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**April 26:**  
Community Yard Sale  
7 am

**April 29:**  
CLHA Board Meeting  
7pm

**May 27:**  
CLHA Board Meeting  
7pm

**June 24:**  
CLHA Board Meeting  
7pm

Online at  
**CLHA.org**

## Community Yard Sale: Saturday, April 26

Gather up your junk! Clean out your closets! Your trash could be another person's treasure! We have organized our Spring Community Yard Sale event for this coming Saturday, April 26 at 7am. You are welcome to set up at the common area parking lot or in your own yard (or combine areas with your neighbors and friends)!

We have advertised online at Baynet.com and SOMD.com and included addresses and details from those of you that submitted them to us. We also posted signs at the entrances on Cox Dr. and Yowaiski Mill. Feel free to post your own ads and signs as well.

We hope for great weather and plenty of shoppers this weekend. Good luck to each of you!

## Adopt-A-Road Clean-Up Day

Saturday, April 5, was our Spring community clean up day. We had 11 people participate including community service workers and some volunteers from Country Lakes (Thanks neighbors!). The county Public Works Dept. supplied street signs, bags and trash pick-up sticks for our use. For this event we cleaned the park area, Asher Rd, Yowaiski Mill, and Tin Top School Rd from Asher across Yowaiski to the end. We started at 9:00 am and finished by 12:30 pm.

Thank you to everyone that helped out with the organization, pickup, and hauling of the bags and debris from this event. Contact us at 301-884-7297 or CLHA.org if you are interested in volunteering for the next event in the Fall.

## Always Looking for Board Members

We always welcome you to join our board meetings and consider joining the board of directors. We are a group of residents that volunteer to help manage the maintenance and events throughout the community. It is because of all of our (and your) dues that we are able to maintain the park and have these fun events.

We are always looking for help and volunteers, so please consider participating. New ideas and suggestions for events and community interaction are always welcome and encouraged.



## VIRTUAL NEIGHBORHOOD: What's Happening Online?

Here are some recent posts to the CLHA Facebook page. It's an easy and quick way to communicate with your neighbors and board members directly. We currently have 191 followers, but our posts often go viral, extending to "friends" of those followers as well. Our most popular post in 2014 so far reached 699 people on Facebook; It was about a wind chill advisory on Jan 6! Brrrrr. We are glad that one is behind us!

facebook

191

18 MORE THAN  
LAST QUARTER!!

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION!** [Facebook.com/CLHOA](https://www.facebook.com/CLHOA)

**Country Lakes Homeowners Association (CLHOA)**

Join us this Saturday for Adopt-A-Road Community Clean Up Day. Volunteer here or meet at the pavilion at 9am:  
<http://clha.org/volunteer-your-time/>

**Spring Community Clean Up Day**  
April 5  
Mechanicsville, Maryland

Like · Comment · Share

31 people saw this post

We share details from  
community events

### AND MORE...

Spot pets on the loose?  
Having a fundraiser?  
Looking for childcare?  
Post to our wall and we'll share it with  
our "friends" and followers!

### Need to spread the word even farther?

We offer affordable advertising on our  
Website and in this newsletter.  
[Email webmaster@clha.org](mailto:webmaster@clha.org) for details!

**Country Lakes Homeowners Association (CLHOA)** shared St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's photo.

Summer program for your kids...Camp D.A.R.E..... Read below.

ANNOUNCEMENT: 2014 CAMP DARE

**St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office**  
Proudly Announces:  
**5th Annual Camp D.A.R.E.**  
**July 7-10, 2014**

- Camp D.A.R.E. is a free four day camp for incoming 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the 2014-2015 school years.
- CAMP D.A.R.E. will be run by members of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and students from the Dr. James A. Farrest-Career and Technology Center Criminal Justice program, serving as camp counselors.
- The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) America, Elementary curriculum will be taught during the week by certified D.A.R.E. instructors.
- The program is designed to suggest alternatives and provide students the tools they need to make good decisions to avoid drugs, alcohol, and violence. Additional activities throughout each day may include: arts and crafts, recreational competitions, and public safety related demonstrations.
- Applications can be picked up at the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and online at [www.firstsheriff.com](http://www.firstsheriff.com). Application Deadline: June 6, 2014

CAMP D.A.R.E. is a FREE CAMP D.A.R.E. conducted by the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with St. Mary's County Public Schools. Camp D.A.R.E. remains free through the generous contributions of civil organizations, local businesses, and private citizen contributions. To donate contact: Sgt. Angela Decker at 301-475-4000 ext. 3000 or email [angela.decker@smysd.com](mailto:angela.decker@smysd.com)

Like · Comment · Share

37 people saw this post

Boost Post

We pass on summer event plans  
and news from local  
organizations such as the  
Sheriff's department.



## Special Announcements

### Help Keep Our Playground Safe

We have recently replaced some of the older, more worn and broken swings at the playground. There have been reports of people throwing the swings over the top bar of the swing set causing the chains to tangle and the swings to be unusable. Please urge your children to respect the playground equipment in an effort to keep the area safe for kids of all ages. Thank you for your cooperation!

### Call Miss Utility Before You Dig

With nice weather comes outdoor projects and honey-do lists! Please be sure to cover all your bases before starting those decks, additions, and anything else that may require you to dig. You can go online at [www.missutility.net/maryland/](http://www.missutility.net/maryland/) or call 1-800-257-7777. Miss Utility is also on Twitter and Facebook.

### Springtime Safety

Welcome, Spring! We are glad to finally see warmer temperatures and flip-flop weather. When working in your yard, please be mindful of critters and animals that are also emerging, such as snakes, rabbits, spiders, and ants! Wear boots or sturdy

shoes when weeding, and don't forget the gloves to prevent blisters and contact with various poisons (Ivy, Oak, etc.)

### Theft at Vacant Homes

There are several homes in our community that are unoccupied for various reasons and many of them have been burglarized and vandalized. Please be aware of activity at vacant homes that may be near you. Several homes were burglarized in April (West Lakeland, Asher, Yowaiski). If you have any information related to these incidents, or may have noticed something out of the ordinary on these properties, please leave an **anonymous message** at 301-884-7297 or call the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Dept. at 301-475-8008.

### Neighborhood Watch Program

There are currently 5 neighbors participating in our Neighborhood Watch Program, but we are always accepting newcomers. Please complete our online form at [CLHA.org](http://CLHA.org) or contact Donald "Pud" Graham at 301-884-5236 or 301-717-6474.

## UPCOMING 2014 COMMUNITY EVENTS

### CLHA Board Meetings -

Our Board Meetings are held every four weeks on Tuesdays at either the park pavilion (during warm months) or the Christ Church Parish Hall on Zack Fowler Rd. in Chaptico (during cold months). Upcoming meeting dates for the first quarter of 2014 are as follows:

- April 29,
- May 27, and
- June 24.

All meetings are at 7pm and last a maximum of 2 hours. Please bring your ideas/suggestions/complaints and we'll try our best to address them appropriately.

These meetings  
are at the Pavilion!



### Community Yard Sale - Sat, Apr 26

We have advertised on Baynet and SOMD.com and posted signs at our entrances. Set up in your yard or at the parking lot at the park (on a first come, first served basis).

### View our Event Calendar Online:

[www.CLHA.org](http://www.CLHA.org)

[www.Facebook.com/CLHOA](https://www.facebook.com/CLHOA)

**Want to Volunteer? Call 301-884-7297 or go online at CLHA.org**  
*When calling our voice mail, your phone number must accept blocked numbers to receive a call back*



## COMMUNITY RESOURCE PHONE NUMBERS:

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office: 301-475-8008

Maryland State Police: 301-475-8955

St. Mary's County Animal Control: 301-475-8018 x 2115

St. Mary's County Public Schools: 301-475-5511

Social Services: 240-895-7000

American Red Cross: 301-934-2066

Health Department: 301-475-4330

Verizon: 301-954-6260

Public Works and Transportation: 301-863-8400

State Highway Administration: 301-475-8035

METCOM: 301-373-4733

SMECO: 301-475-5631

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

COUNTRY LAKES  
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. Box 632  
Mechanicsville, MD 20659



**CLHA Voice Mail:**  
301-884-7297

*You must accept calls from a blocked number  
to have your call returned.*



**Find Us Online:**  
[www.CLHA.org](http://www.CLHA.org)  
[www.Facebook.com/CLHOA](http://www.Facebook.com/CLHOA)

## 2013-14 Board of Directors

### President/Secretary

Elaine Green, [president@clha.org](mailto:president@clha.org)

### Vice President

Mark Pullium, [vicepresident@clha.org](mailto:vicepresident@clha.org)

### Treasurer

Jim Loveless, [treasurer@clha.org](mailto:treasurer@clha.org)

### Directors

Monty Wright  
Jen Burtchette

Donald Graham  
Kim Beachy, *Property Manager*

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### Special Contact Emails:

Pavilion Reservations: [eventcoordinator@clha.org](mailto:eventcoordinator@clha.org)

Dues Questions: [propertymanagement@clha.org](mailto:propertymanagement@clha.org)