



THE eCHATTER

An Electronic Publication for Members of the
Chartley Homeowners Association

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.

Reminder

Last submission date for CHA Scholarship Applications is April 1, 2018

All scholarship applications must be completed and received by **April 1, 2018**. See the January Chatter for details.

Please send any questions or concerns via email to presidentofcha@gmail.com. We hope each and every high school senior in Chartley applies for these scholarships.

Spring General Meeting

Chartley Homeowners Association (CHA) will hold its next general meeting on **April 26**. The meeting will be held at All Saints Church located at 203 E Chatsworth Ave. The agenda will include election of officers for the year 2017/18. Our guest speaker will be **Captain Michael Balog** of the Baltimore County Police Department, Franklin Precinct. All Chartley residents are invited to attend and enjoy light refreshments!

Bylaw Proposal for April 26, 2018 General Meeting

The following is a change proposed for the Bylaws of the Chartley Homeowners Association. In accordance with the current Bylaws, this proposal has been presented to the Executive Board at the February 13, 2018 meeting. By posting in the both the March **eChatter** and the April **Chatter** the requested change proposal meets the requirements to be presented to all homes in the Association before the April Meeting. The Board voted to introduce the proposal at the General Meeting on March 26, 2018. If you would like to review the current bylaws, they are posted on the web site, www.chartleyhomeowners.org and click on organization documents.

Change Proposed:

Article VIII-General Election

Add new Section 9

A member may hold only one Board Officer Position. This shall not preclude a Board Member from serving as a chair or member of any appointed committee. In the event that a Board position becomes vacant when a member assumes another Board position, the vacant position shall be filled according to Article IX- SPECIAL ELECTION.

Note: The positions affected by this change are the President, Past-president, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Clean Our Stream

On **Saturday, April 7th** Chartley residents, Marlon Hernandez and his HAUL AWAY team, LifeBridge Health volunteers and friends of our stream will join together for the annual cleaning of the "Chartley" stream. The unnamed stream flows east from beneath

the Chartley Park Center through Chartley and into the Gwynns Falls watershed. Additional volunteers are needed this year as the county stream restoration project has exposed a new stream area. Participants will meet on Sacred Heart Lane, between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road at 9 am.

This activity is coordinated in Maryland by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and locally by Blue Water Baltimore and the Irvine Nature Center. Cleaner, litter free streams and woodlands produce a healthier, more beautiful Chesapeake Bay.

Last year thirty-one bags of trash and debris was collected along with a bucket of cement, steel and plastic pipe, a broken shovel and many balls of various types. This year we expect less trash in the stream, between Shirley Manor Road and Sacred Heart Lane, since a fence was erected at Shirley Manor Road. The challenge for 2018 is to clean the entire stream from Shirley Manor to Gwynn West

Volunteers are asked to wear boots or hard soled shoes and clothing suitable for the weather. Gloves, drinking water and trash bags will be provided.

2018 CHA Annual Yard Sale

Spring is a great time to say ‘out with the old and in with the new’. That also applies to things that have been lying around our homes, but which haven’t been used in years, or which we really don’t want anymore. Been thinking of getting rid of those items? Well, now’s your chance. Chartley Homeowners Association is again partnering with Country Club Estates Community Association in sponsoring our **Annual Yard Sale on May 5th, and on May 19th this year starting at 8:00 AM, and continuing until each participating resident decides to close up their “shop” for the day.** That start and ending time applies to both Saturdays.

Once again this year, **we are asking all who wish to participate to pre-register with us so that we can publish all participating addresses so that they can be quickly found by buyers looking for a bargain.** By publishing the addresses of all those who wish to participate, prospective buyers can more easily find each location without having to drive thru the community street by street.

Those residents that do not pre-register may still

participate in the event if desired; however, failure to pre-register may result in fewer prospective shoppers.

TO PRE-REGISTER

Please complete the pre-registration form that you can find at:

www.countryclubstatesreisterstown.org/yard-sale-registration.html

Registration is open for May 5th up until Wednesday May 2. Registration is open for May 19th up until Wednesday May 16.

If you have any questions or need assistance in pre-registering, please either call or email your coordinator. They will need to have the following information:

Your name: _____

(Your name will NOT be published on our list)

Your house number & Street: _____

What day(s) are you participating:

___ May 5th ___ May 19th ___ Both

Many of your items fall into what general

categories: (Must use one or more of these)

___ Yard ___ Baby ___ Toys ___ Tools (General)

___ Tools (Yard Related) ___ Furniture

___ Clothing ___ Household items

___ Kitchen Items ___ Kitchen Appliances

___ Appliances ___ Jewelry ___ Video Games

___ Electronics (TV's, Radio, Computers, Printers, Etc.)

___ Other

In addition, each community has designated a coordinator to help register those who wish to participate in their community and/or to answer any questions or concerns from their respective residents. Those coordinators are as follows:

Chartley----Dave Powers email davidlpowers@verizon.net Telephone No: 410-833-3734

Country Club----Mark Hemler email PresidentCCECA@gmail.com Telephone No: 410-299-7517

So start planning now and mark your calendars for **May 5th and May 19th.** All the homeowner has to do is clean out their unused items, move them out in front of their house and begin collecting the money. Any items that do not sell, or cannot be donated, can be brought to our dumpsters on our **combined Cleanup**

Day and Electronics Recycling Day event which is scheduled for Saturday, June 9th, behind the old Mars Food Store in the Reisterstown Shopping Center located at 11953 Reisterstown Road. We will provide you with more information about the Clean Up/Electronics Recycling Day event in the coming weeks

Crime in Chartley

From last November thru February, we have managed to slow down the Chartley Crime Clock, albeit only slightly. While our objective should always be to bring that old clock to a complete and permanent standstill, slowing it down for the past four months is a good beginning. As was the case in January, February saw three more crimes being reported by Chartley residents, bringing our year to date total to six (compared to ten that were reported during the same period last year). The chart below shows the crimes reported

| Type of Crime | Jan | Feb | Total |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Robbery (Armed-carjacking) | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Breaking and Entering | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Theft from Vehicle | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Property Crime (Destruction aka vandalism) | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals: | 3 | 3 | 6 |

so far this year.

Now that spring is approaching, we can expect the usual barrage of sales people knocking on our doors trying to entice us into purchasing their services. Please remember that all solicitors ARE REQUIRED to be licensed by the County and to have that license immediately available to show you upon demand. If you decide to hire such a solicitor, please demand to see their references and then check them out with the **Maryland Better Business Bureau**. Please also remember that solicitors MAY NOT offer any product or service if the resident has a ‘no soliciting’ sign (or sign with similar wording) that is conspicuously displayed on their property. Failure of the solicitor to adhere to either of these two provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$100 for each offense.

In order to reach our objective of ridding our community of crime altogether, each of us must work together to enforce a “**zero tolerance**” policy. None of us can afford to tolerate any crime anywhere, at any

time, within our community. If we do, then sooner or later, all of us are likely to become a victim. Please adopt the following rules as **Crime Prevention Standards** in everything you do:

Lock it up, each time, every time.

Keep the outside of your house illuminated after dark

Never leave valuables in your vehicles

Be aware of your surroundings wherever you are, particularly when you are outside or shopping after dark

If you see something, say something! Call 911 each time, every time.

If in doubt, let the police check it out

Possible Deceptive Tactics

We have received several reports of two situations that may involve possible deception tactics being used by some people claiming to represent alternative energy companies, as well as several reports of people who represent themselves as BGE employees trying to collect an overdue payment that they allege is owed BGE. At the moment, the majority of these incidents appear to be on the periphery of the Chartley community, but we wanted to make you aware of the situations as a precaution.

In the instances of possible deceptive tactics reported so far, someone knocks on a resident’s door and asks to see the resident’s BGE bill without explaining why that individual needs the information contained on the bill. In the past, several instances have occurred where the information contained on the resident’s BGE bill (name, address, phone number, BGE account number) was then used to change that residents service provider from BGE to the alternative energy supplier without the resident’s knowledge or permission. This is called “slamming” and is illegal.

If anyone appears at your door and asks to see your BGE bill, **do NOT show them your bill until you fully understand why they need to see it, what they intend to do with the information, and that they may be trying to get you to switch from BGE to the company they claim to represent. All solicitors are required to be licensed, have their license available on the spot to show you, and should have an id issued by the company they purport to represent. If they cannot provide their license number and their**

company id, we recommend that you shut and lock your door and immediately call 911 and let the police handle it from there. If you report these people as “**suspicious persons**” you will probably get a quicker police response. If possible, try to obtain a description of any vehicle the solicitor or a driver may be using, along with the vehicle license number, a description of the solicitor(s), and the direction of travel after you shut the door. However, you should not do anything to put yourself at risk in obtaining this information. Any such information obtained will be extremely useful to responding police officers.

In the 2nd situation, a person, or several individuals, incessantly bang on a resident’s door stating that they are there to collect an overdue payment the individuals claim the resident owes BGE. In at least one instance, the individuals continued banging on the resident’s door and yelling, even using profanity, DEMANDING to be let inside. In all the instances reported so far, the individual(s) stated that if the resident did not pay them on the spot, the individual(s) would immediately turn off the resident’s electricity. If anyone appears at your door and insists that you are in arrears in your payment to BGE and that you need to pay them right away, please consider this as a **possible home invasion and call 911 immediately! under no circumstances should you open your door to these individuals! Let the police deal with them, not you!** You can always call BGE later if you have any concerns about your account.

Finally, remember that this is now tax season and there are many different scammers that are attempting to get your personal information in order to file a fraudulent tax return using that information. Never give your personal information to anyone who either calls or sends you an email or text claiming to represent the IRS for any reason. The IRS **never** calls taxpayers to request any information whatsoever. If information is needed by the IRS, they will always send you a formal letter stating the situation and giving you instructions as to how to provide that information.

"It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."

-- Charles Darwin

SYKES TOY PROJECT SEEKS DONATIONS

Eighteen hard-working volunteers from Reisterstown meet twice a week at **Northminster Presbyterian Church** to refurbish toys, games, puzzles, crafts, and books for babies to teenagers. Everything is distributed to needy families in December to make the holidays a bit brighter. Last year over 300 children received presents.

Whether you represent a service organization or are an individual who has cleaned out your toy room, please recycle your gently used or new toys with this worthwhile project.

To arrange a time for dropping off, or to have someone pick up your donation, call **Maegan Thomas 443-527-3342** and leave a message or email her at **maegan.r.c@gmail.com**. Be sure to call us AFTER your yard sale. A tax credit receipt is available.

We are especially in need of gifts for teen girls and guys. Things like makeup and perfume and purses for gals and footballs/ basketballs and video games for boys.

Chartley Homeowners Association

Events Calendar



April 7, 2018 – Project Clean Stream
(See the article on Page 1.)

April 10, 2018 – Executive Board Meeting –
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm -- Reisterstown Fire Co.

April 21, 2018 -- Kiwanis Shredding Day
8:00 am – 12 Noon – Aldi’s Parking Lot

April 26, 2018 – CHA General Meeting –
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm – All Saints Church,

May 2, 2018 – Dining At Reter’s
11:00am to 9:00 pm – Reter’s Crab House

Main Street Events!

First Saturday of each month volunteers join together to pick up trash along Main Street from Chartley Drive up to the Royal Farms store as 140 turns toward Westminster. April 7th will be a double header event. It is also Clean Stream Day so please lend a hand to either event and keep our community clean.

Check out the www.reisterstown.com website and calendar to find event details happening in the area. Review the contest rules -- be creative and design your entry for the:

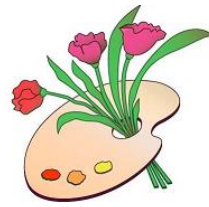


PEEPS CONTEST

Entries can be dropped off at the library starting Friday, March 16th from 4-5pm.

They will remain on display until March 31st when a winner will be announced at the **Eggstravaganza** Event. RIA will join with RUMC's activities starting with an egg hunt at 10am. There will be several craft vendors and the Easter Bunny will be hopping around with the activities. Great fun for the family!! Enjoy shopping in the stores along Main Street and stop for something to eat as well.

Mark your calendar for Bloomin' ArtFest at the



Franklin Middle School Saturday, May 12, 2018 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.

Music On Main Street at Trinity Hall

Music on Main Street at Trinity Hall returns with the 2nd concert of the season. The first concert which featured The New Romance on March 2nd was enjoyed by the more than 120 attendees on one of our biggest wind storm events in the area. Mark your calendars and plan to join us at the next concert, **Friday, April 6th at 7pm for Crushing Day** for just \$10 a ticket. Tickets will be available for online purchase shortly and can be pur-



chased at the door with cash or check.

Trinity Hall is located behind Trinity Lutheran Church located at 109 Main Street, Reisterstown, MD. Tickets may be purchased at the Reisterstown.com website or you may mail a check to **Reisterstown Improvement Association, PO Box 856, Reisterstown, MD 21136**. Tickets are limited. If we sell out, we will return your check to your return address.

Refreshments will be available for purchase. The event will be a fund raiser for the **Reisterstown Improvement Association/Music On Main Street**.

Reisterstown Main Street PEEPS CONTEST

ENTRY FORM

NAME OF ALL CONTRIBUTORS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TITLE OF ENTRY AND DESCRIPTION: _____

WILL YOU BE PICKING UP YOUR ENTRY? YES / NO

By entering the contest you agree to allow the Reisterstown Improvement Association to use your name and images of your entry in print or online publicity materials.

For more information, please contact Michael Donnelly
michael@reisterstown.com or 410-926-5584





FOCUS
ON FIRE SAFETY

Spring Cleaning & Fire Safety

As you are cleaning out this spring, don't forget about fire safety.

- Test your smoke alarms, and replace any alarms that are 10 years old or older.
- Test your carbon monoxide alarms, and replace any alarms that are 7 years old or older.
- Check your dryer vents and clean the hosing.
- Clean clutter inside and outside your home.
- Check the cords on your appliances. If any are cracked or frayed, repair or replace them.
- Practice your home fire escape plan.

*Spring Clean!
Think
Fire
Safety*

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.



FEMA

