



THE eCHATTER

An Electronic Publication for Members of the
Chartley Homeowners Association

February 2017

The eChatter

The eChatter is an electronic publication that will supplement the 4-times-a-year **Chartley Chatter**. The eChatter will be emailed to paid up members of the Association in those months that the Chatter is not distributed to all Chartley households.

Clean Our Stream

It's no joke CHA will clean the "Chartley Stream" on **Saturday, April 1st**. In this annual event residents of Chartley and our neighbors will clean the unnamed stream that flows between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road and runs from Shirley Manor Road into the Gwynn Falls Watershed. This is one of several streams in Chartley that collects storm water runoff and has an impact on the water quality of the Baltimore Harbor and Chesapeake Bay.



Chartley Homeowners Association (CHA) joins with the Irvine Nature Center, Blue Water Baltimore, and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to clean the streams in our community. Last year approximately 3.3 million pounds of trash was collected by more than 74,000 volunteers who cleaned up over 3,700 sites from New York to Virginia that border the headwaters of rivers and streams that flow into the Bay.

Do your part. Join us on Saturday, April 1st from 9:00am. to noon as we clean our stream. Reservations are not required. Walk ups are welcome. We meet on Sacred Heart Lane between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road. Don't forget to wear hard soled shoes or boots and clothing suitable for the weather.

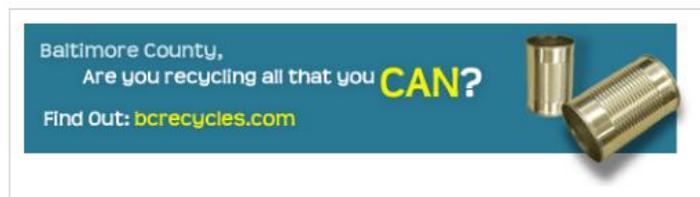
If you have any questions call **Ernie Schmidhauser** at **410-833-0262** or email erschmidhauser@comcast.net.

Baltimore County 2019-2028 Ten Year Solid Waste Management Plan

The Management team just concluded four opportunities for citizens to provide input as they develop a plan that will be followed for the next ten years. The county has made good strides since the opening of the facility in Cockeysville to sort and sell our recyclable materials. Great job everyone for participating and taking advantage of the curbside pickup each week.

The next few months will include County Council and/or Planning Board Meetings; possible additional Solid Waste Management Citizens Review Committee Meetings; draft of full Ten Year Plan and a Public Hearing. This will be followed by final reviews and eventually the Maryland Department of the Environment Review and Approval. Now is the time to get involved for those with environmental interest.

Read more on the county website for Recycling and Waste Prevention www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/recycling/



Kiwanis Paper Shredding Day

Kiwanis Paper Shredding Day will be held on **Saturday, April 22nd from 8 am to 1 pm.** in front of Office Depot in the Cherryvale Plaza Shopping Center. There is no charge for this service.

Scholarship Application Reminder

The Joseph S. Molinaro and the Phyllis Daly Memorial Scholarships Applications must be submitted to the CHA Scholarship Committee by [Saturday, April 1, 2017](#).

The mailing address is:

[CHA Scholarship Committee](#)
[432 Deacon Brook Circle](#)
[Reisterstown, MD 21136](#)

Crime in Chartley

The 2017 'crime clock' is now running! Is this year going to be as bad as last year? I sure hope not, and we are hoping that every Chartley resident is determined to make this year much better than 2016. But we still need to shore up our watchfulness and the protection of our homes and property. As noted in our December article, you reported 78 crimes within our community during 2016 as compared to 41 in 2015. That represents an increase of over 90%. That means that the "bad guys" are out and about, and they are taking advantage of every opportunity. Our job is to not give them that opportunity.

So how did we fare during this first month of 2017? Well, not bad, but we could have done better. Listed below are the crimes you reported during January:

Type of Crime	Jan
Breaking and Entering	1
Destruction of Property	1
Assault (Non-Domestic)	1
Theft	2
Total	5

I know that 5 crimes is a relatively low number, unless you are of the same opinion as I in that even one crime is one too many! Once again, there is no real discernible pattern to the crimes that were reported except that 4 of the 5 took place while residents were at work between 9 AM and 5 PM (the two thefts, the destruction of property, and the

breaking and entering). Three of the crimes took place on two of the three streets in the community where, historically, more crimes are reported than on other streets (the 200 blocks of Walgrove, Highmeadow, and Homevale respectively). But the two others took place on streets that have historically had a low incidence of crimes reported (Gwynwest and Glen Granite).

That tells me that the "bad guys" still think they can do what they want with impunity, and that we still have some shoring up to do regarding the safeguarding of our homes and property.

Please consider the following tips to help keep the "bad guys" away:

- Lock it up each time, every time (vehicles, homes, sheds, all windows, kids bikes, lawn equipment, etc.).
- Remove anything of value or that can be damaged (out of sight, out of mind).
- Have a trusted neighbor watch your home when you are away (yes, even when you are at work).
- **DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL 911 IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS OR OUT OF THE ORDINARY**-when the perps see the responding police car, they will take note and realize that WE ARE WATCHING!

Let's all work together to keep that crime clock way below last year.

Reisterstown Elementary News

As you drive thru Chartley keep an eye out for our children walking to and from school. Please be aware of them every week day and note the following school closures:

- **Friday, February 17th** – elementary & middle schools close 3 hours early for Professional Development
- **Monday, February 20th** – county schools closed for Presidents' Day
- **Friday, March 31st** – elementary & middle schools close 3 hours early

Box Tops for Education

February 22nd will be the last day to submit Box Tops to the school or 311 Highmeadow Road for this school year. But you should continue to collect Box Tops as the program will commence again in

the fall.

Box Tops for Education is a program created by General Mills in 1996 to help support education. Box Tops originally were only available on select Big G cereals but due to the success of the program it was expanded to other General Mills products and across the country. Today schools have earned over \$719 million to buy needed books, computers, playground equipment and more by clipping Box Tops.

Search your pantry for products that contain Box Tops and clip them off. Box Tops can be found on baking mixes such as Fibre One, Reynolds bakeware, cereals such as Cheerios, Cascadian Farm, Kix, Lucky Charms, Nature Valley, Chex, Cookie Crisp, Star Wars, Superman, Total, Trix and Wheaties. Ziploc storage bags, Finish detergent and Lysol products contain the treasured logo. Food products by Green Giant, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso, Kozy Shack, Land O'Lakes, Betty Crocker, Fibre One, Mott, Nature Valley and Yoplait display the mark. You can even find Box Tops on Boise paper, Kleenex tissues, Scott paper products and Hefty cups, tableware, and waste/trash bags.



Community Services Section
Crime Prevention Tip

Craigslist Online Security Tips

Craigslist is a place to find great deals and to sell household items you no longer want. It's also a great place to find and provide honest services. However, as Craigslist continues to grow in popularity, it is attracting all kinds of criminals.

Below are tips to keep you safe when selling/buying online items:

- **Trust your instincts.** That strange feeling is your early warning system. If you don't feel right about something then pass it up.
- **Meeting location.** Never meet someone alone. Take someone else with you and meet during the day in plain sight. This will not always deter an assailant from attacking or robbing you, but it does give you an edge and can potentially discourage a robbery.
- **Purchase.** Be cautious if you bring U.S. cur-

rency for a transaction. It would be better to accept cash than checks/money orders, but will be up to the seller to determine.

- **Get a callback number.** Make sure you have a phone number to contact the seller/buyer. Having a phone number doesn't mean you still can't be a victim. In this digital age criminals tend to use throw away cell phones. However, having a phone number does give you a starting point in case something does go wrong.

- **Too good to be true.** If something really is too good to be true then it usually is and could be a problem. You should shop for a bargain, but watch out for those steals.

- **Tell someone where you are going.** Always let a friend, family member, or co-worker know about your plans to visit a Craigslist buyer/seller. Make sure they have all the information you wrote down including phone numbers, location, date and time.

- **Never make quick judgment calls.** Don't go to another location at the last-minute, don't get into the car with anyone, don't change plans, etc.

- **Carry a cell phone.** Make sure you have a fully charged cell phone on hand just in case you need to make an emergency phone call. If your phone has a GPS locator make sure it is activated, so it tells the cell phone company the location of your cell phone. It's a common feature on newer phones.

- **Obtain information.** If possible obtain the vehicle registration number when meeting someone for an online sale. This tip is just a precaution in case something happens during the meet or at a later date.

- **Personal Information.** When placing your add do not give out any of your personal information. The only information available to the seller should be your email address, first name and a phone number.

For questions, concerns or additional information contact your precincts Outreach Team, or the Baltimore County Police Department's Community Services Section, Ofc. Bryan Dietsch @ 410-887-5901

Look, Up In The Sky

By Jane Hienz

My Atmospheric Science teacher at the UW always told us to look up into the sky. There are wondrous events happening right above us. Most people never look up. They watch their feet when walking or their iPhones. Since that class I have taken his words of advice and have seen some amazing things. People would never know a hundred geese were flying over us if they didn't honk, or that a storm was coming if we didn't hear the thunder.

Has anyone noticed the bright star in the early night sky and wondered what that was? It's Venus in the west after sunset. However, much dimmer

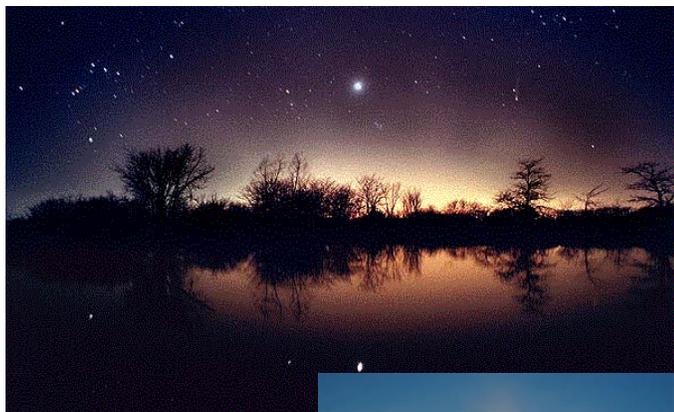


Figure 1 - Venus in the western sky

(to us) and a little off to the side, but adding to the brightness of Venus, is Mars. The confluence of these two planets produced the very bright star in the sky most of January. They will grow farther apart in February, so I hope everyone experienced this magical event.

Has anyone witnessed a sundog? This is a daytime phenomena that happens when sunlight passes through hexagonal ice crystals in cirrus clouds and act like prisms that refract the light (See Figure 2). You may see a halo around the sun or little spots of color (like parts of a rainbow) on the horizontal on one or both sides of the sun. You can see these without harming your eyes as the sundogs are usually far enough away from the sun for safety. Just hold your hand up to block the sun.

A total solar eclipse will take place August 21, 2017 in a swath from South Carolina north and west



Figure 2 - A Sundog

across the mid regions of the United States to Oregon. You will have to wait until 2024 for the next one, so make your travel plans now for August.

For those who are interested, there is a download for smart phones called **GoSkyWatch**. It may cost a couple of dollars, but with it you can hold your phone up to the night sky and the app will tell you the star, the constellation or the planet. It's really cool.

Information excerpted from the December issue of **The Planetary Report** and my old textbook, **Elements of Meteorology**.

RIA Main Street Spring/Summer Events

Franklin Middle School Main Street lawn will not be available in 2017 for events because of the installation of air conditioning. Most but not all of the Reisterstown Improvement Association events will move to the front lawn of Franklin Elementary School on Cockeys Mill Road just past the library. Come check it out – always great fun! Check out the www.reisterstown.com website and calendar to find event details happening in the area.

First event to move there will be Bloomin' ArtFest on **May 13, 2017** from 10am – 5pm. Do you make crafts? Visit the website <http://bloominartfest.com> and consider being a vendor. Come find that special and unique Mother's Day gift and enjoy listening to music as you browse through the various booths.



2017 Music on Main Street Concerts

Franklin Elementary School
Friday Nights 7-10pm



May 26	Under the Covers (UTC)
June 23	Honey Extractor
June 30	Starcrush
July 7	Crushing Day
July 14	The New Romance
July 21	Josh Christina
July 28	What's Next
August 4	Don't Stop
August 11	Midnite Run
August 18	Dave DeMarco Band
August 25	Different Sisters
September 1	Chuggalug
September 15	The New Romance

CHA 2017 Calendar of Events

Project	Location	Date	Time
Last Day for CHA Scholarship Application Submissions		Saturday, April 1, 2017	
Project Clean Stream	Stream (Corner of Highmeadow Rd and Sacred Heart Lane)	Saturday April 1, 2017	9:00 AM to Noon
CHA General Meeting	All Saints Church, Chatsworth Ave.	Thursday, April 27, 2017	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Chartley Yard Sale	Residents' Yards	May 2017 (TBD)	
Kiwanis Shredding Day	In front of Aldi's and Office Depot	Saturday, April 22, 2017	8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Dining at Reter's	Reter's Crab House and Grill	Wednesday, May 3, 2017	11:00AM to 9:00 PM
Bloomin' Art Fest	Franklin Middle School	Saturday May 13, 2017	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Clean Up Day/Electronics Recycling Day	Behind Former Mars Food Store	Saturday May 20, 2017	9:00 AM to Noon
Officer Appreciation Day	Franklin Precinct Station (Precinct 3)	June 2017 (TBD)	
Music on Main Street	Franklin Middle School	Fridays through the Summer	6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
National Night Out Community Fair	Chartley Park Shopping Center	Tuesday August 1, 2017	6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Reisterstown Festival Parade	TBD	Saturday, September 9, 2017	TBD
CHA Crab Feast		October 2017 (TBD)	
CHA General Meeting	All Saints Church, Chatsworth Ave.	To Be Announced	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

CHA Executive Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month (except December) at Long & Foster, 321 Main St., 7:00-8:30 PM

School Holiday's, Planned Closings, and Schedules can be found at <http://www.bcps.org/calendars/>

**March 14, 2017 – Executive Board Meeting
7:00 pm Long and Foster**

**April 11, 2017 – Executive Board Meeting
7:00 pm Long and Foster**

**April 27, 2017 – General Meeting
7:00 – 9:00pm All Saint's Church –
Chatsworth Avenue - Refreshment will be served.**