



# Historic Roser Park

## Neighborhood Association Newsletter

June, 2013

### **NEXT GENERAL HRPNA MEETING:**

**Thursday,  
June 20th  
6:30-8:30 P.M.**

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



### **Important Neighborhood Plan Update!**

Presented by the  
City of St Petersburg  
Community Services  
Department

Determine what will  
be happening to  
Historic Roser Park

### **Quarterly President Review...**

You have been invited to attend the Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Plan Update. This is an important opportunity for each resident of Historic Roser Park to participate in a process that will update our original community plan of 20 years ago. (If you would like to look at the original community plan go to <http://www.stpete.org/neighborhoods/neighborhoodplans.asp>. In the listing of other community plans you will see our plan listed under "Historic Roser Park." It's amazing how things have changed and how much remains the same. Very interesting reading.)

I want to point out this is NOT a function of the Neighborhood Association per se or its board. It IS a community-wide opportunity for you and your neighbors to detail what's important for Historic Roser Park's future. The Association has been helping the City of St. Petersburg Community Services Department organize the planning process, but that's all. The City is paying for the consultants' services and the development of a final revised plan based on your input. They will in turn present the plan to the City Council for final approval – either at the end of this year or early next year. This is a big deal and we really hope everyone will participate.

You should have received a postcard from the City inviting you to our first meeting on June 20th (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.). Even if you haven't gotten the postcard, feel free to attend. We will hold an Association meeting for the first 30 minutes, after it adjourns, the consultants will facilitate the planning workshop until 8:30 p.m. Subsequent workshops will be held on July 18th and a final one on September 12th. All planning workshops will be held at the All Children's Education and Conference Center, 701 4th St. South (parking and entrance at the rear of that building).

Following our March community meeting with the Bike Trail consultants, they took our input and made what they say are significant revisions in their plan. To give us sufficient time to hear their new trail plan and for us to respond, we are holding a separate community meeting on July 16th at 7 p.m. at the All Children's Education and Conference Center. Again we hope you will attend and be part of the development of a new trail through Historic Roser Park.

Larry Biddle, President  
Historic Roser Park  
Neighborhood Association

#### NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AGENDA - JUNE 20th

- Introduction to the Project and Consultant Team (5 Minutes)
- Review of Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Plan and Timeline of Planning Efforts in the Neighborhood (10 Minutes)
- Introduction to the Historic Roser Park Neighborhood including Planning Area and Demographic Profile (10 Minutes)
- Facilitated Exercise - Getting to know your Neighbors (15 Minutes)  
This facilitated exercise illustrates the web of existing connections within the neighborhood and demonstrates the possibility of future connections to strengthen the neighborhood going forward.
- Facilitated Exercise - Understanding your Neighborhood (45 Minutes)  
This facilitated exercise uses nominal group technique to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of the neighborhood, and to understand issues and opportunities from the neighborhood's perspective.

## Safety Updates!

Sharon Ewe, HRPNA Safety Committee



Did you know that as a resident of St. Petersburg, you are entitled to ride with the police once a year? Yes, you can actually ride with the police, and not in the back seat in handcuffs either!

Who would want to do that, you say?? Well, riding with the police is actually a great way of learning about what these officers do on a daily basis in their work of maintaining public safety.

Find out what the police do as you tag along with the officers enforcing the law and carrying out their duties. This may include responding to calls, chasing criminals, conducting police stops, interviewing individuals, and talking to members of the public.

You can ride with the police (generally one person per shift) during their regular patrol. You will need to sign a waiver form but you can either choose to ride with our Community Officer or with a regular beat cop. I would strongly encourage you to ride with our Community Officers—not only will you get to know the folks who work in our community better, the shift duration may be a little shorter as well. Community Officers generally work on weekdays and start in the morning around 9 a.m.; rides with

the regular patrol officers can be either during the weekday or weekend. The shift length will probably be dependent on what calls come in during that time. Either way, the experience is bound to be one that gives you insight into how the police operate around the city.

Please let me know if you are interested and what times you are interested in. I will work with our community officers to coordinate with the police department.

Get involved! Come check it out!

## Change in Community Officer

After several years of being one of our Community Officers, Officer Barry Books is no longer serving in this capacity and has moved to a different crime unit. He has been tasked to the newly formed Deterrence, Response, Outreach, and Prevention (DROP) unit that was formed to work closely with other police department units, identify crime patterns or trends when they occur and develop strategies to prevent these crimes from spreading or expanding in a particular area.

There are currently four community officers serving the neighborhoods of southern St. Petersburg; Officer Books was the most accessible of the officers and would provide neighborhood updates at our quarterly meetings as well as via the Google groups listserv. Although Officer Books will still be reachable to neighborhood residents in his current capacity, Officer Irvin will be assuming Officer Books' role.

This role is not a new one for Officer Jason Irvin—he is a 12-year veteran of the police department served as the Community Officer for Coquina Key for 3 years. Officer Irvin will be coming to our next neighborhood meeting on June 20th at the All Children's Education and Conference Center (701 4th Street South) to meet the neighborhood and provide a crime update. So come on out and meet him!

If you cannot make the meeting, Officer Irvin can be contacted at either 727-892-5922 for Roser Park issues or 727-551-3181 for the general community matters. Welcome to the neighborhood, Officer Irvin!

As always, be vigilant and call the police non-emergency line (727-893-7780) if you see anyone/anything suspicious. It is better to be safe than to be sorry. Have a good and safe summer everyone!



## Attention Neighbors!

Anyone who is interested in hosting a neighborhood porch party contact

Beth Snyder: [bethtsnyder@gmail.com](mailto:bethtsnyder@gmail.com)  
to sign up!



## MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

By Sharon Ewe

Election season is approaching again. Time to get the yard signs out and get excited supporting one's candidates. Alright—admittedly it is not as exciting as the presidential election but nonetheless, it is as important, if not more so, for the residents of St. Petersburg. This time around we will all be asked to vote for who we want to see leading the city and our District in the next 4 years.

Many people find it hard to get excited about the election for local city council and mayor, but I would urge you all to get out there and vote because these local officials are the folks who will be influencing issues near and dear to us. Issues such as the Pier, crime, traffic, neighborhood socio-economic improvements—those are local issues that are worked on and resolved at the council and mayoral level, not at the national election level.

So, to that end, as part of the HRPNA events, we will be organizing "Meet the Candidates" events during the porch parties in June and July. The June porch party will have our District candidates coming over to talk about their ideas, goals and plans for our neighborhood. The two candidates who are running for our District 6 seat, Mr. Karl Nurse and Ms. Sharon Russ, will be on the ballot on August 27th. Both have been invited to the porch party (June 29th) to present their platforms in 15-minute presentations to the neighborhood. In July, we hope to have the mayoral candidates do the same. This is a great way for us to get to know each candidate and decide if they are the choice for you. Details of the porch party will be posted on the Roserpark.net website closer to the event, so keep a lookout on that space.

If you care about and want to have a say in making a difference in Roser Park, the south side of St. Petersburg, economic development within the city, the Pier, and any of the multitude of issues facing our city, come out and vote on August 27th! Every vote counts!!



## KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE, CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

It was a simple project – plant a bougainvillea. It ended with fire trucks, emergency medical services technicians, an ambulance, a gas company emergency response vehicle and a gas company employee!

That homeowner hit a gas line buried in his yard when he thrust a post-hole digger 22 inches into the ground. That's not the way to find utilities in your yard. The better way is to call 811 before digging.

### Why call 811?

Calling 811 starts the process of getting underground utility lines in your yard marked for free.

### When do I call?

Two full business days before digging. Write down the ticket number you're given for later use.

Day you want to dig	Day to call
Sat/Sun	Wed
Mon	Wed
Tues	Thur
Wed	Fri
Thur	Mon
Fri	Tues

### What happens after I call?

Utilities send locators to mark their underground lines in your yard with paint and flags. The color tells what type of utility is buried. Marks are good for 30 calendar days. If your project lasts longer or the marks aren't visible, call 811 again.

### Where can I dig?

The actual utility lines may not run directly below the marks. Dig carefully within 24 inches of the marks.

### What if there are no locate marks?

There may not be any underground lines on your property. If you give us your e-mail address, we will forward the responses each utility provides. Those responses can be clear, marked or not marked and why. You can also check this information at [www.sunshine811.com](http://www.sunshine811.com) by clicking on Positive Response or call (800) 852-8057. Utilities that do not respond are automatically sent a second notice.

### What should I do if I hit an underground utility?

Stop digging and notify the utility company that owns the line – even if it's only a scrape or crease. Covering up the line could lead to a future break or leak that is difficult to detect.

For more information or visit [www.sunshine811.com](http://www.sunshine811.com)

Wendy Schaefer,  
Communications Specialist  
[Wendy.schaefer@mail.callsunshine.com](mailto:Wendy.schaefer@mail.callsunshine.com)  
(800) 638-4097 ext. 2065



Meeting Location:  
All Children's Hospital Continuing  
Education Center  
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, contact Carolyn Pavonetti via email: [carolyn@pavonetti.com](mailto:carolyn@pavonetti.com)



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