

# TABB LAKES NEWSLETTER

2024 FIRST QUARTER

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FEBRUARY

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## TABB LAKES ROAD PAVING UPDATE—KEITH EBERT

After hearing from a Tabb Lakes resident about the condition of our roads, I filled out a VDoT Work Order to resurface or real-seal Bridge Wood Drive, the worse road in our subdivision. A couple of days later, I received a call from William, a VDoT employee who informed me that Tabb Lakes was not on the VDoT road paving list. When I asked how to get our roads on the list, he told me he would have to talk to his supervisor about our deteriorating road conditions. That message didn't sound too promising until William called me back on February 20<sup>th</sup> to inform me that he rechecked the road paving list, and Tabb Lakes' roads are ON THE LIST! He told me that ALL Tabb Lakes' roads are scheduled to be milled and paved before November 2024. I asked William what paved meant; and he told me that part of the existing pavement will be removed, and every road in our neighborhood will be repaved with new asphalt. Needless to say, I'm very excited about this update because it will definitely improve the look of our entire neighborhood!



## HOLIDAY DÉCOR CONTEST WINNERS — BEAUTIFICATION

**DAYTIME WINNER**  
**810 TABB LAKES DRIVE**  
**ROY AND ANN MITCHELL**  
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**NIGHTTIME WINNER**  
**401 BRIDGE WOOD**  
**ROB AND KAREN SELF**  
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## Board of Directors

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Jim Cochran, 757-316-4558  
Mary VanHouten, 530-217-9789

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Charles Rossi, 757-867-8322

### GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP—BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

We're excited to announce that Tabb Lakes is volunteering for the 2024 Hampton Roads Great American Cleanup once again. Cleanup will be held on Saturday, **March 23**. You cleanup in front of your own residence or join an organized group of your Tabb Lakes neighbors to help clean up the litter on our streets and along the Lake 1 pathway. York County partners are ready to

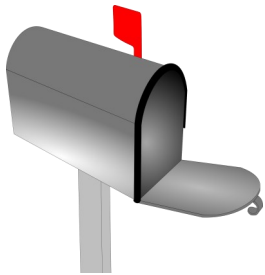


assist us with free supplies including safety vests, litter grabbers, and trash bags. Last year Hampton Roads had a record-breaking 2,400+ volunteers, including Tabb Lakes

volunteers, who worked together to clear more than 47 tons of litter from Hampton Roads communities. With your help, we can continue to break records in 2024!

Please contact Angela Hurst at [beauty@tabblakes.org](mailto:beauty@tabblakes.org) for more information or to volunteer. This is a great opportunity for middle and high school students to earn some volunteer hours.

### RESIDENTIAL MAILBOX REQUIREMENTS—KEITH EBERT



At the February 20 monthly HOA Board Meeting, a board member talked

about a Tabb Lakes residence who received a United States Postal Service Form 4056 titled "Your Mailbox Needs Attention." The form was placed inside the mailbox by the postman and informed the homeowner that their mailbox height was too low to the ground. The form also

listed a date deadline that the fault needed to be corrected; and if not corrected by that date, the homeowner would have to pick up their mail at the Grafton Post Office.

Initially, I felt this event was pretty harsh until I talked to our postman who gave me a copy of the form. He also told me that another postman was delivering mail to a very low mailbox. He had to unbuckle his seat belt; and when he leaned over to place the mail inside the low box, he fell out of his truck and the truck proceeded away from him

with no driver. Luckily, he was able to catch up to the truck and reenter the vehicle to stop it.

United States Postal Service rules state that the inside bottom of the mailbox must be only 41-45 inches above the ground, and the mailbox door must only be 6-8 inches back from the curb. Besides these rules, the Form 4056 lists 20 faults on the form, including the ones I just mentioned above.

For more specific rules on your mailbox, just Google "USPS Form 4056."

### RV/TRAILER STORAGE—SARAH KNAUB

The Tabb Lakes Regulations permit the storage of trailers less than 25' long only if they are on a paved area next to the garage. Pavers may be used to construct the parking pad. The trailer may not extend beyond the front

plane of the home. If you do not have a paved area, you need to store your trailer in your backyard behind a fence of adequate height to shield the trailer from view. Trailers actively in use may

be on your driveway for up to two weeks.



We need

YOU!



Do you want to help keep our neighborhood safe? Then volunteer for the Neighborhood Watch Committee.

## COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS—SARAH KNAUB

Another inspection season is upon us; so, it's time to take a look around! Take a moment to view your house from the street and come home a different way so you approach it from a different direction. Check your siding and trim for mold; look up at the vents along your roofline; are your gutters full? Be proactive about cleaning and maintenance, and you will head off more expensive repairs due to wood rot. If you get a notice about mold/dirt on your roof, please take it seriously. That mold holds moisture and can damage your roof. There is a lot of information online about the "hows" and "whys" of roof cleaning; and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call.



### Attention Lake-side Homeowners:

If you live on a lake and have not made any improvements to your shoreline per the regulations passed by the Board last year, you will soon be getting a notice from us. The goal of the regulations is to mitigate erosion and limit the organic matter entering the lakes. Organic matter that builds up eventually needs to be dredged. One of the easiest things everyone who lives on the lake needs to do is pick up any

trash that gets stuck along your shoreline. We know it might not be your trash, but be a good neighbor and a good steward of the neighborhood's drainage system and dispose of it properly.

To those of you who have established a vegetative buffer along your shoreline, remember that you still need to maintain this area so it does not become an eyesore. Remove any weeds and woody vegetation while it is still small. If you have let the buffer establish itself naturally, twice a year during growing seasons you should cut the buffer back to about six inches in height. An electric hedge trimmer works really well for this purpose. Be sure to collect and properly dispose of all trimmings to prevent them from decomposing in the water.

## THE DANGERS OF FEEDING AND CARING FOR FERAL CATS—KEITH EBERT

Let's begin with the York County, Virginia Ordinance:

### ARTICLE IV. – RABIES CONTROL

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, possess, board or harbor any cat or dog over the age of four (4) months within the county, unless such cat or dog has been inoculated against rabies by a currently licensed veterinarian or by a licensed veterinarian technician who was under the immediate and direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises, and the term of effectiveness of such inoculation has not expired.

(b) Any person bringing a cat or dog into the county from another jurisdiction shall conform to this section within ten (10) days after bringing such cat or dog into the county.

(c) At the time of inoculation as required by this section, a certificate of inoculation shall be is-

sued to the owner. Such certificate shall at a minimum show the signature of the veterinarian, the animal owner's name and address, the species of the animal, the sex, the age, the color, the primary breed, the secondary breed, whether or not the animal is spayed or neutered, the vaccination number, the expiration date, and the locality in which the owner resides.

(d) A violation of any provision of this section shall be punished by imposition of a civil penalty as is set out in section 1-10 of this Code. HARBORING means the act of keeping and caring for an animal or of providing a premise to which the animal returns for food, shelter, or care for a period of ten (10) days.

Neighbors that are placing food outside for feral cats, and some neighbors who are even providing a shelter for them on their property are obviously not concerned

with the diseases they carry. The following list of diseases has been gathered from The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Michigan State University Control and Prevention:

Campylobacter which is a bacteria that can make people and animals sick with a disease called campylobacteriosis. It is spread by people not washing their hands after touching animals or their food, poop, toys, or beds. Children playing outside and trying to pet a feral cat could be extremely dangerous.

Cat Scratch Disease is an infection caused by the bacteria *Bartonella henselae*. Cats become infected through flea bites and fights with other cats. People can be exposed to the bacteria through a scratch or lick of an infected cat that shows no sign of being sick. (continued on page 5)

## UPCOMING CHANGES TO TABB LAKES EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (TLERT) COMM. LOU LAFREYAYE

We are changing the name and mission of our current TLERT Committee to the Tabb Lakes Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Committee (NEPC).



For some historical background, three members started our neighborhood committee back in 2004 after completing the nationally approved Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Program. That course was taught by the York County Dept. of Fire and Life Safety (YCFLS) each year after that, which helped us train more HOA members. With increased homeowner interest over the years and support from the YCFLS staff, our committee grew to a peak of over 50 members, of which 25 completed the CERT program, and four members became licensed ham radio operators. Within a few years, we met the York County standards of a CERT Certified neighborhood, and remain the only HOA to do so to this day.

Unfortunately, things have changed. Time, a four year pause in CERT classes, lack of refresher training for our CERT graduates, and frankly the age of our committee members, has

significantly reduced our capabilities and our ability to meet part of our original mission statement. Our committee's original mission goals were to provide information to the neighborhood, organize in teams to support our neighborhood during an emergency (such as a hurricane), and support our first responders in helping our neighborhood. We can no longer realistically meet the second and third goals of organizing teams to support our neighborhood and our first responders. Some of us completed our training 20 years ago and only a few have attended any refresher training. Most went through training 15 years ago. In addition, our committee's number of CERT graduates have dropped to ~15; and we have no new graduates. As I mentioned, we are all getting older.

After recent discussions with our York County Deputy Emergency Manager and with the approval by our HOA Board members, we will change our mission to meet more realistic capabilities and expectations for our neighborhood. Our primary goal will be to provide emergency preparedness information to our neighborhood, mostly through

our newsletter and the HOA e-mail distribution. We began this in 2004 and will continue into the future. Our secondary goals are to, if possible, organize committee members after an emergency; and, within the available members and their capabilities, provide limited help to our neighborhood and first responders. This may not be possible; however, we want to be optimistic that several members may be able to pull together some organized assistance.

In the next few months, we will be updating our HOA website to reflect the name change and our new mission statement and specific committee duties. We will let you know when that is done. Lastly, we will continue to ask homeowners to join our committee. There are no requirements. We endeavor to keep our committee members informed about safety and preparedness measures and relay information on what we and the County are doing to prepare for emergencies such as a pending hurricane.

For more information, contact Lou Lafrenaye at [TLERT@TABBLAKES.ORG](mailto:TLERT@TABBLAKES.ORG)

### YORKTOWN EVENTS FOR MARCH-APRIL 2024

- **Yorktown Market Days - St. Patrick's Day Winter Market**— Saturday, March 16 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing
- **Victory at Yorktown Race**— Saturday, April 6 | 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing | \$
- **Yorktown Market Days - Go Green Market** - Saturday, April 13 | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing
- **Yorktown Market Days - Sister Cities French Market**— Saturday, April 20 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing
- **Pirates Invade Yorktown Weekend**—Saturday & Sunday, April 27 & 28 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing & the Watermen's Museum
- **Yorktown Market Days - Pirate Invasion Market** - Saturday, April 27 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing
- **Yorktown Market Days - Pirate Invasion Market** - Sunday, April 28 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing



## FREE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING – LOU LAFRENAYE

The York County Department of Fire and Life Safety is currently accepting applications for its Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course. The first class will begin on March 12, 2024. Information about the program can be found on the department's CERT website at

[www.yorkcounty.gov/cert](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/cert). CERT training provides citizens the opportunity to obtain and/or enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities to take action and better help themselves, their families, their neighborhood and community when York County is affected by major emergencies or disasters.

In recent years, the York County Department of Fire and Life Safety has seen that training citizens to be prepared for an emergency offers another level of protection for the community. CERT was originally developed by the Los Angeles Fire Department to train residents

to have the skills to assist their families and neighbors during and immediately after an earthquake until emergency services could respond. Since then, the CERT model has been adapted throughout the nation to prepare citizens to assist in both man-made and natural disasters.

Those interested in participating in York County's CERT Training Program should be prepared to make a commitment to one night a week (TUESDAYS for the upcoming class) in the evening from 6:30 p.m. to approximately 9:30 p.m. and two Saturday mornings (to prepare for and complete the final exercise and graduation) over, approximately, a two-month period. Registration is required. Application and course information is available on the CERT website. Sessions include presentations, discussions, and practical experiences on the following topics:

- ✦ CERT Organization
- ✦ Disaster Preparedness
- ✦ Disaster Medical Care
- ✦ Hand-Only CPR
- ✦ Terrorism & Disaster Psychology
- ✦ Fire Safety and Fire Suppression
- ✦ Light Search and Rescue

For additional information about the CERT training program, call the York County Department of Fire and Life Safety at 757-890-3600, Monday through Friday, from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. or visit the website at [www.yorkcounty.gov/cert](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/cert). (York County Press Release)



### (continued from page 3) FERAL CATS



Hookworms are tiny worms that can spread

through contact with contaminated soil or sand. People (children) can get hookworm infection by walking barefoot, kneeling, or sitting on ground that is contaminated with poop from infected animals. Cats can be infected by ingesting the parasite from the environment or through their mother's milk.

MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus) is a common type of bacteria normally found on the skin of people and animals. MRSA can cause a variety of infections, including skin infections, pneumonia, and other

problems. It can spread through direct contact such as petting a cat that has been infected.

Rabies is a deadly neurologic disease caused by a virus that spreads primarily through bites of infected animals. Rabies spreads through contact with saliva from an infected animal, usually through scratches or bites. Rabies is rare in the United States because of successful animal control and vaccination programs; but the disease is still found in wild animals such as bats, foxes, raccoons, and skunks. Feral cats could easily become infected with Rabies.

Other such diseases that feral cats could easily come in contact with are Ringworm, Roundworms, Salmonellosis (Salmonella), Sp-

rotrichosis, Tickborne Diseases, Toxoplasmosis, and Tularemia.

As you can see, feral cats can cause a great deal of harm and concern to all the neighbors and especially children living in Tabb Lakes.

**SO PLEASE DO NOT FEED OR HARBOR FERAL CATS AS IT IS AGAINST THE LAW! IT IS JUST AS IMPORTANT NOT TO FEED THE GEESE!**

Note: Research for this article was conducted by a TL resident who has trapped 20 feral cats using a humane trap provided by York County. Once each cat was trapped, the animal was delivered to the Peninsula Regional Animal Shelter in Newport News. This initial research was 12 pages long; if anyone is interested in reading his entire research, please contact me at [President02@tabblakes.org](mailto:President02@tabblakes.org)

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**JUST SOME REMINDERS:**

- **Be kind to your neighbors and pick up your dog's poop.**
- **When walking or jogging, do so going against traffic, and PLEASE wear something reflective when there's no sunlight.**
- **Ride bikes flowing with traffic.**
- **Do not feed the geese or ducks.**
- **This newsletter is only produced in soft copy. If we don't have your email address, you can always find the newsletter (past and present) on our webpage. Those who don't have computer capabilities, may request a hard copy. Contact editor. Keep in mind these will be delivered much slower, at the convenience of the deliverer. **NOT** mailed.**

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# Tabb Lakes Homes Association

## 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 location, shape & all measurements. Provide a list colors, materials to be used, and any other construction details.

**Homeowner check list:**

- County permits: 890-3522. For room additions (including screened porches) a copy of the York County building permit must be attached to this application.
- Call Miss Utility before digging, to locate underground utilities: 1-800-552-7001
- York County Code 24.1-280, General Requirements for Home Occupations

**Estimated project completion date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Allow up to 3 weeks for the processing of ARC approval; projects may not be started until approval has been obtained.)*

In addition to any required county inspections, the Association reserves the right to review the completed project to determine whether or not the work was accomplished in accordance with the approved application. Please notify the Association when the work is finished. Projects found to have deviated from the specifications of the approved ARC request will be cited through the Association’s Covenants Compliance Inspection process.

***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 deviation from the plans submitted or changed from using “like kind” building materials to those specified in this application.***

Homeowner’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions or to confirm project completion:** Contact Sarah Knaub at 757-593-0166 or VictoryComMgt@gmail.com.

**To Submit:**

- E-mail form and attachments to Victory Community Management: **VictoryComMgt@gmail.com**.
- Mail form and attachments to the following address: **TLHA ARC Committee, c/o Victory Community Management  
5007-C Victory Blvd. #240, Yorktown, VA 23693**

**NOTE: This form can be downloaded from our webpage: [www.tabblakes.org/arc.php](http://www.tabblakes.org/arc.php)**

**Committee Action**

Date of receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Approved as submitted

\_\_\_\_ Approved subject to modifications as required by covenants

\_\_\_\_ Disapproved for reason listed on reverse side

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DOG WALKING COURTESY & COMMON SENSE—ELLIS SHARADIN**

Like many of my fellow Tabb Lakes homeowners, I regularly exercise my little Schnauzer with short walks in our neighborhood. So, I'd like to share the following observations with not only dog-walkers, but those of you in cars when you encounter pedestrians and dog-walkers, especially at night.

One evening in November, I took my dog on a final evening walk from Leslie Lane up to Richard Run and back. As pedestrians should, I was walking on the left side of Bridge Wood Drive (BWD), facing traffic, about 2 feet onto the roadway and my dog was on the grassy verge. To make myself conspicuous, I had a bright flashing LED armband on my right arm, and my dog had a blinking blue light on his dog collar. Halfway to Richard Run, I observed a mid-sized white car turn off Coventry Blvd. onto BWD, traveling north. As soon as it straightened out, the driver hit the accelerator and rap-

idly increased in speed. That caught my attention, and I checked my dog's position. When I looked back, it became quickly apparent that the car was headed STRAIGHT AT ME! I thought surely the driver would swing wide, but he never changed his vector. At the last moment, I literally jumped onto the grass, and the car missed me and my dog by no more than 2 feet! It continued to accelerate going north on BWD and went out of sight towards Tabb Lakes Dr. Due to the bright headlights and dark part of the street, I was unable to clearly read the license plate. A report to the Sheriff's office afterwards only got me a promise that they would temporarily increase patrols in our neighborhood.

You might imagine my consternation over the malicious action of that driver. I'd like to think the driver wasn't truly intending to hit me, but I do believe he/she

wanted to scare me with a game of chicken.

Thankfully, most encounters with drivers are met with them providing me increased room before they pass, but that's not always the case. Please consider that pedestrians have just as much right to use the road as you do in your car. Whether it's someone with a child or someone with a dog, there's always the risk that one of them may suddenly dart into the road. So, SLOW DOWN and give them at least 5 ft. of room when you pass. Use your signals to alert nearby pedestrians of your intentions when you're about to turn onto a nearby roadway or driveway. Also, just because you may have opposing traffic coming the other way, it's neither smart nor courteous to REDUCE that passing distance from walkers. If another car is approaching you from the opposite direction, slow down or stop before reaching any pedestrian(s).

**Check us out: <https://tabblakes.org>**

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MANAGERS			
COMMITTEE/MANAGER	CHAIR	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Architectural Review Manager	Sarah Knaub	757-593-0166	victorycommgt@gmail.com
Beautification Committee	Angela Hurst	757-771-3728	beauty@tabblakes.org
Emergency Response Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	757-867-8333	tlert@tabblakes.org
Grounds Maintenance Manager	Sarah Knaub	757-593-0166	victorycommgt@gmail.com
Lake Maintenance (Lake 1) Manager	Timothy Burke	240-490-9302	lakemaint1@tabblakes.org
Lake Maintenance (Lake 2) Manager	Jeffery Payne	804-815-3140	lakemaint2@tabblakes.org
Neighborhood Watch Committee	VACANT		
Newsletter Editor/Manager	Shirley Flanagan	757-876-1156	news@tabblakes.org
Stormwater Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	757-867-8333	tlert@tabblakes.org
Web-Site Manager	Clint Flanagan	757-876-1155	webmaster@tabblakes.org
Welcome Committee	Keith Ebert	757-867-7133	welcome@tabblakes.org