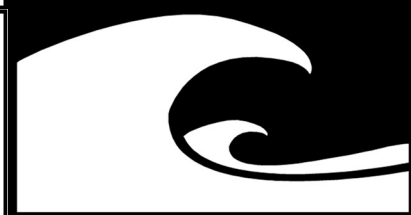


RIVERSIDE NEWS



Message from the President

3rd Quarter 2023

Hello Riversiders! What happened to Summer? Did anyone else notice that June was unusually cool, especially considering the rest of the planet seems to be on convective bake? According to data from Weather Underground, June's average temperature for Newport News was about 5 degrees below usual and a full 10 degrees below June of 2015! I bet swimming pool owners noticed!

The RCCA welcomes William Kelly and his wife Angie to the neighborhood. Kelly was inaugurated as CNU's new president Aug 14th.

The weather was perfect for the Family Cookout and a strategic relocation of the grill kept our volunteer grill master Pat Freeman at peak productivity. Special thanks to Liz Fitzgerald and her husband for volunteering to handle acquiring, transporting, and prepping all the food and beverages. Also, thanks to our neighbor DJ, John Crain for spinning the tunes.

The first Tuesday of August is National Night Out and once again we were told by the multitude of officers who came out to meet with

us, that we have the prettiest setting of the several locations they visited throughout the city. The Assistant City Manager and Councilman Cleon Long also attended and very candidly addressed concerns.

Riverside hosted its first Garage Sale in many years in July. Those who participated reported that traffic was brisk, with many closets cleaned out ready to capture another year of stuff. Let us know if you have any thoughts on format changes for next time around.

Be sure to read the improvements article for updates at the beach and around the neighborhood and please use the Contact Us form on the website to raise any concerns. Between the website and our Facebook page, we have become aware of several codes compliance issues. Please know that addressing these topics wasn't meant to anger neighbors but instead to hopefully trigger self-awareness that you may be able to make Riverside an even better community.

John Scott, RCCA President



The sidewalk drain roadwork in front of the Mariners' Museum is complete.

RCCA Events

Riverside Day

Sept 23

5 - 8 at the Beach

Wine and Cheese Social

November

Autumn Bonfire

Date To be Determined

Local Fall Fun

Mariners' Museum

Fall Festival

Nov 5, 1:00-5:00

CNU Home Football

S. Virginia, Sept 2, 5:00

Gettysburg, Sept 16, 4:00

Salisbury, Sept 30, 2:00

Kean, Oct. 21, 1:00

Montclair, Nov 4, 1:00

Ferguson Center

Brian Regan Sept 9, 8:00

Tribute to Abba Oct 12, 8:00

Port Warwick

Art and Sculpture Festival

October 14, 10:00-6:00

Hilton Village Fall Festival

Oct 28, 11:00-4:00

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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 152 thru Aug 2023. 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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Safety Issues at Moores and Shoe

There have been recent safety concerns expressed on the neighborhood Facebook page about the Intersection of Moores and Shoe Lane. Traffic coming into the neighborhood wanting to turn left onto South Moores is often met with someone going around a car waiting to turn left on North Moores.

This intersection has been looked at multiple times by city officials. Installing a four-way stop has been suggested, but National traffic standards strongly discourage four-way stops, and in fact, recommend replacing them whenever possible. Looking at the next intersection at Shoe and Country Club, with its four-way stop, shows us just some of the issues. It seems very few actually manage to stop at it.

A stop light could be installed, but doing so would add an average of one minute commuting time for all our residents, which is likely to be very unpopular. Another option would be to install a traffic circle. The one at CNU has our residents well trained as to how to navigate them. And, because traffic circles come in many sizes (an example of a small one can be seen in Port Warwick), and the intersection is so large, it may be possible to fit one in with little to no impact to the neighbors on the corner.

Another alternative could be installing curb bump outs to funnel traffic, preventing cars from passing. And perhaps the cheapest approach would be to paint lines and put up a sign indicating No Passing.

We have asked the city to investigate what could be done to make this intersection safer. They have offered to put up a new traffic monitor to gather data to help do that. In the meantime, calling 311 to express your concerns really does work.



Riverside Day

Riverside Day is around the corner! Come on down to the beach for the annual celebration of our neighborhood. We will have live music provided by Slack Dog Po, games, a balloon artist, a catered dinner, most likely of BBQ, sides, dessert and beverages, including the adult kind! Feel free to bring sides or salads for the vegetarians in the neighborhood.

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!



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Your Improvements Committee at Work

Preserving the bridge, tables, and benches: Thanks to the good efforts of our own **Dave Scoggins (owner Phoenix Painting)** and his painting crew, the wooden structures at the beach are now cleaned and coated with several coats of clear wood finish and look great. RCCA bought the material directly at wholesale price and labor was a donation from Dave.

Cutting the grass in our common areas: Thanks goes to **John Maliniak** for keeping the corner lot at Central Parkway and Riverside Drive and the mowed area of the beach native plant garden looking neat and trim. He took the initiative a few years ago and continues to provide this valuable service at no cost to the RCCA.

Split Rail Fence Repair: Someone drove into the corner post of the split rail fence at the beach gate parking area and destroyed several rails. This is the second such event. Please be careful when parking in that area. The best idea is to ride a bike or walk to the beach if possible. Young drivers (high school age) were observed hitting the fence and driving off. Young folks are encouraged to walk or ride bikes as it is only a mile or so from the furthest areas of the neighborhood.

Trash removal from the beach: RCCA property is zoned as a park so does not have the trash pickup service from the city, so we pay to have it removed. You can help by packing out trash and recycle whenever you drive (cars or golf carts) to the beach.

Wolf's Run Rock Wall: We must be patient with the progress of the beautiful rock wall we started this spring. We should be able to start again in early September after

the busy summer schedules of our volunteer mason and the crew calm down. Like many of our projects, the labor is supplied by volunteers which in this case happens to be highly skilled so it is saving the RCCA a lot of dues money that can be used for other projects (like the inevitable cost of tree removal).

Tree removal: Dead trees on RCCA property that threaten RCCA resident's structures are removed as part of the RCCA budget. This year we removed trees from Central Parkway and will soon do the same at our properties behind Mistletoe and Lakeside drives.



On August 1st the RCCA hosted our local police for the National Night Out event. It was well attended, with residents enjoying time to talk directly to police about their concerns.



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Meet an RCCA Board Member

Tara Helmick is one of RCCA's newest board members. Tara dedicates her life to making a positive impact on the community. As the CEO of Empire Builder, she oversees a successful business, along with leading the Empire Assistants Real Estate Team. Additionally, Tara is the founder of Healing Robin, a nonprofit organization named after her beloved mother.

At home, Tara finds joy in the loving embrace of her husband, Sam, and their two beautiful daughters, Emilia and Sophia. Their family is completed by three adorable dogs and a bunny.

Driven by a deep sense of purpose, Tara's main focus lies in Healing Robin. Her heartfelt mission is to establish a facility that offers support and solace to individuals struggling with drug addiction and mental health battles. This cause is close to her heart, as she seeks to honor her mother's memory and help others facing similar challenges.

Tara's path in life is guided by her desire to positively impact the lives of those around her. Through her various endeavors, both personal and philanthropic, she aims to build a stronger community, provide assistance to those in need, and create a lasting legacy of compassion and understanding.

Thank you, Tara, for volunteering your time for the RCCA.



Martha's Way Update

Howard Huege, the president of the Mariners' Museum, has provided an update on the construction of Martha's Way.

Newport News has approved the construction drawings, and City Council has authorized the City Manager to enter into a maintenance agreement with the museum. This agreement defines who is responsible for what across the whole Martha's Way Trail, and has been completed.

The next steps are now working to securing permits and lining up contractors to begin construction.

The first phase will be the widening of the curve in Museum Parkway coming off of Kettle Pond into Riverside. The permit process is tough to apply a timeline to, but slow and steady progress is being made.

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- Back To School Sunday worship & lunch
September 17th
- Crop Walk October 15th 2:00 PM
(registration begins 1:15PM)
- Trunk or Treat October 21st -2-6PM

Contact the church office for more information about:

- | | |
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| • Pastor Pop-in hours 4:00-5:30pm
(Every Thursday) | • "Points of Grace"
Knitting club |
| • Troop 27 (Every Monday) | • Women's/Men's Groups |
| • Faith formation classes resuming
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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) 478-6260

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