

The Legacy



September – October 2007

Great Party!

Once again, we celebrated Independence Day at Lake Christopher with a fabulous party at the Christopher Landing park. This July 4th was a great time for food, fun, games, face painting, more silly games, music, dancing, swimming and spending time with our neighbors.

Nearly 300 of our residents attended the party. We also enjoyed the company of many visitors, including members of the Boards of Directors from neighboring communities. They were impressed with our community and our people.

The food was excellent and plentiful. There were mounds of food, including a roasted pig. No one went away hungry. There was an excess of watermelon, so everyone had the opportunity for a fun dessert.

Our thanks to all who volunteered and worked to make the party a success. Mitch Stevens, the party coordinator, received much needed help from family, friends and neighbors. He'll need lots of help for next year also. (Hint, hint.)

You, too, can be a part of the fun next year. Make a note for your 2008 calendar. And call Mitch now and offer to help the party along. (222-0743) The more of us who help, the better it is for all of us.

Community Gardening Festival

Let's make Lake Christopher greener than ever. To start you can attend the *Virginia Beach Master Gardeners Community Gardening Festival*. Admission is free.

Gardening practices important to the environment and healthy waterways are the theme of this year's festival. "The Garden of Learning" includes speakers on landscape practices to improve water quality and attracting good bugs to your garden.

Tours and information on buffer zone gardening, recommended trees for homeowners and suggested plants for bayscape gardening are also scheduled.

Demonstrations will include making herbal cheeses and fall container gardening.

A plant sale, silent auction and bake sale will be part of the festival activities.

Event date: September 15, from 10 to 3.

Event location:

Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center
1444 Diamond Springs Road
Virginia Beach VA 23455
757 485-4769

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Do you have a green thumb or a brown one? Whether you're an experienced gardener or just getting started, the Lake Christopher Garden Club is the place for you! Our program includes both educational speakers on gardening topics, as well as fun, social activities! Normally we meet in members' homes at 7:00 p.m. the first Monday of each month (unless it falls on a holiday).

As the incoming President for this year, I want to welcome all new residents, as well as current ones, to our September 10<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social at the home of Faye Huntemann, 1720 Lake Christopher Drive. At this meeting we will hold a short business meeting, learn about our program for the year, and have fun eating ice cream Sundaes with our favorite toppings. Please bring a topping to share and your annual \$5 dues.

Call me at 474-0954 if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you there!

Patty Rapp, Lake Christopher Garden Club President

**Yards of the Month**

- April Barbara White, 5212 Quarry Lane
- May Laila Azar, 1729 Lake Christopher Dr
- June Dave and Peggy Lamb, 1444 Lake Christopher Dr
- July Dick and Cheryl Montgomery, 1724 Lake Christopher Dr

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**Flash! – Community Yard Sale – Flash!**  
**Saturday, October 6**

Put out your valuable extra articles and customers flock to your driveway.



Installation and replacement of fencing has recently been one of the more frequent Architecture Review requests. Fences serve to preserve privacy, maintain security, enclose swimming pools, or contain pets and small children. However fences are also very highly visible parts of the landscape. Architectural Guidelines were established to maintain some standards for appearance. Many fences in our community have deteriorated prematurely due to improper construction or the use of inferior materials. As with any other structure exposed to the effects of weather, a fence needs to be built to withstand the elements. For example, high wind conditions will quickly reveal those fences that are not adequately anchored to the ground.

The Lake Christopher Architectural Guidelines outline some basic fence requirements including maximum height, materials, styles and placement. Please refer to the Architectural Guidelines Section 5 entitled "Property Fencing". Architectural approval is not required for the removal of any existing fence on your own property, but is required for new or replacement fence installations because this represents a change in a property's public appearance. Careful consideration is made during the approval review process to note the effect of any fence on adjacent properties, particularly if the fence might block a certain view. Also, several homeowners replacing existing fences have discovered that their fences were significantly outside their property lines.

When planning and designing a fence you are encouraged to consult with the surrounding homeowners in order to avoid conflicts. The Architecture Committee will personally evaluate any proposed fence configuration, especially in the case of lake front homes. In some cases, height or locations may need to be adjusted accordingly. For example, several fences were recently approved to be installed along lakefront bulkheads as a child-safety measure and the fences were planned to be as unobtrusive as possible, yet maintain their intended purpose.

The City of Virginia Beach has some very specific rules on fences, particularly for height and placement considerations. A city construction permit is required in order to install fencing. The City Planning and Zoning Department publishes an informative document called "Fence and Wall Bulletin" on the municipal web site at: [www.vbgov.com/file\\_source/dept/planning/Document/fencebrochure.pdf](http://www.vbgov.com/file_source/dept/planning/Document/fencebrochure.pdf) One item not commonly known is that there are distinctly different rules for fences on corner lots and "through" lots.

Some suggestions for submitting a review application for fence work: Make a photocopy of your property's survey plat and indicate on it where the fence is to be installed or replaced. This makes it very clear where the proposed fence will be placed in relation to your home, property lines, streets and adjacent lots. Also indicate the style of fence using a photo or a simple sketch.

Please consult the Architecture Committee with any questions on Guideline interpretation, review process issues, or complaints,.

**Steve Rogovich      Chairman of Architecture Committee      467-9790      [stever@infionline.net](mailto:stever@infionline.net)**

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The telephone is among the greatest inventions of the modern age. From the days of the party line to the days of wireless and Internet phones, they have connected us with loved ones, made our lives more convenient, and given us peace of mind. But telephones are also prone to fraud. Don't be a victim. Educate yourself about telephone fraud, and know how to spot-and prevent-a telephone scam.

**Beware of voice mail fraud.**

Hackers can compromise your voice mail system to make collect, third party, or direct-dial calls at your expense. Voice mail vendors provide new customers with a default password - usually an easily guessed combination such as 1-2-3-4. If you do not change it, hackers can guess it quickly and break into your phone system. Once a hacker knows your password, he or she can use it to make international calls at your expense.

*Tip: Always change your default password immediately. Choose a complex voice mail of at least six digits, and change it frequently.*

**Beware of cell phone subscriber fraud.**

A criminal who obtains your personal information can use it to set up a cell phone account in your name. Charges can go on for years without your knowledge. People who are victims of identity theft often find that they are also victims of cell phone subscriber fraud.

*Tip: Keep personal information (Social Security number, credit card number, bank account number, mother's maiden name, birth date, etc.) private so someone else cannot use it.*

**Beware of cell phone cloning fraud.**

Criminals can clone your cell phone by illegally monitoring radio wave transmissions to determine your unique electronic serial number (ESN) and your cell phone number (mobile identification number (MIN). The cloned cell phone is reprogrammed to transmit your ESN and MIN numbers. The cellular system will not be able to tell the difference and will bill you for the cloned phone's call as well as your own.

*Tip: Check your phone bill carefully, and call your carrier if you think your cell phone has been cloned.*

*Continued on next page ...*

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**Beware of phone “slamming”.**

A fraudulent carrier may change your long distance phone service without your permission or knowledge. This usually results in higher charges for long distance calls on your phone bill. Or you may be deceived into agreeing to switch your service by entering a contest and not reading the fine print, which authorizes the switch.

**Tip:** *Read your bill carefully each month, make sure you still have the same long distance company.*

**Beware of phone “cramming”.**

Like many consumers, you may choose to have legitimate charges for services such as voice mail, paging, and calling cards added to your phone bill. This may result in a long and complicated statement. “Crammers” take advantage of confusing phone bills by sneaking other charges—those you never authorized—onto your phone bill, figuring that you will not notice.

**Tip:** *Always check your phone bill carefully to make sure you are paying for services you authorized.*

**Beware of calling – card number scams.**

A criminal posing as a telephone company representative may call you and ask for verification of your calling card number to check for authorized charges and then use it to make international calls.

**Tip:** *Never give out personal information on the telephone. Call your phone company directly to verify that there is problem with your calling card.*

**Beware of call “splashing”.**

Call splashing can happen when you place a call from a public phone. You may believe that you are using your preferred long distance carrier, but your call is actually routed first to a long distance call center. As a result, you will be billed as if you made the call from the distant location rather than from your actual location, resulting in higher rates.

**Tip:** *Call splashing is only legal if you request that the call be transferred to a different carrier’s operator or you consent to this practice. Do not consent to any call transfers unless you understand what the operator is asking.*

*Continued on next page ...*

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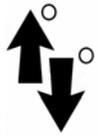
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**Beware of the 809 Area Code Scam.**

You may receive an urgent message on your answering machine or pager requesting that you call a number immediately, usually because of a “family emergency”. When you call the number, you discover that the call has nothing to do with your family. The 809 area code is actually a country code for the Dominican Republic and later an expensive phone charge shows up on your phone bill.

**Tip:** *Always know where you are calling before you dial. While it is usually necessary to dial 011 to reach an international location, some international locations have telephone numbers that resemble domestic long distance calls.*

**Beware of International Modem Dialing.**

If you use a dial-up modem to connect to the Internet and download a “viewer” or “dialer” computer program (usually free to access the site), the program may disconnect your modem and then reconnect it to the Internet through an international long distance number without your knowledge or authorization. You will then receive a large international phone bill.

**Tip:** *Install a dedicated phone line for your computer that is restricted to local calls. If that is not possible, watch out for the program that allows your modem to redial to the Internet without your direction. Cancel the connection and check the number your modem is dialing.*

**Note:** The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) is the federal agency responsible for regulating your telephone services. Go to its website, [www.fcc.org](http://www.fcc.org), for information on how to review your telephone bill and how to spot cramming charges and other telephone related consumer issues.

**Also, you can file a complaint** by e-mail ([fccinfo@fcc.gov](mailto:fccinfo@fcc.gov)), the Internet ([www.fcc.gov/cgb/complaints.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/complaints.html)) or telephone (888-CALL-FCC [888-225-5322].)

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We now provide for electronic delivery of each bi-monthly issue of the *Legacy*.

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**Web Site – Coming:** There is a new web site coming! We will post the *Legacy* newsletter so that you can read it, download it, print it, etc. The new site is under construction.

**How Do I Sign Up?:** For e-mail delivery, send a request to me, Paul Flanagan, at [pdfan@mindspring.com](mailto:pdfan@mindspring.com). You will receive future copies of the *Legacy* by e-mail, not US Postal mail.

**Remember:** You need to add my e-mail address to your address book to allow the *Legacy* e-mail message through your spam filter and fire wall. Also, if you change your e-mail address, you *must* let me know.

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### **REAL ESTATE NEWS**

by Sharon White, ABR, GRI

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#### **Behind the Slogan: Sharon Sells Lake Christopher**

Sharon and her husband, BW, moved into Lake Christopher in 1985, first at 1516 Captains Ct, now living on the lake at 1508 Lake Christopher Dr. They are the proud grandparents of 3 wonderful grandsons. Daughter, Debbie, lives with her family in Richmond. She is an RN working in Labor and Delivery at Henrico Doctors Hospital. Daughter, Laura and her family, live in Brigadoon. She is a Spanish Teacher at Hickory High School.

Sharon enjoys being a long time participating member of the Lake Christopher Garden Club. BW recently retired after 35 years in Sales Management in the Automobile business. He is an avid golfer and is an active supporter of his grandsons sports activities. The main thing they like about our neighborhood is just that - the wonderful neighbors.

Sharon is a native of Kempsville, and was raised right across the street from Lake Christopher. Her home sat where the Holloman-Brown Funeral Home is now. Her parents bought that property in 1946 and her Mother sold the property to H-B in 1993. Lake Christopher was then the Osmont Dairy Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Osmont, who were childless, let neighboring kids use their trails to ride bikes and horses on and would then welcome them to the Dairy for large glasses of chocolate milk. The old farmhouse still sits at the end of Still Harbor and is grandfathered in zoning as Agricultural – allowing the current owner to have sheep. (Go by around Easter to see all the lambs!)

Following a highly successful 18 year career in Advertising Sales, Sharon started her Real Estate Career in Sept. 1985. Immediately she began using her marketing expertise to help neighbors in Lake Christopher sell their homes. Since then Sharon has listed and sold nearly 50 homes in Lake Christopher - more than any other Realtor. Her knowledge of the community and the fact that she is a long time Lake Christopher resident gives Sellers a unique edge in the market.

For more information or if you have any questions, you can reach me:

by phone: 757-286-9375

by email: [sharonsellshmz@cox.net](mailto:sharonsellshmz@cox.net)

***Paid advertising by Sharon White***



**- LAKE CHRISTOPHER HOMES ASSOCIATION -**  
**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW REQUEST**  
**(Revised 5-1-07)**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** Name of homeowner \_\_\_\_\_

**Address-** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone -** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**To:** Lake Christopher Homes Association  
 c/o Gayle Piñero Association Manager, The Select Group, Inc  
 2224 Virginia Beach Blvd Suites 201/202  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23454  
 Phone: 486-6000 Fax: 486-6988 e-mail: gayle.pinero@theselectgroup.us

**Subj:** Architectural Review Request

1. As required by the Lake Christopher Architectural Guidelines, I would like to have this request considered for review by the Architectural Committee.
2. The following information is provided to aid the committee in the review of my request:

**General description of work being requested-** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**(check as applicable and enclose or attach any additional information)**

- Detailed drawings, plans, sketches or plat showing boundaries
- Vinyl siding, and/or trim sample (must include color name and style)
- Color sample for painting (must include names of colors)
- Sample of roof shingle material
- Other samples and information as applicable (windows, doors, fences, etc)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of homeowner**

**For AC use:**  
**Date Rec** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACE AN AD IN THE LEGACY**

Want ads, For Sales, Lost and Finds, and small service ads are **free** to Lake Christopher Residents. Business ads are \$15 per issue or \$75 for six issues for a Business Card size ad. Other sizes comparable. Call Paul Flanagan at 467-2357 for more information. Deadline for the November 2007 issue is October 15.

**ATTEND THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

Board meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 P.M. **HOMEOWNERS' FORUM** is held at the beginning of each meeting. Have a gripe? Make a suggestion? Give a "warm fuzzy"? Please call our Property Manager, Gayle Piñero, at 486-6000 for the meeting location. Manager's Address: Gayle Piñero, Select Group, Inc., 2224 Virginia Beach Blvd, Suite 201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. Email: [gayle.pinero@theselectgroup.us](mailto:gayle.pinero@theselectgroup.us)



**Attention New Residents!**

We're sorry! Your name is **not** in the Lake Christopher Directory. So you can be included in the next one, please fill out this form and drop it off to:

Richard Schwarz, 1505 Lake Christopher Dr.; 495-3650 or  
Steve Azar, 5188 Shorecrest Ct.; 467-4166.  
[dickjack@verizon.net](mailto:dickjack@verizon.net) or [biazar@cox.net](mailto:biazar@cox.net)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND  
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**President:** Sally Parsons  
467-0567 5213 Shorebreeze Ct  
[golf101sal@msn.com](mailto:golf101sal@msn.com)

**Vice-President:** Paul Flanagan  
467-2357 1552 Lakeport Ct  
[pdflan@mindspring.com](mailto:pdflan@mindspring.com)

**Treasurer:** Stephanie Haen  
479-9467 5401 Brookfield Dr.  
[brewhaenva@msn.com](mailto:brewhaenva@msn.com)

**Maintenance:** Connie Brown  
467-6572 5217 Shorebreeze Ct  
[ShoreHome@aol.com](mailto:ShoreHome@aol.com)

**Neighborhood Watch:** Steve Azar  
467-4166 5188 Shorecrest Ct  
[biazar@cox.net](mailto:biazar@cox.net)

**Park Staff:** Jenny Pfeiffer  
532-5457 1525 Lake Christopher Dr.  
[jennpfe@regent.edu](mailto:jennpfe@regent.edu)

**Litter Control Staff:**  
Elias Logothetis  
495-6539 1549 Waff Road  
[e.logothetis@att.net](mailto:e.logothetis@att.net)

**Social/Recreation:** Mitch Stevens  
222-0743 5192 Shorecrest Ct  
[mitchleigh@aol.com](mailto:mitchleigh@aol.com)

**Architecture:** Steve Rogovich  
467-9790 1612 Lake Christopher Dr.  
[stever@infionline.net](mailto:stever@infionline.net)

**Newsletter:** Paul Flanagan  
467-2357 1552 Lakeport Ct  
[pdflan@mindspring.com](mailto:pdflan@mindspring.com)

**Recording Secretary:**  
Richard Schwarz  
495-3650 1505 Lake Christopher Dr.  
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Morgan Pate ..... 962-9519  
Joshua Shivaee ..... 495-1995

**BABYSITTERS**

Ashley Gonse ..... 486-2999  
Allison Lindgren..... 495-6133  
Rebecca Lindgren ..... 495-6133  
Morgan Pate ..... 962-9519

**LAWN / YARD CARE**

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