



THE ECHATTER

An Electronic Publication for the Members of the
Chartley Homeowners Association

www.chartleyhomeowners.org

Stay Safe.

Stay Healthy.

Wear Your Mask.

March 2021

COVID-19 changes that went into effect on Friday, “Baltimore County to Align with Maryland’s Latest Action”, are on Page 8.

Chartley Scholarship Program

Each year the Chartley Homeowners Association awards two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating Chartley seniors. **April 1, 2021** is the deadline for submitting your CHA scholarship application. Here are the eligibility requirements:

1. Parents/legal guardians of the applicant must be homeowners in the Chartley community and the applicant must reside in the Chartley community.
2. The applicant’s household must be a current dues-paying member of the Chartley Homeowners Association on or before **December 1, 2020**.
3. The applicant must be a senior in high school (Franklin, Owings Mills, Baltimore County magnet, private, home school).

Once you are sure you meet these requirements, download the scholarship application request form from the CHA website and mail it to:

**CHA Scholarship Committee
432 Deacon Brook Circle
Reisterstown, MD 21136**

If you have any questions, you can call Chairman Chris, Yambor at 410-526-0004.

Stream Cleanup 2021

Do you suffer from “cabin fever”? Are you tired of snow and cold weather? Then celebrate the arrival of Spring by volunteering to help clean our stream on **Saturday, April 3rd**.

Each April volunteers from Chartley, and their friends, clean litter and debris from the “Chartley Stream”. Our stream flows through our community into the Gwynns Falls Watershed and ultimately into the Chesapeake Bay.



Melting snow and rainfall wash chemicals, litter and debris from our lawns and streets into our storm drains that flow into our “Chartley Stream”. Last year fourteen volunteers removed fifteen bags of trash, litter and discarded objects that had washed or were blown into our stream.

Unlock your life. Put on your mask and go outside and get fresh air. Join your homeowner’s association on Saturday, April 3rd, at 9 am. on Sacred Heart Lane (at the bridge between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road). Wear boots or hard soled shoes and clothing suitable for the weather. You will be socially distanced from others, but don’t forget to wear your mask. Gloves will be provided.

Crime in Chartley

Spring will soon be here and oh how glad I am to see it arrive. I'm tired of all the freezing rain and blankets of snow and I am looking forward to the warmer days. But with the balmy days comes the annual parade of people trying to take advantage of us, particularly those of us who are senior citizens. These scammers, a.k.a. thieves, will be out trying to convince you that you need every improvement you can think of to your home or yard. And, the police are saying that it has already started in the form of deception burglaries which usually involve two people, one to divert the home owner's attention while the other steals whatever they can find. In the past this type of crime has ranged from home repair scams to people posing as utility workers, sometimes claiming to be from BGE, demanding to see the homeowner's bill for some reason they claim is necessary. The police have recently issued a warning regarding Deception Burglaries which can be found on **Page 4** of this eChatter.

One way to help minimize unwanted sales people and scammers from knocking on your door is to post a "No Soliciting" sign in a prominent location where it can be easily seen by anyone walking up to your front door. Baltimore County Code prohibits people from soliciting at homes that display such signs. Violators are subject to a fine if found guilty in a court of law. (We've provided one on **Page 8**.)

Another deterrent, that is really useful in both preventing unwanted sales people from knocking on your door, as well as preventing crime in general, and which is also useful in situations to help solve crimes, is the growing use of outdoor video cameras such as doorbell cameras. Thieves do not want to be photographed so they will usually go somewhere else when they see any type of camera. The vast majority of cameras being used today to help secure the outside of our homes are high definition, work well at night, record sound as well as video, and can be accessed virtually instantly from your cell phone or computer. We continue to urge all residents to seriously consider acquiring outside video surveillance cameras. They provide a very worthwhile extra layer of security around our homes, which helps with the overall security of the entire community. Many insurance companies also offer discounts on homeowner insurance policies if the resident has such cameras. All in all, these cameras are a very

worthwhile investment.

Now that spring is fast approaching, many of us are looking forward to getting outside and enjoying the fresh, warmer air while we do some much-needed yardwork. That's a great idea and has a healthful benefit as well as helping to make the area look better. But the bad guys know that all of us are anxious to get outside for a while...and they are lurking to see if we forget to lock our doors and windows while we are getting some rays. So, let's not allow ourselves to become a crime victim. We must always make sure that we secure our home whenever we go outside. And don't forget to lock your sheds when you are finished. The bad guys have a knack of being able to find unlocked sheds particularly during the spring, summer, and fall seasons.

In addition to the warning about deception burglaries mentioned above, the police have asked us to advise everyone of the following:

- There was a smash and grab break in at Chartley Liquors on Saturday February 14th in the early morning hours. Cigarettes and liquor were stolen.
- There was a carjacking in Foundry Row in Owings Mills. The vehicle was located and suspects were arrested.
- Police are looking for a package thief who has been stealing packages from a number of porches throughout the area. The suspect is driving what appears to be a light blue/greyish sedan (possibly an Acura) with tinted windows and a sunroof. The suspect follows the delivery person as they enter a neighborhood and then shortly after the package is delivered, takes the package off the resident's porch and drives away. Thanks to being captured on several doorbell cameras, the police have a pretty good picture of the suspect, but cannot identify the suspect as of now. The police are asking anyone who may have any information to call **Lt. Doug Jess at 410-887-6929** or to email him at djess@baltimore-countymd.gov.
- Two vehicles that were left unattended while being warmed up were stolen in the New Town area. Police haven't located either the vehicle or any suspects as of this date.
- There is a surge in theft from unlocked vehicles throughout the area. The police are urging everyone to lock their vehicles each time they leave them, and then to recheck to make sure that the vehicle is securely locked. The police are also urging everyone to keep all valuables out of their vehicles, and to report

any suspicious behavior, especially at night.

- Thieves are again stealing catalytic converters from vehicles throughout the county in order to obtain the precious metals they contain. The police are urging people to park their vehicles in well-lit areas and to make sure they look out their windows if they hear any strange noises. Always call 911 if you note anything suspicious.

- Update on the installation of speed humps on Central Avenue in Glyndon. This effort is being opposed by the fire department which claims that such traffic control devices will slow down their response times and will also create unnecessary wear and tear on the fire department's vehicles. Never the less, the study is continuing. To be successful, 75% of the residents on Central Avenue would have to agree to these devices. At the moment, the study is for the installation of 8 brick topped speed bumps, spaced equidistant apart, but not at the locations of the current stop signs along Central Avenue. If installed, the stop signs would be eliminated.

As you can tell, despite the pandemic, the bad guys are still out there taking advantage of any failure on our part to secure our homes and property. With the onset of spring, it's critical that each of us make the following part of our daily routines:

- **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.**
- **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 each time, every time.**
- **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. 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!**

National Night Out

National Night Out is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, August 3rd** – COVID-19 restrictions permitting. Currently outdoor events such as NNO are not permitted and popular Main Street activities such as the **Bloomin' ArtFest** and **Music on Main Street** have been cancelled for this year. It is our hope that National Night Out 2021 will be permitted by revised state and county regulations as the vaccine program continues to inoculate residents.

Enthusiasm for National Night Out is beginning to build as plans for this summer's activity are discussed. Residents, businesses and community groups look forward to participating in an outdoor socially responsible event that is fun, and informative.

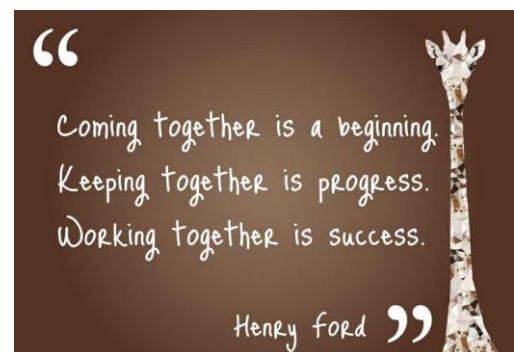


NNO 2019 – We will get there again.

Time is quickly passing but it is not too late for you to join our **NNO Planning Group**. Bring, call, or email your thoughts and ideas to Ernie "S" at **410-833-0262** or by email at erschmidhauser@com-cast.net for the next meeting id and password.

See you on zoom on **April 27th**.

Zoom General Meeting – April 29th – 7:00 pm
See the Calendar of Events on Page 7.



Community Resources Team Crime Prevention Alert



Deception Burglaries

Deception Burglary is a type of crime that involves individuals who attempt to enter homes through deception or diversion. This is a scenario that we see played out more and more frequently. Seniors are sometimes targeted, but all citizens need to be aware of this crime and how it is perpetrated.

Here are some examples of how this type of crime is executed:

The suspect knocks on your door or approaches you while you are **outside** working on your yard, washing your automobile, etc. He or she claims to need your help or offers to do construction or maintenance type work outside your home. This offer requires you to accompany the suspect to look at your roof, fence, and check property lines, etc. While the first suspect is diverting your attention outside, a second suspect enters your home and steals money, jewelry, and other valuables before you return. It may be days before you realize you have been victimized.

Another scenario involves the suspect(s) inquiring about the purchase of an item that you have displayed **outside** for sale, (e.g., car, boat, camper trailer, etc.). The first suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect enters the home and steals your valuables. The suspect sometimes agrees to purchase the item to get you more interested (or in this scenario more distracted) and agrees to return with the money. For obvious reasons they never return.

A similar scenario can also take place **inside** your home. The suspect will come to your door claiming to be a representative of a utility, cable, telephone company, etc. They will ask you to let them in to test the service. While you are assisting the first suspect who you believe to be a legitimate representative, the second suspect enters the home and steals your valuables.

In all three of these scenarios the suspect diverting your attention will usually stay in contact with the second suspect by cell phone or two-way radio. This way the suspects can alert each other of potential problems that would jeopardize the success of the crime.

Report any suspicious individuals or activity by immediately calling 911. If you can take note of license tag numbers, vehicle descriptions, or suspect descriptions without putting yourself at risk, it can be helpful to responding officers.

If you have been victimized by this type of scam please contact the police immediately, (911) or if you have any questions or concerns about this document, please call the Baltimore County Police Department's Community Resources Unit at 410 887-5901.

President's Message

Warm weather is returning making everyone happy to get outside and enjoy the approaching Spring!! Can't wait to open those windows to let in fresh air, flowers bloom, trees getting leaves, and tend those gardens. That same feeling is on everyone's mind for getting ever increasing numbers of people fully vaccinated and once again visiting with family and friends.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Baltimore County is following the state guidelines for re-opening stores, restaurants and services and it is time to celebrate this push back to our new normal after the pandemic. Vaccinations are increasing so do prepare and be ready when it is your turn. The state is open through Priority 1C and Baltimore County through their health department is scheduling appointments to complete through completing 1B and has opened more mass vaccination sites. There are opportunities through pharmacies like CVS, UMMS is managing appointments for the Baltimore Convention Center and M&T Stadium. Most people say to check those links early each morning (7am) to schedule. Baltimore County has funded through a grant offering UBER rides for anyone who can't get to a site. Call 311 and let them know you need help.

CDC announced 3/8/2021 changes to their guidelines about what fully vaccinated people can do as they move out of their homes and again interact with the community. You are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after the 2nd dose of Pfizer or Moderna or after the single dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

The changes after full vaccination are:

- You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask
- You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms. However, if you live in a group setting like a group home, and are around someone who has COVID-19 you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested,

even if you don't have symptoms.

Even after full vaccination some recommendations remain unchanged:

- Continue wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from other, avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces whenever in public, gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household, visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk.
- Avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.
- Delay domestic and international travel and if you have to travel check the guidelines in detail
- Follow guidance at your workplace.

Reisterstown Main Street

Clean-Up Main Street event is held the 1st Saturday of each month, 9am @ the parking lot of the Landmark Shopping Center (in front of Reter Crab House & Grill). We always welcome volunteers to join us.

The 2nd Saturday of each month at 9am volunteers gather near the bridge behind Reisterstown United Methodist Church to work on **Franklin Woodland Trail**. New additions appear each month, come and take a walk. The Spring Story Trail has replaced the Winter Story Trail. No worries, if you missed the Winter story as it will return in the future. On March 13th, volunteers spread mulch to define the various twists and turns. Plans are to have a **Grand Opening ceremony Saturday, September 18th** ... mark your calendar to come celebrate..”

Hopefully the **Reisterstown Library** will be opening to the public as the trail celebrates its opening. Work is on schedule to be completed mid-summer and everyone is anxious to see.

Restrictions are still affecting events on Main Street that normally draw large crowds with the Beer & Wine Festival, Bloomin' ArtFest, and Music on Main Street concerts all canceled for 2021. We are happily planning to bring them back in 2022.

Work continues for improvements to our street improving walkability, adding streetscaping, signage, a Heritage Trail, and a **Pocket Park** with grant funding. RIA has also received grant funding that is helping our Main Street businesses with the expenses related to COVID-19. We want to help them re-open fully and serve our community.

Our fall Main Street craft pop-up shops were very popular! Come visit this year's



will also be able to see the Easter bunning strolling.

Spring Eggstravaganza. It will follow the same format adding these crafters spaced appropriately to our own Main Street stores. Mark your calendar and plan to come shop **Saturday, March 27th** and stroll Main Street where you

 **BALTIMORE County RESTAURANT WEEK**
LOCAL FLAVOR | DELICIOUS DEALS

Reisterstown restaurants participate in the program celebrating from **April 16th – May 2nd.**

Remember to Support our LOCAL Eateries!

- Kecco's Neapolitan Woodfire Kitchen**
114 Westminster Pike, 410-526-6900
- Piedras Calientes Bistro** 21A Main Street,
410-833-4722
- Maria's Reisterstown** 31 Main Street,
410-777-9707
- The Grill at Harryman House** 340 Main Street,
410-833-8850
- Reiter's Crab House & Grille** 509 Main Street,
410-526-3300

The graphic features a yellow background. At the top left, the text 'MARYLAND COVID-19' is in red, followed by 'VACCINE PRIORITY' in large, bold, black letters. To the right is a small image of a yellow vaccine vial with a white label that reads 'VACCINE COVID-19 ml / Injection only'. Below the text is a pyramid divided into five horizontal sections, each with a label and a list of priority groups:

- 1A**
 - Health care workers
 - Residents and staff of nursing facilities
 - First responders, public safety, corrections
- 1B**
 - Assisted living, other congregate settings
 - Adults age 75 and older
 - Education and continuity of government
- 1C**
 - Adults age 65-74
 - Essential workers in lab services, agriculture, manufacturing, postal service, etc
- 2**
 - Adults 16-64 at increased risk of severe COVID-19 illness due to comorbidities
 - Essential workers in critical utilities, transportation, food service, etc
- 3**
 - General population, including healthy adults age 16-64

CHA 2021 Calendar of Events

(Bold Events are CHA Sponsored)

Project	Location	Date	Time
Project Clean Stream	Sacred Heart Lane, between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road	Saturday, April 3, 2021	9:00 am to Noon
Kiwanis Shredding Day	Cherryvale Shopping Center (Home Depot)	Saturday, April 17, 2021	8:00 am to Noon
CHA General Meeting	Zoom Meeting *	Thursday, April 29, 2021	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
CHA Yard Sale	Residents Yards	Saturday, May 15, 2021	8:00 am to Residents Discretion.
Clean Up & Electronic Recycling Day	Behind the old Mars Food Store	To Be Determined	
National Night Out	Chartley Park Shopping Center	Tuesday, August 3, 2021	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Reisterstown Festival Parade	Main St. to Hannah More	Saturday, September 11, 2021	8:00 am
CHA Crab Feast	American Legion Post 116 1090 Westminster Pike Reisterstown, MD	October 16, 2021	5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
CHA General Meeting	Reisterstown Elementary School	October 2021 (Date To Be Determined)	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

During the COVID-19 pandemic, CHA Executive Board Meetings are being held as Zoom Meetings the second Tuesday of each month (except December). All are welcome to participate.

* Email presidentofcha@gmail.com to get the login information.

Chartley Homeowners Association, Inc
Membership Application

2020/2021 2021/2022
7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021 7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022

Enclosed are my membership dues for year(s):
 Annual Dues - \$10:00 per Household Amount Paid: \$ _____ Check No.: _____ Cash

Name (s) (Print): _____ Address: _____ Home No.: _____ Cell No.: _____ E-Mail Address: _____	Make check payable to: Chartley Homeowners Association, Inc. Mail application to: P.O. Box 408, Reisterstown, MD 21136-0408 For questions call: Betsy at 410-833-5523		
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowner <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord			
<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; vertical-align: top;">Volunteers are Welcomed</td> <td> I (we) will help with: <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality <input type="checkbox"/> National Night Out <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning/Traffic <input type="checkbox"/> ROG Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol (COP) </td> </tr> </table>		Volunteers are Welcomed	I (we) will help with: <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality <input type="checkbox"/> National Night Out <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning/Traffic <input type="checkbox"/> ROG Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol (COP)
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9/20

Baltimore County to Align with Maryland's Latest Actions



Baltimore County will align with state of Maryland's latest actions which, effective Friday, March 12th at 5:00 p.m., will:

- Lift capacity limits on outdoor and indoor dining at restaurants and bars, retail businesses, religious facilities, fitness centers, casinos, personal services, and indoor recreational establishments;
- Permit large outdoor and indoor venues, includes theaters; concert, convention, and wedding venues; racing facilities, and outdoor entertainment and sporting venues, to begin operating at 50% capacity; and
- Lift state quarantine requirements and other restrictions on out-of-state travel.

While capacity limits have been lifted, bars, restaurants and food service establishments must still maintain social distancing requirements. Customers must be seated to be served, and tables must be arranged with six feet of distance between them. Booths must have physical barriers separating them.

NOTICE

**NO
SOLICITING**