



The Village Crier

Monthly Newsletter for the Villages of Rivershyre, Dartmore, Brighton, Newport, and Edenton

K.M. Kearns, Editor
newsletter@rivershyre.org

www.rivershyre.org

A Message from the Association President

March, 2010



In This Issue

- Message from the RCA President
- Easter Egg hunt
- Message from the RCA Treasurer
- Lost & Found

Topics of Interest

Our Address & Phone Numbers	2
Yard of the Month	2
Calendar of Events	2
Meetings, Boards & Committees	3
Home Sales Updates	3
Committee Updates	4-7
Babysitter/Yard Work List	7

Hi everyone

A few Saturdays ago, I was up early and took a walk around the neighborhood. I do this most mornings, but on this particular morning there was something unique – snow!! As I walked around there was an excitement and sense of youth in the air. Kids were sledding, throwing snowballs, building forts, and constructing snowmen. Parents were also joining in on the fun and acting like kids themselves. Many of you who I talked to that morning were commenting on how beautiful it was outside with the blue sky and the white snow. One thing that made it exceptionally eye catching was how the snow sat on the trees in our neighborhood. And since we have so many trees, we all had a “Kodak moment” view that many neighborhoods do not enjoy. This is because many neighborhoods have very few trees, or many young trees. This is another unique aspect about our neighborhood and why we take pride in our neighborhood. But all this leads to a point, if you would like to remove a tree from your property, please submit a Property Access Request (PAR) before the first chain starts up. Members from the Architecture Control Committee (ACC) will review your request and respond to you in a timely manner. Unfortunately some folks in our neighborhood remove trees without a request and are then upset if/when a fine is placed against them. If we allowed all residents to remove trees at will, we would lose something special in our neighborhood.

Speaking of snow and trees, some of you may have lost a few limbs as a result of the heavy wet snow. Please dispose of these limbs properly. And properly does not mean throwing them over your fence into a common area, or dumping them down by the clubhouse.

We did have one tree that fell and blocked part of Rivershyre Drive. I would like to thank everyone who quickly responded to help cut up and remove this tree. Since I moved here in 2006, this was the second time I can recall Mother Nature causing some damage in the neighborhood – the other was the Microburst of 2007. In that incident we again had neighbors helping to remove debris, and saving the neighborhood money in the process. I would like to establish a Quick Reaction Response Team that could assist in removing debris or other items in the event of a natural disaster. If you have a pickup truck, chain saw, or are just willing to offer assistance if required, please contact me at: rca.pres@rivershyre.org. I would like to establish a roster, just in case.

Continued on Page 2

**The Villages of
Rivershyre**

P. O. Box 2194
Evans, GA 30809-2194

Rivershyre Association
& Clubhouse Phone
(706) 854-0229

Pool Phone
(706) 854-0283

Our E-Mail Addresses:

feedback@rivershyre.org

newsletter@rivershyre.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.rivershyre.org

Association President ...

Continued from Front page

Thanks always for those that support, volunteer and continue to make Rivershyre a great place to live.

T.M. Weisz
RCA President

**Our annual
Easter Egg
Hunt and Picnic**

When: March 20th

Time: 11:00am

Where: Clubhouse

Bring: Easter basket or bag

Rain date: March 28th at 2pm

**Please RSVP to Joanie by the
16th by calling 706-863-2931.**

**This is a free event, but we
need you to RSVP so we know
how many hotdogs to cook!**

**Babysitters
Listing**

If you would like to add
your name to the list,
send an email to:

babysitter@rivershyre.org.

Include your name,
address, phone number,
age, rate, and age range
of children you will sit.

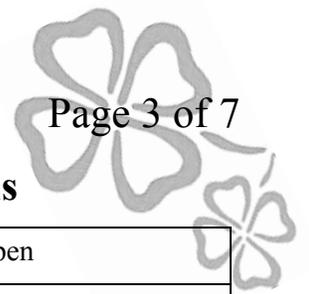
~ Rivershyre Yard of the Month ~

Rivershyre's sixty-sixth Yard of the Month can be found at **1125 Village Court**. This competition is sponsored by Philip Jones of Re/Max True Advantage. (706-833-4663). The monthly winners will have a very nice sign placed in their yard signifying that they have been selected as having the nicest yard in Rivershyre.

~ Calendar of Events ~

St. Patrick's Day	Wednesday, March 17 th
1 st day of Spring and Easter Egg Hunt	Saturday, March 20 th
Easter	Sunday, April 4 th

Newsletter articles are due by the 20th of each month. Drop them by 1116 Rivershyre Drive or email them to: newsletter@rivershyre.org.



2010 Board of Directors

T.M. Weisz	President
Dick Huskin	Vice President
Michael Nehlsen	Secretary
Holly Bullock	Treasurer
Kathryn and Tim Barrett, Renee Nehlsen, Bob Petty, Mike Amerson, Ziad Husein, Bill Rutledge, Jack Bryant, Laura Higgins and Horace Carney	Members

Rivershyre Home Sales Update

This monthly newsletter item includes information on the homes in Rivershyre that are either currently on the market or have recently closed. This information is provided courtesy of Philip Jones of Re/Max True Advantage. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Philip at 833-4663.

Active Listings as of 2/16/2010

1087 Severn Drive	\$239,000
1081 Rivershyre Court	\$224,900
1212 Oakton Trail	\$249,900
1107 Rivershyre Drive	\$235,000

Sold Properties 9/16/2009 – 2/16/2010

1151 Oakton Court	\$207,500
1131 Oakton Court	\$219,900
1153 Oakton Court	\$348,500
1158 Oakton Trail	\$218,900
1165 Oakton Trail	\$257,000

Pending Sales as of 2/16/2010

none

Average Sales for Previous 6 Months

Average Home Size	2798 sq. ft.
Average Sales Price	\$219,000
Average Dollar per Sq. Ft.	\$86.73
Average Days on the Market	111 days

Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Open
By-Laws & Nominating	Dick Huskin
Finance	Holly Bullock
Grounds & Lake	Open
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Kathryn Barrett
Pool	Kim Norland
Social & Welcome	Renee Nehlsen

If you are interested in joining one of our committees, please visit at our next meeting. If you have a concern or issue that falls under the purview of one of the above committees, please contact the committee chairperson or any member of that committee.

Committee Meetings

Architectural Control	4 th Monday, 7:30 pm
Board of Directors	1 st Tuesday, 7:30 pm
By-Laws & Nominating	No Regularly Scheduled Meetings
Finance	As needed
Grounds & Lake	3 rd Monday, 7:30 pm
Pool	3 rd Thursday, 7:30 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	4 th Thursday, 7:00 pm
Social & Welcome	2 nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm

All committee meetings are held at the Rivershyre Clubhouse unless otherwise noted. All committee meetings are open to homeowners. Please join a committee and help our neighborhood continue to be a wonderful place to live.

Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in renting the clubhouse, please contact Debbie Weisz at 706-228-7314. The fee is only \$75.00 plus a \$150.00 security deposit. The Clubhouse accommodates up to 80 people. Clubhouse rental does not include use of the pool.

The Clubhouse phone number is 854-0229. The rental agreement, clubhouse rules, and check in/out checklist can be found on our website by clicking on "Clubhouse" or "Documents".

Committee Updates & Notes

Architectural Control Committee

With Spring officially just around the corner, the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) would like to encourage all residents to take a look at their property and tune up or fix up those little things that may have weathered poorly over the past year. For example, many mailboxes and box posts around the neighborhood are beginning to show a little wear.

Most all mailboxes start to fade after several hot Georgia summers and sometimes posts start to lean a little. With visitors arriving soon for the "local golf event", please take a little time and put your box and post in shape. That includes placing the correct size (3") numbers on both sides of the box/post as required by Columbia County ordinances. Such detail is also of great benefit to the Sheriff's Department and delivery people.

The committee would like to remind everyone that prior to removing any live trees or large scrubs, residents must receive approval from the committee by means of a Property Alteration Request (PAR). Other changes that require an approved PAR include construction of pools, sunrooms, fences or other structures and significant architectural alterations to the exterior of homes. PAR forms are available on the Rivershyre website in the ACC section on the "Committees" page. Residents are reminded PARs must be submitted BEFORE the alteration takes place and with sufficient time to allow the committee to address the request including contacting the resident if there are any questions. The Rivershyre website may be found at www.rivershyre.org.

The committee currently has three voting members, but there is a need for several more. We would like to have representation on the committee from each of the five villages of Rivershyre. Currently only three villages are represented. Please give some thought to joining the committee and feel free to attend any of our

monthly meetings. They are held at the clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. The next one will be March 22nd.

A Message from the Treasurer

Dear Rivershyre,

Hopefully everyone has received their invoice for the 2010 homeowner's dues. I want to say a special "thank you" to all the people who helped me get the invoices out this year: Tom Mulherin, Kelly Shay, Heather and Isaac Gaitonde, Rita, Keith, and Bob Petty, Michael and Audrey Nehlsen, Alex Trakowski, and Mark Lowry. Your willingness to help saved the neighborhood over \$100.00 in postage and made my job so much easier.

Thank you also to the 48 homeowner's whose payments I have already received!! As stated before, your check for \$240.00 is due before 15 March. After that a 10% late fee is added and if it's not paid by 15 May then fines are added and a lien is filed. If you have any questions please call me at 706-855-8122.

Thank you in advance for paying on time,

Holly Bullock, Treasurer, RCA

Committee Updates Continued

Grounds and Lake Committee

The Grounds and Lake Committee has been busy this winter and will continue to have a lot of activities as we move into spring. The cleanup of the playground was the task during February and went well. The cedar fence and both play structures were pressure washed and now look much better. The new coat of stain should be in place by the time this issue of the newsletter is distributed. After the staining is finished, new hardware and swing equipment will be installed.

During the monthly workday on Saturday, February 20th, approximately 15 volunteers showed up to remove the winter debris from the area and spread a truckload of new Cyprus chips. The good news is the work took little time and the job was finished before noon. The not so good news is only a few new faces turned out. With a neighborhood of about 275 families, we wish more new faces would show up and support the neighborhood cleanup and repair activities.

The committee undertakes these projects to keep association costs at a minimum while maintaining neighborhood amenities. If these tasks were turned over to contractors, our costs and therefore the annual dues paid by homeowners would increase significantly. For example, an estimated \$700 was saved by the volunteers that cleaned up and repaired the playground.

The schedule for activities in the coming months include repairs to the foot-bridge on the nature trail in March and repairs to the fence and turf grass at the neighborhood entrance in late spring.

When you see an announcement about a planned work activity, please plan to participate and help us make Rivershyre a better and more beautiful place to live. Also, please consider contributing to our neighborhood by joining the committee and helping to maintain Rivershyre. The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the

Rivershyre Clubhouse. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15th. If you would like to join the committee or simply have questions, please contact any member or send an e-mail to rca.gl@rivershyre.com.



A medium sized leather-bound & zippered Spanish Bible was found on Rivershyre Drive on February 25th. It appears to be nearly new and it has an inscription in the front.

The owner of this bible, please contact the newsletter at rca.news@rivershyre.org and describe the inscription. You will then be given information to pick up your item.



**Annual Yard Sale coming in May!!!!
See next month's newsletter for date.**



Other Committee/Activity Updates

Pool Committee Report

WOW, February is over and we are only two months away from our grand opening of Rivershyre's Pool on May 1, 2010. We were teased with some wonderful warm weather over the weekend of February 19th – the previous weekend being cold with 6 inches of snow!! We can thank Mother Nature and her wacky weather here in Augusta, Georgia. We just held our second Pool Committee Meeting for 2010 with our main topic being pool memberships and how we can increase our numbers for the upcoming pool season.

During this meeting, we decided and voted that the pool membership will remain at \$300 for “vested” members and \$400 for “outside” members. For those Rivershyre residents who have not paid or are still paying the initial one time fee of \$400, will still have to pay that either in one lump sum or \$100 increments over a four year period. The Pool Committee also decided and voted that we will once again offer the “Early Bird” special to returning members. This being that if you pay your 2010 pool membership during the period of March 1st through April 11th, you will receive a \$25.00 concession stand card. New members and for families that were not a member in 2009 will have a \$25.00 discount anytime during this summer.

Last, but not least, if a pool member refers someone new and they join our pool for the 2010 season, they will receive a \$25.00 referral discount on their membership. Just think how much one can save if you can get a friend or two to join and enjoy our wonderful pool we have here at Rivershyre. Should you have a referral, there will be a section on the pool application for you to fill out.

In addition to the Early Bird special and referral discounts, each family that joins will receive a free

\$10.00 concession stand card. The pool membership application will be included in our March Newsletter. You will also have the option of paying for your membership through PayPal (there is a special application for this and a processing fee to use this option).

We are accepting applications for the position of Pool Attendant. You must be at least 16 years old by May 1st in order to apply and have your application to me by April 1st. If anyone is interested, please email me at rca.pool@rivershyre.org or call me on my cell at 706-495-3436. Interviews will be conducted later on in the month of April. You will have to become CPR certified (we will have someone conduct this class as a group) and attend “Pool School” in April.

At our March Pool meeting, the committee and all that would like to attend will discuss what projects we will complete before opening day on May 1st. We will set aside dates to complete these projects during the month of April. Please consider giving us some of your time on any of the forthcoming dates. Rivershyre's Pool Committee consists of some hard working – fun loving people who would greatly appreciate additional volunteers. Come on – join us and let's help keep our pool looking great for the years to come!!



Other Committee/Activity Updates

Neighborhood Watch & Safety



Hope everyone enjoyed the snow we had last month! I know the kids really had a great time.

In April, Neighborhood Watch and Safety will be sponsoring our annual **Safety Night Out**. This year we will be covering computer, phone and mail scams, fraud prevention and how to protect yourself and family on the internet. Columbia County Sherriff's Department will be providing the speakers. We will let you know the date and time in the next newsletter.

In February, we had three incidents of aggressive dogs in our neighborhood.

On February 3 there was an elderly gentleman who was attacked by a red pit bull dog. The dog tried to pull him into the intersection of Rivershyre Dr. and Midford Court. A quick thinking neighbor, Frank Lazenby, fortunately saw the attack. He used his car to block the vicious dog and fend it away from the man who was under attack. The person could have been severely injured. He notified Animal Control. While he was waiting on them to come, the dog attacked and killed a small black cat that belonged to Karen Kearns, our newsletter editor. She had the cat for 19 years. Animal Control was not able to locate the dog at that time.

Two weeks later another person in our neighborhood had a large black dog in her yard that was acting aggressively towards her. She called Animal Control. They were unable to locate the dog.

On February 14 a lady was walking around the same area as the gentleman on February 3 and was attacked by a red pit bull. She tried to stop him with her walking stick. Ziad Husien and Charles Newsome saw it and came to her rescue. Animal Control was notified. They did find the dog owner. They were assured by the owners that the dog would be under their control when in their backyard at all times.

If you see an aggressive animal, call **Animal Control at 706-541-4077**. If it is an evening or weekend, you

can call the **Sherriff's Department 706-541-2800 or 911**. They will get in touch with someone at Animal Control to come and capture the dog.

Please tell your children to keep an eye out for dogs that are running loose. We don't want any children to be injured. If you have a dog, again please make sure that they are confined to your yard. When you are walking your dogs or if they get out of your yard, please realize that you are responsible for the welfare and safety of other animals and people who they meet. This also applies to the Nature Area and Hardy Lake.

I sent out an alert by email to everyone in Rivershyre on February 20 concerning the dog incidents. If you did not receive it, please send me your email address and phone number to kbarrett29@comcast.net.

We have had no further incidents reported to the Sherriff's Department this past month.

Baby Sitter / Yard Work List

<u>Names</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Sitter</u>	<u>Yard Wk</u>
Kristen Beasley	706-869-0223	X	
Sohaila Digsby	706-421-6168	X (day hrs)	
Ashlie Morrow	706-550-0178	X	
Nadia & Bianca Franz	706-364-4433	X	
Jason Brickey	706-863-7039		X
Tori Williams	706-854-9569	X	
Becky Sanger	706-364-7562	X	
Oscar Valentin	706-364-4082	X	X
Wesley Valentin	706-364-4082	X	X
Catherine Weisz	706-228-7314	X	
Leah Haney	706-868-7429	X	
Christy Shay	706-210-9034	X	
Paige Jarrard	706-868-7169	X	
Sarine Husein	706-650-7771	X	
Caitlen Taylor	706-855-6638	X	
Tori Williams	706-854-9569	X	