

# Charlestown Chatter

January 2008



### Special Points of

#### Interest

- Town Meetings every second and fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 6:30.
- Planning and Zoning meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00.
- Trash Collection every Monday except when a Christmas or New Years falls on a Monday, it will be picked up on Tuesday.

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### Post Office Hours

#### Monday through Friday

##### Lobby Hours

8:00 –5:15

Lunch 12:00 –1:15

##### Window Hours

8:30 –12:00

1:15 –5:00

##### Saturday

Lobby Hours

8:00 –12:00

Window Hours

10:00 –11:30

## ELECTION 2008

SIX VIE FOR THREE COMMISSIONER SEATS  
MONDAY, JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>

Six candidates are vying for the three Town Commissioner seats in the Town elections to be held on Monday January 14 at Town Hall. The polls open at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM. Over 600 Charlestown residents are registered to vote.

Three incumbents are seeking reelection, they are: Steven Vandervort, Donna Sheets and Bob Gell. The challengers are Judy Calvert, Ann McMillan and Don Stanley. The Election Commission, headed by Judy Newsome, is hoping for fair weather and a good turnout.

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## SEWER SYSTEM PROGRESS

The Town and the County have reached an important agreement on the future of our sewer service. Last spring the County Department of Public Works denied all new connections to the system, in effect placing a moratorium on all new construction within the Town limits, an issue critical for the survival of the town. The reason given was that due to high rate of flow, any additional sewage would cause the system to fail. Further, according to Public Works, a major “inflow and infiltration” (I&I) problem was impacting the capacity of the Seneca Point Plant.

The County and Town arranged for a study of the problem. The first thing the engineers discovered was that the flow of sewage from the Town had been overestimated by 40 percent due to the County’s method of calculating the flow through the pumping stations. Poorly maintained man-hole covers and leaky sewer lines, the county’s responsibility under our agreement, accounted for additional I&I.

Extensive negotiations had convinced the County Commissioners that the agreement under which the Town and County have operated for the past thirty years was still in effect and enforceable. Under it the Town is responsible for major repairs and for the replacement of the original pumping stations. Now that the sources of the inflow and infiltration have been identified repairs can begin. An improved, higher capacity replacement for the old main pumping station is being engineered and the new station should be built within the next 18 months.

In the meantime the Town has been allocated hook-ups for the new houses planned for Cool Springs, Scott Gardens and Trinity Woods.

## Cecil County Public Transportation - What a Bargain!

Bargains have been hard to come by lately, but not when you're looking for Public Transportation. The cost to operate, maintain and insure an automobile cannot accommodate everyone's budget, not to mention the rising cost of gasoline. These circumstances have caused the cost of taxi service to skyrocket and some car owners to cringe when they approach the gas pumps. Because of the times we live in, public transportation is probably the only real bargain left.

If you are unable to drive due to unreliable transportation, medical problems or other circumstances, read on, the information below will be very helpful.

**C. T. Cruiser Public Transportation** is available through Senior Services and Community Transit in the North East and Charlestown areas. Our Cruisers are on the road Monday through Friday. You must **call in advance** to register for a pick up as areas of operation and times may vary.

*Our C.T. Cruiser buses book on a first come, first serve basis.*

### **Cost to ride the C.T. CRUISER :**

Depending on mileage, from \$2.50 - \$20.00, Seniors and Disabled,  
&

Depending on mileage, from \$5.00 - \$40.00, General Public,

Call 410-996-5295 for more information or to schedule a ride. Information is also available at  
[www.transportingcecil.com](http://www.transportingcecil.com)

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## HOW TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

Delmarva Power offers the following suggestions:

1. Meet with the members of your household and talk about emergencies, such as fire or severe weather and discuss what you would do.
2. Discuss the likelihood for an extended power outage and make sure everyone knows where to find flashlights and other emergency supplies.
3. If someone in your house depends on electricity to power life-support equipment, identify a location with emergency power and make plans to go there is necessary.
4. Make sure everyone knows how to turn off the power, gas and water should it become necessary.
5. Identify a contact person nearby and one out-of-state whom family members can call in an emergency if you are separated. Make sure everyone has access to those phone numbers.
6. Teach your children how and when to call 911 in an emergency.
7. Know your child's school emergency plan.
8. Plan for your pets, and if you have to evacuate, have a list of kennels or friends who can care for your pet.
9. Keep important family documents in a waterproof, portable container.

### Dates To Remember

January 14—Election Day! 7am—7pm  
January 15—Town Meeting @ 6:30  
January 21, 22, 23—School Closed  
February 5—Planning & Zoning Meeting  
February 12—Town Meeting @ 6:30  
February 12—School Closed  
February 18—School Closed  
February 26—Town Meeting @ 6:30

**Check out**

**[www.CharlestownMD.org](http://www.CharlestownMD.org)**

**for updates and calendar of events!**

## **!! Recycling !!**

Good news! Cecil County now has Single Stream Recycling!!

### **The following items can be mixed together:**

- Aluminum and steel / tin cans (Including aerosol cans)
- Glass bottles and jar
- **NARROW NECK** Plastic Containers using codes 1,2,3,4,5,6,& 7 (Find these on the container)
- Newspaper
  - Magazines
- Cardboard
  - Catalogs
- Mixed, printer & copier paper
  - Cereal Boxes
- Telephone Books
  - Frozen Food Boxes
- Soda Boxes
  - Mail

**ALL CONTAINERS MUST BE RINSED WITH LIDS REMOVED!**

### **What is NOT ACCEPTED for "Single Stream" recycling**

- Oil Containers
- Paper Towels
- Plastic Cups
- Cellophane, Mirrors
- Potato Chip Bags
- Plastic Buckets
- Paper Plates
- Appliances & Cooking Pots (May be recycled in scrap metal container.)
- Aluminum Foil, Microwavable Food Trays
- Wax covered cups & cardboard
- Plastic Packaging, Heat Resistant Glass
- Containers with food in them
- Styrofoam Cups, Coat hangers
- Plastic Toys, Window & Auto Glass
- Plastic Bags, Ceramics & Porcelain

Plastic Bags may be used to keep recyclables in but are not recycled

### **Electronics**

**The following Electronics CAN be recycled at the Cecil County Landfill:**

- Computers
- Video Game Systems
- TV's under 25 inches
- VCR'S
- Digital Cameras
- Anything Electronic
- Monitors
- Radios
- DVD Players
- Scanners
- Video Cameras

### **Other Recyclables**

**The following are also Recyclable at the Central Landfill:**

- Used Oil and Antifreeze
- Electronics
- Freon Units
- Yard Waste (Leaves, Grass & Brush)
- Brush, Logs and Stumps over 3 inches in diameter are charged a fee
- Lead Acid batteries
- Scrap Metal and White Goods
- Tires for a Fee

If you have any recycling questions, they can be directed to Tanya Adams at 410-996-6275. For more information on recycling: [www.ccgov.org/dept\\_works/solidwastediv.cfm](http://www.ccgov.org/dept_works/solidwastediv.cfm).

**Charlestown Employees collect your recyclables and take them to the landfill each week!**