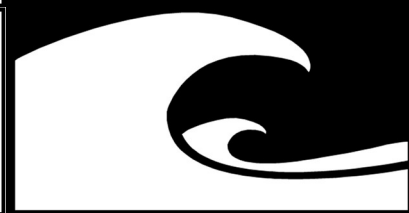


RIVERSIDE NEWS



Message from the President

3rd Quarter 2025

Greetings to the residents of the peninsula's best neighborhood! I've said this before, but once again, traveling has reminded me of the amazing overall package that makes Riverside so special and unique. Can anyone name another spot bordered 100% by a river, park, museum, country club and university (and the next closest neighbor after that being a major hospital)? We moved our daughter to Pittsburgh last week and everyone says "it's a great city" but I sure hope she appreciates where she grew up!

Last quarter I mentioned the neighborhood wildlife just before Patrick the Peacock moved into the area! Lots of posts about him on our Facebook page but if you aren't on FB, and think you may have seen a large, beautiful bird, you very well may have! Apparently, he escaped from a house in a nearby neighborhood a few years ago and has migrated to us.

Also, last quarter, I mentioned the Bulkhead Retaining Wall capital project. With the incredible efforts of **Chris Ponce, Dave Johnson, Keller Gough, and Christopher Collins**, our improvements committee chairperson, **Mac Collins** has been able to implement a substantial repair/improvement to the original storm-damaged wall at a fraction of the earlier estimated cost. It was still a significant drain on our limited reserves, but it was needed to stabilize the corner of the beach property.

The Family Picnic was successfully held in June, and Riverside Day is coming up in September. The board feels these traditional events are a great way to bring people together and intends to continue them along with our other two social events (the Easter

Egg Hunt and the Wine and Cheese Party), **but we need volunteers to make them happen.** Please contact a board member or use the "Contact-us" form on the website if you can help. Special thanks to **Rylee Gardner** and **Pat Freeman** for really coming through for us at the Family Picnic!

As mentioned above, the wall project had an impact on our budget (we budgeted for it, discovered how much



Patrick the Peacock can be both pretty and a pain!

an outside contractor would cost, then came up with the cheaper self-help solution). We have not had a capital campaign in recent memory and are still interested in establishing a sister 501(c)(3) corporation to our current civic association which is a 501(c)(7) so that any major contributions in the future could be deductible. Of course, the IRS has strict criteria 501(c)(3)s so we are still looking for free guidance if anyone has expertise in that area.

With this issue, we begin a recurring column, Plant-Driven Gardening, dedicated to exploring how we can use native plants in designing our very own backyard national park. Neighbor and Native Landscape Professional, **Shannon Hayes**, will cover various topics with an emphasis on practical ways to protect the foundation of life on our beautiful planet. We also plan on using the 'Beach Volunteer Chat' on the Residents of Riverside NNVA Facebook Group to encourage participation in this rewarding and vital backyard effort.

Finally, I felt guilty about some curmudgeonly comments I made last quarter. I apologize if anyone was offended.

John Scott, RCCA President

Riverside Day
September 20
5 - 9 at the Beach
Wine and Cheese Social
November 1
5 - 9 at the Beach
Autumn Bonfire
Date To be Determined

Local Fall Fun
Mariners' Museum
Fall Festival Nov 1, 1-5
CNU Home Football
Trine, Sept 6, 1:00
Susquehanna, Sept 27, 1:00
Kean, Oct 18, 1:00
Montclair, Nov 1, 1:00
College of N.J. Nov 14, 1:00
Ferguson Center
Cinderella, Sept 28, 6:00
How the Grinch stole Christmas, Nov 10, 7:30

Port Warwick
Art and Sculpture Festival
October 11-12, 10-6
Hilton Village Fall Festival
Oct 28, 11:00-5:00

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About the RCCA

The Riverside Community Civic Association (RCCA) is the community association for the Riverside neighborhood, located between the Mariners' Museum, James River Country Club, and Christopher Newport University.

Mission

Our goal is to keep the residents of Riverside informed and engaged in order to strengthen our community. The RCCA is involved in several areas including: the Neighborhood Watch program, management of the common area property, beach improvements, road safety, and neighborhood relations (City, CNU, and Police).

Activities

The Board is active in planning and hosting several community events throughout the year, like the Easter Egg Hunt, Riverside Day, and the annual Family Cookout.

Membership

Our 2025 RCCA membership thru Aug. 12 is 135. Membership in the



RCCA is voluntary with a minimum \$10 donation per year. We will publish the current list of members in each newsletter to recognize our contributors and help our residents keep track of their membership status.

Support from our residents pays for community events, upkeep of the beach and common areas and neighborhood improvements. Your membership also allows you a vote at the annual meeting. The RCCA provides a community forum to discuss neighborhood issues and addresses concerns with the City, University, and other organizations.

We thank you for your support, and ask that you please help the RCCA by initiating or renewing your membership each year. Our fiscal year runs from Jan 1 thru Dec 31.

To Join

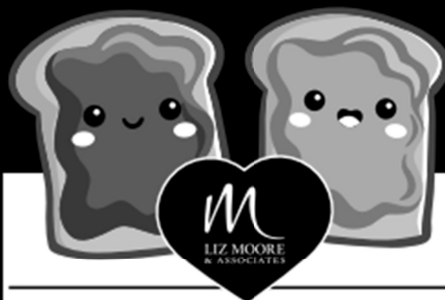
Use the preaddressed envelope found in the 1st Quarter newsletter, or mail it with your own envelope to:

Tracy Johnson
322 Central Pkwy
Newport News VA 23606.

You can also join by using Venmo on our website with the QR code here. Make sure you enter your name as you want it to appear in the Newsletter, as well as your address in the note box so that we can credit you with your donation.



Contact Us by visiting
<https://rcca-newportnews.com>
or use the board member contact info on the back of the newsletter.



8,362 JARS!

That's how much **PEANUT BUTTER** and **JELLY**

Liz Moore & Associates collected during July for local food banks.

I am beyond grateful for your contributions.

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DEBI Warren

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debiwarren@lizmoore.com

debiwarren.com

2018-2022, 2024-2025

Riverside Community

Association Board Member

Licensed in Virginia



**12 HOMES
IN RIVERSIDE
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BETWEEN
JAN & AUG
THIS YEAR**

Let me know if you want me to keep you updated on the real estate market. I can also give you *the scoop* on what's happening in Riverside. Whether you're buying or selling, I am happy to help with all your real estate needs.

LIZ MOORE & ASSOCIATES NUMBER 1 AGENT FOR 2018, 2020, & 2024 | REALTOR® OF THE YEAR 2020
REALTOR FOR 24 YEARS | EARNED TOP AWARDS AT VPAR OUTSTANDING SALESMANSHIP CLUB 24 YEARS

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Plant-Driven Gardening

After weeks of unmitigated heat and humidity, we residents of Riverside have blissfully entered the fabled early August respite of open window nights and tolerable daytime temperatures. A native Virginian once referred to this as the “sailing break,” the time to hoist one’s sails on the open estuaries of Hampton Roads, or even the Gulf Stream. We can now confidently gather our friends and family and set out for a local day trip to Hampton’s Grandview Nature Preserve, Virginia Beach’s First Landing, or a picnic stroll under the welcoming canopy of the Noland Trail. It is also a perfect time to start thinking about your fall garden.

In upcoming issues of the Riverside News, I will discuss the necessity of distilling Riverside’s various archetypal landscapes – grassland, woodland edge, meadow, forest – into garden design. For too long an ideological contest between native plant enthusiasts and traditional horticulturalists has created confusion.

Instead, this column will focus on designing plant communities which utilize both native and exotics in richly layered plantings, based on aesthetic appeal and enhanced ecological function. Formal or informal, stylized or naturalistic, designed plant commu-

nities thrive due to species interactions that evoke a coherent site-specific response. This column aims to help Riverside gardeners better understand plant behavior and plant-driven solutions to elevate their work in harmony with the natural world.

Fair Winds and Following Seas,

Shannon Hays

jshannonhays@gmail.com



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Riverside Day

Where: Riverside Beach

When: September 20, 5:00 - 9:00

Why: To Celebrate the best neighborhood in Newport News

What: Live music, games for the kids, balloon creatures by Susan, delicious food and drink, and dessert from an ice cream truck! Dinner will be catered, but feel free to bring sides or salads for the vegans in the neighborhood.

Who: All residents of Riverside. RCCA membership is not required, but membership dues pay for this event. Donations are always welcome, or for a mere \$10 you can join that night.

Parking: Available on Central Parkway with “No Parking” signs covered.

Volunteers Needed: Shopping, setup, serving and cleanup.

For event updates, check the website, and signs posted around the neighborhood. We hope to see you all there!



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Neighborhood Watch hosts National Night Out

Turnout was good for the annual National Night Out event held on August 5th at the beach. Police officers, members of the major Crimes Division, and representatives from the 911 Dispatch team were there, sharing information about local break-ins and supporting our community.

Riverside continues to have a better-than-average crime rate compared to the rest of the Central precinct and the City as a whole. One area of concern, though, continues to be vehicle break-ins. Cars left unlocked and/or those with valuables in plain sight are targets for “wandering

thieves” who come through late at night or very early in the morning. Thank you for your past vigilance and for your continued efforts to look out for your property and that of your neighbors.

The below chart shows year-to- date crime in the neighborhood. So far, 6 of the offenses have been resolved or cleared.



Country Club / Riverside 2025 YTD Offenses	
Jan 1, 2025 - July 29, 2025	
Offense	#
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	1
BURGLARY/B & E	1
DECEASED PERSON	1
FRAUD BY WIRE	2
IDENTITY THEFT	1
INDECENT EXPOSURE	1
JUVENILE - RUNAWAY	1
LEAVING THE SCENE	1
OVERDOSE	1
SIMPLE ASSAULT	4
THEFT FROM VEHICLE	2
Grand Total	16



21st ANNUAL PORT WARWICK Art & Sculpture Festival NEWPORT NEWS, VA



October 11-12, 2025

Saturday, 10am – 6pm • Sunday, 10am – 5pm | William Styron Square, Newport News

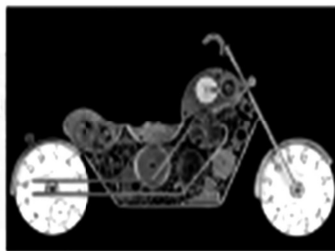
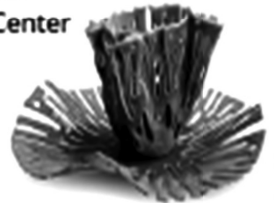


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\$500 and above - 6 Households

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\$100 to \$249 - 47 Households

2025 Members continued
\$50 to \$99 — 36

Dues \$10 to \$49—40 Households



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Riverside Beach Water Quality

It's been hot in Hampton Rodes, and with that comes the threat of swim advisories due to bacteria contamination. Huntington Beach was closed recently due to bacteria there exceeding state water quality standards.

Although just upstream from Huntington, Riverside Beach rarely has a problem. The James River Association, which monitors 34 beaches in the area, samples our water weekly from May 21st to September 1st, and posts the results on The Swim Guide. Dave Singletary notes that although the beach itself is good, the creek flowing into the river can have issues, so best to keep your dogs away from it. A link to the site can be found under References on our website, or at

<https://www.theswimguide.org/beach/7849>



Riverside's beautiful piebald deer is looking healthy. It has a genetic condition which gives it its white coat with brown spots, but also causes malformed legs and feet, scoliosis of the spine and other organ issues. About 1% of the deer population has this genetic mutation.

Beach Retaining Wall

The beach retaining wall is almost complete. Mac Collins and his crew successfully secured the wall at a fraction of the originally quoted price. And as you can see, nothing, not even a ruptured Achilles tendon, slows Mac down.

Homegrown National Park

The ongoing RCCA Native Landscaping Project at the beach is an example of a much more ambitious national program to convert a portion of suburbia's thousands of acres to small native plant gardens. The goal is to increase the diminishing population of insects that thrive on and pollinate the world of plants. These insects and seeds go on to support birds and small creatures making up the precious web of life. The "HNP" website is worth a look to see how we can make a meaningful difference while enhancing the beauty of our yards.

<https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>



Grace United Methodist Church Pastor Rev. Paulette Almond

"WE WELCOME EVERYONE- WITHOUT EXCEPTION"

1209 Country Club Road, Newport News, VA 23606

(757) 595-0017 GraceUMC1209@gmail.com

Greetings,

I'm excited to begin this fall season as Pastor of Grace UMC. Whether you're new to this community or have lived here your whole life; whether you're retired or a student, or anywhere in between we welcome you, no exceptions.

It's an exciting time to be at Grace UMC and I hope you will join us. Blessings,

Pastor Paulette Almond

Join us each Sunday for Worship at 10 AM

Beginning in September

Faith Formation: Sundays at 11am

Choir Practice: Thurs 5:30-6:15pm

Troop 27 : Monday evenings

Points of Grace Crafting Group

Men's & Women's groups

Ladies Day Out



Graceumcnn.org

Grow with Grace

August Worship Series

Summer Wonder

August 24 Blessing of Backpacks & Educators

September Worship Series

Life is Better Together

Bible Studies and Dinner Groups Coming Soon

October Worship Series

What We Can Learn From the Philippian Church

World Communion Sunday

All Saints Day



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RCCA Board Contact Information (Years as Board Member)

President (10 years)	John Scott	21 Cale Circle	(757) 599-4787
Vice President (7 years)	Scott Cone	604 Riverside Drive	(646) 853-0261.
Secretary (9 years)	Kevin Hoffman	327 Parkway Drive	(757) 596-0553
Treasurer (10 years)	Mac Collins	121 Tipton Road	(757) 871-0356
Board Member (16 years)	Tracy Johnson	322 Central Parkway	(757) 303-1100
Board Member (9 years)	Sue Peters	115 Dogwood Drive	(757) 303-2864
Board Member (7 years)	Debi Warren	100 Riverside Dr	(757) 291-3324
Board Member (3 years)	Wolfgang Leesch	504 Riverside Drive	(646) 512-0448
Board Member (2 year)	Tara Helmick	7 Sir Francis Wyatt Place	(757) 618-0540

Community Contact Information

RCCA	Contact Information	
RCCA Board	RCCA-newportnews.com	General questions, comments
Neighborhood Watch	riversideNNneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com	Kevin Hoffman
Newsletter	suelspeters@gmail.com	Sue Peters, Editor
Membership	Tracy Johnson	Mail dues to 322 Central Parkway
RCCA Email	nnvarcca@gmail.com	
Neighborhood Events Committee	RCCAeventscommittee@gmail.com	Open
Neighborhood Improvements	757-871-0356	Mac Collins
Neighborhood Communications	suelspeters@gmail.com	Sue Peters
Welcome Committee	757-291-3324	Debi Warren
Nextdoor Social Media Network	riversidenewportnews.nextdoor.com	Forum for sharing news with Riverside neighbors
Facebook Social Media Network	Riverside Community Civic Association	Open Forum available to general public for sharing news with Riverside neighbors
Facebook Social Media Network	Residents of Riverside NNVA	Closed Forum for residents only to share news with Riverside neighbors
Community		
CNU Community Relations	(757) 594-7190	Issues with CNU students
Police Non-Emergency	(757) 247-2500	Riverside is located in the Central Precinct
Central Precinct	(757) 591-4978	Use to file a report
Animal Control	(757) 595-7387	Strays, injured or dead animals
City Service Contact Center	311 or (757) 933-2311	Codes, Stormwater, Road Maint., Sewer
City Water	(757) 926-1000	Evenings or weekends, call 234-4800
Dominion Virginia Power	1-866-366-4357	Dominion Power also maintains street lights
Cox Cable	(757) 224-2222	Problems with cable TV service
Virginia Natural Gas	1-877-572-3342	Gas leak or service questions