



# 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)

December, 2004

### *In This Issue*

- Christmas activities - Santa, Lights, Ladies Christmas Party
- Knitting Club
- Christmas Safety

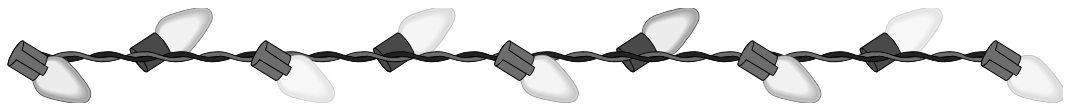
### *Topics of Interest*

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## BETTER HURRY – SANTA'S COMING!!

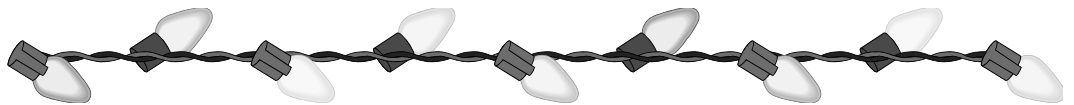
Santa's having breakfast with Rivershyre's youngest residents on Saturday, December 4th from 9 until 10:30 a.m. The deadline for reservations is December 2nd. Call Martha @ 650-8766 to see if Santa has room on his lap for one more. But hurry!!



## *Ladies Christmas Party*

Don't forget the Ladies Christmas Party! The theme this year is Christmas in the South and we have a caterer planning a special menu for us. Sunday, December 12th is the date with the fun set to start at 7 p.m. We will have a gift exchange (\$10.00 limit) and lots of fun for everyone!

RSVP's must be made to Stephany at 863-5988 by December 8th. This is one party that should be a 'must' on your Christmas party schedule.



## *Let's Light Up Rivershyre*

Our Light Up Rivershyre contest is back again this year with a small change in the rules. Our neighborhood looked great last year making the judges' jobs a difficult one. So this year we will have winners in two categories: traditional and whimsical. A \$25.00 prize will be awarded to a house in each category.

Judges will tour the neighborhood on the evening of December 19th with prizes being awarded that evening. Previous years' winners will not be eligible for first prize but will be eligible for the list of Honorable Mentions. Be sure to watch the January newsletter for the complete list of our Rivershyre winners.

## Knitting Anyone??

Remember seeing your mom (or grandmother, maybe) knitting back in the good ol' days? Well, the art of knitting is making a comeback and we'd like to start a Knit Night here in Rivershyre for "*Chicks with Sticks*" !!

Don't know how to knit? We'll teach you. Knew how to knit way back when but can't remember a knit from a purl? No problem! We've identified that Sunday evenings seem to be the least hectic for most people so we'll try that night first. We won't start this group until January but just wanted to put the word out now to see if anyone is interested. Teenager or older -- if you'd like to knit with our group, let us know. Call either Heather at 364-0954 or Martha at 650-8766 to tell us you that you'd like to try to learn to knit in the New Year.

All of the details plus the date for the first Knit Night will be published in the January newsletter. For our learning project we will be knitting small 7 x 9 inch sections for a charity program called Warm Up America.



## Red Onion and Almond-Stuffed Winter Squash - Recipe

An appetizing dish designed to invigorate the winter-weary palate, the natural sweetness of this stuffed squash is sure to please and the pretty presentation gives it a festive air. Stuffed squash may look elaborate, but it's easy as can be to make, and the bright colors in this recipe are so cheering to the senses.

### INGREDIENTS

4 small winter squashes (carnival, acorn, golden acorn, delicata, or other)  
 1 tablespoon no hydrogenated margarine or butter  
 1 large red onion, chopped  
 ¼ cup finely chopped toasted almonds  
 ½ teaspoon grated fresh ginger or ¼ teaspoon ground ginger  
 Salt and freshly-ground black pepper to taste

1. If using an oven, preheat to 375.
2. Cut the squashes in half lengthwise. Place halves in a baking dish, cut side up, with about ½ inch of water, and cover with foil. Bake until easily pierced with a knife but still holding their shape, 30 to 40 minutes, depending on size and type of squash used. Or microwave, using as a rule of thumb 4 to 7 minutes for each squash. Test occasionally to be sure they don't get overcooked.
3. When the squashes are cool enough to handle, scoop out and discard the seeds. Scoop out the pulp and transfer to a mixing bowl, leaving a sturdy shell of about ¼ inch thick all around.
4. Heat the margarine or butter in a medium skillet. Add onion and sauté over medium heat until golden. Add the almond and continue to sauté until they give off a toasty aroma.
5. Combine the onion mixture with the squash pulp. Add ginger, season with salt and pepper, and stir together. Stuff back in to the squash shells. Reheat in the microwave or oven, just until heated through, and serve.

Serves 4.

### 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)

### 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.

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

Santa in Rivershyre	Saturday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>
Hanukkah	Begins at sundown on Tuesday, December 7 <sup>th</sup> thru December 16 <sup>th</sup> .
Ladies Party	Sunday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>
Light Up Rivershyre Judging	Sunday, December 19 <sup>th</sup>
First Day of Winter	Tuesday, December 21 <sup>st</sup>
Christmas	Saturday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>
Kwanzaa	Sunday, December 26 <sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, January 1 <sup>st</sup>
New Year's Eve	Friday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>

**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.

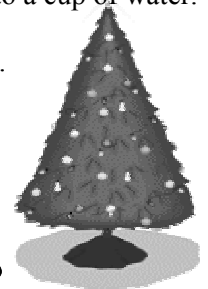
The Clubhouse phone number is 854-0229. The rental agreement, clubhouse rules, and check-in/out checklist can be found on our website by clicking on "Clubhouse" or "Documents".

**~ Rivershyre Yard of the Month ~**

Rivershyre's tenth Yard of the Month can be found at **1086 Rivershyre Drive**. 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.

**Christmas Tree Safety**

1. A real tree should not lose green needles when you tap it on the ground.
2. Cut 1 inch off the trunk to help absorb water.
3. Leave the tree outside until ready to decorate.
4. The stand should hold at least 1 gal. of water.
5. A 6' tree will use 1 gallon of water every two days.
6. Mix a commercial preservative with the water.
7. Check the water level every day.
8. Secure the tree with wire to keep it from tipping.
9. Keep tree away from floor heaters, fire places, or other heat sources.
10. Use only UL-listed lights, and no more than 3 strands linked together.
11. Use miniature lights--which have cool-burning bulbs.
12. Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home for very long.
13. Never use candles, even on artificial trees.
14. Clean the tree stand to improve the tree's water intake, use one capful of bleach to a cup of water.
15. Dispose of the tree properly.
16. Consider getting an artificial tree.



***"Safety" gift ideas***

Put together a gift basket containing one or more of the following items:

1. Three smoke detectors and batteries.
2. A quality fire extinguisher.
3. A flashlight and batteries or light sticks.
4. A first-aid kit.
5. A carbon Monoxide detector.
6. A mobile phone.
7. A second floor escape ladder.
8. "Emergency kit"- energy bars, water, battery radio, flashlight/light sticks and a first-aid kit packed in a small travel bag.

**Please have an enjoyable and safe Holiday season.**

☛ 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 11/18/2004

1149 Parkside Trail	\$179,900
2003 Rivershyre Drive	\$230,000
1174 Oakton Trail	\$229,900
1114 Rivershyre Drive	\$229,900

#### Sold Properties 8/15/2004 – 11/18/2004

1210 Oakton Trail	\$170,000
2032 Edenton Trail	\$238,900
1164 Dartmore Trail	\$237,900
1081 Rivershyre Drive	\$199,900

#### Pending Sales as of 11/18/2004

2002 Rivershyre Drive

#### Average Sales for Previous 6 Months

Average Home Size	2,846 sq ft.
Average Sales Price	\$204,813
Average Dollar Per Sq. Ft.	\$72.00
Average Days on the Market	29 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.

## 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.

## Notes from the Architectural Control Committee

It's that time of year again and the leaves are falling. The ACC would like to remind residents that yard waste (e.g., leaves, cut grass, etc.) should not be blown into the streets, storm sewers or onto other property that may adjoin yours. This is not only inconsiderate of your neighbors but also illegal in the case of the storm sewers. The leaves and other yard trash that you collect should be bagged and placed at the curb for pick-up by your trash collection company IF your collection company provides that service. Not all companies do so, and some that do, require special notification and/or arrangements. Yard waste may also be disposed of at certain landfills that take such waste. The most convenient one in this area is Sample & Son at 5944 Columbia Road. Their fee is typically 50 cents per bag. Please be aware the Columbia County Landfill does NOT accept yard waste. There is also a county ordinance requiring loads to be covered when carrying trash for disposal so if you carry the waste in the bed of a truck without bagging the waste, the truck bed must be covered with a tarp or other cover.

Speaking of leaves, residents are reminded that live trees are not to be cut down without submittal AND approval of a Property Alteration Request (PAR). Significant changes to landscaping such as removing living trees and large shrubs or altering the residence's exterior appearance such as by building a fence and adding a deck or patio requires an approved PAR. Rivershyre is known for its abundant natural areas, wooded lots and wildlife. The ACC tries to balance maintaining the appeal of the neighborhood with the desires of the homeowners to improve their property. The Covenants that cover these types of issues as well as the PAR form and other useful information can be found on Rivershyre's website ([www.Rivershyre.org](http://www.Rivershyre.org)) under Committees/Architectural Control Committee.

Our Mailbox fix-up project is going well but is not complete. A number of our more worn out boxes and posts have been upgraded but we still have a ways to go. Please take a look at your box and post and if they are in need of repair, please take to time to do so before our neighborhood welcomes the annual parade of sightseers that come through every holiday season to admire the decorated homes.



### Playground Fence!

We are planning to install a fence along the backside of the playground on Saturday, December 11. We need volunteers to help install posts and fencing on the woods side of the playground so that small children do not run a risk of running into the woods and sliding down the hill through the briars. We will meet at 9:00 am to start work.

In the event that we have some extra volunteers we have several other neighborhood improvement projects ready to go, so please come out and give us a hand!

Thanks, the Grounds and Lakes Committee

*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).*