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ATTIME VIJIAMED INT LAME

A Quarterly Publication of the Chartley Homeowners Association

Calendar of Events

Executive Board Meetings

- Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 14, 7:00 pm

Reisterstown Vol. Fire Co.

(All are welcome)

General Meeting

• Thursday, April 23, 7:00 pm

Reisterstown Elementary School (Date and Location Tentative)

Inside This Issue

- 1 President's Message
- 3 Clean Chartley Stream
- 4 Dining at Reter's
- 5 Crime in Chartley
- 5 National Night Out Meeting
- 5 Reisterstown Shopping Center News
- 8 Membership
- 9 Interview with Chris Clews
- 10 The Reister's Daughter Review
- 11 Piedras Calientes Review
- 12 CHA 2020 Calendar of Events
- 12 Winterize Your Home Tips
- 14 Removal of Snow & Ice Information
- 16 News from Reisterstown ES
- 16 Letter to RES Parents
- 18 Reisterstown Main Street News
- 19 CHA Scholarship Information

Mission Statement

The Chartley Homeowners Association, Inc. promotes the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the homes within the Chartley area, the general well being of the community, and works to preserve Chartley as an attractive and safe neighborhood. It operates in coordination with other civic organizations to assist in educating residents about, and in the implementation of crime prevention programs, health initiatives, scholarship programs, cleanup campaigns, and other activities to maintain and improve properties within the community.

Mary Molinaro, President presidentofcha@gmail.com

Chatter Staff chatterstaff@comcast.net



(See the 2020 CHA Calendar of Events on Page 12)

President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

And now we enter a new decade...the time is passing too quickly many will say. We hope everyone had a good holiday season celebrating with family and friends and ready for 2020 in Chartley.

Our new information signs were installed in December and will continue to post reminders of many events as they approach... look through the calendar later in the paper to mark your calendar.

Our town is bustling and volunteers are working hard in the Reisterstown Main Street organization to bring economic vitality, improve Streetscapes, improve Facades, celebrate historic properties,

1

and entertain everyone at concerts and farmers' markets throughout the summer which complement the one-day events in spring and fall.

CHA residents volunteer to improve our town and for that I am proud to represent you with county and state officials. Membership in the organization helps to show them that the community cares. It is only \$10 (less that a large pizza) for a one-year membership. Please check and see if your address is listed later in the Chatter and if not complete the membership application and mail in your check.

Members of our community recently opened a town coffee shop, The Reister's Daughter. Have you visited? They join two other eateries that opened on Main Street, El Gran Pollo and Piedras Calientes Continued on Page 3

PO Box 408 Reisterstown, MD 21136-0408

Reter's Crab House and Grille

RIBS AND RAW BAR

Nightly Specials

11/4 lb. Steamed Lobster Monday: \$15.99 All you can eat Shrimp \$14.99 Tuesday: Wednesday: 12 oz. Prime Rib \$13.99 Thursday: Half-pound Burgers \$6.00 Sat. & Sun: Make your own Bloody Mary \$3.00 (11-3 pm)

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Presidents Message from Page 1

Bistro. All three are creating a buzz. Read the restaurant reviews later in this month's Chatter.

We want to thank all of our 2019 volunteers who helped make so many activities successful. Please consider coming to our Executive Board Meetings (first Tuesday of each month, 7pm at the Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company) as well as the General Meetings (the dates and locations are listed in the calendar).

Should you have ideas for the Association and want to help, please email me.

Looking forward to a great year, Mary Molinaro, Presidentofcha@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed To Clean the Chartley Stream

Join your neighbors and CHA to clean the "Chartley Stream" on Saturday, April 4th from 9 am to noon. We meet at the bridge on Sacred Heart Lane, between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road.

Our community stream flows eastward from beneath the Chartley Shopping Center at Shirley Manor Road through the restored area and joins other streams near the rail road tracks in the Gwynns Falls Watershed. When it rains storm water carries whatever is in our streets down the street surface drains into the Gwynn Falls Watershed which empties into the Baltimore Harbor. Debris from our streets contributes to algae blooms and trash that accumulates in the Chesapeake Bay and kills aquatic life.

Failure to keep our stream clean is not only an eyesore but decreases the property values of the homes in our community.

Everyone is invited to join us in keeping our "Chartley Stream" clean. No specific skills are required and on the job training is available. Meet us at the bridge on Sacred Heart Lane, between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road at 9 am on Saturday, April 4th.

Don't forget to wear hard soled shoes or boots and clothing suitable for the weather. Gloves and

drinking water will be provided. For additional information contact **Dan at 410-833-3197** or **Ernie at 410-833-0262** or by email at **erschmidhauser @comcast.net.**

Dining at Reter's

Celebrate the arrival of Spring by enjoying your lunch and/or dinner at Reter's Crab House and Grille on Wednesday, April 29th and help CHA raise money for its scholarship fund. This is the ninth year that Chartley resident and CHA member Brad Reter has hosted "Dining at Reter's at his popular restaurant at 509 Main Street, in the Landmark Shopping Center behind Brick Bodies.

Reter's is acclaimed for its great steamed crabs, traditional Maryland seafood, delicious baby back ribs, tender prime ribs and juicy burgers. Reter's has been recognized by **Baltimore Magazine** as one of the Best Crab Houses in Maryland. Have you enjoyed their lobster roll? Transplants from New England claim the lobster roll at Reter's is the best south of Wells Beach, Maine.

If seafood is not your favorite dining out meal, there are many other specials including a sliced Bourbon Grilled Prime Rib sandwich and a 12 ounce Prime Rib that are Wednesday features.

It is easy to participate in the CHA Dining at Reter's event. Just bring your significant other, your children and meet your friends and neighbors at Reter's on Wednesday, April 29th for lunch and/or dinner. Identify yourself as a CHA Dining at Reter's participant. You may order any food and drink item from their menu including the specials of the day. Brad Reter will donate 10% of the in house restaurant food and drink receipts to the Chartley Homeowners Association for the scholarship program. Carry out orders are excluded.

Our only obligation is that CHA has to provide 50 or more diners to eat in Reter's restaurant and pay for their food and drink. In the past Dining at Reter's is one of the most popular CHA activities and we usually double the minimum requirement.

Mark Wednesday, April 29th on your calendar and make plans to join your friends and neighbors for lunch and/or dinner at Dining at Reter's.

Crime in Chartley

Final 2019 Report

Another New Year and another new decade! Let's hope that both the New Year and the new decade will be a great one for all.

Our crime stats were a bit higher during 2019 than they were in 2018. But, we believe that this slippage had more to do with our carelessness, particularly in our not remembering to lock our vehicles when we leave them unattended, than due to an actual increase in crime. Sadly, criminals exist everywhere, even in Chartley. But, they can only thrive when residents give them the opportunity to ply their trade.

Chartley residents reported a total of 56 crimes during 2019 as compared to 50 in 2018, and 55 during 2017. So, even though our stats were not as good as they were during the past several years, we wound up 2019 not too far off our "normal", or "average." I hate to use the words "normal" or "average" to describe our crime statistics, as the correct words should always be ZERO CRIMES!

The chart below shows the types of crimes and the numbers of each that you reported during 2019.

cious going on in Chartley." Really? Another post said that they had just heard several loud bangs that sounded like gunshots and wondered if anyone else had heard them. Finally, after a number of people responded, one asked the simple question "did you call the police," to which the original person who made the post stated that they had not as they wanted to see if others heard the loud bangs as well. It was finally determined that the noises were fireworks. But what if those noises had been gunshots? Would posting something on social media asking if others had heard it as well instead of calling 911 first have solved anything, or even prevented someone from getting hurt?.

So let me set the record straight about our community. **CHARTLEY HAS THE LOWEST CRIME RATE OF ANY COMMUNITY IN THE AREA!** Yes, Chartley did experience an increase in the number of crimes reported during 2019 when compared to 2018. But, and it's a HUGE but, we, the residents, dropped our guard in 16 of the 56 crimes that were reported by failing to lock our vehicles or by properly securing our property. In other words, we, the victims, helped the criminals make us a victim. If we had been a bit more diligent those 16 crimes probably would not have happened and our final 2019 crime statistics

Type of Crime	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Assault (Non-Domestic)	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	8
Breaking & Entering	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5
Theft	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	9
ID Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Theft of Vehicle	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Theft from Vehicle	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	2	2	0	1	17
Property Crime (De-													
struction a.k.a. vandal-	0	1	2	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	11
ism)													
Robbery (Unarmed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Robbery (Armed)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Property Crime (Destruction-Hit and Run)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	4	2	5	3	2	4	4	16	5	7	3	1	56

Over the past several months I've seen a number of posts both on social media and on the Ring doorbell Neighbors app stating that Chartley, as well as the entire Reisterstown area, has become a ghetto and that crime throughout the area has become rampant. One post asked "has anyone noticed anything suspicious in Chartley lately" to which another person responded to that question saying "there's always something suspi-

would have been much lower (40). Chartley is still a beautiful, well kept, and safe community that is one of the most highly sought after communities in the area. That is also proven by the real estate sales statistics which show that our home values remain strong and the days houses for sale remain on the market is relatively low when compared to other homes for sale in the area. Even the police recently told me that

Chartley's crime rate has been "extremely low year after year" and that the crime rate in the entire Reisterstown area also has been very low particularly considering that the area is densely populated with a mix of businesses, single family homes, and apartments. So let's stop with the trash talk about our community.

But, we, the residents of Chartley, must understand that the criminal element also knows that Chartley is a desirable community. It's up to us, the residents, not the police or the Citizens on Patrol Program, to make sure that we do not roll out the welcome mat to the criminals, and to keep Chartley as that desirable and safe place to live for our families. In order to do that, each and every Chartley resident must become proactive in not only protecting our own property, home, and family, but must also become more observant as we travel thru our community. Although we have repeated the Crime Prevention Tips below over and over for more than a year now, please read them carefully again, and then ACT on them!

- 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.
- 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!

It's a wicked world, and when a clever man turns his brain to crime it is the worst of all.

Arthur Conan Doyle

National Night Out

Circle Tuesday, **AUGUST 4**th on your 2020 calendar for the annual **National Night Out** event. This is a fun filled evening for people of all ages that offers free snacks, drinks, snow balls, games, raffles, and informative displays. Mascots entertain children and pose for photos. Last year, before it rained, more than 50 organizations displayed and promoted programs to Chartley residents and friends.

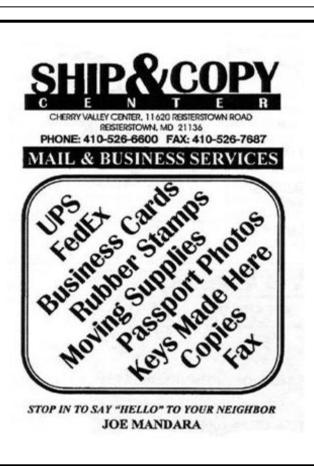
Your opinion matters. On Thursday, **January 30**th there will be a "brain storming" session at 311 Highmeadow Road at 7 pm to kick off plans for the 2020 National Night Out. Your concerns, ideas, and suggestions are important in planning a successful activity this year. Interested residents are invited to bring their thoughts to this "kick off" meeting on January 30th. If you are unable to attend, contact Ernie at **410-833-0262** or by email at **erschmidhauser** @comcast.net with your suggestions.

Watch future Chatters for more information on 2020 National Night Out and the schedule of attractions. You may also follow National Night Out planning on Facebook @ https://www.facebook.com/pg/NNO. Reisterstown

Reisterstown Shopping Center Update

At the December Business Roundtable hosted by Reisterstown Improvement Association, **Matt Mittenthal** from Greenberg Gibbons was guest speaker and discussed the Reisterstown Shopping Center announcing they have signed leases for 4 businesses. The plans are to remove the Burger King building and create a new building for 4 stores. The businesses will be Chipotle, Mattress Warehouse, Tropical Smoothie Café and Starbucks. They expect to start the demolition and rebuild to start in the Spring of 2020.

Other changes will include removing part of the building on the southside that housed Hibachi Grill. Advanced Auto and BB&T will remain with both getting a façade update. They have a LOI (Letter of Intent) so that is good news for the area that used to be Mars and are working on a possible business to build next to Planet Fitness; however, Matt was not ready to announce any names until leases are signed.



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CHARTLEY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Resident Complaint Form

ISSUES OF CONCERN

Submittal/Reply Form

All complaints are kept confidential

(Print, Complete and Mail this form to the address below.)								
You may submit your concern anonymously	y by simply des	cribing your com	plaint below a	nd submitting it to CHA.				
Date:								
Name:	Address:							
Telephone Number		Email Address: _						
Tell us how you wish to be contacted:	☐ Phone	□ eMail	□ Letter	☐ In Person				
Listed below are some of the res	idential zoning	violations CHA w	vill investigate:					
Storing unlicensed or inoperative	motor vehicles	Service garag	Service garage operations					
Kennel or rooming house operation	ons	Excessively lo	Excessively long grass or bushes					
RV or commercial vehicle parking	RV or commercial vehicle parking			Storage containers left on property too long				
Open dump or junkyard condition	Illegal accessory structures							
Mail the completed form to Chartley Home	owners' Associ	ation, P.O. Box 4	08, Reisterstov	vn, MD 21136				
Note: You may also submit your complaint	electronically a	t <u>www.chartley</u> ł	nomeowners.o	rg.				
Date received:	Ac	tion taken:						
Date of notification of action taken to comp	plaint issuer: _		_					
Date of notification to Baltimore County (if	necessary):		_					

Membership

The following list shows the addresses that are paid in full for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This includes homeowners who sent in membership checks early and homeowners who have paid for multiple years that include the coming year. If you believe you have paid for the new membership year and you house number does not appear on the following list, it may be that the payment you made was for a previous year. If you are not on the list and think that you should be on it, contact our Membership Chairperson, Betsy Sloan at 410-833-5523, so that we can verify your membership and, if necessary, update our membership records.

Of course, you can always complete the **Membership Application on this page** and mail it along with your check to the Association PO box. You will have the opportunity to pay for both the current year (2019-2020) and the next fiscal year (2020-2021).

Street	House Number	Street	House Number
Arms Chapel Road	211, 213	Janet Court	
Bentley Hill Drive	228, 231	Janet Road	304, 307, 310, 311
Bond Ave.	203, 216	Meadow Mist Court	3, 4, 6
Brunk Court		Northway Court	302, 304, 305
Brunk Road	107	Northway Road	101, 110, 111, 113, 116, 123, 124, 126, 200, 203, 204, 205, 206, 208, 210, 212, 213, 215, 219, 222, 223, 226, 231
Carlton Crest Court	6	Piper Road	600, 605, 610, 612
Chartley Drive	101, 200, 201, 204, 205, 215, 221, 225, 236, 238, 239 246	Ringneck Court	
Cherry Chapel Road	308, 311, 324, 326, 330, 331	Sacred Heart Lane	203, 204, 205, 207, 209, 214, 217, 220, 228, 230, 233, 307, 310, 314, 427
Deacon Brook Circle	411, 414, 415, 416, 417, 419, 420, 422, 425, 426, 429, 432	Shirley Manor Road	706
Glen Granite Road	512, 516, 523	Tidyman Road	233, 238, 239
Glyndon Court	6	Townleigh Road	302, 304, 307, 310, 315, 316, 318
Glyndon Drive	12, 116, 202, 206, 207, 216, 231, 233, 235, 239, 305	Village Vale Court	5
Gwynnwest Road	412, 508, 520	Walgrove Court	702, 706, 707
Highmeadow Road	200, 218, 227, 228, 231, 237, 241, 303, 311, 402, 403, 404, 406, 411, 412, 414, 415, 419, 425 427, 430, 433, 435	Walgrove Road	107, 109, 208, 210, 224, 238, 239, 240, 245
Homevale Court	406, 409	Zell Court	603, 605
Homevale Road	203, 209, 212, 213, 214, 217, 225, 228, 230, 232, 237		

	Membership Applicati	ion				
	membership Applicati		2020 🗌 2020/2021			
Encl	osed are my membership dues for year(s):	7/1/2019 - 6/	30/2020 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021			
	Annual Dues - \$10:00 per Household	Amount Paid: \$	Check No.: □ Cash			
	nt):		Make check payable to: Chartley Homeowners Association, Inc.			
Address:			Mail application to:			
Home No.:	PO Box 408, Reisterstown, MD 21136- 0408 For questions call:					
Fax No.:						
□ Rene	wal New Member Homeowner	□ Landlord	Betsy at 410-833-5523			
was are by	I (we) will help with:		T-2)			
Volunteers	☐ Membership ☐ Newsletter ☐ Block Captain ☐ Hospitality					
are	□ National Night Out □ Zoning/Traffic □ ROG Representative					
Welcomed	☐ Citizens on Patrol (COP)					

An Interview with Chris Clews

By Jane Hienz

Book 1

"What '80s Pop Culture Teaches Us about Today's Workplace"

"Unexpected Business Lessons from 10 of the Greatest 80's Movies that Defined a Generation"

Book 2

"What '80s Pop Culture Teaches Us about Today's Workplace"

"10 more iconic movies, even more totally awesome business lessons"

Have you ever wanted to chuck it, quit that job that's not challenging anymore, change careers, and

have fun again in your work life?



That's exactly what **Chris Clews** did a few years ago. He was sitting at home, thinking about his current work situation, a high-paying job and career that he had lost all interest in, when he heard these words

from one of his favorite movies, <u>The Breakfast Club</u>: "Screws fall out all of the time. The world's an imperfect place." He started thinking how could he change his job and at the same time teach others to make their workplace a better place.

Chris's formative teen-age years were in the '80s, watching TV, going to movies and listening to the varied and wonderful songs of that decade. He knew that many of the movies, TV and songs had a message and he very cleverly adapted those messages into what is now his new career: author and keynote speaker on this topic of what '80s pop culture can teach us about today's workplace and he finds those lessons for today's business from '80s movies, music and pop culture icons.

For instance: In <u>The Goonies</u>, the boys fear, then accept as a friend, the scary, misshapen, chained-up guy in the basement, Sloth. Chris's message is accept and include everyone on your team, even the person who dresses in a weird way or has a funny hairstyle. Give everyone a chance to express their thoughts and ideas: Embrace individuality.

In <u>Stand By Me</u>, the boys are on a two-day search and while sitting around the fire at night, they are ask-

ing all kinds of silly questions, making fun of each other. The result to Chris was: there really are no stupid questions in the workplace. 'Stupid questions' may appear to have simple answers, but they can also create an environment in which everyone can contribute and perhaps provide a better answer that the team needs to move forward.

In <u>Beverly Hills Cop</u>, Axel takes the blame for something his buddies did, so Chris's take on that is protect your team. The team will see that you are willing to take responsibility for the whole and they will work even harder for you in the future.

In <u>Ferris Bueller's Day Off</u>, Chris makes the point (that I totally missed) that Bueller went to all the trouble of taking the day off because he saw that his friend, Cameron, was having a hard time with his father. Bueller's day off was more of a selfless attempt to lighten up Cameron's life with all their shenanigans. In the workplace, Chris's point is there needs to be a work/life balance and if you have someone on your team that is struggling with work or life or both, make time for that person, speak with them and get to know them. Talk with them for an hour, take them to lunch or give them a day off. Again, that employee will see that you value them and you care.

There are many more examples of how Chris uses '80s film and TV in his already-published two books, and a third one coming to print soon. All are being published by **Silver Tree Publishing**.

He speaks to all types of conferences and events, from marketing executives and HR staff (for example) of various companies in a self-deprecating, funny, droll way that the audiences love. He uses slides of how dorky he looked in high school and yells out movie and TV questions and gives out silly prizes when members shout answers back to him. In other words, he gets the audiences involved as he wants them to get their teams involved back at work. He calls it laugh and learn.

He has made such a success of his writing and speaking that he actually quit his marketing job (a scary moment, he said) and is traveling all over the U.S. entertaining and imparting his views to his audiences. He is a very happy man and this shows when one talks with him. He's upbeat and that he loves his work comes out in every sentence. Plus, he is a fountain of information on the '80s!

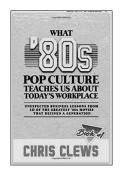
His books are full of fun facts and observations about all the movies and TV shows from the '80s and are fun to read. He talks to the reader in an off-hand way of writing that sounds like he's talking solely to you across the table, not to thousands in a book. He

makes it personal. Plus, after our conversation, I wanted to go home and watch some of these movies again, as I first did with my boys in the '80s.

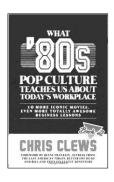
Chris is a 1988 graduate of **Franklin Senior High School** and his parents still live in and around **Chartley.**

Chris welcomes your comments and is on many social media:

Facebook.com/ChrisClews80s; Email: cclews1@gmail.com; Twitter.com/80sPopCulture; LinkedIn.com/in/ChrisClews; Instagram.com/ChrisClews80s.



Both Book 1 and Book 2 are available on Amazon.



I should also add that, as a hats off to his mom, a portion of his book sales go to the **SPCA International**.

The Reister's Daughter

202 Main Street

by Jane Hienz

As soon as you walk into the newly opened The Reister's Daughter Coffee House you immediately notice the love and attention **Cesar and Kelsey Rodriguez** put into restoring this lovely old building. The original beams – perhaps sculpted from century-old primary growth trees – in the ceiling are exposed, probably for the first time since they were hewn and set in place by hand in 1779. You can see the axe marks where they were shaped.

The beautiful original brick has been left exposed on one wall to remind their 21st century customers how hard life was then and what painstaking work was put into building this house that's lasted 250 plus years.

The wall wood left by the Sky Shoppe has been removed, burnished and stained to bring out the pattern and is now the support for the counter where the baristas work. It's one of the first things you notice when

you walk into the Coffee House.

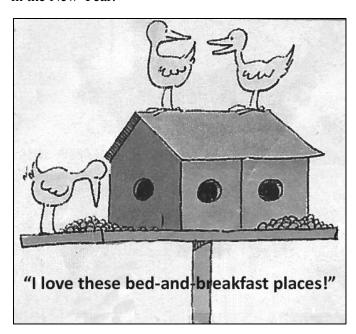
The floor, whole not original, is years old and has been sanded and stained to a warm oak luster.

At some point the chimney will be repointed and made safe and the old fireplace may again heat the room.

Against this restoration, the Rodriguezes have painted the new walls white and added better lighting by using French doors where walls could easily have been built. This gives an open, yet warm, inviting feeling as one walks in the door. One can sit over a freshly brewed cup of coffee or tea and watch life move up and down Main Street.

Parking is in the rear and the entrance is around to the front through an original doorway but using a French door. The shop is a work in progress and the expanded dining area was not ready as of this writing, but there is limited seating in the main room. There is all manner of coffee drinks available along with freshly brewed tea and hot chocolate. There is also nitro and cold tap coffee. For the sweet tooth and coffee dunker, Diablo Donuts will soon be offered on the weekends, along with Jeannie Bird Baking Co. items. There will be limited finished-to-order foods offered.

The Reister's Daughter is a nice, convenient and peaceful place to sit and chat with friends. Cesar and Kelsey hope all of Reisterstown will drop in and visit in the New Year.



It's cold out there; please don't forget to feed the birds.

Piedras Calientes Bistro

21 Main Street, Reisterstown, MD 21136

by Jane Hienz

The name for this renovated and tastefully decorated café means Hot Rocks and invokes the way the indigenous peoples of Central America, in this case, El Salvador, cooked their meals before they became settled in their towns and villages. These people used flat rocks that were heated around the fire and were used as a surface to cook their food.

Osmar Rivera and Jose Luis Orellana, co-owners of Piedras Calientes, with about ten plus years of restaurant experience between them, are honoring their ancestors and family histories in the naming of their restaurant while also serving up authentic Salvardoran fare.

They offer the usual delicious quesadillas, burritos, poke and taco dishes but with a host of add-ons and extras. It's fun to build your own classic quesadilla, but be careful not to get too excited when putting tomatoes, onions, rice, mixto, cheeses, sauces and such on your tortilla, or you will have your food dripping down your arm, as I did when I put guacamole on my quesadilla. It was the most delicious quesadilla I have had in a long time, but kind of messy.

They offer soup, and the choices can vary, especially on the weekends, when their many Latino customers come in. One soup I tried was the cream of crab. It was rich and flavorful with visible pieces of crabmeat. Chicken soup is a special on the weekends.

Another special on the weekends are Pupusas. These are a round, dumpling-like dough that are filled and then grilled. As they grill, they are flattened so their centers ooze out. They can be filled with just cheese, or cheese and meat or meat and zucchini, just to name a few options. I haven't tried them as of this writing, but I plan to go in on a Saturday when Osmar says the whole grill is filled with these little stuffed 'sandwiches'.

Piedras Calientes also offers burgers, paninis, poke bowls, salads, smoothies and desserts. I had one of Jose's tres leches iced cupcake. I have always loved the tres leches cake and this little cupcake was just as good. It was moist yet sturdy, sweet but not overly sweet. It was a perfect dessert after your meal. It would be good even without the yummy frosting, but appearance is important, I know.

On my second visit to further review Piedras Calientes, four of my neighbors had lunch with me. We each ordered something different so we could

share and compare.

I had a hugely stuffed burrito that was filled with rice, beans, beef, cheese, lettuce and pico de gallo. It was expertly wrapped and then grilled so the insides melted together. I can't even describe the flavors that I tasted on that first bite. It was just delicious. My burrito, at \$12, was too big for one meal.

My neighbor ordered the cheeseburger. It consisted of ½ pound of grass-fed beef and was moist, juicy and flavorful on a brioche roll with her fixings. Her burger was \$9.00 and came with fries. She said she would definitely order it again.

My next neighbor ordered the poke bowl, which was a salad with shrimp, edamame, pineapple salsa and lettuce. A generous amount of sliced avocado was placed on top. The dressing was a nice touch, not too heavy or sweet.

The next neighbor ordered a lamb Panini. The lamb was cut right off the stand so it was fresh, moist meat. It was served on grilled ciabatta bread. She was very happy with her decision.

My last neighbor had the three-taco platter. He selected two shrimp and one chicken plus fixings on his soft tacos. He said the chicken was lightly spiced and that he chose mango salsa on his shrimp. This was the second time he had ordered this dish. You can have any combination of meats for the tacos: shrimp, chicken or beef or probably vegetarian.

We also sampled the yucca fries (crisp) and the fried and then baked plantain (solid and sweet). They each were a different, yet delicious, side dish that I haven't tasted in a long time.

All five of us at the table considered the prices very reasonable for the fresh ingredients and made-before-our-eyes dishes. The two chefs and the server were smiling and friendly as they brought us our dishes.

Please take the time to try our newest Latino restaurant. It definitely will be worth your while. If you go to Piedras Calientes for lunch or dinner, mention that you read this article in the Chatter and receive a free fountain drink or free French fry order.

Kiwanis Paper Shredding Day

Kiwanis Paper Shredding Day will be held on Saturday, April 18th from 8 am to 1 pm. in front of **Office Depot** in the Cherryvale Plaza Shopping Center. There is no charge for this service; however, they will accept donations.

CHA 2020 Calendar of Events						
Project	Location	Time				
Project Clean Stream	Sacred Heart Lane, between Chartley Drive and Highmeadow Road	Saturday, April 4, 2020	9:00 am to Noon			
Kiwanis Shredding Day	Cherryvale Shopping Center (Home Depot) April 18, 2020		8:00 am to Noon			
CHA General Meeting	Reisterstown Elementary School					
Dining At Reters	Reter's Crab House	s Crab House Wednesday, April 29, 2020				
Bloomin' Art Fest	Franklin Middle School	Saturday, May 9, 2020	10:00 am to 5:00 pm			
CHA Yard Sale	Residents Yards	Saturday, May 16, 2020	8:00 am to Residents Discretion.			
CHA Yard Sale (If 2 nd Date is Requested)	Residents Yards	Saturday, May 23, 2020	8:00 am to Residents Discretion.			
Officer Appreciation Day	Precinct #3 606 Nicodemus Road	(To Be Determined)	10 am to 4:00 pm			
Clean Up & Electronic Recycling Day	Behind the old Mars Food Store	Saturday, June 20, 2020	9:00 am to Noon			
National Night Out	Chartley Park Shopping Center	Tuesday, August 4, 2020	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm			
Reisterstown Festival Parade	Main St. to Hannah More	Saturday, September 12, 2020	8:00 am			
CHA Crab Feast	American Legion Post 116 1090 Westminster Pike Reisterstown, MD	Saturday, October 10, 2020	5:30 pm to 8:30 pm			
CHA General Meeting	Reisterstown Elementary School	Thursday, October 22, 2020 (Tentative)	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm			

CHA Executive Board Meetings are 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.

Six Tips to Winterize Your Home

Although we are well into winter, here are six tips to help winterize your home.

1. Furnace Inspection

- Call an HVAC professional to inspect your furnace and clean ducts.
- Stock up on furnace filters and change them monthly.
- Consider switching out your thermostat for a programmable thermostat.
- If your home is heated by a hot-water radiator, bleed the valves by opening them slightly and

- when water appears, close them.
- Remove all flammable material from the area surrounding your furnace.

2. Check the Exterior, Doors and Windows

- Inspect exterior for crevice cracks and exposed entry points around pipes; seal them.
- Use weather-stripping around doors to prevent cold air from entering the home and caulk windows.
- Replace cracked glass in windows and, if you end up replacing the entire window, prime and paint exposed wood.

Continued on Page 13

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(750ml)
Sales Items Excluded
Coupon Expires: 3/31/20

Six Tips to Winterize from Page 12

- If your home has a basement, consider protecting its window wells by covering them with plastic shields.
- Switch out summer screens with glass replacements from storage. If you have storm windows, install them.

3. Inspect Roof, Gutters & Downspouts

- If your weather temperature will fall below 32 degrees in the winter, adding extra insulation to the attic will prevent warm air from creeping to your roof and causing ice dams.
- Check flashing to ensure water cannot enter the home.
- Replace worn roof shingles or tiles.
- Clean out the gutters and use a hose to spray water down the downspouts to clear away debris.
- Consider installing leaf guards on the gutters or extensions on the downspouts to direct water away from the home.

4. Service Weather-Specific Equipment

- Drain gas from lawnmowers.
- Service or tune-up snow blowers.

- Replace worn rakes and snow shovels.
- Clean, dry and store summer gardening equipment
- Sharpen ice choppers and buy bags of ice-melt / sand.

5. Prevent Plumbing Freezes

- Locate your water main in the event you need to shut it off in an emergency.
- Drain all garden hoses.
- Insulate exposed plumbing pipes.
- Drain air conditioner pipes and, if your AC has a water shut-off valve, turn it off.
- If you go on vacation, leave the heat on, set to at least 55 degrees.

6. Check Foundations

- Rake away all debris and edi ble vegetation from the foundation.
- Seal up entry points to keep small animals from crawling under the house.
- Tuck-point or seal foundation cracks. Mice can slip through space as thin as a dime.
- Inspect sill plates for dry rot or pest infestation.
- Secure crawlspace entrances.

Removal of Snow and Ice



Within **24 hours** after the fall of any snow, each person occupying a residential building shall remove and clear away, or cause to be removed and cleared away, the snow or ice from the foot pavements fronting streets in the county.

In removing or clearing the snow or ice, the person may not:

- Obstruct the passage of water in gutters along the street; or
- Throw the snow on the paved portion of the street.

If the person does not remove and clear the snow or ice, the county may do so at the expense of the person.

In addition to the other remedies provided in this section (Baltimore County Code 18-3-107), a person who fails to comply is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine for each failure and an additional fine for each day the obstruction continues.

Residents Will Have Increased Access to Data for Street Plowing Updates During Severe Snow Events

Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski today announced a new, online tool for residents to monitor roads during severe snow events. The new Snow Route Status Map will provide residents a simple, color-coded status of snow plow routes. "The new online tool is another step in increasing government transparency and will improve the quality of experience we provide residents," said County Executive Johnny Olszewski. "By providing this information more efficiently, we can help the public better understand where we are working and do more to keep the public safe during storms."

During large snow events, County offices are often flooded with calls from residents requesting updates on street plowing status. With the new Snow Route Status Map, residents will have increased access to information regarding the salting and plowing of individual snow routes.

The status of each snow route is represented by the following:

Red—Salting and plowing not started

Yellow—Crews at work

Green—Operations complete

Gray—No County salting or plowing service available

The data for the Snow Route Status Map is provided by Baltimore County Department of Public Works crews who send in reports to supervisors, who then log their progress. Approximate plowing times vary by snowfall event.

Visit Baltimore County **Stormfighter** for more information or to report a storm-related issue. For other reports or requests, please visit **BaltCoGo**.

To get to the various web pages, just paste the following link(s) into your browser and click.

Snow Route Status Map

https://bc-

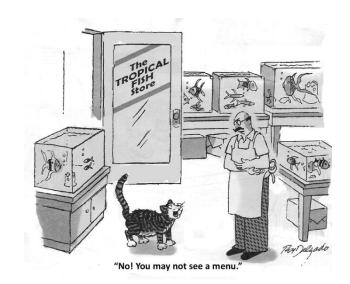
gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/80c7b316a61c465db94f856e88a7460c

Stormfighter

https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/StormFighter/index.html

BaltCoGo

https://baltimorecountymd.citysourced.us/



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NEWS from Reisterstown Elementary School

Children have returned to school from Christmas/Winter break. Please pay extra attention for pedestrians as you drive in or near school zones.

School Closings:

- Monday, January 20th CLOSED for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Friday, January 24th Elementary & Middle Schools will close 3 hours early
- Tuesday, February 4th CLOSED
 Friday, April 3rd Elementary & Middle Schools will close 3 hours early
- Monday, April 13th CLOSED
- Tuesday, April 28th CLOSED for Primary Elec-

A spring Clean Up Day and Spring Breakfast is being planned. Each student will be able to invite and adult guest to join them. Dates to be determined.

Spring Book Fair will be held at the school from May 18th through May 22nd.

Book Ball, for students in grade 3 and below, will be held on Friday evening May 22nd. Students may come dressed as their favorite book character and participate in literacy-themed activities and shop at the Spring Book Fair.





Letter to Reisterstown Elementary School Parents

November 14, 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers and Community Members.

A group of concerned parents, staff and community have started working on asking the Baltimore County School Board for more space and updated facilities for Reisterstown Elementary due to overcrowding and aging building issues. At one point in time, Reisterstown Elementary was on the list to receive a new school, but was taken off the list for an unknown reason.

In order to get Reisterstown Elementary back on the list for new school construction, we are asking all of you to please write a letter or email to the Board of Education with your request. If you need some help

getting started, we have provided a letter guide (which can also be used for email) and sample letter. You do not need to use this guide, but we wanted to provide it to help you get started. If you would like additional facts or figures about the building or overcrowding to include, please contact me.

Please consider writing a letter! After you've written yours, ask another parent or community member to contribute one as well.

Thank you, Cara Norris

Questions? Call, text or email me: 443-804-3792 or norriscara@gmail.com

What to Put in Your Letter

[Date]

For postage mail:

Dr. Darryl Williams, Superintendent

Board of Education of Baltimore County 6901 N. Charles Street

Towson, Maryland 21204

For email:

boe@bcps.org and copy in: cpasteur@bcps.org lrowe@bcps.org norriscara@gmail.com

Dear Dr. Williams,

Hello. My name is [] and my child is in [] grade at Reisterstown Elementary School.

I am writing because Reisterstown Elementary needs building improvements. The building is overcapacity, at 126%, and eight classes take place in portable classrooms. They do not have enough bathrooms and the existing bathrooms have aging plumbing issues. Several times in the past year, bathrooms were closed to students because of plumbing issues. There is one small playground and the cafeteria and gym are not an adequate size for the number of students we have. In addition, we need a designated bus loop to improve drop off and pick up safety.

[Do you have something else to add about building issues, about how they have affected your student or their teacher? Include them here. Please do not use teacher names.]

Thank you for your time. Reisterstown Elementary is a great school, but the combination of overcrowding and aging facilities is taking a toll on our students' education. We hope you will work with us to address these issues.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your address, email and phone]

Sample Letter

You may use this as a guide, but please include your own words and experiences.

October 24, 2019

Dr. Darryl Williams

Board of Education of Baltimore County

6901 N. Charles Street

Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Dr. Williams,

I'm a parent of two girls that attend Reisterstown Elementary. We love this school, its teachers and the community here.

But we are in desperate need of a new school. We have substantial overcrowding issues. Reisterstown Elementary was built for 450 students. Current enrollment is at 550. That is over 120% capacity. By 2025, Reisterstown Elementary is expected to have 623 students. That is over 138% capacity. We have 8 portable classrooms behind the school. Four are used for 5th grade classrooms. Four are used for specialized classes. The portable classrooms do nothing to add bathroom space or storage and do nothing to alleviate hallway congestion when students change classrooms.

My daughter is in 5th grade with 27 other students in a portable classroom that is a fraction of the size of a regular classroom. In order to go to the bathroom, they borrow the teacher's badge to get into the locked main building. They do the same thing to go to the library or the nurse or the office. She doesn't have a desk or a locker for storage. She has one small hook and a small plastic bin. When it's a band day or winter, the floor will be littered with instruments and cold weather gear. The students sit at communal tables that provide limited workspace for each individual. On top of that, there is just nowhere to go when a student needs a break or needs to step away to create physical space from a situation that is frustrating, irritating or hard. At a time when we are asking our students to be self-aware so they can prevent a negative interaction, we are not providing them with the physical space they may need to be successful at that.

I think we need to do better for our students, staff and teachers. As you make capital budget decisions for upcoming years, I ask that you make Reisterstown Elementary a priority for a new school.

Sincerely,

Cara R. Norris Homevale Road Reisterstown, MD 21136 443-804-3792 norriscara@gmail.com

Reisterstown Main Street

Reisterstown Main Street is busy with the application



process to become a Main Street Maryland town. There are several reasons this will benefit our town and you as a citizen. The Main Street Maryland program offers technical assistance, training, and other commercial revitalization services to the

State designated communities. We want you to be proud to say you live in this town. Many local groups add to the calendar at www.reisterstown.com. This is a great place to check first to see what you can do to stay local whether it is education at the library, participating in community events, or when you walk Main Street to "Stop, Shop, Stroll & Dine"

The 14th Annual Reisterstown Bloomin' Artfest will be held Saturday, May 9, 2020 of Mother's Day Weekend 10am – 5pm.



Together the Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc. and Baltimore County Department of Recreation & Parks sponsor this event. Along with handmade crafts, info from non-profits and school art you

will also listen great music as you visit the Main Street lawn of **Franklin Middle School**. In case of predicted foul weather, it will be held indoors at Franklin Elementary School (33 Cockeys Mill Rd.). Check out the website **www.bloominartfest.com** for info or to apply for crafter, non-profit or food spaces. You can email **bloominartfest@gmail.com** for questions.

Reisterstown Beer + Wine Festival returns to Main



Street Saturday, April 25th,12pm-5pm. Mark your calendar to come to this fun event which features live music, artisans and food. Admission includes a souvenir tasting cup and unlimited samples from breweries, wineries, and distilleries from around Maryland.

Main Street Clean Up Days are held throughout the year the 1st Saturday of each month. Volunteers meet at 9am in the parking lot of Landmark Shopping Center. Come help us keep your town look nice and pleasant to stroll.

Want to enjoy the outdoors? Work continues the 2nd Saturday of each month behind the library where the new trail head starts by the bridge. Each month volunteers gather to add a trail, clear invasive plants to prepare for planting native flowers, build educational areas so signage can be installed and bridges can be built. **Franklin Woodland Trail** which was started in the 1970's is coming back to life and will soon be ready for you to explore.

The **Reisterstown Farmers Market** (Sundays 9am – 1pm) and **Music on Main Street** Concerts (Fridays 6:30pm – 10pm) will return this summer for everyone to enjoy.

Chartley Homeowners Association

Events Calendar



February 11, 2020 – Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Reisterstown Fire Company

March 10, 2020 – Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Reisterstown Fire Company

April 4, 2020 – Project Clean Stream – (See article on Page 3.)

April 14, 2020 – Executive Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Reisterstown Fire Company

April 18, 2020 – Kiwanis Shredding Day – 8:00 am to Noon

April 23, 2020 – General Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm – Reisterstown Elementary School (Date, Time and Location are tentative.)

Contributors to this issue of the Chatter include:

In alphabetical order

Jane Hienz Mary Molinaro Dave Powers Ernie Schmidhauser

Betsy Sloan Jack Sloan Chris Yambor

CHA Scholarships

Each year, the Chartley Homeowners Association offers two scholarships to graduating high school seniors from the Chartley community. The Joseph S. Molinaro and the Phyllis Daly Memorial Scholarships each provide a deserving graduate a cash award of \$1,000.

To be eligible for a Chartley Scholarship, applicants must meet the following 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, 2019.
- 3. The applicant must be a senior in high school (Franklin, Owings Mills, Baltimore County magnet, private, home school)

For further information, go to http://www.chartleyhomeowners.org/scholarships.html

Some Recent Scholarship Winners



Justin Ayers - 2014



Sam Van Horn - 2012



Ryan Fife and Sabrina Richardson - 2015



Elisabeth Sooklal - 2012



Jonathan Skaro - 2014



Kenneth Epps - 2017

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