

The Village Times Qummer/Early Fall 2024

News from Our President – Teri Westhoff

Hello neighbors! Welcome Summer!

First, I would like to welcome all of the new residents to our Village. We have several new neighbors and I would encourage all of you to extend a welcome to our new Village neighbors.

I have a few updates since the last newsletter. The HOA reserve study is complete and finalized. The outcome will NOT significantly increase or decrease our annual fees. We are in compliance with House Bill 107 having completed the HOA Reserve Study and our reserve is funded appropriately.

The VTTC was on the City of Salisbury Council Meeting Work Session June 3rd Agenda regarding reducing the speed limit in the Village to 25 MPH on all streets. They City agreed the agenda item can move forward to the Legislative sessions. It must be heard at two 2 legislative sessions before it is finally approved. It was heard at the June 10th Legislative session and is scheduled to also be heard on July 8th. More info to follow.

During the April Board Meeting Legendary presented a new 3-year bid proposal. The Board submitted letters to 3 other potential providers and didn't receive any other interest in bidding. During the June 11th Board Meeting the Board approved the renewal of Legendary's bid proposal. The contract includes an increase of approximately 12% which the Board decided was fair due to the increased cost of labor and fuel. Legendary will continue to support the Village 2025-2027.

I want to thank everyone for their patience during the installation of fiber optic throughout the Village. This project was not something the Village requested, however the City of Salisbury granted Glofiber/Quanta a permit to complete the project without any input or knowledge from us. We have encountered some bumps along the way but for the most part have "weathered the storm" and are now near the end of the project. The splicing will be complete within the next 2 weeks and we are waiting for a date for the hot patch repairs on the roadways.

Bill Atchison has researched and provided in this newsletter an amazing summary on fiber optic service, Glofiber and service options. Thanks so much Bill for sharing with the Village.

Mark your calendars for the Fall Picnic, Saturday September 21st.

Here's hoping to another wonderful summer in our Village!

2024 VTTC Board

President

Teri Westhoff 410-251-0110

Vice President

David Twilley 410-251-1584

Treasurer

Elliott Meade 410-860-5806

Secretary

Ric Bloodsworth 410 433-9820

Directors

Lou Rimbach 410-430-6561

Eddie Hastings 443-235-1823

David Whipple 812-277-9735

Committees

ARB

David Whipple 812-277-9735

Audit

Deb Clark 410-422-8862

Government Affairs

Chris Nunzio 410-430-2692

Irrigation

Ed Hastings 410-546-9691

Safety

Don Denayer 410-546-3688

Social/ Welcome

Marsha Bloodsworth 410-422-2050

Website

Pam Johnson vttcwebpage@gmail.com

Newsletter

Carolyn Collins 410-430-4568

Call for Board Members

It's the time of year when we ask homeowners to consider becoming a member of the HOA Board. Our community has remained a desired place to live as a result of those residents who volunteered their time, their past experiences and their willingness to maintain the Village by serving on the board and various committees. For those new to the neighborhood, it's a great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends as well as understand how our community works.

Board members are voted on at the annual meeting in November. Board candidate bios are published the October newsletter. Additional information about Board membership can be found in the VTTC HOA Inc. By-Laws. A copy is available on the VTTC webpage www.thevillageattonytankcreek.com

If you are interested in serving on the Board and have questions, please feel free to contact one of the board members (contact info on first page). Brief bios will be printed in October newsletter. Please send bios to vttchoa2011@gmail.com by September 30.

A big thank you to all the residents that have given their time over the last twenty years to make our community a desirable place to live. As a result of their time and effort, VTTC has unlike other communities, avoided the need to hire a management company which would lead to a HOA increase. Much thanks to all that have served on the board or a committee.

Call for Committee Members

Committees offer support to the Board in handling various tasks that make this community as desirable and enjoyable as possible. This year we are asking for those who would be interested in chairing a committee. Additionally, signup sheets are available at the November Annual Meeting for those who would like to serve on a committee. Please contact a board member or send an email to vtchoa2011@gmail.com if you are interested.

ARB Committee – David Whipple

Please remember, Architectural Review Board approval is **required** for **any changes to the outside** of your home. Please review your copy of the ARB guidelines before making any changes/repairs/updates to the exterior of your home. If you have misplaced your copy or did not receive a copy at the time you purchased your home, the ARB guidelines are available on the VTTC website. ARB review forms are also available on the VTTC website. Any questions, please contact me at 812-277-9735.

Community Bulletin Board

Did you know there is a weather resistant Community Bulletin Board on Oakside Circle? Contact Jane Burt (410-726-0433) if you have a notice you'd liked placed on the bulletin board.

Social Committee

The Annual Spring Luncheon held at the St John's United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on April 27th was a success. A good time was had by all. The food was delicious and residents and guests enjoyed interacting with their neighbors. Thank you to all on Social Committee for a job well done!

The annual Fall Picnic is scheduled for September 21st. Please mark your calendars. More information will be sent this summer.



Irrigation – Ed Hastings

It is very important for all residents to fill out a repair form for any needed irrigation repairs. These forms serve as a "paper trail" and allow Legendary to keep track of repairs made, and those still needed. The forms are available behind the community bulletin board There are two clear plastic boxes, one with blank irrigation forms, the other is for your completed form. Please fill out a repair form for the following issues:

- Malfunctioning sprinkler head
- Broken sprinkler head
- Broken irrigation line in the ground

Note: try to put on the form where the repair in the yard is required and mark if possible. Most sprinkler repairs and adjustments are performed late in the afternoon on Thursdays or as soon as possible after Thursday.

The following irrigation issues require a **phone call** to Legendary Landscape, (410) 341-0948, in order to have repairs or changes completed at the expense of the homeowner:

- Sprinkler head relocation
- Additional sprinkler heads, if the committee determines it is possible
- Sprinkler adjustments
- Soaker hose repairs or replacement

Legendary Seasonal Services – Summer/Early Fall 2024

(Services for areas covered by HOA dues)

Mid-June to late June

* Fungicide Treatments (this service is NOT included in HOA dues) - residents wishing to be placed on the Fungicide treatment list should call the office ASAP (410 341-0948). It covers 3 fungus treatments a year, about every 28 days.

*Pruning of evergreen shrubs (boxwoods, hollies, etc.) should be completed.

August Schedule:

- *Limbing of trees for an additional cost, if requested
- *Fungicide treatments at homeowners' expense, if requested
- *Call Legendary office to be put on the seeding list or to request a price on seeding **before 8/19** to allow time for chemical treatments

September Schedule:

- *Seeding to take place by 9/15 (or as weather permits)
- *Great time to do any plant or tree replacements
- *Call the office for any soil amendments or lime applications (additional cost)
- *Call the office to request additional pruning in the back and side flower beds that will take place in October

October Schedule:

- *Pruning of evergreen shrubs and perennials after 2nd frost
- *Flower rotations taking place
- *Redo landscape beds
- *Overseed prior to 10/15
- *Leaf removal will begin mid-October

Weekly mowing is scheduled for Thursdays. This, of course, is weather dependent. **Irrigation schedule is flexible**, depending on the weather conditions.

For any additional services homeowners may want to contract with Legendary, contact office directly at 410 341-0948.

Please DO NOT ask Legendary employees to look at any of your irrigation issues while they are working in the neighborhood. It is not fair to a resident who has filled out the proper paperwork and is waiting for their issue to be addressed. Also, there is no irrigation issue that requires a resident to make a phone call to myself or Legendary before 8:00 AM or after 8:00 PM. We are all trying to be fair to all and thank everyone for their cooperation.

News from the Flag Pole – Jane Burt



Thank you to Eddie Hastings, Vaughn Wimbrow, and Dave Whipple for removing the old flag and all its parts. The new flag pole was then installed and there have been several compliments. The eagle at the top was repainted so it now shines.

I get dates for the flag to be lowered from the American Legion and other places. Here are some dates to look forward to: September 11 – Patriot Day (sunrise to sunset), December 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (sunrise to sunset). There will other times due to death of someone or an event that happens. I tend to put the flag down the day before since I am usually not up at sunrise. If you are interested in helping with the flag pole, please let me know, Jane Burt 410-726-0433.

Glo Fiber by Shentel Information – Bill Atchison

The following is information on Glo Fiber by Shentel, the company, the technology, and the services they offer.

Shentel history

Shentel started as Farmers Mutual Telephone System in 1902 as an effort to get telephone service to rural customers in the Shenandoah Valley. They started provided cable TV in 1980, and internet in 1994. They have been expanding beyond their original Shenandoah Valley area of operations since 2008. They launched Glo Fiber in 2019. [From Shentel and Wikipedia.] Salisbury announcement by Shentel on 19 Mar 2024: Glo Fiber Launches Lightning Fast Fiber Optic Internet in Salisbury, Maryland (shentel.com)

Fiber Technology

Glo Fiber provides fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) internet service via fiber optic cable. Optical fiber cable uses glass strands in a protective cable to transmit data via light. This technology allows much more data to travel much further with far less degradation than traditional metal cables. [A succinct explanation from Fluke Networks.] Further, FTTH is typically symmetric, meaning the same data speeds are available downstream (to your home) and upstream (from your home). Internet provided by cable companies like Comcast/Xfinity is typically non-symmetric, with download speeds often far higher than upload. Many of you may have learned over the past several years that upload speed increasingly matters—for instance, as more people use video calling for TeleMedicine or to stay in touch with loved ones, or when more cloud computing and storage is used. Internet delivered by coaxial cables (coax) is limited by the Data Over Cable Service Interface Specification (DOCSIS), as well as by restrictions imposed by the providers.

A similar benefit to FTTH is that typically your data speeds do not decrease as more of your neighbors use the same internet services. While network congestion/throttling can occur for several reasons and at many points throughout the internet, and while any provider can over-subscribe their network, cable companies are notorious for this. Web pages failing to load in your browser, or streaming shows/movies "buffering" (pixilation, frozen images, image out of sync with audio, slow response to control input) are indications of this. For **internet connectivity**, Glo Fiber installs an Optical Network Terminal (ONT). This device terminates the FTTH optical fiber cable, and converts that signal into signals that networking equipment and devices in your home can use—and the reverse for outgoing data.

Within the home, connectivity can be provided by your own (purchased) equipment or by a Calix GigaSpire mesh system (a brand of wireless router and extenders) from Glo Fiber. (Note that the FAQ and other areas of the Glo Fiber website refer to eero, another brand of mesh router, but Customer Service tells me they have switched to Calix.)

For **television and streaming**, Glo Fiber TV provides select local channels as well as many of the cable channels you may be used to, all via the internet. As with current streaming (Amazon Prime, Apple TV+, Netflix, etc.) you can connect to streaming providers a number of different ways.

For **telephone**, there are ports on the ONT to connect to house telephone wiring. Glo Fiber uses Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to provide phone service. Basically, this is using the internet to transport voice data, as opposed to the copper infrastructure used in traditional landline telephony. There should be no need to replace your existing telephones.

Glo Fiber service offerings [Glo Fiber]

Glo Fiber lists internet, telephone, and TV as services. An internet plan is required for TV and/or phone service. Discounts are listed for bundling services, for auto-pay + paperless billing, as well as \$100 off if one orders online and pays for a year.

There are three **internet service tiers** listed on their website, all of which are symmetric. Internet monthly pricing: \$70 for 600 Mbps; \$85 for 1.2 Gbps, \$140 for 2.4 Gbps. There is also a 5 Gbps service available for \$290 that is not listed with the other tiers. The FAQ states there are no data caps or limits on how much data customers can download or upload.

There are three **TV service tiers** listed, all of which include local channels. There's an additional tier shown on a separate page listing channels by tier, and it includes premium cable channels—but there's no pricing information for this "Indulge" tier. TV pricing: \$57 for "Local" (15+ channels, cloud DVR 25 hrs., 3 devices); \$130 for "Entertain" (70+ channels, DVR 100 hrs., 3 devices); \$166 for "Delight" (130+ channels, DVR 250 hrs., 6 devices).

To enjoy broadcast, cable, or streaming television from Glo Fiber, you will need a device such as a home theater (HTPC) or media server, or a streaming device (such as Amazon Fire Stick, Apple TV), or a compatible smart TV, or rent the "Glo Box" streaming device from Glo Fiber at \$14/month. You will need to install the Glo Fiber TV app to receive Glo Fiber TV on another streaming device.

The list of local and broadcast channels available in Salisbury is here. The streaming apps supported by the Glo Box are here. The FAQ notes that not all streaming services are available with the Glo Box. They state explicitly that they "are working on an update that will add additional apps such as Amazon Prime, Hulu, and Netflix soon." So, if you decide to rent a Glo Box to receive content, you will be limited to the channels—whether broadcast, cable, or streaming—that Glo Fiber offers.

The page for **Phone service** lists no service tiers, saying only, "...starting at just \$20/month." The page does say caller ID and spam protection are included, as is "unlimited long-distance phone calls throughout the US." Glo Fiber Customer Service says this is the only phone service tier.

The FAQ states that "most customers are able to move their phone numbers." For those with medical devices tied to their phone number, the FAQ says that such devices should work with Glo Fiber as long as they are compatible with Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). While US calls are included, <u>international calls</u>—including those to Canada and Mexico—seem quite expensive for a VOIP system. They do not offer any international calling plans.

Glo Fiber Customer Service

Glo Fiber claims to provide "friendly, reliable customer service...from people who live in our service area." I found the Customer Service person with whom I spoke, Kermit, was indeed pleasant, patient, and helpful. He said he was in the Harrisonburg, VA area of the Shenandoah Valley.

For those who would like further information, their Customer Service is available Mon-Fri 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Sat 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at 540-214-2456.

Area Activities

The Fruitland Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary lunches (drive thru only) will be held on September 13th, 2024 and October 11th, 2024. Please note pre-orders are <u>required</u>. The September pre-orders are due by September 9th and the October pre-orders are due by October 7th.

The menu includes Oyster Fritters (\$12), Chicken Salad by the pint (\$8), Vegetable Beef Soup or Dumplings in Chicken Broth (pints \$6 / quarts \$12). Brownies and cookies are available for \$1 a bag on a first come, first serve basis. Call Betty, 410-749-1421, Monday-Friday between 8 am and 5 pm to order.

The **Bookmobile** is scheduled to visit the Village on:

Thursday, June 27th - 11:30am – 12:15pm Thursday, July 11th - 11:30am – 12:15pm Thursday, July 25th - 11:30am – 12:15pm

Thursday, August 8th - 11:30am – 12:15pm

Thursday, August 22nd - 11:30am - 12:15pm

MAC Inc is offering the following programs:

Stepping On fall prevention workshop

Preventing falls in seniors is crucial to safeguard their overall well-being and independence, as falls can lead to serious injuries, reduced mobility, and a decline in quality of life. The Stepping On fall prevention workshop can help!

Stepping On is a free 7-week workshop proven to reduce falls in older adults. The workshop features strength and balance exercises taught along with other strategies to build confidence and to prevent falls inside and outside the home. The following free in-person Stepping On workshop will be offered at MAC:

Wednesdays, Oct. 9-Nov. 20, from 1 to 3 p.m.
 Additional classes will be scheduled.
 For more information or to register for a workshop, contact Nancy Hedlesky at 410-742-0505, Ext. 131; or email her at nhedlesky@macinc.org.

Jolly Roger Discounted water park tickets

MAC can help make this a summer to remember with discounted passes for the Jolly Roger Splash Mountain Water Park at 30th Street in Ocean City. Passes are \$35 and can be used for any day this summer, through Sept. 2. The area's largest water park is primed for another fantastic season. Splash Mountain has 16 slides and attractions for the whole family to enjoy. Splash in the Kiddie Pools, kick back and relax in the Lazy River, or test your limits on the adrenaline pumping slides. Whatever your preference, Splash Mountain offers an unparalleled collection of water activities for your entire family, all under the watchful eyes of a fully trained and certified Water Safety Staff. To order passes online, visit Jolly Roger Fundraiser - MAC Inc. Passes also are on sale at MAC's front desk. Proceeds will benefit MAC programs for local seniors.

For more information, call MAC at 410-742-0505 or visit the MAC website at www.macinc.org/jolly-roger. All sales are final. There are no refunds available for purchased passes.

Brew River Guest Bartending Event

Come out to <u>Brew River</u> on Thursday, August 29 from 5pm to 9pm to enjoy delicious food and drink for a great cause! 20% of all dock bar sales and sales from the outdoor dining area will be donated to MAC to benefit our senior programs.

Brew River assists nonprofits in the area by holding Guest Bartending nights throughout the summer to help local organizations with their fundraising needs. This year, they are going to award the organization that has the highest total sales with an extra \$2500 donation!

You are already going to eat dinner on August 29! Why not eat dinner and support MAC at the same time! Questions? Contact Mike Hedlesky at mhedlesky@macinc.org.

Gentle Reminders

Since 2003, the newsletter has been used to remind residents of "housekeeping tasks" covered in our CCR's, By-Laws, ARB guidelines and City ordinances.

Please remember to:

- -check that your contact information is current (Changes/updates should be sent to VTTCHOA2011@gmail.com)
- -submit ARB form for all work to be done to the exterior of your home
- -clean up dog litter
- -not walk pets on the grassy area inside Oakside Circle

CONTRIBUTIONS TO YOUR NEWSLETTER ARE SOLICITED. If you have a story about a wonderful travel experience, a book review on what makes your latest read a particularly enlightening/enjoyable experience, or if there is some issue regarding life in the Village (or the larger community) that concerns you, submit your comments. If you know of community activities that residents may be interested in, please send that information to be included in our newsletter. Contributions for the next Newsletter must be received by September 30th (email: ccollins12374@gmail.com or call 410-430-4568).

The Village Times will be emailed to all residents for whom an email address is listed in the Village directory, and mailed to those who do not have email.

Please support our sponsors when in need of a service for your home.



Laurie Cannon, Realtor® Licensed in MD and DE

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