

The Homesteader

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

February 2025



Homestead Civic League Meeting

Tuesday
March 11th
at 7PM

Providence Presbyterian
Church



As we move through February, there's a sense of anticipation in the air—spring is on the way! With each passing day, we're noticing the evenings stretching just a little longer, bringing more daylight to enjoy our neighborhood parks and outdoor spaces. Soon, the flowers will begin to bloom, and the sounds of the community will be filled with the warmth of spring. Let's look forward to the brighter days ahead, and the opportunities to connect with neighbors outdoors!



Stay Connected with Neighborhood Events

Visit our 
Facebook Page

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homesteadinvabeach.org



Another Successful Holiday Party!

Although the weather was chilly, Homesteaders enjoyed another great holiday party at Ron Harriman's garage. It was the 35th!

Prior to the party, folks sang carols, (expertly lead by Doug and Rachel Lynch), and lit the Christmas Tree (lovingly decorated by Rex and Donna Zerby). Other decorations were provided by Charlotte Laws' creativity.

By 7:00 pm, Ron had his ornaments ready, Santa and his Mrs.'s had arrived, and Mike, the DJ, had all music loaded for listening enjoyment. Rex and Gary were ready to dispense hot chocolate. An unexpected and welcome was the 6ft tall heater Doug Lynch brought.

Soon, the multitude descended on the garage to talk, laugh, take photos, and consume copious amounts of hot chocolate and sweet treats. Santa's lap was frequently filled with little persons and Ron gave kids and others around 100 puffin ornaments. Many in attendance stated that they'd return to the neighborhood every year to attend the party and, especially to see Ron.

Several people helped make the party with refreshments possible at Ron Harriman's house. Joie, Ron's niece came all the way from Pulaski, VA to help with the party and to visit with Ron for a few days. Also, many brought treats. They were as follows: Kathy Rheinhart, Chris Medlin, Karen Davis, Martha Claytor, Margaret Vick, Gloria Hendershot, the Reids Family, Cindy and Tim Stogsdill, Jim and Mary Glynn, Renee Puddester, Glenda Winstead, Joie and Uncle Meame, Emily Hannah, Donna Zerby, and Jesse Dukes. The delicious calories they provided were too many to count. Thanks to

all who made the party possible and to those who addended. Most of all, thank you Ron for 35 years of Homestead holiday fun and for being who you are.

- Gary Medlin



President's Corner

At the last Civic League meeting, we discussed different ideas for other events during the year. We set up a few dates for **Spring Clean Up on April 12th** and a **Spring Yard Sale for April 26th**. Make sure you tell your friends about the yard sale and share the event from our Facebook page: "Homestead" neighborhood 23464 (Current residents only). We want to offer other events like movie night, and other social events. We even talked about having a social event after trick or treating is done on Halloween, on October 31st (a Friday this year). Our meeting in March, we will be setting up more dates for our normal events but we want to hear from YOU. We also need to set up a committee for planning the block party.

Please come out to our meeting on **March 11th** to set up dates for our events.

- Donna Zerby

Front Entrance Clean Up- April 15 at 10am

A well-maintained front entrance doesn't just happen on its own. It takes effort, teamwork, and most importantly volunteers. The more hands we have helping, the easier it is, and it can be done quickly. Volunteers are the heart of any successful neighborhood event. It fosters a sense of pride and connection among residents. If you have gardening tools and gloves it will be helpful. Hope to see you at the front entrance on **April 15th at 10am**.



If you are not available at that time, people have gone up there the days preceding the date and started the process of weeding. My husband and I did that 2 years ago and the Glynn's did it last year.

- Karen Davis



Happy 100th Birthday Virginia Hair!

Virginia Hair turns 100 on February 22, 2025. Born In Conway, North Carolina, on a farm growing peanuts and cotton, this friendly lady learned all about hard work at an early age. Blessed with longevity genes, Virginia had relatives who lived well into their eighties and beyond; one aunt survived to 104. When asked the usual questions about her long life, Virginia gave God the glory as well as citing hard work, eating lots of vegetables and staying trim and fit. Virginia arrived in Homestead in 1965 and currently lives with her daughter-in-law, loving caregiver, Marcia Hair.

Our neighbor embraced adventure during the years when she was physically able to do so. Together with her late husband, Felton Hair, Sr., Virginia traveled to many parts of the country. One quick conversation with her and one discovers her spirit of wit and adventure. This resident enjoys meeting new friends, always enjoying a good laugh with company.

Our best wishes to you, Virginia, as you celebrate this remarkable milestone with family and friends. May you continue with good health and know your Homestead neighbors are proud to call you our Centenarian!

- Chris Medlin

Wanted: Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Are you interested in crime prevention? Would you like to know your neighbors better? Do you want to serve your community? If you answered “yes” to all or any of these questions, you may be interested in the Neighborhood Watch position for Homestead.

Neighborhood Watch is a program that helps prevent neighborhood crime. It involves neighborhood and police cooperation. Police involvement is provided by a specific Watch liaison officer who is assigned to our neighborhood.

To be an official Watch neighborhood at least 60% percent of homes must have a resident who agrees to be a watcher. Watchers agree to be aware of their surroundings and if they see suspicious activity, to alert the police by calling the non-emergency number 757-385-5000 (unless they witness an emergency at which time they call 911). A list of watchers is maintained by the Watch coordinator.

In addition to maintaining the Watch list, the Watch coordinator acts as a liaison between the neighborhood and the police. There are a few other duties and the retiring Watch coordinator, Gary Medlin, will provide detailed information to anyone interested in the Neighborhood Watch position. The total time commitment seldom exceeds one to one and a half hours per month.

If you think you may be interested in the Neighborhood Watch coordinator position, please contact Gary Medlin at 757-361-5826 or Donna Zerby at 757- 705-0975.



Upcoming local events in Virginia Beach

Do you ever wonder what is happening in our area that is just fun to do?

Check out this website for Virginia Beach:
<https://beacheventsvb.com/events/category/festivals/>

Here are just a few festivals coming up:

April 5th: East Coast She-Crab Soup Classic –
31st St. Park Oceanfront 12 pm to 2:30 pm – YUM!

April 12th to the 13th: Bulls and Barrels Beach Rodeo – 3rd Street on the Beach 3 pm to 5 pm

May 3rd and 4th: Atlantic Coast Kite Festival –
16th thru 18th Streets on the Beach – 10 am to 4 pm

Times not determined yet:

May 9th and 10th: Virginia International PANFest
– 24th Street Park -2405 Atlantic Avenue
– Renowned steel pan performers from throughout the U.S. will descend on Virginia Beach for a celebration of Caribbean music. (Check the VB website for more information on times etc.)

May 16th to the 18th: Pungo Offroad Monsters on the Beach – 4th thru 8th Streets Boardwalk.

Homestead Pet Corner

This Issues Featured Pets



Smitty & Sadie Mae
W Goodview Drive

“We are a little older and slower now, but Smitty, (that’s me) on the left, I love everybody. Sadie Mae is the loud one, so if you see us, just pay attention to me, Smitty. She will calm down. Our favorite treats are Old Mother Hubbard Milk Bones. My favorite thing to do is get belly rubs in the sun. Sadie Mae’s favorite thing is to snuggle up on the couch and go for walks with our dad, Rex. We hope to see you around!”

- Smitty



Valentine's day Oreo M&M's cookies

Ingredients

½ cup butter (softened)
½ cup brown sugar
¼ cup granulated sugar
1 egg
2 tsp vanilla extract
1 & ⅓ cup flour
1 tablespoon corn starch
½ tsp baking soda
½ tsp salt
⅔ cup Valentine's day m&m's
7 Oreo cookies roughly
chopped, regular stuffed

Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 350F
- Line a baking sheet with parchment paper
- In a medium bowl, cream the butter and both sugars together
- Add in the vanilla and egg. Mix until smooth and well incorporated
- Add dry ingredients into wet ingredient mixture, starting with the flour, corn starch, baking soda, and salt.
- Fold in the M&M's, and Oreo pieces
- Scoop the cookie dough to create 10 equal cookies
- Place them on the prepared baking sheet and bake for 13 minutes
- Cool on the cookie sheet for 5 minutes then transfer to a cooling rack.



"Calling all long-time residents!"

We would love to hear your stories and historical facts about our neighborhood. Whether it's a personal memory, a family photo, or a piece of history passed down through the years, your contribution could be featured in a future edition of our newsletter and on our website. Share your stories with us and help preserve the rich history of our community!"

Please email Amy Price, Newsletter Editor
at amypriceart@gmail.com

HOMESTEAD

"This is how America should look"

Quote from Reverend Cecil Chambers
of Richmond

During a visit to the Horton home
on Hillview Boulevard, circa 1970s.

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