

Board Members: Russ Carter, President; Gordon Mapes, Vice President; Jodie Coutts, Recorder; Andy McCauley, Treasurer; Cathy Ghidotti, Issue Database Manager; Colin Smith, Financial Manager

NEIGHBORS,

Spring has Sprung! ...but it comes this year with some Challenges!

First let me say... I pray that everyone is ok and healthy! Don't second guess the medical experts... Its real! FOLLOW the advice of the medical experts and do also what's needed to keep yourself; your family; and your neighbors healthy! Please! Once this is over, we can all chat about the "start of 2020!" over hot-dogs and beer!

Community is a significant aspect of our neighborhood. In an effort to nurture and care for our community during these times of social distancing and limited trips outside the home, the board seeks to do what we can to assist neighbors, particularly, if family and friend support systems are at a distance.

Please let us know if you do not feel safe or cannot go out. We are recruiting a group of neighbor volunteers to assist you with such needs.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with this effort, please let us know.

You may contact the board at gmapes@chesterpres.org or 804-334-8687. It would be a wonderful gesture... and much appreciated!

Recall neighbors that we had to cancel the Irrigation Demonstration planned on 19 March and our monthly meeting, planned 1 April... (so, I'm using this MARCH Newsletter to try and cover all of the planned information-dump of both the cancelled meetings... if I can! Well, at least this will be some good reading for all of us shut-ins ☺) I repeat, No HOA/Board Meeting scheduled in April. Our next planned HOA meeting is June 3, 2020.

The cancelled Irrigation Demonstration that was scheduled for March 19 was to explain our current irrigation Controller situation and to demonstrate the recommended technology upgrade that is being offered to us as a community. Its 21st century technology! My vision is that with this technology employed it should address our Number One Irrigation Objective: Save the homeowner's money!! (reducing the Water Bill by eliminating wasted water) and aiding in our overall community DRAINING issues... Eliminating over watering (ruts) and under-watering (dead spots) during the Spring Summer & Fall....

The Hydrowise Controller retails from the Manufacturer, installed is \$325... but, if we can get at least fifty (50) CVG homeowners TO SIGN UP for this newer technology, then Heritage Irrigation Company (our irrigation service provider for 2020) will honor a cost of \$275 per homeowner, installed for all homeowners with up to 6 zones.... But we also have some homeowners that have more than 6 zones... (me! :) Some homes have 7 and up to 12 zones... those Hydrowise Controllers (that can handle that many zones) can be installed for \$335.00 per homeowner, installed! That one retails for \$435.00... which is still a significant savings to the homeowner!

I for one will get one! So, we only need 49 more folks to commit and get a great deal including a newer more accurate, money saving watering system... Listen,

Two years ago, I got a rain-gauge to help combat the irrigation challenge. However, I can now report that it was effective about, 50% of the time... the situation was mostly times when the rain-gauge was "dry" (it hadn't rained in a few days) but, the weather man's nightly forecast was a 60% or better chance of rain... at 9:00am. ...and guess what! My sprinklers came on right at 5am (just as programmed) and it ran a full-9-zone cycle... and then it rained, just as forecasted, but, at 8:00am... it rained all-day-long! Sound familiar?

Sign-up let me know who's interested and after 49 or more commit... I'll have the irrigation company call and arrange with you for the Hydrowise controller installation. I am dreaming of greener / healthier yards inn 2020

Read & print-out the related attachments (*Chester Village Green Irrigation Controller Master List & Spec sheet on irr.*) on our Controllers situation and also go to the Hydrowise website: <https://www.hydrawise.com/> for more information about that product.

Covid-19:

Here is a list of tips for coping with these difficult times from a clinical psychologist:

Adult Coping Tips for Covid-19

Glenn Weiner, Ph.D.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

"Let me acknowledge the tremendous suffering that has been occurring all over the world and the impact on everyone's lives. I very much hope that one or more of these tips are helpful for you." (Glenn Weiner, Ph.D.)

1. Do acts of Kindness (Call, text, write, help someone, talk to friends and relatives, donate)
2. Observe and note when others are trying to be kind to you, Bonus: When they do, if you hold the feeling in your heart for a minute, you get additional benefits.
3. Upgrade your primary relationship: Talk about how you are experiencing this challenge and why you chose them to discuss this with. Plan how you are going to spend time together during the social distancing phase of this.
4. Come up with a home exercise plan: Walk, Stretch, do some yoga or use that home exercise equipment that has been laying around.
5. Journal: This is a powerful way to get perspective and reduce stress. Choose a pen and paper you like; Journal on your phone with an app or in a Notes file.
6. Meditate/Use guided imagery to relax: You can lower your arousal level by sitting and quieting your mind for as little as 5 minutes. Drink a mindful cup of coffee or tea while you are not doing anything else. Listen to a guided meditation online.
7. Explore your Spiritual Side (Meditate, Pray, Journal, Ponder, read spiritual material, Join online Intention/prayer circles).
8. Convert vague worries into specific fears: Vague worries are harder to manage. Try to get clear as to what you are specifically afraid of. That enable you to predict the likelihood and impact.

9. Play some games: There are plenty of games and puzzles that can help you distract you. Find one.
10. Dine Well: Set the table with your finest china or your awesome Grateful Dead Plastic cups and cook a meal together. If you live alone, take a picture and send it to friends or post it. Bake cookies
11. Remind yourself that this will pass: Plan for what you will do for fun when the weather gets warmer.

Committee Reports:

Contracts Committee: Lynn Lofgren; Jodie Coutts, Martie McKensie and Barb Simpson (804) 691-1536

- Landscaper:
 - Lawn Beautician completed the following:
 - - redefined the mulch beds
 - - mulch application throughout all yards and common areas
 - - weed control of lawns, thorough application of pre-emergent herbicide for broadleaf-weed control (Prodiamine)
 - - weed control sprayed also on the sidewalks and street gutters
 - - The first round of grass cutting and edging

Lynn writes: "I've observed that Lawn Beautician (LB) are more focused and tedious with their work practices. The areas are better serviced and the members of our community that I've talked to have good things to say about this vendor. "

- Heritage Irrigation began "Spring Start-up" on our irrigation systems on the 23rd
- Capital Testing will begin "Back-flow testing; needed repairs; and County filings following the completion of our irrigation start-up. Probably early May 2020...

Remember if you have any issue with any vendor please email that issue-complaint to: villagegreenissues@gmail.com for corrections. **Do NOT contact the vendor or their workers.**

- Vendor Issues-Complaints: Cathy Ghidotti, Manager (804) 363-0226

The procedure for reporting any vendor issues (landscaping, irrigation, trash removal; back-flow; etc.) is to use the villagegreenissues@gmail.com email address. Cathy will follow up with you and the appropriate vendor. Please do not individually contact vendors as this causes confusion all around.

We have received several complaints regarding broken sprinkler heads and they have been reported to the new company. **Note**: that when the new irrigation company begins work in our community (started Monday 23rd), every yard in the neighborhood will be automatically inspected for broken heads before; during; and after your system is turned on. Once the system is on, if you experience a broken head from mowing, wide-turns; mistakes, etc., please document the issue-complaint by sending an email to villagegreenissues@gmail.com.

When the landscaping company sprayed for weeds, they inadvertently sprayed some plants without realizing they had done so. A shrub pruning was missed. If this has happened to you and you have not reported it, please send an email to villagegreenissues@gmail.com.

The landscaping company will be “filling-in” the two holes we have (see orange cones) in the neighborhood soonest.

The landscape company has done a good job so far but the mowers have caused a couple of issues and we would like to prevent as many as possible going forward. If something happens in your yard due to mowing, please email villagegreenissues@gmail.com to report it.

- Welcoming Committee: Arlene Ripp and Brenda Riding (804) 691-0326
 - We are pleased to welcome **Yvonne Wright** and her family to 4230 Chester Village Circle. Be sure to say hello and make them feel welcome! Recall, this is the prior Yorke home.

- Neighborhood Watch Committee: Dr. Maurice Smith (804) 517-7371
 - Chester Village Green Neighborhood Watch reported only 1 incident in February. This was a domestic dispute.
 - Again, if you see or witness any suspicious activity, please call the Police - 911.
 - As for our National Night Out, a nationally recognized event that takes place on the second Tuesday in August. August 11, 2020.
 - No decision has been made on the possible the cancellation of this event, right now.
 - If we do not conduct it outdoors, maybe we can do a Virtual National Night Out!
 - Please send me your thoughts on this idea or if we do have the event, any other possible ideas.
 - My email contact information is: mawjsmith@gmail.com

- Architecture Review Committee: Pat Shiber (804) 748-5524
 - Neighbors Springtime is here... you can feel it in the Air! For me it's the return of the birds called Robin... That said, it is also time to do our part in making our neighborhood the best we can in 2020!
 - While the vendors are busy trying to reach our goal of “pretty & green” lawns and shrubs of our Landscape... we need to start thinking about power-washing your homes & fences as needed. Check the local papers for a contractor in our area.
 - Check your doors & shutters do they need some work or color? Changing colors requires an ARC approval.
 - Remember your plantings in the ground or in pots need your care and attention. Please continue to week and water them accordingly. Last years dead or dying plants needs to be updated. Please do so now in the Spring. But, do so safely!
 - Here's what is in the active March 2020 file:
 - Approved Joe Reed's request for his new awning (which will be gray) today.
 - Approving Bob Tierney's request for his new landscaping project.
 - Colin Smith's new awning installation was approved.
 - Asking Michael Sawyer to tidy-up his rear-plant box.
 - Need to have discussions about needed fence repairs and or removal.

- Financial Manager / Treasurer: Colin Smith /Andy McCauley (804) 777-9242
 - Appointment with the CPA firm (tax season) was moved to April 4th due to COVID-19 concerns.
 - The US Treasury has moved this year's Tax Filing deadline to July 15th. No taxes are due April 15th... this year!
 - Our Profit & Loss through February 2020 is: \$20,723.68
 - Please pay your monthly assessments by the 15th. All billing questions & concerns need to sent to: chesterhoabilling@gmail.com

Other Business:

- Geese Removal: Our ongoing self-help effort to keep the pond Geese at bay... is working to a fair degree. At one point this month things had gone so well that I was nervously thinking that "we just might be able to use the large-common area" ... this year for a CVG community event! Well, that thinking has now turned to SMH concern... Not because of the virus and the distancing challenges we face (*that too may very well postpone thing*) but, what I am concerned about is that "**someone**" is removing our silhouette-dogs... I mean, removing stake/spring/& dog from the premises. I guessing it is done at night! No clear thought as to WHY! Of course, the Geese took full advantage and **RETURNED** to the large common area, almost immediately! Pooping things up! But we will continue giving our efforts the "ole' college try!" while focusing a bit more on who & why... If you see something... say something!
- Shrub Re-planting: Shipp & Wilson is on schedule to start the replanting of all of our 2019 Landscaped dead shrubbery in April. However, as you can expect... that schedule is likely to slide a bit to the right due definitely to the virus... inventory; laborers; etc... albeit outdoor work is not so bad... if you keep your distance and keep your hands clean (as a minimum)... But more to come on that...
- Mail Box Painting: The Board received a couple of bids from local contractors to: Sand/paint/ and re-number our mailboxes this year. The planned start time is second week in April. The HOA will furnish all the materials: *Best Quality/Best Price/Best Value*. Labor is \$20 per mailbox.
- Web Site Development: The website development effort is continuing at a good pace and will likely make its objective "Go Live" date of late April... No indications yet from the developer that current conditions are impacting our planned date. Currently we have completed what I called a "pre-beta" review & test. We have provided the developer with those changes and we're on schedule to conduct a "full-beta test" by mid-April. Recall that our development approach is to develop a user-friendly mobile phone accessible website. Yes, you will be able to use the website from your PC's... but, almost everybody has a mobile phone. We will still service the information needs of the entire community. More to come on this project.
- Home Owner Handbooks: Gordon Mapes is spearheading the task of updating our Homeowner Association's Handbook. He has prepared a list of changes to be made and our goal is to be able to provided all homeowners with a copy of its content, hardcopy, as desired. Contact Gordon if you have any questions at: gmapes@chesterpres.org

- Sick & Shut-in and Losses: Let me be the first to apologize for not providing adequate or timely information about our CVG community members that have suffered family losses and/or their families health or their own, has deteriorated to a point of in-home care; assisted care; or hospitalization. We simply want to do better in this area and let folks know we do care!
 - Our Condolences: Kim Raymond's dad passed; Arlene Ripp's sister passed; Wayne Crews passed; Bob Tierney's mom passed; Madison Culver's mom passed; Joyce Pembroke passed; *(I know if have forgotten someone; Please send me a short note; it doesn't matter how long ago and I'll put it in next month's newsletter...)*
 - Please remember & pray for our shut-ins: Floyd Robinson; Doris Hobart; Jim Casto *(I know if have forgotten someone; Please send me a short note; it doesn't matter how long ago and I'll put their name in next month's newsletter...)*

For the good of the Community:

- We have been asking that everybody "***pick-up the poop***" after their pets.... And keep their pets on a leash and **OFF** the neighbors Landscaping... peeing on their shrubs/trees/flowers!
- Be considerate!