

LAUREL COVE
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
MARCH/APRIL 2005 EDITION

don't miss the
big egg hunt

WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 19

11:00 AM

WHERE: LAUREL COVE PARK

BRING YOUR OWN BASKET

Our guest of honor, the Easter Bunny, will visit our park once again this year. There will be hundreds of candy filled eggs to collect! Don't miss the fun and games! (RAIN DATE MARCH 27, 11 AM)

OTHER SPECIAL DATES :

MARCH 8, 7PM LAUREL COVE

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

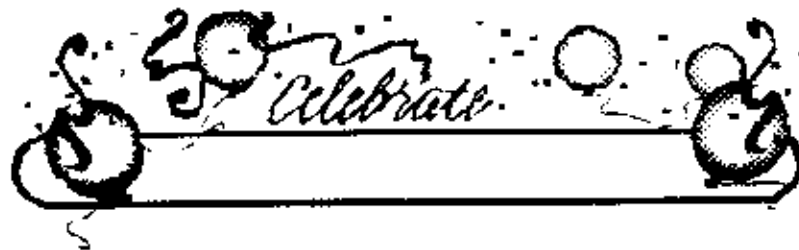
@HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

9:00-2:00 CLEAN OUR PARK DAY

@LAUREL COVE PARK





We welcome our new neighbors Jamie and Vicki Sands at 2424 Laurel Cove Drive. The Sands are not new to Virginia Beach, having lived here several years ago. This time they are coming from Germany. The Sands have two sons, Carson age ten, and Luke, who is a bouncing one year old! WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

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gasbreeden@cox.net

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Kay Flohre 481-0497

Garden Club President

Susan Woodhouse 481-1289



Is it almost time...

As I walk the neighborhood at this time of year, I see the beginning of changes, a daffodil here and there, fertilizer pellets on the sidewalk, curbsides filled with bags of old leaves, patches of green in the lawn, birds chirping, and a few warm days every now and then. I do believe SPRING is in the air, and with that will come lots of flowers and lots of beautiful lawns in Laurel Cove!

Thanks for making my walks pleasant.

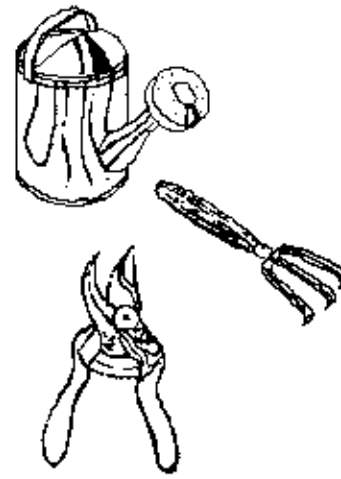
—Rob, Laurel Cove Resident

Sandra Branson
Real Estate Agent
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CLEAN UP OUR PARK DAY

With the end of winter in site, it's time to think spring. In an effort to welcome spring to Laurel Cove, we will be having a "CLEAN UP OUR PARK DAY" on Saturday March 12, 2005 from 9:00 am- 2:00 pm (Rain date is March 19) at Laurel Cove Park.

Please bring **leaf rakes, wheel barrows, clear plastic trash bags, gloves,** and a great attitude to help clean up our park in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt and other activities we are planning for this year. The winds of winter have been hard on not only your own yard but also the park. The only difference is that there is no one who cleans up the park on a regular basis. We need to make the park a safe playing environment for our children to enjoy. Please give us an hour or two (or more) of your time to accomplish this task. We will begin working at the front entrance to the park on Parkside Place and will continue to the other side on Martine Court. Bring out the whole family to meet your neighbors and let the kids play and supervise up while we accomplish our civic duty. Refreshments will be available to our helpers. We'd also like to hear your suggestions on how we can improve the appearance of the park and ideas for activities (pig pickin) that we can hold in the park this year. We also need volunteers to serve on the parks and recreation committee. Please let me know if you are willing to serve on this committee. I am looking forward to seeing a good turnout this year. Thanks!



-Carl Hertzler, 2nd Vice President



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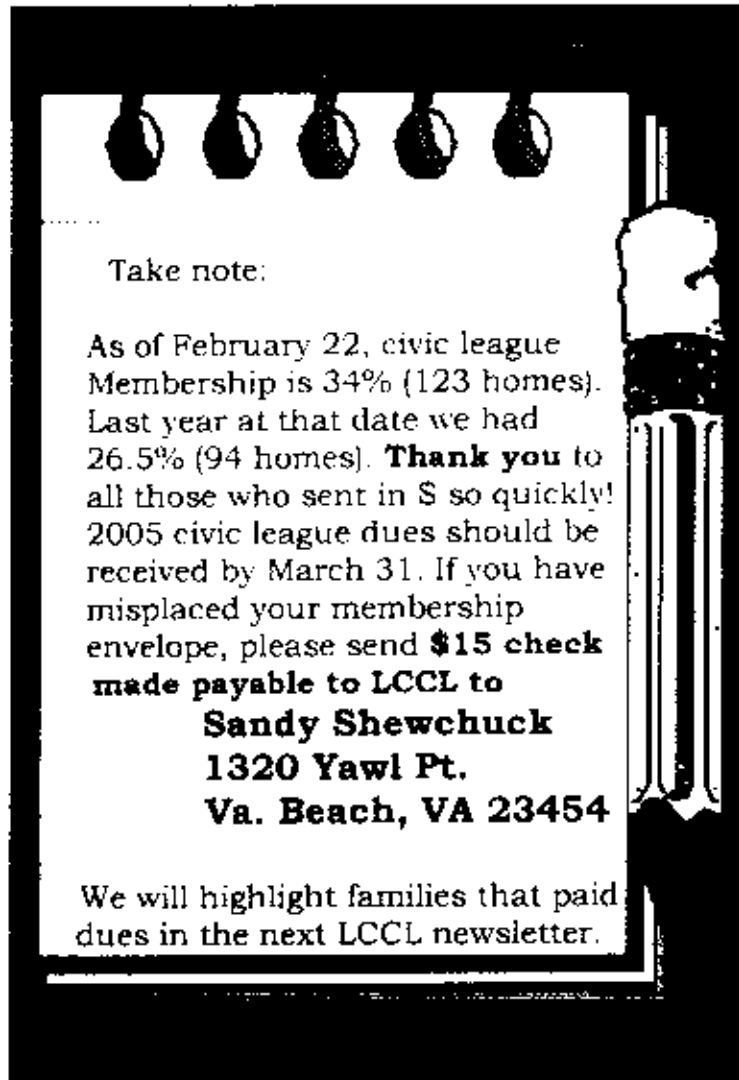
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Take note:

As of February 22, civic league Membership is 34% (123 homes). Last year at that date we had 26.5% (94 homes). **Thank you** to all those who sent in \$ so quickly! 2005 civic league dues should be received by March 31. If you have misplaced your membership envelope, please send **\$15 check made payable to LCCL to Sandy Shewchuck 1320 Yawl Pt. Va. Beach, VA 23454**

We will highlight families that paid dues in the next LCCL newsletter.

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH


There have been three reported crime incidents in Laurel Cove this winter.

The first involved a dog off its leash (on Willowood Lane) that attacked a neighbor walking her dog. The owner of the loose dog was witness to this incidence and seemed unaware or unconcerned that her dog was running loose. The city does require all pets to be enclosed in their property (fenced yard) and when off property to be on a lease with someone supervising the animal.

Another incident concerned vandalism of a mailbox that was uprooted from its post and thrown through a window of a home on Laurel Cove Drive. This incident happened on a weeknight at 11:00, when much of Laurel Cove is asleep. It was very upsetting to the family that has small children.

The final incident concerned vandalism on Laurel Cove Drive. A glass lamp was smashed from a moving car into a neighbor's driveway. There were witnesses to this report and hopefully suspects will be caught.

Neighborhood Watch and the LCCL Board are committed to safety of our residents!



Thank you to all our
new members who have offered
to join the following committees:

Entertainment

Fiona Cook
The Iacobellis Family
The Darnell Family
Margeret & Willis Keton

Membership

Sigrun Bairdain
Karen Buchanan
Kevin Farley
The Iacobellis Family
Beverly & Wayne Bilger
Robert & Ruth Brown

Newsletter

Mike & Nancy Laneke
Susan & Bob Vanhook
The Bousquet Family
Salam Hasrami

Neighborhood Watch

Carolyn & Cliff Collings
Jim and Pat Sereno
Mark Folgelgren
Judy Dunton
Vicki & Jamie Sands
Frank & Fleda Spencer
Beverly & Wayne Bilger
Robert & Ruth Brown

Beautification

Vicki & Jamie Sands
Laura & Greg Ray
Fiona Cook

Hospitality

Vic & Linda Licause
Vicki & Jamie Sands
The Iacobellis Family
Fiona Cook

How did these volunteers join these committees? The LCCL Membership Information Form posted in the January-February newsletter (included with dues mailer). We look forward to even more members joining committees as additional dues mailers arrive.

As the warmer months approach and for July 4th Parade, Family Fun Day, and the LCCL Picnic are planned, the ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE could especially use your help. Call 481-4203 to join this committee.

Rachel Bivins, chair of the hospitality committee, also is seeking a larger pool of members to help welcome new neighbors as they move into lovely Laurel Cove. Call Rachel at 481-7338 to volunteer to bake a treat for new neighbors.



2005 Yard of the Month To Start Soon...

HELLO GOOD NEIGHBORS! Spring is just around the corner and so is our LCCL Yard of the Month (YOTM) recognition program. YOTM was revived from many years ago (Anyone remember the dates?) and our new version runs April to December. April to September yards are based on yard neatness and care and October/November/December 60% seasonal decorations and 40% yard neatness and care. Nominations for YOTM can be made by anyone in the neighborhood at anytime of the month- just call me to nominate, and nominations also come from the beautification team (BT). Nominations are collected mid-month, usually on a Sunday afternoon, after everyone has had the weekend to spiffy up their yards. Nominations get emailed to BT members around the 20th and the 19 BT members have approximately 10 days to decide on their first--second--third choices. We try to deliver the YOTM sign, a certificate of appreciation, and a 20-dollar gift certificate from Atlantic Nursery around the first of the month. We've lost a couple of our BT's to moving and to other LCCL committees and we need replacements. We invite anyone who would like to do something for you community to join us. It is a great job. If you're unable to make set meetings, because your participation is at your convenience the last 10 days of the month, we ask only that you vote at least four to five times out of the nine months, and watch for, and pick up limbs in your little corner of Laurel Cove. To join the BT committee or to nominate a home for YOTM, or to make any suggestions, please feel free to give me a call or e-mail at 481-1181 or gasbreeden@cox.net The 2004 YOTM winners are listed below. Check out their yards this spring and see what they'll be doing this year. Best wishes and thank for helping to make LC such a beautiful place to live!

Sandy Breeden,
Beautification Chair



2004 YOTM Winners

| | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| April | John and Nancy Brown | 1329 Roberts Place |
| May | Robert and Wanda Wilson | 1298 Cutter Point |
| June | John and Susan Wray | 1304 N. Schooner |
| July | Nancy Salyer | 2288 Trant Lake Aug |
| Aug | Brad and Jennifer Treadway | 1313 Conrad Ln |
| Sept | Paula Brazier and John Tyne | 1299 Ketch Pt |
| Oct | Ed and Anne Etheridge | 1305 Parkside Pl |
| Nov | Bernard and Pat Wise-Green | 1300 Whisper |
| Dec | Mike and Cathy Icobellis | 2309 Trant Lake |



Due to a scheduling problem:

THE LAUREL COVE CIVIC LEAGUE
NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 15TH
7:00 PM AT:

SPRING BRANCH COMMUNITY CHURCH

- Directions: From Laurel Cove Drive, turn left on Great Neck Road, proceed ½ mile. Church is on the right just before the entrance to "The Reserves". (Church has a green metal roof).

We look forward to seeing you there ☺



I Don't Just Sell Here, I Live



Dear Neighbors,



Happy St. Patrick's Day!



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Laurel Cove

For Your Information: Original Prices of Laurel Cove

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| The Birch | 3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | Ranch | \$34,750 |
| The Ash | 3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | Colonial | \$35,150 |
| The Holly | 4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | Colonial | \$36,000 |
| The Cedar | 4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | Colonial | \$37,250 |
| The Willow | 5 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | Colonial | \$36,950 |

Extra Options

| | | |
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| SOLD | BEDRMS | BATHS | TYPE | DATE | SALES PRICE |
|--------|--------|-------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Cedar | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 11-02-04 | \$200,000 |
| Birch | 3 | 2.0 | Ranch | 01-22-04 | \$242,000 |
| Willow | 5 | 2.5 | Colonial | 04-26-04 | \$269,900 |
| Ash | 3 | 2.5 | Colonial | 02-17-04 | \$271,000 |
| --- | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 01-31-04 | \$276,000 |
| Willow | 5 | 2.5 | Colonial | 01-21-04 | \$277,000 |
| Birch | 3 | 2.0 | Ranch | 08-31-04 | \$285,000 |
| Cedar | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 05-30-04 | \$293,000 |
| Ash | 3 | 2.5 | Colonial | 08-04-04 | \$307,000 |
| --- | 3 | 2.5 | Colonial | 10-13-04 | \$310,000 |
| Cedar | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 08-10-04 | \$315,000 |
| Cedar | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 12-30-04 | \$319,500 |
| Willow | 5 | 2.5 | Colonial | 08-12-04 | \$340,000 |
| Cedar | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 10-02-04 | \$358,000 |

Waterfront

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Holly | 4 | 2.5 | Colonial | 08-12-04 | \$400,000 |
| --- | 3 | 2.5 | Transitional | 08-30-04 | \$500,000 |

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Laurel Cove Are

**Residents
of
Enjoying the Good Life**

**** This article was supplied by a resident of Laurel Cove. It is thought to have been written in late 1979.**

Once they turn westward off busy Great Neck Road, the Laurel Cove people have just about the best of everything.

Their quiet little peninsula juts into the Lynnhaven Bay south of Great Neck Cove. This is historic country, but even young adults in the vicinity remember when the Arthur E. Conrad family milked 50 to 60 cows on the 200-acre dairy farm.

This was a plantation as far back as Colonial times. It originally bore the patriarchal name of Eastwood Manor. Then it became known as the Smith Farm.

When Conrad bought the property back in the early 1940s, he restored the Eastwood Manor name to the property. He did not change the elegant name of Hoppen Cove however. A real estate developer did that later.

Conrad sold the land in 1965, but his name remains on the property in the form of Conrad Lane and Lake Conrad, a 5-acre pond he created.

The original home on Eastwood Manor is believed to have resembled the historic Adam Thoroughgood house. Today's houses in Laurel Cove are mostly products of the early 1970s.

It was a tract development done with care and taste. There is a wide range of architecture and the models are spaced far apart enough to avoid monotony. The developer also discriminatingly set the houses at different angles on the lots to good effect.

The houses tend to be spacious. Their appreciation rate, for the most part, has been generous if not spectacular.

Laurel Cove homes cost from the low 30,000s to the middle \$80,000s.

A random sampling of recent sales shows a small turnover rate in Laurel Cove. Rarely have any of the homes had more than two owners.

An exception is a two-story house at



The Selling Price
Richard Cobb

1317 Maritime Court. This is a large home with brick facing on the lower half and a gold-tinted siding above it. Like many Laurel Cove houses, the garage is an attached wing to the structure's main body.

This house was purchased from the developer in 1971 for \$33,500. In a 1974 resale it brought \$53,000, and in 1977 it brought \$61,000. On Oct. 25, 1978, the selling price was \$61,800.

A home of similar design is at 1312 Whisper Drive, a cul-de-sac. This one cost \$24,100 when the original buyer took possession in 1973. On Dec. 4, 1978, the selling price was \$60,000.

A Colonial-style home, two stories with brick facing below and a Williamburg gold above, is at 2208 Parkside Court. In 1971, this was a \$45,000 house. On Oct. 10, 1978, the selling price was \$59,000.

Nearby is 2212 Parkside Court, a one-story brick dwelling at the end of a cul-de-sac with a generous stand of trees behind the house. The first buyer paid \$34,300 for it in 1970. The second buyer paid \$55,300 on July 14, 1978.

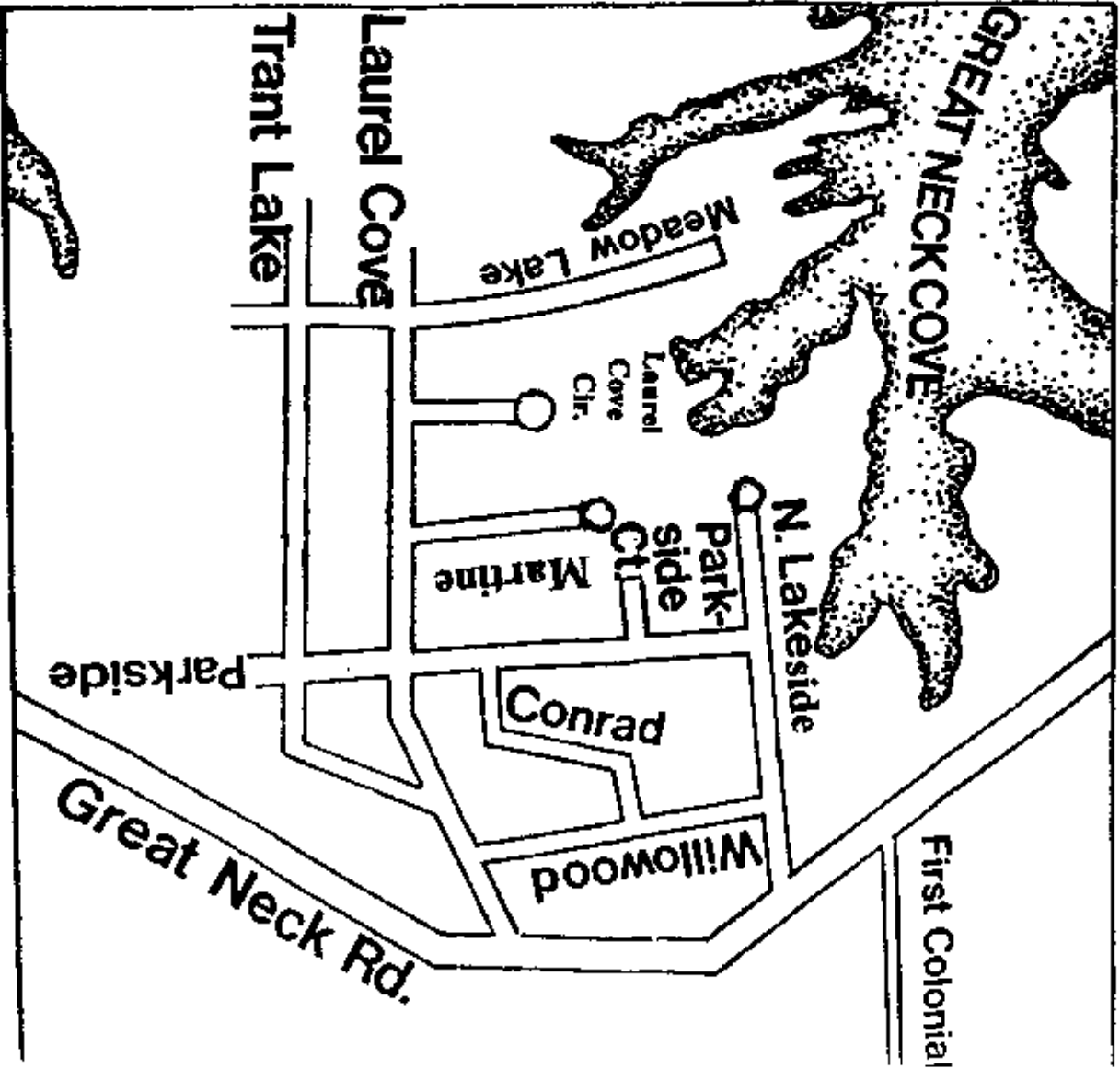
Here are some sample sales in Laurel Cove:

Trant Lake Drive—1970, \$31,500; 1971, \$33,200; 1975, \$48,900; 1977, \$53,200; Oct. 25, 1978, \$56,700.

Trant Lake Drive—1972, \$30,500; 1977, \$47,000; Feb. 5, 1979, \$54,000.

Laurel Cove Drive—1972, \$32,300; 1976 (April), \$49,000; 1976 (November), \$48,500; Feb. 14, 1979, \$58,500.

Conrad Lane—1971, \$33,000; 1977, \$55,000; Nov. 15, 1979, \$62,000.





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Dangers of Aluminum Wiring in Laurel Cove Homes

Recently a small electrical fire started in our dining room. The outlet and wall were scorched and the electricity in two rooms shorted. The scariest part of this experience was when the electrician who did repairs explained to me the hazards of aluminum wiring (used in Laurel Cove homes built in early 1970s.) The good news is for less than \$1000 an overhaul of a home's electrical outlets can easily be permanently updated to a safe electrical system... a necessary home improvement. The following internet information is worth researching.

Aluminum Wiring in Residential Properties: Hazards & Remedies

The following contains extensive information for consumers and building professionals regarding aluminum electrical wiring in residential properties. The contents are the result of study of this topic and represent the opinion of the author. Actual documents, authoritative research, and government resources about aluminum wiring are here. This is the most extensive and authoritative Internet information source for aluminum wiring and related hazards.

The Hazard Aluminum wiring, used in some homes from the mid 1960's to the early 1970's, is a potential fire hazard. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, fires and even deaths have been reported to be caused by this hazard. Problems due to expansion can cause overheating at connections between the wire and devices (switches and outlets) or at splices. CPSC research shows that "homes wired with aluminum wire manufactured before 1972 are 55 times more likely to have one or more connections reach "Fire Hazard Conditions" than are homes wired with copper. "Post 1972" aluminum wire is also a concern. Introduction of the aluminum wire "alloys" in 1972 time frame did not solve most of the connection failure problems. Aluminum wiring is still permitted and used for certain applications, including residential service entrance wiring and single-purpose higher amperage circuits such as 240V air conditioning or electric range circuits.

Reducing Risk As of the current date of the page only two remedies have been recommended. As of the current date of this page only two remedies have been recommended by the CPSC: discontinued use of the aluminum circuit or, less costly, the addition of copper connecting "pigtail" wires between the aluminum wire and the wired device (receptacle, switch, or other device). The pigtail connection must be made using only a special connector and special crimping tool licensed by the AMP Corporation. Emergency *temporary* repairs necessary to keep an essential circuit in service might be possible following other procedures described by the CPSC. For more information:

- ◆ [Reducing the Fire Hazards in Aluminum-Wired Homes](#), methods, research, experience, expert sources. This document answers most technical questions about the hazards and remedies of aluminum electrical wiring. UPDATED 3/5/2003
- ◆ [wirefire.htm - Aluminum wiring failure reports](#) from existing installations. 7/14/2004
- ◆ ["Is YOUR Aluminum Wiring Safe?"](#) article discussing safety claims made without looking at the wiring, J. Aronstein, 11/21/95
- ◆ ["Repairing Aluminum Wiring,"](#) Consumer Product Safety Commission Booklet CPSC#516

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