

Golonial Gharles Gommunity
3235 Shadow Lark Lane
IValdorf MD 20603
colonial charles.org
301-638-2190



December 1, 2025

NEWSLETTER

Message from the President

As we near the end of 2025, I would like to thank the residents who are the community's eyes and ears, who call, send cards and extend personal face-to-face greetings with words of appreciation and encouragement to me and Board members. You are greatly appreciated for your kindness.

This year's Veterans Day Celebration was very well planned. Social Committee Chairperson Sedatrist Ballard and members did an outstanding job in honoring our veterans on this special day.



A special thank you to Charles County Roads Division for their timely repairs on the sidewalks in the community. The uneven sidewalk sections could cause serious accidents and falls. This prompted my call to the County Roads division. Within days, workers were out marking sidewalk sections needing repair. A few days later, repair crews arrived to begin repairs.

There have been complaints of children living in our community. Unlike our surrounding communities, Colonial Charles is a 55+ community and underage children are not allowed to reside here. Please follow our community guidelines and follow them to avoid fines and possible legal action.

A friendly reminder to our dog owners to keep pets on a leash when not on your property. In accordance, in part, to County e-code 230-12.4, Public Nuisance, A. "A public nuisance is when an



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owner or custodian allows an animal to: (4) Intimidate pedestrians, neighbors or passersby."

Health - Wellness - & Other News

Health officials are recommending adults aged 65-plus speak with a health provider, such as a doctor, pharmacist or a nurse before deciding to take the COVID-19 vaccination. The guideline change takes in consideration the increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

AARP Bulletin, Nov/Dec 2025

The new tax laws for 2025, the standard deduction for 65 and older is now \$15,750 for individual filers and \$31,500 for joint filers. From 2025 through 2028, 65 or older may get an extra bonus deduction of up to \$6k per eligible individual even if you don't itemize.

AARP Bulletin, Nov/Dec 2025

Approved Motions — November 2025

- (1) High Sierra, Spa Jet Replace Go Kit, Seal Plate, \$845.54
- (2) Fidelity Mechanical, Annual Maintenance Contract, \$9,170.00
- (3) High Sierra, Indoor Swimming Pool Agreement, \$12,500.00
- (4) High Sierra, Outdoor Swimming Pool Agreement, \$2,600
- (5) Luna Landscaping, repair section of boundary fence, \$480.00

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Architectural Design

Design Review Applications are available at the Clubhouse, on the community webpage and on the Majerle Management portal. Applications can also be dropped off at the Clubhouse. Any exterior work (additions, changes, etc) to your home must first be approved by the Architectural Design Committee.



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Grounds Maintenance

Complete Landscaping Schedule

No landscaping schedule at this time.

Complaints should be directed to: groundsmaintenance@colonialcharles.org

Clubhouse

Community Christmas Party, 20 December 2025 (flyer distributed separately)

Management & Community Inquires should be addressed to:

Majerle Management Services, Inc. 1375 Piccard Drive, Suite 210 Rockville, MD 20850-4311 Stephanie Martin, 301-220-1850

Register for the online portal at: https://mmi.cincwebaxis.com

Colonial Charles Utility Group (Cygnus) Recurring bill is due in January 2026.

Payment Authorization Form can be found on community webpage: <u>colonialcharles.org</u>
*When changing credit card for utility payment(s), a new authorization form has to be submitted.

POC: Heather Patterson, 404-465-3681

HOA Board Meetings Schedule

No scheduled meeting

Town Hall - January 21, 2026, 3:30p



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Karla Costello Treasurer



Jacqueline Green
President
Architecture
Newsletter



Thelma Carter Secretary Architecture Security



Wilbert Ferguson
Vice President
Grounds
Clubhouse





George Via Member-at-Large Clubhouse Architecture

Clubhouse Facility Managers



Reva Ware



Vivian Madison



1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)

<u>Veterans Crisis Line</u>: <u>Dial 988, then press 1</u> Health Benefits Hotline: 877-222-VETS (8387)

Veterans Initiatives and Plans for 2026

- **2026 VA Disability Rates:** VA disability pay rates will increase by 2.8%, effective December 1, 2025, based on a 2.8% COLA.
- **GI Bill reinstatement:** GI Bill benefits reinstated for veterans discharged for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine.
- **EHR rollout:** The VA plans to resume the rollout of its new Electronic Health Record (EHR) system to 13 new sites in 2026, with \$3.4 billion allocated in a recent spending bill.
- **Disability claims:** The VA has released a new video tutorial to assist veterans in filing disability claims online.
- **Homelessness grants:** The VA awarded \$84 million in grants to combat veteran homelessness.
- **Veterans' ACCESS Act:** The Veterans' ACCESS Act of 2025 is being considered to ensure veterans are educated on healthcare choices and have timely access to care.
- House Committee actions: The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported out 25 bills for consideration, including legislation aimed at modernizing the VA disability appeals process and ending certain controls over healthcare choice.
- Mission statement update: The VA has announced an updated mission statement, which
 recognizes its "sacred commitment to all Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors".
- **Health equity:** A special issue of *Health Equity* was published to focus on improving care for minority veterans.
- **Prostate cancer research:** The VA is developing an AI that can predict aggressive prostate cancer.



Barking for a Reason: Why We Should Pay Attention

Dogs bark. That's normal. But sometimes, barking means, "Hey, something's not right!"

Pro tip: If your dog's barking more than usual, take a quick look outside before telling them to quiet down. They might be reacting to someone walking too close or hanging around.

And if you notice a neighbor's dog sounding the alarm, keep an eye out, too. In our watch, we count on every set of ears—human or canine.

Neighborhood Watch We look out for each other

Merry Christmas - Hanukkah - Season's Greetings - Happy Holidays

May the blessing of joy abide within you;

May the blessing of peace rest upon you;

May the blessing of love flow out through you;

May all the blessings of the Lord be yours

at Christmas and in the new year.



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CANDY CANE
CAROLS
CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS
EGGNOG
ELF ON THE
SHELF

FIREPLACE
FROSTY
GINGERBREAD
HANUKKAH
HOLIDAY
HOT CHOCOLATE
ICICLE
JINGLE BELLS

MISTLETOE NUTCRACKER ORNAMENTS POINSETTIA PRESENTS REINDEER SANTA CLAUS SLEIGH SNOWFLAKE SNOWMAN STOCKING TINSEL UGLY SWEATER WINTER WREATH

9 Puzzles and Plans 2024

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DECEMBER 2025

28	21	4		7			Sunday	
29 Bid Whist 2:00p	22 Bid Whist 2:00p	Chair Aerobics 12p Bid Whist 2:00p	Chair Aerobics 12p Bld Whist 2:00p Theatre Group 6:00p	CO	Chair Aerobics 12p Bid Whist 2:00p Dancercise 6:15p	_	Monday	
30 Virtual Bible Study 7:30p Request logan	Virtual Bible Study 7:30p Request logon	Virtual Bible Study 7:30p Request logon	Bingo @ 6:30p Virtual Bible Study 7:30p Request logan	9	Grand Room Rental 2:00p Virtual Bible Study 7:30p Request logan	2	Tuesday	
31 NYE Party 8:00p @ Clubhouse	24	Chair Aerobics 12p	Chair Aerobics 12p	10	Chair Aerobics 12p	ယ	Wednesday	
	25 FM Office Closed	Men's Luncheon @ 12:30p Phase 10 2:00p Pool/Spa Closed 2:00p	Phase 10 2:00p	11	Phase 10 2:00p Pool/Spa Closed 2:00p	4	Thursday	
	26 Pokeno 2:00p	Pokeno 2:00p	Pokeno 2:00p	12	Grand Room in Use 3:00p	G 1	Friday	
	27	Holiday Party 4:00p @ Clubhouse	Crafty Crafts 10:00a	13	Card Room Rental 2:00p	6	Saturday	Annu



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NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Neighbor Spotlight

Colonial Charles has many very talented residents with different professional backgrounds. So, I'd like to close out the year with a Neighbor Spotlight on Glenita Buckner.

Glenita is a product of Washington DC, graduating from Anacostia High School. She then attended Bowie State University where she is inducted into the school's Sports Hall of Fame as a member of the school's first Black cheerleading squad.



She has brought this same energy and teaching skills to our community as Line Dance instructor. Her patience with those of us who turn right when we should be turning left, is amazing. We appreciate and think you for your time, energy and kindness.



Residents interested in group bicycling can join the Colonial Charles (CC) Riders. Whether you own a 2- or 3 wheeler, all are welcome. Great exercise and fun. Leave your name and contact information at the Clubhouse, if interested.

