



# 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)

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## *In This Issue*

- Annual Homeowner's Meeting Report
- Fall Activities – Yard Sale, Bunco, Food Drive
- Pool Problems
- News You Can Use – Halloween Safety Tips

## *Topics of Interest*

Our Address & Phone Numbers	2
Calendar of Events	3
Meetings, Boards & Committees	4
Committee Updates	5

## Annual Homeowner's Meeting Report

The Annual Homeowner's Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 21st at the Rivershyre clubhouse. Attendance was up this year with 37 homes represented out of approximately 280 homes in our neighborhood. We reviewed the activities of our committees for the past year and their ideas for the future. The budget for 2005 was presented to the attendees and the motion to change the homeowner's dues payment date was passed with only 7 'No' votes.

Several volunteers came forward to fill vacancies that we will have on the Board of Directors. Our current Treasurer, Holly Bullock, will be leaving the Board when her term expires. Our President, Martha Kapfhammer, will remain for one more year as Past President. Current Board members with expiring terms, Becky Brogan and Bill Ferguson, have agreed to serve another term. Also, we were replacing Board member Bill Clark, who recently moved from our neighborhood. We welcome new members Dick Huskin, Etta Chaplin, Bryan Mobley and Darrell Speight to the Rivershyre Board. A large Thank You to all of the volunteers who have served Rivershyre on the Board of Directors.

We had volunteers sign up to serve on some of our committees. All of the Rivershyre committees could use more willing hands to share the work. If you have an extra hour or so each month, please call one of the committee chairpersons, find out when their next meeting is and lend a hand! Our Rivershyre community is a great one -- with lots of help from more volunteers we can be the best there is in Columbia County!

## Don't Forget The Rivershyre Fall Yard Sale

Just a quick reminder that the Rivershyre Fall Yard Sale is being held on Saturday, October 2nd. We will have advertising in the local newspaper as well around the neighborhood. A fee of \$2.50 will be charged to help defray the costs of advertising and will be collected early on the morning of the 2nd.

You may advertise your sale with extra signs and/or balloons. Please be considerate and remove your advertising after your sale. Rivershyre's community yard sales have proven to be very successful in the past --- we hope that your yard sale is a great one!!

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)

## Fall Harvest Bunco

The days are growing shorter and soon (we hope!) the weather will turn cooler. Time to head inside from our summer activities and meet your friends at the clubhouse to play Bunco! The Social and Welcome Committee invites you to the clubhouse on Saturday, October 30th to roll some dice and enjoy great food and fun.

The evening will start at 7:00 p.m. The cost per person is \$5.00 and we will have prizes at the end of the night after tallying up our scores. There will be special prizes throughout the evening as well. The prizes this time will be gift certificates to area restaurants.

We'd like this to be a wine and cheese event so we are asking each couple to bring their favorite bottle of wine and the Social and Welcome Committee will provide the cheese, crackers and lots of other munchies too. We like to get in lots of eating with our dice rolling!!

RSVP to Stephany at 863-5988 no later than October 27th. There is a limit to how many tables and people we can fit comfortably in the clubhouse so the first callers will be the ones who get to play. And if you're not sure how to play Bunco, don't worry. If you can roll three dice, you'll be a pro at this game. So.....mark your calendars, start hunting for a babysitter and give Stephany a call!



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### NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I am pleased to volunteer to be the new editor for the monthly Rivershyre Neighborhood newsletter. I wanted to introduce myself and give you a brief introductory bio. My name is Karen Kearns and I've lived in Rivershyre for 4 years, but have not had an opportunity to participate in the neighborhood activities because my husband and I started our family shortly after moving to the neighborhood. We have two little boys - a 3-year old and a 10-month old. I am also the Director of Human Resources for a local manufacturing organization, but I'm sure I can squeeze in a few hours each month to edit our valuable newsletter.

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### 10th Annual: It's Spooky to be Hungry!

It's that time of year! It's time for our annual all-volunteer food drive. On Saturday, October 23 (also national "Make A Difference" Day), Rivershyre will participate with over 200 other CSRA neighborhoods in nine counties in what's grown into the area's largest food drive. We CAN make a difference!

*Continued on page 3*

*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).*

### Babysitters Listing

The most recent listing was printed earlier this year. We will publish it again before the end of the year. 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.

## Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in renting the clubhouse, please contact Stephany Ricker at 863-5988 or Kathy Armstrong at 863-4154. 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".



### Evans Poker League

**BIG HIT!** Some of our Rivershyre neighbors are getting together each month at the Clubhouse for a friendly game or two of Texas Hold'em Poker. We had a full house at our last game. The games are usually on one Thursday each month at 7:30pm. If you are interested in joining in the fun, contact Bill Giddings at [billg@rivershyre.org](mailto:billg@rivershyre.org).

## New to Rivershyre?

We'd like to include your family in our next Rivershyre directory. Call Martha Kapfhammer at 650-8766 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 that information too. We want to have as complete and up-to-date directory as we can.

## Mailbox Replacement

Mailboxes and posts that match the style of those currently in Rivershyre can be obtained (purchased and/or installed) by contacting Mail Boxes of Augusta at 651-7727. Ask for Carl. Thanks to the Taylors for providing this information.

## Con't: It's Spooky to be Hungry!

Why should YOU get involved?

- The need is huge. All proceeds are donated to Golden Harvest Food Bank, who served over 345,000 people in 2003 with over 60% of those children or seniors (over 2 million meals total).
- It takes very little time. Spend a few hours on a Saturday morning and you're helping thousands of families.
- Volunteering is a great thing! It builds community, allows you to meet your neighbors, and demonstrates to your children the value of helping others. Get the whole family involved.
- It DOES make a difference. In 2003, the drive involved over 1600 volunteers in 165 CSRA neighborhoods, schools, and community groups and collected \$31,000 and 62,000 lbs food in the span of a few hours on a Saturday morning! All money collected goes directly to food purchases. With \$10 buying ~\$70 worth of food or enough for 40 meals!

How can YOU get involved?

- Volunteer to collect food on October 23 from 9:00 - 12:00. We'll meet at 1145 Oakton Trail at 9:00 am for coffee/donuts and instructions. Bring the family! Wagons, strollers, and golf carts are also needed for carrying the collections.
- Donate generously! Non-perishable food, baby items such as diapers, and money are gladly accepted. If you will not be home during the collection, please leave your contribution in a grocery bag by your front door for pick up.

To volunteer, contact Heather Gaitonde at 364-0954 or <mailto:heathergaitonde@knology.net> by October 20<sup>th</sup>.

## \*\*\* Calendar of Events \*\*\*

Fall Yard Sale	Saturday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 8:00am
Columbus Day	Monday, October 11 <sup>th</sup>
Halloween	Sunday, October 31 <sup>st</sup>
Day Light Savings Time Ends	Sunday, October 31 <sup>st</sup>

➔ For keys to the tennis court, call "The Keeper of the Keys", Guy Hoffman at 650-2228. The charge is \$3/key.

## 2004 Board of Directors

Martha Kapfhammer	President
Bill Ferguson	Vice President
Shiron Thomas	Secretary
Holly Bullock	Treasurer
Phil Manos	Asst. Treasurer
Becky Brogan	Member
Tim Williford	Member

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

### Rivershyre Home Sales Update

This monthly newsletter item will include 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 Meybohm Realtors. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Philip or Sharon at 833-HOME.

#### Active Listings as of 9/21/04

2003 Rivershyre Drive	\$235,000
1149 Parkside Trail	\$186,900

#### Pending Sales as of 9/21/04

1164 Dartmore Trail
2002 Rivershyre Drive
1081 Rivershyre Drive

#### Sold Properties 6/23/04 – 9/21/04

1215 Oakton Trail	\$223,900
1210 Oakton Trail	\$170,000
1203 Oakton Trail	\$235,900
1185 Oakton Trail	\$195,150
1135 Rivershyre Drive	\$175,000
1158 Parkside Trail	\$178,500
1155 Parkside Trail	\$193,900

#### Sales in Last Six Months

Average Size Home	2715 sq.ft.
Average Sales Price	\$196,422
Average Dollars per sq.ft.	\$72.90
Average Days on Market	36 days

## Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Dick Huskin
By-Laws & Nominating	Vacant
Finance	Holly Bullock
Grounds & Lake	Dan Johnson
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Becky Brogan
Pool	Bill Giddings
Social & Welcome	Martha Kapfhammer

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> Thursday, 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> Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	As needed via e-mail
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.

### ~ Rivershyre Yard of the Month ~

Rivershyre's eighth Yard of the Month can be found at **1141 Hartford Trail**. This competition is sponsored by Philip and Sharon Jones of Meybohm Realtors (833-HOME). 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.

## Problems at our Neighborhood Pool

Again we have had problems at our neighborhood pool. We have had at least 6 instances where people have thrown material including lounge chairs, plants, lifeguard stands, umbrellas, pipes, and various other things into the pool during an after hour party. The latest event involved the dragging of the pool bike rack across the pool deck, which scratched the deck surface and throwing the rack into the pool. In addition, several lifeguard tools were damaged and thrown into the pool with dirt and other materials. All of this causes damage to the pool bottom, the deck surface, the pool equipment and the filtering system.

It is sad to know that in a neighborhood as nice as ours, we have several bad characters with a total lack of regard for the neighborhood, their neighbors and the pool. These actions are not only a reflection on the character of the people who did this but also on the parents or spouses of the violators.

Your neighborhood Board of Directors, the Pool Committee and the local police have initiated actions to track down the violators and prosecute them to the full extent of the law. Anyone who has such a total disregard for the property of others and for the well being of this neighborhood deserves to be prosecuted and punished as the law allows. If the violators come forward prior to being caught, the Neighborhood leaders will consider restitution arrangements for the violation and will not prosecute those involved. However, if an investigation must be held and the people are caught through the investigation, all actions will be taken against those individuals. Any information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved will be rewarded.

Again, these are shameful acts that have occurred and it grieves the good standing residents and leaders of the neighborhood that we have to go through this process.

*The neighborhood Board of Directors and Pool Committee*

## From the Neighborhood Watch & Safety committee:

Remember to be extra careful when driving in Rivershyre now that school is back in session. This is especially true in the morning and early evening.

Keep in mind that a valid driver's license is required to operate a golf cart. There have been several near-accidents involving kids and golf carts, mostly in the early evening.

Keep your kids safe during Halloween. Use some form of reflector or flashlight while trick-or-treating, and remind your kids to not eat candy while out at night.

Importantly, keep vigilant of the community. Our best collective action against burglary and vandalism is to watch over our neighbors. If you are going out of town, call the Sheriff's Office House Watch Program and they'll keep any eye on your property. Register your home with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. This service, devised and implemented by Sheriff Clay Whittle, calls for a deputy sheriff to check your home several times daily while you're away. Call 541-2800 and inform the Sheriff's dispatcher you would like to place your home on the House Watch Program. Then answer a few simple questions pertaining to your home and that's it – enjoy your time away with peace of mind. (July, 2004).

## WEBMASTER NEEDED

Rivershyre is in need of a volunteer to maintain our website. We get tons of positive feedback on the website and it serves not only as a communications tool for our residents, it is a great advertisement for anyone wanting to know about living in Rivershyre.

If you can spare an hour or two a month and have the software (like Frontpage) and knowledge to maintain a webpage, please let Martha Kapfhammer know as soon as possible at 650-8766 or email [webmaster@rivershyre.org](mailto:webmaster@rivershyre.org).

# News You Can Use

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## Tips for Parents and Kids: Have a Safe Yet Spooky Halloween

Halloween is one of the most popular holidays for kids, but with all the excitement, they can forget to be careful. By following simple guidelines and establishing some ground rules, you can make sure that your children enjoy Halloween safely.

### 🕸 Inspecting Halloween Candy

Your children shouldn't eat any candy before you have had a chance to inspect it. Before your kids go out trick-or-treating, give them a light dinner to prevent them from munching on candy during the night. Once your kids get home, take a look at all of the candy they received. Keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Throw out any homemade candy, baked goods, or items without wrappers.
- Wash all fresh fruit thoroughly and inspect for small punctures or holes.
- Throw out candy that appears to be discolored or has holes or tears in the wrapper.
- Parents of young children should throw out gum, peanuts, hard candies, and other choking hazards.
- Give your children a ration of candy every day. Set a date when all uneaten candy should be thrown out.

### 🕸 Safe Costumes Can Help Prevent Accidents

Are your children dressing up for Halloween? Make sure your child's costume is flame retardant and fits properly. Keep in mind that your child will be walking in the dark. You should avoid costumes with oversized shoes, high heels, and long skirts and pants that might cause your child to trip and fall. Knives, swords, and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow your children to carry sharp objects.

Your kids should be able to see and be seen. They should carry flashlights. Your child's costume should be a light color to be visible to motorists. For dark costumes, place reflective tape on the back and sides. Kids' Halloween masks should fit properly and have large eyeholes to avoid blocking their vision, and kids should be able to breathe easily in the masks. Many safety experts recommend using makeup instead of masks.

### 🕸 Carving the Perfect Pumpkin

Jack-o-lanterns are a terrific tradition, but small children should never make them. You might feel comfortable allowing your older children to carve a pumpkin under your supervision, but if your carving tools don't have safety features, encourage your kids to draw faces and let you do the carving. Place a small votive candle inside the pumpkin and display it on a sturdy table away from curtains or other flammable objects. For the safest option that even the little ones can join, paint faces on pumpkins with nontoxic, washable poster paint.

### 🕸 Plan the Safest Trick-or-Treat Route

The National Safety Council advises that you accompany your kids on Halloween night if they're under 12. Otherwise, make sure another adult or older child is supervising your kids on a familiar route, and know the names of other kids in the group. Make sure your kid stays safe with the following ground rules:

- Stick to sidewalks. Your kids are more likely to trip when walking in streets or across lawns.
  - Visit people you know. Stop in to see neighbors and friends at well-lit houses. Never approach a stranger's house.
  - Carry a flashlight. Make sure your child can see where he or she is going.
  - Establish a curfew. Know when your child will be back home.
-