Grand Valley Lakes News

April 2023

Calendar of Events

April 8, 1:00 pm- Easter Egg Hunt at the Lodge (ages 1-10)

April 9- Easter Sunday

April 14, 7:00- Board meeting at the lodge

April 15, 9:00- Men's Club meeting at the lodge

10:30- Ladies' Club meeting at the lodge

Girls' Club meeting at the lodge

April 29, 10:00 am – Annual Meeting of Members at the Lodge

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Men's Club News

Due to a wedding at the lodge, the Men's Club cancelled our meeting and got straight to work. One of our ongoing projects is to replace the street signs in the valley. We took the opportunity to get a few more signs installed. We are getting close to finishing up this project!

Our next meeting is on April 15th. We will discuss the fish fry date and then dispatch to work with the Ladies' Club to make improvements to the front entrance and guard shack! We want to improve the first impression for visitors into our valley and make it more welcoming to our residents. We also want to improve the working conditions for our guards on a day-to-day basis.

Both the Ladies' Club and the Men's Club would like to see more residents participate in our organizations. Come on out and improve the valley and meet your neighbors.

Also, we still need people to volunteer for the fire department board of directors. This is an asset to our community. It would only take a few hours a month to support this organization that impacts each of us in a positive way. Without it, our next closest assistance would be Hickory Valley or Bolivar…. much further away than our front gate. Please volunteer to keep this going!

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Ladies' Club News

The Ladies' Club met March 11 and voted on officers for the next year. They are: President- Nancy Burke, Vice-President- Lisa Benoit, Secretary- Barbara Parkhurst, Treasurer- Louise Watkins.

We were saddened at the death of our oldest member, Dot East, and were honored to provide a luncheon for family and friends after her funeral. Dot was a founding member of the Club, was an active member as long as health permitted and remained interested in the Club's doings until her death.

Plans are underway for the next Game Night, watch for an announcement soon.

We began planning for the upcoming joint work day with the Men's Club. We will be working at the front gate, the lodge lobby and the cemetery. Some of us are looking for other areas in the Valley that would benefit from some flower gardens/landscaping. If anyone shares our interest in gardening and would like to help, please contact a club member.

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March Board Meeting Recap

After the Prayer, the agenda was approved, the minutes from the last meeting were read and the treasurers report was presented.

Ron gave the president's report. We are working on the blight in the area. We have engaged with Jim Pierce of Hardeman County zoning and animal control. He is currently focused on blight in the county. We have discussed with him several of our current targets such as 735 Grand Valley Drive as well as some trailers that are abandoned. Mr. Pierce will be sending letters to these owners and engaging Hardeman County attorneys to address.

We also discussed leash laws and dogs roaming in the valley. There have been several reports and letters sent to owners of dogs running loose in the area. If you see a dog loose, take a picture or video and send to the guard shack or Tom. Get the street, time and date. We can send this information to Hardeman County, and they can address through animal control.

The Dance was held and there were about 45 people. Billy Williams was the DJ and it lasted from 7-9:30pm. It was a smaller crowd than past dances, but a fun evening!

GVL 2025- David West reviewed the progress of the program. Of the action items for this year, we accomplished 19 of the 31 items marked. 5 are in progress, 4 are deferred to next fiscal year and 7 are not started.

New Gym Equipment- One of the pieces is not working properly. Parts to repair the unit are not available. There is a place in Memphis that sells used commercial quality equipment. A new piece of equipment is about $4900. We can get a used unit for about $2200. Bob Price and Justin Kennedy will be a committee to maintain and recommend the purchase of the new equipment. The board approved a "not to exceed" amount of $2500 to replace the equipment in the gym.

There were two variances brought up by the ARC Committee. One was approved with a stipulation, the other was fully approved.

Tom reported that the concrete under the exit spikes broke. It will need to be busted and then re-poured. They will use a higher grade, reinforced concrete the next time. There is no date yet to accomplish this.

The truck is up and running and was at the meeting for everyone to see. This was a huge project and saved the valley a significant amount of money.

We had incidents where street signs were stolen in the valley. These were purchased and placed by the Men's Club. We ask that anyone that knows anything, please contact Tom.

We are still looking for a Full-Time maintenance person.

Club reports were given, and the meeting was adjourned.

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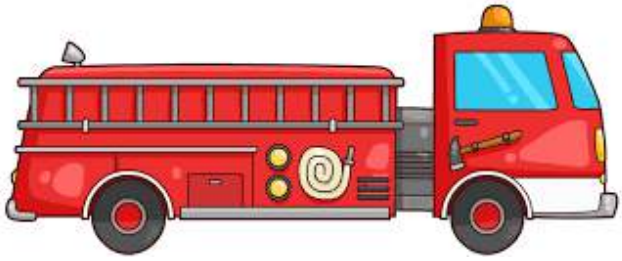
Fire Department Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 13 at 1:00pm
at the GVL Lodge



If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors for the GVA VFD, please contact Lona Coffee.

Spring Fling Dance

The Spring Fling Dance was lots of fun! Billy Williams did a great job as DJ inspiring many people to dance the night away. There was even a Theme Song Trivia game in which table teams worked together to identify 70's and 80's game show theme songs and then 70's and 80's tv show theme songs. The contests were pretty competive with several tables winning prizes. A good time was had by all!

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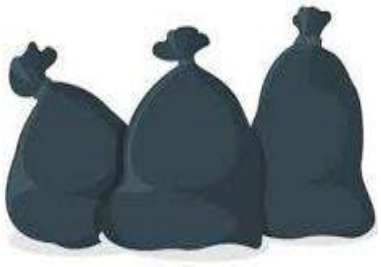
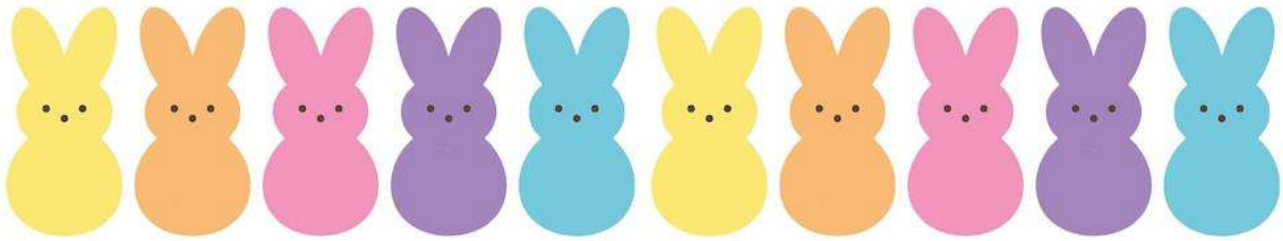
Residential Trash Pick-Up



Tuesdays and Saturdays
Bagged garbage and
broken down cardboard
Tim Malone
Resident of Grand Valley
Call for more information
(731) 212-9317



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GVL Girls' Club

The GVL Girls' Club is growing and on the move! So far this year, we have planted daffodils, picked up trash around the Valley, taken nature walks, decorated cookies, handed out handmade Valentines, and learned about flower reproduction.

We are collecting tabs from aluminum cans for St. Jude. Please save tabs from aluminum cans for the Girls' Club! We will be setting up a collection box in the office. You can also bring them to board meetings and give them to Billy or Amy Williams or to Lisa Benoit and we will get them to Girls' Club. You could also bring them to Men's Club or Ladies' Club meetings to give one of us and they will be given to the Girls' Club. ☺

Thank you for your continued support of our little group!

Amy Williams

We filled 200 eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.

We planted over 500 daffodil bulbs at the GVL entrance. So happy to see them bloom!

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The Easter Bunny will be there!!

Donations of CANDY FILLED Easter eggs are requested.
Contact Tiffany or Johnny Rustin at the gate for more information.

This year there will be a prize baskets giveaway at the conclusion on the Easter Egg Hunt. One entry per child. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

Age 2 to 4 years old
prize giveaway for 1 boy & 1 girl

Age 5 to 7 years old
prize giveaway for 1 boy & 1 girl

Age 8 to 10 years old prize giveaway for 1 boy & 1 girl

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Is this your Paddle Boat?

If so, please contact Jeff Weintraub at jweintraub@fisherphillips.com or Margaret at the GVL office.

Too Many Plants, Not Enough Room?

Do you have plants that have multiplied and outgrown your garden space? What about shrubs that are in the way of other projects? Are large planters that you'll never use taking up space in your garage or shed? Or rolls of edging that you bought on sale, thinking "some day I may need this"? The GVL Ladies' Club and Girls' Club are working on reviving, replanting and improving some of the flower beds around the Valley. We may be able to use your excess supplies. We're especially looking for plants that are low maintenance, heat and drought tolerant.

If you have things that you think we could use, please contact Nancy Burke, 901-485-2360, or Amy Williams, 901-412-8129.

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Emergency Go Bag Items

We are very fortunate that GVL was not hit by a tornado during the recent storm Friday night. Many people went to the storm shelter at the lodge during the storm. An emergency "Go Bag" is a good thing to prepare ahead of time and have ready in case of an emergency. Here are a few things to think about bringing if/when this becomes necessary again. Diaper bags, duffel bags or backpacks are some options for a "go bag" because they zip closed. You will need items to keep you as comfortable as possible for a few hours-

- chairs (folding lawn/sports chairs work well and can easily be carried)
- water and snacks
- flashlights with extra batteries
- books or games
- a few toys for children
- formula, diapers and baby wipes with plastic bag to put dirty ones in
- personal identification and contact information
- cell phones and charged battery pack for phones
- essential medications
- blanket or sleeping bag
- basic first aid kit
- battery or hand-crank emergency radio
- other items specific to your situation
- car and house keys
- Kleenex and toilet tissue
- wallets with insurance cards and bank account information

If you can not pack everything in advance, it might be helpful to put a list on the bag of last-minute items to add to the bag. In an emergency you might not be thinking clearly.

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Events at the GVL Lodge

Some people have expressed interest in knowing when the lodge is closed for events. Knowing this will allow people to be aware of when they are not able to go in the lodge to use the restroom, when they should be quiet in the workout room, etc. There may be more events scheduled, but as of March 1, the following list indicates when there are events at the lodge and when the office will be closed.

April:
April 8: Easter Egg Hunt
April 29: GVL Annual Meeting of Members

May:
May 5-6: Wedding
May 11: GVA VFD Chiefs' Meeting
May 13: GVA VFD Annual Meeting
May 19-20: Wedding
May 29: Office Closed for Memorial Day

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