacked by a dog.

The law in Pinellas County states “No dog or cat shall run at large within the county. Any person who possesses,

harbors, keeps, or has control or custody of any dog or cat which is running at large shall be in violation, regardless of the knowledge, intent or culpability of the owner.”

It shall be a violation of this article, punishable by a minimum fine of \$300, for an owner to fail to prevent their domestic animal (“owner’s animal”) from severely injuring or killing another domestic animal (“victim animal”) while the owner’s animal is at-large, provided that the victim animal did not instigate the incident and was not at-large at the time of the incident.

(Ord. No. 15-43, § 1, 11-10-15; Ord. No. 17-07, § 1, 2-21-17)

While I have been attacked and bitten by dogs in our neighborhood, that did not deter me from interacting with dogs. I have at times been very afraid of the owners. We can all enjoy our neighborhood if we are all respectful of each other.



NEXT GENERAL MEETING at FALL FEST

Saturday, November 20th • 4-6 pm

at the Large Pavilion at Southern Riviera Bay Park, 8131 Macoma Drive NE,

The LAST General Meeting of the year!

We hope to see all our members at the upcoming election Tues, Jan 18.
Keep an eye out for details on location and election candidates.

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

2021-22 RBCA EVENTS

*Please check with our Facebook page
or website for updates*

THANKSGIVING / FALL FEST / GENERAL
MEETING - Nov 20
GOLF CART PARADES - Dec 18
BOAT PARADE - Dec 24
UPCOMING ELECTIONS - Jan 18



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/

RBCA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: TBD,
president@rivierabay.org

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Erin Osburn -

vp@rivierabay.org

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secretary@rivierabay.org

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MEMBER

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MAYOR'S ACTION LINE -

893-7111 (For any dept & # in the city)

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE

893-7780

COMMUNITY POLICE SERVICE
SQUAD - 551-3182

For ongoing problems and response
within 24 hours

MAYOR RICK KRISEMAN -

893-7201, Mayor@stpete.org /

DISTRICT 2 COUNCILWOMAN

Brandi Gabbard - 893-7117

Brandi.Gabbard@stpete.org

Membership Renewal Info

The Riviera Bay Civic Association works for the neighborhood to maintain, improve and create community events for all ages. As a member of the association, it allows you a say in neighborhood plans, event incentives and perks within our community. If you have not joined, please scan the QR code or fill out the form below and mail it to the PO Box address provided. Please show your support by sending at least \$10 (larger amounts are always welcomed) and memberships are per household which include your spouse/partner and children. Memberships should be renewed each calendar year.

I would like to join/rejoin the Riviera Bay Civic Association. Enclosed please find at least \$10. (more is always appreciated) association dues for our family for January through December.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to: Riviera Bay Civic Association

Mail to: Riviera Bay Civic Association, PO Box 55883, St. Petersburg, FL 33732



SCAN ME