

# Lake Smith Ripples



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

Sept 2023

Volume 27, Issue 1

## Hurricane Season is Here



*The peak of the Atlantic Hurricane season is 10 September. Most storms affecting Virginia Beach occur between mid-August and late October.*

As we all know, and many of us have experienced, hurricanes are dangerous and can cause major damage because of storm surge, wind damage and flooding. Storm surge is historically the leading cause of hurricane related deaths in the U.S. In September of 2016 the remnants of tropical storm Julia dumped over 9 inches of rain in Virginia Beach. Several of our neighborhood storm water drains backed up making driving difficult and closing off some

streets including Crossborough, Red Coat Rd, and Harris Point Dr. The water level on Red Coat was up to 30 inches in places, stranding folks for days. One vehicle, (an SUV) parked on Red Coat Road, was rated as 'totally damaged' by the insurer.

All of the homes and streets in our neighborhood (and the surrounding community) drain directly or indirectly into Lake Smith through the street storm water drainage system. The city has improved the system with the installation of a weir so the water level can now be lowered more quickly when heavy rain events occur. However, debris in gutters and drains can still interfere with the efficiency of the system and may cause temporary street flooding. **So, please keep your sidewalks and curbs free of debris that can cause buildup and contribute to drain clogging, and flooding.**

If you haven't done so, now is the time to prepare for the storm season. Pack a Hurricane survival kit. Don't wait until evacuation orders are given to do so. Visit [www.VAemergency.gov/emergency-kit](http://www.VAemergency.gov/emergency-kit) for a full checklist-kit.

Our neighborhoods, **Lake Smith Terrace, Haygood Point and Governor Square are all located in one of two Virginia Beach areas that are not designated evacuation zones.** The good news is that we are not expected to evacuate due to any of the identified storm scenarios, and the guidance for us will be to shelter in place. However, that does not mean that we will never have to heed instructions from our local emergency manager due to an unexpected change in the direction, or severity of a storm. Emergency managers will provide the best instructions to stay safe. We may have to evacuate quickly. Have an evacuation route planned and know ahead of time how you will handle your household pets and determine where you will stay. Also, consider flood insurance. This is a smart, simple step that could save you in countless ways down the road.



## School is in!

Please exercise caution and be on the lookout for children playing around bus stops. Also, be patient and be prepared to stop for school buses on their daily runs. Be sure to always observe our 25-mph speed limit.



## 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

#### Officers, Directors, & Representatives

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**Newsletter deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to  
month of publication.**

This is the first edition of the *Lake Smith Ripples* newsletter following our summer break. I trust everyone has enjoyed the past three months - even with those many oppressive hot days. We can now look forward to the coming change of seasons. I have always found Fall to be the best time of year here in Virginia Beach.

Looking ahead, your civic league has some planned events over the next few months. It begins with our September civic league meeting on Tuesday, 19 September. As always, we meet in the fellowship hall at Bayside Presbyterian Church. If you would like to mark your calendars, our civic league meetings are on the third Tuesday each month from September to May. We begin the meeting at 7:00 PM – refreshments available at 6:30 PM. The only exception is the December meeting, our Christmas pot-luck dinner event, that starts at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to the civic league meetings. It's a good time to meet your neighbors, get updates on matters important to the neighborhood, and hear a topic of community interest from a guest speaker. I encourage all residents to participate in the meetings. It's your neighborhood and we want to hear from you.

We are having our annual community yard sale on Saturday, 14 October. Our civic league advertises the sale and places signs at all six entrances to the neighborhood. It's a good opportunity to unload stuff you no longer want or need. There are usually plenty of bargain hunters roaming our streets at these community sales. On the afternoon of Sunday, 22 October, we will have our annual Fall Festival event in the Haygood Point neighborhood park. This is a big fun-filled event for the young and young at heart and is typically attended by several hundred residents. More details in the October newsletter.

Our civic league is an active participant in the newly rejuvenated VBCCO – the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations. Megan Earlenbaugh is our permanent representative. The VBCCO supports civic organizations throughout the city and lobbies city representatives on matters that can ultimately impact all of us. Just because an issue is on the other side of the city, doesn't mean it could not become an issue closer to home. The VBCCO is looking for community minded people to serve in the next two-year terms beginning in January. If you would like to step up and serve on the board of this important organization, or if you would just like more information, please contact me.

Over the past few months, we have seen some turnover in residents, as some have moved away, and others have moved in. If you are new to our community, we welcome you to the finest neighborhood in Virginia Beach. For those who are new, and those who have never been civic league members, we invite you to join the civic league that works on your behalf every day. Our dues for 2023 are still a low \$15 per household. See the membership form in this newsletter for more information.

Please look out for your neighbors, and I hope to meet everyone at the meeting on 19 September.

*John Eason*

## How to Use Neem Oil to Control Rose Diseases

Neem oil is an effective and natural way to control various diseases that affect roses. Purchase high-quality neem oil: Look for 100% cold-pressed neem oil, preferably organic, from a reputable garden supply store or online retailer.

**Prepare the neem oil solution:** Neem oil is a concentrated product and needs to be diluted before use. Follow the instructions on the bottle for the recommended dilution ratio. Typically, you'll mix 1-2 tablespoons of neem oil per gallon of water.

**Choose the right time:** Apply neem oil early in the morning or late in the afternoon when the temperature is cooler. Avoid applying neem oil in direct sunlight, as it can cause leaf burn.

**Test on a small area:** Before applying the neem oil solution to all of your roses, test it on a small portion of the plant to check for any adverse reactions. Wait 24 hours and observe for any signs of damage or sensitivity.

**Spray the neem oil solution:** Fill a garden sprayer or spray bottle with the diluted neem oil solution. Make sure to cover both sides of the rose leaves, stems, and buds thoroughly. Also, spray the surrounding soil.

**Repeat applications:** For effective disease control, repeat the neem oil application every 7-14 days or as recommended on the product label. This helps prevent the diseases from recurring and controls existing infestations.

**Ensure complete coverage:** Pay special attention to the undersides of leaves and the junction where leaves meet stems, as these areas are more prone to disease development.

Be patient: Neem oil works by disrupting the lifecycle of pests and diseases, so it may take some time to see results. Continued and consistent use will help protect your roses from various diseases.

<https://www.webgardner.com/disease/how-to-use-neem-oil-to-control-rose-diseases/>



## Civic League Meeting and Program

**Tuesday, September 19**  
**Bayside Presbyterian Church**

**Social Period - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting called to order - 7:00 p.m.**

Presentation

**Virginia Beach Schools**  
**Update**

by

**Jennifer McGowan & Leslie Riccio**  
 Virginia Beach Public Schools

## Mark Your Calendar

### 1 Annual Fall Festival

**Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2:00-4:30**  
**Haygood Point Park**  
**Fun for the whole family!**

Potluck Picnic, Hay Ride, Petting Zoo, Free Pumpkin for each Family, Bounce House, Paint Lady and Jerry's famous Hand-made Ice Cream

(See the October Ripples for details)

### 2 Neighborhood Yard Sale

**Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-2:00**  
**Rain Date – Sunday, October 15<sup>rd</sup>**

Planning to participate? Provide your address to John Eason at [jeason913@verizon.net](mailto:jeason913@verizon.net) so we can put it on our map.

Hello Neighbors,

Our annual membership drive is underway and we need your support! For a modest fee of \$15 per household per year, you and your family can be members of the civic league. The annual dues helps to keep your neighborhood civic league up and running. Our fiscal year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to July to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please show your support by sending in the completed membership application along with your \$15 annual dues made out to the LST/HP/GS Civic League.

Membership entitles you and your household to participate in our many neighborhood events. Below are some of the services we provide to our members:

- Monthly membership meetings with guest speakers
- Supports a Certified Neighborhood Watch Program
- Publishes and hand-delivers the Lake Smith Ripples
- Maintains civic league website ([www.LHGCL.org](http://www.LHGCL.org))
- Provides email broadcasts to members regarding safety, lost pets, and other areas of concern or interest
- Plans our annual social events-Fall Hayride & Pumpkin Patch, Christmas Dinner, and Easter Egg Hunt.

Our civic league is very active and one of the best in Virginia Beach because of the strength of our membership. Please take a moment and join today!

**Civic League Membership Form – New or Renewal**

(Please print)

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your check for \$15.00 to:**

LST/HP/GS Civic League  
P.O. Box 68883  
VA Beach, VA 23471

*(For e-mail broadcasts of crime alerts and other community interest topics)*

Dues are \$15.00 per household per Civic League Year which runs from January 1 to December 31

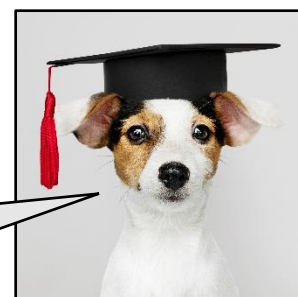
**The civic league is always looking for members to volunteer in the following areas:**  
**Please check any positions for which you would like to volunteer – (not required for membership)**

- |                                                          |                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch              | <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Dinner                | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Festival (picnic, hayride and pumpkin patch) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Maintenance           | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments for meetings and events              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic League Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> You name it – I’ll be happy to assist             |

The following is a list of new and renewing civic league memberships received between April 25<sup>th</sup> and August 24<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for supporting the civic league that works for you every day. Memberships are for 2023 unless otherwise noted.

Steven Battle & Lyne Wyatt (2024)  
Austin & Ashley Gunder  
Raymond & Po Ying Ho (2024)  
Jennifer & Parry Klages (2028)  
Adam & Christina Lecker (2024)  
Oskar Mueller

Karen Ogletree-Nanez & Sammy Crum (2024)  
Sharon Silverberg  
Adam Walton & Misty Mastracco  
Anne & Jake Weimer  
Rebecca Whitson



**Joining the civic league is a smart move. Thank you.**

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Crime in our community was uncommon the past few months and that's the way we all like it. Summer also saw National Night Out return on August first and several neighbors showed their support of community building by hosting events in their driveways, cul-de-sacs and in the street. Thank you to all who hosted an event this year. If you did not attend one of the events this year have your own next year. Just get the word out to your neighbors and get together in your driveway and get familiar with those who live near you. It's a great way to make new friends. Good neighbors are your best home security system.

Neighborhood Watch is more than just crime prevention. It's a means of community-building, getting to know your neighbors-Neighbors helping neighbors.

Hurricane season is June 30 through November 30 but it seems the worst ones hit in the latter months - the months from now until November 30. Imagine if a major hurricane coming up the coast makes a hard left and roars down Virginia Beach Boulevard. The damage would be widespread and public services could be overwhelmed. Communities would be on their own for days. Emergency services could take days to reach you. Electricity could be off for days, even cell phones could be useless. Where would you go for help when someone needs medical assistance, or help with downed trees and power lines? We would be on our own. The thought of a disaster like this

happening is frightening. How would we get through it? --- We would get through it together. We are a community, and everyone would join together and help those that need help. Hopefully we would be familiar enough with our neighbors that we would know who would more than likely need help and we would check on them after we make sure that our families are safe. That's Neighborhood Watch.

Hopefully the above scenario won't happen, but it is something we all need to keep in the back of our minds. In other words, be prepared. We all know to stash fresh water and food that won't spoil but we should also get to know neighbors. You are more likely to check on someone you know in an emergency rather than a complete stranger.

How many times have we been alerted to a potential tornado and just looked out the window then went about our business. We need to take these alerts seriously. The people in the Great Neck area will take those warnings more seriously now after between 50 and 100 homes were damaged when a tornado struck the Great Neck area on April 30 this year. Emergency services responded quickly and were available to help because it was an isolated incident. If it had devastated an area from Sandbridge to Little Creek it would have been another story.

**Prepare Now.**

# LST BLOCK PARTY

Save the date!

Saturday, October 14th 6-8 pm  
4688 Miles Standish Road

- Food Truck
- Live Music
- Community Fun

Scan here for details!



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*Doing some small or large construction? Here are some useful tips to make sure your project is as pleasant as possible for your neighbors and our neighborhood.*

If you are doing large construction, make sure you have a contractor that can address all concerns that are related to the job and specifically your project. How long will demo take? When will it start? When will it be completed? Is a dumpster needed? Will your refuse service be timely in picking up the dumpster when it's full? How many sub-contractors will be assigned to your job? Small or one-man crews can extend a large job beyond a reasonable time. How will your contractor handle materials and the tools needed for your job? Don't be shy or embarrassed to ask questions during the hiring process. Where will your contractors park? Can they carpool into the neighborhood to prevent excessive street parking? Will a portable toilet be provided, if so, where will it be located and how frequently will it be serviced? Make sure these concerns are outlined in your agreement as well. Do not let your contractor(s) dictate these concerns.

Doing Demo? If a dumpster is required, plan for it to be dropped off the day before demolition begins and make sure it's removed as soon as it's full or on the day after the demo is completed. Dumpsters should be in the neighborhood for the shortest time possible.

Make sure you know what your contractor is doing with the equipment, trailers, and building supplies he will be bringing to your home. Ask questions if you see unexpected equipment or supplies on the streets. Is it related to your job? What will be stored and what will be brought daily to your home? Make sure all building supplies are placed out of sight if possible and off city streets. This includes rip rap, landscaping supplies, and other building materials.

Trailers may not be stored on public streets for any reason. If one is needed for access to tools and equipment, have your contractor store it at their own place of business. No front loaders or other heavy equipment should be in public view while not in use.

Minimizing the time your home is under construction is essential in reducing the noise, activity, extra traffic, and overcrowding of streets. Even the most talented do it yourselves may require the assistance of a contractor in cases of fire, burst pipes, electrical malfunctions, or other unexpected events. Most insurance companies are excellent sources to recommend companies to get in and get out in minimal time to avoid inconvenience to you and the neighborhood. They may not offer this assistance so be sure to ask if a recommendation is desired.

Finally, it's important to communicate with your immediate neighbors. Let them know the scope of your job and the expected date of completion, and be sure to provide them with updates of unexpected delays. Please

be thoughtful and considerate. We have a great community with patient neighbors, and it helps everyone if we all strive to reduce any unnecessary inconvenience, unsightliness or disruptions that may arise from construction.



## CAR TIPS

### Driving With Man's Best Friend

Most people enjoy the company of their dog riding shotgun, but is it safe? According to the DMV, the answer is no, it isn't safe to let your unrestrained pets ride in your car. Unrestrained animals are the cause of many motor vehicle accidents. There are many alternatives to make it safe for your animals to ride in the car such as crash tested car crates, and restraints that attach to the vehicles seat belt. By ensuring your pet is properly restrained you and your pet can both be safe and stress free when in the car.

Happy motoring!  
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BUYING ■ SELLING ■ PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Wow, it has been a fabulous year in real estate!! Inventory overall remains low, home prices have reset slightly but remain strong and homes are in demand ! Buyers are continuing to compete for available homes, especially in the lower price ranges even though mortgage interest rates have increased considerably.

Let's take a look back and see how the real estate market fared in the City of Virginia Beach. Below is a "snapshot" of housing statistics for the year beginning with January 2023:

Current Inventory: 677 detached and attached properties (historically low)

Pending: 436 properties are under contract and preparing to close

Sold: 3863 properties have sold to date this year

Below are the price ranges for the homes SOLD:

0-\$100,000	4
\$101,000-\$200,000	232
\$201,000-\$300,000	985
\$301,000-\$400,000	1156
\$401,000-\$500,000	576
\$501,000-\$600,000	280
\$601,000-\$700,000	152
\$701,000-\$800,000	111
\$801,000-\$900,000	74
\$901,000-\$1,000,000	79
\$1,100,000-\$2,000,000	173
\$2,100,000-\$3,000,000	25
\$3,100,000+	15

The lowest price sold since January was \$25,000 and the highest price was \$7,200,000.

Future prices will be determined by the "supply and demand" as well as values of previously "SOLD" homes within the past 12 months.

Source: REIN (Real Estate Information Network)

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- FOR SALE**  
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1157 Revere Point Rd
- PENDING**  
1045 Walt Whitman Way
- SOLD**  
1020 Five Forks Rd  
1109 Five Forks Rd  
1060 Revere Point Rd  
4620 Truman Lane  
1033 Patrick Henry Way  
4717 Bromfield Ave'  
4720 Little John Rd  
1017 Five Forks Rd

HAYGOOD POINT

- FOR SALE**  
4641 Chippendale Ct  
4609 Chippendale Ct  
4697 Crossborough Rd  
4812 Haygood Point Rd  
4700 E Chippenham Rd  
825 Moultrie Ct
- PENDING**  
4704 Crossborough
- SOLD**  
4629 Chippendale Ct  
862 Five Forks Rd

GOVERNOR SQUARE

- SOLD**  
4639 Truman Lane  
917 Ewell Rd
- PENDING**  
4621 Truman LN



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**Full Service Oil Change & Seasonal Check-Up**

*For faster service please call ahead for an appointment. Shop supplies and taxes are not included. Most cars/light trucks. Oil change includes up to five quarts of motor oil and new filter. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited time only.*

### 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 lenders, and inspectors also makes sense. When you're ready to buy or sell, give me a call.

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## LAKE SMITH TERRACE GARDEN CLUB

Our next formal meeting will be on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>  
 at Bayside Presbyterian Church, Independence Blvd at Ewell Rd  
 Social 6:30, Program 7:00

### What Did You Do This Summer??



Your neighborhood Garden Club started the summer on a high note, making a clean sweep of the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach annual awards. The Council is comprised of thirty garden clubs across Virginia Beach, so the competition was intense ... no elbows please! The garden paper topic this year was *Why Do You Love Your Garden Club*. With our club, it was a waltz in the park smelling the Gerbera Daisies to capture first place. Here is *OUR* award scorecard.

And, to close out the summer, Patricia McKnight hosted a Tea at her lovely home Patricia's husband, Ken, baked blueberry scones (to die for); he's number one on the club recruitment list. Sumptuous fare, camaraderie and lively discussion made for a most memorable occasion. As always, a good turnout for the club.



Sylvia Brewington Projects	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place
Historical Homes Weekly Floral Arrangements	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place
Georgia Fletcher Garden Paper Award	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place
Georgia Fletcher Club President Award	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place
Anne Herrick's Historical Homes Award	2 <sup>ND</sup> Place
Reba McClanan Beautification Award	Hon Mention
Club Yearbook	3 <sup>RD</sup> Place
Ruthie Vance Club Membership Award	3 <sup>RD</sup> Place
Attendance Award (21-34 members)	3 <sup>RD</sup> Place
Large Club Maintenance	1 <sup>ST</sup> Place tied

***This is Your Neighborhood Garden Club - Why You Might be Interested.*** Almost six decades and still going strong!! We continue to offer education in Horticulture, Flower Design, and Environmental Information for gardeners of all varieties – there is always something to learn. And it's not just limited to gals, we've got some guys too! Our members range from beginners to Master Gardeners, so there's a wide range of interests and, naturally, plenty of advice to help with any challenges or problems. Give us a try and we think you will be interested. The club was established in 1966 and is still going strong. Contact: Sylvia Williams, Membership Chair @ (717) 332-0688 or Debbi Babashanian, President @ (757) 630-9090 for more information or just come

**Garden Terms.** We know our loyal readers have been chomping at their rosebuds in anticipation of this month's garden term expose'. Hybrid: a plant variety that has been deliberately cultivated in a controlled setting, usually by cross-pollinating to acquire new, desirable characteristics such as bloom color, disease resistance, fragrance, size, hardiness, taste or shelf life, among others.

### Coming Attractions

**First**, we're on a roll, in our September meeting we'll explore All About Bulbs with Norfolk Master Gardner, Chris Schweitzer. And, not for the faint of heart, join our intrepid Posse of Flower Planters and Weed Pluckers as they tend to our Pollinator Garden in Haygood Point Park on September 16<sup>TH</sup> ... 8 to 10:00 AM, come with gloves and implements.

**Second**, our **annual Pansy Sale** will happen on 22 October. As always, a large array of pansies: the familiar Blotch or "face" pansies (some Colossus), Deltas with strong, vibrant solid colors (see to believe); yellow Jump Up and Citrus Violas; Snapdragons, Dusty Miller Silverdust and ornamental kale. Garden Club gals and guys will be there to assist you and answer any questions. We need your orders (and \$) no later than October 15 ... order form and more information in October Ripples. Proceeds help our club maintain the gardens at our neighborhood entrances; the large garden and new "pollinator Station" (a must see) in our park; and support of local environmental organizations

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