

The Homesteader

Neighborhood Newsletter

February 2024

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

In the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, it's easy to see our neighbors merely as the faces that live next door. In Homestead we believe that a neighbor is more than just somebody who resides in proximity; they are an integral part of the intricate tapestry that makes up our community. Our neighborhood is made of more than streets and houses, its made of relationships that extend beyond the boundaries of our homes.

The saying, *"A neighbor is more than just somebody who lives next door,"* encapsulates the idea that our neighbors are not just individuals occupying nearby houses; they are potential friends, allies, and companions in the journey of community life. Building strong connections with those around us can lead to a harmonious neighborhood, fostering a sense of belonging and unity.

From "Old Homestead Lane" to "North Sunland Drive" there are diverse talents and skills within our community. Our neighbors may surprise us with hidden talents or expertise that we could tap into for mutual benefit. Whether it's a neighbor with a green thumb offering gardening tips, a culinary enthusiast sharing a favorite recipe, or a DIY expert lending a helping hand with household projects, there's a wealth of knowledge and support waiting to be discovered within our own community.

Furthermore, the spirit of neighborliness goes beyond the exchange of skills; it's about being there for one another during both joyous and challenging times. Small gestures, such as checking in on each other, sharing a warm smile, or offering a helping hand, can create a supportive atmosphere that transforms a street into a true neighborhood. Celebrating milestones, birthdays, and achievements together fosters a sense of camaraderie that strengthens the fabric of our community.

Engaging in community events and activities is another way to break down the metaphorical fences that may exist between neighbors. Attending Civic League meetings, organizing block parties, potlucks, or neighborhood yard sales provides opportunities for residents to come together, share stories, and forge connections that extend beyond the confines of our individual homes. These events create a sense of unity and belonging, reinforcing the idea that a neighbor is more than just somebody who lives next door.

In conclusion, let's challenge ourselves to embrace the true essence of neighborly bonds. Let's look beyond the physical boundaries of our homes and actively cultivate connections with those around us. By doing so, we can transform our neighborhood into a vibrant, interconnected community where each resident plays a vital role in creating a warm and welcoming environment.

Remember, *a neighbor is more than just somebody who lives next door*; they are potential friends, allies, and companions on this beautiful journey we call community life.



**Stay Connected with
Neighborhood Events**



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY,

MARCH 12TH at 7PM

Providence Presbyterian Church



**JOIN THE HOMESTEAD
FACEBOOK PAGE**

Visit our website!

www.homesteadinvabeach.org



GET INVOLVED! The World Is Run By Those Who Show Up



Homestead Community Civic League

The Civic League plays a vital role in ensuring that Homestead continues to feel like home! The block party, the yard-sale, the clean entrance, the newsletter-all thanks to the individuals who volunteer their time to make Homestead a better place to live. Come out and get involved!

Come meet your neighborhood and what is in store for 2024!

Next Civic League meeting is March 12th at 7pm at Providence Presbyterian Church

SEE YOU THERE!!!

City Counsel Special Election Results

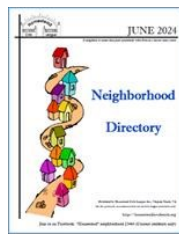
During the District 1 Special Election held on January 9th, 12.17% of registered voters in the District turned out to select a new Council member. David W. "Hutch" Hutcheson was elected with 2,030 votes. From a pool of 35,349 registered voters, 4,302 ballots were cast. At the Homestead precinct, 610 total votes were cast. Source: Election Results (virginia.gov)



Civic League Membership Dues

Please act promptly to show your support. It's only \$7 for a whole year, yet the league accomplishes a lot with it. See examples of activities and accomplishments here: Civic League Membership | Homestead Community (homesteadinvabeach.org).

BONUS! All paid members as of March 31st will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 debit card.



COMING SOON:

This summer, along with the June newsletter, a freshly updated neighborhood directory will be delivered to all Homestead Civic League members. Return your form by March 31st to insure your information is presented correctly. (Fill out the back page of the newsletter and return in the envelope provided)



ARRIVALS

Meryl Hunt, Old Homestead Ln.

Candice Pascual, Old Homestead Ln.

Mark & Shirley Edwards, Fireside Ln.

Dianne Kinney, Fireside Ln.

In Memory...

Sandy Everton and Iva Compton passed away this January. Both were long time residents of Homestead and both lived in homes on Fireside Ln.

Spring Spruce Up

**Saturday,
April 13th
at 9 a.m.**



This year's annual front entrance beautification is scheduled for **Saturday, April 13th at 9 a.m.** Don your gloves and gather with other Homestead-lovers to give our main entryway a post-winter face-lift.

Civic League Representatives

Donna Zerby, President
(757) 747-9688

Gary Medlin, Vice President
(757) 361-5826

Karen Davis, Secretary
(757) 617-6364

Mary Glynn, Treasurer
(757) 424-4499

Karen Nuskiewicz, Dues Collection
(757) 424-5657

Ginger Boyer, Welcoming
(757) 424-8070

Carrie Smaha, Webmaster
(757) 773-9038

Amy Price, Newsletter Editor
(757) 672-0032



Holiday Celebration—Great Success

By Gary Medlin

Festivities began with the talented Rachael and Doug Lynch leading folks in singing traditional Christmas carols and lighting the Christmas tree. The tree and bushes in the front entrance and at Ron's house were festooned with lights thanks to Rex Zerby. Charlotte Laws and Martha Claytor provided the beautiful bows and swags on the entrance walls. Soon after the caroling, all went to Ron's garage for the party.

Looking at numbers alone indicates that the party at Ron Harriman's garage was the most successful it its 34 years of existence. A person whose accuracy cannot be challenged counted over 150 participants.

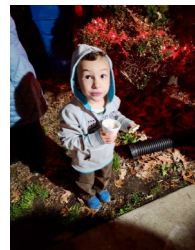
Of course, numbers alone don't make a great party. Santa and Mrs. Claus spiced things up by listening to the kids' wish lists and DJ Mike provided the much-loved tunes. As usual, the hit of the festivities was our host, Ron Harriman and his handmade ornaments. He gave out 88 at the party and a total of 174 during the season. At Christmastime and during the whole year, he is a treasure.

Can an event be called a party without treats? The heaps of brownies, cookies, cakes and other goodies, alone, would have ensured the party's success. Those and the endless cups of hot chocolate (thanks barista Rex Zerby) added up to 147, 522 calories, as per my special calory counting algorithm. All but 1007 were consumed.

Thank you to all who contributed the tasty snacks. They were: Denise and Jesse Dukes, (Chocolate) Chip Claytor, Karen Davis, Karen Nuskiewicz, Margaret Vick, Caroline Pilkerton, Mary Glynn, Jim Glynn, Renee Pudlester, Glenda Winstead, Cindy and Tim Stogsdill, Karla Wall, Chris Medlin, Taylor Davis, Gail Gogan, Emma Swift, Jackie Moylan, Donna Zerby, Lisa, Gus, Jillian, and Anaisa Zader, and a person whose name I could not read.

Also, Debbie Harding was a party hero because she cleaned up the garage and Ron's kitchen before and after the event

It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. Our little neighborhood village raised a great party!



Membership and
Neighborhood
Watch Flyer will go
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