



# Historic Roser Park

## Neighborhood Association Newsletter

[www.roserpark.net](http://www.roserpark.net)

Fourth Quarter • September 2010

### HISTORIC ROSER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

Thursday,  
September 23rd  
at 7:00 P.M.

At  
All Children's  
Hospital  
Continuing  
Education  
Center  
701 4th St. S.  
St. Petersburg

### Quarterly President Review...

#### INVISIBLE NEIGHBORS, PART 2

In the last few months, I've attended funeral services for two neighbors I had never met or gotten to know. I wanted to show respect for them and to represent what I hope will be a first step in breaking down barriers between neighbors.

While at these services I thought a lot about these women. They were mothers — one worked in homes cooking meals for families, providing nourishment — and I'll bet that food was really good. They were wives and partners to those they loved, just like the neighbors I know. As longtime residents of Roser Park, they were likely part of building and keeping our neighborhood whole, making it possible for us to enjoy what it is today.

I wondered why I didn't know them.

To longtime residents, we short-timers to the neighborhood might seem to be interlopers — taking control, making decisions about lighting and safety, holding porch parties and art festivals, etc. I wonder. Or are they enjoying the results of our work and happy to take it in as it comes? I'd like to know and will ask. (I'll let you know what they say.)

I am the first to support live and let live, but not because people are feeling invisible and separated. That's not living.

I recently attended the showing of a new movie about the freedom riders in the 1960s, a powerful reminder of their determination to eliminate segregation. I met some of those heroes who attended the showing. I sat there in wonder. The humanity — both good and bad — clashing and burning, yet knowing that evil should not prevail.

Here we are living in a neighborhood where some of us are invisible to others. We must be damn sure their non-involvement is voluntary, and not because we don't see them, talk to them, acknowledge them.

I invite you to help here. The responses I have already gotten from the families of those women tell me we can change the situation and make our neighborhood more whole.

Larry Biddle, President, HRPNA

### Don't miss the Spit ' n' Polish/Company Coming Neighborhood Clean-up!

Please join your neighbors to help clean up our neighborhood and spruce it up for our very special Art Festival.

The City is putting extra dumpsters out for the clean-up Saturday, December 4th and 5th (the weekend before our big event). They will be located at MLK and 10th Ave. South and RPD and 5th St. South.



**Art Festival Update** *By Shannon Struemph*



Just Announced! Tampa's very own Lounge Cat booked for 2010 Historic Roser Park Art Festival!

The velvety, swinging sounds of Lounge Cat often have been described as reverent satire. This versatile six-piece combo looks young but plays old: Old School Blues, Jazz, Swing, Skat, standards, Motown and Latin numbers. This Rat Pack nouveau

will swing, swagger, and sway it's way into your heart! Joining the Lounge Cats will be other great local acts as well. Stay tuned for further announcements!

Our 2010 Art Festival is fast approaching! This year's festival will be held on Saturday & Sunday, December 11 & 12. Can you think of a better way to showcase our beautiful neighborhood? Our new walls are nearly complete and the work crews will soon be gone.

We have many changes in store for this year's festival. We will be incorporating home tours this year, in addition to the walking tours through our outdoor museum. We are excited to be partnering with a new company who will be bringing in better quality crafters and artists. Our kids' area will also return with face painting and special art projects for the kids.

If you haven't already, become a fan of the Roser Park Facebook page. We will be posting Art Festival updates there regularly.

Please consider helping with our Art Festival. Contact Shannon Struemph at 727-772-3860 or shannon.struemph@gmail.com for more information.

Don't forget the

**General  
HRPNA  
Meeting**

**Thursday,  
September 23th**

**7:00 P. M. at**

All Children's  
Hospital  
Education Center

701 4th St. S.  
St. Petersburg

**Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Featured in the Paper**

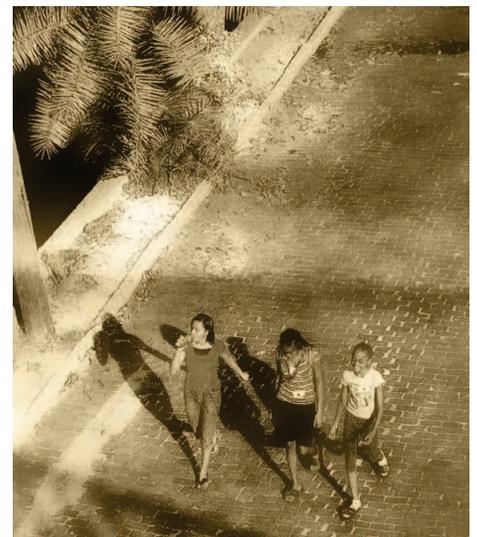
In the Monday, August 30 edition of the Metro Report section of the St. Petersburg Times, this article appeared:

**Sunny Sunday finds families on the move**

▼ Lucille Hargrove, 64, holds granddaughter Antoinette Smith, 1, while being pushed by her daughter Laquitta Roberts as another grandchild, Davion White, 5, joins them as they make their way home in the Roser Park Historic District in St. Petersburg on Sunday afternoon. Roberts brings her children over to Hargrove's home in Roser Park.



DIRK SHADD | Times



DIRK SHADD | Times

▲ From left, Te'Era Benjamin, 13, Keymaira Pinkney, 13, and Te'Kierria Benjamin, 10, walk together along the brick roads next to Booker Creek in the hilly, lush neighborhood of the Roser Park Historic District in St. Petersburg on Sunday afternoon.

## Safety Committee Report

By Michele Cardinal

The Safety & Crime Watch Committee oversees crime and safety issues in the neighborhood like streetlight outages, code violations and the overall cleanliness of the neighborhood. As the Safety & Crime Watch Chairperson I can be reached via e-mail: [cardinal.michele@gmail.com](mailto:cardinal.michele@gmail.com) or 727-692-4232.

September is here already and our next Safety & Crime Watch Meeting is **Thursday, September 16th at 6:30 pm** at the All Children's Education Center (same place we meet for the neighborhood association meetings).

Highlights of the meeting:

HANDING OUT SAFETY AND CRIME WATCH POLO SHIRTS



NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS



NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN - UP



### SAFETY TIP OF THE QUARTER

Be aware that door-to-door scams increase in the summer time.

Tips for recognizing a door-to-door scam

- Ask the salesperson for written material about the company and let them know you are going to research them first before doing business with them. Check the company's reliability report with your BBB (Better Business Bureau).
- Many communities have licensing and permit requirements for food vendors and for selling door-to-door; confirm with your city or county government that the seller is in line with laws.
- Don't fall for empty promises. The seller might claim to offer a 100 percent satisfaction guarantee, but many complainants had no way to contact the seller if they were dissatisfied.
- Never pay with cash. When paying by check or credit card, you have at least some way to protect your money — such as canceling the check or reporting it as fraud to your credit card company. Many scam artists will take your check to the bank right away, making credit cards a safer bet.
- If you decide to make a purchase in your home, ask for a dated cancellation form and a dated receipt. The Federal Trade Commission Cooling-Off Rule gives you three business days, including Saturday, to cancel the purchase.
- If you feel that you were ripped off by a door-to-door salesperson, file a complaint with your Better Business Bureau and contact authorities. Also report any unlicensed salesmen to the appropriate city or county authorities. For more advice to help you make smart purchasing decisions, visit [www.bbb.org/us/consumer-tips-product-purchasing/](http://www.bbb.org/us/consumer-tips-product-purchasing/) or call 800-388-2222.

### UNUSUAL SAFETY TIP

Never bring charcoal grills indoors. Burning charcoal produces deadly

carbon monoxide. This must have actually happened to have become a safety tip!

Remember, well-lit areas deter criminals because they might be seen! Turn on your porch lights, front and back, and make sure your motion lights are in proper working order. If you see a common area that needs to be better lit, please let me know and I will evaluate it and find a way to 'brighten' it up.

Go online for a form to report the dark area: <https://secure.progress-energy.com/sid/custservice/fla/selfservice/electric/streetlight?page=res> or call Progress Energy at 727-443-2641.

**PICK UP TRASH!** Does it really matter if it is yours? No. The criminals don't care. They just see it as a sign that no one cares in that area, which translates into *no one is watching!* **PICK IT UP!** Please! Let me know when you do pick up trash. Believe it or not, we document it as volunteer hours. Volunteer hours are used to 'pay' for grants. We get grants for volunteer hours. We have received street lights on 9th and 10th avenues through grants. We also have received crime watch t-shirts, solar lights, maglite flashlights, and radios through grants!

Report code violations. WHY? For the same reason stated in the last two paragraphs – criminals see it as an opportunity! Go to the City of St. Petersburg website: <http://www.stpete.org/>. On the left side of the screen you find a drop down "Select a department" and click on Code Compliance Assistance. This is a great site! It provides all the information you need for codes, i.e. different types of code violations, videos, and there is even a database to show the status of any current or past violations.

Or you can call (727) 893-7373 to report a violation.

Or send a letter or fax. Send your complaint by mail or fax to Codes Compliance Assistance, P.O. Box 2842 St. Petersburg, FL 33731-2842 Fax: (727) 892-5558

See ya soon!

~Michele

# HRPNA NEWSLETTER



Meeting Location:  
All Children's Hospital Education  
and Conference Center  
(Auditorium)  
701 4th St. S.

E-Mail:

Larry Biddle, President  
larry@planningworksonline.com

Newsletter Submissions:  
Carolyn Pavonetti  
carolyn@pavonetti.com

We're on the Web!

**[www.roserpark.net](http://www.roserpark.net)**

Non-emergency police .....	893-7780
Community Police Contact – District 1.....	551-3181
Auto theft unit.....	893-7080
Narcotics tip line .....	892-5000
City Code enforcement .....	893-7373
Mayor's Hotline .....	893-7111
County Animal control .....	582-2600

City of St Petersburg – service request: <http://www.stpete.org/action.htm>

This newsletter is published quarterly. If you would like to submit an article or ad, contact Carolyn Pavonetti via email: [carolyn@pavonetti.com](mailto:carolyn@pavonetti.com)



HRPNA Newsletter Committee  
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