



The Homesteader

February 2020

Editor: Pam Clements

A neighbor is more than just somebody who lives next door.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

COMING THIS MONTH...THE NEW 2020 CIVIC LEAGUE DIRECTORY!

With all the landline changes and cell phone owners, the directory is undergoing major changes. Be sure to carefully complete the new data entry form included in this newsletter and return it with your civic league dues payment. Your prompt attention means your neighbors won't have to go door-to-door to collect dues. Paying on time is always appreciated.

A special thank you goes out to Anne Harriman, Lorrie Riddle, Karen Nuszkiwicz and Carrie Smaha for their help with this project.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings and Happy 2020, Homesteaders! Your leadership team is working to usher in another year of pleasant gatherings and other amenities, so mark your calendars accordingly.

The spring will bring us a newly-formatted neighborhood directory; Please pay careful attention to the dues collection sheet contained in this newsletter. Include cell phone numbers in a clear fashion. The Homestead "Collection Agents" request your prompt dues payment as indicated on the form.

Have a wonderful year complete with good health and prosperity for all in your household.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!



Much appreciation goes out to Julian and Donna Baker. They worked on our Welcoming Committee for years, including creating Homestead-personalized coffee mugs, hand towels, pot holders, t-shirts, and sweatshirts.

Thank you, Julian and Donna, for your contributions to our wonderful neighborhood.



Stay Informed! Join the Homestead conversation at [Nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)

ANOTHER HOLIDAY PARTY SUCCESS

For 2019, thirty was the magic number. It's the number of years Ron Harriman has hosted Homestead Holiday parties in his Hillview Blvd. garage. Hot chocolate, cookies and other neighbor-prepared treats, hand-made Christmas tree ornaments, Santa and more were all there. Who could have asked for more?

Ron is in his 90s and shows little evidence of slowing down. Long before holiday parties, he constructs over 350 ornaments for distribution to all party goers. He is working on ornaments for the 2020 party now. Ron is an amazing man whose generosity cannot be over-emphasized.

Of course, even Ron needed help for the party. Ray Nuszkiwicz led the caroling at the temporary official Christmas tree near Ron's garage and countless neighbors brought millions of calories in the form of tasty treats. (So many brought goodies, listing their names would consume the space allotted for this article, but thanks to all who did.) Rhonda and Joie, Ron's nieces traveled many miles to help prepare the garage, hand out hot chocolate, and more. Finally, Mr. and Mrs. Santa took time out from their busy schedule to talk with the young folks at the event. They stated that they would never pass up a Homestead party.



Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Homestead Civic League Meeting
7:30 p.m.

Providence Presbyterian Church

Civic League Representatives:

- Chris Medlin, President 361-5826
- Karen Nuszkiwicz, Vice President . 424-5657
- Donna Zerby, Treasurer..... 747-9688
- Lauren Arlaud, Secretary..... 675-5659
- Carrie Smaha, Webmaster..... 773-9038
- Pam Clements, Newsletter Editor .. 420-2073

WHAT HAS THE CIVIC LEAGUE DONE FOR ME LATELY?

By Pam Clements

We all know that the civic league holds meetings, compiles information for the directory, and maintains membership in the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations and the Neighborhood watch program. We know that they organize and publicize our neighborhood events like the yard sale, block party, and holiday celebrations. We know that they keep our front entrance mowed, trimmed and looking neat. We know they share important information through our newsletters. But you may not have know about the other activities in which the civil league has been involved. Without their dogged efforts, our neighborhood could look vastly different than the charming place we now call home. Take a look at the list of their past accomplishments.

Examples of Homestead Civic League's Accomplishments

- Worked with the city to have "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs installed at the north and south bound corners of Whitehurst Landing and Old Providence Roads.
- Worked with the city to have a sidewalk constructed on Whitehurst Landing Road between Thompson Way and Old Providence Road.
- Participated in a 2005 grass-roots effort to stop the Virginia Beach Residential Real Estate tax rate from rising above \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value.
- Partnered with BSA Troop 12 to create the Homestead Heritage Garden at the front entrance.
- Took legal action and prevented the extension of Hillview Boulevard through to Indian River Road, preventing a major through-fare in the middle of the neighborhood.
- Fought for and achieved building single family homes on Old Providence instead of high density housing to be known as 'Stoney Brook Apartments'.
- Halted dumping of asphalt and hazardous waste into the borrow pit south of Westward Drive. Also, the original plan was to fill the lake in completely. The Civic League managed to achieve a compromise whereby the city bought an easement from Mr. Archibell and a 200 ft. buffer will remain between Homestead and the planned development, where homes will be built on the land created by filling in the borrow pit.
- **Neighborhood Watch:** Initiated and achieved membership in the Neighborhood Watch program.
- **Streetlights:** New, improved streetlights were installed due to Civic League efforts.
- **Fence between Whitehurst Grove Park and Homestead:** The Civic League convinced the city that the fence should be erected for the safety of both neighborhoods.
- **City sewage installation:** Some residents had not been able to use their home washing machine for years. Slowly (being approximately 30 years old), many septic systems were failing. The Civic League, supported by a great majority of Homestead residents, badgered the city long and hard enough to have it stop delaying city sewage installation in Homestead.
- Prevented construction of a gas station and 7-11 store at the corner of Whitehurst Landing and Old Providence Road (formerly "Providence Road").

Now, would you want your neighborhood to have a gas station and 7-11 on the corner? Would you want to still be dealing with an aging septic system? Would you want high density housing across the street? Would you want a Hillview Boulevard to be a major cut-through to Indian River Road? If you answered NO to these questions, thank a civic league member. If you want Homestead to continue to stay a quiet, sought-after neighborhood, then be sure to send in your civic league dues promptly. These **volunteers** work for **you**. Paying your dues shows you thank them for their efforts.



Member

<http://homesteadinvabeach.org/>



Claytor Team Real Estate

Chip Claytor
757-407-7996

Julia Forehand Claytor
Associate Broker
757-407-3124

clayorteam@gmail.com
clayorteam.com

4098 Foxwood Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462



BIKE SAFETY IS A TWO-WAY STREET,



...so we encourage cyclists and motorists to ride and drive with a heart – follow the rules of the road and respect each other. Road safety starts with the mutual understanding that bicyclists and motorists have the same rights and responsibilities when it comes to navigating the streets of Virginia Beach. From there, it's all about being courteous, safe and visible.



GIVE A MINIMUM OF 2 FEET. Motorists and bicyclists can share the road safely when everyone observes all traffic laws. When passing a cyclist on the road, drivers must give two feet or more of clearance. Responsible cyclists must also ride with the flow of traffic, using proper hand signals and anticipating the actions of other road users. When riding two abreast, bicyclists cannot impede the movement of traffic, and need to move into single file when being overtaken from the rear.



WEAR THE PROPER GEAR. The grim reality is that about 1,000 American bicyclists die in crashes every year, with approximately 75% of those being from head injuries. Children ages 14 and under are five times more likely to sustain bicycle crash-related injuries than any other age group. All bicyclists should wear properly fitted bicycle helmets every time they ride, as it is the single most effective way to prevent head injury resulting from a bicycle crash. Stay visible too; wear bright colors and use reflective equipment.



DON'T BE A BIKE SALMON. You know how salmon swim upstream to get to a particular destination? Bicyclists follow this risky example when riding against the flow of traffic. This wrong-way riding behavior endangers everyone—motorists, pedestrians and other cyclists. Make the roads safe for everyone by following the rules of the road and going with the flow of traffic.

VBgov.com/TwoWayStreet



ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Welcome to Shirley Hancock of Old Homestead.

We'll miss our neighbors who passed away: Shirley Queen of Old Homestead Lane, Ric Anderson of Old Homestead Lane, Melvin Raines of 909 W Goodview

Steve and Connie Knight moved back to Illinois this month from 1012 Hillview.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Yard Sale and Bake Sale	September 12th Rain date September 19th
Block Party	October 3rd Rain date October 10th
Holiday Party	December 7th

SENIOR SERVICES OF SOUTHEASTEN VIRGINIA

Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia is the regional organization in South Hampton Roads that supports and enriches the lives of seniors and their caregiver families. For almost half a century, we've changed the lives of tens of thousands of the region's seniors for the better, by providing easy access to high-quality programs and services designed to help individuals age in place in their own communities.

We offer Age Readiness Community Planning and Advocacy; Care Coordination, In-Home Services and Meals on Wheels; I-Ride transportation; Wellness Centers and Personal Health Education; Medicare Benefits Counseling and Informational Seminars; and Ombudsman services to help individuals and families deal with issues in long-term care facilities.

We envision a community that empowers, respects and values seniors and their caregivers. We are your personalized one-stop resource for senior services. Give us a call today at **757-461-9481**, and let us know how we can help you!

You can also check out their services at <https://www.ssseva.org/>



Visit Homestead's website to enjoy color photos of past Homestead events.
<http://homesteadinvabeach.org/>

<http://homesteadinvabeach.org/>

WHAT IS THE 2020 CENSUS?

The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire—online, by phone, or by mail. This will mark the first time that you will be able to respond to the census online.

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data. The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

There are three ways to respond to the 2020 Census.

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding:

- Online.
- By phone.
- By mail.
- The 2020 Census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even respond on your mobile device.

The 2020 Census will ask questions about

- How many people are living or staying at your home on April 1, 2020
- Whether the home is owned or rented.
- About the age, sex, race, and relationship of each person in your home
- About whether a person in your home is of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.

Governments, businesses, communities, and nonprofits all rely on the data that these questions produce to make critical decisions.

During the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau will *never* ask you for:

- Your Social Security number.
- Money or donations.
- Anything on behalf of a political party.
- Your bank or credit card account numbers.

If someone claiming to be from the Census Bureau contacts you via email or phone and asks you for one of these things, it's a scam, and you should not cooperate. For more information, visit [Avoiding Fraud and Scams](#).

What happens to your answers?

Your personal information is kept **confidential**. The Census Bureau is bound by federal law to protect your information, and your data is used only for statistical purposes.

For more information about the 2020 Census visit 2020census.gov

ADVERTISE WITH US

Commercial advertisements will be considered for publication in The Homesteader on a first come, first served basis, space permitting. Commercial ad rates are listed below and apply to any person or entity that has a business license for the service or product being advertised.

Ad Size	Cost for 1 Issue	Cost for 3 Issues
Business Card	\$20	\$50
1/4 Page	\$30	\$75
1/2 Page	\$50	\$130

For more information or to submit an ad, please refer to the **2019 Commercial Ad Form** which can be found on the Homestead Website.

WARNING: High Pressure can damage your home!

Call DAN HOUSTON*
POWER WASHING

**your neighbor in Homestead*

Using **low pressure** and **heat** to clean all surfaces:
Brick, Concrete, Wood, and Vinyl

Twenty years of experience = **PROFESSIONAL RESULTS**

757-409-1087

Call for a Free Quote (Please leave a message)

2020 Civic League Membership and Neighborhood Watch Information

A **NEW** and **IMPROVED** Directory is being published.

Please promptly complete the form and return it with your dues payment

In this digital age it is apparent our neighborhood directory needs to change with the times. Now each household can submit two phone numbers. The Directory will also identify those phone numbers by resident name and if it is a Cell or Landline Number. That way your neighbors know if they can just send you a quick text about something instead of calling.

If your number is not currently in the directory please consider putting it in. It is the neighborly thing to do. It is part of what makes our neighborhood home, neighbors knowing each other and being able to reach out for any reason, like

- You left your garage door open.
- I just saw your dog running down the road.
- A package of yours was delivered to my house.
- Your trash cans were in the road. I put them up for you.
- And many other ways neighbors look out for each other.

The directory is for the use of neighbor to neighbor communication only. Not for any commercial use.

\$7 Cash or Check Accepted (Checks Payable to: Homestead Civic League)

Street Address		Phone Number	Type Circle C for Cell L for Land-line	I'm the Owner Circle Yes or No
Name			C L	Yes No
Name			C L	Yes No
Name			C L	Yes No

Enclosed is my \$7 Check or Cash Yearly Dues

I don't want to join the Civic League. Above is my information for the Neighborhood Directory and Neighborhood Watch Program

Please complete and return the form with your dues payment promptly. Mail or Hand Deliver. Ginger has a mounted, locked mailbox right outside her front door. Your prompt action saves volunteers from having to go door to door to collect your dues and information. And your civic league thanks you!

Homestead Civic League
c/o Ginger Boyer
5540 Homeward Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23464-4052