



# The Village Crier

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

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[www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org)

## A Message from the Association President

April, 2010

**SPRING  
has  
SPRUNG!**

### *In This Issue*

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- Message from the RCA Treasurer
- Calling all Rivershyre Business Owners

### *Topics of Interest*

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Hello Rivershyre families,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter, Spring Break, and possible Masters experience.

I know that I've talked a lot about volunteering, but I would like to share a few things with you again...Recently one of our neighbors who has religiously volunteered for years in our neighborhood informed me that he was frustrated and ready to stop spending his personal time supporting the neighborhood. And believe me, this neighborhood needs this volunteer! The "straw that broke the camel's back" for this dedicated volunteer came when another neighbor mentioned that he did not have to volunteer because he pays his neighborhood dues. I also received an email from a neighbor that stated she and her husband had volunteered for years but became frustrated and stopped because it was always the same small group of volunteers that were doing the majority of the work in our neighborhood.

Here are a few facts that some of you may not be aware of. Those who volunteer in our neighborhood pay the same amount of homeowners' dues that all 275 residents pay. Volunteers do not receive any discounts, special parking, or any other perks. Unfortunately there is a small core group of people that volunteer over and over again; and there are a significant number of homeowners that feel they don't need to help. So it is easy to see why our volunteers get frustrated.

Our neighborhood is reaching an age where many repairs are required. If you believe the current dues we pay are enough to cover all the expenses and maintenance in our neighborhood, you are wrong. It is because of the dedication of our small group of volunteers that keeps us running. Here are some examples: In January a group of volunteers spent a few weekends working at the clubhouse painting and repairing. Estimated cost of savings: \$1500. In February, volunteers cleaned the fence and equipment and replaced wood chips at the playground. Estimated savings: \$1200. In March volunteers spent three weekends clearing the paths at the nature trail, removing the rotting foot bridge and replacing it. Estimated savings: \$8500. That's over \$11,000 of savings in the first three months of this year alone, all accomplished by a small group (for the most part the exact same people) of volunteers. What if we didn't have *ANY* volunteers? The math tells me that in three months alone, our homeowners' dues would be higher by \$40. In a year, it could be as much as \$160 added to our current cost of \$240.

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**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](mailto:feedback@rivershyre.org)

[newsletter@rivershyre.org](mailto:newsletter@rivershyre.org)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org)

**Association President ...**

*Continued from Front page*

Our neighborhood's volunteers are getting tired and frustrated. Something needs to change - and something will change - one way or the other. Maybe those that don't want to volunteer could pay more homeowners dues. Maybe we just contract out all the work we need accomplished in the neighborhood and all 275 residents pay higher homeowner's dues. Maybe there is another solution. However, "business as usual" is no longer an option. There are so many ways to volunteer... you don't have to build bridges or paint walls. Maybe you like to sew or you're an artist... call a board member to see how you can help. Remember, keeping our neighborhood in good condition is an asset to the value of our homes. Our neighborhood has a lot to offer and I believe we would all like to keep it that way.

T.M. Weisz  
RCA President



**Annual yard sale!**

April 24<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 am

\$2.50 per home (someone will come around in the morning to collect money)

~ **Rivershyre Yard of the Month** ~

Rivershyre's sixty-seventh Yard of the Month can be found at **1102 Severn Hill**. 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** ~

Easter	Sunday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>
Columbia County Schools Spring Break	April 5 <sup>th</sup> – April 9 <sup>th</sup>
Masters Golf Tournament	April 8 <sup>th</sup> – April 11 <sup>th</sup>
Tax Day	Thursday, April 15 <sup>th</sup>
Safety Night Out – Rivershyre Club House	Thursday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Rivershyre Annual Yard Sale	Saturday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>
Arbor Day	Friday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>

**Babysitters  
Listing**

If you would like to add your name to the list, send an email to:  
[babysitter@rivershyre.org](mailto:babysitter@rivershyre.org).

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

*Newsletter articles are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Drop them by 1116 Rivershyre Drive or email them to: [newsletter@rivershyre.org](mailto: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 3/15/2010

1081 Rivershyre Court	\$224,900
1212 Oakton Trail	\$249,900
1107 Rivershyre Drive	\$235,000
1087 Severn Drive	\$239,000
1135 Rivershyre Drive	\$212,500
1165 Parkside Trail	\$199,900

#### Sold Properties 10/15/2009 – 3/15/2010

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

#### Pending Sales as of 3/15/2010

none

#### Average Sales for Previous 6 Months

Average Home Size	2648 sq. ft.
Average Sales Price	\$218,950
Average Dollar per Sq. Ft.	\$84.50
Average Days on the Market	113 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 <sup>th</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm
Board of Directors	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 pm
By-Laws & Nominating	No Regularly Scheduled Meetings
Finance	As needed
Grounds & Lake	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm
Pool	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday, 7:00 pm
Social & Welcome	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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

Spring is here and everything is starting to bloom again. The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) would like to take this opportunity to remind all residents that our lawns are also greening up and will be in need of trimming, edging and weeding. Please take the extra time to include edging along the street curbing.

As was mentioned in last month's Newsletter, most all mailboxes start to fade after several hot Georgia summers and sometimes posts start to lean a little. Please take a little time and put your box and post in proper shape. That includes cleaning up the mailbox or replacing it with a new one if the current one is rusted, dented or just worn out. That also 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. And don't forget the post. If it's leaning or rotted or just too short, please replace it with a new one.

If you are planning any new construction or major modifications to the lot or exterior of the house, such as fences, patios, pools, tree removals, etc., please don't forget to submit a Property Alteration Request (PAR) to the ACC. 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](http://www.rivershyre.org).

One of the ongoing issues the ACC is dealing with is the chronic problem of inappropriate parking of certain vehicles in the neighborhood. While a number of letters have been sent to residents over the past several years, the problem continues. The Covenants state vehicles other than "conventional automobiles, jeeps and pick-up trucks" shall not be parked in the neighborhood except in certain cases. Those include during periods of construction (or other work by a contracted service) or if the vehicle is for purely recreational uses and is parked in a garage or behind a privacy screen. Contrary to this, some neighbors continue to park their inappropriate vehicles at their

residences. Sometimes this takes the form of boats/trailers in a driveway, or a utility trailer in the side yard or elsewhere outside the privacy fence. Some of the most noticeable violations involve parking of commercial vehicles on the premises or at the curb. This sort of action is not only unsightly but also a safety hazard when it obstructs the view of drivers or pedestrians, particularly when small children are present. In short, non-recreational vehicles that do not have the appearance of "conventional automobiles, jeeps and pick-up trucks" are not permitted to be parked in the neighborhood by residents or guests and while recreational vehicles are allowed, they must be screened from view. Commercial vehicles are permitted, however, when used by contractors working at a residence.

The committee meets at the clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. The next one will be April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## A Message from the Treasurer

Spring is here and I just want to say a BIG "Thank You" to those who paid your homeowner's dues on time! We are on track with last year with 45 residents still owing their dues plus the late fee. The payment is now \$264.00. Please mail it to the PO box 2194 in Evans.

If you have any questions, call me at 706-855-8122. Thank you for your cooperation.

Holly Bullock, Treasurer, RCA

## RIVERSHYRE BUSINESS OWNERS!

If you own a business and would like to donate something for the drawing at the Safety Night Out on April 22nd, please contact Kathryn Barrett at [kbarrett29@comcast.net](mailto:kbarrett29@comcast.net).

See page 7 of newsletter for more details!

# Committee Updates Continued

## Grounds and Lake Committee

The Grounds and Lake Committee continues to be busy and will continue to have a lot of activities before summer arrives. During last month's workday on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 12 volunteers pitched in to begin the rebuild of the small bridge on the Nature Trail. While we call it the small bridge, there's nothing small about the task to repair it. The bridge is actually about 40 feet long and constructed of 50 railroad ties placed across two steel I-beams spanning the creek. The good news is the day's task of removing the old cross-ties went well with no major injuries and no one fell in the creek. However, that Saturday's task was only half of the job. The second part is installing the new deck of the bridge. We are replacing the old railroad ties with pressure-treated 6" x 6" beams. These should last much longer than "used" railroad ties.

Another major project coming up soon will be the remodeling of the front entrance. We need suggestions from you concerning what changes and improvements should be made. Our plan is to redesign the landscaping and replace the worn fencing on either side of the entrance. We need your ideas on what style, type and color of fencing to install and what landscaping changes you would like to see. We have some beautiful stone columns that have become hidden behind the shrubbery. We would like to rearrange the shrubbery to better showcase the stonework. Please give us your ideas. You can send e-mails to [rca.gl@rivershyre.org](mailto:rca.gl@rivershyre.org), letters to the Grounds & Lake Committee at P.O. Box 2194, or simply come to our next meeting.

The committee undertakes these projects to keep association costs to a minimum while maintaining neighborhood amenities. As stated by the President of the association in his article earlier in this Newsletter, if these tasks were turned over to contractors, our costs and therefore the annual dues paid by homeowners would increase significantly.

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, April 19<sup>th</sup>. 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.org](mailto:rca.gl@rivershyre.org).

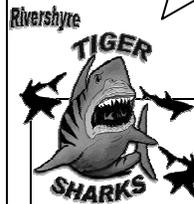
**FOR SALE**

**RIVERSHYRE POOL OWNERS**

**Used Solar Panels - can be cut to size for your pool.**

**Please contact us and we will work out a great deal!!**

Send email to [rca.pool@rivershyre.org](mailto:rca.pool@rivershyre.org) or call  
(706)854-0229



## TIGERSHARK NEWS

It is April and it is time to register to be a member of the Rivershyre Swim Team. Registration Dates are April 22 (Thursday) from 6:00 to 8:00 and April 24 (Saturday) from 9:00 to 12:00 pm. Both sessions will be at the clubhouse.

The Tigersharks are starting another new era. Coach Jessie Usry has decided to stay at school for the summer. Jessie is a wonderful young person and did a great job with our kids. She will hand over the reigns to another Rivershyre resident, Alex Trakowski. Alex along with Jessie was part of the group that started the Tigersharks. He has been an assistant coach for us in the past as well as Co-Head Coach at Stratford. To show the kind of character that Alex has, when he was the coach at Stratford they won the Division Championship. After Alex reviewed the results he found an error and reported it to the CSRA League and Stratford ended up finishing second that year. This is the type of young man that will be leading our kids. We are proud!

This year we will be swimming against the Augusta Jewish Community Center, Augusta Country Club,

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## Other Committee/Activity Updates

### Pool Committee Report

Our first day of Spring could not have been much better than what we had on March 20<sup>th</sup>. People are itching to get outside, soak up the sun, work in their yards and soon Rivershyre Pool members will be hanging out at the pool. In the February Newsletter, I stated that the official opening day was going to be Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, however we are going to have to bump it up one day to Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. My apologies, with all that is going on in the neighborhood with the Yard Sale, the Nature Trail bridge renovation and dates needed to get the pool ready, we felt we needed to change it. Tentatively, May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the soft opening and May 8<sup>th</sup> will be the GRAND OPENING of the Rivershyre Pool.

Don't forget, as stated in the February newsletter, we are offering the Early Bird Special!!! If you pay your 2010 pool membership between the dates of March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 11<sup>th</sup>, you will receive a \$25 concession stand card. New members and for Rivershyre families that were not pool members in 2009 and join for the 2010 pool season, will receive a \$25 cash discount. Thirdly, if a pool member refers someone new and that new family joins our pool for the 2010 season, they will receive a \$25 cash referral discount. I have already been told by a couple of residents that they already have a "new member" referral. The 2010 pool application was included in the February Newsletter.

I am still accepting emails from anyone that is interested in working as a Pool Attendant. You must be 16 years old by May 1<sup>st</sup> in order to work during this year's pool season and email me at [rca.pool@rivershyre.org](mailto:rca.pool@rivershyre.org) or you may call me at 706-495-3436. You need to already be CPR certified or attend the CPR class that we will have towards the end of April. We have also scheduled "interview" dates on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00, Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 and Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:00. Each interested person will be interviewed during a 15 minute time slot and it will be "first come, first serve" as to what time slot you will have. Again, you can email me or call me at the above website or phone number to get your time slot. I do understand that some of you may be gone during Spring Break, that is why we included the 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be making our decision after we finish all of the interviews and

after our April Pool Committee meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

We have also scheduled "Pool Work Days" obviously, weather permitting – any help is welcomed and greatly appreciated. These dates are all on a Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be having "Pool School" on April 24<sup>th</sup> for those that are chosen to be our 2010 Pool Attendants and they will also be expected to help out with getting the pool ready for opening day.

Our next Pool Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. Again, all is welcome to attend and/or join the Pool Committee. The main topic that will be discussed are what specific things that need to be done during our April "Work Days."

The Pool Committee and I look forward to seeing everyone down at the pool!!

### Tigersharks ...

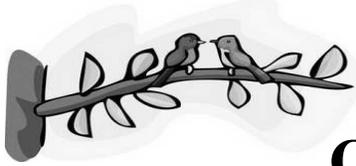
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Knob Hill, Farmington, and Woodbridge. Should be a lot of fun and we will enjoy a lot of PaPa John's Pizza from Rivershyre Resident Eddie Jordan.

We also are looking for dedicated parents who are willing to help with the swim team. The swim team cannot operate without a pool, kids, and parents. The swim team is a great way to meet your neighbors and get involved in a sport and an activity that is a family fun environment.

We welcome all kids from ages 4 to 18 to join the team. In keeping with our motto "If you can get them in the water, we will figure out how to get them to the other side."

For more information in regard to the swim team please contact Tim and Christina Troutman 706-855-2892. If you are a parent interested in getting involved with the team, please contact Tim Troutman at the number above or at [tatroutman@rdbrowncontractors.com](mailto:tatroutman@rdbrowncontractors.com).



# Other Committee/Activity Updates

## Neighborhood Watch & Safety



**Thursday, April 22 at 7:30 PM**  
**Neighborhood Watch and Safety** is having another **SAFTEY NIGHT OUT** program for everyone in the neighborhood.

Deputy Richard Robinson from the Columbia County Sherriff's Department will be our guest speaker. He will be covering all kinds of scams and fraud. He will tell you how they slip through your phone line. Give you tips on how to avoid being a victim as well as how to protect yourself and your family from fraud. We also will have drawings for various door prizes that have been donated from several business owners in the neighborhood as well as the surrounding area. Refreshments will be provided.

April is the last month that you can burn your leaves. Please be sure to call **1-877-OK2-BURN** or get your permit on the internet at [www.Gatrees.org](http://www.Gatrees.org). Please remember not to leave your fire unattended and to have it out by dark.

Spring break is around the corner. Please call the Sherriff's Department at **706-541-2800** to put your house on the **House Watch** list. Set your light timers; stop your paper and your mail while you are gone. Most importantly, let your next door neighbor know you are gone so they can also keep a look out for you.

We are having trouble at Hardy Lake with young children taking boats out on the lake without adult supervision. Please make sure you are with them and that they are wearing a life jacket. We don't want them to capsize the boat and drown!

Everyone is out walking now and enjoying this great weather. When you are walking at night, please wear white, reflective clothing and/or carry a flash light so cars can see you. Walk facing traffic. Please remind your children not to leave their bicycles and skate board ramps in the street.

There are no incidents to report again this month! We are all doing a great job in making sure that our cars and homes are secure! Thank you. I have also had no reports on aggressive dogs this month.

As a reminder if you did not get my email alert in February concerning the dog incidents, please email me at [kbarrett29@comcast.net](mailto:kbarrett29@comcast.net) so I can add you to the emergency contact list. I also need your address and phone number.

**If you own a business and would like to donate something for the drawing at the Safety Night out, please contact me at [kbarrett29@comcast.net](mailto:kbarrett29@comcast.net).**

## Baby Sitter / Yard Work List

<u>Names</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Sitter</u>	<u>Yard Wk</u>
Kristen Beasley	706-869-0223	X	
Sohailla 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	

