



# The Homesteader

February 2021

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

Editor: *Your name here?*

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

### NEW CIVIC LEAGUE OFFICERS

Elections were held at the November 2020 meeting, despite the virus. See the list of new officers below. Thank you to our volunteer board members, and a special welcome aboard to first-time board member, Karen Davis.



Is this the  
**Final Edition?**

Got the skill and desire to help your neighborhood just 3 times a year? Become Homestead's newsletter Editor. Without a volunteer, this will be Homestead's last newsletter. Contact Karen at [kdl10@yahoo.com](mailto:kdl10@yahoo.com), if you're willing and able to be part of what makes Homestead unique.



Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Homestead Civic League Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

Providence Presbyterian Church



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

### Civic League Representatives:

- Donna Zerby, President ..... 757-9688
- Gary Medlin, Vice President ..... 361-5826
- Karen Davis, Secretary ..... 617-6364
- Karen Nuskiewicz, Treasurer..... 424-5657
- Carrie Smaha, Webmaster ..... 773-9038
- Your name here?*, Newsletter Editor .....

## DECK THE HALLS

Thank you to Martha Claytor, Charlotte Laws, Ginger Boyer, Chris and Gary Medlin, and Rex and Donna Zerby for decorating our front entrance. Prior to the holiday decorating, Ginger Boyer, Paula Brumage, Chris Medlin, and Karen Nuskiewicz spruced up the front entrance by clearing debris, raking pine straw and pulling weeds. These kind folks gave Homestead a cheerful first impression.

## THAT'S DEDICATION!

Noticed our new trees? Groundskeeper Chris Lalonge takes pride in the appearance of the island, and he guided members of the civic league through the purchase of these new additions. Unfortunately, just hours after the trees were planted, someone ran over the larger one with a vehicle, and destroyed the well pump in the process. When Chris saw what happened, he went back out, in the rain, at night, and replanted and staked up the tree. Thank you, Chris.



## MEMORABLE WAGON-WAVE-BY

Our neighborhood again made wonderful memories at the Harriman's, on December 6. Many children and adults, too, will keep this day in their hearts.



New and old neighbors participated. Folks decorated wagons and bikes with snowflakes, glitter, garlands and wreaths. Ted and Melissa Ring, Mike & Karen Davis, Nancy Sokol, and Karen Nuskiewicz created the drive-by decorations. Karen Nuskiewicz designed and copied the announcement flier. Gary Medlin, aided by the Hennessey girls, Mike Rheinhart, Lauren Arlaud and Glenda Winstead delivered the fliers. Rex Zerby created the parade map, and Mary Glynn ran the photo-op stop. Donna Zerby paid the bills, Lauren Arlaud provided the dental goodies, and Chip and Julia Claytor donated pens. The cards came from the Medlins. Ron and Anne hosted Santa, and provided the candy canes, hot chocolate, stickers and masks. The Civic League provided the candy kisses and baggies. Many people took priceless photographs, and everyone loved 2020's ornaments. Glenda Winstead participated to honor Mike's past years as the Hot Chocolate Man. Finally, Debbie Harding did everything else including acting as head cheerleader. What a wonderful afternoon!



Thank you, Ron and Anne, and all your elves.

## ARRIVALS

Welcome, to our new neighbors:

Tracy Beachman & Steve Miller, and Tony & Emmie Soares of Homeward Dr.; Ben & Miriam Lupton, Riley & Rui Stahl, and Shannon & Cheryl Stephens of N. Sunland Dr.; Alec & Jenna Walker, and Greg Davis of Hillview Blvd.; and Barry & Colliana Simpson of Old Homestead Ln.

## DEPARTURES

Fair winds, and following seas, to four very-long-time residents: Howard Brooks of Westward Dr., Don Singletary of E. Goodview Dr., Peggy Clanton, of Old Homestead Ln., and Marjory Raines of W. Goodview.

# PRINTING

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## WHAT DID YOUR CIVIC LEAGUE DO IN 2020, DESPITE THE VIRUS?

Compiled, published and hand-delivered an updated Neighborhood Directory to all members.

Published and hand-delivered two newsletter editions, instead of three, to all residents.

Welcomed new neighbors, delivering a unique basket of helpful items.

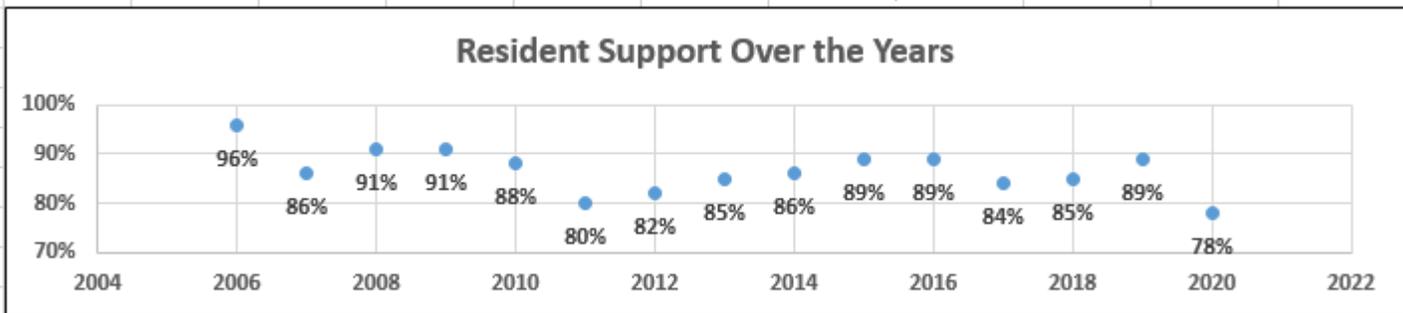
Maintained the front entrance island and bulletin board.

Planted new trees at the front entrance island and decorated for the holidays.

Pulled off a last-minute “Wagon-Wave-By” in lieu of the traditional holiday activities.

Conducted meetings and elected officers.

Your civic league functions solely through your support. If you want it to continue, please *promptly* complete and return the form with your \$7.



## \$7.00 ANNUAL DUES FOR 2021

Last year had the dubious distinction of having the lowest membership since we started keeping records in 2006. That \$7.00 from every household in Homestead is just enough to keep our little civic league going. Here are just a few things that cost money:

To keep the lights on at the front entrance averages 15.00/month. That is 180.00/year, or 25 households paying dues.

Mowing and maintaining the front entrance expenses last year was 485.00 which equals 69 households paying dues.

Printing expenses last year so you could have a directory and know your neighbor's phone number cost 361.00, which is another 51 households paying dues.

The holiday party that we had with Mr. Harriman and Mr. and Mrs. Claus isn't free either. Supplies for that event was 207.00 which equals 29 households paying dues.

These are just things that we did in the middle of a pandemic. Normal expenses during a normal year would take all 214 households paying dues *and* a bake sale just to keep things going. If you want your neighborhood to stay looking good and to continue to create events that bond neighbors together even in tough times, please pay the \$7.00.

## MEDICAID, NURSING HOME COSTS AND THE RUMOR MILL

Information shared by The Law Office of Angela N. Manz

One-half of all Americans who reside in nursing homes receive assistance from Medicaid to pay for their care. This is not surprising, given the extraordinarily high cost of long-term care. The real surprise is that half of all Americans *don't* seek Medicaid assistance to cover nursing home costs. There are several reasons for this, but one of the most common can be summed up in a single word: hearsay. Or, if you prefer, the rumor mill.

Here are just a few examples of the myths surrounding the use of Medicaid to pay for nursing home care:

- The healthy spouse will be kicked out of the family home
- The government will take all of your assets
- You'll have to live in an old, dilapidated facility
- You'll receive inadequate care, or no care at all

Rumors like these often come from well-meaning family members, friends, and neighbors.

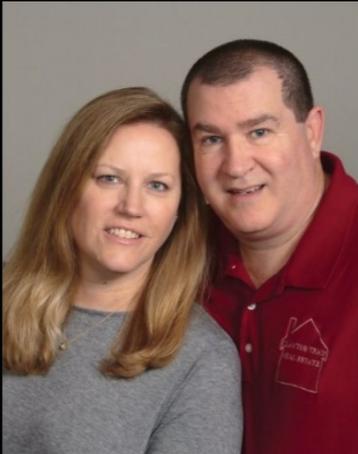
While none of them are true, many people believe that they are. Rumors also spread by people we assume to be knowledgeable about the subject--nursing home intake staff, caregivers, doctors, nurses, and social workers.

They might tell you, for instance, that you are too wealthy to receive assistance from Medicaid. Or that once you have moved to a nursing home you can no longer obtain Medicaid assistance to pay for your care. Again, these folks may mean well, but their information is often outdated or simply inaccurate. The fact is, Medicaid planning is complicated and the rules governing eligibility for various programs change constantly.

Even lawyers who do not focus on this area of the law may be a source of inaccurate information. Don't let rumors and misinformation prevent you from getting the financial assistance you need. Speak with an attorney who helps families obtain Medicaid assistance to pay for nursing home care on a daily basis.



Member



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Spread a little kindness...



In our neighborhood, we look out for each other. There are many ways to spread kindness. After COVID started, someone left a bag of goodies on our porch. I went out and got a few neighbors a Mum in the fall to cheer them up. Please try to pay it forward to your neighbors around you. During these difficult times we all need each other. Please check on your neighbors. Little things mean more than you know. So many people have said they are depressed due to this COVID. You never know what a little note or other kindness might do to brighten someone's day. Stay well and stay safe!

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