

RIVERSIDE NEWS



Message from the President

1st Quarter 2023

Greetings residents of already-blooming Riverside. Tax and mulch season is upon us once again!

The Annual Meeting of Members occurred on Thursday January 5th. A Zoom option was available but you had to come to the fine facility graciously offered by City Life Church to enjoy the refreshments. Our appointed "inspector" (volunteer Katherine Scott) counted proxies, registered members on-line and in-person and was prepared to tally votes had a quorum been achieved. Unfortunately, a quorum was not met so the only requirement of the Annual Meeting, electing Board Members, was deferred to the Board for action after the Community Forum.

The Community Forum is the annual opportunity for residents to hear from City and University representatives and to address any concerns they may have. Once again, we were fortunate to have officials from CNU, NNPd, NN Engineering, NN Solid Waste, NN Codes and the City Manager's Office. Each representative spoke to their area of expertise and took questions from the audience. As I said last year, the neighborhood is very fortunate to have such strong support from these public officials and I hope next year's attendance proves worthy of the commitment they make to us. Someone remarked during the meeting about elected official not being in attendance. Due to several years of poor attendance by our neighbors at the meeting, I chose to not invite them this year but hope to ask them back next year.

After the Community Forum, the Board held a special meeting to re-appoint the current 10 members of the board (including December appointee Phil Tofts after the departure of our rock star Welcome Committee chair, Debi Warren). We have since had a resignation and two new appointments so there is still one vacancy that the board intends to fill during upcoming meetings. Special thanks to McKim Williams for his years of service and special welcome to new appointees

Tara Helmick, and Liz Fitzpatrick.

I give a lot of credit to residents of Riverside for placing themselves in the best overall neighborhood on the Peninsula. We all picked the best location (no other location can say its immediate neighbors are a hospital, museum, golf course, river, university and of course, the Subway Station). I think in general we prefer to not be an HOA (which certainly wouldn't allow me to keep our boat in the driveway). HOAs are notorious for their draconian measures to preserve property values by enforcing inane rules. However, as good neighbors we can all chose to abide by laws that are designed for health, safety and a bit of property value preservation. Please remember we could have a lot of citations issued if codes actually enforced rules about trailers and boats on the street or on non-paved areas of front yards or for inoperable vehicles in driveways or grass (operational vehicles are registered and inspected). I hate to sound like one of those HOA ninnies, but please take a look around and see if you could help beautify the neighborhood by simply removing a once loved but now liability from your property. Contact a board member for assistance.

Finally, thank you for your generous financial support. We have a budget process, and we try to project expenses and donations and then stick to it. If unplanned expenses occur we try to balance with savings elsewhere. Recent past large projects were a new fence the length of the beach property, new security lighting and a complete re-surfacing of the deck to go with our ongoing native planting project and of course, our social event budget. A look where the money went in 2022 can be found on page 5. Future projects may include work on the creek channel and some form of a new storage shed and shower area. Please let us know what you would like to see done with the resources you so generously donate.

John Scott, RCCA President

Spring Clean-up

March 25

9-12 at Beach

Easter Egg Hunt

April 1st

10-11 at Beach

Local Events

Ferguson Center:

Peking Acrobats

March 12

Dragons & Mythical Beasts

April 1

Temptations & Four Tops

April 13

Legally Blond

April 27

Book of Mormon

May 9-10

CNU

Graduation May 13

Spring Sports: Go watch some Tennis, Soccer, Soft ball, Field Hockey, Baseball, Lacrosse or Track

Port Warwick

Jazz on the Square

Sundays in April 3-6

Hilton Village

Spring Festival April 29
3:00-9:00

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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 RCCA membership was 234 in 2022. 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

You can join the RCCA by using the preaddressed envelope found in the newsletter and mail it to our Membership Coordinator, Tracy Johnson. 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 information found on the back of the newsletter.



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Beach Update

The Riverside Community Beach has a rich history of volunteers rising to the occasion to make required repairs and improvements. Sometimes we must use our members' monetary contributions to contract out these services such as the new fence installed last year along the northern property line. Examples of significant totally volunteer projects include the extensive restoration of the deck by a crew of DIY wood workers from around the neighborhood and the heavy-duty creek bridge designed and supervised by our former RCCA president Dave Peck.

We now need to replace the rotting wooden barrier, downstream from the bridge, that prevents sand from blowing and washing into Wolf's Run. Our current concept entails building a reenforced rock and concrete barrier as a more permanent and attractive alternative similar to the jetty wall designed by our own Wolf Elber decades ago.

Design and construction are is no small effort but very doable by volunteers at significant savings to the RCCA. We have a proven design by one of our do-it-yourself neighbors who has volunteered to supervise the project so all we need is volunteers to help with the labor. If you would like to help, text **Mac Collins at 757-871-0356** and you will receive text updates as the effort moves forward.

Easter Egg Hunt

On April 1st, the RCCA invites you to attend our annual Easter Egg hunt. This family event will start at 10:00 at the beach. Each year, Riverside children attend and quickly recover the eggs carefully hidden by the Easter Bunny (and his helpers). Please bring the family to enjoy the fun! This event is open to all Riverside residents and their guests. There will be a supervised egg hunt for children (age 12 and under), entertainment, and treats. A special area for age 4 and under will be set up so the younger kids can participate. In the case of inclement weather, this event will be moved to the Saturday before Easter, April 8th.



We need your help to purchase candy and prizes, and filling and hide eggs. CNU students living in Riverside are encouraged to volunteer to help and receive credit for community service. Please contact any board member, whose contact information can be found on the last page of newsletter, if you can help. Hope to see you there!



Chuck Worley
President



Chase Worley
Vice President
Riverside Resident

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Beach Native Planting Update

Spring is fast approaching with blossoms (and of course “the weeds”) already emerging in response to the uncommonly warm winter days. You may have noticed we are in no hurry to “clean up” the planted areas at the beach. This is a key part of the plan to create a nature friendly space that nurtures a wide variety of key insects to pollinate our native flowers and feed birds. The currently popular by-line “leave the leaves” is part of a movement based on the well-established fact that beneficial insects need what we sometimes think of as “yard waste” as necessary habitat to thrive. This includes the tops of native plants as they become the winter home of key insects and then return to the earth to complete the cycle. Lawns and purely ornamental plants, though green and pretty, are virtually sterile and sometimes detrimental when it comes to supporting mother nature if overfertilized and sprayed with herbicide. For example, the very common evergreen Nandina Domestica red berry bushes can be poisonous to birds and do not support any of our insect species since they are from Asia like many of our ornamentals.

Imagine how much we could support mother nature by planting even just part of our yards with fruitful natives as we buy new plants to replace older ones. The perfect time to plant is April/May. Soon there will be several native plant sales sponsored locally by the Virginia Native Plant Society at the Mariners Museum and Virginia Living Museum. We will post these and other native plant opportunities on the Residents of Riverside Facebook page as the dates become established. It could be a great family project and educational for the kids.

These websites are a great place to learn more about the “grow native movement” and how to get started:

- <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>
- <https://vnps.org/native-plant-nursery-list/>
- <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/native-plants-finder>

Live versions of these links and this article can be found on our website and the Residents of Riverside Facebook page.

As always, if you would like to assist with our ongoing Native Plant Landscape Project text me at 757-871-0356.

Mac Collins

Neighborhood Watch

After a meeting with police department officials and other members of the Newport News Neighborhood Watch Coalition, it is clear that our neighborhood has one of the lowest crime rates in the City. That’s likely because we are looking out for each other, we have well-lighted streets, and we are taking steps to make ourselves less susceptible to criminal activity. You have likely seen numerous posts about car break-ins in the NextDoor app. Perhaps this is uncommon here because we are continuing to take the measures necessary to make our vehicles less attractive, like locking them and not leaving valuable items in view.

Mentioning NextDoor reminds me that there are also numerous posts about activity and conditions within a neighborhood that bother the poster. Rather than post about neighborhood issues on NextDoor, we should utilize the City’s 311 system. I have used it several times and the responses have been prompt and effective. Give it a try! <https://www.nnva.gov//311/Contact-Center>

Kevin Hoffmann



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2022 RCCA Income and Expense	
	2022
Revenue	Actual
Newsletter Advertising	4,225
Dues/Donations	20,870
Total Revenue	25,095
Expense	
Beach upkeep/repairs	4,123
Beach projects	2,762
Common Area Work	374
Easter Egg hunt	83
Family Cookout	1,186
Utilities	3,178
Wine & Cheese	785
Riverside Day	3,443
D & O Insurance	812
Social Media	174
Newsletter	3,903
Welcome Program	1,405
Office Expenses/Taxes	263
National Night Out	115
Total Expense	22,605
Contribution to General Fund	2,490
General Fund Balance	27,792

Spring Clean-up and Median Maintenance

The RCCA is organizing a cleanup effort on **Saturday, March 25th** for the neighborhood. The beach property and other areas of Riverside can always benefit from our attention, especially in the spring. Volunteers are needed to help clear brush and leaves, weed plant beds and remove trash in preparation for the Easter Egg hunt the next weekend. Please meet at the beach property at 9:00 and bring gloves and garden tools (rake, loppers, etc.). The efforts should take a few hours and the RCCA will provide lunch for the volunteers at noon.

If you know of any other areas that need attention or would like to adopt an area and maintain it for the benefit of the community, please contact the Improvements Committee chair, Mac Collins, or a member of the board. Contact information is on the back of the RCCA newsletters.

On another neighborhood housekeeping note, we have had some complaints about waste being dumped on medians and cul-de-sacs. The City ordinance requires that solid waste generated from the property be placed such that it abuts the property. The use of medians, vacant property, or your neighbor's property is prohibited. The requirement to place the waste generated from your property on or abutting the property for collection helps the City identify ownership. Waste that is placed on vacant lots or medians is considered illegal dumping and can be subject to criminal penalties and fines up to \$2,500. Make sure any yard service people working for you are aware of where to properly place your vegetative waste. If unsure, call 311 for assistance.

Thank you for your help in keeping Riverside beautiful!

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Riverside New Neighbors

Ken and Shayne Boney moved from San Diego to be closer to their grandchildren. They rented in Hidenwood for the last year and a half looking for just the right house. They loved Riverside, so when they saw the house at 5 Sir Francis Wyatt Place come up for sale, they were quick to make an offer. Ken and Shayne met at church as teenagers and have been together ever since. Both Ken and Shayne are retired. Ken used to work as a senior sales consultant for a security and communications company and Shayne was a laboratory analyst for an environmental company. They



have three children. Mathew is a manager for Costco in San Diego. He and his spouse Ely have one son, Ethan (5). Jennifer and her spouse own a demolition and remediation company in the area and are parents to their amazing children Oliver (2) and August (1). Finally, Listel owned a successful coffee cart in San Diego, but moved to Virginia and is now nanny to her nephews Oliver and August. Like her mom and dad, she loves living here and has made many friends in the pickle ball communittee. Also like mom and dad, she misses her step children Averi, Violet and Christian, who are still in San Diego. Ken and Shayne are very active in their church. Ken picks up food from the food bank and other donors, and helps with its distribution at All Generations Church. He is also a mentor at the Peninsula Rescue Mission. They love camping, hiking, kayaking, gardening, and going to the gym. Shayne would like to try out some new arts and crafts projects, play some golf again, and maybe tryout pickle ball. Ken is hoping to get a boat, start fishing again, and maybe try out some hunting. They have loved getting to know their new neighbors. Say hi to them if you see them out and about in the neighborhood!

Please welcome **Susan and Phil Roy** to Riverside. They moved from Townsend Massachusetts in August to be close to their sons. First living with their youngest son Max, already a resident on Mistletoe, they waited until 207 Mistletoe went up for sale and grabbed it.

Michael Philip Roy (Philip) grew up in Alabama and was stationed with the Navy in Virginia Beach where he met Susan. She was from Massachusetts and working as a nurse at Sentara Norfolk General and CHKD. They

married, and lived in Atlanta, Connecticut, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Massachusetts. They have two sons, Sam, who works in HVAC, and Max, who was the first to move south after getting a job at the shipyard, then moved over to Jefferson Labs a couple of years ago. Soon Sam joined Max in Virginia, and the nightmare 12-14 hours of holiday traveling began for Susan and Phil. It only took 4 years of Susan's hounding for Phil to find a job closer to the boys. He was offered a Director of Operations position with Mirion in Norfolk, so he moved in July, and Susan followed in August. She is an RN and currently not working or looking for employment. They have a 9-month-old Multi-poo puppy named Passepartout who is chipped, neutered, and weighs a whopping 9 pounds. Once they are settled and have him better trained, she will look for some very, very part-time employment.

So, after 32 years, it feels like they have come full circle! They love being close to the boys and the fact that they have left the cold and snowy winters behind for the more temperate climate of Virginia. They look forward to getting to know more of their neighbors and enjoying life as new RCCA residents.



Susan wrote a very nice thank you for the welcome basket left by our Welcoming committee. She writes:

"Thank you for the very lovely welcome basket. It is the first I have ever received, and Phil and I have lived up and down the east coast from Massachusetts to Louisiana. I absolutely appreciate the "It's a Wonderful Life" theme. The beachy color theme speaks right to my taste. It was lovely meeting the welcome committee and hope to possibly join your merry little group in the future!"

Our new Welcome Committee chair, Phil Tofts may be in touch!

Chase Worley & Emily Thaw moved into 22 Sir Francis Wyatt Place in November. Having both gone to CNU, they were very familiar with Riverside and loved the area. The biggest draw however was being close to the James River Country Club, where Chase gets to enjoy fine tuning his golf game. He grew up in York County, where he attended Hampton Roads Academy. Chase and his father own Worley's Home Services, which does heating, cooling, plumbing, electrical, and crawl space encapsulations. Look for their ad on page 3 of the newsletter. Emily is current finishing up her DDS in Dental School at the University of Maryland. They have a dog who's a Lab/ Shepard mix, named Teller, and love hanging out with family & friends, golfing, and riding horses. Welcome to Riverside Chase and Emily!



When it comes to *home renovations*, there are plenty of options out there.

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- Making repairs
- Doing energy updates
- Landscaping
- or*
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In Memory of Diane Fleming

The RCCA board and Welcome Committee would like to recognize Diane Fleming for her service to



our community. Diane only lived in Riverside for a couple of years before her death, but in that time, she used her talents as a member of the Welcome Committee to help make new residents feel right at home in their new community. Thank

you Diane for being such a good neighbor! You are most definitely missed.

2023 Members Dues thru Feb 22

\$500 and above (1 Member)

\$250 to \$499 (4 members)

\$100 to \$249 (7 members)

\$50 to \$99 (5 members)

\$10 to \$49 (10 members)

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Pastor Pop in's are Thursday 4:30-5:30PM

CONNECT & SERVE- UPCOMING

- 03/05 One City Marathon —03/19 UMCOR SUNDAY
- 03/08 7:15PM Lent Study —04/07 Good Friday Service
- 03/18 Food Truck Saturday —04/09 Easter Sunday
- 4/15 Welcome to the Big Top, Sibling Salute, ifightlikeseth.org

- Sunday school has resumed following morning service.
Adult, youth and Children's classes
- Lenten Study classes held 2/22-3/29 at 7:15 PM

Magrey deVega [Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross](#)

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to graceumc1209@gmail.com

Food collection Supports THRIVE, www.thrivepeninsula.org/

Donate non-expired food that would be useful in providing a nourishing meal to children and adults. The current food needs for THRIVE include canned vegetables, jelly, instant pudding mix, peanut butter, rice, cereal, and crackers.

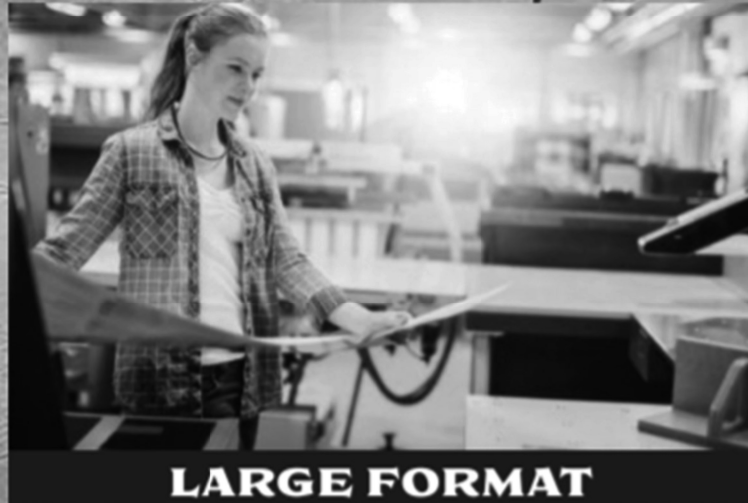


Sunday Worship @10 AM

In-person & Masks are optional at this time. Covid Level is currently LOW.



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RCCA Board Contact Information (Years as Board Member)

President (8 years)	John Scott	21 Cale Circle	(757) 599-4787
Vice President (5 years)	Scott Cone	604 Riverside Drive	(646) 853-0261.
Secretary (7 years)	Kevin Hoffman	327 Parkway Drive	(757) 596-0553
Treasurer (8 years)	Mac Collins	121 Tipton Road	(757) 871-0356
Board Member (31 years)	Christine Doberneck	324 Central Parkway	(757) 596-5227
Board Member (14 years)	Tracy Johnson	322 Central Parkway	(757) 303-1100
Board Member (1 years)	Wolfgang Leesch	504 Riverside Drive	(646) 512-0448
Board Member (7 years)	Sue Peters	115 Dogwood Drive	(757) 867-7520
Board Member (0 years)	Phil Tofts	25 Sir Francis Wyatt Place	(757) 651-3407
Board Member (0 years)	Tara Helmick	7 Sir Francis Wyatt Place	(757) 618-0540
Board Member (0 years)	Liz Fitzpatrick	Mistletoe Drive	(626) 748-6260

Community Contact Information

RCCA	Contact Information	
RCCA Board	RCCA-newportnews.com	General questions, comments
Neighborhood Watch	riversideNNneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com	Kevin Hoffman
Newsletter		Sue Peters, Editor
RCCA Email Information/Updates		Carl Brakman maintains email notification list
Neighborhood Events Committee		Open
Neighborhood Improvements		Mac Collins
Neighborhood Communications		Sue Peters
Welcome Committee		Phil Tofts
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