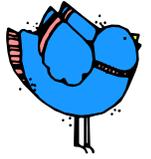




# The Charleston Villager



Check out our website at <http://www.charlestonvillage.org>

## From the Board of Directors

Greetings from the Board of Directors! We hope you are enjoying the lovely weather we have been having lately. Spring has sprung!

With the change of seasons comes the need for some "Spring Cleaning". Spring time is the perfect time to take care of a few areas around our homes that need some upkeep. Mailboxes and their posts are areas that need extra attention this year. A quick trip around the neighborhood will show you the poor condition quite a few of our mailboxes are in. There are many mailboxes that are broken, rusting, or just falling off their posts. They need to be replaced. Also, posts should be cleaned and painted to remove mold and dirt. If the posts are cracked, replacing them would be the best option. Make sure to check your Architectural Standards Guidelines before making any purchases to ensure they meet the association's requirements. If you cannot locate your guidelines you can always access them on line at [www.CharlestonVillage.org](http://www.CharlestonVillage.org). One thing you might want to think about is if you are purchasing a new mailbox, you might want to consider going up a size. This will allow for the mail



carrier to fit packages in and not have to rubber band them to the outside of the mailbox, as sometimes is the case.

Now is also the optimal time to control those pesky weeds in our lawns, as it will be much harder to control them in the heat of the summer. While you are out there sprucing up your mailbox and lawns check around for other things that may be necessary such as power-washing your home and clearing out any flower beds that have overgrowth, dead leaves, or plants that have died during the winter months.

On a serious note, there is an on going issue that we are facing here in CV and the problem is only getting worse. The Board of Directors has addressed the issue of vandalism here in CV in the past and unfortunately we are not seeing any progress in stopping it. The fact is it is getting worse. It has been over a year now since the first case of vandalism was reported and despite getting the word out and making everyone more aware, the problem is only increasing not only in the number of acts, but also in the degree of seriousness.

(continued on Page 2)

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Nominating: Jennifer Dexter  
Pool: Kristine Hansen and Kelly Jaynes  
Social: Jon Hamilton

### Management Company:

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# From the Board (continued from Page 1)

What started out as graffiti on the playground in March of last year, has progressed to destruction of signs around the neighborhood, breaking into the clubhouse and lighting a firework INSIDE the clubhouse and causing damage, and now to the spray painting of fences, sewer drains, trees, and other areas. In each instance, the police were notified and where appropriate, a case file was started.

The particular problem we are facing now is that some teenagers are hanging out drinking and smoking in parts of the wooded areas here in CV. They are believed to be the same teenagers who are responsible for spray painting property, personal and community, here in the neighborhood. Some of these teens live in CV, others do not. The Apex Police have been called on more than one occasion, and are aware of the situation and working to resolve the issue. What we need from each resident is to be aware of

what is going on around you. If you see kids in the neighborhood who do not belong here, keep an eye on them and never hesitate to call the police if you find them acting suspicious. The Apex Police are well aware of the issues we are having and have said numerous times to please call them if something just doesn't look right to you. It is their job to come and check these things out and they are more than willing to do it. If something is of concern to you, please do not feel silly or like a "nosy neighbor" if you call the police. The only way to stop this vandalism and behavior from continuing is to get a handle on it, and the only way to do that is to be aware of what is going on and report anything out of the ordinary or suspicious. While the police are doing what they can, they cannot be here all the time. We need to be the eyes and ears of CV.

Thank you for continuing to keep CV beautiful and SAFE.  
The Charleston Village Board of Directors

## Pool Committee

It's time...the pool is OPEN!! A big thanks to Penny and Rich Fields, R&P Pool Management for working so hard to get the pool ready and open for the summer. They do such a great job maintaining our pool!!!

We are planning to celebrate the start of the pool season with a **POOL PARTY!!!** The party will be Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm - 8:30 pm. Thanks to Karyn Knoke for her hard work in planning for this big event!! The Pool Committee will supply pizza and a DJ! You only need to bring yourself and your choice of beverage - no glass! We will be sending out more information soon. We hope to see everyone there!!!

Just a few reminders to ensure a safe and fun pool season...

- All infants and children not fully potty trained must wear a plastic diaper over their regular swim diaper. No exceptions!
- As always, no glass, Pyrex or breakables of any sort including nail polish containers and baby food jars are allowed inside the pool area.
- The pool will close weekly Wednesday evenings at 7pm and will reopen Thursday 12 noon for super chlorinating.
- Lap hours are from 7am to 9am. Call **RS Fincher at 362-1460** to have your card activated for these special hours.
- For pool openings and closings call the **Pool Hotline 367-8262**.
- All residents must be up to date on their Homeowner Dues to be allowed in the pool area. Please call **RS Fincher at 362-1460** with questions regarding your account.

We are looking forward to a great pool season!!! You can contact your Pool Committee Co-chairs, Kristine Hansen and Kelly Jaynes with questions or concerns at poolcommittee at charlestonvillage.org.



# Charleston Village Crocodiles Swim Team



**The pool water may be cold, but the Swim Team is heating up!**

Nearly 80 children have registered to be Charleston Village Crocodiles and all age groups are represented! (Our youngest swimmer is 4, our oldest is 15.) It's not too late! If you have children who wants to swim this summer, get them registered soon so

they can meet the swimmers, their coaches, and other team members.

## Swimmers, mark your calendars!

The schedule for meets and social events is pretty much set.

Add these dates to your calendar:

June 2	Mock meet (home)	8:00am
June 12	Highcroft (home)	6:00pm
June 19	Olive Chapel (away)	6:00pm
June 26	Brookstone (home)	6:00pm
TBA	The Reserve (away)	6:00pm
July 10	BYE	6:00pm
July 17	Eagle Ridge (home)	6:00pm

Here is some other important information to note:

- o The first practice will be announced once the pool has officially opened for the season.
- o To kick off the excitement, all swimmers, coaches, and parents are invited to participate in a **POTLUCK DINNER** on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from

6:00pm-7:30. (This dinner will be in place of practice that evening.)

- o There will also be an **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** following evening practice on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- o A **DESSERT PARTY** on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup> will celebrate the end of the inaugural Charleston Village Crocodiles season.
- o Team and individual pictures will be taken during the season. The date and time will be announced.

## Raising funds...and helping out

The Crocodiles and their families have done an amazing job raising money for their first swim season! In January, they delivered Krispy Kreme doughnuts door-to-door. In February, Valentine-Grams were offered to loved ones. And in April, the Clubhouse lawn was covered with flowers. The Swim Team Committee thanks everyone who organized and supported these fundraisers and brought the team closer to meeting its financial goals!

## There is still a lot to do to prepare for the first meet!

All parents of swimmers are asked to sign up to volunteer at a swim meet. For details on tasks and schedules, please contact Elizabeth Schmedding (363-3041, schmeds at earthlink.net) If you want to help with any aspect of the planning (concessions, fundraising, logistics, social events, etc.), or if you have any questions about the team in general, please contact Nicole Ridout (303-5892, nridout at nc.rr.com) or Laura Linton (303-9003, dlinton at nc.rr.com). Information is also available on the CV Website.

## A Little Crocodile's View (by Gaby Iori)

Oh, my! We Crocodiles are going to start practicing when the water is still **COLD!** We are going to compete against Brookstone, Olive Chapel, Highcroft, and other neighbors. It will be very exciting! We need a lot of mothers and fathers to help with the

swim meets, so ask your parents if they want to help! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Nicole Ridout at 303-5892. Well, that's all for now!

## Swim Lessons

Swim lessons are being offered at our pool this summer. The instructor is Nicole Swartz. Her contact number is 919-412-4314.



### Lesson Prices:

- Private Lessons- \$25 for 30 minutes
- Semi-Private Lessons- \$40 for 30 minutes (\$20 per child)
- Group Lessons- \$55 a child for 8 30 minute lessons

# Home and Yard by the ARB

In case you have not heard the Town of Apex is having a "Home Improvement Holiday". From April 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup> the town is temporarily waiving permit and inspections fees for improving existing residences. If you are thinking about doing some major work, now is the time! Check out the information on the town's website at: [http://www.apexnc.org/public\\_notice/cmHomeImprov.cfm](http://www.apexnc.org/public_notice/cmHomeImprov.cfm). And don't forget to get those Architectural Request Forms into to R.S.Fincher by the last Wed. of the month so we can have them in time for our meeting. We're ready for the increase in requests.

The board of directors has officially approved a change in the green Architectural Standards book to allow larger mailboxes. They must remain black, can be metal or plastic and can be up to 22 ½ L x 8W x 11 ½ H and must still be the same shape as we have now. See the CV website for complete details.



It is Spring and it is that time of year the trees and flowers are in bloom. And... so is the grass and weeds! Wish your yard had less weeds and greener grass? It is not too late to put down some "weed and feed" to help with both. It is easy and not expensive to do it yourself. And speaking of weeds, "Round-up" is the greatest against weeds. It will get the weeds out of the cracks in the driveway, sidewalk and curbs. It is easier than pulling weeds in planting areas and a thin spray works great to "edge" around planting areas. Just don't spray what you don't want killed for good!



Remember, your home is your biggest investment and the resale value of it is affected by the way our entire neighborhood looks. If we all work together to keep our home, lawns and yards looking nice, then Charleston Village as a whole will look nice and be a neighborhood in which we can all be proud.

## International Flair

Our neighborhood has been host to an exchange student from Denmark this past year. Here are some words from her:

*"Hi! My name is Josephine Pettersen. I have been an exchange student here in Apex with Allan and Erin Kalbarczyk since last June. My year here has been amazing. I am a junior at Apex High School. I really enjoy my time there. I have many good classes, plus the most amazing friends. I have met so many incredible*

*people this year. I wish I could stay another year! I'm so glad I've had this opportunity, and hope other exchange student have a wonderful year...just like me!"*



There will be 2 more exchange students visiting for the next year. Make sure you stop and welcome them!

## Babysitter Directory



Some neighbors, especially those new to our neighborhood, often need to hire babysitters for their children and don't know where to look. They may need to look no further than their own street but don't know it!

The communications committee has been gathering information to put together a babysitter list for our

neighborhood. This is a flyer (distributed to our neighborhood only) which would include names and phone numbers of teens in the neighborhood who are interested in babysitting. It is NOT be part of the newsletter nor will it be posted on our website.

If you are interested, or have any questions, you can email editor1 at [charlestonvillage.org](mailto:charlestonvillage.org) or call MaryAnn Gunshefski at 303-9348.

# Social Committee News

Hi Neighbors!! The neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 7<sup>th</sup> but due to frigid conditions (25 degree wind chill), the turnout was fairly low. Each child that attended got around 30-40 eggs however so they were rewarded for their perseverance. Also, it was pretty funny watching them run around trying to get as many eggs as possible while eggs were spilling out of their overflowing baskets.

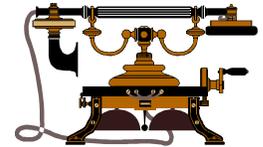


The first monthly movie night was held at the clubhouse on April 14<sup>th</sup> with a 6 PM showing of Happy Feet and an 8 PM showing of Pursuit of Happiness. I'd like to thank Bruce Chao for providing and setting up all the audio-visual equipment. Movie night is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month around 6 PM. Check the website ([www.charlestonvillage.org](http://www.charlestonvillage.org)) for updates.

The spring neighborhood yard sale was held on April 21<sup>st</sup>. I'd like to thank Allison Mosely and Michelle Pierzga for putting together the event. Around 20

homes participated and I understand that there wasn't much traffic thru the neighborhood even though advertisements were placed in several papers. Also, we ran into issues trying to post signs in and around the neighborhood due to the local ordinances. The Social Committee would like your feedback on how we can improve the neighborhood yard sale. Please send to SocialCommittee at [CharlestonVillage.org](http://CharlestonVillage.org).

We tested the new phone broadcast system and it seems to work fine. We are still missing around 60-80 phone numbers so if you want to add, update, or delete your information, please send an email to [cv-phone@nc.rr.com](mailto:cv-phone@nc.rr.com).



As always, we are looking for new committee members and volunteers for the social committee. All these events are coordinated and handled by your neighbors who devote their own free time and energy. If you would like to join or can volunteer some of your time, please send email to SocialCommittee at [CharlestonVillage.org](http://CharlestonVillage.org). Also, if you have any ideas or feedback on events, send them along to us as well.

## Charleston Village Online

[CharlestonVillage.org](http://CharlestonVillage.org) is updated regularly. Watch the What's New page for the latest! And please let us know if you have ideas for the site!

**Also, be sure to visit the Online Forum (registration required), which includes:**

### -Classifieds

You never know what you will find. See the Classifieds for

- items for sale,
- services,
- lost and found,
- announcements,
- and free stuff!



### -General Discussion

Recent and ongoing discussions include:

- What are some cool day-trips in our area

- Track Assignments...who else shares your track?
- What do you like to see neighbors do to improve their homes?
- What is your house worth?
- What would you change in the Architectural Guidelines?
- New stores in our area

### -Home improvement/maintenance tips and increasing property value

Sample text has been added for marketing a house in CV.

### -Interest lists

The latest post was to start a running club. Now, see the CV Running Club page under Clubs/Teams in the [CharlestonVillage.org](http://CharlestonVillage.org) main menu.

### -Neighborhood Watch

Watch this space for important alerts and safety tips.

# Calling all Runners...Let's start a CV Running Club

Interested in joining other neighbors for a weekly run (or two)? Looking for other runners to help set goals and maintain motivation? Or maybe you don't like to run alone after dark (but would be willing to run in the evening with a buddy)? A neighborhood running club is a great way to work in a little more exercise, increase fitness, and meet neighbors with similar



interests. If you would like to meet other CV runners and participate in a scheduled weekly run, then contact Becky Lewis at [beckylewis@nc.rr.com](mailto:beckylewis@nc.rr.com) or 367-2939. Beginners and experienced runners are all welcome!

# Looking for a Girls Night Out? Think BUNCO!

Combine dice, food, drink and great conversation — that's what Bunko night is all about! The neighborhood bunko group meets at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the clubhouse. Although we have 12 'permanent' members, we are always looking for more women to sub for those who can't make it. It's a great way to meet new people,

without the monthly commitment. If you are interested, or have questions, contact Margo Bills at [Mbills@nc.rr.com](mailto:Mbills@nc.rr.com) or 303-8338.



# Scrapbooking at the Clubhouse

Do you scrapbook or are you interested in getting started? Join the Scrapbook Club at the clubhouse! We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 6pm-10pm and the last Sunday of each month from 11am-4pm.



get some pages done! Tables are provided. Beginners are welcome. Contact Theresa Rubes ([trubes@nc.rr.com](mailto:trubes@nc.rr.com), 363-2498) for details and date confirmations.

Bring your supplies, meet some neighbors, and



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