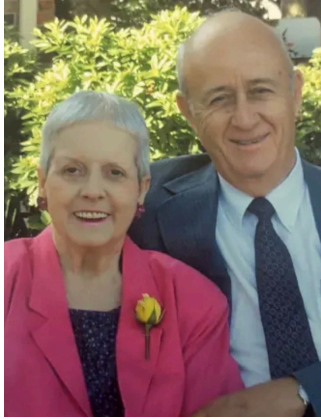


The Homesteader

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

February 2026



Ronald E. Harriman

November 17, 1926 - December 27, 2025

As many of you know, we lost Ron Harriman on December 27th at the age of 99. His son has made arrangements for his service to be on

February 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm at: Community United Methodist Church, 1072 Old Kempsville Rd

Some folks have offered to send the Civic League a donation in his honor and also to carry on the Christmas party tradition. You can send in the donation when you send in your dues payment. (See form included with this newsletter.) Please add a note of how much of your payment that you would like to donate in honor of Ron Harriman.



In the obituary, it says in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Community United Methodist Church 1072 Old Kempsville Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23464. Ron and Else (his wife) were long time members of this church and wonderful volunteers to our Civic League. Ron will be missed.

-- Donna Zerby



Neighbor Spotlight: Thank You, Rex Zerby!

Homestead is lucky to have Rex—someone who is always there to help, often behind the scenes. From decorating the front entrance at Christmas to weeding and mulching during The Spring Clean Up, Rex plays a big role in keeping our community looking its best as well as making assisting with our Homestead events. His reliability and willingness to help make a real difference.

Thank you, Rex, for all you do for our neighborhood. We truly appreciate you!



The Last Christmas Party

By Gary Medlin

What a great time we had at the early December party in Ron Harriman's garage! Hot chocolate flowed like water (thanks to Rex Zerby), people ate loads of goodies, Santa and Mrs. Claus entertained the kids, Mike Jennings provided the music, and all enjoyed fun and fellowship. As always (for 36 years), Ron gave out all his hand-made ornaments, although he needed help from Rick Davis this year. It was an event to remember. Unfortunately, it was Ron's last.

Homestead lost its long-time holiday party benefactor on December 27th. Ron had previously stated that he wanted to live at least long enough to enjoy one last Christmas party and he succeeded with that goal. He and his loving wife, Elsie, gave the first Christmas party 36 years ago. Elsie died approximately 12 years ago. Farewell Ron. We will miss you terribly, especially at Christmas time.

Although Ron cannot be with us any longer, someone in the Rick and Karen Davis clan will host the next party.

Footnote: No Christmas party is complete without tasty treats. Most of us engaged in the Christmas tradition of overindulgence. Those who provided the delicious morsels were as follows: Ginger Boyer, Martha Claytor, Karen Davis, Mary Glynn, Chris Medlin, Jackie Moylan, Jessica Nichols, Renee Puddester, Kathy Rheinhart, The Reeds, and Karla Wall.

Ron Harriman knew his torch was beginning to fade so he found an apprentice, Rick Davis and passed on his knowledge and bag of tricks. Rick learned the tools he needed to carry on this beautiful tradition of ornament making. Ron loved making them and everyone, old and young, loved receiving them.

There is only one caveat... Rick needs assistance in painting them and so, **Ron's Elves** was established. Once Rick has them cut out there will be a call to arms (Facebook Post) for all the elves to gather to begin the completion. I have offered my home as the work shop.

If interested, please contact myself; Mary Glynn or Barb Francisco.

Upcoming Events & Important Dates:

Front Entrance Clean-Up

 March 21 (Rain date: March 28)  10:00 AM

Please bring gloves, tools for weeding, and trimmers. We will be weeding and mulching the front entrance.

Spring Yard Sale

 April 18 (Rain date: April 25)  Starts at 8:00 AM

The Civic League will put up the large red banners. If anyone would like to help create additional smaller signs, please come to the next meeting to volunteer. The more volunteers we have, the quicker the signs can be placed. Homeowners are also encouraged to advertise on Facebook to help bring people into the neighborhood.

Fall Yard Sale / Bake Sale

 September 12 (Rain date: September 19)  Starts at 8:00 AM

Lorrie Riddle has kindly agreed to help coordinate the bake sale. It will be held at Chris and Gary Medlin's garage, located at 1028 Hillview Blvd.

Christmas Party

 Monday, December 7  7:00 PM

Karen and Rick Davis are working on details for the new ornament designed by Ron Harriman. Beth Chandler has generously agreed to host the event in her garage at 909 W. Goodview Drive. Thank you all for continuing this cherished tradition we promised Ron we would carry on.

Block Party Coordinator Needed

You may notice we have not set a date for the Block Party. At this time, we do not have a Block Party Coordinator — and we truly need one.

Last year, our volunteers stepped up and did their best to make it happen, but a coordinator is essential. This role involves:

- Setting a planning meeting (which can follow a regular Civic League meeting)
- Organizing events, food, the fire truck, and other activities
- Delegating tasks and ensuring each event is managed

If you are interested in becoming the Block Party Coordinator, please attend the next Civic League meeting on March 10 at 7:00 PM, and we can begin planning together. Let's work together to make the 2026 Block Party a huge success!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Homesteaders

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who help keep Homestead going. I hope I don't miss anyone:

- Karen and Rick Davis
- Chris and Gary Medlin
- Mary and Jim Glynn
- Jackie and Dan Moylan
- Mike and Kathy Rheinhardt
- Darren and Karla Drake
- Brian and Margaret Vick
- Chris Epstein
- Denise and Jesse Dukes
- Gary and Anne Hamrick
- Lorrie Riddle
- Doug and Rachel Lynch
- Amy and Daniel Price
- Charlotte Laws
- Rex Zerby
- Bohdan and Carrie Smaha
- David Ashcraft
- Barbe Francisco
- Gloria Hendershot
- Ginger Boyer
- Chip and his mom, Martha Claytor
- Karen and Ray Nuskiewicz

And the many volunteers who help deliver our newsletters and look out for each other to keep Homestead a great place to live.

Without these volunteers, Homestead events and activities would not happen. From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for all that you do. Your dedication truly means a lot and helps keep Homestead thriving.

~ Donna Zerby

STARTING NOW! Donations needed for Block Party Door Prizes!

Your help is essential for success! I need new items for adults and children, including crafts, gift certificates, or unused gifts. Small items can be combined into gift baskets (baskets needed too).

The more donations, the more fun we'll have!

Contact me at 757-749-2109 for pickup or drop off at 933 Whitehurst Landing Rd.

Thank you for your support! - Lorrie Riddle

Next Civic League Meeting: Tuesday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Providence Presbyterian Church 5497 Providence Road

**Stay Connected with
Neighborhood Events**

**Visit our Facebook Page
& Website Page**

homesteadinvabeach.org



Civic League Representatives

Donna Zerby, President (757) 747-9688
Doug Lynch, Vice President (757) 714-3684
Karen Davis, Secretary (757) 617-6364
Mary Glynn, Treasurer (757) 424-4499
Ginger Boyer, Welcoming (757) 424-8070
Margaret Vick, Dues Coordinator (757) 714-3234
Carrie Smaha, Webmaster (757) 773-9038
Amy Price, Newsletter Editor (757) 672-0032
