

On The Riviera

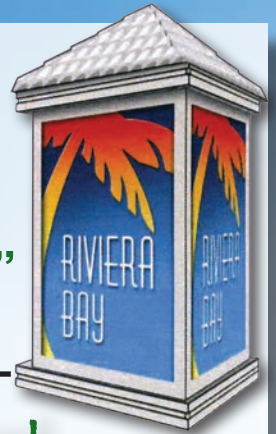
NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA BAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION SINCE 1960

62nd Year!

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

May / June 2021 ISSUE

www.rivierabay.org/



Summer Is Around The Corner!

Hello Neighbors!

Things are heating up! Some April showers are bringing us May flowers. I hope this new season brings you much joy and sunshine.

A huge THANK YOU to Colleen Esposito and Erin Osburn for coordinating a wonderful Easter Egg Hunt and Ice Cream Social. Although I could not attend, I was told the turnout was amazing; over 70 kids and a few doggies too. If you attended and took photos, please post some to our FaceBook page.

I would also like to thank our tireless treasurer Stephen Goetz. We keep him on his toes. Stephen collects and processes all of our candle sales and membership fees at the start of each year. He coordinates all our refreshments for membership gatherings. Please make sure to thank Stephen when you pick up a refreshment at our next gathering. And if you are interested in helping out with any financial related tasks or activities, please let us know.

The Riviera Bay Civic Association's by-laws are in need of an update this year. Board member Sean Singh is coordinating a By-laws Committee. The committee will review and propose revisions back to the Board of Directors for discussion and resolution. If you are interested in participating on the committee, please contact Sean or

myself. Contact info is on the back page of this newsletter.

As you may know, I was appointed by Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard to the City of St Pete's Charter Review Commission representing District 2. We have had several meetings, including 2 public forum sessions. Current topics being discussed include — but are not limited to: City Administration, Community Character, Council Office, Council Structure, Elections, Equity, Ethics and Qualifications for Council and Mayor. Our next public input session is scheduled for Saturday May 22nd at 10 am.

For more information, please see: https://www.stpete.org/boards_and_committees/city_charter_commission.php

Please consider joining us at our next membership gathering on Tuesday May 18th at 6:30 pm. Remember, we are now meeting in the park. Meet us under the large pavilion in Riviera Bay Park. We

will hear from our CSO (Community Service Officer) Patrick McGovern and Christie Bruner about the City's Healthy St. Pete program. A door prize and a bingo game are in the works.

Best,
Vicki Shuman
President



The Easter Egg hunt is on!

GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 18th

Starting at 6:30 pm

LOCATION: RIVIERA BAY PARK

Under main covered pavilion.

2021 RBCA EVENTS

Please check with our Facebook page or website for updates

GENERAL GATHERINGS - May 18, July 20, Sept 21, Nov 16

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET - June 8, Aug 10, Oct 12, Dec 14

ADOPT-A-MILE - July 31, Nov 6

YARD SALES - Oct 1-3

THANKSGIVING DINNER - Nov 16

Easter Egg Hunt / Ice Cream Social

Riviera Bay Civic Association kicked off a socially distant Easter Egg and Photo Scavenger hunt by scattering 700 eggs and treats over almost the entire park. 70 kids showed up by 1 PM, and the carefully placed eggs were gone in less than 10 minutes!

The scavenger hunt took just a bit longer, as the clues were deliberately cryptic, but a few pointers in the right direction had them off and snapping photos of their targets, and bringing them back for their prizes.

Members and the community alike then grabbed their goodie bags and spread throughout the park to get ice cream from the amazing Softee the King Food Truck. From that moment on, what was heard the most was Yum! and Ohhhh, Ahhhhh, Pretty! as the children played with the bubble wands included in their bags. Conversation flowed and smiles and laughter followed.



It was so wonderful to bring back the community feel and fun on the perfect spring day, and the 74 degree temperature could not have been better for our return to fun in the Riviera Bay sun.



RIVIERA BAY

FAMILY

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

ROTATING TRUCKS EVERY THURSDAY

CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE
RIVIERABAY.ORG/FOOD-TRUCK

QR CODE:

SCAN ME

2021 Canal Clean Up #RecycletoRenew

Every year Riviera Bay Civic Association partners with Keep Pinellas Beautiful and this year our neighborhood did our best to volunteer and show up for our waterways, parks and common areas that make up our community.

Keep Pinellas Beautiful has been in existence since 1992 and is a not for profit that spans from Tampa Bay to the Gulf of Mexico and from as far as Tarpon Springs to Ft. Desoto. Each year we are humbled at the support of our community to show up and do their part and make a difference. This past year has been a rough one for many people, but we are so grateful that we can call this beautiful Pinellas County our home. We live in paradise, surrounded by wetlands and marine life. It is vital that we protect and maintain our land and sea environment. What is your ecological footprint? Whether big or small, remember that we must make an effort to leave a positive impact here on Earth, not only for ourselves, but the generations to come.

Springtime here in Pinellas County means



starting anew. We typically plant new gardens and replenish the soil with hearty nutrients to support its growth. Let's try to do the same with our community. Let's take care of our gardens, our marine life and waterways, our families and neighbors. Allow and support their growth to a positive and flourishing tomorrow.

Take a breath and take a breath again...enjoy your surroundings, maybe even take a little time to do something new with something old. Here are some ideas for recycled materials to help flourish in new life. Give it a try and share it on our neighborhood Facebook or Instagram page or the Nextdoor App to bring a smile to some one's face. No one person can do it alone – together we can work to keep these gorgeous surroundings thriving and surviving.

Please remember that if you observe an act of litter or illegal dumping in and around your neighborhoods, call the Keep Pinellas Beautiful Hotline at 727-210-GONE (4663).

RBCA Spring Gardening Challenge - #RBCARecycletoRenew, what can you create?? Let's see it. Share it today!



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RIVIERA BAY REAL ESTATE UPDATE

By Brad Bess

As you can probably see, our market is the hottest it has ever been in St. Petersburg. Riviera Bay is at the top of the list for waterfront neighborhoods. Inventory is the biggest challenge; we have families moving from all over the country and they are finding we just don't have enough homes for sale. The prices have almost doubled over the past 18 months. Interest rates are still low, and buyers seem to be buying homes just as fast as we list them. If you decide to sell the best advice I can give is to hire someone who is completely involved with the current market. Too many times I see one of our neighbors leaving way too much of their equity on the table. Since the last newsletter, 10 homes have sold, lets welcome those ten families to the best neighborhood in all of St. Petersburg! It's a great day in Riviera Bay!!!



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Call 727-235-3810

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

ARE YOU:

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



CRIME WATCH CORNER

By Don Gilbert

Spring has sprung and so have all of our city-wide youthful offenders. Yes, if you monitor a Ring Doorbell app or NextDoor you are aware we have been having an increase in “Creepy Crawler” activity in our communities. I would like to suggest for everyone to keep in touch with Riviera Bay activities you have signed up for NextDoor for at least the Crime and Safety postings. I try to monitor this group as often as I can. When improper activities are seen in our community may I suggest you first notify the Police via 911 or the Non-Emergency Phone Number 727-893-7780. Then reach out to our community on NextDoor and post about the activity in some degree of detail and whether you have notified the police. Remember if a police officer is driving thru our neighborhood, he usually cannot approach someone without an alert first from a residence. There are exceptions to this but it helps the law enforcement departments if we are working with them to reduce criminal activities and the “Creepy Crawlers” in our neighborhood.

I live in the North end of the community and there is only one way in and out for about 75 homes. Many of these homes now have young families with children. Since we do not have sidewalks in our community, we need to be aware of our speed on our community streets. I have observed some drivers who regularly exceed the local speed limits by as much as 20 miles per hour. In my judgment this is not acceptable. I am considering reaching out to the police department with Tag Numbers of speeders for them to monitor else ware. Please be aware of our driving practices in our communities.

I have heard from a local neighbor who lives in the immediate area of our boat launch. His difficulty is with boaters who park their trucks and trailers along the

roadway around the launch. Many times they seem to not pay any attention to the signs and the driveways which they are blocking. I am mentioning this here so as to bring it up for further action by the city and the Riviera Bay Board of Directors. There might be further actions available if the homeowners in the area unite on the issue.

Stay safe!

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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

**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**



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 up to, post pictures, events, and more!

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WWW.RivieraBay.NextDoor.com

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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

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