



# Riverside Park Membership Memo

JUNE 2004

Riverside Park Residents' Association, Inc. • PO Box 122, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302 • www.riversidepark.org

## City Moves Forward with Demolition of 637 SW 15 Ave.



**NEXT  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
MEETING –  
Sunday, June 6,  
2004 In the Park  
4:00 PM**

*LEFT:  
637 SW 15th Avenue has been boarded up since the mid-1990s. The City Commission's action on May 18th paves the way for demolition of the building.*

**In a move that signals the resumption of progress for the final resolution of the troubled property at 637 SW 15th Avenue, the city has re-opened the discussion about demolition of the building and sale of the problematic property.**

At its May 18 conference meeting, the City Commission discussed "A presentation for approval to proceed with the Plan to demolish the building, sell the property and utilize the sale proceeds toward the replacement units and authorization to utilize general fund contingency funds to cover the demolition expense."

RPRAs Vice President Tom Andrew was on hand to provide the Commission with neighborhood perspective and reiterate RPRAs long-standing position that the

building is a blight on the neighborhood and should be torn down. The consensus of the city commission was that it was appropriate to replenish HUD funds currently tied up in this property from the contingency account so that funds are once again available for this type of project. The commission's action on May 18th paves the way for a final public hearing on the issue and brings us closer to demolition of the building and sale of the site.

Be sure to attend the June 6 RPRAs General Meeting for more information regarding this important neighborhood issue, and rest assured that the Association is monitoring this project closely and will continue to keep the neighborhood informed of any new developments and progress.

### Sherwood Forest

Residents of the "Sherwood Forest" area south of Stranahan High School are organizing to reduce crime and obnoxious behavior in their area.

The group met on May 16 and again on June 1 to discuss concerns about everything from drug dealing to speeding to dog owners who don't clean up after their dogs.

To learn more about this group, or to get involved, come to the June 6 General Meeting or contact Dave Marshall at 954-761-7164.

#### CURRENT RIVERSIDE PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005

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## "Bentley at Riverside" shows initial plans to RPRAs Board

In preparation for a presentation to the RPRAs General Membership, Mr. Pete Witschen of Poole, McKinley & Blosser, and architect Frank Perez, presented architectural plans and renderings of the "Bentley at Riverside" project (proposed for 623 SW 12 Avenue) to the RPRAs Board at its May meeting.

The Board's written feedback, and additional information about the project, will be available at our upcoming June General Meeting. The Bentley project team will review our feedback and then respond; we expect that they will present their project to the entire membership in the next couple of months.

# Next Neighborhood Meeting – Sunday, June 6, 2004 In the Park 4PM

## *A Message from the President:*

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Dear Riverside Park Residents' Association Member:

As we approach the halfway point in the RPRA calendar, I want to thank you for your support of Riverside Park Residents' Association and encourage you to attend our next General Meeting on June 6. We'll be addressing the current status of several problem properties, notably 637 SW 15th Avenue, as well as discussing new development projects and the impact they will have on the neighborhood.

You'll also have an opportunity to voice your concerns, make suggestions to the RPRA board, and volunteer to be part of the solution (see below). Not only does your membership fee contribute to the overall success of the Association, but the additional gift of your time, attention, and participation continues to ensure our success as a viable in-town neighborhood that is continually recognized for its superior beauty and quality.

Again, we thank you for your dedication and your feedback so far, and we welcome your input and suggestions going forward. Whenever you've got an idea to improve the neighborhood that you're willing to work on, we want to hear it, either at a General Meeting or at any other time. So come to our next meeting on June 6, get informed, and join us in building our community in Riverside Park!

*Dave Marshall, RPRA President*

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### **You are receiving this update because you have made a commitment to make our neighborhood a better place to live.**

As a member of Riverside Park Residents' Assn., you are contributing to the concentrated efforts of the RPRA in its mission to increase the quality of life and to help eliminate the urban problems that can cause the decline of property value and safety that plague less vigilant neighborhoods. We salute your efforts, and your commitment to spread the word and involve your neighbors in improving the area. Perhaps you've had neighbors ask "What can I do to help the neighborhood?" ....Here's a list of action items that gives each and every resident a choice in helping in way that fits their lifestyle and interests, and draws on the many talents and specialties of our diverse and capable population. Thank You!

- Donate Needed Goods and Services
- Participate in a Committee
- Research and Report on Sewers
- Join the Master Plan Committee
- Assist Capital Improvement Projects
- Participate as a School Board Liaison
- Assist Stranahan HS/RPRA Joint Projects
- Attend the Council of Civic Associations
- Attend District 4 Conferences
- Participate in a Neighborhood Project
- Join The Neighborhood Patrol
- Assist in Neighborhood Beautification
- Join the Clean Up and Work Crews
- City-County Government Activities
- Join Citizen's Emergency Response Team
- Edit and Write Communications
- Welcome New Neighbors
- Assist in the Annual Flea Market
- Head up a Membership Drive
- Deliver Newsletters and Literature
- Make Telephone Reminder Calls
- Stuff Newsletters and Envelopes
- Assist Poster Sales and Fund raising Events
- Be a City Hall/County Liaison or Reporter
- Research and Write or Manage Grants
- Recruit Members and Talk with Neighbors
- Be an Environmental or Crime Watchdog
- Become a Block Representative



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