



# The Legacy

A journal of the Lake Christopher Homes Association  
November – December 2015  
[www.lakechristopherhomes.com](http://www.lakechristopherhomes.com)

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Steve Rogovich.....Architecture

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## The Legacy Ads and Info

The Legacy is a free bi-monthly on-line community newsletter of the Lake Christopher Home Owners Association.

Want ads, For Sales, Lost and Finds, and Small Service Ads are **free** to Lake Christopher Residents.

See our website for business ad info:  
<http://www.lakechristopherhomes.com>

**Deadline for the next issue is January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.**

To be added to the distribution, email  
[legacy@lakechristopherhomes.com](mailto:legacy@lakechristopherhomes.com)



# Christmas Decorations Judging December 15-18

In this unusually large issue:

- Santa's coming!
- Adult Block Party!
- Garden Club News
- They're called Fins!

... and much more!



By the President of the United States of America.

# A Proclamation

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every

part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the Unites States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

Washington, D.C.

October 3, 1863





# Santa in the Park!

**Come see Santa when he visits Lake  
Christopher on his way back to the  
North Pole!**

**Enjoy Hot  
Cocoa and  
Cookies**

**Make Pine  
Cone  
Birdfeeders**

**When: Sunday  
December 6th  
starting @ 2:00pm**

**Where: Christopher  
Landing (the big park)**

**\* children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian**

**\*\* rain date Sunday, Dec. 13th**



Thanks go out to the Lake Christopher Garden Club for inviting Santa to come visit before Christmas.

Your Lake Christopher park pass is your admission  
[www.lakechristopherhomes.com](http://www.lakechristopherhomes.com)

# They're Called "Fins"

Designed in the early 1970's, Lake Christopher's architecture was truly unique in Hampton Roads! Rural at the time, the area's architecture consisted mostly of farm houses and colonial inspired brick homes and ranches. As development in the area continued, the colonial style prevailed and continues to dominate the area today.

Sometimes called "brown town" because of the original earth tones and rustic wood textures, or "Brady Bunch houses" because of their "groovy" style, Lake Christopher's modern designs stood out as a clear departure from the norm in Virginia Beach. Featuring sunken living rooms, sweeping roof lines, and breezeways, Lake Christopher represented 1970's California contemporary.

An architectural feature common to most Lake Christopher designs are vertical wall protrusions that, along with a slight roof extension, frame garage door openings



1728 Lake Christopher Drive under construction in 1978. Note the fins on each side of the windows, and the garage.

and some windows. These non-structural vertical exterior protrusions are called "fins".

Over the years many houses have changed. New siding materials are available, some breezeways are now enclosed, and sunken living rooms raised. With all this change, the fins remain! Many remodels and additions have been so true to the architectural style of the house (including fins) that you can't tell they weren't built that way from the beginning.



Over the garage addition at 1584 Lake Christopher Drive . An example where the integration of architectural details, such as fins, make the home appear as though it was built that way from the beginning. Front Elevation courtesy of The Beach Architect, Thad A. Broom, AIA, Architects and Designers, PC, Virginia Beach, VA, 23462, tel: 757.618.1125



Close-up of one of the concrete columns. Viewed from Lynnhaven looking into the park towards Brigadoon Lake #7.



The view from the Brookfield Drive entrance to Christopher Woods Park on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Viewed from here, it looks like a modern day Stonehenge is being built.

# Construction Progress @ Christopher Woods

After months of underground utility work near the park, visible above ground headway on the Lynnhaven Parkway extension reached Lake Christopher this month.

Sound wall construction progressed along Lynnhaven Parkway to Christopher Woods Park. Concrete columns have been set, and the space between will soon be fitted with concrete panels.



Sound wall construction in progress. View from inside Christopher Woods, looking south towards Stewart Drive.





The Block Party for Grown-ups was a success! Approximately 70 residents attended during the event, and a good time was had by all. Thanks go out to Lana and the Social Committee for all their hard work!





Kelly Rene Hardy  
Family Service Director

Rosewood-Kellum Funeral Home  
and Memorial Park

601 North Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, VA

757-497-8925

Kelly.Hardy@DignityMemorial.com



Are these important  
numbers programmed in  
your cell phone?

Police Non Emergency  
**757-385-5000**

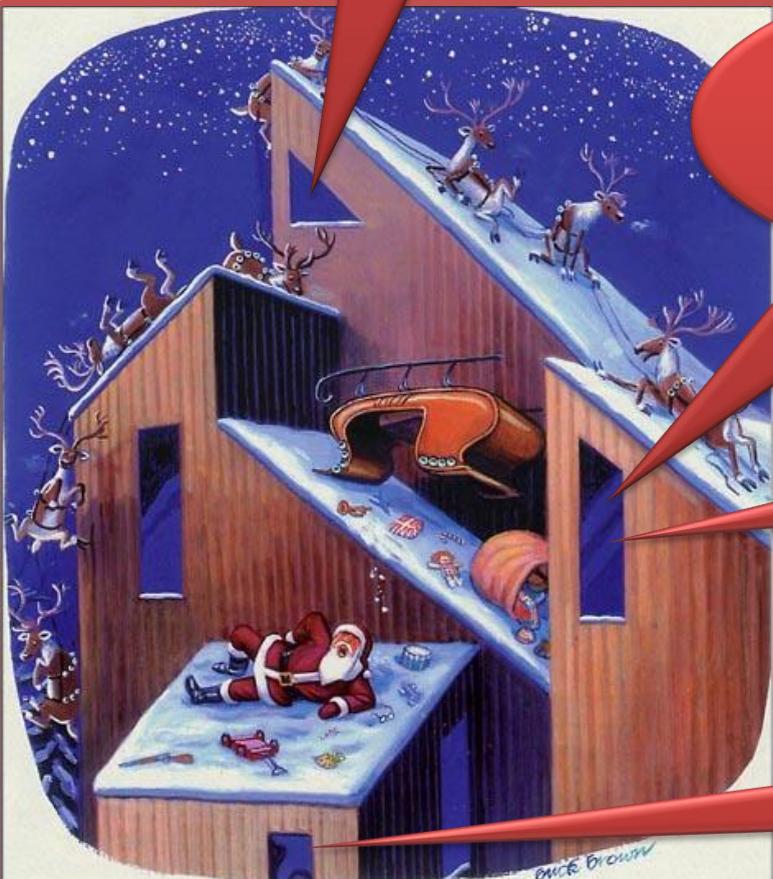
City Wide Security  
**757-312-9911**

Jan, what was  
that noise?

Greg, did you  
hear something  
on the roof?

Alice, is that  
you?

Marsha!  
Marsha!  
Marsha!



"Darn this contemporary architecture!"

# Garden Club



## **HOLIDAY** **DECORATING CONTEST**



### **Yard of the Month Halloween!**

5216 Shorebreeze Court  
**Don and Sondra Hill**

### **Honorable Mention Halloween!**

1500 Colebrook Drive  
**Rabea and Tierney Shaiboon**

**The Garden Club will select the next Yard of the Month in April 2016.**

#### **2016 Yard of the Month Judging Guidelines**

**Compliance with LCHA Architectural guidelines**

- Ex. Trash cans out of sight
- No open architectural violations

**Creativity and balance in landscape and design.**

- Use of color or greenscapes
- Use of hardscapes, i.e.. pavers, rocks, fountains.

**Neat, well groomed appearance.**

- Trimmed trees and shrubs
- Weed free flowerbeds and pavements.

**Curb areas free of debris.**



# The Warm and Cozy Home

By HouseLogic.com

*The cold days ahead can really do a number on your well being. Here's to a brighter and warmer home without using more energy or cranking up the thermostat.*

1. Clean Dirty Light Fixtures and Dusty Bulbs to make your home appear 30% brighter and without turning on more lights.

2. Seal sneaky air leaks. It's not just window and door leaks...don't forget to plug stealthy gaps around recessed lights, electrical boxes and wall outlets. Use a lit candle to hunt down drafty spots.

3. Replace traditional or gas fireplaces. Why? Both suck out heated indoor air and send it up the chimney. A gel fireplace insert is an eco-friendly option that produces a fire without gas, wood, electricity or even a chimney. It's smoke free and emits fewer allergens.

4. Change your HVAC filter each month to prevent excess dust from circulating. HVAC experts warn

against using the ones that last three months, especially if you have pets.

5. Clean your window panes to let natural light and sunshine in.

6. Paint chilly rooms, especially north facing rooms a cheery color in the reds, yellow, or orange ranges. Cozy colors can actually help the room feel warmer according to a Michigan State University study.

## REAL ESTATE NEWS

From: Sharon White, ABR, GRI,  
REALTOR  
your Neighbor, your Real Estate  
Professional

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Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
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# Keep the Sidewalks Clear!

Many neighborhoods in Virginia Beach have sidewalks on just one side of the street or not at all. In Lake Christopher, we have both. Sidewalks on one side of long streets and nothing in the cul-de-sacs.

Why this is so is anybody's guess... cost cutting, housing density, concrete rationing? Whatever the reason, if you are fortunate (or unfortunate) enough to have a sidewalk in front of your house, please keep it clear.

The city has the responsibility to maintain the sidewalks themselves, and several cracked and uplifted sections on Lake Christopher Drive were recently repaired. However, it is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure their trees, bushes and other plantings do not encroach onto or over the sidewalk. There are some areas in our community where pedestrians walk "single file" or on the grass because of untrimmed bushes, plantings and even crabgrass encroaching over the sidewalk.

If you have a question about sidewalk maintenance or responsibilities, contact Virginia Beach Code Enforcement at (757) 385-4421.



# Neighborhood Watch

## Calling the Police Non-Emergency Number

Recently I received several calls and emails about a woman hanging around the community entrances and sleeping in Christopher Narrows Park.

Residents were not willing to call the police for some reason. However, in this instance, notifying the police would have been a help to this woman. She was most likely homeless and hungry.

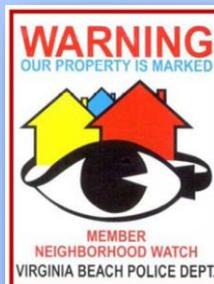
The Police are able to help find shelter and warmth from the chilly nights.

Our Police Department can be called for more than crime...they are here to help us in matters such as this.

So, please remember, if you see any strange happenings, spot a homeless person, or feel uncomfortable about anything / anyone you see in the neighborhood, call the:

**Non Emergency Police Number**  
**757-385-5000**

(calls can be anonymous if that makes you feel more comfortable)



by Sharon White  
NW Coordinator  
286-9375

# Please remember to keep your dog on a leash. Its more than just neighborly, it's the law.

Unfortunately, in November there was another incident in our neighborhood where a dog that was being walked on a leash was attacked and bitten by an unleashed dog. This resulted in a \$500 vet bill for the victim dog's owners.

We cannot over emphasize the importance of keeping your dog under control at all times when in public. Whether large or small, the leash law applies (excerpts below).

If you have any questions about the laws as they apply to your dog, or if you have questions about how to address neighborhood dogs that menace people walking, riding, or running by; please call Animal Control or the Police Non-Emergency number.

## Sec. 5-530. Dogs or cats running at large.

(a) Any person owning, keeping or harboring any dog or cat within the city that is found running at large shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor. For the purposes of the section, a dog shall be deemed to run at large while roaming, running or self hunting off the property of its owner or custodian.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of any person owning, keeping or harboring any dog or cat within the city to keep such dog or cat confined to the premises of such person. The words "confined to the premises" shall be construed to mean that such dog or cat shall be kept on the owner's or custodian's premises, unless in the custody of a responsible person.

(c) This section shall not apply where the owner, custodian or trainer has released a dog for the express purpose of hunting game in an area zoned agricultural, where it is lawful to hunt, or competing in field trials or training, and such dog becomes temporarily out of control of such owner, custodian or trainer or is returning to the place of release after the hunt or chase. If such dog is observed violating any other section of this Code, or committing an unlawful act under state law, it shall become subject to impoundment; and the owner, custodian or trainer shall be liable for all fines as prescribed by law.

## Sec. 5-531. Keeping dogs under restraint; leash law.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any dog to permit the dog to go upon any city park, public street, sidewalk or right-of-way, excluding the public beaches of the city, unless it is kept secured by a leash or lead or other means of restraint not harmful or injurious to the dog and under the control of a responsible person capable of physically restraining the dog.

(b) Any person who does not restrain his dog, in accordance with this section, whether such person be the owner or custodian of such dog, shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor. The animal control officer or police officer may issue a summons to any person he finds in violation of this section.

(c) For the purpose of this section "city park" means any city-owned and operated property open to the public for general recreational use, including, but not limited to traditional park areas, canoe and kayak launch areas, and the disabled children's beach playground known as Grommet Park.

Note: While Christopher Beach is a private park, LCHA rules require dogs to be on a leash when not in the water. See the website for a complete list of park rules.



# Architecture Committee Update: Storm Drains

By Steve Rogovich, Lake Christopher Architecture Committee, 757-467-9790, [stever@infionline.net](mailto:stever@infionline.net)

The late autumn season brings down the leaves and also brings about some issues about cleaning up the leaves. There are some homeowners who have no trees by choice and their adjacent neighbors' trees drop leaves which fall or are blown over the property lines. It has been determined by lawyers and courts that leaves are considered a "natural" product. Even if the fallen leaves cause damage, like clogging rain gutters you have no legal claims against the owner of the tree. Additionally, you are responsible for cleaning up any natural products that fall into your yard. If, however, the tree branches that are shedding the leaves are hanging over your yard you have a right to trim those branches up to the property line. However, the law only allows tree trimming and tree cutting up to the property line. You may not go onto the neighbor's property without permission or destroy a tree. If you do harm a neighbor's tree, you could be found liable for the value of the tree which could get expensive.

See more at:

<http://realestate.findlaw.com/neighbors/conflicts-involving-trees-and-neighbors>

Recently a City of Virginia Beach Department of Public Works crew was in the neighborhood cleaning out storm drains on the streets after several areas of street flooding were reported. One of the workers indicated that most of their work is the result of large volumes of leaves clogging the storm drain basins and the connected underground piping. Also known as catch basins, storm drains along with the curbs, gutters, and ditches are the entryway from our streets into the storm water collection and disposal system. In Lake Christopher there are 52 catch basins and all of them drain into our lake. When storm drains get clogged with fallen leaves and debris, water can no longer be drained from the street. Water ponds along streets and can flood intersections and localized street flooding can be a hazard to the traveling public. It is a violation of the City of Virginia Beach "Storm Sewer Discharge Ordinance" to place leaves or lawn clippings or pollutants in storm drains and you could be subject to a fine if caught.

Residents are reminded that cleanup of leaves is each homeowner's responsibility. It is noted that some residents appear to make no effort to clean up fallen leaves year after year. Others have been blowing or sweeping leaves collected from their property into the street but the City of Virginia Beach does not pick up leaves from the street. Curbside collection of yard waste is provided on our normal (Friday) collection day, and does not require a special work order. Each week you can dispose of yard debris, such as lawn cuttings and leaves (no dirt or mulch) in up to 25 clear plastic bags not to exceed 25 pounds in weight.

If you see a storm drain filled with debris and you cannot clear it yourself, notify the City of Virginia Beach that help is needed. Call the Department of Public Works (757) 385-1470 or e-mail [pwclrks@vb.gov](mailto:pwclrks@vb.gov) or on line at:

<http://www.vb.gov/government/departments/public-works/report-a-problem/Pages/default.aspx>

Got a storm drain near your property? Help maintain it!

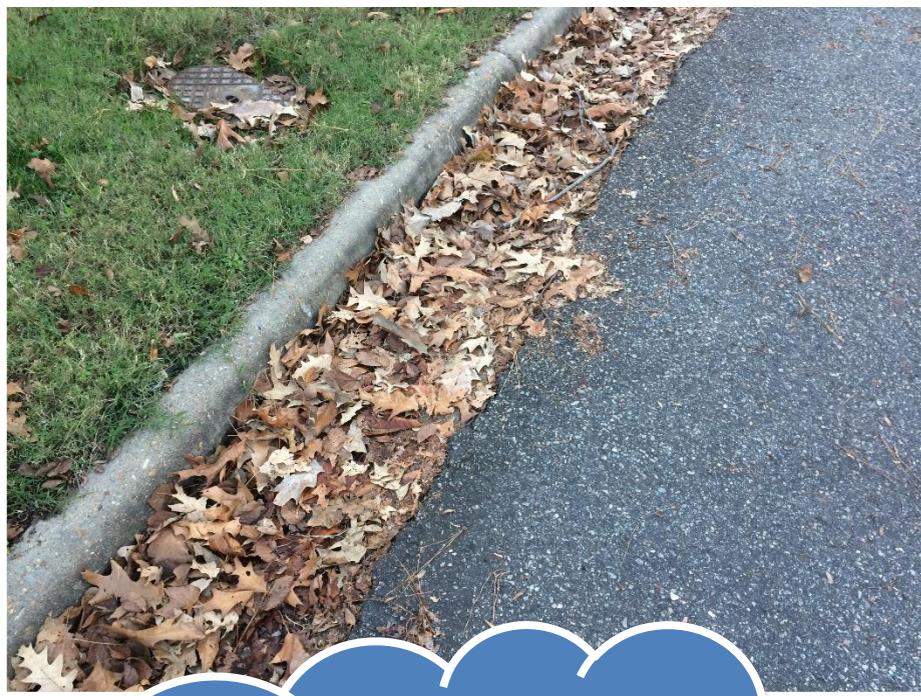


Storm drains often get clogged with:

- \*\* trash
- \*\* leaves
- \*\* mulch
- \*\* grass clippings
- \*\* other debris.

Pick up that drain-choking stuff. Put it in a clear bag or toss it in your trash can.

# News from the Bottom of the Lake



**Good Grief! How  
did all these  
leaves get in  
here?**



Remember, most of the leaves and yard debris at the curb are washed along into the storm drain system – right into our lake! Once in the lake they decompose, promoting the growth of algae when it warms in spring and summer.

While we do take the time and expense to put eco-friendly chemicals into the lake to control the algae, the decomposing leaves are still not healthy for the fish and waterfowl that inhabit the lake.

When you are out doing yard work, please take a few extra minutes to clean up the leaves and yard debris by the curb. If you live near a storm drain take the time to keep it clear of leaves. That will also help minimize localized flooding from clogged storm drains.

**PLEASE, PICK UP THOSE  
LEAVES AT THE CURB!**

“Chris”, the resident Lake Christopher sea creature, is seen trying to avoid all the leaves in this undated picture taken at sunset from Christopher Narrows Park.

# Bulkhead Replacement at Christopher Narrows

**\*\*UPDATE\*\***

The design of the new bulkhead was prepared by Mr. Richard Bartlett, Professional Engineer, and bids from five contractors were received to execute his design. The lowest bidder, Carolina Marine (a company that has replaced several bulkheads in Lake Christopher), was selected.

Work is expected to start before the end of 2015, and construction will take 4 – 6 weeks, depending on the weather. A temporary construction fence and no trespassing signs will soon be erected around the site.

As the engineer of record Mr. Bartlett will perform the special inspections required during construction. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Elias Logothetis, LCHA President.



Citywide Protection Services conducts regular patrols of Lake Christopher. If your family has planned a getaway, let us know! Feel free to contact Martin Becker at The Select Group at 486-6000, or you may contact Citywide directly at 312-9911 so that officers will know to keep an extra eye on your home while you're away.

*Attention  
Residents!*

# Citywide Protection Services

*While you're  
away...*

---

*Suspicious activity in any of the parks or recreational areas of the property may be reported directly to Citywide. An officer will be dispatched immediately. Citywide is authorized to ban and even remove trespassers or anyone engaging in criminal behavior. Let's keep the community safe!*

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Let's help each other out! If you see that your neighbor is out of town, pick up any newspapers, menus or circulars laying around the home. It may help to prevent a potential break-in.

Questions???

Contact Martin Becker at 757-486-6000

or via email at:

[mbecker@theselectgroup.us](mailto:mbecker@theselectgroup.us)

The **SELECT**  
Group, Inc.

# Board & Committee

(from September & October)

- Reviewed bids for bulkhead replacement at Christopher Narrows. A motion was made and carried to move forward with Carolina Marine. Next step will be to meet at the site with Carolina Marine to discuss any details prior to signing the contract.
- A total of 25 parties, most at Christopher Landing, were held in the 2015 season.
- The Select Group attorney is investigating Lynnhaven Parkway easement and the cutoff property. In previous meetings it was agreed that such a letter was the next step in moving forward with eminent domain.
- Effective October 1st trash can placement at all 4 parks goes to every other week through March 31st 2016.
- Floats at Christopher Landing need to be replaced per previous meeting. Estimate approximately \$150 to replace rope and floats. Will wait until spring to replace.
- Portable toilet at Christopher Landing is removed at the end of September.
- National Night Out was a success. Estimate approximately 100 adults and children attended.
- Discussed fall festival (new) at Christopher Landing Park. Tentative dates is 11/14 mid-afternoon.

- Directories distributed. Will create a website page for the directory that will contain information on how to obtain a copy of the directory and how to submit corrections, etc.
- Volleyball net disassembled and stored in the shed until next season.
- Planning continues for the Adult Block Party.
- The Garden Club plans to host "Santa in the Park". The date of December 6<sup>th</sup> was agreed upon.
- Directory corrections made and distributed to the board for review.
- The LCHA Annual Meeting will be held at Brandon Middle School on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.



**The Legacy is published 6 times a year.  
Don't miss a single issue!**

Please use the contact form on the website to make sure your email address is on our list.

Also, make sure emails from [legacy@lakechristopherhomes.com](mailto:legacy@lakechristopherhomes.com) are not getting caught or refused by your spam filters.

**Advertise in The  
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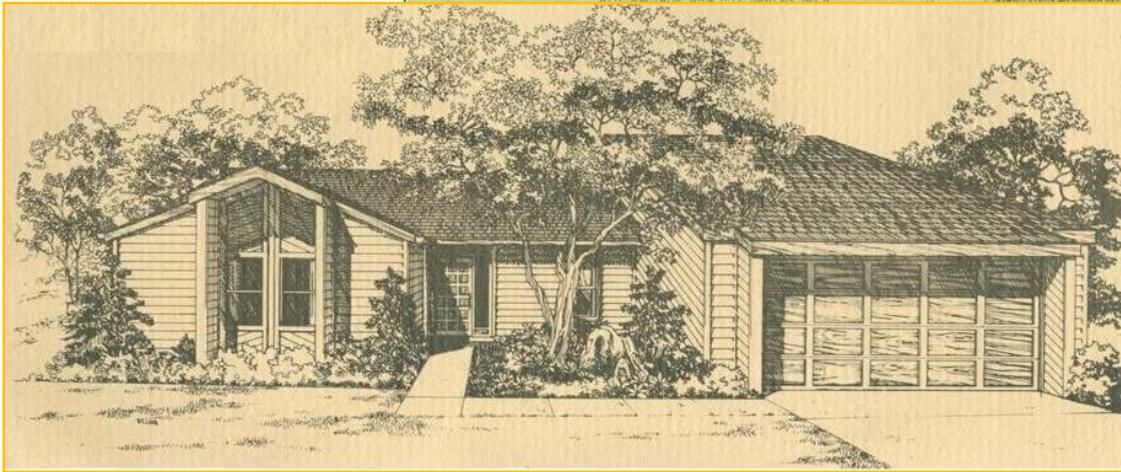
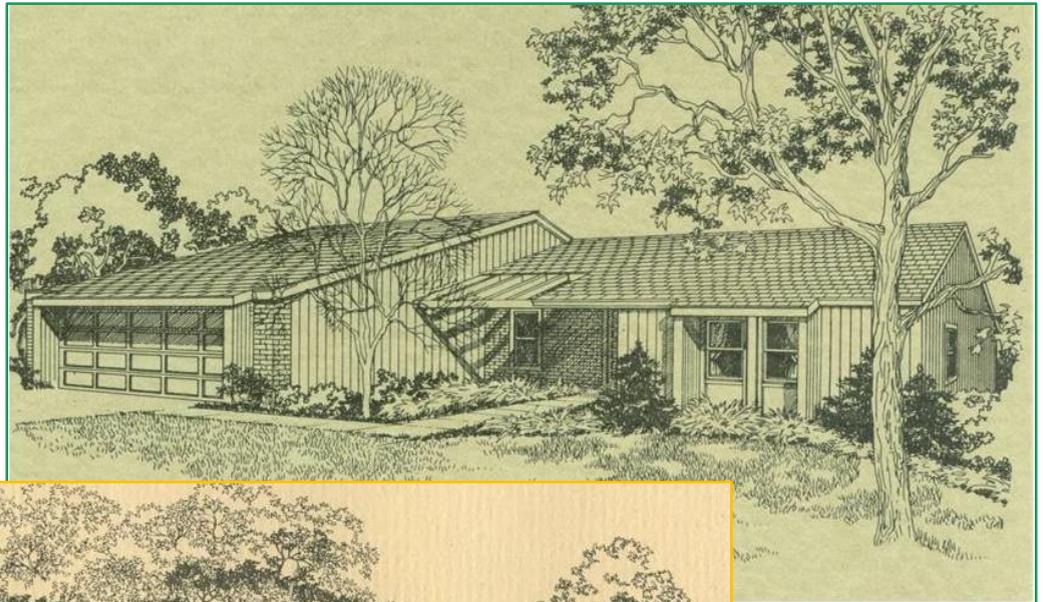
**Visit us online at**

<http://www.lakechristopherhomes.com/the-legacy-newsletter/advertise-in-the-legacy/>

# History Corner

In this issue we revisit a History Corner which featured “The Ontario”, the most popular single-level floor plan in our community.

In 1975 an Ontario would cost you \$48,400. However, for an additional \$2000 you could have the “Rumpus Loft” option over the family room.



The 1975 and 1978 marketing brochures described The Ontario as “An exciting combination of large living space and dramatic design. Its raised entry foyer

steps down into a beautifully oriented living room and dining room area, with a sun-brightened window wall. The Ontario kitchen has a novel breakfast bar arrangement integrated into the family activity center. For extra excitement, the Ontario is available with a second story rumpus loft overlooking the lower level. There are 3 bedrooms with a 16-ft master suite, 2 full baths, double garage, carpeting, and air conditioning included. Here is a design oriented toward the out-of-doors, bright, spacious, comfortable... the perfect architectural statement for its beautiful environment.”

The 1981 brochure description changed slightly. By then the loft was described with a large skylight overlooking the family room. The Master bedroom now included a cathedral ceiling, double door entry, his and her closets, and twin skylights—one over the dressing area, another over the step-up tub.

Like all Lake Christopher homes, each model was available in two different exterior designs. However the Ontario had a third exterior design, which was used if the rumpus loft option was not selected.

The first Ontario was the model home built in 1975, located at the corner of Ship’s Landing and Lake Christopher Drive.

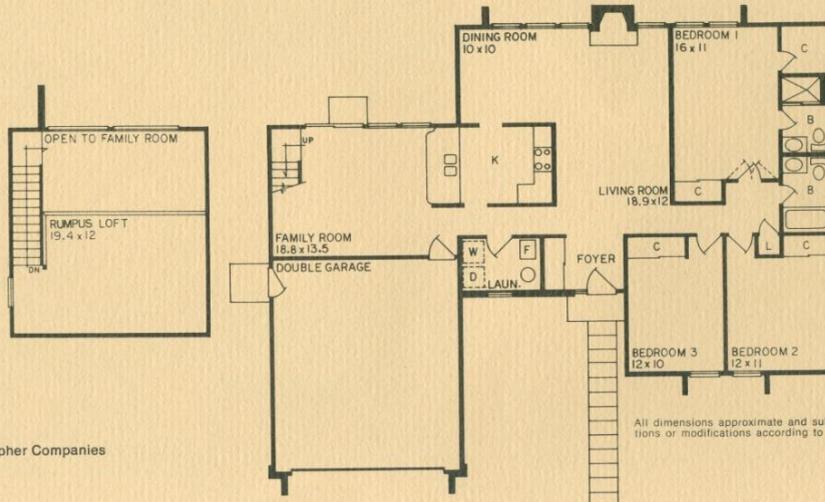


Ontarios originally built without the rumpus loft option have a distinct curb appearance featuring a large covered entry and front porch area.

# History Corner

(cont)

## THE WOODS AT LAKE CHRISTOPHER



All dimensions approximate and subject to slight variations or modifications according to field conditions

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Developed and built by The Christopher Companies  
Phone: 467-5555

6/79

Here we see the evolution of the Ontario floor plan by comparing two marketing brochures. In the 1978 plan above, note the fireplace in the Living Room. By 1981 (below) the fireplace has moved to the Family Room. Other changes include a slightly

larger kitchen with “U” shaped counter, optional skylights, and a bump-out creating a larger master bathroom. This bump-out on the exterior wall opposite the garage is the main feature visible from the street that distinguishes newer Ontario's.

## The Shores AT LAKE CHRISTOPHER

Lake Christopher's Ontarios have seen additions and remodels over the years. However, this year, for the first time, the roof was raised when an Ontario's rumpus loft was converted into a full second floor addition. (see "Fins" article earlier in this edition)



All dimensions approximate and subject to slight variations or modifications according to field conditions

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Phone: 467-5555

Did you know, the construction company that built our community is still in business? Their website is: <http://www.christophercompanies.com/>



# Indian River Road / Kempsville Road Intersection Project

Current Status and Progress (From the City Website)

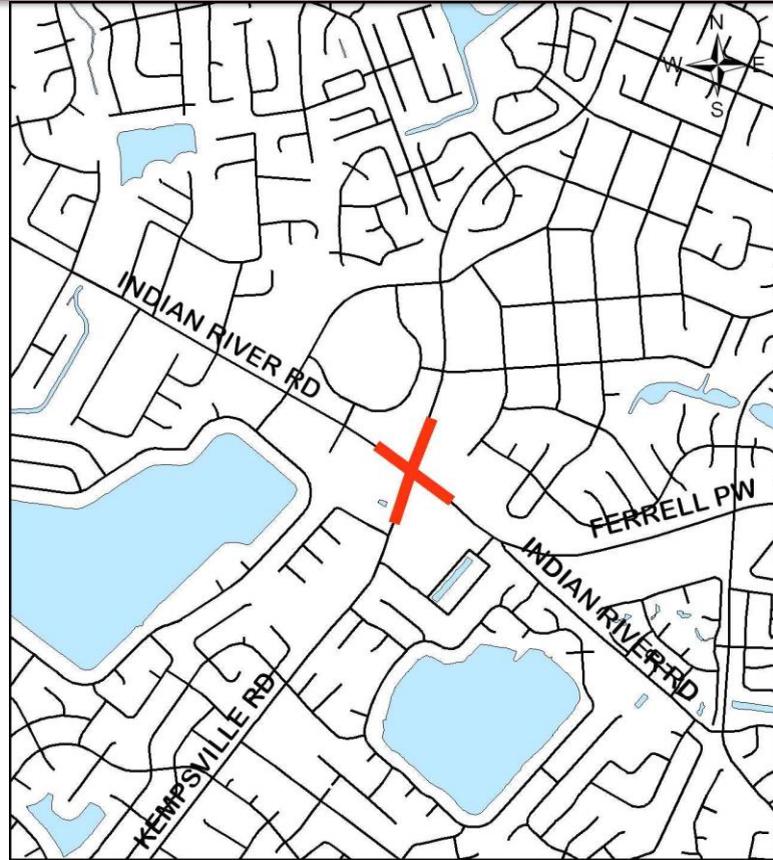
Design is 100% complete. Acquisition of property is currently in progress. Utility relocation coordination efforts are in progress.

The project simulation video can be found on YouTube, under "Beach CFI".

Several buildings near the intersection have been demolished as part of this project.

Click on the link below to see more details and updates:

<http://cipstatus.vbgov.com/ProjectDetail.aspx?id=3195>



## Lynnhaven Parkway Construction Update

Current Status and Progress (From the City Website)

Construction is 47% complete. (up from 40% in the last edition of The Legacy)

This is a VDOT managed project, funded by the Governor's Transportation Plan. The project is slated for completion in late 2016

**On the next page you'll see a VDOT graphic which shows the final location of sound walls, new traffic lights and the location of permanent road closures.**

Click on the link below to see more details and updates:

<http://cipstatus.vbgov.com/ProjectDetail.aspx?id=135>





Legend		
	Signals	
	Proposed Road Closures	
		Proposed Medians
		Limits Of Construction

# Lynnhaven Parkway Phase XI

