

TABB LAKES HOMES
ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

TABB LAKES NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014



SPEEDERS AND SECURITY – ELLIS SHARADIN

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In this newsletter, I'd like to focus on a couple of areas around the community that affect the health, security, and the safety of our families.

The association regularly receives complaints about speeding vehicles, particularly on Tabb Lakes Drive, Bridge-wood Drive, and Gardenville. Sometimes it seems our Sheriff's deputies are more concerned with catching cars doing 30mph on Coventry Boulevard than those who have been speeding down the narrow streets of Tabb Lakes. Your Board applauds efforts to get support from the Sheriff; but, meanwhile, there are things you can do to help this situation. For one, keep in mind the adage "the squeaky wheel gets the grease." In other words, when you observe a speeding vehicle, whether it's your neighbor or someone cutting through the neighborhood from Greenlands, report it to the **Sheriff's Department at 890-3630**. Even if you can't read the speeder's license number, the increased "noise level" we can generate will have a positive effect in helping us get attention to the problem.

As spring approaches, we can expect to see more driving activity by our teen drivers, not to mention larger numbers of children playing on the streets after school and on weekends. If you have a teenage driver at home, remind them to keep their speed down and maintain a sharp lookout for children. You can also reiterate that we have a \$200 ad-

ditional penalty tacked onto the price of a speeding ticket, and hold them personally responsible to pay the full amount if they're caught. We're often asked, "Why not install speed bumps on our main thoroughfares?" The short answer is our streets are maintained by VDOT, not the Association. VDOT rules prohibit installation of speed bumps on public highways. Thus, we have to rely on outside help and reminders.

(continued on page 2)



TABB LAKES



SATURDAY

MAY 17

8 A.M.– NOON

(CONT. FROM PAGE 1) SPEEDERS AND SECURITY – ELLIS SHARADIN

On another subject, let's talk briefly about home security. With warmer weather, we often see a spike in the number of attempted break-ins, vandalism, and petty crime. One of the biggest deterrents we have to crime is the presence of good street lighting. Around the neighborhood are numerous "night watch" streetlights. The Association pays the electricity bill for the lights, but responsibility for maintaining them falls to Dominion Power. If you see a street light is out, don't assume

the Board is going to make the call. Notify **Dominion at 888-667-3000** and they'll submit a work order on your behalf. It's an easy process; just give them the address closest to the street-lamp.

That said, our night watch lights are spaced every 4-5 homes and provide only minimal coverage. You can make a major difference by replacing your garage and porch lights with sensor lights that come on when anyone approaches the house. You'll not only



save electricity by not having to leave a light burning all night, but the addition of your light when people pass by will both enhance safety and serve as a deterrent to crime and vandalism by denying criminals the cover of darkness.

Sensor lights are readily available in the hardware sections of local stores. They're easy to install, and falling prices on these units have made them very affordable.

If you have additional ideas for improving security and safety of the neighborhood, please pass them along to any Board member or our Neighborhood Watch chairman, Chad Busdeker. Contact numbers are listed on the www.tabblakes.org website. We welcome new volunteers to help Chad reinvigorate this much-needed program. If you care enough for the safety of your family and your neighbors, won't you please invest just a few minutes a month to help YOUR neighborhood?



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE – BUZZ BUSDEKER

Less than a week ago I received a call from a family in an adjoining neighborhood informing me of an attempted break-in of their property. They asked me to come over and assist in repairing the door and frame that had been damaged.

Upon arrival, I observed the following from a neighborhood watch perspective:

- The assailants gained entry through a side gate.
- The door (side garage)

- had 2 operational locks.
- The glass on the door was double pane and not see-through.
- The area was well lit.

With all of these factors, there was still an attempted break-in. Luckily, the homeowner had a security system, and this was the final deterrent. Upon breaking the door from its frame, the sound of the alarm was enough to scare

them away. York County deputies arrived within three minutes of the homeowner calling 911; they dusted the area for prints, and I'm hopeful the individuals are apprehended.

The crime that I mentioned took place at 11:45 p.m. on a Thursday. There seems to be no rhyme or reason to what criminals will do.

This incident certainly opened my eyes after the long winter. What are you doing to protect you

and your property? Do look out for yourselves and one another. Remember--**if you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress, notify the sheriff's office first! Emergency: 911 Non-emergency: 890-3621**



COMMUNITY NOISE – RON MADDOX

Right after the Siege of Yorktown in 1862, the local York government established noise ordinances that have kept things quiet in York communities ever since. OK, that is a bit of a stretch; but York County developed as a collection of bedroom communities and that might explain why the codes are heavily tilted towards residential area "Peace and Tranquility."

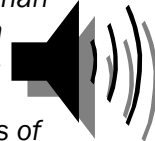
Generally, Tabb Lakes homes are owned or rented by people who have different schedules in which they desire to celebrate, relax, and sleep. The York County Codes - Sec. 16-19.2 Specific Prohibitions outline the general framework where everyone can coexist with their various schedules.

Below are two of the more relevant of the Specific Prohibitions:

- Operating, playing or permitting the

operation or playing of any radio, stereo system or loud-speakers, television, compact disc player, or other sound reproduction device, or any drum, musical instrument, or similar device at any time when the sound is plainly audible at a distance of one hundred feet (100') or more from its source and on property other than that from which the sound originates, OR between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to permit sound to be plainly audible across a residential real property line.

- Yelling, shouting, and other vocal sounds in excess of a normal conversational level, whistling or singing, any of which occurs be-



tween the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. so as to create a sound across a residential real property line or on a public right-of-way or on any public area that is plainly audible to an occupant of a dwelling unit within a building other than an occupant of the unit from which such sound emanates, or at a distance of one hundred feet (100') or more from its source and on property other than that from which the sound originates.

Please be aware that, because we are living in a York County community, you really do not have the right to blare your favorite audio device so your neighbors can hear, let your teenagers have an impromptu driveway party at midnight, or start up a raucous basketball game at

10:30 p.m.

What do you do if it happens to you? Plan ahead and put the Sheriff's non-emergency number (757-890-3621) on your phone and call if you are kept from getting to sleep by a neighbor's noise level. We have only had to call a few times over the 20+ years of living here and called only when things got ridiculously out of hand. Each time a deputy came and took care of the situation with little effort.

If you're a Tabb Lakes homeowner and renting your property, please make sure your renter understands the noise codes here in York County and why, as a community, we need to keep the noise "turned down" out of respect for others.



Veteran ID cards for those who served

Nearly 7,000 Virginia retailers offer veterans discounts and other benefits. For \$10, your Virginia Veterans ID card is a convenient way to show proof of your veteran status so you can reap the rewards.

Apply for your Virginia Veterans ID card through these DMV service outlets:

- DMV customer service centers
- DMV 2 Go mobile offices
- www.dmvNOW.com
- U.S. mail: P.O. Box 27412, Richmond, VA 23269-0001
- Fax: (804) 367-1112

You must have a valid Virginia driver's license or identification card. You will also need a copy of your DD 214, DD 256, or WD AGO document indicating any discharge status other than dishonorable.

Virginia Veterans ID cards never expire. You will receive your new Virginia Veterans ID card in the mail within a week.

For more information about veterans benefits visit www.virginiaforveterans.com.

A partnership of the DMV and Department of Veterans If you have questions and would like to speak to someone local, please call John "Ski" Przybylski, 757-867-9628.

TREES OF TABB LAKES – LOU LAFRENAYE

Tree Identification Tip:

Identifying the correct common name (and genus and species) of a tree can be difficult, especially for deciduous trees that lose their leaves each year. As an example, there is not much difference between a Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) and a Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*). The Virginia Department of Forestry's "Common Native Trees of Virginia" lists 14 different oak trees and 4 different maple trees, so it can get confusing. The difference may be subtle and requires more than just looking at a leaf if you want to be as accurate as possible. I try to use the leaves, bark, buds, and

seedlings to help identify a particular tree. There are other characteristics but those four are the first items I look at. The best way to identify your tree is to start in the spring time as the buds come out and record what the buds look like. Take a picture or keep a small sample branch. Next is to look at the flowers and seeds the tree produces (both their shape, number, and how they are attached to the tree). Again, keep a sample. Once the leaves fully emerge, then you have at least four parts of the puzzle (bark, buds, seeds, leaf) to help you identify your particular tree.

Mistletoe:

Before the leaves come out around Tabb Lakes, I invite you to walk around

and look for Mistletoe in the upper branches of our deciduous trees. They are easily identified in the winter (when there are no leaves to obstruct your view) and resembles a ball shaped dark green mass up to 3 feet wide. Don't confuse them with squirrel nests made up of dead leaves and grass. Mistletoe is actually a small evergreen shrub that sinks its roots into the bark of the tree. It is semi-parasitic and "steals" water and nutrients from their host tree. It also contains chlorophyll so it is able to make some of its food. Each mass is an individ-



ual plant and a tree may have more than one mass. A small infestation is not usually harmful to the tree. It can grow in numerous types of trees but is more often found in maples and oaks. The berries and foliage are toxic. Mistletoe spreads and grows very slowly; so if you remove a plant, it will probably not grow back. An interesting note about this plant is that birds are responsible for spreading their seeds. An area that is heavily infested with mistletoe is an indication of a healthy bird population.

WHAT DID YOU DO ON YOUR SNOW DAY?



Karese Kaw-uh spent her snow day creating this beautiful Victorian snow woman in her back yard. Good job!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – LOU LAFRENAYE



Ready York County Website

York County Dept. of Fire and Life Safety has updated their York Ready web site. The new site is located at www.readyyorkcountyvirginia.com/ Their new site contains a lot of good information on preparedness. Hurricanes, contagious diseases, power disruption, and water contamination are just a few of the many topics on the site. Click on the "Get Prepared" tab to see the list. Under the "Volunteers" tab, you will find info on CERT training which many of our emergency preparedness committee members have completed. There is even info on Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) which a few of us ham radio operators are involved with. I also want to highlight the "Special Needs" tab with information for folks with functional needs and/or require support services.

Plan, Prepare, Stay Informed

Resolve to Prepare Your Family for Emergencies in 2014

There is no more important resolution to make than to renew our

personal efforts to be sure our families are ready for whatever 2014 will bring. Consider this: disasters can happen at any time, and families may not be together. Power could be lost, and cell phones may not work. Families should decide in advance what they will do.

Some questions to discuss:

1. Do you and your family members have contact phone numbers memorized or written down and placed in backpacks and wallets?
2. Do you have a plan on how to meet up with family if you are separated?
3. Do you know how to contact your children's school in case of an emergency?
4. Do you have three days of emergency supplies and water set aside?



Families and individuals can fill out an emergency plan, post it in homes, and share it with family and friends. Get free plan worksheets, wallet cards, and emergency supply checklists at www.ReadyVirginia.gov or on the free Ready Vir-

ginia app for iPhone and Android devices.

Take a few minutes in the new year to decide who to call, where to meet, and what supplies to have at home or in your office in case you can't get out or you have to evacuate because of a bad situation.



Keep Your Pets Safe

Hurricane season is coming ... you've probably stocked up on bottled water and extra packaged food, just in case. You've got a flashlight and plenty of batteries. Your battery-powered/hand-crank radio is standing by so you can get local emergency information if the power goes out.

But what about your pet? Pets can't take care of themselves. During major disasters, pets often become separated from their owners. Plan ahead by making an emergency plan for your pet.

- Prepare a pet disaster supply kit. Include at least three day's food and water; food and water bowls; an extra leash and color with identi-

fication tag; a few days' worth of medication; current photos of you with your pet; blankets or towels for bedding and warmth; cat litter/pan; your vet's name and phone number; treats. Store items in a sturdy container that can be carried easily.

- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and up-to-date identification tags. Consider permanent identification for your pet such as a microchip or tattoo.
- Purchase a pet carrier and label it with emergency contact information.
- Don't leave your pet behind. If you have to evacuate, where will you go that accepts pets? Ask friends or relatives outside your area whether they could shelter you and your pet in an emergency. Find a hotel or motel outside your area that accepts pets.

For more about making an emergency plan for your pet, go to www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia/getakit/pets



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These advertisements are not an endorsement by the Tabb Lakes Homes Association.

If you are a Tabb Lakes homeowner who owns your own business, you still must fill out a form from our web-site and submit it in order for your ad to appear in our newsletter.

If you are a business in our community, you must fill out the form and submit it with your check. Please see our web-site for instructions. <http://www.tabblakes.org>


Honey-do List!



- Install Screen Door
- Fix Leak In Sink
- Install New Fence
- Build Deck

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Better Call Done Right Home Repair!

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Yorktown, Virginia 23692
smiconline.org/preschool
preschool@stmark-elca.org



**Color Me
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Saturday April 19
At Grafton HS
\$35
(first 300 registered guaranteed a t-shirt)
1 Mile Fun Run/Walk \$10
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We will have an Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Bunny will be there.

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www.graftonafterprom.com

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Tabb Lakes Homes Association
P.O. Box 8088, Tabb, Virginia 23693

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Request for Approval

Name: _____ Date of request: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Alt Telephone: _____

Type of modification: (deck, patio, outbuilding, addition, fence, etc.)

Plans and specifications: Please attach a copy of plat with a sketch of proposed modification. Show approximate shape & measurements. List colors and materials to be used if needed for approval.

I have provided an accurate representation of the planned modification. I have contacted my immediate neighbors to inform them of my proposed project. I will notify the ARC of any changes that need to be made which would affect their approval prior to resuming work on the project.

Homeowner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Homeowner check list:

- County permits: 890-3522
- Call Miss Utility before digging, to locate underground utilities: 1-800-552-7001

To Submit:

- E-mail form to Cox & Lee Management for minimum turnaround time: coxleemgt@gmail.com.
- Mail form to the following address:

TLHA ARC Committee
c/o Cox & Lee Management
458C Wythe Creek Road, #141
Poquoson, VA 23662

NOTE: This form can be downloaded from our webpage: www.tabblakes.org/arc.html.

Questions: Call Cox & Lee Management, 757-593-6088

Committee Action Date of receipt: _____
 _____ Approved as submitted
 _____ Approved subject to modifications as required by covenants
 _____ Disapproved for reason listed on reverse side

Architectural Review Committee or Cox & Lee Management representative signature and date:

**TABB LAKES HOMES
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 8088
Yorktown, VA 23693

<http://www.tabblakes.org>

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**TABB LAKES ANNUAL YARD SALE
SATURDAY, MAY 17, 8 A.M.– NOON**



Please do NOT
feed the geese.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MANAGERS

COMMITTEE/MANAGERS	CHAIR	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Architectural Review Manager	Cox & Lee Management	593-6088	coxleemgt@gmail.com
Emergency Response Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	867-8333	tlert@tabblakes.org
Grounds Maintenance Manager	Vacant		
Lake Maintenance (Lake 1) Manager	Bob Spell	867-8184	lakemaint1@tabblakes.org
Lake Maintenance (Lake 2) Manager	Gary Porter	867-9120	lakemaint2@tabblakes.org
Neighborhood Watch Committee	Buzz Busdeker	218-9767	watch@tabblakes.org
Newsletter Editor/Manager	Shirley Flanagan	867-6860	newsletter@tabblakes.org
Storm water Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	867-8333	stormwater@tabblakes.org
Web-Site Manager	Clint Flanagan	867-6860	webmaster@tabblakes.org
Welcome Committee	Keith Ebert	867-7133	welcome@tabblakes.org