

February 2024

"VOICE IN THE VILLAGE"

Monthly Newsletter

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Winter is here! It has been twenty-five years since I last shoveled snow in Philadelphia, PA. You see, they don't get much snow where we've been on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and when they do it's still hard to call it snow. In east Tennessee we get a little bit of everything, and although I may be sore tomorrow, I'm happy to be able to enjoy the experience.

The snow was not without its downside, however. The new HOA Aesthetics & Environmental Committee's inaugural event, Wildflowers of Tellico Village and the 2023 Open Space Restoration Initiative, presented by Randy Vogel, had to be cancelled due to the snow. Randy is our very own "Tellicologist," as well as a retired Professional Ecologist who has led various ecology studies all across the US, as well as restoration efforts from prairies to forests and from streams to wetlands. This informative presentation is about the ecology of the region, specifically the forest resources here in the Village and restoration efforts launched in 2023. The free event, open to HOA members and non-members, was a sellout, and it was even moved to a larger space to accommodate the demand. It will be rescheduled in the near future, so keep an eye on Tellico Life for the new date.

Last month I talked about the wonderful and dedicated HOA team consisting of hundreds of volunteers that make it successful. Now I want to talk about the team's 2024 five goals. They are:

#1-Grow the HOA membership. Currently only 35% of the property owners belong to the HOA. Our motto, "Be Engaged, Be Informed, Be Heard" is for every Villager and every Villager should take advantage of what our HOA offers. Remember that the Tellico Village HOA is not your old neighborhood HOA - it's a fun, social organization that will keep you informed of what's going on in Tellico Village. So, if your neighbor or friend is not a member, bring them to a social and sign them up. It will only make the HOA that much better.

#2 - Sustain and increase the attendance at monthly socials. The socials, held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Yacht Club at 5:00 PM, bring people together to have fun and learn about the scheduled events and programs the HOA has planned. It's a fun time with games (last month a Singo game was the feature) and lots of door prizes. The socials are the signature HOA event that is the information hub for all other events and advocacy programs.

#3 - Have more events and more event coordinators. Each year the HOA conducts scores of events including games to play (bowling, hand & foot, Singo, axe throwing, bunco, mini golf) and watch (UT football, Smokies baseball), music events (history of rock & DFOs, forensic anthropology) dining out at area

restaurants and dining in, wine tasting clubs, holiday parties, picnics and hikes and trips to local attractions and distant cruises. Go to Tellico Life for a full list. Each event requires a volunteer event coordinator. It's work, but you meet the local businesspeople, plan and enjoy the details of the event, and have fun hosting it. It is truly satisfying. See Betty Fortune to learn how to become an event coordinator.

- #4 Collaborate with POA & New Villagers. The HOA holds several Open Village Meetings each year on the state of the community, local governments' status, and election candidate forums. The HOA will work with the POA to avoid duplication and ensure the topics are relevant and desired by the Villagers. The HOA will work with the POA and New Villagers Club to ensure the Village Welcome Orientation is comprehensive for all attendees. And finally, the HOA will work with New Villagers to ensure events are full and at the lowest possible cost.
- #5 Continue to support Advocacy Programs. A fundamental mission of the HOA is to act as an advocate for its members and all the residents of Tellico Village. The HOA supports and sponsors Neighborhood Watch, Litter Angels, the Highway Safety Committee and the A&E Committee. It also supports the library and StayinTV. The HOA also has liaison representatives to all POA Committees and has acted as advocate for the Bowman historical property and short-term rental issues. The HOA is always open to issues a Villager may have and strives to find a fair and equitable solution for the community.

These goals will make the HOA a better organization and Tellico Village a better community. Our strength and the fun we have is in our numbers, so please, come to the socials, join in the events, recruit your neighbors and let's have a great 2024!

Harry Rucker, HOA President 2024



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! <</p>

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (aka UFOs)

Implications on National Security, Public Safety, and Government Transparency

Friday, January 26, 2:30-3:15 Yacht Club Lower Level





Guest Speaker:

Representative Tim Burchett (TN-02), former mayor of Knox County, Tenn. Graduated from Bearden High School and University of Tennessee. Former business owner, member of the Tennessee General Assembly and Tennessee State Senate. Served in U.S. House of Representatives since 116th Congress (2019-present).

Representative Burchett has spearheaded efforts in Congress to make our government more representative ourchest has spearheaded efforts in Congress to make our government more transparent about Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAPs). In July 2023, he led the House Oversight Committee's hearing on UAPs that included under-oath testimony from witnesses in our military and government. He is continuing to push for answers to the key question, "what does our government really know about UAPs?" Attend this intriguing presentation and consider the possibilities!

\$10 Placeholder will be refunded at the event REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY JANUARY 17th ncellation with refund is January 17th Max attendance: 130

contact Chris Jamison at chris Jamis



Your Noice in the Village



THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY OF

RamSat

FRIDAY, MARCH I, I - 3 PM, YACHT CLUB LOWER LEVEL

The RamSat satellite, designed and built by students from the Robertsville Middle School in Oak Ridge, was launched into space on June 3, 2021. Did it work?

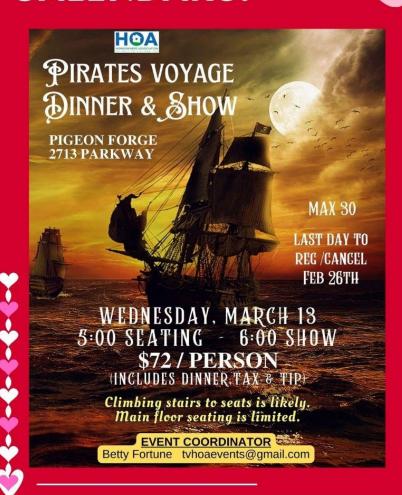
Don't miss this exciting presentation by RamSat student mentor and Tellico Village resident David Andrews. Learn how the students overcame their fears, failures, and COVID to accomplish



\$10 Placeholder will be refunded at the event REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 15th ast day for cancellation with refund is FEBRUARY 15th Max attendance: 100

contact Chris Ja







THURSDAY, APRIL 18 2 - 5 pm

CREST LANES

333 Whitecrest Drive Maryville, TN

\$10 INCLUDES

3 games of bowling Shoe rental

Last day for sign-up / cancellation / refund -April 10 Max attendance 64



Mary DeFreece marvdefreece@gmail.com



MONTHLY FAVORITES!

DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE TELLICO LIFE CALENDAR!





REPEATS ON THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
\$5 PER PERSON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
YACHT CLUB DOWNSTAIRS
2 - 4 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27
CHOTA REC CENTER - ROOM D
2 - 4 PM

HAND & FOOT & CARRY-IN



REPEATS ON THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH \$10 PLACEHOLDER TO BE RETURNED AT THE EVENT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
CARMICHAEL'S IN LOUDON
5 - 8 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 19
CHOTA REC ENTER - ROOM A
5 - 8 PM





VALERIE SEAMONS WAS OUR FIRST WINNER OF 2024!

Read <u>this</u> month's HOA Newsletter & look for the clues to win free 50/50 Raffle Tickets!

FEBRUARY QUESTIONS

1. How many species of native trees are there to choose from for Tennessee Tree Day?

2. Who is Tellico Village's very own "Tellicologist?"

KET TICKET

Email your answers to <u>HOAcomms2024@gmail.com.</u>
The first person to submit the correct answers wins!







HOA GOLF 2024

HOA Golf is back for 2024, and registrations will be starting soon! The first day of play is 10 April 2024 when we will tee it up at Tanasi. As usual, we will play 2 days per month rotating between Tanasi, Toqua, and Kahite courses through October for 72 players each outing.

All events are 9-hole scrambles and are fun for golfers of any skill level. There will be lots of door prizes and fun competitions, and participants are invited to enjoy food and drinks together after each event. We may even have some themed events and some charity fundraisers, as well!

The fee to join HOA Golf is \$20 annually, with greens and cart fees to be paid per event. The TV Golf department has modified the fee structure for this year, so check out the website to avoid any surprises at golftellicovillage.com/golf-fees. If you would like to help run some of the events, we have opportunities! Please contact Committee Lead George Luttrell at georgehluttrell@outlook.com

ADVOCACY UPDATES

For homeowners in Tellico Village, deciding what and where to plant is an expensive and somewhat daunting project. Sun, shade, soil, mature size, bloom/no bloom, disease resistance and care requirements are all important.



In recent years there has been a resurgence in native plants because our birds need specific insects and larvae that shelter in stems and leaves. Water usage also is a prime consideration. More droughts and more expensive water has made plants requiring less water desirable. Natives when planted in proper locations can be water wise.

Online plant information is readily available. Head to an arboretum website or a university website for reliable information. Join the Tellico Village Garden Club. When perusing nurseries, keep your phone handy to lookup plant info as you shop. Patronize nurseries that have knowledgeable staff.

Remember that the most important time in a shrub or tree's life is the 30 minutes it takes to plant it. So, amend the soil. Water. Mulch.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

by Sherry Le



The Holiday Season can bring about a hidden crime. While you were out shopping or even online shopping, celebrating with family and friends and being joyous and happy, or traveling, someone else could have been out there stealing your identity. Things you should be looking for in the upcoming months are:

- · Fraudulent charges on your credit card
- · Weird mail coming to you in other people's names
- · Strange Inquiries on your credit report
- · New accounts on your credit report

If you ever suspect that someone has fraudulently used one of your credit cards and you see purchases on your monthly statement, immediately contact your credit card company to dispute the charge and ask them to close the account number and issue you a new one.

If you see any of the above or you think something looks suspicious immediately dig into it further. Don't let it sit and maybe turn into a bigger headache later. Contact the company listed, let them know you have never applied with them and ask them to close the account immediately.

Did you know you're entitled to a free credit report once a year. And if you believe you have been a victim of identity theft, you are allowed to access your credit for free as many times needed.

You should minimally check your credit report once a year, if not twice. You should be looking for accounts that are unfamiliar opened against your name or social security number, alias names that you have never used and default charges.

Put credit freezes on your account with all three major credit bureaus (Experian, Equifax and TransUnion). It is FREE. It takes a few minutes of your time but well worth the headache of trying to repair your credit later. Go online to each of the listed credit bureaus I just mentioned and search "credit freeze" and it should take you to where you want to be.



Checking your credit report was emphasized in 2023 with many of the Neighborhood Watch emails and presentations. If you haven't done it yet, put it on your agenda for 2024.





It's that time of year again — time to reserve your trees for Tennessee Tree Day 2024. Reserve yours now and plan on picking them up on March 15th or 16th and planting them that weekend. Here are some special things to know about this year's statewide native-tree-planting extravaganza:

- This is the 10th Annual Tennessee Tree Day
- You have more than 12 native species to choose from
- · Plant at home, on the farm, or anywhere you have permission to plant
- You have more than 150 pick-up sites to choose from
- We anticipate planting our one millionth tree in 2024 -- we want you to be part of this historic milestone. (We founded the Tree Program in 2007 with a goal of planting one million trees. You can help us cross the finish line!)

Here's what State Forester David Arnold has to say about Tennessee Tree Day and the benefits of participating:

"Planting trees is one of the best activities Tennesseans can do to conserve, protect, and enhance our natural resources," Arnold said. "The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry is pleased to be part of this event that has become an annual tradition statewide, and to provide thousands of high-quality native seedlings from our East Tennessee Nursery."

Timeline:

Now through March 4th: online tree reservations open to the public.

MARCH 15: Kahite residents pick up trees at TRDA office

MARCH 16: Loudon residents pick up trees at Tugaloo Beach Pavilion

March 16th: Plant your trees on Tennessee Tree Day 2024

Reserve Your Native Trees Today!

Pre-register online for trees to plant at your home, farm and in your community for the 10th annual Tennessee Tree Day.





Scan the code, find your local pick-up site and reserve your trees at tectn.org/tennesseetreeday

Pick-up dates and times may vary depending on location.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

Aesthetics and Environment Committee Chair DORI HOLT

doriholt@gmail.com



OUR NEXT WELCOME ORIENTATION **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6** 2 - 3 PM YACHT CLUB

Our bi-bimonthly presentations are intended to provide residents with key information needed to quickly assimilate into Participants will receive a community. wealth of information and approximately 40 clubs and organizations will be there to share information. Orientations are held at the Yacht Club every other month on the first Tuesday of the month starting in FEBRUARY.

To attend the Welcome Orientation Meeting, you must register on the TellicoLife website at www.TellicoLife.org by Monday, February 5th.

Click here to register for the Welcome Orientation Meeting.







for reading this edition of

Voice in the Village!

We welcome your feedback and suggestions to improve the way we communicate with you. You may write to us at

HOAcomms2024@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Kay Condon **HOA Communications & Marketing VP**

