



AROUND AND ABOUT  
NEWS

issue 19

July 2020

# July Newsletter

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[www.so49.org](http://www.so49.org)

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# -AROUND AND ABOUT- 49th Street South

49TH ST SOUTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## Message from the President

On July 8, 1776, the first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square to the ringing of bells and band music. One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia marked Independence Day by adjourning Congress and celebrating with bonfires, bells and fireworks.

We celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, political speeches, and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. (The above information was found on Google).

This year, we are limited in how we can celebrate. Focus on spending time with your family.

As business owners, you pour a lot of time and energy into running your business and maintaining your reputation. That is not an easy task! In fact, it takes a lot of time and energy. Time and energy away from your family. Make it up to them. Have that backyard bbq! Play some ball! It does not matter what you do, as long as it is positive!

If you go out in public, practice social distancing and wear your masks. The mask may be uncomfortable, but a ventilator is more uncomfortable and you do not want to put your family through that.

For the businesses that have been affected by covid positive employees and have closed for testing and sanitizing, THANK YOU for being responsible!. SO49 would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday! Make and document some family memories! Feel free to contact us at [so49web@aol.com](mailto:so49web@aol.com) or [jsrtraining@aol.com](mailto:jsrtraining@aol.com) or call 727-439-0164!

*Jeri Reed*

Jeri Reed, RN  
President SO49

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4<sup>th</sup> of July is just around the corner which brings many things that we have all grown to enjoy. Family gatherings and great food are a necessity of the day. Even though we have a limitation to shooting off fireworks many still ignore the rules. . With all of the Fireworks displays being canceled the back yard display becomes more prevalent. Because of this we still have accidents that can leave the person with lasting bad memories and sometimes lasting body disfigurements. Just think while you may enjoy a firework or two from your backyard on the Fourth of July, Pinellas County officials want you to know the rules when it comes to lighting up the night.

Despite what you may think, Pinellas County bans the retail sale or purchase of fireworks that project into the air or explode, according to a statement issued by the county. However, sparklers are legal for people 12 years of age and older. Remember never drink and drive.

Here are some other helpful tips from Pinellas County when it comes to fireworks and sparklers:

- **Read all cautions and warnings.**
- **Use sparklers only outdoors.**
- **Use sparklers as intended - do not try to alter or combine them.**
- **Do not mix fireworks and alcohol.**
- **Never pick up fireworks that may be left over after the display, as they may still be active.**

For other questions, visit [www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org) on the web or call 727-464-3000. (Credit to patch article)



Are you hungry yet?





We asked the chief if he would share his blog with us, for us to share with you. Here in Gulfport we enjoy a wonderful Police Department well trained and they all have become part of our community thank you Chief GREAT Job.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020

### [Use of Force Policy Review](#)

At least once every year, we conduct a staff review of our use of force policies. We do this using a cloud-based network where all police department supervisors are invited to offer edits and feedback on suggestions by others. The process begins with a review of any recent legislation or court cases, and then we look at data from our own incidents involving use of force to see if there are any worrisome trends.

It hasn't been a full year yet, but I thought now would be a good time to give the policies another look. This time, the staff review will also seek feedback from our community.

Specifically, we are looking at each of the suggestions published by the ["8 can't wait"](#) campaign. Most of these are already incorporated into our existing policy in varying language, but we want to see if there are ways to make them more clear and understandable, both to the officers and to those we serve.

Some things to think about as we move forward with this project:

1. What does it mean to require an officer to intervene? Does it mean to physically stop the conduct that is perceived to be inappropriate, or is a verbal suggestion sufficient?
2. How do you define a "choke hold"? Is it any tactic that touches any part of the neck, or does it mean to actually compress the trachea with the intent of stopping airflow to the lungs? For example, officers are trained to use pressure points in the base of the jaw as a way to get compliance without injury. This can be a very effective and low-risk technique, but it can be easily perceived by others as a "choke hold." Do we prohibit that?
3. Is an outright ban on choke-holds reasonable? What if the circumstances truly warrant deadly force but the officer is, for example, pinned in such a way that



he or she cannot access any weapons. Might it be reasonable under those circumstances?

4. Is an outright ban on shooting at moving vehicles appropriate? What if the driver is trying to drive into a large crowd, as has happened quite frequently in recent times?

5. Is it reasonable to require a verbal warning in every instance before using deadly force? Might there be circumstances where a warning could expose officers to danger or prompt an armed person to start shooting innocent people?

These are just a few of the questions that we will consider during this review, and my goal is to have policies that promote safety and professionalism without ambiguity. As I am committed to ensuring that what we do is a reflection of the values of our community, please feel free to share your thoughts.

[rvincent@mygulfport.us](mailto:rvincent@mygulfport.us)

727-893-1049

Posted by [Chief Vincent](#) at [9:46 AM](#) [No comments:](#)

[Email This](#) [Blog This](#) [Share to Twitter](#) [Share to Facebook](#) [Share to Pinterest](#)

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020**

[On the Death of George Floyd](#)

To my friends and my community: I am shocked at the conduct of the officers involved in the death of George Floyd, and I am embarrassed for our profession. I share in your anger and frustration, but please do not let this situation influence your perception of those of us who wear a uniform. What the officers did in that case does not represent the hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers involved in millions of contacts each and every day throughout this country.

In reality, police use of force is a very rare occurrence. Rarer still when it results in death. And extremely rare when death is the result of inappropriate conduct. It's just that every time it happens, given today's commercial and social media environment, the news spreads fast and far.

Take Gulfport for example. Over the past five years, officers have used force 171 times. That may seem like a lot, but consider that in that same time, we made 2,163 arrests while responding to 137,714 calls for service. Every one of these cases is documented and investigated for compliance with law and policy. Of the 171 incidents, there were no complaints of excessive force, and only one investigation revealed a policy violation. These ratios are typical and demonstrate how extremely unlikely it is that an individual will be involved in a use of force situation, let alone one that involves police misconduct.

And it's not just internal reviews that hold officers accountable. Everything we do is subject to oversight by multiple levels, including the local prosecutor, state police standards board, and the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.

I encourage anyone who would like a closer look at how law enforcement operates on a day to day basis to participate in your local citizens' police academy. Most agencies, including state and federal, make these programs available multiple times per year.

Or better yet, come join us and earn a badge of your own. We are always looking for the best and brightest.

Posted by [Chief Vincent](#) at [1:50 PM](#) [No comments:](#)

[Email This](#) [Blog This](#) [Share to Twitter](#) [Share to Facebook](#) [Share to Pinterest](#)

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019**

[Ring App May be Misleading—Be Careful](#)

I was recently made aware of the crime reporting feature on the Ring.com neighborhood app, and I wanted to share some concerns.

It's great when people have access to information quickly and easily, but that only helps when the information is accurate. What is being shared on this app is simply not.

When I compared the Ring weekly crime report to our own records, I found several examples of incidents that were misreported. The app was also showing reports of crimes of which we had no record. Curiously, the app does not reveal its source for the information it is reporting.

There was also a recent alert about what the app called a burglary in progress. It published this alert in the form of a news release stating that Pinellas County Sheriff's Office was responding to a burglary in progress in Gulfport. The facts: Gulfport Police Officers responded to a call where a person reported hearing his car alarm going off. When he went outside to check it out, he saw someone walking away. Officers investigated and found no evidence that the car had been burglarized, so they reclassified the call as a suspicious person.

It is clear that the source for this alert was the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office "active calls" website. GPD uses PCSO for dispatch, so our calls also appear on this website. If you go directly to the source and follow it, you can see as calls are updated to reflect the most recent and accurate information. Apparently the Ring app does not do this, which means a lot of people are not getting the full story.

If you use this app, which I agree has a lot of great potential, please don't share or rely on the information without verifying the most up to date data directly from the source.

For crime reports: <http://egis.pinellascounty.org/apps/CrimeViewer/>

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# SAFETY CORNER

by Office Zachary Mills

zmills@mygulfport.us

## DEALING WITH ROAD RAGE

The problem of road rage is becoming more prevalent each day. Use the following tips to avoid becoming a victim of road rage:

1. Give the right-of-way to rude or impatient drivers.
2. If someone is tailgating you, move over to another lane to let the driver pass. If the driver still stays on top of your rear bumper, try slowing down in order to encourage the driver to pass. If neither of these tactics work, pull off the road into a safe, well-lit area where there are other people. After waiting a few minutes to allow the tailgater to get further down the road, you can resume your trip. If the other driver pulls off behind you when you pull over keep driving. If they continue to follow you call the police and drive to the nearest police station



3. If another driver cuts you off, stops suddenly in front of you, commits any type of driving error, or shows aggressiveness or anger to you in any way, don't react. Avoid making eye contact with the other driver or looking in the driver's direction. Never make any gestures to the other driver.





4. If you commit a driving error and the other driver becomes hostile, don't react. If the driver becomes aggressive to the point of trying to cause an accident (for example, by braking suddenly in front of you so that you will crash into the rear of the other driver's car), pull off the road into a safe, well-lit area where there are other people and wait for the driver to get further down the road before resuming.

If the other driver is waiting down the road for you, pull off again into a safe area and call the police. If possible try to remember the type of car and license plate number to report to law enforcement.

The State of Florida is posting on their message boards report road rage or reckless driving. Do not engage the other driver but get their tag number and report it to \*347 on your cell and please stay safe.



ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL WATERFRONT AND BEACHES BUT PLEASE STAY SAFE

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## Pinellas students can now register for the 2020 Congressional App Challenge!

Every year, the members of U.S. House of Representatives host a district-wide Congressional App Challenge for middle school and high school students. Congressman Charlie Crist will host his annual **FL-13 Congressional App Challenge** to encourage students to learn to code and inspire them to pursue careers in computer science, technology, engineering, and medicine. This is especially important given the current Coronavirus pandemic, where business, education, medicine, and other aspects of our society have been increasingly forced to move onto online and virtual platforms. For the 2020 FL-13 App Challenge, students are asked to **create an app that addresses an issue or issues caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic**. This nationwide effort allows students to compete against their peers by creating an app of their choice for mobile, tablet, or computer devices. **No background or experience in computer science is needed - 44% of past app challenge participants described themselves as beginners.** The Congressional App Challenge's mission is to inspire, include, and innovate efforts around STEM, Coding, and Computer Science Education.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the Congressional App Challenge, you must be a middle or high school student at the time of the app submission. Students may register as individuals or as teams of up to four. Students must live or go to school within Florida's 13th Congressional District to participate. [To view complete rules for the 2020 Congressional App Challenge, click here.](#)

## Register and Submit

The Congressional App Challenge is a competition aimed to encourage U.S. middle and high school students to learn how to code by creating their own applications. Submissions will be judged on the following criteria: creativity and originality, design and user experience, and demonstration of student's programming skills. The app winner from FL-13, chosen by a panel of expert judges, will have their app displayed in the US Capitol Building and featured on Congressman Charlie Crist's website and social media channels. **Note: While past winners have been able to attend House of Code in Washington, D.C., all future events are subject to COVID-19 restrictions or cancellations.** **The deadline for submissions is October 18, 2020.**

[Enter here!](#)

Want to submit an app but not sure where to start? Students can visit the [Congressional App Challenge website](#) for free online resources to help them get coding. Additional information for participants on virtual coding events, deadlines, judging, and winners' announcements will be released as the Challenge continues. Be sure to sign up [here](#) to receive notification of future updates and follow Congressman Charlie Crist on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to stay in the loop throughout the Congressional App Challenge.

# TROLLEY MARKET SQUARE FAMILY FUN DAY

## Sponsors needed to OPEN our Community!!

49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association is working on a FUN project for everyone. After Months of practicing the safe distancing at home, it is time to get out and re-emerge into the community. Our goal will be to get HUGE Water Slides and provide FREE, Hot Dogs, chips, Sodas, popcorn and Cotton Candy to the first 800 free. More FREE food will be added as we raise additional funds from the initial budget. To accomplish our basic goal we need to raise \$3800.00 and I need your help. Many of us have had a drastic down turn in our business, but we must look forward to the future and the bounce back of our community and our businesses. This will be a free and open event to the whole community. No date has been set yet because I am waiting on the word from the City and the Governor declaration of the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> faze of the re-opening of our state. We are starting the fund raising now so that we are ready to set the date. Please think about getting involved today because without your help our projects would not be possible. I will have vendor space for my sponsors but there will be a limited number of spaces.

## Sponsorship levels

<p>49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association is working on a FUN project for everyone. After Months of practicing the safe distancing at home, it is time to get out and re-emerge into the community. Free admission project for all that attend</p>	 <b>Super Hero \$500</b>	 <b>Super Star \$400</b>	 <b>Hero \$300</b>	 <b>Star \$200</b>	 <b>Sponsor \$100</b>
<p>All sponsors get a space to advertise their company                  Check the box for your area of kind donation</p>					



Contact: or Donation address  
 Phil Reed 727-327-3509  
 Mailing address  
 49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association  
 P.O. Box 531042  
 St. Petersburg Florida 33747

Event Location  
**Trolley Market Square**  
**4900 Tangerine Avenue South**  
**Gulfport Florida, 33707**



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# WE ARE OPEN

Many of our fine restaurants and businesses are still open from auto repair to food, storage, tax preparedness, signs and more. PLEASE support them in this time of our Country's uncertainties. These locations are working hard to make sure that their employees have a way to support their families.

## **Gulfport Family Dinner**

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

**2025 49th street south**

Gulfport Fl, 33707

**321-2628**

## **Smokin J's Bar B Que**

5145 Gulfport Blvd, Gulfport Fl 33707

[sjtxbbq@gmail.com](mailto:sjtxbbq@gmail.com),

727-329-8624

## **Gulfcoast Seafood**

4921 9th ave south

Gulfport Fl. 33707

[sales@gulfcoastseafoodfl.com](mailto:sales@gulfcoastseafoodfl.com)

## **Full Plate**

1431 49th street south

Gulfport Fl. 33707

727-800-9171

[fullplatechicken@gmail.com](mailto:fullplatechicken@gmail.com)

## **The Storage House**

1 219 49th street south

Gulfport Fl. 33707

727-327-9598

Remember, we are all affected by this virus and in a time of need we all need to continue our support of our local establishments who for years have donated thousands of dollars to our local charities.

## **Hubbard Marina**

[info@hubbardsmarina.com](mailto:info@hubbardsmarina.com)

170 Johns Pass, Boardwalk Pl

Madeira Beach, FL 33708

**727-393-1947**

## **Hubbard Marina**

[info@hubbardsmarina.com](mailto:info@hubbardsmarina.com)

170 Johns Pass, Boardwalk Pl

Madeira Beach, FL 33708 **727-**

**727-393-1947**

## **Studio 49**

2309 49<sup>th</sup> Street South

Gulfport, Fl. 33707

727-800-6655

## **Island Flavors and 'Tings**

1411 49<sup>th</sup> Street South

Gulfport, fl. 33707

[islandflavorsandtings.com](http://islandflavorsandtings.com)

## **McDonalds**

5111 Gulfport Blvd,

Gulfport FL 33707

## **Safety tire Auto**

1833 49th street south

Gulfport Fl, 33707

727-321-1131

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**Air Brush Art USA**

1897 49th street south  
Gulfport Fl 33707  
727-321-1131

**The Big Catch at Salt Creek**

1500 2nd.Street South,  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
727-389-8080

**Liberty Tax Service**

4920 Gulfport Blvd  
Gulfport Fl. 33707  
727-228-6301

**Gulfport Pharmacy**

5004 Gulfport Blvd S  
Gulfport Fl 33707  
727-223-1075 fax 727-388-8217

**JSR Training Inc.**

2321 49<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Gulfport, Fl. 33707  
727-327-3509

**Caldwell Realty**

5201 Gulfport Blvd  
Gulfport, Fl. 33707  
727-321-1212





**THE STORAGE HOUSE**  
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*TheStorageHouse.com*  
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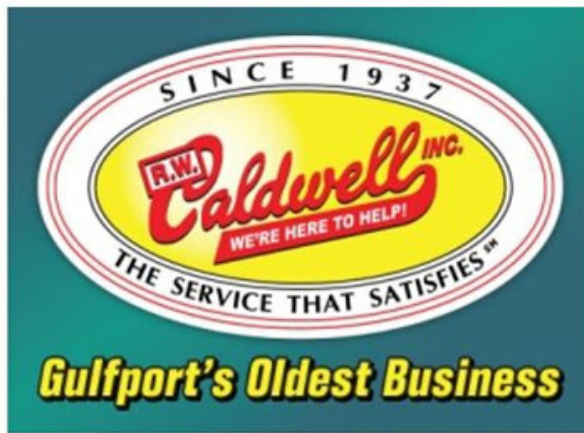
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 Gulfport, FL 33707

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 Monday to Saturday

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 SAT - SUN 7am - 3pm  
 Take Out Available PH: 727-321-2628





# SO49 MEMBERSHIP

by Phil Reed

Dear Member/Potential Member  
It is that time again to renew your membership with the 49th Street South Business Association. We have had a great 11 years and we have seen a lot of changes to the area.

We have welcomed new businesses to the area resulting in an increase of daily traffic. We have had many successful projects that have also increased the exposure to the area.

## What is in store for the future?

- Family Fun Day
- Blues and Brews in November
- A Night of Nuptials June 2021
- Monthly News Letters
- Bigger music festivals and car shows
- Business Seminars to help your business grow and much more.



Without your help we cannot continue the great works for our area. We ask you to renew your membership and if you are new, please consider joining us - the application form is on the next page.

New this year, members get a business card size ad in 6 news letters. Thank you for your attention.

Membership Team  
49th Street South Business  
Association

PO Box 531042 St., Petersburg Fl. 33707

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# FLORIDA BRACES FOR ACTIVE HURRICANE SEASON AMID PANDEMIC: 'THE LAST THING WE NEED IS ANOTHER CATASTROPHE'

On its website, FEMA <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes> has updated guidelines for this hurricane season. The changes include encouraging residents to check with local officials about updated evacuation shelters for this year and asking people to bring COVID-19 necessities like cleaning materials, hand sanitizer, and face masks. (Elina Shirazi)

## Are You Ready?

- Don't open a window away from the wind direction. Any opening can allow wind inside the home, and the wind can shift.
  - Don't go near windows or glass patio doors during a storm.
  - Don't empty an in-ground pool. The water table can rise from the rain and force the pool up, perhaps out of the ground.
  - Don't use candles for light if the power goes off.
  - The danger of fire is too great.
  - Don't use a charcoal or gas grill to cook indoors.
  - Don't approach animals wandering after the storm.
  - Even docile pets can be unnerved by a storm and could bite.
  - Don't connect a generator directly to your home's electric system. It can electrify lines outside and endanger neighbors and utility workers.
  - Don't drive through moving water over a road. Even six inches of flowing water can cause a car to float.
  - If returning after an evacuation, don't stay in the house if you smell gas. Open windows and leave.
  - Don't let your pets out after the storm without a leash. With landmarks gone, they can get lost and perhaps encounter displaced wild animals.
  - Don't sightsee in damaged neighborhoods.
  - Don't stay after an evacuation is ordered. Rescue workers will not try to reach you at the height of the storm.
  - Don't bring guns, alcohol or pets to a public helter.
  - Don't touch metal fences after a storm. They could be touching downed power lines.
  - Don't tape windows. Tape does almost no good – and it's a mess to remove.
-





# DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

## General

- At least two weeks supply of medication, medical supplies used regularly and a list of allergies
- List of the style, serial number, and manufacturer information of required medical devices
- Flashlight  
*Do not use candles and be sure to have enough batteries*
- Radio  
*Battery operated or hand cranked radio, a NOAA weather radio*
- Cash  
*Banks and ATMs may not be available after a storm*

## Pet Care Items

- Pet food and water
- Proper identification
- Medical records/ microchip info
- A carrier or cage
- Muzzle and leash
- Water and food bowls
- Medications
- Supplies for your service animal

## Clothing

- Include seasonal or rain gear and sturdy shoes or boots.

## Special Needs Items

- Be sure to include specialty items for infants, small children, the elderly, and those family members with a disability.

## First Aid

- First Aid Manual
- Sterile adhesive bandages of different sizes
- Sterile gauze pads
- Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- Triangular bandages
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Sewing needle
- Moistened towelettes
- Antiseptic
- Thermometer
- Tube of petroleum jelly
- Safety pins
- Soap
- Latex gloves
- Sunscreen
- Aspirin or other pain reliever
- Anti-diarrheal medicine
- Antacid
- Laxative
- Cotton balls
- Q-tips

## Food and Water

- Food  
*Enough for at least seven (7) days, nonperishable packaged or canned food and beverages, snack foods, juices, baby food, and any special dietary items*
- Non-electric can opener
- Paper plates
- Napkins
- Plastic cups
- Utensils
- Water (1 gallon per person)

## Important Documents

- Insurance cards
  - Medical records
  - Bank numbers
  - Credit card numbers
  - Copy of social security card
  - Copies of birth and/or marriage certificates
  - Other personal documents  
Set of car, house, and office keys
  - Service animal I.D., veterinary records, and proof of ownership
  - Information about where you receive medication, the name of the drug, and dosage
  - Copy of will
- \*Items should be kept in a water proof container*

## Vehicle

- Keep your motor vehicle tanks filled with gasoline

## Phone Numbers

- Maintain a list of important phone numbers including: county emergency management office, evacuation sites, doctors, banks, schools, veterinarian, a number for out of town contact, friends & family

## COVID-19 Supplies

- Face masks
- Disinfectant wipes
- Hand sanitizer

**It is that time of the year again your 2020 Membership is now due  
Please mail in a check helps us keep the vision going on 49<sup>th</sup> Street**



**49th Street South Business Association  
Business, Associate, and Non-Profit  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2020**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Association seeks to unite, enhance, and promote the 49th Street South business corridor and embedded residential communities, including three blocks to the east and west of 49th Street, and from 22nd Avenue South to Central Avenue. Using sustainable strategies, we seek to achieve a district regionally recognized for vibrancy, special goods and services, safety, and Entrepreneurial opportunity. Membership is open to all, as we believe that we can accomplish collectively that which we cannot do individually.

Business or Individual's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip / County \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES**

PLEASE CHECK MEMBERSHIP TYPE

- Member** –available to businesses; provides one vote per business. \$75.00
- Associate Member** –available to individuals interested in the advancement of the objectives of the Association; is a non-voting member.....50.00
- Non-Profit Member** – available to non-profits within the area; is a non-voting member..... 25.00

**Please complete this application and return it with a check payable to:**  
49th Street South Business Association • P.O. Box 531042 • St. Petersburg, FL 33747

Total Annual Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **Anniversary** \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK YOUR COMMITTEE INTERESTS

- Neighborhood Outreach/Community Relations**
- Perception/Conceptual Committee** (branding/appearance)
- Public Relations Committee**
- Other Suggestions** (please list/comment)

Contact Phil Reed at 727-439-0164 or email him at [jsrtraining@aol.com](mailto:jsrtraining@aol.com)

# ABOUT SO49 BUSINESS ASSOC.

## 49th Street South Business Association Board Members

**Jeri Reed**, President

**Mario Farias**, Vice President

**Michael Yakes**, Vice President

**Bro John Muhammad**, Vice President

**Michelle Kotewa**, Treasurer

**Kieu Barnes**, Secretary

## Around and About Newsletter

**Editor:** Phil Reed

JSRTraining@aol.com

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Association

**Publication Designer:** Kieu Barnes  
q@airbrushartusa.com

## let's get social

If you haven't already connected with us,  
join us on Twitter, Facebook and  
Instagram today.

Check us out at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SO49home>

<https://www.instagram.com/so49org/>



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### CONTACT

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