



Green Run HOMES ASSOCIATION

THE GREEN RUNNER

SPRING 2021



1248 Green Garden Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Eggstravaganza Sponsors

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our sponsors for the Eggstravaganza: Family First Realty, Inc.; Joy Reflexology; Michael Berlucchi, City Council; Glenn Davis, State Representative; Va. Beach Oceanside Lions Club; and House of Muay Thai.

While Saturday, April 3rd was cold and windy, it didn't stop our parade of cars coming through for prizes and candy. We had 150 participants with some kids dressed in their finest clothes. The Va. Beach Oceanside Lions Club had their touring bus out there giving away sunglasses. Our President dressed as the Easter Bunny and was a hit with the kids. Those that had golden eggs in their bags won extra prizes.



Participants



Golden Egg Winner!



Volunteers Working



Easter Bunny with Bear



President, Dean Desmore & Manager, Heidi Daniels

Eggstravaganza

Thank you to all our sponsors, volunteers, and participants of our GRHA Eggstravaganza!

We had 150 participants drive through to meet our wonderful extraordinary Easter Bunny and receive their treats!

A Special Thank You goes out to our extra special bunny, Dean Denmore, who made the day especially great for the kids!

One GRHA participant wrote the office to say, " I just wanted to thank you for the wonderful job your office did at the Easter event. I have 4 kids that participated and they had the best time. I have an autistic 4 year old and it made his whole day when the bunny came up to the window and interacted with the kids. They said it was the best!! Great job putting it all together".

Great job being the Best Bunny ever, Dean!

Many thanks to all of our volunteers who made this event possible!



In Memoriam of Bill Holtz...

By Jill Ewell, Treasurer

I had the great privilege of serving with Bill on the board in 2012. It was the start of many years volunteering together in the Green Run community. He was always smiling and happy to see you whether you saw him yesterday or a week ago. He and I would debate about interpretations of the governing documents and it would be a fifty-fifty toss up on whether or not we would come to an accord. But even on opposite sides of an issue Bill was always your friend. He loved to talk about Colorado and his family. I remember that we pretty much forced him to play Santa at the children's holiday party back in 2012. He was reluctant at first but ended up enjoying it so much that he continued to do so for several years. He was so tall that we struggled to keep the pants of the Santa suit tucked into his boots. We all had a good laugh and he just went with it saying the children wouldn't even notice. He was a perfect Santa, a gentle giant and would speak with each child before sitting for a photo.

He would call once in a while and ask for help with his computer as it was always giving him a hard time. He was a hugger and whenever you saw him you just had to be ready because he was giving you a hug and asking how you'd been. He used to call me his wordsmith and would often ask me to help him draft whatever item he was working on because he knew I liked to write. Normally I do love writing; but writing this article for the newsletter is one of the hardest things I've ever been asked to write. We lost Bill to COVID in February. It's hard to believe he's gone and won't be calling anymore to say hello or to ask if he'd be seeing us at an upcoming meeting. Rest easy Mr. Holtz... you are fondly remembered and sorely missed.



As you can see, the gentle giant was so tall that the pant legs didn't cover his knees. No one seemed to care.

Thank you Bill for your dedication to the GRHA community.

Board Member Spotlight



Dean Densmore

Dean Densmore has been the President of the Green Run Homes Association since January 2019. He was asked a series of questions to answer, which are provided below with his responses.

How long have you lived in Green Run?

My family moved to Green Run in 1971. The house models were located on Rosemont Road, which remains there today. At the time, Green Run was mainly open land with only 3 houses and the Clubhouse. Although my life has taken me away, I have always returned home to Green Run.

What do you do for a living and how long have you been doing that?

I have been working as a Computer Analyst for the past 26 years.

What made you run for the Board?

I've had a long history living in Green Run. As a young boy, I remember helping set up for the 4th of July celebrations and decorating the Clubhouse for events. One of my first jobs was working for Green Run Maintenance on the grounds crew. As an adult and a resident, I wanted to support the community I grew up in.

What have you learned since becoming a board member? President?

I have learned about what it takes to run a community, from laws to the finances and everything in between. However, I think the best thing I have learned has come by working with other board members, both past and present. I have learned so much about who I am through them. The experiences I have gained working on the Board has given me more personal skills and hopefully a few new friends.

What do you see that the homeowner's Association can do better?

The Association is doing the best it can for the community. However, the Association is only as strong as the members that support it. The question is, to paraphrase former President Kennedy, it's not what the Association can do for the members but what the members can do for its Association and for their community. Every member is invested in our community. The board and the committees are comprised of individuals who create the events, review finances, and create the community newsletters. They all need your input and support to continue making Green Run a better place to live and play. The Directors and Association are looking for members to get involved. By supporting and nurturing the areas in which they live and coming to board and committee meetings or even join a committee.

Continues onto the next page

Board Member Spotlight

What is the Board doing right?

Every member of the Board is there to help maintain and improve our community's amenities and services for the members. In my time serving on the Board of Directors, we have strived to work together, listen to the issues, and deliberate fairly and openly. The recent BOD has worked hard to bring forward new transparency of the association business to members, revitalize the communications, and attract new opportunities to better the community for the members.

What would you tell homeowners regarding living in Green Run?

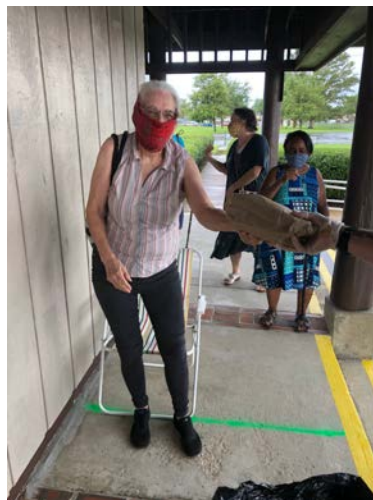
Green Run is one of the largest HOA communities on the east coast of Virginia. One of the best things about Green Run is our diverse ecosystem. We have a diverse population of birds and wildlife within our community. Green Run has more than 15 miles of sidewalks and trails throughout the community. Plus, pools, parks, playgrounds, and plenty of green space.

What do you do in your off time?

A few years ago, I bought a Jeep, hoping to find a hobby that would allow me to explore the unpaved parts of the world. It's turned out to be a lot more fun and personally rewarding than I ever could have imagined.

How has Covid-19 affected the Association?

This last year has been like no other in recent memory. The pandemic has taken a toll on people and communities while impacting businesses, both big and small. Yet, people still rise to meet the challenge when things get hard, as exemplified by the thousands of frontline workers, first responders, and medical professionals battling the virus. An exceptional commitment was also displayed by Green Run employees who responded to the pandemic by adapting how we do business to continue serving our community members. I'm proud of how they stepped up and made contributions to those residents in need, from passing out hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment to hosting a COVID Testing site. We kept the Association running through extraordinary efforts while safely opening the pools and maintaining an event schedule focused on keeping every member and staff safe as possible.





Pearsall Park Reinstalled

Pearsall Park had deteriorated so much that it was necessary to remove it and not replace it.

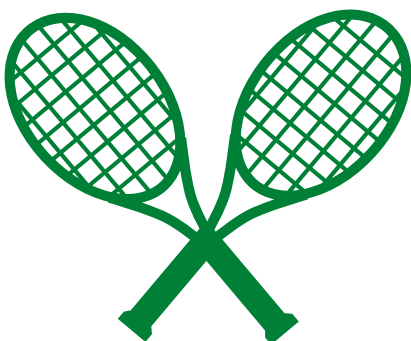
But after a few members attended the board meeting expressing their need for having a park in that area, the board voted to reinstall the park. The board asked what they would like to see in that park and the members made suggestions which the board used in creating the new Pearsall Park. We hope all enjoy the new park.

Clubhouse Playground Closed - Killdeer Birds

While conducting an inspection of Clubhouse Park we noticed a killdeer bird nesting in the mulch. The killdeer bird is federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and until the eggs hatch and the babies fly away, we cannot open the park. As soon as the babies move on we will open the park.



We have installed construction fencing around the entire park and placed signs all along the park perimeter alerting the membership of the birds. Please stay clear of the area. We apologize for any inconvenience.



The Tennis Court is now open!

Repairs are scheduled for May. If you need a key fob, please call the office first and schedule a time to pick up your key fob.


You can download the Tennis Court Agreement from the website www.greenrunhoa.org under the forms tab.



Earth Day

APRIL 22

Don't forget to celebrate
Earth Day on
Thursday, April 22nd!



Enjoy a walk in the neighborhood,
plant a tree or some flowers, and
recycle are some ways you can
appreciate our Earth.

Check out what you can do and events for celebrating Earth Day @
<https://www.earthday.org/>

Yard of the Month Info!



YARD of the
MONTH
winner!

Yard of the Month runs from May through September with holiday decorating contests in October and December.

The purpose of the Yard-of-the-Month is to recognize the efforts of residents who take pride in their homes and landscaping, thereby inspiring others to do the same.

You are able to "**Nominate a Neighbor**" by emailing their address and a picture along with contact information to yom@greenrun.org! You can even nominate your own home.

The Yard of the Month Committee meets before each Board meeting at 5:30 pm from May through September. GRHA members are welcome to attend and get involved! Please stay tuned to GRHA's website & facebook page for more details & deadlines!



Sponsor of Yard of the Month



Family First Realty Inc.
For All Your Real Estate Needs

Family First Realty Inc. 3420 Holland Rd., Suite 106,
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Amber McCulloch cell: 757.572.2278
www.FamilyFirstRealtyInc.com



Here is a picture of just one of the animals we have residing with us in Green Run.

If you capture a photo of any other wildlife, please send us a picture to include in the next newsletter.

Did You Know...

You must store your personal property out of public view

Storage of Personal Property

- All personal property must be stored out of public view. No personal property shall be stored in the front yard, porch, or side yard unless out of public view.
- Examples of personal property items include but are not limited to, bicycles, interior furniture, sports equipment, basketball hoops, all types of containers, appliances, grills, auto and truck parts, including pickup shells, lawn and garden tools, and trailers of all types.
- Only furniture designed for outdoor use is permitted on porches.



By Sara Krieger

When washing dishes, I want a liquid dish soap that cleans well without drying out my super sensitive skin, so I decided to try out a do-it-yourself recipe by Sarah Lewis with only 3 ingredients minus the artificial dyes, fragrances, or preservatives. My hands feel so soft and silky after washing dishes with this liquid dish soap – a win-win in my book!

I purchased Sal Suds off Amazon online since I was not sure if I could find it in a store near me. You could substitute a liquid castile soap for Sal Suds; however, Sal Suds cuts through grease and rinses better with more bubbly action and not to mention made my hands super soft. The baking soda adds a little scouring powder to help cut through grease and stuck-on foods. I did increase the Sal Suds to water ratio based on my personal preferences for the thickness of the resulting liquid soap mixture and found you only need to add a teaspoon or two of the dish soap to a sink half full of hot water to wash dishes.

DIY Liquid Dish Soap Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of Sal Suds
- 1 cup of distilled water
- 1 tsp of baking soda
- 20 drops of lemon or citrus essential oil

Directions:

- 1) Add all the ingredients to a mixing bowl
- 2) Use a whisk to mix the ingredients together until the baking soda is dissolved
- 3) Pour into a pump bottle



LYNNHAVEN River NOW

Restoring Virginia Beach Waters



Become a LRNow Pearl Home and Support Clean Waters and Sustainable Living

Did you ever wonder what those Lynnhaven River Now Pearl Home flags mean?

Pearl Homes incorporate green practices in their homes, yards and neighborhood. Our daily habits and decisions make a difference. Whether you have installed a rain barrel, made a pledge to “scoop the poop” or switched to a reusable water bottle and reusable grocery bags, you are helping to bring our waterways back to life, and we would like to recognize your efforts. We live in a beautiful place and it takes a community to restore and protect our waterways.

Fill out a brief application and see if you qualify today for a Free Flag & Pole to recognize your efforts to our community!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pearlhome>

Do you live in the Lynnhaven Watershed?

We have a Pearl Yard Program for homes located in the Lynnhaven River watershed. Homeowners in this watershed are offered a special program to assist with managing stormwater runoff on your property. You can find out more about the Sustainable Yards program here <https://www.lynnhavenrivernow.org/sustainable-yards-program/>.

We also recognize neighborhoods for their efforts. If you are interested in becoming a Pearl Neighborhood or have any questions on qualifications, contact:

Terri@lrnow.org
office: 757-962-5398
mobile: 757-477-5437



GRHA Volunteer Spotlight

By Sara Krieger

Recently, I was able to interview Amber McCulloch, a long-time GRHA volunteer. My goal was to find out why after all this time, she still finds time to volunteer at GRHA for various things, including our Newsletter & Events Committee. Keep reading for Amber's interview questions and answers below!

Tell me a little about yourself.

I am a wife, mother, and local business owner. My husband served in and retired from the military and we raised our family here. I love working and relaxing, all while calling Green Run home. I began my real estate career when my husband retired and quickly learned how important making connections and giving back are to the success of a community and my business.

How long have you lived in Green Run?

We moved here in 2006 from a Chesapeake rental home because we wanted to have a dog for our kids.

Are you a Hampton Roads native?

I lived in Norfolk in the early '80s until my family moved to Florida.

What led you to volunteer for GRHA and why?

When I began my career in real estate I became very aware of where I spent every dollar. It was important to me to find local businesses, as close to Green Run as possible, to spend my money because those business owners are my neighbors. I had a discussion with a board member and there was an opening, so I volunteered to help cause a change in our community.



What do you find hard about the volunteer work you do?

There are a few things that are difficult in volunteering. First, many different personalities-sometimes not everyone sees eye to eye. The second is finding more people, "many hands make light work". Lastly, saying "good-bye", some neighbors are not in the area long, some have been here forever and we miss them when they are no longer able to serve.

What do you love the most and find the most rewarding about volunteering?

Meeting and getting to know people. Contributing to the success of our neighbors, the Association, and other business owners.

Why do you feel it is important to volunteer for the GRHA community?

Volunteering provides a sense of ownership and connection. I work diligently in my profession to show Green Run in the best light and to show who we really are.

GRHA Volunteer Spotlight

By Sara Krieger

Continuation of Amber's interview questions and answers.

How has volunteering changed you or your perspective about GRHA and the community?

Volunteering has provided me the opportunity to meet neighbors, volunteers, staff, and City officials - many of whom care a great deal for our community. I have a deep love and respect for our community and work diligently to show that to the world. I have learned how much work goes into making it all work. Until you sit in on a few Finance Committee meetings you have no idea just how many acres there are to mow and how many hours it takes to process the many moving parts of our Association.

How long do you plan to volunteer for GRHA or why do you continue to volunteer for our community?

I plan to volunteer here as long as I live here. I continue to volunteer because I want to make a difference in the world, you know "be the change you want to see in the world"? I hope that my efforts inspire others to join us. There is so much to be done. There is plenty of room for the different perspectives that each person brings.

Do you have any advice for your community or anything you would like to tell others about volunteering at GRHA?

Our community is the size of a small city and we could do more for our community if we had more involved; more ideas and more hands to make them happen. I invite you to come to a few meetings and see what is involved, talk to a few people, and see where you feel lead to make a difference.

What opportunities would you like to see for volunteering within GRHA?

I would love to see a group for businesses (I am working on this one), a youth group (we had this in the past and could do it again with the right staff), a community garden (we started one long ago - but much dedication and determination are needed to make it work) & a dog park (not sure if insurance will allow it).

Do you feel GRHA volunteers should receive formal recognition for what they do? If so, what would you like to see happen?

Yes, I do believe there should be an annual recognition event and an award to display along with social media posts to say "thank you". Different people have different reasons to volunteer and that may motivate a few to join us in our work.

How can GRHA get more people to volunteer or participate within GRHA?

We should promote volunteer opportunities for every event and every committee that you would like to add members to. We all have to work together to build the perception of Green Run. Then when others come, make sure to make them feel welcome, included, and valued.

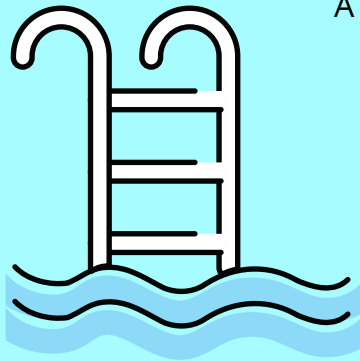


FAMILY POOL PARTY!

A Family Pool Party is **tentatively set** for **June 19th**

A 2nd Pool Party is **tentatively set** for **July 17th**

More information coming soon!



Green Run Elementary School PTA

www.facebook.com/GRES.PTA

Email greenruncoltspta@gmail.com



Rosemont Elementary School PTA

rosemontes.vbschools.com/parents/p_t_s_a

www.facebook.com/RosemontElementaryPTA



Parkway Elementary School

https://parkwayes.vbschools.com/parents/p_t_s_a

Email VBParkwayPTA@Gmail.com



Larkspur Middle School PTA

www.facebook.com/Larkspur.Middle.School.PTA/

Email larkspurmiddlepta@gmail.com



Landstown Middle School PTSA

www.facebook.com/LancerPTSA

https://landstownms.vbschools.com/parents/p_t_s_a



Green Run High School PTSA

www.facebook.com/GreenRunHighPTSA/

Email grhs.ptsa@gmail.com



Landstown High School PTSA

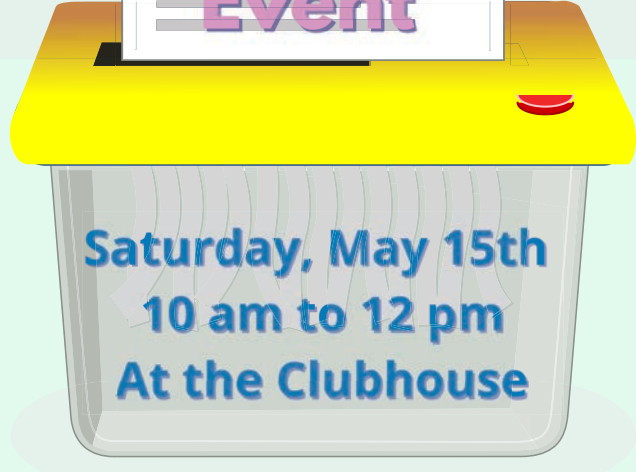
landstownhs.vbschools.com/parents/p_t_s_a

**PTA
School
Information**



Shred-it & Samaritan House

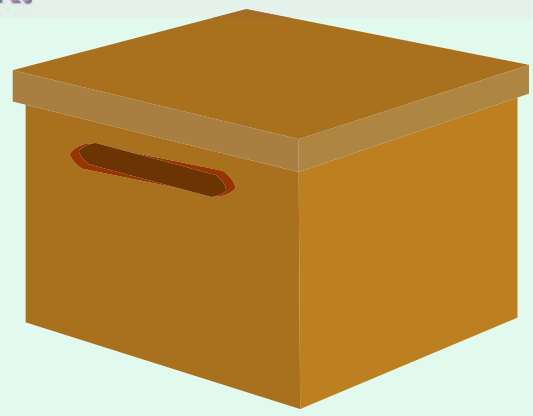
Event



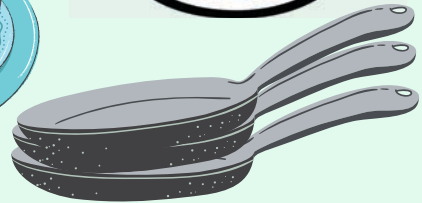
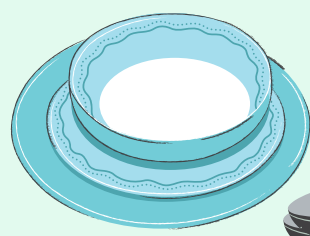
Time to spring clean & throw out old paperwork!

GRHA is hosting a free Shred-it Event for our members. Each member is allowed to bring one banker's box size of paper for shredding until we reach the limit for our Shred-it truck.

Banker's Box



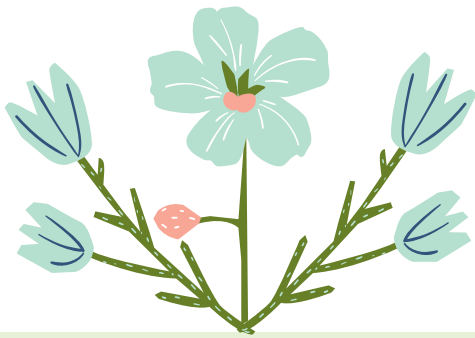
We will also be collecting donations for Samaritan House, whose mission is to provide shelter for families of domestic abuse.



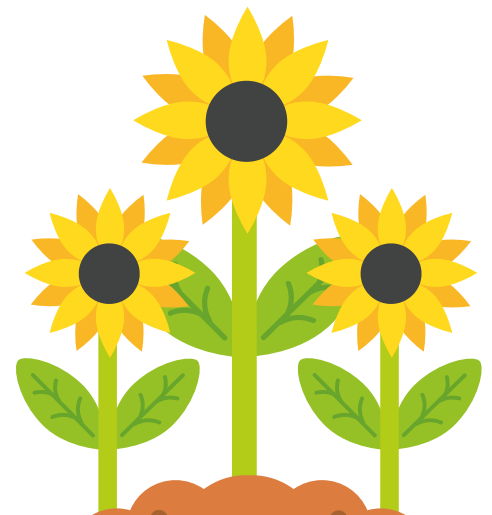


Calling all gardeners, green thumbs, & plant lovers!

Pending a vote by the Board at the April meeting, Green Run may be starting a Green Garden Club.



**Seeking members to join
& help maintain the
community garden**



**Our goal is to provide fresh, healthy food
for members of Green Run**



The Green Run Homes Association is overseen by a board of nine directors that are **volunteer** owners and/or residents. **Volunteers** are a **vital** part of the Green Run community with most **events and activities** being planned and orchestrated **by dedicated owners and residents**. In addition, we regularly partner with several local groups, including Green Run High and Elementary schools, Green Run Community Leaders, Green Run Youth Leaders and various departments within the city of Virginia Beach, with the intended result of bringing residents together **to foster fellowship and a strong sense of community**.

Soon there will be an eForm available on the GRHA website for residents and homeowners to fill out and submit if they would like to volunteer. The eform will require contact information, availability, and the types of opportunities you would like to volunteer for at GRHA.

Volunteers are the heartbeat of our association!

If you are interested in volunteering but unsure what you would want to volunteer for within GRHA, please attend any of our committee meetings to learn more about our association and how you can help.

Written by Sara Krieger, Volunteer

Volunteering Can Make A Difference!



Board of Directors

Publishing Team: Dorothy Simmons, Jill Ewell, Sara Krieger, and Amber McCulloch

**Dean Densmore (2023)
President**

**Kim A. Bentley II (2023)
Vice President**

**Jill Ewell (2021)
Treasurer**

**Dorothy Simmons (2022)
Secretary**

Jocelyn Bentley (2023)

Vacancy (2022)

Mark Gillikin (2022)

Robyn Klein (2021)

Mike Maskell (2021)

JOIN US!



**Board Meetings are held the 4th
TUESDAY of each month**

**6:00pm
via Zoom**

**Link to meeting can be found on landing page
of greenrunhoa.org.**

Follow us and share this on
facebook with a neighbor.



Have questions???
Want to be heard?



Come to the Board of Directors meetings to be heard during the Homeowner's Forum, yes even during zoom meetings.

If you're unable to attend a board meeting, you can certainly email or call the board or the community manager.

We will try to answer as quickly as possible.

Odds & Ends



There's now a SeeClickFix app for iPhone and Android! Search "VB Works" in your app store to download.



If you do not have a computer and login to the website and need a **paper copy** of the GRHA newsletter, please call the GRHA office at 757-427-2600. We are happy to help!



Broken street signs or street lights? Potholes? Piles of trash? Abandoned vehicles? Graffiti? Click [HERE](#) for SeeClickFix and report it!



[Follow us and share this on facebook with a friend or neighbor.](#)



Blocked Storm Drains in your Neighborhood can cause flooding during heavy rainfall! Please make sure any yard debris is bagged and stored away from the curb and that your storm drains are not blocked by any kind of trash, debris, weeds, etc.