

---

---

# Gran Forest News

---

---

Issue 0513

[www.granforest.com](http://www.granforest.com)

May 2013

---

---

## Gran Forest

### 2013 Event Calendar

**Friday May 24th** – End of School Pizza Party, 5:30 p.m. at the pool.

**Saturday June 22nd** – Adult Summer Social, 5:30 p.m. at the pool.

**Thursday July 4th** – July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, 10:00 a.m. at the corner of Redbud and Longleaf.

**Friday August 8th** – Back to School Pizza Party, 5:30 p.m. at the pool.

**Saturday August 17th** – Adult Party, 7:00 p.m. at the pool. Rain date is Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Sept TBD** – Pool Closes.

**Monday Nov 11th** – Annual Homeowners meeting, 6:00 p.m. at Mashburn Elementary.

## Yard of the Month

Congratulations to Jeff and Alicia Evan at 1530 Gran Forest Drive who won May's yard of the month and received a \$50.00 home improvement card.

## Congratulations 2013 High School Graduates!

- Isabel Blanchard
- Laura Chamblee
- Mike Dilorio
- Evan Gates
- Kelsie Hand
- Paige Harmon
- Sophie McKenzie
- Mackenzie Norfolk
- Josh Parrish
- Andrew Pirello
- Katie Puls
- Andre Villaran-Rokovich
- Jacob Walker
- Christian Wojteczko

## Our Gran Forest Web Site

Please visit [www.granforest.com](http://www.granforest.com). Sign up for the community email list to be notified via email of any important neighborhood announcements. There are links to join Facebook and Twitter Gran Forest pages for up-to-the-minute neighborhood information! Contact [forsale@granforest.com](mailto:forsale@granforest.com) or [services@granforest.com](mailto:services@granforest.com) to advertise items for sale or services offered. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email [webmaster@granforest.com](mailto:webmaster@granforest.com).

## Our 2013 Board

President: Nicola Schwab – Phone: 404/580-9755  
Email: [nicolaschwab25@gmail.com](mailto:nicolaschwab25@gmail.com)

Vice-President: Kim McKenzie – Phone: 770/653-4343  
Email: [kkenzie59@gmail.com](mailto:kkenzie59@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Chris Clark – Phone: 770/887-8005  
Email: [voltrix2@yahoo.com](mailto:voltrix2@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Leonard Signa – Phone: 678/294-9055  
Email: [signalf@yahoo.com](mailto:signalf@yahoo.com)

Assistant Secretary: Jane Harmon – 770/844-7966  
Email: [jojaharmon1@yahoo.com](mailto:jojaharmon1@yahoo.com)

## Property Manager

Our property manager is Lindsey Malone (Access Management). Phone: 770-777-6890, x 114;  
Fax: 770-777-6916; Email: [lmalone@accessmgt.com](mailto:lmalone@accessmgt.com)

## Recipe Corner

New Newsletter feature! Send your favorite recipes to Patti Columb at [pacolumb@att.net](mailto:pacolumb@att.net).

### **Lemon Squares (Katie Couric's from People Magazine)**

1 cup confectioner's sugar; 2 cups plus 6 tbsp flour, divided; pinch of salt; 1 cup room-temperature butter, sliced into 8 pieces; 4 eggs; 2 cups sugar; 6 tbsp fresh squeezed lemon juice; grated rind of one lemon.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 13x9 inch baking pan.

In a food processor, blend confectioner's sugar, 2 cups flour and salt. Add butter and pulse until mixture is crumbly. (Note: I don't use a food processor. I just combine the ingredients and cut in the butter using two knives or a pastry knife.)

Press into pan and bake for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, beat eggs, 2 cups sugar, 6 tbsp flour and lemon juice until well combined. Stir in lemon rind. Pour on top of hot crust and bake for an additional 25 minutes.

Cool completely, sprinkle with confectioners' sugar, and cut into squares. For an extra refreshing twist, server with Raspberry Sorbet. Enjoy!

---

ACCESS Management – Lindsey Malone, 770.777.6890 x114, email: [lmalone@accessmgt.com](mailto:lmalone@accessmgt.com)

To make an announcement in the newsletter, email [pacolumb@att.net](mailto:pacolumb@att.net)

## New Neighbors?

Do you have a new neighbor? Please contact April Yungel (770-888-0062) from our Welcoming Committee. We want to be sure that they receive a friendly southern welcome and a basket full of goodies!

## Volunteers Needed

- Looking for help distributing the newsletters. The current volunteers have been doing this for years, so we are looking for some new folks. This is at most a once a month commitment. Contact Patti Columb 770/781-5737 if you are interested.
- Need help coordinating our summer activities (see calendar for activity dates). If you can help, please contact Nicola Schwab at 404/580-9755 or [nicolaschwab25@gmail.com](mailto:nicolaschwab25@gmail.com).

If you would like to join one of our committees, please contact Nicola Schwab at 404/580-9755 or email her at [nicolaschwab25@gmail.com](mailto:nicolaschwab25@gmail.com).

**No one cares more about our neighborhood than you!**

## Neighborly Reminders

- **Please observe the 25 mph speed limit and stop signs.** We have children playing, people walking or running, and we want to ensure the safety of all. Help keep our neighborhood safe by slowing down and coming to a full stop at stop signs.
- Remember to keep the roadway clear from grass clippings and overhanging trees and shrubs.
- When walking your dogs, please have them on leash and remember to pick up after them

## Neighborhood Garden Advice

New Newsletter feature! Send your gardening advice to Patti Columb at [pacolumb@att.net](mailto:pacolumb@att.net) for inclusion in the Gran Forest newsletter.

### **9 Steps to a Lush Lawn** (from [www.thisoldhouse.com](http://www.thisoldhouse.com))

1. **Test your soil.** A soil test takes the guesswork out of lawn care, giving you precise measurements of pH as well as the quantity and availability of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus. Contact a cooperative extension service to conduct the test; they cost around \$20.
2. **Fertilize.** There's no one-size-fits-all formula for springtime—it all depends on the soil and the type of grass you have. Your soil test will offer tips on what amendments to add, or take the results to a gardening center and get their advice. Opt for a slow-release, organic fertilizer, and apply it to the outer edges of your lawn, then cover the middle, overlapping each pass by a few inches. You may have to mow more frequently afterward, since you're adding nutrients at a time of rapid growth.
3. **Watch calcium intake.** Up to 90 percent of common lawn weeds are linked to a lack of calcium in soil. Ideally, you should have a calcium-to-magnesium ratio of 7 to 1. If yours falls short of that target, spread high-calcium lime over your lawn, which will boost its ability to absorb nitrogen and synthesize proteins, robbing weeds of food.
4. **Add organic matter.** Early-season grass benefits from added compost, whether you make it yourself or get it from your home center or town. Apply a 1/2-inch layer over your lawn and rake it into the surface. Finished compost should smell earthy and slightly sweet; avoid using compost that's still steaming, which indicates it's not fully decomposed yet. One yard (or 27 cubic feet) will cover 600 square feet.
5. **Stop crabgrass in its track.** Crabgrass germinates when the soil temperature reaches about 56 degrees F, which happens in mid-April in many regions. Wait until your soil reaches this mark for a few consecutive days, then apply a pre-emergent herbicide. Crabgrass doesn't grow well in the shade, so you don't need to add chemicals in well-shaded parts of your yard.
6. **Pull up weeds.** Ever notice that weeds pop up right after a spring rain? That's your cue to pull them—if they're small and the soil's moist, they should come out by hand.
7. **Get your mower in shipshape.** Dull mower blades tear off grass rather than cutting it clean, leaving ragged tips that invite disease to set in. During the growing season, sharpen the blade after you've used your mower for about 8 to 12 hours.
8. **Let the grass grow...a little.** Your grass might be as short as a putting green, but don't keep it that way. Let it grow to a length of about 3 to 3½ inches, and maintain that height all season. This lets the grass blades shade out weed seeds, and in the summer it shades the soil, reducing evaporation. Come fall, you can go back to cutting it short—weed seeds aren't as abundant then, and evaporation is less of a concern. Two exceptions are Bermuda and seashore paspalum grasses, found in the South, which can be kept at a height of 3/4 to 1 inch.
9. **Get your sod on.** If you're starting a lawn from scratch, April is the month to lay down sod, when it's cooler and there's time for the grass to take root. Ask your seller for grass that suits your yard's conditions, whether sun, shade, or a combo. Sod should be fresh when you lay it; beware the rolls that have been sitting outside for a while. Prepare to water, water, water when it's installed. Your garden center can recommend an appropriate schedule.