



RIVERSIDE NEWS

Message from the President

3rd Quarter 2022

Greetings from southern Utah! No, we haven't decided to move, my daughter just wanted to see something "completely different from Newport News" for vacation. So, we are staying in an Airbnb just outside of Zion National Park (and checking out how short term rentals can live in harmony in a residential neighborhood.)

We had a perfect Saturday evening for the family picnic in June. Thank you to everyone who made that possible, especially Scott Cone who did all the purchasing and Pat Freeman for again manning the grill this year. Our neighbor DJ John Crain kept the mood perfect throughout the night. We were excited to see a lot of new faces and catch up with the stalwarts! Be sure to mark your calendar for the annual Riverside Day get together at the beach in

September.

Twenty-two households have embraced the convenience of paying their annual membership via Venmo. Thanks for being our technological guinea pigs! It was a bit of a challenge to assure the membership secretary knew of all the members and the treasurer got the money, but we are happy to provide the service.

The breath-taking grandeur of Zion and Bryce Canyon and 4 hours on the Vegas Strip on a Saturday night couldn't have been any more "different" than Newport News, but as I wait here at the airport for a red-eye east, wearing my Noland Trail t-shirt, I look forward to getting home.

John Scott, RCCA President

Riverside Events

Riverside Day

Sat Sept 24

5 - 9 at Beach

Wine & Cheese Oyster Roast

Nov 12 9 - 5 at Beach

Black Friday Bonfire

Nov 25 6 - 10

Local Fall Events

Mariners' Museum

Evening Lecture -Rebels at Sea
Sept 22, 7:00

CNU Home Football

Averett 9/10, 7:00

Apprent. School, Sept 17, 7:00

Catholic U., Sept 27, 2:00

Rowen, Oct. 1 1:00

William Paterson, Oct 27, 1:00

College of NJ, Nov 5, 1:00

Ferguson Center

VA Symph performs Fleetwood
Mac Oct. 13, 7:30

Port Warwick

Art and Sculpture Festival

October 8-9

Hilton Village Fall Festival

Oct 29 11:00—5:00

Riverside Day

Come on down to the beach for our annual celebration of Riverside! We will have live music, games, a balloon artist, BBQ, fried chicken, sides, dessert and beverages! Parking will be available on Central Parkway (the No Parking signs will be covered) for this event, which is open to all Riverside residents at no charge, but donations are welcome.

For event updates, check the website, and signs posted around the neighborhood.

If you can assist with setup, serving, cleanup, or have some suggestions for our celebration, please contact John Scott or any RCCA Board member. We hope to see you all there!

Short Term Rentals

After years of deliberation, City Council finally passed regulations for short term rentals. These regulations seek to balance the interests of residents and protect the character of neighborhoods while allowing property owners who wish to operate short-term rentals the ability to do so.

The previously unauthorized practice now has stringent restrictions for legal operation. A business license must be obtained and occupancy and income tax paid. Regulations require no more than 6 people with no more than two per room. The room must have a door, window and closet, and must be part of the main property with at least one parking space beyond the owner's. The owner must be an occupant at least 185 days a

year, and meet city safety standards.

The Daily Press reported that "Rohlf said staff has "no intention" of prosecuting those who are operating illegally right now unless someone files a complaint. "We are not going to actively go out and enforce this," Rohlf said. "We're going to continue our current method of operation for the time being."

This seems like a dereliction of duty on the part of the city. We are left with calling 311 to complain if short term rentals are causing problems in the neighborhood. The new ordinance gives the city a way to control a short term rental's impact on a neighborhood. Lets hope they use it!

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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 is 183 thru Aug 11. 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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757-696-3636

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National Night Out

Newport News crime statistics continue to show that Riverside is significantly safer than other neighborhoods in the Central Precinct, as well as the City at large.

We should collectively thank each other because a key reason for our safety is that we are watching out for each other. Monitoring activity, using the NextDoor app (for neighborhood watch-related purposes), and communicating with each other about issues and concerns helps make our neighborhood less attractive to potential troublemakers.

Part of our communication effort was our National Night Out gathering down at Riverside beach on Tuesday, August 2nd. More than 20 Newport News police officers and members of the Communications Team (the 911 folks) engaged with Riverside neighbors in attendance. Issues of concern were discussed, including recent crimes in nearby neighborhoods and updates on the ensuing investigations. Information was also exchanged that will facilitate communications between the RCCA and NNPD.

Refreshments were served and the weather was quite nice. Although warm, a light breeze off of the river prompted several envious comments from our visitors. Thanks to Kevin Hoffman for organizing this important event.



Little Free Libraries

Little Free Libraries are popping up in Riverside!

A Little Free Library is a free book-sharing box where anyone may take a book or share a book. They function solely on the honor system. You do not need to share a book in order to take one. But if you take a book or two from a little library, try to bring one back, whenever you can.

Currently Riverside has two little libraries, one at Riverside Elementary and one on Riverside Drive, with others being considered.

The library at 203 Riverside was inspired by home owners Tommy and Rebecca Fass's beloved late mother Nancy Fass. A woman of many talents who lived a life full of laughter, fun and spirit, she inspired her 5 children and 11 grandchildren by always living life to the fullest. She loved to travel, garden, support the arts (especially ballet) but her greatest passion was reading. She had wide ranging interests in reading: medieval history to women's rights, the latest award winning books to humorous essays, the Daily Press to the New Yorker. She was famous for cutting out articles and mailing them to various family members. She loved reading to her grandchildren and giving them books. Once her own children were grown and gone, she began tutoring reading at Hidenwood elementary school. After seeing some little libraries in other places, Tommy and Rebecca thought having one in memory of their mother would be the perfect way to honor her. With the help of their friend Michael Millard Lowe, the new library was recently installed and has been enjoying a great deal of attention and traffic!

Come check out yet another reason to love living in Riverside!



Beach Native Planting Update

The fall is fast approaching as we experience excellent summer growth of both our established native perennials and the new shoots and shrubs we planted in late April. We have been enjoying the beauty of the Blue Flag Iris, Black Eyed Susans, Purple Cone Flowers, Yellow Coreopsis, Spotted Bee Balm, Red and Blue Lobelia, Golden Ragwort, Purple Mist Flowers, Lizard Tails and Crimson Eyed Rose-mallow along with the various grasses, sedges, and flowering shrubs.

We are visibly achieving the ecological goal of supporting a wide variety of pollinating butterflies and bees which in turn create caterpillars and seeds for our thriving bird population.

Our irrigation systems have come in handy to maintain momentum during the current dry hot spells. Soon we will see the pink ornamental grasses emerge beside the bed of Purple Asters over by the big rocks/culvert along Riverside Drive.

The current task is pulling and composting the "weeds" to return nutrients to the soil and allow the native plants to ultimately dominate and thus reduce required maintenance. In late September we will divide and transplant some of our thriving Lizard Tail and Blue Flag Iris to expand their beauty along the creek, now known as Wolf's Run. One goal is to have the native Lizard Tail replace the invasive Alligator Weed in the creek to support the local ecosystem. Mother Nature has started this process so we will simply accelerate the natural outcome.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to help with this long-term ongoing transformation of our unique common beach property into a beautiful wildlife supporting sustainable ecosystem. Mac Collins. 757-871-0356

IN OUR BACKYARD Black-eyed Susans

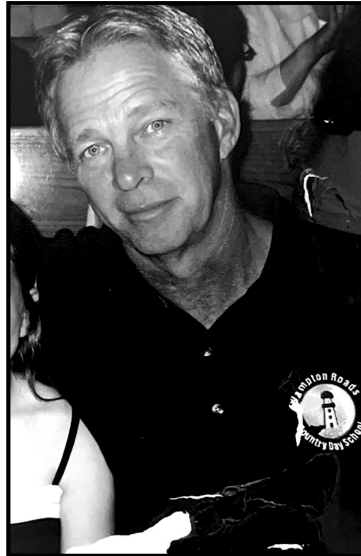
The bright golden flowers growing along the fence at the entrance to our beach are black-eyed susans, (*Rudbeckia fulgida*). They bear cheery flowers during our hot humid summers when most flowers have faded. Bees and butterflies visit them, and in the fall, goldfinches relish the seeds.

Easy, trouble-free to grow in full sun and in all but soggy soils they slowly spread and once established are drought tolerant. Maybe one of the best things about them is that they are unpalatable to deer. If you are interested in adding them to your backyard, they are stunning planted next to cool blue mist flower, purplish Asters, and soft tan grasses.



In Memory of Bennett Aycock

On May 20th, Riverside Community unexpectedly lost one of its longtime, much loved family members. Bennett Aycock was the owner of Aycock's Lawn Care for the last 22 years. He was very well known in our neighborhood and work mainly in the Riverside and James Landing area. At one time, he had up to 75 customers a week. He never met a stranger and was a very friendly person, always stopping to talk and brag about his children and grandkids. For many years, he volunteered his time and talents taking care of the Riverside beach area, making countless egg hunts and parties enjoyable for his neighbors. He also participated in many bike parades with his children and gave hayrides with his trailer. I know he would like to thank everyone in the community for the support they have shown his family and remembering him this way. He will be greatly missed.



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Riverside Family Picnic a Success



A big thank you to neighbors John Crain and his wife Donna for setting the tone for a great party!



The burgers and brats were SO good! Thank you Pat Freeman, John Scott, Beth Scott and Scott Cone for making memories at another awesome party at the beach.

Codes Corner - Chickens

With Lidl closing and avian flu and other inflationary pressures driving up the cost of eggs, more of you may be considering your own flock. Please be aware that two sets of rules govern having chickens on your property.

The old, original code doesn't require a permit and allows roosters but also requires at least 175 feet to the neighbor's house. The 2015 code requires a \$25 permit, 25 feet of separation from neighbors and limits the size to six hens and no rooster.



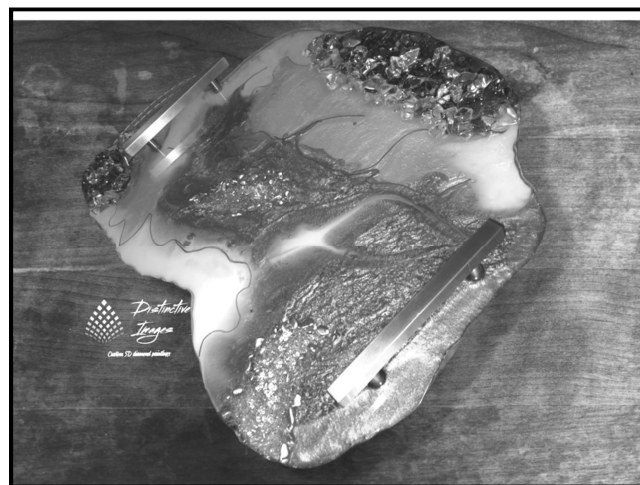
There are several other rules about safety and sanitation, best summarized on the Peninsula Chicken Keepers website <https://peninsulachickenkeepers.weebly.com>

Welcome New Neighbors!



going to Mariners Museum and walking the Noland. They would love others in the community to reach out to them, especially if their interests are similar, and would like to thank everyone for making them feel welcome in the short time they have been members of the Riverside community.

Tanya and Greg Hines-Robinson recently moved from New York, where they raised a family of 9 children and 18 grandchildren. Tanya always wanted to retire down south. It took them two years looking before finding their home in Riverside. They think this community is amazing and are excited to get involved. Greg is a retired Vietnam Veteran, who spends his time investing. Tanya is employed with Alorica as a Learning Delivery Associate. She is two semesters away from her BA in Business Admin from SUNY. She owns an Art company, Distinctive Images, which she runs from home. Please join us in welcoming Tanya and Greg to Riverside!



Phil and Serena Toft moved to Sir Francis Wyatt place with their daughter Abbie(7) and German Shepherd Lola(2) in May. They wanted to move from their townhouse to a home in a better neighborhood so that their daughter could have a backyard to play in and feel safe. Riverside fit the bill! Phil and Serena met the old fashion way through mutual friends at work. Friendship turned to something more, and they recently celebrated 15 years together and seven years of marriage. Serena has worked in the field of Applied Behavioral Analysis helping children and young adults with autism for 23 years. For the last 11, she has worked at Peninsula School at the Faison Center as a Program Support Technician. Phil is a N.A.S.A Aerospace Engineering Technician specializing in Research & Development. In his spare time, Phil loves snowboarding, Scuba Diving, water sports, home carpentry projects, mechanical projects (automobiles) and computers. If there's anyone in the community that enjoys diving and spearfishing, please don't hesitate to contact him! Serena enjoys spending time with family, reading books, and poking around on Amazon to putting things in the cart to "save for later." Their daughter Abigail is super sweet and loves reading, dinosaurs, drawing, and swimming. And they all love





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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.

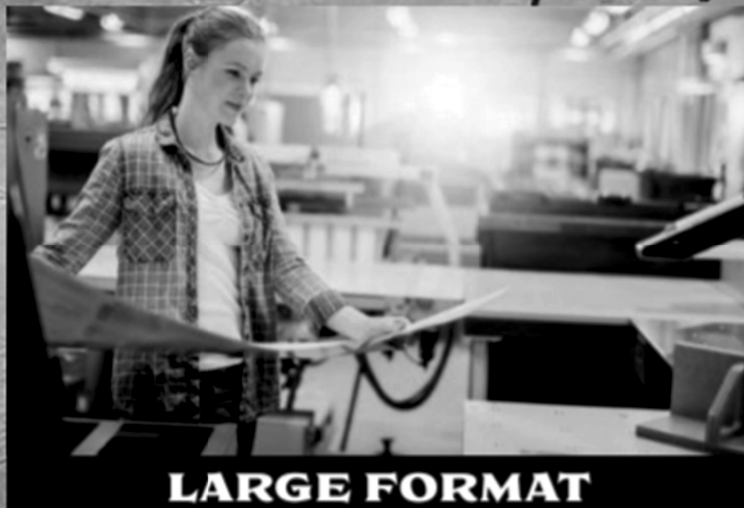
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RCCA Board Contact Information (Years as Board Member)

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	suelspeters@gmail.com	Sue Peters, Editor
RCCA Email Information/Updates	cbrakman@erols.com	Carl Brakman maintains email notification list
Neighborhood Events Committee	RCCAeventscommittee@gmail.com	
Neighborhood Improvements	murrayacollins3@gmail.com	Mac Collins
Neighborhood Communications	suelspeters@gmail.com	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	debiwarren@lizmoore.com	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