

## Peaceful Valley Property Owners Association Newsletter

Visit our website at [www.peacefulvalleylake.com](http://www.peacefulvalleylake.com)  
**January 2021**



If you would like to receive the splash via email, send an email to [peacefulvalleylake@gmail.com](mailto:peacefulvalleylake@gmail.com)

**Welcome to January.** Goodbye to a really rotten 2020, hello to what everyone hopes is a much better 2021. We've had our first snowfall of the year that left us with a beautiful winter scene (see photo below) but also left quite a few downed limbs and branches. We've finally got a COVID vaccine that's

hitting the streets, but it may be several weeks before it works its way to the general public, so many of the social gathering and distancing restrictions we've been observing at Peaceful Valley will remain in place for the foreseeable future. Happy New Year everyone!!

### **January Events:**

- Friday January 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM to 9:30 PM, PV Property Owner's Association Board of Directors Meeting.**  
This is the regular monthly meeting but will be held via Zoom.
- Monday January 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30PM to 6:30 PM, Public Water Supply District #1 Board of Directors Meeting.**  
This is the regular monthly meeting.

### **PVPOA Board of Directors Candidates Wanted**

*Editor's Note: This was printed in last month's Splash. So far, no one has volunteered as a candidate to run for the board, so we're reprinting this article with the hope that one or more of you will be willing to serve the community*



We're in the final quarter of the PVPOA fiscal year and it's time again to solicit candidates for our board of directors. As a reminder, PVPOA has 9 members on the board, each serving a 3-year term, with 3 board seats up for election each year. Per our bylaws, board members can only serve for 6 consecutive years, or a combination of an unexpired term plus a 3-year elected term. This coming year, we have the terms of Carol Eilermann, Kim Burkhardt, and Mark Martinez expiring. Of the three, Kim Burkhardt will be completing her sixth year and is ineligible to run for a seat, Carol and Mark are finishing up unexpired terms and will be eligible to run for a full term if they desire.

Board members are expected to attend board meetings on the third Friday of each month as well as the Annual Membership Meeting in April. In addition, board members are expected to participate on one or more committees, each chartered with duties designed to help run the day-to-day activities and planning of the Association. Keep

in mind, we are, in essence, a small town with more than 650 member families, 178 homes, a 180-acre lake, a lodge housing two business offices, two pools, a beach, campground, several park areas and two marinas. The board of directors provides the same services as an incorporated town's board of aldermen. Time commitments vary depending on the committees assigned—for example, the committee overseeing maintenance spends 5-10 hours per week on activities, the office/administrative committee dealing with the business office spends 15-20 hours per week during the busy seasons and 5-10 in the off-season, while other committees such as the lake committee spends little or no time during the off-season, but quite a bit of time during the spring and summer. If you would like to find out more, feel free to contact any of the current board members. Their contact information is available at <https://www.peacefulvalleylake.com/board-of-directors--staff.html> or stop by or contact the office at 573-437-2605 to get contact information for the board members.

If you already know that you'd like to run for a board seat, you can pick up a Board of Directors application from the office, or download it at

[https://www.peacefulvalleylake.com/uploads/2/4/7/0/24700980/board\\_of\\_directors\\_application\\_fillable\\_form.pdf](https://www.peacefulvalleylake.com/uploads/2/4/7/0/24700980/board_of_directors_application_fillable_form.pdf)

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## **Finally, cheaper alternatives to Fidelity Communications Internet**

For several years, about the only internet services available to residents and members of Peaceful Valley was painfully slow DSL service from Fidelity Communications, or expensive and spotty satellite service from Hughes, Dish, and Excede. Some members are lucky enough to have a good enough mobile signal to operate a mobile hotspot but usually with strict data caps. With the nationwide roll-out of the fifth generation (5G) mobile networks, some of the big carriers such as T-Mobile, AT&T, and Verizon are starting to offer home internet services via their cell phone network with no data caps at competitive prices. See the website at <https://www.whistleout.com/Internet/Search?tab=mobileall&address=3408+Peaceful+Valley+Road,+Owensville+MO+65066> to view the different services and prices available.

If you're skeptical about wireless internet, below is my roughly 3-month and counting experience with T-Mobile's Home Internet Service. In a nutshell, the overall experience is much better than Fidelity's DSL service both in terms of speed and reliability. My internet bill for Fidelity, which includes a mandatory subscription for a landline phone, was just under \$100/month for speeds averaging 14 Mbps down and 1 up. My T-Mobile bill is \$50 a month for speeds that range from 14-30 Mbps down and 3-7 up. This has effectively cut my internet bill in half.

Please note that I'm not advocating for T-Mobile over other carriers, as your choice for a provider depends on how good of a wireless connection you have at your house or lot.

I personally got fed up with Fidelity's service when their new parent company, Cable One, started installing a high-speed fiber network within the city limits of Owensville, but did not see fit to run the fiber out to Peaceful Valley. To add insult to injury, when Fidelity upgraded to fiber at the Owensville Senior Center where I volunteer my technical services, Cable One decided to discontinue Fidelity's donation of free cable tv and internet service. About the same time that I was feeling this frustration with Fidelity, I received a flyer in the mail from T-mobile offering T-Mobile Home Internet. It sounded too good to be true—speeds higher than Fidelity's DSL, no contracts, no data caps, and simple installation, all for \$50/month. I was skeptical but contacted them and within 3 days the device showed up on my doorstep. Installation was a breeze—insert the SIM card in the back, plug in the power supply, and slide the on/off switch to on. The device has a built in 2-band wireless router, so running through the initial setup consists of setting userids and passwords and connecting your wireless devices. You can also do what I did, which was connect my existing wireless router to the T-Mobile box—if you do this, any

device connected to your existing router will remain connected to the internet. I think it took maybe 10 or 15 minutes to get everything up and running.

I had requested a 30-day trial period just to make sure that it would be a suitable replacement for Fidelity's DSL. We had cut the cord on Dish Network over the summer of 2019 when they refused to carry Fox Sports Midwest, so we subscribed to Hulu+ to get local St. Louis channels and the sports channel. On any given day, we have two TVs streaming content from 2 different Roku devices, 3 surveillance cameras, two cell phones, 2 tablets, and one laptop computer. Also connected to the internet are 5 Amazon Echo (Alexa) devices in 5 different rooms and a Google Assistant that I wanted to compare with the Alexa devices. In addition, I teach night classes at Webster University and have been using audio and video on Zoom for 3-4 hours one night per week to conduct the courses. In the last 3 months, I haven't had any significant issues with internet access, and have experienced little or no buffering compared to the constant buffering we experienced with Fidelity.

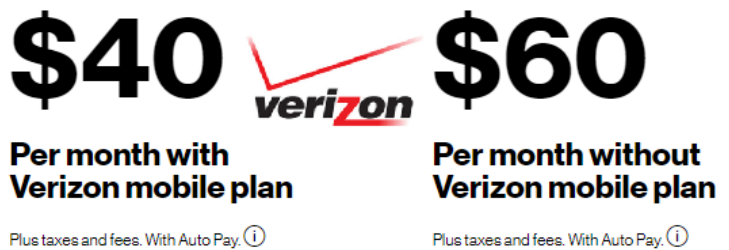
The only negatives I've encountered so far have been minimal. The one that stands out is an issue dealing

with dynamic vs. static IP addresses. Apparently, the mobile network assigns dynamic IP addresses to the devices that use them, while landline internet, either fiber or DSL, uses static IP addresses. Some services such as Hulu + must have at least 1 device connected to a static IP address to work properly, so we had to switch to YouTube TV, which doesn't require a static IP device connection. Related to this, any app or streaming channel that uses an IP address to determine the device location may be surprised as the dynamic IP address will often provide a location other than where you really are—for me, the system seems to bounce between Minneapolis and Coffey, KS. T-Mobile is aware of this and is working on a technical fix, but it's a small annoyance at this point.

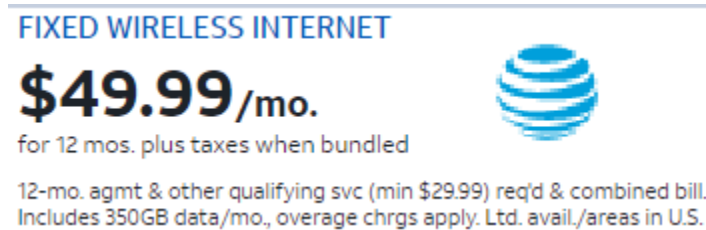
Below are some screen captures showing ads for home internet services from T-Mobile, AT&T, Verizon, and USCellular. As of this writing, only T-Mobile and USCellular claim to offer service in Peaceful Valley. There may be other providers that offer service as well, or you may have spotty coverage of AT&T and Verizon so be sure to contact the service provider to check for coverage.



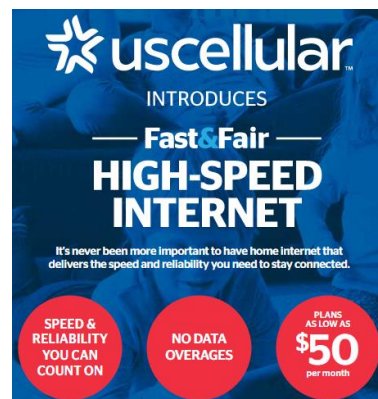
**T** HOME INTERNET  
**\$50.00** /MO  
WITH AUTOPAY



**\$40** **\$60**  
Per month with Verizon mobile plan Per month without Verizon mobile plan  
Plus taxes and fees. With Auto Pay. ⓘ



FIXED WIRELESS INTERNET  
**\$49.99** /mo.  
for 12 mos. plus taxes when bundled  
12-mo. agmt & other qualifying svc (min \$29.99) req'd & combined bill. Includes 350GB data/mo., overage chrgs apply. Ltd. avail./areas in U.S.



uscellular  
INTRODUCES  
Fast & Fair  
**HIGH-SPEED INTERNET**  
It's never been more important to have home internet that delivers the speed and reliability you need to stay connected.  
SPEED & RELIABILITY YOU CAN COUNT ON  
NO DATA OVERAGES  
PLANS AS LOW AS **\$50** per month





Winter Wonderland at Peaceful Valley Lake (photo taken January 3, 2021)

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## **Charlie Kinworthy, Jr. Thanks for All You've Done for Peaceful Valley**

Charlie Kinworthy, Jr. and his wife Mary are both longtime members of Peaceful Valley Property Owners' Association, and Charlie is the current President of the Association. After over 50 years of being associated with PVPOA, Charlie and Mary have decided to sell their house at Peaceful Valley to their son. Charlie has spent countless volunteer hours in service to the members of Peaceful Valley, whether it was cutting grass on common ground while in his teens, or serving as member and officer on the board of directors multiple times, to replumbing the pool (twice) and many different handyman projects in and around the lake. Charlie will be stepping down as President of the Association after the January 15, 2021 monthly board meeting. Vice President Lorraine Andrysek will complete the remaining three months of the current year as acting President. We will also be appointing a new director to serve out the remaining 2 years of Charlie's term.

Charlie plans to still visit as his parents and son still have homes here, but he just won't be here as frequently as he has been over the last 50+ years. Thanks, Charlie, for all you do and have done and good luck to you!!