



The Link

Riverbend Homeowners' Association of Baton Rouge

NOTE FROM THE HOA PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors:

Despite the challenges many faced in 2020, it was a successful year for our Riverbend Homeowners' Association. 61% of the subdivision residents cared enough about the subdivision to pay their dues and we hope that we can top that percentage in 2021. Please know how much we appreciate all the residents who care enough about our neighborhood to join the Association.

The Association have been working hard to update all our documents. The By-laws are in the works and will be presented at the Semi-Annual Meeting in April. One issue clarified by our attorney and other board members, is that to attend any of the HOA meetings, you must be a member of the HOA. This means residents must pay dues each year. Your home is under the restrictions of the HOA which means you must follow the HOA rules.

Last year with the support of the Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District, the Oak Trees on the Blvd. were pruned, and the Crepe Myrtles were sprayed for Ball Moss. If this were not done, we would have had quite a mess after the last ice storm.

This year we are looking forward to partnering and working more closely with the other subdivisions connected to Riverbend. Together we can make a difference.

Adrienne Boutte Bowser, Riverbend HOA President

Spring 2021 HOA Officers

Adrienne Boutté Bowser, President,
Directory
The Link
Robert (Bob) Harper, Vice President
Barbara Goodson, Treasurer
Vacant, Secretary
Andrea Ruckman, Block Chairperson
Coordinator
Phil Jones, Maintenance &
Beautification
Vacant, Social Events

Crime Prevention Board of Directors

Robert (Bob) Harper, President
André Rodrigue, Vice President
Adrienne Boutté Bowser, Secretary
Barbara Goodson, Treasurer
David Trusty
Johnny Narcisse

NOTE FROM THE RIVERBEND CRIME PREVENTION AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Dear Fellow Riverbend Residents,

As our District enters into its fifth year of existence we can look back at several accomplishments: Crime camera/license plate reader, rehabilitation of the pavilion, updated landscaping and signage at the entrance of Riverbend and our continued off duty patrols. For the current year we will have funding available for additional improvements and will be discussing potential projects with the Riverbend Homeowners Association Board.

Also, as you can see in his introduction, we have a new Administrative Officer for the neighborhood patrols, Officer Charles Weary. With his appointment there will be an emphasis on traffic control in our neighborhood. Specifically, at the last meeting of the District Board the following resolution was adopted:
"It is the policy of the Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District that all traffic enforcement measures (speeding, unauthorized vehicles etc.) taken by our off-duty patrols shall be done in compliance with existing policies and protocols of the Baton Rouge City Police."

Thanks on behalf of the Board for your support, and I encourage residents to attend our Board meetings. These have been scheduled for the rest of the year, and are displayed in the Board minutes on the District section of the Riverbend Website.

Robert D. Harper, Chairman of the Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District.

WHAT'S NEW @ RIVERBENDSUB.ORG

<http://www.riverbendsub.org>

The Riverbend Directory is updated regularly on-line. Please e-mail thelink@riverbendsub.org for a user name and password.

Sign up to receive notification of things happening in Riverbend or surrounding areas via e-mail.

Remember this is your website, so all suggestions are welcome.



Social Events



Riverbend Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 28, 2021
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Riverbend Park

- Bring chairs or picnic blankets
- Plan to stay for Jambalaya & Easter fun
- Donate stuffed eggs (deliver to 5619 Riverbend Blvd - by Friday, March 26th)
- Bring your own drinks
- Bring cupcakes or individual baked goods for the dessert table
- \$10 per family (Venmo @alpschmidt)

Questions call or text Ann Schmidt @ 225.715.8955

Semi-Annual HOA Meeting and Crawfish Boil

Sunday, April 18, 2021
Riverbend Park (Look for the tent in the park)
2:00 p.m. Meeting (*Please bring your lawn chairs to the meeting and adhere to social distancing*)
3:00 p.m. Crawfish Boil



You can pay your dues at the meeting (but prefer if you paid before) You MUST be current on both your HOA to attend the meeting and your Social dues to attend the Crawfish Boil afterwards.

RSVP to Adrienne Bowser @ 769-9562 or email: socialevents@riverbendsub.org by April 14th to make sure we have accurate number for the cater.

Neighborhood Success Stories

Kristen Craig had a wonderful idea to build and install a Little Free Library in the neighborhood. Her uncle, Ed Lundin, along with her kids and the Lundin grandkids, have been working for months on building Riverbend's Little Free Library, and the project is almost complete. This will be a perfect addition for the kids (and adults) in the neighborhood. Kristen has registered our neighborhood's library with the nationwide non-profit organization, Little Free Library. This Little Free Library will have an official Charter sign and number and will be added to the map to enjoy the benefits of being registered. For more information on the Little Free Library go to www.littlefreelibrary.org. We will send out an announcement with more information once the library is installed.



Nextdoor Riverbend App



Are you looking for a place in the neighborhood to sell items, look for babysitters, post news and more? If so, the Nextdoor website and app are perfect for that. You can post different listings to be seen by your Riverbend neighbors and even surrounding

neighborhoods. Check out the following website: <https://nextdoor.com/>, or download the app by searching "Nextdoor" in the app or google play store.

Pet Courtesy

The Board has recently received several complaints about dogs roaming freely around the neighborhood. All dogs should be secured in your home or yard while you are away from home. There have been several instances of unleashed dogs chasing leashed animals, children and even cars. For your pet's safety and your neighborhood, please ensure that your pet is safely secured while you are gone. If you are concerned about your family's safety by an unidentified/loose dog, please contact the Animal Control Center 774-7700.



As a matter of safety to both homeowners and pets, please abide by the leash law and use courtesy when walking your animals. Another note, please do not allow your dog to deposit its waste on your neighbors' yard. We have noticed poop being left on the street and in yards. Please bring a scooper or zip lock bag at all times when walking your dog. Thank you for helping keep our neighborhood a safe and friendly residential area.

Leaving for Vacation



If you know that you are going to be out of town for more than a few days, you can notify security by emailing them at: secruty@riverbendsub.org with detailed information. Please give the officers as much notice as possible and be sure to list important information such as how long you'll be gone, how many cars were in your driveway when you left, if there were any lights left on, if you're expecting visitors or anything else you can think of that can help security do their best job.

Notes from the Treasurer

Your dues allow us to keep the neighborhood secure and well maintained! The Riverbend Crime District and HOA Financial Statements for 2021 are provided below for your information



Riverbend Taxing District 2021 Budget

Income	2020 Actuals	2021 Budget	YTD - February 26, 2021
Prior Year Carry Forward		\$6,555.49	\$6,555.49
Maintenance Dues (476 @ \$150 year)	\$71,398.64	\$71,400.00	\$62,095.65
Interest earned from Sheriff	\$185.76		
Cost sharing/Subdivisions	\$131.25		
Total Income	\$71,715.65	\$77,955.49	\$68,651.14
Expenditures			
Entergy	\$851.99	\$1,000.00	\$99.89
Water	\$624.15	\$1,000.00	\$180.37
Security (1020 hours a year/85 hours a month @ \$30.00)			
Budget is for 12 months	\$28,687.50	\$30,600.00	\$2,400.00
Landscaping	\$15,215.00	\$15,000.00	\$100.00
Projects	\$9,055.00	\$16,555.49	
Maintenance	\$730.00	\$2,000.00	
Website Maintenance	\$301.25	\$500.00	
Misc. Bank Charges		\$50.00	
Legal Expenses	\$246.00	\$1,000.00	
Liability Insurance	\$779.00	\$1,000.00	\$789.00
Mailbox Rental	\$306.00	\$400.00	
Savings Account (10% of total collected)	\$7,139.86	\$7,140.00	
Misc.	\$82.40	\$100.00	
1% collected by Sheriff	\$713.99	\$714.00	\$620.96
\$1.00 per parcel to Assessor	\$476.00	\$476.00	
Total Expenditures	\$65,208.14	\$77,535.49	\$4,190.22
CY 2020 Ending Checkbook Balance	\$16,995.35		
Checkbook Balance February 26, 2021	\$65,210.92		
Savings Account Balance February 26, 2021	\$28,365.24		



2021 Budget for Riverbend HOA

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Year to Date
Income:			
Dues (based 474 houses) \$25.00 @ 60%	\$5,500.00	\$7,110.00	\$325.00
Interest	\$3.52		
Directory			
Reimbursement from District	\$15,215.00	\$15,000.00	
Total	\$20,718.52	\$22,110.00	\$325.00

Homeowner Association Expenditures	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Year to Date
Website and Other	\$87.50	\$1,000.00	
Directory Printing			
Quarterly Newsletter Printing/Dues	\$260.59	\$1,500.00	
Association Dues	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$55.00
Maintenance & Landscaping to be reimbursed by Taxing District	\$15,215.00	\$15,000.00	
Other Landscaping Costs including Front Area			
HOA Meeting expenses	\$640.30	\$1,000.00	
Secretary of State Fees	\$40.00	\$100.00	
Miscellaneous	\$335.43	\$200.00	
Bank Fees			
Legal Fees	\$4,435.45	\$5,000.00	
Budget	\$21,069.27	\$23,875.00	\$55.00

Beginning Balance Jan. 2021	\$ 38,353.65
* All Receipts for 2021 (Maint., Social)	\$ 200.32
** Withdrawals for 2021	\$ (649.00)
Ending balance Feb. 26, 2021	\$ 37,904.97

	Amounts paid for 2021	YTD 2021 (includes \$4503.71 carried over)	Balance
Social (Based Households)			
Crawfish Boil		\$ 200.00	\$ 4,703.70
Fall Picnic			
Christmas Party			
NOTE: * Beginning Balance for 2021 includes \$4,503.70 carried over from Social Dues.			

Membership Report 2021 Dues Collection 58%

2021 Dues are currently due — please forward payment to:

Barbara Goodson
2941 Rene Beauregard Avenue,
Baton Rouge, LA 70820

2021 Riverbend Homeowners' Association Dues Notice

HOA - \$25.00 Social - \$50.00 Total = \$75.00

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone#: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Year Moved Into Riverbend: _____

Please help your neighborhood to be the best it can be by paying your dues!

Block Chairperson

We are in need of several new block chairpersons. Below are the streets we still need chairpersons for:

5433-5639 Riverbend Blvd.

5766 - 5918 Riverbend Blvd.

6001-6154 Destrehan Dr.

5999-6123 Belle Grove Ave.

6205-6358 Destrehan Dr.

3344-3456 Westervelt Ave.

Thanks to all the current Block Chairpersons for a fantastic job.

The Link



Like what you see? Have suggestions or comments? This newsletter is intended to inform Riverbend neighbors of what is going on in and around our neighborhood. If there is something you would like to see included in the *The Link*, please contact Adrienne Bowser at 252-5334 or e-mail her at thelink@riverbendsub.org.

Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District News

Dear Riverbend Residents,

I would like to introduce myself as your new Administrative Officer for the off-duty patrols conducted by the Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvements District. I am Officer Charles Weary, a corporal with the Traffic Bureau of the Baton Rouge City Police Department for the last 18 years. For 16 of those years, I have been the Administrative Officer for the Riverbend Lakes Homeowners Association off-duty patrols, so I am very familiar with your neighborhood. Neighborhood patrols are most effective when the officers get to know the residents and the residents get to know the officers. To implement this, my officers and I will be reaching out to meet residents as we patrol and if you see us and want to introduce yourselves please just give a wave. Community policing is a two-way street. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Baton Rouge Police Department if you ever feel you need assistance or see something suspicious by calling District 2 at 389 3863.

Looking forward to meeting and working with you,

Corporal Charles Weary - Baton Rouge City Police Department




Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District Camera Policy

- It is the policy of the District that all electronic monitoring and data derived therefore is for the sole use of the Baton Rouge Police Department for official law enforcement purposes, only on behalf of the residents of the Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District and members of the Riverbend Lakes Homeowners Association, the Laurel Lakes Homeowners Association and Laurel Estates Homeowners Association.
- No member of the District's Board of Commissioners nor anyone else shall have access to the data from the cameras unless specified by this policy.
- Data from the cameras will be accessed by the Baton Rouge Police Department Officer responsible for coordinating the Riverbend off duty neighborhood patrols and one alternate Officer associated with patrols designated by the coordinating Officer. In addition, there shall be one additional officer designated by the Riverbend Lakes Homeowners' Association law enforcement coordinator.
- In the event of an emergency, the District chairman or vice chairman may authorize an additional Baton Rouge Police Officer temporary access to data from the cameras.
- The vendor for the cameras shall comply with this policy.
- The specific Officers designated for camera access are named in the attached addendum
- Security can be reached at 389-2000 and emailed at security@riverbendsub.org.



**In your corner &
around the corner.**

That's the real deal.  **State Farm®**

Steven Brooksher Jr. • 225-769-9955 • Se Habla Español

WALKONS
SPORTS BISTREAUX

\$5 Specials All Tuesday. Every Tuesday.
EVERY TUESDAY IS FAT TUESDAY.



SEE YA Tuesday

 **Earn Double Points**
FOR ONLINE ORDERS
ON TUESDAYS!

Download Our App
TO EARN POINTS.
OPEN CAMERA. SCAN CODE.



The Riverbend Directory



The Riverbend Directory is updated based on info we are aware of to date. If you are a new resident, please contact thelink@riverbendsub.org with your updated information. You must have a user name and password for access. If you are in need of a user name and password, please e-mail The Link @ thelink@riverbendsub.org.

Also, if you are interested in or know of someone who is interested in advertising in **The Link** or the Riverbend Directory, please e-mail thelink@riverbendsub.org. Advertisements are a way to cut the cost of printing the Directory and The Link.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL UPDATE

Please be informed that the Riverbend Homeowners Association (HOA) has sent letters to a number of residents regarding covenant violations. As an established neighborhood with no new homes – there is a tendency to disregard the importance of the subdivision regulations. Please, keep in mind that consistency in adherence to these regulations is very important in preserving Riverbend's reputation and character. The HOA website provides filing guidelines to homeowners to assist in complying with the various building, remodeling and property restrictions. Here's the website link: <http://www.riverbendsub.org/architectural-control/>. We will be following up with the letters that were previously sent and if they are not in compliance, action will be taken.

In closing, the upkeep of our property has the potential to attract more professionals and families to our neighborhood. This not only helps improve our quality of life, but also works toward increasing the neighborhood's property values. We believe, this is something that everyone should be willing to support.

Here are just a few things that needs HOA approval before starting work can be emailed for approval at acc@riverbendsub.org.

1. Painting the exterior
2. Remodeling your exterior
3. Changing your roof
4. Replacing or building fence



The Homeowner's Association would like to take this opportunity to remind residents a few things related to our subdivision restrictions:

1. Repeatedly parking vehicles on the street overnight or leaving vehicles parked on the street for an extended period is not allowed. This is a rare occurrence, but when it does occur it detracts from the appearance of the entire street and causes potential hazards.
2. City/Parish ordinances require that lawns be cut on a regular basis and Riverbend HOA asks that landscaping is also kept up. We have notified a few homeowners that have been lax in adhering to this requirement and hope this will resolve any such situations. Yes, we are mindful the effect the River has on Riverbend lawns.
3. We have several residents with boats parked on their property. Boats are not to be stored on property, which means carports, behind fences etc. If it can be seen from behind a fence it is in violation.

Adrienne Boutté Bowser, President, Riverbend HOA

UPCOMING EVENTS

4th of July is coming up. We are asking our residents to put up an American Flag by your mailbox in celebration of Independence Day.

We are also currently looking for a chairperson for the upcoming garage sale, TBA in the Fall.

Every September 11 residents can bring baked goods to the Firefighter House in celebration of Firemen Appreciation. The firefighter house is located directly across from the neighborhood entrance.



Be on the lookout for announcements posted on the bulletin board at the second island in the neighborhood. And by the way it will be getting a facelift very soon.



QUICK REMINDERS FROM MAINTENANCE



- Please do not put lawn clippings/leaves in the big ditches. Remind lawn services not to also. The ditches are critical to our Riverbend drainage system.
- When planting bushes/trees near a corner remember that drivers must be able to see 100 feet right and left when stopped 10 feet back from an intersection. You may be liable if you create the obstruction.
- When walking in the street at dusk and dark be sure to wear light colored clothes and carry a visible light. Otherwise, oncoming cars may not be able to see you, especially if another car is coming toward them with their lights on.
- When out for a walk, consider taking a bag to pick up random trash to help keep Riverbend beautiful.
- Please do not pile trash near light poles, mail boxes, trees, etc that make it difficult for the claw-arm truck to reach safely.
- Debris should be no longer than 12 feet and should be stacked within three feet of the road surface for the claw-arm truck to reach it.
- When exiting the neighborhood on to Brightside please leave room for the car that got there before you did to be able to see right and left on Brightside

GARBAGE & RECYCLING TIDBITS

Recently we have had problems with garbage and recycling in our neighborhood. While placing several calls to Republic and the City it is apparent that this is a city-wide problem and they are addressing it. Below are a few helpful tips that will aid in the process.

Tips:

- Separate your items that need to be picked up. Bulky waste items should be separate from yard waste items.
- Reminder- recycle and trash pickup for items such as large piles of brush are only **once a week**, not twice a week like the garbage pick-ups.
- There is a substantial increase in the volume of residential garbage during the summer months when children are home from school. Please keep in mind that many times garbage trucks must make more trips to pick up these extra loads which sometimes lead to later pick-ups. Your understanding and patience are appreciated.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 311.



RIVERBENDSUB.ORG E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Adrienne Boutte Bowser	President	president@riverbendsub.org
	The Link (Riverbend Homeowners' newsletter)	thelink@riverbendsub.org
Adrienne Boutte Bowser	Webmaster	thelink@riverbendsub.org
Adrienne Boutte Bowser	Social Events	socialevents@riverbendsub.org
Barbara Goodson	Treasurer	treasurer@riverbendsub.org
Off duty Baton Rouge Police	Security	security@riverbendsub.org
Andrea Ruckman	Head Block chairperson	blockchairperson@riverbendsub.org
Vacant	President, ACC	acc@riverbendsub.org
Riverbend Crime Prevention and Improvement District		crimedistrict@riverbendsub.org

DUES REMINDER!

Friendly reminder that dues paid after June 1 are now considered late. Paying your Annual Riverbend Homeowners Dues are essential in maintaining our neighborhood and keeping up the value of our homes and community.

Your payment is anticipated and appreciated. If you are not sure if you have paid your dues, you can check the website: www.riverbendsub.org or email thelink@riverbendsub.org to verify.

To pay your dues, simply visit www.riverbendsub.org, login with your username and password and click pay dues. If you would prefer to not do it online, you can send your payment to:

Riverbend Homeowners Association
c/o: Barbara Goodson
2941 Rene Beauregard Ave
Baton Rouge, LA 70820.

Thank you!

PAY DUES





TRUSTY

PROPERTIES

COMMERCIAL ▪ RESIDENTIAL ▪ INVESTMENTS

225.766.6162 ■ DAVID TRUSTY, BROKER

8940 BLUEBONNET BLVD ▪ BATON ROUGE ▪ 70810



Helpful Contact Numbers

Fire, Rescue	911
Police	389-2000
Poison Control	800-256-9822
Animal Control	774-7700
Entergy	800-368-3749
AT&T.....	800-288-2020
Call Before You Dig.....	800-372-3749
Parish Water	925-2011
Cox Cable.....	794-2635
Waste Management	389-3254
Mayor's Office.....	389-5100
Recycling Office.....	389-5194
Public Works.....	389-3158
Mosquito Abatement & Rodent Control	356-3297

Riverbend Park



The Riverbend Park is all new and updated with a new playground, tennis and basketball court and walking paths. Spend a day outside with family or friends. The address is 5800 Riverbend Lakes Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70820.

Streetlight repairs

Have you noticed a street light that is out or that is not working properly? Please contact Entergy at 800-368-3749.

