

Lake Smith Ripples



Newsletter of the Lake Smith Terrace / Haygood Point / Governor Square - Civic League

October 2024

Volume 28. Issue 2

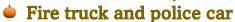




Sunday, 27 October 2:00 - 4:30 Haygood Point Park

- Family Potluck Picnic (Please bring a side dish for 4 or more to share)
- Hot dogs, hamburgers, and brats provided by Civic League
- Hayride to pumpkin patch

- Bounce House
- Face Painter
- Free pumpkin (1 per member household)



 Chat with your neighbors and meet new friends



Fun for all!

Free to all civic league member households

Not a member, not a problem.

Join at the gate - \$20.00 per household



Visitors over age 12 - \$5.00 per person and must be accompanied by a paid civic league household member

eague Meeting

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 Bayside Presbyterian Church 1400 Ewell Rd

Social period: 6:30 -7:00 Meeting Called to order: 7:00 p.m.

Presentation

Court Appointed Surrogate Advocate CASA

Early Voting has Begun

Early voting for the Virginia general election began Friday, September 20th and will run through Saturday, November 2nd. Voters can cast ballots by mail or in person at the Voter Registration & Elections Office located at the Virginia Beach Municipal Center.



See page 7 for other locations and hours for in-person early voting.

President's Corner

Lake Smith Terrace / Haygood Point / **Governor Square Civic League, Inc.**

P.O. Box 68883 Virginia Beach, VA 23471 www.LHGCL.org

Meetings held 3rd Tuesday, September through May, at Bayside Presbyterian Church

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The "Lake Smith Ripples" is published nine months of the year, September through May, by the Lake Smith Terrace, Haygood Point, Governor Square Civic League. Neither its Officers, Directors or members are responsible for the content of our advertiser's advertising or our contributors, nor do they endorse or recommend any product or service offered by them. The right to reject any ad or article deemed to be inappropriate is the absolute and sole discretion of the LST / HP / GS Civic League Officers, Directors or members is

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month prior to month of publication.

Our September civic league meeting featured an excellent presentation by Brooke Costanza, Virginia Beach City Arborist, on the topic of the benefits derived from increasing our tree canopy. We also welcomed Captain Colin Eliott, our recently appointed VBPD Third Precinct Commanding Officer. Captain Eliott was accompanied by two of his lieutenants and David Shoenbach, our community engagement officer. Presentations were excellent and engaging. The only thing missing was the audience. The turnout bordered on embarrassment. We seek out and schedule quality presenters, who are giving their time to come and enlighten us on topics of community interest, and we have a pathetic turnout from our residents. I do not expect all residents to attend every meeting, but I believe everyone can make the effort to come to one occasionally. You might just find it an enjoyable experience. There are many of you who have never attended a civic league meeting. We have eight civic league meetings annually where we schedule a program of widespread interest. They are always on the third Tuesday of the months - September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May. The third Tuesday in December is our annual Christmas Dinner event. If we can't start having a stronger resident turnout, then it may be time to rethink holding monthly meetings. Perhaps we should consider reducing to three of four meetings annually, like many civic leagues in the city. I like to believe we are better than most. It's your civic league folks, let's please show more interest.

Early in-person voting has begun for the November election. I urge you to study the candidates and study the issues that impact our lives and our community, make your selection and then be sure to vote. Currently in-person voting is available at Building 14 in the Municipal Center. The last week of October will have in-person voting available at the Bayside Rec Center. Or you can wait until election day -November 5th. Whatever you do, be sure you exercise the precious gift of voting for our leaders. There are many countries in the world where the people are not afforded such rights.

On Sunday, October 27th we have our annual Fall Festival event in the Haygood Point Neighborhood Park. This is our biggest special event of the year, and you don't want to miss the festivities. Our festival committee has been working since August to produce the best event ever. The Sheriff will be providing the big tent in the park for the day. We only ask three things when you attend. First, we need your household to be a current civic league member. Since these events are costly, and it's the member's money that the pays the bill, it is only fair that participants be members. Our very reasonable \$20 annual household dues should not inhibit anyone from joining. Not a member? Not a problem, you can join at the gate. Second, please bring a picnic style side dish to share. The civic league will be providing grilled hamburgers, hot-dogs, and brats. We also will have chips and bottled water to drink. Third, we want you to have fun with your friends and neighbors in the relaxed setting of the neighborhood park.

Be sure to keep those vehicles locked when you are not in them.

I hope to see you at the October 15th civic league meeting.

John Eason

We are very fortunate to live in a community with very low crime.

I have not heard about any crime since someone broke into a few vehicles that were unlocked around the end of May. The police were notified, and they increased patrols in the early mornings.

Our neighbors are our best security devices. Unfortunately, many people simply do not make an effort to know their neighbors. They are hesitant to report suspicious people or vehicles, fearing they will be regarded as "snoopy".

Acknowledge your neighbors when you see them. Just a wave or a friendly hello will do. We needn't be close friends with our neighbors to look out for their interests. We can begin to build better neighborhood security by becoming acquainted with our neighbors and their everyday living patterns. By knowing when they are at work, on vacation, and so forth, we will be better able to judge whether a stranger should legitimately be at the neighbor's home. Inform your neighbors when you will be away and ask them to let you know when they will be gone. It is a win-win for everyone except would-be burglars.

A burglar's greatest fear is being observed. Each concerned neighbor is another pair of eyes to let the criminal know he is being watched. Neighborhood Watch supplies these eyes in our community. For the program to be totally effective, each member of the household should take an active role in both observation and security.

The speed limit on every street in our community is 25 MPH. With the cooler weather there is an increase in the number of people walking, jogging and biking on our streets along with the kids walking to and from school. Give them a wide berth if possible. If you are someone who walks, jogs or bikes in the late afternoon or early evening please wear light colored clothes that can be easily seen. Bike on the right, walk and jog on the left

Hope for the best and prepare for the worst. We are almost through the hurricane season. October is usually the worst month for us in Virginia Beach. In the event of extended power outages make sure your generator is ready to go now. Do you have emergency supplies? You should have a gallon of water per person per day, non-perishable food (don't forget the can opener), first aid kit, medications, lights (not candles), cell phone portable charger. If we should get hit with a major weather event and you and your family are safe don't forget to check on your neighbors.

WILL YOU GET INVOLVED IF YOU WITNESS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY? Watch for the unusual – if you

suspect anything out of the ordinary, see suspicious people or see suspicious activity in the neighborhood: Call VBPD non-emergency number, 757-385-5000. Give them a description of the person or persons involved. If you see an actual crime being committed or about to be committed, call VBPD at 911 immediately.

At-Large School Board Candidate Forum

The Thoroughgood Civic League has extended an invitation to our neighborhood to participate in their candidate forum on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 7:00 PM. The Virginia Beach City Public Schools At-Large School Board candidates, Sharon Felton and Monty Ashliman, will be present. Linked below is the RSVP form that all attendees must RSVP to due to venue capacity limits. Details on the location and format, including the opportunity to submit questions for the candidates, are in the RSVP form. Any changes to the forum will be communicated to emails collected in the RSVP:

https://forms.gle/3q99AjwceHFLQdaK7





Please welcome our new dentist Dr. Kelly Paxton DENTISTRY DONE RIGHT

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Kelly Paxton DDS
James Rutledge DDS MAGD
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www.jimrutledgedds.com

Membership Jean Bowman

Greetings Neighbors!

Our Membership drive is underway, and we need your help! Our goal by the end of this year is to reach 400 members! You can help your civic league reach its membership goal by joining today. Please show your support by mailing the completed form along with your \$20 check made out to LST/HP/GS Civic League. You may also sign up at the Fall Festival. Membership dues allow us to fund neighborhood events and provide our newsletter to each household. We really need your support!!!

Name(s)	Please mail your check to:
Address	LST/HP/GS Civic League
DL #	P.O. Box 68883
Phone #	Virginia Beach, VA 23471
Email	i
(For email broadcast of crime alerts and other commu	inity interest topics)
Dues are \$20.00 per household for the Civic League	SOUTH TO A SOUTH CONTROL OF THE SOUTH OF THE
Dues are \$20.00 per household for the Civic League The Civic League is always looking for me	SOUTH TO A SOUTH CONTROL OF THE SOUTH OF THE
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Dues are \$20.00 per household for the Civic League The Civic League is always looking for me (Please check any position(s) for which you would	e Year which runs from January 1 to December 31 embers to volunteer in the following areas: ld like to volunteer – not required for membership)
Dues are \$20.00 per household for the Civic League The Civic League is always looking for me (Please check any position(s) for which you would be a supplied of the Civic League Neighborhood Watch	e Year which runs from January 1 to December 31 embers to volunteer in the following areas: Id like to volunteer – not required for membership) Easter Egg Hunt

The following new and renewing memberships were received and recorded between August 26, 2024, and September 25, 2024. Thank you for supporting your civic league – we are all in this together. *Memberships are for 2024 unless otherwise shown*.

Andy & Jackie Branyan (2025)
Heather & Scott Brinkman (2027)
Stephen Claffy & Amy Hooks
John & Gloria Coston (2025)
Barry & Sharon Cruthers (2025)
Anges & Raymond Dozier (2025)
Raymond & Po Ying Ho (2029)
Jim & Leslie Lampella (2027)
Gloria Mendoza (2026)
Joanne Olson & William Nee
Jeremy & Lindsey Saunders





FRANKENGUAC RECIPE

- 3 medium ripe avocados, peeled and cubed
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- Tortilla chips
- Sour cream, refried black beans and ripe olives, optional

In a small bowl, mash avocado with a fork. Stir in the onion, cilantro, lime juice and salt. Spoon guacamole onto a platter; shape into a rectangle. Place chips near the top of the head. Decorate face as desired with sour cream, refried black beans and olives.



5



Cleaning Your Gutters





Cleaning your gutters is one of those jobs that's easy to procrastinate, but the longer you wait, the bigger the job can get. Debris can build up and clog gutters and downspouts, which can cause water damage to your roof and fascia. And all that water pouring over the gutters can end up next to your foundation – and ultimately in your crawlspace or basement.

Thoroughly cleaning your gutters every spring and fall will keep them working like they're supposed to. A final check and cleaning should be done once leaves have stopped falling. Follow these tips to keep your gutters free-flowing and in good repair.

Check the forecast. Water-soaked gutter debris is heavy and difficult to remove. If you wait for a few days of dry weather, the debris won't be as soaked, making cleaning much easier.

Assemble the right tools. You will need the following tools to clean gutters: a trowel, ladder, two buckets with wire hooks, a garden hose with a nozzle work gloves, latex gloves and safety glasses.

Use the right ladder. Cleaning your gutters means working on a ladder, so if you are not comfortable doing this, contact a professional for help. Use a sturdy step ladder placed on solid, level ground whenever possible; an extension ladder may be needed for a two-story home.

Use the two-bucket method. To make the job easier, use one bucket for gathering debris and a second to carry tools. Putting tools in your pocket could cause you to lose your balance and result in injury. Carry the buckets up one at a time and hook them to the ladder.

Clean out debris. To clean gutters, start near the downspout and remove leaves, twigs and large debris, placing it in the bucket. Use a trowel or cooking spatula to remove packed material and smaller debris. Wet debris can soak through gloves and leave a bad odor on your hands, so wear latex gloves under your work gloves for protection.



Flush the gutters and downspouts. Once large debris has been removed, use the garden hose to wash out remaining dirt and grime. If the water doesn't drain, there is probably a clog in the downspout. Use the hose and heavy water pressure to flush out the spout, then flush out the entire gutter system.



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Advertise in the Ripples

To advertise your business or event in the Lake Smith Ripples newsletter contact Steven Conner at: 757-589-9895 or:

steven@bowmanrealtyva.com

The Lake Smith Ripples is published nine months of the year, September through May, and is delivered to over 900 homes in our community.

Business Card Ad - \$20 per issue

Quarter page - \$40 per issue

Half page - \$80 per issue

Full Page - B & W - \$140 , Color - \$160 per issue

Save! Pay for 8 ads and get the 9th one free!



Saturday, October 19th | 6 – 8 PM 4688 Miles Standish Road – Alison's House

Live Music - Dinner Options for Purchase - Festive Fun!
**Bring a Food Pantry donation!





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In-Person Early Voting Schedule Locations and Hours for Voting

Municipal Center, Building 14, 2449 Princess Anne Rd Monday-Friday Sept 20 – Nov 1 8 am - 5 pm Saturdays October 26 & Nov 2 9 am - 5 pm

A drop box in the rear of Building 14, under 24 hour surveillance, is available for depositing your voted ballot, at the Municipal Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 7 pm Election Day

The following locations will be open for voting:

Monday – Friday October 28 – Nov 1 9 am - 5 pm Saturdays October 26 & November 2 9 am - 5 pm

Bayside Recreation Center 4500 First Court Rd Great Neck Recreation Center 2521 Shorehaven Dr Seatack Recreation Center 141 S. Birdneck Rd Kempsville Area Library 832 Kempsville Rd M.E. Oberndorf Central Library 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd

All of these locations will serve as ballot drop-off locations during hours of voting.

Important Contacts

Police, Fire & Rescue Emergencies 911	
Non-Emergency Assistance 385-5000	
Miss Utility 811	
Crime Solvers Hotline	
Drug Activity / Graffiti 427-1749	
Tall Grass, Trash, Litter,	
Broken Windows	
Zoning Issues, Trucks, Fences, 385-4131	
Potholes, Street Signs, Street Repairs 385-1470	ĺ
Animal Control (Option #2) 385-5000	
City Landfill	
Bulk Trash Pickup	
Beach Line (recorded information) 385-8000	

Sex-offender website:

http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/

Real Estate Corner Jean Bowman

During the home selling process, repairs can be a necessary part of the transaction. Buyers have a home inspection and negotiate a list of repairs that the seller is required to complete before settlement. An issue that can arise is a need for city permits and the time involved to pull the permit and have the city complete the final inspection.

The Real Estate Information Network (REIN) provides a Consumer Disclosure Information Form for buyers and sellers which states:

"BUILDING PERMITS: Certain improvements or repairs to buildings on properties require permits from the jurisdiction in which the property is located. Permits are required for some additions, modifications and remodeling including building construction, electrical, plumbing, mechanical installations and maintenance. The purpose of a permit is to ensure compliance with the State Building Code. Virginia cities, towns and counties enforce the Uniform Statewide Building Code. A buyer should undertake such due diligence as buyer deems appropriate to ensure the permits have been secured and inspections performed"*.

Here are a few examples of repairs that require an application for a permit as well as a final inspection from the City of Virginia Beach:

- Removal/abatement of underground oil tanks
- Roofs on attached properties
- Ductwork replacement
- Structural repairs including crawl space work
- Gas HVAC replacement/ Gas Hot Water heaters-any gas equipment
- Electrical Panel Replacement
- New decks and fences
- Additions
- Crawl Space Encapsulations
- Driveways

Please contact the City of Virginia Beach permit department to verify if any improvements or repairs require a city permit.

Jean Bowman Bowman Realty Licensed in Virginia

Source: Real Estate Information Network (REIN)

* Consumer Disclosure Information Form



Homes for Sale and Sold in our Neighborhoods Since July 2024



LAKE SMITH TERRACE

Pending

1033 Miles Standish Rd 1041 Pickwick Rd

HAYGOOD POINT

Sold

4708 Crossborough Rd

GOVERNOR SQUARE

Pending

4643 Truman Lane

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Heather Brinkman, EVP

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The Upside of Downsizing

Slash utilities – Smaller homes require less electricity, gas, heating and cooling, resulting in lower bills

Less to Maintain – Downsizing to an apartment or condo eliminates the need for lawn service, cleaning service, and additional costs of driveway, roofing and yard maintenance

Reduce Taxes - A smaller property may offer the benefit of lower real estate taxes Less Energy Usage – Reducing utilities will pave the way to a greener lifestyle.

Travel Readiness – If your aim is to become a more accomplished traveler, downsizing will provide you with a modest home base to return to between trips.

Minimalism – Sell, donate, or throw out items accumulated over the years that you no longer need

Less Stress – Less clutter, financial debt and maintenance obligations will lead to a clearer state of mind, and give you the opportunity to enjoy a new, simplified home. Working with a real estate agent you can trust is important when it comes to buying or selling a home. And working with one who is familiar with the local neighborhood, mortgage lendors, and inspectors also makes sense. When you're ready to buy or sell, give me a call.



STEVEN CONNER REALTOR DIRECT: (757) 589-9895 OFFICE: (757) 325-5495 STEVEN@BOWMANREALTYVA.COM STEVENCONNER REALESTATE.INFO

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SonRise @ Pembroke Manor Christian Church



600 Independence Blvd. VA Beach ~ 23462 (757) 490-8290

www.SonRiseVB.church

Service Times: Saturday 6:00 pm ~ Sunday 10:30 am

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- * Nursery & Children's Ministry Available *
 - * Casual Dress *
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Strikth Terrace Garden Co

LAKE SMITH TERRACE GARDEN CLUB

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024
At Bayside Presbyterian Church, Independence Blvd @ Ewell Rd
Social 6:30 p.m. – Program 7:00 p.m.

Weeding and Tea Parties



Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club kicked off the new year with two fun social events before our first meeting!

On Saturday, September 14, member Karen Gould hosted a tea garden party in her beautiful Secret Garden. Members gathered for social time, delicious food and a tour of Karen's beautiful home and landscape.



LSTG Members at the tea party

On Saturday, September 21 we held another weeding party at Haygood Point Park where we maintain the pollinator garden there as well as two other neighborhood areas. We are always looking for volunteers to assist in keeping these beds beautiful! Want to join one of our weeding parties or just want to weed on your own? Contact us.



Members Lisa and Bea

October 22, 2024 Program Backyard Composting

With VB Master Gardener Eileen Walsh

Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club's October program is titled "*Backyard Composting*." Eileen Walsh is our speaker and is a Virginia Beach Master Gardener.

Guests are always welcome!



If you would like to visit our club and learn more about us, contact our president, Debbi Babashanian at babdebbi@gmail.com

Come Grow With Us !!!!



Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club Pansy Fundraiser 2024

\$5.00 per 6 inch plants per pot – or 10 pots for \$48.50. Order by Wednesday, October 9 Pre-orders & payment required Barrett Tharrington 757-681-6875 Pickup: Saturday, October 19th, 10 am-1 pm @4604 Miles Standish Rd. VA Beach

