

## When a Community Comes Together....

By Lou Manzi, Editor, Village Voice

Community is a powerful word.

A community becomes even more powerful when it includes the entire community. When all members of the community pull together for a united cause, the power becomes unlimited. The change, or transformation, that occurs from the entire community is something greater than just what a small group of the community or an individual can achieve.

Our community is diverse. We have people of all ages ( 55 plus of course) and backgrounds who are skilled in different areas. By



Toni Glover, 15+ years of volunteering in GTV.

working together, having old mentor young, young inspiring old, and strong helping weak, we all give fully. Only together, as a community, can we give beyond our individual means. Participation is essential.

Usually we see communities come together

as a result of a cause or disaster. The community events within GTV are a great example of a community coming together because they want to; however, it is not enough. We need pure motives to nurture our genuine GTV community. What we can create is something remarkable. How do I know this? Because if we didn't



4-time HOA President, Fred Burns helping out, that smile is so contagious!!



Smiling faces for the 4th of July lunch, over 234 Dawgs were served as everyone enjoyed food & friendship.

come together, nothing would happen.

We all have something to contribute. One may be a storyteller. Another may be visionary. Some may be artists, and others mathematicians/accountants, business professionals, veterans and chefs. Sharing causes that matter to us, working together,

with the ability to agree to disagree at times, we, as a community of concerned residents, can collaborate on how to solve our issues. Then, by collaborating with our mentors solutions become reality.

For us, there will be no right or left side, just community. Community can't and won't be possible without us all coming together. Think about it.



## Around the Village



### Three Cheers for Volunteers A Message from Toni Glover

By Toni Glover

To all 2022 Flea Market volunteers, there are just not enough letters or meaning in the word "Thank You"; nor can it be written large enough to say how wonderful you all were during the days involved in the success of the flea market sale. But, Thank You, Thank You, and Thank You.

We laughed a lot and worked hard together. It is a wonderful memory for me. So once again, Thank You all.

I am so pleased to announce your hard work helped bring into the Activities Committee a total of \$2004.00 Turn to Village Page 2



#### IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2

2023 BUDGET

3

THIS AND THAT

4

DRUG PRICES

8

RECYCLING

12

**NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TUESDAY AUGUST 9TH 1PM**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Tom Benson**, HOA President

Summer is here, my roses are blooming, Longer days to enjoy my deck with neighbors.

I am truly blessed! This Friday, I am enjoying fresh albacore tuna on the barbie at a friend's house. Today, friends came over for coffee and conversation, and we spent a few hours sitting on my deck waving at neighbors and listening to music. Living and sharing here at Greentrees has become a very pleasant part of my life. We had zucchini bread made with mince-meat. How many of you remember what Mince-meat is? It's like a fruit chutney (no meat).

With our new manager here, I have had more time to really enjoy the good things we have. Next week we are expecting another new addition to our office staff, and you might want to come by and introduce yourself and welcome Kristen.

On the 6th of August, we are having our annual meeting and I look forward to seeing you there. We have a lot to share with you including a special lunch. I have a friend that makes the best sweet Italian sausage, and he has agreed to make it just for this day. When I told him I needed 250 7" sausages he just about fell over. We are grilling those sausages and having French rolls baked fresh that morning to go with them. Along with this, we are grilling red peppers, green peppers and onions to go on top with our secret sauce. Also, we will be serving an antipasto pasta salad and some of Lou's special cookies for dessert.

Hoping your days are good,

Tom

From Village Page 1

## Hello from New GTV Staff

**Jim Myers, Manager**

Let me introduce myself. I was born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia. I started my hospitality career with Marriott Hotels and have over 30 years of experience in hotel management at many locations around the country. I have three wonderful kids and two grand babies. I'm currently engaged to my wife to be and we look forward to setting a date! We enjoy the coast and everything Florence has to offer. I'm looking forward to contributing to Greentrees Village for many years to come.

**Kristen Hostetler, Bookkeeper / Office Assistant**

Hello! My name is Kristen Hostetler. I am 28 years young. I love living on the Oregon coast, especially in the beautiful town of Florence. I was born and raised in the Roseburg area, then moved to Portland for a little while to attend university. I moved to Florence in the fall of 2015 and fell in love with the area and all it has to offer. I love to spend time with my friends going on hikes, kayaking, going to the beach, mountain biking or playing board games. I have spent most of my working career in various forms of customer service and really enjoy helping people. In the fall of 2020 I decided to resume my studies and obtain my associates degree in accounting, I've always had a liking for math and numbers. I am excited to be starting my new career in accounting and to be invited to do that at Greentrees Village as the new Bookkeeper and Office Assistant is a wonderful opportunity. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone, so don't be shy, stop by the office and say hi!

Turn to Village Page 4

### The Village Voice

A Publication of Greentrees Village, Inc.

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# 2023 Budget Clarified

By Steve Lyon, Chair, Finance Committee

Annually the Greentrees Finance Committee, Property Committee, and Board of Directors collaboratively prepare a fiscal budget for the following year. Three factors are always considered: keeping our HOA dues affordable, maintaining a safe, functional, and pleasant community, and having funds available to accommodate the inevitable need to repair or replace assets.

The budget consists of: Administrative Expense, Operating Expense, and the Reserve Fund.

**Administrative Expenses:** Wages and insurance comprise 90% of Administrative Expenses. Through careful management of wages and cautious spending in other areas, Administrative Expenses will increase just 4.1% in 2023.

**Operating Expenses:** Utilities comprise approximately 91% of Operating Expenses and the majority of our overall budget. Despite many utilities increasing rates next year, savings were attained in other areas so that Operating Expenses will increase by a modest 4.7% for 2023.

**Reserve Fund:** The smallest of the three components of our budget, but every bit as important. This fund pays for planned (and unplanned) asset replacement and significant repairs.

We have worked hard to keep Administrative and Operating Expenses below the current 8% annual inflation rate; however, our beautiful park is nearing 50 years old. It is easy to see when above-ground infrastructure, such as buildings, tennis courts, and roads, require maintenance. The below ground infrastructure, such as water mains and sewer mains, is hidden from view but is even more important. Both above and below ground assets require maintenance to provide the services we depend upon.

Every year Greentrees evaluates approximately 665 assets to evaluate their expected maintenance requirements over the next 30 years. Our Property Committee uses this analysis as a guide for upcoming projects. Our most recent evaluation suggests that we need to spend approximately \$8.5 Million over the next 10 years to properly maintain our community assets.

Our biggest current use of the Reserve Fund is the on-going projects for the lateral water lines to our houses, and for the subsequent road repairs. Future needs are for water mains, sewer mains, electrical panels, and never-ending road maintenance.

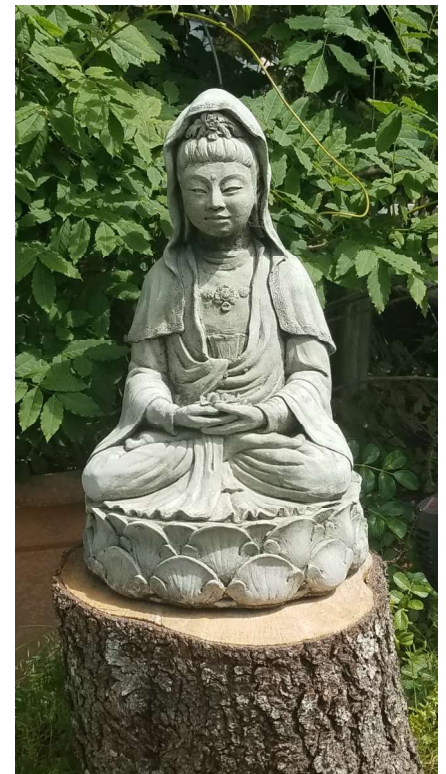
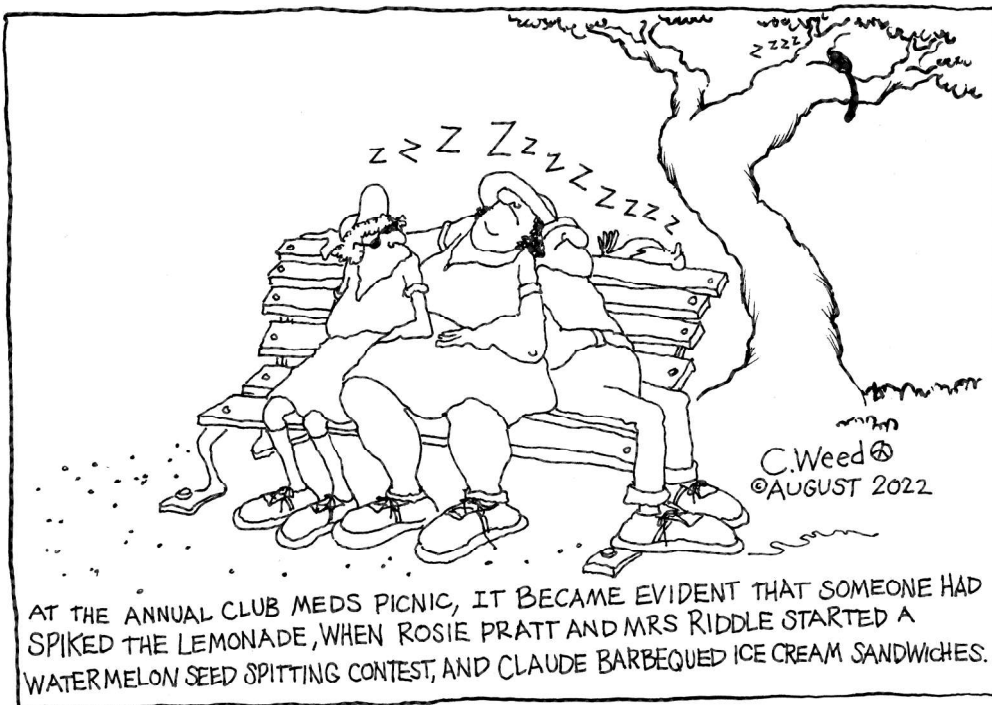
Just as the city replaces/repairs their infrastructure (for example, the water/sewer line work on Ninth Street), Greentrees must also proactively repair and replace infrastructure to avoid costly "emergency" repairs. These infrastructure projects are expensive, and thus must be planned for long in advance so that no single year is overwhelmed with expense.

Short of the normal maintenance costs, we must also ensure we are able to act quickly to make emergency repairs, whether that be due to a catastrophic event, such as an earthquake, or

Turn to **Dues Page 9**

## Rest Stop

by C.Weed



Zen a little...then Breath!!!!



# THIS & THAT

## Welcome New Resident Owners:

Lot 218 Katherine Moore

Lot 542 Kris Fitzgerald & Melody Miller-Ennis

**No Butts Allowed:** Cigarette butt litter; after you put out your cigarette, please make sure you aren't leaving your butts on the ground in GTV, **Thank You!**

**Recycling:** The Activities Committee can use your cans and bottles (the ones with a 10 cent deposit) with all proceeds going to future activities. With Mark Tilchen leaving us, we will be revamping the recycling program in the next month. **If you have any questions contact Lou Manzi, Activities Chair, at lou.manzi@yahoo.com**

**Monthly Gate Code:** Call or stop by the office for the monthly "contractors code". The code changes on the first day of each month. You can also find it on the GTV website in the Owner's Area.

**Board Members Info:** As always, you can find Board Members contact info listed on the GTV website, in the monthly directory printed each month in the office, and posted on the bulletin board in the Clubhouse. Two new board members were announced: Jeff Myers takes over District 4 after Bill Johnson resigned and Lou Manzi takes District 7 after Mark Tilchen resigned and heads back to California with his wife Kristi.

**Dumpster Use:** Please don't put any branches longer than 3 feet long and 3" thick in diameter in the yard-waste dumpsters here in Greentrees. No plastic bags. No household trash. Only yard waste. Dumpsters are emptied on Tuesdays and either Thursdays or Fridays weekly for the summer, starting August 1st.

**Burning Reminder:** That outdoor fire pits is for recreational purposes only and should not be used for burning of trash, clippings, or trimmings. Also, please do not use torches to burn grass along drive and walkways.

**One More Reminder:** The even-numbered districts are up for election this year: 2, 4, 6, 8, plus 4 Alternate seats. Why are we writing about this now? To give people time to consider running for a seat or to be an alternate. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any Board member.

From Village Page 2

## After a Two Year Hiatus: It's On

By Village Voice Staff Writers

The 2022 Annual Meeting of Greentrees Village Owners will be held on Saturday, August 6th in the Association's Recreation Hall. To open the meeting we will need a quorum of 15% of our owners, or 86 lots represented, so please plan on attending. The Board of Directors will be hosting a free lunch for the owners who attend the meeting, as they in the past. The Annual Meeting will begin at 11:00 AM with sign-in beginning at 10:00 AM in the Recreation Hall. Lunch will be served around the Family Pool and will begin when the annual meeting is over. Chef's Tom Benson and Lou Manzi with their sous chef and helpers are preparing a menu that will include fresh made Italian sweet sausage with peppers and onions on a crispy French roll along with a special sauce, also served up will be a pasta salad and nice selection gourmet cookies. Drinks will include lemonade, iced tea, bottled water and coffee too. Owners should have received an invitation and agenda for the meeting in the mail during the third week of July.

Turn to Village Page 7



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## Club & Group's Corner

By Diana Lindsley

**Pickle Ball** – This is a very small group that meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 AM. They encourage anyone who wants to learn the game to come watch and learn. Extra paddles are available. Also Sue Skerlak has indicated she would be happy to teach others how to play. Contact Sue for information on classes.

**New Bunco Group** – Interested in playing Bunco? The new Bunco group will start in September. The date and time are still TBD; however, it will probably be around lunch or early evening. Carole Cardwell, organizer, believes they have enough 'regulars', but additional substitutes are still needed. Cost will be \$5 for the pot each time you attend – and you DO win. It will also be a potluck. Contact Carole for more information – her number is on the flyer in the bulletin board.

**GERT – No GERT class for August.**

**Quilt Group** – The Quilt Group will do a class on the bear paw block in August. Bring your sewing machine, thread, scissors/rotary cutter, cutting mat, and an iron (if you have one). You will need ¼ yard each of 2 fabrics, one for the background and one for the bear paw. (Fat quarters OK) The Meeting will be Thursday, Aug 18 at 1 PM in the Rec Hall. Contact Diana Lindsley at 541-590-3623 for more information.

**Knit & Crochet Group** – This group will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, from 2-4 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. Join the group to share projects, learn, and meet people with like interests. If you are interested in participating, please come. Contact Diane Freburg at 541-997-8334 for more information. If you would like to get on their mailing list, contact Eleanor Ross at 541-999-9870.

**Book Club** – This group meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 2 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. Rather than everyone reading the same book each month, members are encouraged

to bring a book that they have read, or are reading, and be prepared to do a short presentation and discuss the book. This not only provides a variety of books for discussion, but also sharpens peoples' presentation skills. For more information, please contact Charles Lugg at 541-590-3871 or Don McGehe at 541-590-3421.

**Other Groups?** – If you belong to a group and would like your group info shared in the newsletter, please contact Diana Lindsley at 541-590-3623 to get your group activities added to the Group Corner section.

## Thank You's

By Patty Harrison

It really takes a Village!

The Farewell Celebration for Julie Brown and Laurie White was a very colorful event! Attended by approximately 175 residents and friends, it was a fantastic sendoff to our great office staff in their well deserved retirement. A fun sandwich bar, veggies, chips, and drinks were prepared by Patty Harrison, Susan Bowden, Cathy Spann, Linda Stent, and Pat Gore. Cake, brownies, and ice cream were served by Richard And Susan Bowden and Patty Harrison. Thanks to Dean Johnson for the terrific music provided for the preparation time and during the event! A big thank you to the clean-up crew!

Julie and Laurie have asked to include their sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of the residents who helped make this event a special and upbeat occasion. Whether you attended the party or stopped by the office to give your best wishes, we appreciate the support and love you expressed regarding our departure as Greentrees employees. It was our pleasure to interact with all of you during our years of employment. We would not change this experience for the world. Remember, we are not retiring from Greentrees! We will both continue living here and look forward to many more happy times.

And thanks to all who helped with funding for this event: Bill Johnson, Ron McCrary, Nick Woodworth, Patty Harrison, Michelle Smith, Pat Blue Heron, Unknown Gentleman (Sorry I didn't get your name).

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# The Activities Committee

by Lou Manzi

Next meeting Monday, August 8th, 10am, Rec Hall.

Happy Summer everyone. I want to thank all the people who helped make our 4th of July hot dog lunch such a success. Each year the Greentrees Activities Committee sponsors a free lunch for residents on Independence Day. This year we gave away 234 free hotdog lunches, Tom Benson was responsible for all of the food. HUGE thanks to Bruce Cronk, Fred Burns, and Jeff Myers, also our new manager, aka the Good Humor Man, Jim Myers, who handed out the ice cream bars for dessert. Suzie Bowden, Susan Skerlak, Bob Hutton, and Irene, on setup and cleanup, along with Aaron and James, our maintenance guys that also helped with setup and tear down. Most of all thank YOU to all the residents that showed up to celebrate the 4th and have a little fun!!!

The Flea market was a great success! Thanks to all the volunteers who went above and beyond to make it a super good time for all. We brought in \$2004.00 to the Activities fund for the upcoming resident events and dinners. Special thanks to Tony Glover for doing the lion's share of organizing for the Greentrees tables. A very special thank you goes to resident Jeff Myers for working with Bicycles 101 to donate a bike for Greentrees to raffle off. Shanti Chagnon of lot 557 won the bike.

The Coffee Social for August will be Saturday,

## Greentrees Village

### NOTICE OF 2022 HOA ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday**  
**August 6, 2022**

In the  
Greentrees Village  
Recreation Hall  
Sign-in begins at 10 AM  
Meeting begins at 11 AM

**Lunch will be served**  
**poolside following**  
**the meeting.**

Eighty-six lots must be represented in order to have a quorum for a meeting, so please plan on attending.

August 13th at 10am in the Coffee Room. There will be fresh made bear claws that morning and maybe other goodies. The Pot Luck for August will be held on Friday August 26nd at 6pm in the Rec Hall. Wine and door prizes will be part of the evening's food and friendship.

Another Greentrees property-wide Yard Sale will be held on Friday, August 26th and Saturday, August 27th. This event is open to the general public and the property gates will be open from 9 AM to 3 PM on both days. Residents may display items for sale around their homes, on driveways, porches, decks, garages, etc. The Association will run ads in the newspaper and Craig's List. Temporary parking will be allowed during the sale hours.

**Volunteers for all events are always welcomed!! The Activities Committee is also seeking donations of Boxed Wines for our Pot Lucks and other Dinners coming up. Much thanks!!**



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From Village Page 4

# August Street Paving

By Village Voice Staff Writers

Weather permitting, Johnson Rock will be paving roads in Greentrees Village. Paving will start mid to end August and during paving, access to affected lots may be limited, so please plan accordingly. Each affected lot will also receive notification 1 -2 days prior to start.

### West Side:

Skyline Blvd: Lots 684-700

### East Side:

1<sup>st</sup> Street North: Lots 401,

304-319

2<sup>nd</sup> Street North: Lots 282-290, 270-276

5<sup>th</sup> Street North: Lots 208-220, 178-192

Some residents may need to move their vehicles overnight in order to have access in the morning. Turn to **Village Page 9**



Welcome to Greentrees

DVDs located in the Club House.

Each month I will highlight a few DVDs with information about each film. I have alphabetized all the movies currently on the shelves with some notes posted for you. I hope you enjoy and find some new movies to watch.

### A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum - 1966

This screen adaptation of the stage musical of the same name finds the Roman slave Pseudolus (Zero Mostel) scheming his way to freedom by playing matchmaker for his master's son, Hero, who is smitten with the blonde and beautiful Philia. However, things don't go at all according to plan. The complications that ensue involve blackmail, funny disguises and long-lost children, while Pseudolus desperately tries to keep up with his end of the bargain.

### A League of Their Own - 1992

As America's stock of athletic young men is depleted during World War II, a professional all-female baseball league springs up in the Midwest, funded by publicity-hungry candy maker Walter Harvey (Garry Marshall). Competitive sisters Dottie Hinson (Geena Davis) and Kit Keller (Lori Perry) spar with each other, scout Ernie Capadino (Jon Lovitz) and grumpy has-been coach Jimmy Dugan (Tom Hanks) on their way to fame. Madonna and Rosie O'Donnell co-star as two of the sisters' teammates.

### A Life Less Ordinary - 1997

A couple of angels, O'Reilly (Holly Hunter) and Jackson (Delroy Lindo), are sent to Earth to make sure that their next supervised love-connection succeeds. They follow Celine (Cameron Diaz), a spoiled rich girl who has just accidentally shot a suitor (Stanley Tucci) and, due to a misunderstanding, is kidnapped by janitor Robert (Ewan McGregor). Although Celine quickly frees herself, she stays with Robert for thrills. O'Reilly and Jackson pursue, hoping to unite the prospective lovers.

I am also seeking any DVD donations (no VHS please) to increase our video library. If you have any questions you may contact me at...gtvnewseditor@gmail.com



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The Unofficial Facebook page of Greentrees. Admin by Mike Cox

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# GERT NEWS SENIORS; PREPARE NOW FOR AN EMERGENCY

By Kristel Buechner, GERT Coordinator

Per the FEMA fact sheet, "Seniors – Prepare Now for an Emergency" (<https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/seniors-prepare-now-emergency>): "When a disaster strikes, the senior population is one of the most vulnerable, especially for those who live alone. There are measures older Americans can take to start preparing for emergencies before they happen. For example, if it is difficult to get around on your own or you need assistance to shelter at home or evacuate, you need to know ahead of time who will help."

The article continues: "Older adults face many more obstacles during an emergency than most people: isolation, limited mobility, medical needs... But emergencies can happen at any time...". It is important to have a list of contacts, medical information, and list of medications. It is also especially important that you share that information (or the location of that information) with someone you trust that can make decisions for you in case you are injured or incapacitated.

Did you know that there is an official "Greentrees Emergency Response Plan" on your Greentrees Website? For steps on preparing for any kind of emergency, choose the "Our Community" Tab on the Greentrees Village website, choose "Documents" from the dropdown list, then select the "GERT" link in the list of documents.

Kristel Buechner — 541.997.0909

# Combating Skyrocketing Prescription Prices

By Mardi Wetmore

Recently I was prescribed two new prescriptions that combined would have cost me \$80 out of pocket, with my insurance co-pay. I read recently on the internet that Mark Cubans (a billionaire who does good with his money) created a new online pharmacy called Cost Plus Drug Company ([costplusdrugs.com](http://costplusdrugs.com)). He sells common prescriptions (mostly generic) at cost + 15%. I went to the website and looked up the two prescriptions I was prescribed - one was \$8 and the other was \$9 for a 90 day supply. I purchased both and, with \$5 shipping, my cost was \$22. Quite a savings – especially if you are purchasing the prescriptions monthly or quarterly!

The website was really easy to use. I created an account, entered my two prescriptions and downloaded the PDF they use for their prescription form. I sent the form to my doctors office (Peace Health) through their portal and asked them to submit my two prescriptions. They submitted the prescriptions to Cost Plus. The next day, I got an email from Cost Plus telling me my order was complete, so I went to the site and paid. Three days later my prescriptions came in the mail (they are in California so shipping was quick).

They don't cover all medications, but they are adding new ones daily. If you look up a drug name and they don't carry it, you can click a link to request they notify you if add it in the future.

The only downside to the pharmacy is that they don't take insurance. But, don't let that stop you from checking it out – Cost Plus's price is generally lower than any co-pay you have on your insurance.

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"Stuck in the Middle with You"....Can't get that Stealers Wheel song out of my head after seeing this bench on the west side.





## Statement on Policy that an Employee Cannot Own or Reside in GTV

By Pat Miller, Director, GTV Board of Directors

The Board of Directors at its April 12, 2022, meeting, adopted a policy, to be implemented immediately, that with all future hiring, employees must not own nor reside in Greentrees Village. This policy was adopted after lengthy discussion and thoughtful consideration of the issues.

Current and past employees have expressed concerns that they are often called or visited at their home on their off-hours by residents of Greentrees wanting to discuss Greentrees business that could wait until office hours.

There also is a factor of the possibility of conflict of interest when a person is both an employee and an owner or resident. It can be difficult for an employee to separate their personal concerns from their professional.

It eliminates the element that an employee resident may have access to confidential or sensitive information about a fellow resident.

This policy will be a deterrent to an employee resident sharing confidential information with Association residents or others in violation of the Standards of Conduct in the Employee Handbook.

If you have questions on this policy, please discuss with our Manager, your District Representative, or other District Representative of your choosing.



**Deborah Baxter**

**541-340-4058**

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From Dues Page 3

something as simple as a big truck driving over our roads damaging pipes. These “emergency repairs” can easily run to \$5 Million, \$10 Million, or even more. Nobody wants an emergency assessment for \$5 Million (which equates to \$8,818 per lot), but, if we do not set aside money for future infrastructure maintenance and emergencies, there is a certain reality that the HOA will eventually face a sudden demand for money that can lead to an emergency assessment. The Reserve Fund needs to increase dramatically, and quickly, to avoid a potential special assessment.

The good news is that several years ago we recognized this need and have been increasing dues to build this reserve fund. Below is the current high-level view of the Reserve Fund showing the balance changes:

<b>Balance 12/31/2021</b>	<u>\$841,710</u>
2022 contribution	\$382,276
2022 spending (est)	<u>-\$200,000</u>
<b>Balance 12/31/2022 (est)</b>	<b>\$1,023,986</b>
2023 contribution	\$425,703
2023 spending (est)	<u>-\$200,000</u>
<b>Balance 12/31/2023 (est)</b>	<u><b>\$1,249,689</b></u>

As the figures show, even though we are continuing to make positive contributions to the Reserve Fund, it is still not building fast enough. We recognize that inflation is high right now and that we are an over-55 community with many of our residents on fixed income; therefore, to address the lack of Reserve funds without stressing budgets that may already be stressed, the Finance Committee has proposed a modest \$15 increase for 2023. Dues are also likely to continue to increase over the next few years until the Reserve is completely funded; however, with careful planning and the proactive approach we are taking, we are hoping to avoid any future special assessments.



# Bear Aware and Kritters Too

By Mark Studer

As of my last article, a lot has changed. From the last week of June, and through July, the bear activity has significantly increased.

In broad daylight a few weeks ago, a bear walked right down 4th Street South! A mama bear and her three cubs have also been spotted on the north side. Be especially careful if you see the female or any of her cubs, that is the most dangerous situation there is with bears as the mama will be very protective of her cubs.

Now down to the nitty gritty: A few residents have been putting their trash out on Sunday evening only to find it torn up and scattered all over the next morning. PLEASE, DO NOT PUT YOUR TRASH OUT THE DAY BEFORE, and please remind your neighbors of the same. Bears can smell food from miles away. We don't want to encourage this activity. Once a bear finds food in an area, it will habitually return to that area looking for more food and may get more aggressive obtaining it.



Soon, the blackberries will be ripening -- this will cause even more activity. Some residents have active berry vines on your lots with berries on them. To discourage bear activity, cut them down! I'll say it again, the bear can smell food from a long way away.

Mostly, be on the lookout, keep your distance if you see a bear, and stay safe!



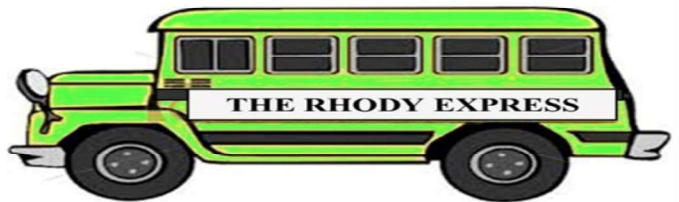
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### Door Prizes, Good Snacks, and Good Company. In the Recreation Hall

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\$2 or 2 tickets for all day



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# The Eclectic Greentrees Geek

By Village Voice Staff Writer (anonymous)

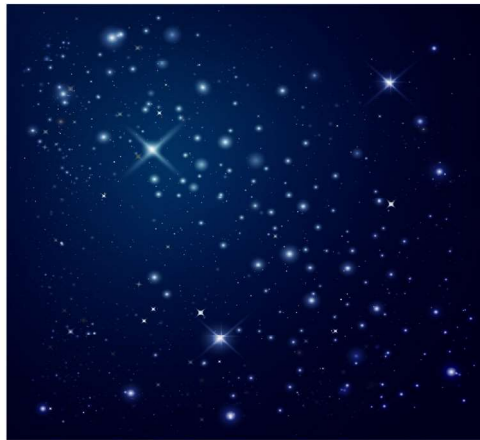
Geek Alert! About eight years ago, in 2014, the city of Florence agreed to join the Dark Skies Initiative, an international effort to reduce light pollution by limiting or eliminating exposure to light during the night. Why the initiative? The excess light leads migratory birds astray and changes prey and predator balances. It also impacts humans in known ways, such as blue light, and as yet unknown ways (circadian rhythms). In general, light pollution throws a few million years of consistently light and dark life into chaos.

The Florence City Council planned the transition to take place over ten years, realizing that would be the life span of the majority of the lighting installed at the time. That ten years now comes due in two years (2024). Additional information can be found on the following two websites:

[www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)

[www.ci.florence.or.us](http://www.ci.florence.or.us) and search Dark Sky.

These new regulations require specific fixtures to focus light only where needed and intended. Street lights, decorative lighting (except holiday), porch lights, and community building lighting probably stand as the



most significant lighting to address in Greentrees. Street lights should measure under twenty feet tall, meet specific lumens per square foot standards, and not shine on residential housing. Any up lighting around plants, signs, or fixtures need re-directing and shielding to prevent light leaks. In effect, as we drive around our streets, we should not see a lightbulb, glare, or reflection beyond where it is needed. Neighbors need to heed the light cast upon neighbors not just at the front but all around their homes. Hmm, might be time to beef up that greenbelt, eh?

One of the "exemptions" are low voltage, low lumen decorative lights like those popular little solar light fixtures...which finally brings me to the geek thing, GO [bigger] SOLAR! Already low voltage, solar power combines safety, ease of use, low life-time price, scalability, and energy independence in emergencies. Heck, with the right design we could install car chargers, emergency power stations, run a few flashing stop signs (shielded of course), and even power the new GERT trailer. Oops, getting out there a bit, but this Woonerf bug infected me and I ruminate some on how cool if Greentrees became a state of the art solar community and moved our already world class status further toward the top.

This garden geek electrified his garden, greenhouse, yard, and shop lighting with 12 volt fixtures and appliances. My simple system starts with a 100 watt solar panel and a couple deep cycle batteries to run a water pump and a fan in the greenhouse and switched lights for my backyard. A line runs to my shop where I power lights, fans, and various charging banks for my phone, a bluetooth speaker and now ancient I-pod, plus a couple of outlets for a vacuum, converted drills, and even a 12 volt hair dryer...as if I needed one!


Wait... "woonerf"???


See ya next month!



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# Commingling Recycling Updates

By Pat Blue Heron, VV Contributing Writer

To all of those patient, persistent and perturbed recyclers out there, there is exciting news! As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, Lane County residents can now place most #1 and #2 plastics in their curbside recycle carts or drop them off at the Florence Transfer Station. These new additions include three container types – bottles, jugs and jars. While labels are okay, lids and caps are not accepted. Also, containers must be empty, clean and dry. Another great addition to your commingle bin (and cardboard bin) is corrugated, restaurant-style pizza boxes. But remember, they must be free of any food when recycling them.

Remember these guidelines...

Items must be larger than a tennis ball (NO small nutritional supplement bottles, cosmetic containers or travel size items)

NO butter, cottage cheese or yogurt tubs or lids

NO plastic bags

NO prescription bottles

NO motor oil bottles or jugs

NO plastics stamped with the numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7

Keeping commingle bins clean and free of other non-recyclable materials, allows haulers and recycling processors to continue these efforts. If the end product is of high quality, there is more financial impetus and better options for reuse. Contamination is a big deal because it contributes to worker hazards, equipment damage, higher recycling costs, less efficiency, and lower quality. When it comes to recycling, focus on quality, not quantity. For more information, please visit Lane County Waste Management website at [www.lanecountyor.gov/recycle](http://www.lanecountyor.gov/recycle).

For those who attend the Sunday EcoGeneration Recycling Take Back Events, there will be an event on Aug. 7 at Siuslaw Middle School from 10 a.m. to noon. As per the EcoGeneration website (<https://www.ecogeneration.org/florence>) designated plastic types will be accepted – remember everything needs to be empty, clean and dry. Volunteers are needed so please sign up to be a part of the event! Thank you in advance for all the support.

See page 2 of "The Inserted Page" for a flyer to post on your fridge.



Shirley and Tom of Lot 182 during this years' first yard sale in June. It was "successful", as we were told.

The second Community Yard Sale, which are garage sales at individual homes, is Friday/Saturday August 26/27.

The gates are open from 9 am to 3 pm and it always draws a good attendance from the Florence community, so start getting your sales items ready. No sign-up required.

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# GREEN TREES ACTIVITIES AUGUST 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Water Aerobics M - F @ 8:00 am Tai Chi M &amp; W @9:00 am</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>Pickle Ball M-W-F @9:00 am Exercise Class M-W-F @10:00 am</p>	<p>Activity Cmte. 10:00 am</p>	<p>BOD Meeting 1:00 pm Card Exchange 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Pool Closed Bridge 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Gentle Flow Yoga 4:00 pm (Rec. Hall)</p>	<p>Rules Cmte. 10:00 am Knit &amp; Crochet Group 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Coffee Social 10:00-11:00 am Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm</p>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# Mixed Recycling



## PLASTIC

NOW ACCEPTING #1 and #2 bottles, jugs & plastic jars.



## METAL

Aluminum & tin.



## PAPER

Egg cartons, junk mail, newspaper, paper & magazines.



## CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

Cardboard boxes.

All recycling must be empty, clean & dry. Check with your garbage company. Services vary.

## Glass Bottles & Jars

Set glass out separately.



**NO** lids, broken glass, or window glass.

# Trash

Not accepted in mixed recycling



Plastic tubs



Plastic lids



Take out containers



Diapers



Bagged materials