



# 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)

## Summer Kick Off!

June, 2008



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Our first pool party was a fantastic way to kick off the summer season and a great success! Even mother nature cooperated. We had almost 100 people come out for food, fun, swimming, and a pig roast!! It was a wonderful time and many thanks to those who came out!

Special thanks has to go out to Mike Amerson, his son Mitchell, Bill Rutledge, and CHICO for getting up extra early (3am) and getting the pig roast started. Even an early morning thunderstorm did not deter them from grilling. And we had plenty to go around. Mike has done lots of great things for our neighborhood, and I have thanked him before in these newsletters, but I'll have to tip my cap for being a great chef as well. It was DELICIOUS!!!!

The Social & Welcome committee helped the Pool committee set up and bring some of the goodies. There was also lots of great food brought by all the guests and nobody "swam" away hungry!

Also joining the party was the Neighborhood Watch & Safety committee. They set up a visit by the Columbia County Dive & Rescue team and brought in an ambulance from Gold Cross.

Many thanks to the pool committee for getting everything ready for the new season. TM Weisz has spent several weekends ripping apart, repairing and painting the bathrooms. Tim Taylor and Dick Huskin spent a number of weekends cleaning and getting the pool set up; plus putting their Certified Pool Operator license to use. They have already been complemented on how clear and clean the water is and how "easy" it has been on their eyes.

For those of you who have not joined the pool yet, it's not too late!! Attached to this newsletter is a pool application. You can also get an application at the pool or at [www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org). It's going to get hot so get your pool pass and dive on in!!

### Board News

The board is currently reviewing the by-laws and charter of the association. We are examining different options "if" we decide to move over responsibilities to a property management company. As I have mentioned in the past, we do have enough volunteers and board members to get the business of being a community association done. But, if we run short of volunteers down the road, we want to make sure any future boards can, very quickly, move the bulk of responsibilities to a management company. (It's always better to be *proactive* rather than *reactive*!) In the end, we'll

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The Villages of  
Rivershyre

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

Rivershyre Association  
Clubhouse & Pool Phone  
(706) 854-0229

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:

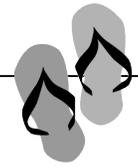
[www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org)

**Have some spare  
time?**

All of the Rivershyre committees are looking for volunteers. An hour or two each month will go a long way to help your neighbors and the neighborhood. If you can spare some time, your help will be appreciated.

**Upcoming Events**

Watch the front board for information on the Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and other July 4<sup>th</sup> events! It's always a fun time!



**Easy Summertime Play Ideas**

**Have a scavenger hunt.** Make a list of 20 activities in your neighborhood. The list could include activities like drinking from a water fountain, climbing a tree or throwing a basketball into the net on your driveway. Arm the kids with a Polaroid or digital camera (with young children, Mom or Dad can play photographer), and then spend a few hours finding the objects or performing the tasks on the list and taking a picture of them. Once the kids have completed all 20, help them make a keepsake poster of their pictures.

**Play Frisbee.** Create a game of Frisbee basketball by hanging a basket from a tree limb close to the ground. Arm the kids with mini Frisbees and see who can make the most baskets.

**Toss rocks.** Since you probably don't have horseshoes on hand, collect rocks from the backyard or a local park. Each family member can personalize their rock with their name or a different marking. Then set a target about 10 to 12 feet away and take turns throwing rocks at the target to see who comes closest.

**Clubhouse Rentals**

If you are interested in renting the clubhouse, please contact Alyson Ludwick at 706-855-2844 or Carolyn Julian at 706-496-2189. The fee is only \$60.00 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".

~ **Rivershyre Yard of the Month** ~

Rivershyre's forty-fifth Yard of the Month can be found at **1158 Oakton Trail**. This competition is sponsored by Philip and Sharon Jones of Re/Max Realtors (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** \*\*\*

Father's Day	Sunday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>
First Day of Summer	Friday, June 20 <sup>th</sup>

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).

## 2008 Board of Directors

Bill Ferguson	President
Grady Taylor	Vice President
Barbara Broome	Secretary
Holly Bullock	Treasurer
Chuck Faulkner, Dick Huskin, Kathryn Barrett, T.M. Weisz, Kelley Nihill, Bob Petty, Renee Nehlsen, Marybeth and Oscar Valentin	Members

The Board of Directors meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Clubhouse.

### 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 and Sharon Jones of Re/Max Augusta Realtors. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Philip or Sharon at 833-4663.

#### Active Listings as of 5/20/08

1080 Severn Hill Circle	\$240,000
1088 Severn Drive	\$254,900
1168 Oakton Trail	\$244,900
1107 Rivershyre Drive	\$278,888
1214 Oakton Trail	\$257,000
1195 Rivershyre Drive	\$259,900
1106 Rivershyre Drive	\$278,888
1202 Newport Trail	\$244,900

#### Pending Sales as of 5/20/08

1122 Midford Court  
1149 Hartford Trail  
1182 Rivershyre Drive  
2003 Rivershyre Drive  
1086 Severn Drive

#### Sold Properties 2/20/08 – 5/20/08

N/A

#### Average Sales for Previous 6 Months

Average Home Size	2,830 sq. ft.
Average Sales Price	\$249,900
Average Dollar per Sq. Ft.	\$89.00
Average Days on the Market	41 days

## Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Marybeth Valentin
By-Laws & Nominating	Dick Huskin
Finance	Russ Leseberg
Grounds & Lake	Open
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Kathryn Barrett
Pool	Open
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, 7:00 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, 7:00 pm
Pool	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:00 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday, 7:00 pm
Social & Welcome	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 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.

### New to Rivershyre?

We'd like to include your family in our next Rivershyre directory. Contact Karen Kearns at [thekearns2004@yahoo.com](mailto:thekearns2004@yahoo.com) and she will deliver a copy of our current directory to you. She'll also get your information to update our computer database. If you have a new phone number or a new family addition, call with information too. We want to have as complete and up-to-date directory as we can.

# Committee Updates & Notes

## ...Kick Off

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need to have a neighborhood vote to change any by-law. Stay tuned.

The Columbia County Greenspace committee is back and looking at our nature trail area. Their goal is build a path from Riverside Park (next to Riverside Elementary) all the way out to Patriots park. Part of their route will run through our nature area and they are looking our land along Euchee creek. There will be a land assessor roaming through our nature trails in the coming weeks. One of the options the Greenspace committee is putting in front of us is purchasing the land.

At our June board meeting, we will discuss the Greenspace options and decide on next steps. If you have any comments or concerns, your are welcome to drop me a note or come to our next board meeting on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> (7:30 at the clubhouse).

Letters have gone out to the 22 homeowners who have yet to pay their 2008 homeowners fees. They have been notified that if no payment is made by June 15<sup>th</sup>, the association will file a lien against the homeowner. (Note: putting a lien against a home will show up on any credit report and a home can not be sold until the lien is settled.)

### Barking Dogs

With the beautiful spring weather we've been having, many neighbors have been sleeping with their windows open at night. Unfortunately, some homeowners are leaving their dogs outside and they are barking incessantly. For those homeowners who have dogs, please respect your neighbors. Dogs that keep barking and barking makes it hard to sleep.

For those neighbors who are being disturbed, Columbia County asks you to submit a complaint to Animal Control. Once a complaint has been filed, they will send a letter to the homeowner notifying them of a complaint. If there are further problems, you can call the Sheriff's department and file a complaint with them. In most instances, they will send a patrol car to the homeowner's house and inform the homeowner of the problem and asking them to solve it.

You may also send a note the Architectural Control Committee for their records. The ACC will send a note to the homeowner as well. (That is the limit to our

authority in this instance.)

### Upcoming events

Mark your calendar for the Fourth of July Weekend! Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the pool will be open to the entire neighborhood to celebrate the holiday. The Social & Welcome committee will be planning our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade through the neighborhood. Watch the front board for additional updates.

If you have any neighborhood questions, concerns, or would like to join a committee, please give me a shout.

Bill Ferguson

[Georgiaterp@comcast.net](mailto:Georgiaterp@comcast.net)

706.651.1797

## Neighborhood Watch & Safety



Hope everybody is ready for summer vacation! As a reminder don't forget to contact the Sherriff's Department and put your house on their watch list. They will make sure all of your windows and doors are locked while you are gone. Their number is 706-541-2800. Don't forget to set your light timers, stop your paper and your mail while you are gone.

Now that it is time for summer break we need to start paying more attention to our children as they are playing in the neighborhood. We have had several complaints about dogs running loose in the neighborhood. This can be a very dangerous situation not only for the children but also your pets. No one wants to risk their child being bitten much less your dog being hit by a car. We are also getting a lot of complaints about dogs barking in at night. Here are the highlights of the Columbia County Animal control laws which you can find on their website under [columbiacountyga.gov](http://columbiacountyga.gov):

### COLUMBIA COUNTY LEASH LAW

Columbia County requires dogs to be under their owner's control at all times. This means they must be on a leash or confined to their owner's property. Dogs that run loose are subject to impoundment, and their owners are responsible for impoundment and boarding

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## Pool Committee Report

### The Pool is Open! 2008 Pool Season in Rivershyre!

The Rivershyre Pool is now open! Thanks to everyone who came out and joined us in our Grand Opening Celebration on Saturday May 10th. It was nice to see so many familiar and some new faces at one of Rivershyre's greatest assets. If you still have not joined the pool, now's your chance!

Our annual membership drive is still underway. Currently there are about 60 families who have joined the pool. An application is included in this month's Newsletter and they may also be printed from the Rivershyre website at [www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org). The fee for Rivershyre residents remains the same as last year, \$300. A \$10 Concession Stand card is included with your membership. Also, as has been the practice since the pool opened, all resident members must pay a one-time initiation fee of \$400. The initiation fee may be paid over a four-year period in \$100 installments. If you are joining for the first time or have been a member before but have not yet completed paying the initiation fee, your total will include both the \$300 annual fee and the \$100 installment of the initiation fee for a total of \$400. New members will be given one Key Card for access to the pool facility. New and previous members that have a need for additional access cards may purchase them at the Pool Concession Stand for \$5 each.

Children aged 9 through 13, who wish to swim at the pool without their parents' supervision must pass a swimming proficiency test. A copy of the test, signed by the parents, will be kept in the Concession Stand. Any child who has not had the form signed or has not passed the test will not be able to swim without parental supervision. See an attendant to get your test completed today!

The pool will be open for all members every day

from 10:30 am to 9:00 pm. When school starts again in August, the pool attendants will be present from 10:30 am until 9:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays and on weekdays from 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm. am. Early mornings, from 7:00 am until the pool attendants arrive, and evenings from 9:00 pm until 11:00 pm, the pool will be open to those 18 years and older and those accompanied by such, but no attendants will be available during these periods.

**ALL RIVERSHYRE RESIDENTS** are invited to come out and swim during the Fourth of July Weekend (Friday, 7/4 through Sunday, 7/6).

Also, there will be a final Open House again on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, Labor Day. During the upcoming months there are activities being planned to enhance the pool experience. We are in the planning stages for some adult only socials and movie nights for the kids. We would like to honor those who serve our community. We'll have appreciation days for our firefighters, police, and military. We will again have grade level swim parties for students as they return to school. Watch the calendars for all of these upcoming events! If you have ideas you'd like to see incorporated, contact a pool committee member or better yet VOLUNTEER!

With gas prices soaring and tax incentive checks coming, what better way to save money than to invest in a pool membership. The pool is just a walk away for all neighborhood residents and a great way to make new friends and share some quality family time!



**... Neighborhood Watch**

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fees.

Leash laws exist to protect yourself, your dog, and others. Loose dogs can be taken by strangers, hit by cars, shot, attacked by wildlife, or worse. They can damage property, chase vehicles and small children, bite people, and attack other animals. Multiple loose dogs, though they may be friendly individually, may become aggressive in packs. It's dangerous for your dog, you, and other people if you let your dog leave your property without being attached to you by a leash

**COLUMBIA COUNTY NUISANCE LAW**

The Columbia County code of Ordinances states in chapter 14 article 12 section 4, a "public nuisance animal" means and includes any animal that excessively makes disturbing noises, including, but not limited to, continued and repeated howling, barking, whining or other utterances causing unreasonable annoyance, disturbance or discomfort to neighbors or others in close proximity to the premises where the animal is kept. No person shall be charged unless a written warning has previously been issued by an officer authorized to enforce provisions of the Code within 90 days of the charged violation and there are at least two complaining witnesses who shall have signed a written statement stating the address of the animal owner, a description of the animal, the circumstances causing the violation and the date, time and location of the violation. An animal shall not be deemed a public nuisance animal pursuant to this section, if at the time a person is trespassing upon the property upon which the animal is kept or any person is on the land adjacent to that on which the animal is kept and is intentionally trying to incite the animal and cause it to make noise or a disturbance.

Other items we need to be watchful are the kids going into the nature area that are hanging out and getting on the trestle. They are trespassing on the railroads property and will be prosecuted if they are caught on it. We are also having problems with people going back there and at Hardy Lake. These areas are designated for RIVERSHYRE RESIDENTS only. If you see anyone in these areas who don't live here, please contact the sheriffs' department. The nature area is off limits to everyone after dark. This is for their safety. There are a lot of snakes and wild animals back there. If you see any suspicious activities going on, please be sure to contact the Sherriff's office at 706-541-2800. They are here to

help us keep our families safe.

Have a great summer. Hope you enjoyed seeing the Columbia County Dive and Rescue team as well as Gold Cross Ambulance service at our pool's grand opening! If you are interested in helping to put on more education events, please join Neighborhood Watch and Safety.



**TIGERSHARK NEWS**

Swim season is going strong! A lot of the splashing in the pool you hear is from our neighborhood kids practicing for the team. You can check out the swim team website for all of the practice times, up to date news, as well as meet results. [www.rivershyre.org/rts](http://www.rivershyre.org/rts)

A huge thank you is for Rivershyre Resident Eddie Jordan and PAPA Johns pizza for sponsoring the swim team this year. We ask all residents and swim team members to support PAPA Johns since they are supporting our neighborhood kids.

We have the following home meets and we ask that you come out and support the Tigersharks. All meets start @ 6:00pm:

- June 10 Tuesday – Spring Lakes
- June 12 Thursday – Riverwood
- June 24 Tuesday – Brynwood

Our away meets are:

- June 3 Tuesday @ Stratford
- June 17 Tuesday @ National Hills
- June 26 Thursday @ Augusta Aquatic Center

It is never too late to come and join us for the summer/swimming fun. Coach Jessie says that everyone is welcome. We welcome all kids from ages 4 to 18 to join the team.

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.

For more information in regard to the swim team please contact Tim and Christina Troutman 706-855-2892 or at [cttroutman@comcast.net](mailto:cttroutman@comcast.net). 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).

**NEED A TUTOR FOR YOUR KIDS TO  
HELP BE BETTER PREPARED FOR THE  
NEXT SCHOOL YEAR?**

Christopher Chastain will be graduating in December from Augusta State with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Secondary Education. He is available for tutoring in reading, writing papers / essays, spelling, basic math, social studies, and history. You can reach him at 706-860-5119 or his cell phone number at 706-231-9666.

## 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	



Hi Neighbors,

I just wanted to say a big "Thank You" to all of you who have paid your 2008 Homeowner's dues. It really makes the Treasurer's job a lot easier when you pay promptly. Bill sent the late notices out recently and we have gotten a few more payments in but there are still about 20 or so missing. I will be coming around and/or calling those homeowner's who are still delinquent pretty soon. I really don't like to put liens on houses so I try to avoid it. Come June 15 though, that is what I am required to do. I know most people don't want that to happen to their home, so please pay now.

You can help me if you have noticed a new neighbor in Rivershyre. They don't always know about the Homeowners association. If you could just ask them to call me, I will explain things to them.

Thanks for your help,  
Holly Bullock  
706-855-8122

## STOP & READ Updated Liens List

### 2006 Liens

**1162 Oakton Trail**

### 2007 Liens

**1155 Oakton Court**

**1172 Dartmore Trail**

**1162 Oakton Trail**

**2003 Rivershyre Drive**