

SECOND PROPOSED GRAND ISLAND SCHOOL BUDGET DISCUSSED AT PUBLIC HEARING

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Lawnmower Race a Grand Island tradition



Lawnmower Race founder Floyd Doring, foreground, rides in a golf cart at the 2025 event.

be held to win a 66-by-82-inch quilt depicting a flag, donated by the River Lea Quilters Guild.

Other free events include a photo booth, face painting and axe-throwing.

"Everything we do (to decorate) in the food area will be based on the flag – including the goodie bags," Ehde said.

Longtime participant Gary Roesch said plans include having two Scout troops involved in the day's events. He said that, with the Flag Day theme and the nation's 250th anniversary, there's a role for the Scouts in helping to respectfully retire old or worn-out flags.

History of the event

The lawnmower event is named

after Mary Dunbar-Daluisio, longtime Relay chair, who died in 2017.

Current Relay For Life co-chair Lynn Marston Dingley pointed out this year marks the 25th anniversary of Grand Island's Relay For Life.

The Lawnmower Race is a Grand Island tradition that began nearly 50 years ago with a boast between two West River Parkway residents over whose lawnmower was the fastest.

In the summer of 1978, longtime Islander and Realtor Floyd Doring issued a small neighborhood challenge to his friend, Pat Murphy. The two men went out to West River Parkway, where there was no traffic and no audience. They gave it their best.

Doring still claims he won that

race, and his friends say he is still the inspiration for the fun event and fundraiser that attracts more and more people each year.

Doring plans to ride a golf cart this year.

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Sunday, June 14, Lawnmower Race schedule

- 8 a.m.: Set up testing
- 9-11 a.m.: Registration (\$10 for everyone)
- 11:30 a.m.: Opening ceremony, American Legion Post 1346 Color Guard
- Noon: Kids' lawnmower bubble races
- 12:45-1:15 p.m.: Track closed for
- 1:30 -3 p.m. Lawnmower racing ; golf cart exhibition
- 2 p.m.: 50/50 drawing.
- 2:30 p.m.: All drawings finished
- 3 p.m.: Quilt and door prizes awarded
- 4 p.m.: Trophy presentation
- 4:30 p.m.: Takedown

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