



THE ECHATTER

An Electronic Publication for the Members of the
Chartley Homeowners Association

www.chartleyhomeowners.org

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2022 CHA Calendar
of Events on
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June 2022

President's Message

Hello neighbors. June marks the end of our fiscal year. I am very pleased with the accomplishments we had during the 2021-2022 year. After a couple of years in which COVID-19 dominated our lives, people learned how to protect themselves and others and begin to get out and do things again. CHA was able to again sponsor and hold a successful National Night Out in the open air with hand sanitizer readily available. Proceeds from the annual Crab Feast help provide \$1000 scholarships for two deserving Chartley graduates and we also collected food and other items for the Reisterstown Crisis Center. The Chartley stream was cleaned and a solar powered light installed over the pedestrian bridge providing security for students walking to school and others just out for some exercise.

The Baltimore County Street Sweeper has been out in the area and swept parts of Chartley already. I will be calling them in the Fall to do the whole community. They did not come on our request this time so I don't know their schedule or route. CHA is also planning to start periodic swings through the neighborhood to pick up trash in the street and against the curb. It will help if everyone would at least pickup what is in front of your house even though it might not be yours, but do it safely with gloves.

I am looking forward to a great summer of enjoying walks in the community, working on our property and the community, holding another fantastic National Night Out (volunteers needed, see in this issue how to sign up), relaxing to the return of Music on Main Street and hiking through the cool pathways of the Franklin Woodland Trail.

Till I talk to you again in the July issue, have a great summer!

Joe

presidentofcha@gmail.com

National Night Out

What is National Night Out? In Reisterstown NNO is an annual community event that is held on the first Tuesday of August in the Chartley Shopping Center from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. In 2022 that means our celebration will be held on August 2nd.

National Night Out is a different activity to different people. Some see it as free Chick fil-A nuggets, Mission BBQ pork sliders, cotton candy, freeze pops and drinks. Others enjoy the inflatable slide, football throw, corn hole or golf putting games. Younger children bounce on hopper balls, twirl hula hoops, color pictures or draw on the paint wall... Everyone enjoys face painting and taking pictures with mascots such as the "Oriole Bird", Chick fil-A Cow, McGruff, Sneaks the Cat and other characters. If you are a free raffle fanatic there are multiple free drawings in the gift card raffle.

NNO is the above and much more. There are informational displays, demonstrations and information on relevant topics of safety, health, emergency preparedness and community programs available in our community. County and state police display and explain the use of their equipment, career and volunteer fire fighters demonstrate life saving techniques, health issues are explored by LifeBridge Health and Baltimore County Department of Health professionals, and community representatives explain how you may participate in their programs. On the lighter side is an improv performance by our local Open Space Arts.

Community volunteers are planning an outstanding

NNO event. It will be a Great event with your participation. Volunteers are needed to help set up, take down or join us during the event. If you have an hour or two to volunteer contact Ernie at erschmidhauser@comcast.net or call 410-833-0262.

Follow NNO on the web at <https://nnoreisterstown.wixsite.com/nno-reisterstown> , on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/NNO.Reisterstown>.

CHA 2022 Yard Sale Results

Once again, this year, we set up two successive Saturdays for our Annual Yard Sale event, and joined our good friends in the Country Club Estates Community Association so that we could offer a multi-community yard sale. We were even successful in getting the management team the Chartleytowne Apartments and Townhouses to join us as well. And we utilized our already proven pre-registration process to help us advertise this event throughout the area. Everything was set up, well oiled, and ready to roll, right? ‘Not so fast, said Mother Nature, I have something to say about that!’.

And that’s exactly what happened on the first scheduled Saturday (May 14th) of this event as it rained all day! While only nine residents pre-registered to participate on that date, four of them, all of them hearty souls indeed, set up shop anyway!

The following Saturday (May 21st and the 2nd scheduled date for the event) Mother Nature smiled on us and gave us a gorgeous spring day! Seven Chartley residents had pre-registered to participate on that day, but, only three actually participated. Never the less, five other Chartley residents, who did not pre-register, also participated, making a total of 8 participating residents for the second Saturday.

Over the two Saturday’s then only 12 Chartley residents participated in the event. While that is somewhat disappointing, all those who did participate told us that it was a very good opportunity to get rid of some items that were no longer needed, make a little money, and be able to get out of the house for a bit. And every one of those who did pre-register for the event, particularly those not on our main streets, said that they had a better than normal influx of customers.

All of the participants over both weeks stated that

they would like to see CHA sponsor a Fall Community Yard Sale as well. So, how say you? Please let us know either by emailing davidpowers@verizon.net or going to our web page at [CHA \(chartleyhomeowners.org\)](http://CHA(chartleyhomeowners.org)) and complete the survey found there. Stay tuned and we will update you ASAP!

CHA Presents Certificate Of Appreciation

Meet Officer Nicholas McElfish



Dave Powers presenting Chartley Homeowners Association 2022 Certificate of Appreciation to Officer McElfish on 9-11-2022. In the background is Lt. Mandy Biter and Captain Joe Jamerson.

For a number of years now, Chartley Homeowners Association has shown our support for the officers of Precinct 3 by

presenting our Certificate of Appreciation to a Precinct 3 police officer that has gone ‘above and beyond’ in supporting our community and the entire Reister-

stown area. Normally, we select the name of the officer from information provided to us throughout the year from our residents. This year however, the new Commanding Officer of Precinct 3 asked us to allow



The Certificate

his staff to select the officer for this award; and that officer that has been outstanding in a number of ways!

As a result, we were honored to present Chartley Homeowners Association Certificate of Appreciation as our Officer of the Year award to Officer Nicholas McElfish at the Annual Officer Appreciation Day Event on Saturday, June 11th.

Officer McElfish is a distinguished, dedicated and highly professional officer, who currently works the night shift, who really keeps his eyes open during his patrols and will stop and investigate anything that doesn't look right to him. This has resulted, for example, in his ability to locate and arrest suspects breaking into vehicles and stealing items from them. As we have stated frequently in our Crime in Chartley articles, the most frequent crime reported in Chartley over the past several years, has been Theft from Vehicles, particularly Theft from UNLOCKED Vehicles. This has been particularly true during the overnight hours. So, we are particularly grateful that Officer McElfish has been able to help stop some of these perps.

Officer McElfish was selected as Officer of the Month several times during the past year alone. Being selected as Officer of the Month one time during the year is quite an accomplishment, but being selected several times shows the dedicated professionalism of this outstanding officer. On top of that, he has been selected as Officer of the Month multiple times during his seven years with the Police Department.

The staff at Precinct 3 told me that Officer McElfish can consistently be heard on the police radio indicating that he had seen something and was initiating actions on his own. In addition, he is frequently heard that he is responding as a back up to fellow officers, making traffic stops, and responding to calls for service. In regards to the traffic stops, speeding throughout the entire area, including Chartley, has become a primary concern expressed in our Police Community Relations Council meetings for a number of months now.

Two noteworthy examples of Officer McElfish's accomplishments, outside of Chartley, but within the precinct, are as follows:

1. He was the first officer to respond to an ATM alarm. Upon arriving at the scene, he found a utility truck still hooked up to the ATM. The suspect took off on foot and ran into the nearby woods with Officer McElfish right behind him. Officer McElfish won the race and the suspect was arrested without incident.

This incident was reported in area news media.

2. He responded to a call for medical assistance where an individual suffered a seizure. Unfortunately, this individual did not survive the seizure. The owner of the house had reported that the deceased individual was the only occupant of the house. But, while there, Officer McElfish felt that something wasn't quite right. He noticed that the room occupied by the deceased was very hot with no outside ventilation. He then heard some faint noises coming from another room in the house and went to investigate. He found other adult individuals in that room, which was also very hot with no outside ventilation. Five people from that home had to be transported to the hospital that night due to the conditions within the home. The owner was apparently operating an adult care home without a license. Working with detectives, they found two firearms with obliterated serial numbers, numerous credit and debit cards and large amounts of cash. For his actions in this situation, an EMS Lieutenant sent a letter to the Chief of Police for Baltimore County commending him for his outstanding professionalism and job performance.

Officer McElfish was known to frequently patrol the Chartley area during his shift, even though it was not his primary patrol area. That has changed though as now Chartley is his primary area and he has been assigned the official Chartley Post Car, car number 327.

Welcome to Chartley, Officer Nicholas McElfish!

Crime In Chartley

June 2022

May was not a particularly good month regarding crime in Chartley as five thefts were reported throughout the community. Three of those thefts occurred on different Mondays, but there doesn't seem to be any pattern regarding the time of day or the streets involved. The same is true for the other two thefts that were reported. However, the randomness of these thefts indicates that all residents need to reassess the measures they are taking to prevent things from being stolen from their property. So, take a look around your homes and secure any item that may be tempting to a thief.

In addition to the five thefts mentioned above, we have also seen a number of reports that are not necessarily considered as crimes. These reports include such things as verbal disturbances, suspicious person, suspicious vehicle, suspicious activity, and check on location. This indicates that Chartley residents are becoming more alert and calling 911 whenever they notice something amiss. WAY TO GO CHARTLEY!!!! That is exactly what we need to do to keep crime as low as possible. **Remember, if in doubt; let the police check it out.** Seeing police vehicles within our community sends a strong message to the “bad guys.”

We have seen a number of reports recently on social media of so called “smash and grab” crimes where vehicle windows are smashed and contents within the vehicle being stolen. Based on the information contained in the social media reports, the items stolen were things like cash, several wallets/purses and electronic devices. This would indicate that these items were easily visible within the vehicle. Please remember to NEVER leave valuable items in plain view when leaving your vehicle. If possible, always park your vehicle in well-lit areas after dark. Once again, having an outside home security video camera would serve as a deterrent to thieves, and they are also helpful to keep away those pesky, and often illegitimate, door to door sales persons. While none of the “smash and grab” thefts took place in Chartley, a number of them were very close to our community.

Complaints have been received throughout the Precinct regarding juveniles riding their bicycles directly into oncoming traffic, sometimes doing wheelies, and riding directly at oncoming vehicles. The primary areas of concern in Chartley are in the 500 Block of Gwynnwest Road and in the 400 Block of Shirley Manor Road. Some of these complaints indicate that there were several close calls where the driver of the vehicle almost hit one of these juveniles. That was particularly true over the Memorial Day weekend. Bicyclists must obey the same traffic laws as drivers of automobiles. If you see this type of dangerous activity, please call 911 right away. You could be saving a life.

Baltimore County Police has an active program in an effort to recruit approximately 100 new police officers. Along with a very good benefits package, a lucrative signing bonus is being offered to new recruits. In addition, a salary bonus is being offered to bilingual recruits. If you know of someone who might

be interested, more information can be found at: **[Become a Baltimore County Police Officer or Cadet - Baltimore County \(baltimorecountymd.gov\)](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov)**

As everyone is aware, one of the most serious concerns throughout the entire country is the mounting death toll from drug overuse. Baltimore County, and yes, even Chartley and our entire surrounding area have been negatively impacted by this growing problem. We have noted a number of drug related arrests, and even some reported drug overdose 911 calls throughout the entire area. One of the biggest concerns is the growing death rate from the prolific use of Fentanyl; Even a small trace of Fentanyl can kill. While we hear about this drug on social media and on television news shows, what should we as residents, parents, and grandparents, know in order to help our loved ones be aware of, and avoid, this deadly drug. Now we will have that opportunity that could possibly save lives! **Baltimore County States Attorney General, Scott Shellenberger, has agreed to attend our National Night Out event on August 2nd (see NNO article in this issue) to provide everyone with vital information regarding this growing problem, and to answer your questions. This is an opportunity that you will not want to miss, and, it could save a life. So, make sure to put this on your calendar!**

Speaking of the growing concerns with drugs, we have occasionally found drug related paraphernalia on our streets, sidewalks, and on lawns. If you should encounter such materials anywhere, or materials that you may suspect to be related to drugs (e.g., pills, capsules, needles, powder, small plastic baggies, etc.), **DO NOT TOUCH THAT MATERIAL.** Call 911 immediately to report the material. The police are trained to safely remove such material...and it may also give them clues regarding drug trafficking.

Now is the time of year when all of us can enjoy getting outside in the warmer temperatures and enjoy! But it NOT the time when we should become so relaxed as to forget that the “bad guys” are always on the prowl. So, protect yourselves, and your loved ones, by always remembering to:

- **Lock it up, each time, every time.**
- **Keep the outside of your house illuminated after dark.**
- **Strongly consider the installation of home security cameras around your property.**
- **Never leave your vehicle running unattended.**

- Never leave valuables in your vehicles.
- Never leave the keys to any property inside your vehicle.
- Be aware of your surroundings wherever you are, particularly when you are outside or shopping after dark.
- NEVER, EVER, FOR ANY REASON, GIVE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION WHATSOEVER TO ANYONE UNTIL YOU HAVE VERIFIED THE SOURCE FIRST.
- If you see something, say something! Call 911

- Remember that if you don't call 911, there will not be a police response... no response...no police follow up to prevent further crimes...MAKE THAT CALL, EACH TIME, EVERY TIME. And call 911 even if you do make a mistake and the criminals take advantage of you. Never be too embarrassed to make that call. You could be helping someone else by allowing the police to start closing the ring on the criminals. MAKE THAT CALL!

Reisterstown Main Street

Volunteers gather twice each month to work with the Clean Safe Green committee on our town. The 1st Saturday of each month Main Street Cleanups start 9am in the Landmark Shopping parking and the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9am volunteers gather near the bridge behind Reisterstown United Methodist Church to work on Franklin Woodland Trails.

Something new can be seen each month... make sure you take a look and enjoy.



The market will once again be held on the Main Street side of Franklin Middle School Sundays from 9am – 1pm. This year it will start June 5th and be held

each Sunday until October 30th. Let's shop local and eat well in 2022!

The town can't wait for Music on Main Street concerts to restart. They are back Friday nights from 6:30pm – 9:30pm!! The first concert will be Friday, June 24th and then every Friday until August 26th Take a look at the list of bands and bring your chairs and/or blanket out to relax and enjoy.

RIA has been busy planning for streetscape amenities in the 200 block with the Vision towards making our town a Destination - both interesting to our residents and attractive to visitors. You will find four mosaic planters placed in the 200 block by the first concert on June 24th. We have two murals that will be

painted this summer. One on the north facing wall of 237 Main Street will show our town's historic structures and another illustrative mural will be added to the south facing the wall of 227 Main Street complementing the theme. Chess/checker game tables have been ordered and will be placed as soon as they are delivered. We have a town chess club that anxiously awaits their arrival.

FOOD VENDORS FREE CONCERTS FAMILY FUN
FRIDAY NIGHTS 6:30-9:30PM

SUMMER 2022 CONCERT SCHEDULE

6.24	SAGAMORE BAND
7.1	EXPERIENCE
7.8	SONS OF PIRATES
7.15	THE MAGICAL MYSTERY GIRLS
7.22	CRUSH
7.29	DON'T STOP
8.5	BOOTLEG BAND
8.12	JOSH CHRISTINA BAND
8.19	RICK OLAGUER & THE POST
8.26	DIFFERENT SISTERS

Franklin Middle School, Main St. and Cockeys Mill Rd.
 Reisterstown MD. www.Reisterstown.com
 Partially funded by a grant from United Way of Central Maryland and LifeBridge Health

CHA 2022 Calendar of Events

Project	Location	Date	Time
National Night Out	Chartley Park Shopping Center	Tuesday, August 2, 2022	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Reisterstown Festival Parade	Main St. to Hannah More	Saturday, September 10, 2022	9:00 am
Reisterstown Festival	Hannah More Regional Park	September 10, 2022 and September 11, 2022	11:00 am to 10:00 pm 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
County Bulk Trash Removal	Residence – Curb Side	In September , according to the 2022 Bulk Item Collection Schedule you received in the mail.	
CHA Crab and Turf Feast	American Legion Post 116 1090 Westminster Pike Reisterstown, MD	Saturday, October 15, 2022	5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
CHA General Meeting	To Be Determined	October 27, 2022	7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
CHA Executive Board Meetings are being held on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company, Main St., 7:00-8:30 PM. All are welcome to participate.			