Lake Smith Ripples



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

January 2025

Volume 28, Issue 5



Tuesday, January 21st, 2025 **Bayside Presbyterian Church** 1400 Ewell Rd

Social period: 6:30 - 7:00 Call to order 7:00

Presentation

First Landing State Park and

Overview of Cypress Point Shopping Center

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

We have been around the sun one more time and behold it's a brandnew year. I am hopeful one of your new year resolutions is to join your civic league. This is the month we include an information sheet with a membership form, and a self-addressed envelope in this newsletter. If you have not yet paid dues for 2025, or if you have never been a member, please take a moment to complete the form and send it in along with the annual \$20 household dues payment. You can also pay multiple years ahead if you choose, as many of our members have done to eliminate having to write an annual check. We are seeking 450 member households this year – please help make it happen. Whether you own or rent, if you live here, you can be a civic league member household.

A few days before Christmas we received the sad news that Jacquie Molovinsky passed away following a long illness. Jacquie was the wife of our civic league director, Jack Molovinsky. Jack and Jacquie have been long-time residents of Lake Smith Terrace. Please keep Jack and his family in your prayers.

Our annual Christmas Dinner event was one of the best. The side dishes everyone brought were delicious and plentiful. The civic league provided sliced turkey, ham, steamed shrimp and desserts. Live entertainment was courtesy of the Virginia Beach Silver Tappers. They definitely were a crowd favorite. Following the awarding of the door prizes and selection of a winner in the 50:50 raffle, the evening capped off with a visit from Santa Claus. This year Santa's stand-in was our own Peter Cook, and he sure did a great job. The kids loved him, especially the gifts he handed to each of them. We are very grateful to all those who volunteered to make this event a resounding success. January is typically the coldest of the winter months. In the event we have an extended cold spell that produces an ice covering on Lake Smith or Oliver's Pond, please do not be tempted to walk on the ice. In this area, lake ice is never thick enough to safely support the weight of an adult or a child. Breaking through the ice covering into the cold water could easily lead to an avoidable tragedy. Please emphasis this subject with your children.

Mark your calendar for January 22, 2025, and please plan to attend another information meeting on the topic of a traffic signal at the Independence - Paul Revere / Wakefield intersection. The meeting, hosted by District 9 Councilman Joash Schulman, is being held at Independence Middle School located at 1370 Dunstan Lane in Thoroughgood. The meeting time is 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Three years ago, this civic league's membership voted to oppose the new traffic light when it was first proposed. We see another light on Independence as a funnel for two-way cut-through traffic on our neighborhood residential streets. Now, the latest justification for a light is to support a crosswalk across Independence to facilitate bus-stop riders and pedestrians going to the middle school. I do not know any responsible parent of 12 to 14 year-old children who would allow them to cross the four lane 45 mph highway - crosswalk and light or not. Please plan to show up at this meeting to make our voices heard.

I invite everyone to attend our January 21, 2025, civic league meeting. Our program will include a presentation by a representative from First Landing State Park. We are also working to schedule an overview of the proposed plans for the Cypress Point Shopping Center. Let's have a good turnout. Stay warm, stay safe, watch out for your neighbors, and join the civic league.

John Eason

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How to Maintain a Wood Cutting Board





 Wash your cutting board with soap and warm water and scrub well. The volume of water and mechanical scrubbing is more important than soap in flushing bacteria and other food particles off the board. After washing the cutting board, dry immediately with a towel and let it air dry standing up or on a raised rack with air flow.

DO NOT:

- Put the board in the dishwasher. The heat and water will warp and splinter the wood AND void warranties from most manufacturers. Only plastic, composite or glass boards can go into the dishwasher.
- Dunk or let the board stand in water. The wood will absorb water and potentially warp.
- Use bleach. This will stain the wood and/or excessively dry the wood.
- Put a wet board flat to dry. If the board dries on one side, it will cause the wood to warp.
- 2. If your board has stains or smells, you can use <u>lemon</u> <u>juice</u> or white vinegar directly on the area. The acid in these liquids will neutralize the organic material or fats causing the problem.
- 3. How to Apply Cutting Board Oil and Board Cream. Once your cutting board is thoroughly dry, apply the oil directly onto the surface of the board. Be generous with the application, especially if the wood is dry or you just purchased the cutting board or butcher block. You want the surface to be dripping wet on all sides and we recommend using a small bar towel or new paint brush to spread the oil (try not to soak up the oil), as using your hands may lead to accidental splinters. Most importantly, let the oil soak into the cutting board for as long as possible; at least a few hours or overnight if possible. Let your cutting board sit on a wire rack or upright to dry when done. If you are restoring or seasoning an old, dry or new cutting board, you may wish to repeat this process two more times, to ensure your cutting board is completely seasoned. To apply board cream, wait until the board is dry after washing or oiling, then apply a small amount of cream onto the board. Using a soft cloth, buff the cream/wax into the wood in a circular pattern, forming a thin coat. Repeat over the entire surface of the board and especially the sides. It's not necessary to let the wax soak into the board. We recommend you oil

your cutting board **every month** or when dry to the touch. Board cream should be applied at the same time as oiling.

4. Why Use Cutting Board Oils and Board Creams? The goal of board oil is to penetrate the wood and saturate the wood fibers, in order to stop any other liquids (blood, bacteria) and moisture from soaking into the board. As well, a well-oiled cutting board will keep the same shape when the wood fibers are saturated, so it will not expand and shrink compared to a board that is left to completely dry, then exposed to water. This shrinking and expanding effect is the main cause of warped cutting boards. While <u>board oil</u> penetrates the wood, <u>board cream/wax</u> acts as a physical barrier on the surface of the wood that protects against stains and liquids. The wax also aids in sanitation, as it fills and seals in knife scars and microscopic cracks where bacteria would otherwise gather. Used in conjunction, cutting board oil and cream provide an effective combination of protective outer layer and sealed wood that is sanitary, easier to clean and won't warp.

Please note that natural oils such as vegetable, corn, olive, peanut or walnut oil are not recommended, as these are rich in fats that will eventually oxidize and go rancid, creating a foul-smelling board. Also, never use standard mineral oil from a hardware store that is not rated as food safe, as that is meant for machine lubrication and not for contact with food. It is not worth jeopardizing your health for a few dollars! The reference link has some recommendations on oils and products to use on your cutting boards.

Ref: https://www.cuttingboard.com/how-to-oil-and-maintain-a-cutting-board/

Don't Let Leaves and Yard Debris Block Storm Drains

As a reminder, the street sweepers hired by the city are not responsible for cleaning our concrete gutters and drains. Home owners are responsible for cleaning the area where the asphalt meets the gutter to the curb. To prevent flooding and maintain water quality, clear yard waste away from storm drains and avoid blowing or

raking leaves into the street or gutter..





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

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Restorative and Esthetic Dentistry

Kelly Paxton DDS
James Rutledge DDS MAGD
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Virginia Beach, VA 23455
(757) 464-0271
www.jimrutledgedds.com

Membership Jean Bowman

Hello Neighbors,

Our annual membership drive is underway and we need your support! For a modest fee of \$20 per household per year, you and your family can be members of the civic league. The annual dues help to keep your neighborhood civic league up and running. Our fiscal year runs from 1 January to 31 December. Please show your support by sending in the completed membership application along with your \$20 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 the civic league website (www.LHGCL.org),

Provides email broadcasts to members regarding safety, lost pets, and other areas of concern or interest.

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!

	;
Name(s)	Please mail your check to:
Address	LST/HP/GS Civic League
Phone #	P.O. Box 68883
-none #	Virginia Beach, VA 23471
Email	i
(For email broadcast of crime alerts and other commu Dues are \$20.00 per household for the Civic League	
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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 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 November 26, 2024, and December 26, 2024. Thank you for supporting your civic league – we are all in this together. Memberships are through 12/31/2025 unless otherwise indicated.

Jay Lovejoy

Paul Meise

Michael Lovely (2024)

Joe & Pamela McNaught (2026)

Roger Miles & Mary Ellen Miles

Eleanor & Paul Nolan (2026)

B.T. Beatty & A. Wombles (2027)
Jim & Joan Beauchamp
Ellen Bell (2026)
Bobst Family
Reid & Linda Bulman
Michael & Yvette Dunbar
Robert & Sherri Elliott
Betty Given
Jim & Patty Handrahan (2027)
Joe & Sue Harper (2026)
Leff & Cindy Inman

Robert & Sherri Elliott

Betty Given

Jim & Patty Handrahan (2027)

Joe & Sue Harper (2026)

Jeff & Cindy Inman

Chris & Phil Jones

Arunau Pons & Orzuri Rique

Curtis & Lenora Powell

Rick & Christi Stephens (2026)

Ann Sutliff (2028)

Troute Theisz (2026)

Mr. & Mrs. M. Wade (2026)

Carol Wicks

Conrado & Nieva Ladrillono

Make a <u>New</u>
<u>Year</u>
<u>Resolution</u> to
join the Civic
League in
2025!

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We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas. All of the lights and decorations around our community show the pride that we all have in our homes.

It's a new year and time to make some resolutions other than those that involve food, exercise or getting organized. This year resolve to focus on securing your property. Keep your vehicles locked and your valuables out of sight. Don't forget to close the garage door. Lock the shed. Keep an eye on your neighbor's property (they are watching yours). Before going to bed check that all doors are locked and scan The street for anything or anybody that looks suspicious

Lock your doors. How many times have you heard that or read that. By now everyone knows that there are groups of individuals that roam neighborhoods in the early morning hours checking for unlocked vehicles. It's easy to forget to lock it occasionally but try to make a habit to not leave anything of value in your car. Just assume that someone will enter your vehicle while you are sleeping.

If you happen to be up in the early morning hours look for people checking for vehicles that are unlocked. If you see any, call 911 immediately and report it. Do not confront them.

Our own neighbors are our single best security device. Neighborhoods in which people are truly concerned with each other and their mutual safety have extremely low crime rates. Living in a community with a very low crime rate gives you peace of mind. Keeping the crime rate low means that we need to make it difficult on would be criminals.

Here are things we should do to safeguard our possessions.

- Do not leave your vehicles unlocked.
- Do not leave anything of value visible from outside your vehicle.
- Park in your driveway or garage if possible.
- Leave your outside lights on all night.

If you are leaving town

- Alert a trusted neighbor.
- Stop newspaper and mail delivery.
- Install timers on interior and exterior lights

The greatest deterrent to a would-be criminal is the fear of getting caught. Each concerned citizen is another pair of eyes to let the criminal know that he is being watched. Neighborhood Watch supplies these eyes.



2024 Annual Civic League Christmas Party

Why We Oppose a Proposed Traffic Light at Independence and Paul Revere /Wakefield

The Lake Smith Terrace / Haygood Point / Governor Square Civic League, Inc. opposes the proposed new traffic light because we believe it to be detrimental to the quality of life of our residents.

- The existing traffic signal at Independence and Ewell provides adequate egress from both Lake Smith Terrace and Thoroughgood neighborhoods. Those choosing to exit Thoroughgood on Wakefield have a safer existing alternative at Ewell.
- The data presented by Virginia Beach Traffic Engineering to support the additional traffic signal is outdated and inaccurate. Our civic league's traffic signal committee addressing this issue has video of days of traffic data for the intersection that shows there is no justification (warrants) to support an additional traffic signal at that location.
- A traffic signal at this intersection would lead to ever increasing volumes of cut-through traffic, both to and from our neighborhood, on Paul Revere and other residential side streets that have no sidewalks. We already have cut-through traffic on Ewell especially during rush hours.
- The Virginia Beach Comp Plan states that creating opportunities for cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods should be avoided.
- The late councilman, Louis Jones, looked at all sides of this matter and determined the traffic signal was not needed. That halted the project. Councilman Jones had decades of city experience and had no personal agenda in the issue.
- Our current District 9 councilman, Joash Schulman, a resident of Thoroughgood, instructed traffic engineering to proceed with the project. Mr. Schulman is on record in the August minutes of the Thoroughgood Civic League meeting, where he stated the traffic signal would be installed by the first quarter of 2026.

We have no malice toward the residents of Thoroughgood, Thoroughgood Colony, or employees of Independence Middle School. While the installation of an additional traffic signal on Independence at Paul Revere / Wakefield would be a "convenience" for the Thoroughgood side, it would clearly create a "hardship' for the residents of Lake Smith Terrace. We therefore oppose the project and will continue to oppose it through whatever means necessary.





Hi neighbors!

I'm Alison, a local REALTOR and proud resident on Miles Standish for 20+ years. My family loves this community, hosting Block parties w/ live music twice a year! This year's ideas:



Summer Potluck

Bring a dish & enjoy food + music.



Fall Soup & Chili Night

Cozy vibes + good eats!

Scan the QR code to explore buyer/seller stories. I go beyond the sale — sharing the ups, downs, and every step in between.

I'd love to be your REALTOR or help someone you know!

Don't miss the LST Facebook group we have grown to 102 neighbors!

Best, Alison Creamer

FULL-TIME REALTOR & LST RESIDENT OF 20+ YEARS



alisoncreamer@gmail.com 757-742-3279 Licensed in the Commonwealth of VA









Advertise in the Ripples

To advertise your business or event in the Lake Smith Ripples newsletter contact:

Doug Earlenbaugh at 757-761-5582 or dearlenbaugh@remax.net

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 per issue, Color - \$160 per issue

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

Real Estate Corner Jean Bowman

The Real Estate Corner...

The month of January is usually associated with a resurgence in the real estate industry, as buyers and sellers plan their real estate needs for the new year. It's also a perfect time to look back and see how the real estate market faired in Virginia Beach. Below is a "snapshot" of housing statistics for the past year, which overall was an extremely good year:

<u>Current</u> Inventory: 734 detached and attached properties (remains historically low, but slightly higher than last year).

<u>Pending</u>: 310 properties are under contract and preparing to close (slightly higher than last year).

<u>Sold</u>: 5,650 properties have sold in the past year (very slightly higher than last year).

Below are the price ranges for the homes SOLD:

0-\$100,000 \$101,000-\$200,000	1 174
\$201,000-\$200,000	1251
\$301,000-\$400,000	1799
\$401,000-\$500,000	899
\$501,000-\$600,000	529
\$601,000-\$700,000	282
\$701,000-\$800,000	181
\$801,000-\$900,000	130
\$901,000-\$1,000,000	95
\$1,001,000-\$2,000,000	249
\$2,001,000-\$3,000,000	42
\$3,001,000+	18

The lowest price sold in the past year was \$79,500 and the highest price was \$ 12,200,000.

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)

Jean Bowman Bowman Realty Licensed in Virginia



Homes for Sale and Sold in our Neighborhoods Since November 2024





LAKE SMITH TERRACE

For Sale

4617 Red Coat Rd

Sold

1208 Ewell Rd

GOVERNOR SQUARE

No Activity



HAYGOOD POINT

For Sale

824 Moultrie Ct

Pending

4636 Chippendale Ct 832 Moultrie Ct

Sold

4670 Crossborough Rd



January 20th

Kitchens Bathrooms Windows

Established 1975 Room Additions No Job too Small

TERRY SIMONS Remodeling

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simonsgeneralcontracting@gmail.com





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www.SonRiseVB.church

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 - * Small Group Bible Studies *



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