



RIVERSIDE NEWS

Message from the President

2nd Quarter 2022

Hello Riverside Crew! I hope this finds you healthy as we continue to navigate through this pandemic that appears to be endemic.

Thank you to the small but productive team of volunteers for the clean-up day in preparation for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The weather for the hunt was perfect and although the 880 eggs were found pretty quickly, many families lingered for photos with the Easter Bunny and to enjoy being outside and socializing. Special thanks to the Dobernecks and Beth Scott for stuffing the eggs and to those who helped hide them.

The hunt was the first social event since our Events chairman "retired" by moving to the next neighborhood north of us! Please consider joining the Events committee as we endeavor to put on our signature social events each year.

Speaking of which, the Family Picnic is scheduled for Saturday the 18th of June at 5pm. See the article below for details.

Last newsletter we presented a new Venmo option for paying dues. With so many younger families in the neighborhood who have embraced this technology, we figured we should start offering this option. So far, 12 households have taken advantage of this method of payment, with the very first whippersnapper to use it being 67 years old! Membership compared to the same date last year is up by 21 and dues are up \$2,800. We are hopeful this trend will continue, and it is not just a reflection of people

paying their dues earlier than last year!

The Board takes the stewardship of our monetary resources very seriously. We generally address one or two capital projects in our budget and this year we identified the need to replace the chain link fence on the northern boundary of the beach property. The work was completed in April. Nothing fancy but a good improvement.

If you paid close attention to your Ring Doorbell, you may have noticed the distribution of the last newsletter was executed by a different group than the past few years. It was unseasonable warm...well that is all I am going to say about what may have been on your Ring. We carefully tracked the hours required to prep and deliver the newsletter to make sure we are offering fair compensation for any future groups. Please let us know if your club, team, or organization would like to distribute an upcoming newsletter. We continue to resist the urge to go fully digital or to use the USPS at the risk of getting lost in the flood of spam and junk mail.

Finally, once again it is graduation season but unlike 2020 and 2021, the ceremonies and parties will be closer to normal. Thank you to everyone who loves, supports, or nurtures someone reaching that milestone and to the graduates, congratulations and best wishes in your future endeavors!

John Scott, RCCA President

Riverside Events

Family Picnic

Sat June 18

5:00—8:00 at Beach

National Night Out

Aug 2 6—7:30 at Beach

Local Summer Fun

Hilton Art Walk

June 4, 11-5

Mariners' Museum

Sips and Trips
Saturday, June 18 6:30

Lionsbridge FC Soccer

Todd Stadium 7:00
6/4, 6/8, 7/3, 7/6, 7/9, 7/16

Port Warwick Concerts

Wednesdays, 6-9 June—Aug

Ferguson Center

Weird Al Yancovic 8/9 7:30

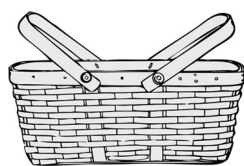
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It's a Picnic!

Come celebrate the start of summer and enjoy our beautiful beach with fun for the whole family at RCCA's **Family Picnic, June 18th from 5:00—8:00 at the beach.**

DJ John Crain will keep the music rolling, with games and a few more surprises to keep the whole family happy. RCCA will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, chips, and



dessert. As are all RCCA's events, this is a free event for Riverside residents, but donations are always welcome. Extra parking will be available street side on Central Parkway. This is a weather dependent event so check out our social media pages in the case of inclement weather. Please contact any board member if you are able to help.

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 is 121 thru May 16th. 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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Earth Day Spring Planting

Riverside celebrated Earth Day with another large planting of native plants. We had eight volunteers turn out on Friday and Saturday to assist with this year's spring plantings. Overall, we planted close to 900 native plants as 6-inch landscape plugs. Colored flags were used as guides for planting the ten different species of sedges, grasses and flowering perennials adapted for the soggy conditions along the creek. We will keep the colored flags in place to identify these aspiring little landscape plugs as we enter the weeding/watering phase now underway.



On the corner lot near the wastewater pump station, more native shrubs were added. These include wax myrtle and winterberry, along with switch grass, burr sedges and swamp milkweed.



We would like to thank our loyal RCCA volunteers for putting in the labor to get it all done. They are **Pete McIntire, July King, Julie Fiedler, Anette Brinkley and Lyn Oglesby** (who are RCCA members who simply love the natural beauty of our beach property), **Meegan Wallace** (our resident native plants expert), **Suzanne Collins** (Master Naturalist who designed and planted the corner lot layout), and **Dave Harrad** (CNU graduate who came back to help again this year).

We are hoping to persuade folks in the neighborhood to plant more native plants. This helps support the diminishing population of beneficial insects that are the foundation of a healthy and thriving ecosystem. We would be happy to help with suggestions or advice to that end.

There will likely be another planting in the fall, so along with the ongoing weeding there is still plenty to do. Please consider joining the RCCA Native Plant Landscape Team for some very rewarding work.

Finally, the beach property is blooming and beautiful. Come down and enjoy!
Mac Collins. 757-871-0356



CNU Relations

The semi-annual CNU Relations Committee met in March to discuss any issues between the college and surrounding neighborhoods. Happily, no major incidents were reported.

John Scott represented the neighborhood, as did a new neighbor and member of the committee, Nathan Kaw-uh. Nathan is a recent graduate of CNU and is now a homeowner in Riverside, so is well positioned to work with CNU on any concerns that arise.

The Police were asked about the legality of smoking marijuana at our beach. The answer was that it is still illegal. Even though the beach is RCCA's private property, it is considered a public space, which makes it prohibited under current Virginia law.

The next meeting will be scheduled during the upcoming fall semester. To report any issues you may be having, you can use the Contact Us form on Riverside's website.

HELP WANTED

The RCCA is looking for someone to deliver our quarterly Newsletter. If you or your group are interested, contact Sue Peters @ 757-303-2864

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Installation of NN Waterworks Smart Meters

Newport News Water Works is in the process of replacing all the water meters in the city with new Smart Meters. These meters eliminate the need for meter readers by transmitting the usage data via a radio signal. Beginning in March of 2021, over 4,000 meters a month are being replaced. A majority of Riverside has been completed. Areas bounded by Dogwood and Country Club are scheduled to be completed in the next few months. The Lakeside section has yet to be scheduled for the swap.

I wanted to make a handy-dandy guide on how to easily turn your water on and off with the new meters, but while doing research I became afraid I might run afoul of some rules or even laws! So instead, I will just describe my recent experience and let you decide what to do.

The technology is impressive. Besides the labor cost savings, the new meters can quickly recognize leaks and even intentional contamination. It is safer for Waterworks staff and for homeowners who don't have to have meter readers (real or criminal imposters) enter their property. Billing is more accurate because it can be done frequently without having to estimate readings (which is very common in some municipalities). One of the FAQs does caution that your bill might go up because old meters are notoriously "slow" in that they don't catch all the water flowing by.

If you are like me, when doing plumbing around the house instead of risking a leak on the old valves under a faucet or behind a toilet, I would go outside and secure the main valve next to the meter using the long T-shaped tool that is readily purchased at any hardware store. If you read the paperwork that came with your new Smart Meter or looked on the city Waterworks website, you know that you have been instructed that "in the case of an emergency, it is important to know the location of the water shut-off valve for your whole home. If you don't know where your valve is, you may want to consult with a plumber." Well, I know mine is in the pantry and I know it hasn't budged in at least 23 years.

The website also says the "meters are secured to allow the lighter weight composite lids to stay securely in place. We do not want a situation when non-secured meter lids float off during heavy rain and create a hazard for people and animals who could accidentally step into the opened meter box." To me, this all added up to say I can't turn the water off at the street anymore and if I want to still have that capability, I need to have a plumber install a new valve in the pantry.

A bit frustrated that I needed to call a plumber to fix the whole house cut off in the pantry, I decided to have him put in a faucet since he was making the service call anyway. Very concerned about coordinating the plumber's arrival with the securing of water and following the procedures on the city's website, I called to ask how quickly they can turn water off and on since I had found on a different part of the Waterworks website: "waterworks representative will be able to remotely turn off your water within a minute and

when you are ready, remotely turn your water back on." The recording said to request the service via email or wait on the line. I actually spoke with two Waterworks people and neither made it sound quite as simple as that statement but since my plumber hadn't arrived, I wasn't able to test it. I now believe their response to an email would have been almost immediate. Regardless, given a burst pipe, almost immediate could feel like forever, so I began to think the plumber fixing my pantry cut-off was a good idea.

When my plumber arrived, he wasn't concerned about having to wait for the city because he has a special tool to open the new lid and then use the same T shaped tool as before. So just like that, all I needed to do was buy the \$10 wrench and control my water as before at the meter. I did ask the plumber for an estimate for a new whole house valve, and he said around \$200-300 depending if he had to cut into a wall or go under the house.

I am left with these questions: Note: Just before press time, Water Works provided the following answers in bold.

1.If it is so fast and easy to secure the water remotely, why do the instructions mention the interior whole house valve?



A new Smart Reader with access wrench.



Smart Meters—Continued

For a number of reasons, Waterworks has always encouraged an interior, whole house cut off valve. Speed, convenience and control are but a few.

2. If the meter box is secure, why can my plumber get to it? **The old meter tops were metal. To secure the new plastic tops, they had to be fastened down to prevent them from getting knocked off or floating away.**

3. If I can order the special pentagon shaped wrench on Amazon and remove the lid, am I illegally tampering with the meter? **No. While not encouraged, you may access the meter with a 5 sided wrench and turn the valve off with the same T-wrench used before.**

4. And finally, how often do Waterworks personnel have to come to my meter box to replace a battery that is strong enough to continuously scan the airwaves for cut-off signals and be able to mechanically throw a valve mechanism? **The battery life has a**



Areas bounded by Dogwood and Country Club, as well as Lakeside are awaiting new Smart Readers

10 year warrantee. Sensors will note when it is getting low, and Waterworks will come and replace it.

Neighborhood Watch

Riverside continues to enjoy a much lower crime rate than the rest of the Central area of Newport News and the City as a whole. Citywide crime stats are available on the Newport News Police Department website and are updated daily. They reflect a year-to-date comparison with last year so we can see how Newport News is doing.

For the city as a whole, violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) overall are down roughly 9 percent from last year primarily because aggravated assaults (the largest number of violent crimes) are down. Property crimes (burglary, larceny, and vehicle theft) are up 18 percent due mostly to a significant increase in larcenies. In the Central area of the City, violent crimes are up more than 26 percent and property crimes are up nearly 37 percent.

In Riverside, however, the crime stats provided by the City reflect very few criminal activities. I was provided a detailed list of "calls for service" that are almost benign in comparison. The report has been posted to the Residents of Riverside NNVA Facebook page and the Riverside



Community Civic Association at <https://rcca-newportnews.com>.

NNPD National Night Out will be held this year on Aug 2nd. Please join Riverside Neighborhood Watch and the RCCA at Riverside Beach for a chance to meet and speak with our NNPD officers and local officials. They are scheduled to arrive at 6:30 p.m., but as they visit so many groups, the time could vary slightly. We'll serve BBQ and sides from Smoke along with soft drinks and dessert.

We should continue to look out for our neighbors. While the Nextdoor app is beneficial in sharing information, it is often difficult to filter out the "noise" and find just critical neighborhood watch-type information. As the police department continues to tell us, if you see something, say something. Use the Police non-emergency number (757-247-2500) to report incidents. Reporting incidents can help identify a trend. If a report is made that "this is the 4th time this has happened," but it's the 1st report, then that essentially counts as one incident. Thanks for your continued vigilance! - Kevin

Welcome New Neighbors!

Angie Weatherhead, Daniel Waff and their 2 girls **Betsy (4) and Petra (8 months)** moved to Woodland Drive this March. Daniel is a Hampton Roads Native, having lived in Hampton most of his life. Angie moved to the area from Western Michigan for a teaching job in 2009.

Angie has a bachelors from Grand Valley State University and a masters from ODU. She moved to Newport News to teach at Warwick High School. Since then, she has transitioned to an engineering career and is currently in the engineering department at Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD).

Daniel, who has a bachelor's degree from CNU and a masters from William and Mary, has worked for Ferguson Enterprises for over 15 years. He started during his college days at CNU and is currently in finance.

For fun they both enjoy playing tennis, collecting, drinking wine, and getting out to hike when possible. Daniel also enjoys brewing beer, snowboarding, and hunting, while Angie likes to run and do yoga. Betsy and Petra are both enrolled in music class, which they love! Betsy will be starting tennis this summer.

Welcome to Riverside Daniel, Angie, Betsy and Petra!



he loves. Jeffery just bought a Kayak, and enjoys walking, hiking, riding his motorcycle, playing guitar and dogs. His golden retriever Dexter sadly passed away in January. But what he loves most are his kids and grandkids. Alexandra and her husband Brian Owens live in Richmond with their three children Jaden(16), Adrien(10) and Nehemiah(2). Cory and his wife Jordan are both Music teachers in Newport News and have a 6-mo old golden retriever puppy named Haru, which is Japanese for "spring." Joshua and his wife Abby have Gideon(1), and live in Chesapeake. Welcome to Riverside, Jeffery. Enjoy that Kayak!

Please join the RCCA in welcoming **Diego Diaz Infante Daley and Lauren Diaz Infante**, who recently moved to Mimosa Drive. They were attracted to Riverside because it is nice, quiet, and feels like a safe place to live. They enjoy being able to go on walks and bike rides in the neighborhood. Lauren reports that Riverside has been very welcoming, and they are so happy to have settled here!

Diego's mom is originally from Michigan but moved to Mexico when she married his dad. He was born and raised in Leon, Mexico and moved to the US six years ago to work as a gym trainer at Coastal Strength and Fitness gym, where he met his wife, Lauren. He is also Head of Production for Lolly's Creamery in Virginia Beach. Lauren was born in Colorado and moved to Virginia when only 6 months old. She has lived in Newport News ever since and is a Senior Customer Success Specialist at Smithfield Foods in Suffolk. Diego enjoys walking, rock climbing, hiking, and of course working out! Lauren enjoys reading, thrifting, rock climbing, and hiking. Once they get a fence up in their back yard, they'll be looking to grow their family with a new dog!



Jeffery Anderson moved from Culpeper, VA to Central Parkway in December. Attracted by Riverside's beauty and closeness to his kids and grandkids, he was very excited to find a house here. Jeffery retired in December after 30 years as an Air Traffic Controller, having worked both in New York and Washington DC. Living in Culpeper, he and his wife raised three children, Alexandra, Cory, and Joshua. They were embracing grandparenthood when his wife sadly passed from cancer last May.

Now that he is retired, he has more time to do what

Easter Fun!



RIVERSIDE | 6-MONTH REAL ESTATE REVIEW

Active Listings

ADDRESS	LIST DATE	BED	BATH	SQ.FT.	YEAR BUILT	WATERFRONT	LIST PRICE
295 Moores Ln	5/10/2022	3	1.5	1,511	1952	N	\$265,000
117 Parkway Dr	2/11/2022	3	2	3,270	1961	N	\$689,900
500 Fiveaside Dr	5/6/2022	4	3	3,100	1951	N	\$799,000

Under Contract

ADDRESS	LIST DATE	BED	BATH	SQ.FT.	YEAR BUILT	WATERFRONT	LIST PRICE
13 Briar Patch Pl	4/8/2022	4	2.5	1,936	1960	N	\$279,900
25 Paddock Dr	4/13/2022	4	1.5	1,867	1962	N	\$310,000
310 Longwood Dr	4/8/2022	4	2	1,975	1955	N	\$420,000
25 Sir Francis Wyatt Pl	4/1/2022	3	2	1,925	1951	N	\$425,000

Sold

ADDRESS	LIST DATE	SOLD DATE	BED	BATH	SQ.FT.	YEAR BUILT	WATERFRONT	SOLD PRICE
122 Shoe Ln	3/8/2022	3/23/2022	2	1	1,000	1952	N	\$240,000
1201 Roberts Rd	1/7/2022	2/17/2022	3	1	1,700	1955	N	\$233,500
21 Sunset Rd	4/8/2022	5/12/2022	3	3	1,349	1955	N	\$280,000
127 Longwood Dr	10/28/2021	12/22/2021	3	2	1,732	1956	N	\$300,000
306 Mimosa Dr	11/11/2021	2/18/2022	4	2	1,972	1955	N	\$309,900
304 Mimosa Dr Unit A	2/11/2022	3/31/2022	4	2	1,900	1955	N	\$331,000
126 Mistletoe Dr	11/2/2021	12/14/2021	3	2.5	2,029	1956	N	\$345,000
205 Mistletoe Dr	2/10/2022	3/18/2022	3	2	2,000	1958	N	\$385,000
211 Dogwood Dr	11/21/2021	1/6/2022	3	2	2,120	1958	N	\$402,500
203 Central Pk	2/4/2022	3/29/2022	3	2.5	2,770	1955	N	\$425,000
304 Woodland Dr	1/13/2022	3/25/2022	4	3	2,780	1976	N	\$475,000
109 Central Pk	4/16/2021	11/19/2021	4	2 Full/2 HaF	4,208	1978	N	\$555,000
128 Woodland Dr	2/11/2022	4/22/2022	4	4.5	4,250	1973	N	\$590,000
32 Spotswood Ln	10/12/2021	11/30/2021	3	3.5	3,348	1956	Y	\$620,000
111 Dogwood Dr	11/15/2021	12/27/2021	4	2 Full/2 HaF	4,037	1971	N	\$740,000
1200 Mallicote Ln	4/21/2021	2/9/2022	5	3.5	3,861	1966	N	\$650,000
310 Fiveaside Dr	5/6/2021	12/16/2021	5	2.5	3,162	1975	N	\$760,000
803 Fiveaside Dr	11/1/2021	12/17/2021	5	3 Full/2 HaF	2,578	1938	Y	\$850,000

Thank you!

A big shout out to all those who donated to the food drive for Virginia Peninsula Foodbank.



DEBI Warren

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Enjoy these winter events. See GUMC's Facebook Page & weekly emails for info.

Email graceumc1209@gmail.com to be added to our E-newsletter list.

Ash Wednesday is March 2- Lent 2022 begins next week as we observe Ash Wednesday in 2 new ways:

"Ashes at home" or "Dust & Ashes Walkthrough"

Contact the church office for more details.

Join us for:

- Palm Sunday service Sunday April 10, 2022
- Holy Week service- Friday April 15, 2022
- Easter Sunday service-Sunday April 17, 2022
- Youth Sunday service -Sunday April 24, 2022

Sunday Worship @10 AM

In-person &  LIVE

Masks encouraged not required for vaccinated people when Covid metrics are favorable.

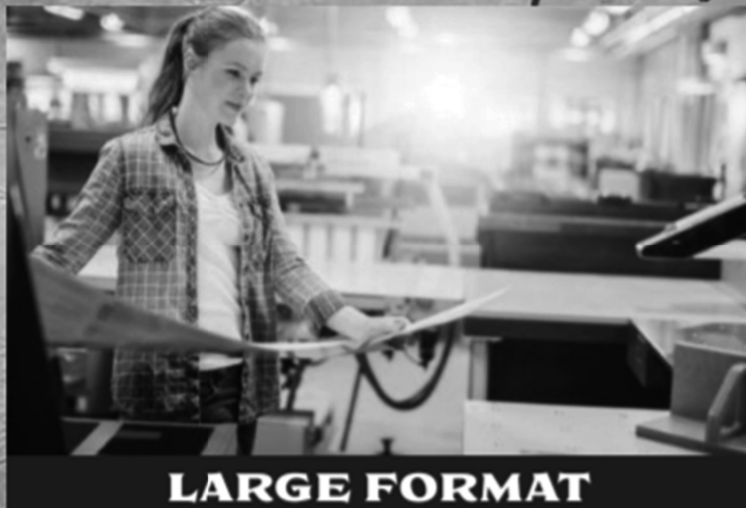
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RCCA Board Contact Information (Years as Board Member)

President (7 years)	John Scott	21 Cale Circle	(757) 599-4787
Vice President (4 years)	Scott Cone	604 Riverside Drive	(646) 853-0261.
Secretary (6 years)	Kevin Hoffman	327 Parkway Drive	(757) 596-0553
Treasurer (7 years)	Mac Collins	121 Tipton Road	(757) 871-0356
Board Member (30 years)	Christine Doberneck	324 Central Parkway	(757) 596-5227
Board Member (13 years)	Tracy Johnson	322 Central Parkway	(757) 303-1100
Board Member (0 years)	Wolfgang Leesch	504 Riverside Drive	
Board Member (6 years)	Sue Peters	115 Dogwood Drive	(757) 867-7520
Board Member (4 years)	Debi Warren	100 Riverside Drive	(757)-291-3324
Board Member (14 years)	Mac Williams	205 Museum Parkway	(757) 291-0531

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		
Neighborhood Improvements		Mac Collins
Neighborhood Communications		Sue Peters, chair
Nextdoor Social Media Network	riversidenewportnews.nextdoor.com	Forum for sharing news with Riverside neighbors
Facebook Social Media Network	Riverside Community Civic Association	Forum 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
Welcome Committee		Debi Warren, chair
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