

# On The Riviera

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA BAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION SINCE 1960

**"It's Another Great Day in Riviera Bay!"**

59th YEAR • SEPT / OCT 2019 ISSUE

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



## Moving Into Fall...

**H**ello Neighbors! As summer winds down and we move into fall, I hope everyone survived the rains we had in early August.

At the RBCA July General Membership Meeting, Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard and Stormwater Engineer, Carlos Frey, updated us on the upcoming stormwater rate increases set for October 1, 2019. For further information and to check to see what your "tier" level is, please go to the City's website:

[www.stpete.org/billing\\_and\\_collections/utility\\_billing/](http://www.stpete.org/billing_and_collections/utility_billing/)

CONA's President, Jennifer Joern, explained CONA's mission and how they work to connect City Departments directly with neighborhoods and residents. She spoke about upcoming events, the most exciting being the Shopapalooza Christmas Tree Competition. Several neighborhoods are going head to head in tree decorating. Please



attend RBCA's September 17th meeting for further details and to help us select a theme for our tree.

At the CONA (Council of Neighborhood Associations) August Meeting, Mayor Kriseman publicly announced the appointment of Laura Hines as the new Executive Director of the James Museum. Hines oversaw the development of the James Museum and is familiar with St. Petersburg's museum industry. Laura's husband, Hank, is the Director of the Salvador Dali Museum.



Sally Marvin, Supervisor of the Community Service Center (Sunshine Center) educated the audience on the many services the center offers for those 55 and older.

We also heard from representatives from groups supporting attendance of zoned neighborhood elementary schools. Friends of Mount Vernon, North Shore and Woodlawn were well represented. Meeting attendees were asked to bring school supply donations.

As we celebrate the close of summer, please enjoy the much-awaited cooler weather with your family and friends!

Best,

Vicki Shuman, RBCA President

### MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPT 17th**

**Starting at 6:30 pm**

**LOCATION: LIBERTY BAPTIST HALL**

**9401 4TH ST N**

**Corner of 94th Ave & 2nd St  
enter 94th Ave side under breezeway**

### 2019 RBCA EVENTS

- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - Sep 17, Nov 19
- ADOPT-A-MILE - Nov 2
- GARDEN CLEANUP - TBD
- RBCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS (Tentative) - Oct 8, Dec 10
- YARD SALES - Oct 4-6



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LIST PRICE



BEDS



BATHS



SQUARE FEET



LOT SIZE

## HALLOWEEN TIPS

By Lori Intravichit, RBCA Secretary

Halloween is an exciting time of year for kids. Here are some tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to help ensure they have a safe holiday.

**ALL DRESSED UP:** Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure shoes fit well and costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.

Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags for greater visibility.

When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories look for and purchase those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

**HOME SAFE HOME:** Keep porch light on.

Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.

Wet leaves should be swept from sidewalks and steps.

Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a trick-or-treater.

**ON THE TRICK-OR-TREAT TRAIL:** A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.



Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.

Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind trick-or-treaters:

Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

Remember reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags.

Carry a cell phone for quick communication.

Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

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727-641-5754





## Crime Watch Corner

By Don Gilbert



The new public awareness saying is "See Something Say Something". This is basically what the Crime Watch does but it has become a necessity for every member of our community to pay attention to activities around our community. If we observe someone or an activity which is not consistent with what we normally observe, we should pay attention for a minute or two and if it is suspicious then we should report the incident to the St. Petersburg Police Department.

If the activity is serious in nature call the emergency number at 911.

If it concerns you or is suspicious (a person, vehicle or group of people) report it to the police by calling 727-893-7780 or Text at "TIP411 - SPPD". The text address is everything within the quotation marks. This then gets routed to the Saint Petersburg Police Department with your details.

When calling in at 893-7780 state initially if it is suspicious or other. On Suspicious Calls an officer is notified right away and while the operator is recording your contact info (and details) it is being sent to the officer is in route to you.

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## SECURITY CAMERAS and LIGHTS

Over the past three years I have observed the changing camera systems available to consumers. Today there are many camera systems available from retailers with complete Analog or Digital systems with Four Cameras for under \$250. The camera image quality is best found on Network Video Cameras and NVR (Digital Recorders). These cameras have 2 Mega Pixel, 3 Mega Pixel, 4 Mega Pixel and up to 8 Mega Pixel cameras. In comparison the Analog cameras normally are 720 or 1080 Pixel cameras.

The Wi-Fi cameras have become well know with Arlo, Nest and Blink camera system to name a few. But the image quality viewed in nighttime recordings have no depth of field which is needed for clear definition of the image. These camera systems start around \$200 and go higher. I use a HD Nest Camera which cost more than \$300 as an index system for activity in front of my home. The night views of a jogger look as if a piece of paper is moving across the screen on the monitor. But the system gives me a complete visual and sound activity log of what occurs in front of my house. It runs 24 hours a day.

My recommendation is to have an IP POE Camera System with two cameras at opposite ends of your house. The cameras need to have at least 2 Mega Pixel image capabilities. Some of the new IP Cameras have sound capability. The NVR system allows for you to record and view in your home with no cloud recording fees. To augment the cameras, I suggest installing over the garage door a LED Motion Light set up activate if any motion occurs on your driveway.

I recently tested a Four Camera NVR system without the hard drive but with all the cables and equipment needed and it cost me \$100. The Hard Drive cost \$45 for a Terabyte which gives about 10 days of continuous recording.

In comparison to the Wi-Fi systems and the Analog Systems available today this Digital 4 Chanel and 4 Camera having Night Vision IR at 80 Feet should covers everyone's basic camera needs.

If everyone had a camera system and LED motion lights on their front yard, then our night "Creepy Crawlers" visitors would likely avoid our neighborhood. The lights can be set to be on for One Minute or up to 5 minutes depending on the light purchased.

I have mentioned this before: When I worked as a Private Investigator assisting Insurance Companies in reducing exaggerations of insurance claims and I visited neighborhoods to observe claimants I never enjoyed trying to work areas which had motion lights turned on when I drove into the neighborhood. I could not set up in those areas. I am sure the "Creepy Crawlers" do not like being lite up by LED lights.

I hope all of us invest a little money and time into securing our neighborhood. We will have fewer people to have to observe and report!



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Feel free to contact me anytime with advice on selling your home or simply asking about our current Market.

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, passing out the newsletters or most recently, 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:

"In August of 2017 we met Brad as we were looking to purchase a home in the Riviera Bay neighborhood. 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.....it felt like doing business with a close family friend!" — *Trevor L McCarthy*

"He went above and beyond even after the sale, connecting us the services required to set up housekeeping. Brad was professional, reliable, honest and made purchasing our home smooth, and seamless." — *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." — *Brenton J. Ross, Esq.*

"Brad is friendly, professional, prompt, and reliable. He is also a kind family man and is an active member of the community." — *Megan Spears*

"We had such a good experience buying a house with Brad we decided to sell our house through him too. Brad's a great realtor and all around a good guy, and we'd definitely recommend him to anybody moving into the area." — *Phil and Erinn Skiba*

"What first drew me to Brad was his friendly, honest personality, followed by his enthusiasm and commitment to our community. His recommendations have always been well-founded, accurate, and validated through his continuous, professional work efforts and current, overall market knowledge." — *George Kern*



**Call Today: 727-324-3077**  
**email: [bradbess@gmail.com](mailto:bradbess@gmail.com)**





By Brad Bess  
RBCA Vice President

Our Neighborhood continues to be in high demand. Buyers are drawn to our area for several different reasons — our fantastic central location, higher elevation, and the numerous amenities Riviera Bay has to offer. What are the buyers most commonly looking for? Most buyers in this market are looking for homes which have been completely updated in the last 1-3 years. Hurricane rated windows and doors, updated kitchens and baths, along with an open floor plan are typically at the top of the list for most buyers. The number one question I get for waterfront homes is; How old is the seawall, followed by how much is the flood insurance? Our home values continue to rise. In the last 6 months 33 homes have been sold, the highest non-waterfront home sold for \$366,000 and the highest waterfront home was sold for \$725,000. Interest rates are at an all-time low, so buyers are continually looking for homes, we currently are experiencing low levels of inventory, so if you are considering selling, now may be the right time. As I write this, there are only 3 waterfront homes

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available, and 8 non-waterfront homes. I hope this gives you some insight to your current market in Riviera Bay, if you have any info you would like for me to add in the future please call and let me know. 727-324-3077.

### RBCA Adopt-A-Mile

Please join us on November 2nd to clean up 83rd Avenue from 4th Street to the San Martin.

A big shout out and huge thank you to Toni, Stephen, Patty and Dana for going the extra mile on August 3rd. We were able to include rounding up trash around all of Riviera Bay Park as well as our usual mile! In all, we collected and disposed of 4 bags totaling 17 pounds of garbage!



### African TrAID

This year Liberty Baptist Church will be having the African TrAID Market on December 7th. Weather permitting it will be held in front of the church along 4th St. N. Otherwise it will be held in Fellowship Hall in the church. This is in support of my brother (Mike) and his wife (Deb) and their work in Uganda. Their Mission is called "One City Ministries" and can be found on Facebook as well as on the internet at [www.onecityministries.org/](http://www.onecityministries.org/) Items on Sale will

include Paintings, Wood sculptures, Jewelry, Cloths and other items made by the African workers in the area of the Light Village in Uganda. I hope everyone will consider coming to the event.



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## RBCA OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT:

Vicki Shuman, 727-709-2123,  
vickifour@yahoo.com

### VICE-PRESIDENT:

Brad Bess - 727.324.3077,  
bradbess@gmail.com

### SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP:

Lori Intravichit, 727-576-2903,  
intravichit1@gmail.com

### TREASURER:

Stephen Goetz, 919-579-9408,  
Steveogoez@gmail.com

### DIRECTORS:

Toni Michalove - 727.492.5682,  
reddogs02@gmail.com

Dave Hoover - 727.579.3466,  
dave.rbca@yahoo.com

Joe Baez - 727.804.5631,  
stpete66@aol.com

Christian Rodgers - 812.243.9568  
christian.rodgers@ahss.org

### CRIMEWATCH COORDINATOR:

Don Gilbert, 727.286.1869,  
dtippgilbert@gmail.com,

### RBCA NEWSLETTER EDITOR & ADVERTISING:

AM Media Group - 727-577-5500

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893-7111

(For any dept & # in the city)

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Mayor Rick Kriseman - 893-7201

Mayor@stpete.org /

District 2 Councilwoman

Brandi Gabbard - 893-7117

Brandi.Gabbard@stpete.org



## JOIN RBCA FACEBOOK!

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*Site maintained by Debby Obst*



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mendations, etc. You'll find it to be very informative.

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@ Liberty Baptist Church and School



## NEWSLETTER Volunteers needed

**W**anted! Energetic, concerned  
neighbors who want to be an  
active part of their community. We are  
looking for people to compile/gather  
articles for our newsletter. It would  
be nice if we could begin a monthly  
newsletter. We are also looking for  
people to spearhead new ideas and take  
various "suggestions" into reality.

Contact: Vicki Shuman -  
Vickifour@yahoo.com,  
or any board member.

## 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 \$10.00. (A larger amount would be appreciated!) One association membership per household includes your spouse and children, to be purchased each calendar year.

*I would like to join/rejoin the Riviera Bay Civic Association. Enclosed please find at least \$10.00 (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