

News & Views

APRIL 2020

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1
Bulk Trash, Recycling Curbside

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
Farmer's Market Pre-ordered Boxes
Delivered Afternoon time TBD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
Council Meeting, via Zoom, 7:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5
Bulk Trash, Recycling Curbside

TUESDAY, MAY 12
Annual Election and Meeting



SECTION 3 ADJUSTS TO THE NEW NORMAL

We are at home...we are working, home-schooling, we are watching a whole lot more TV than ever before, our kids are having more screen time than ever before...we are looking for ways to help others. The world is emailing, calling, text messaging. We are anxious, we are glued to the news. It's a crazy time.

School and business closings and the imperative of social distancing in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenge for everyone, but a challenge we have tackled in a number of ways. Since the "New Normal" began, Section 3 has had St. Paddy's Day cookies delivered by Section 3 leprechauns, and held a Happy Hour via Zoom, FaceTime, Skype, whatever. And New Morning Farm has introduced a pilot program to deliver custom-made boxes of fresh food in early April. Hopefully we have kept our sense of humor and our sense of community.

More than 60 residents volunteered to assist our seniors and help out with whatever challenges were thrown our way. Section 3 neighbors are amazing! So many acts of caring for one another.

We've tried to keep you informed, upbeat and in touch with resources that you might not otherwise be aware of... And we've tried to remind you in many ways that we are all in this together.

Thank you for your suggestions, thank you for your spirit!

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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ST. PADDY'S DAY LEPRECHAUNS

On March 17, instead of our usual "Everybody's Irish" event, a band of hard-working Leprechauns delivered a special bag of holiday cookies to every household in Section 3 and brought a bit of good cheer at this difficult time. Special thanks to the Leggetts, the Dobbins, the Connors, the Mueller/Hartnett family, the Margolis family, the Altmars, the Schnures, the Glynn's, the Dietrichs, the Greis/Nott family, the Derricks, the McKenneys, the Murphys, the Chap/Hanssens, the Dorsey/Williamses, the Brown/Whatleys, the Sheckells/Dioguardis, the Liz Howard family and the Schecks. Without their help we could not have distributed hundreds of cookies.



** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and our desire to have our meetings open to everyone in our community, Council meetings are held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church which has handicapped elevator access via the parking lot entrance. We are grateful to the Church for their generosity in allowing us to use their facility each month.*



COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, March 11 at CCUMC in the Wesley Room. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m. All Council members were present.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Village Manager had written to the County Council President concerned about the increased population in Chevy Chase Lake that is served by the same Connecticut Avenue fire station that serves Section 3. Thousands of new residents are and will be moving into that neighborhood, living in high-rise buildings and the station does not even have a hook and ladder. The County Council President Sidney Katz's response was that "the Fire Chief regularly reviews calls for service, apparatus utilization, staffing, and the need for capacity building or redistribution of current resources." He went on to note that the Fire Department's Strategic plan "does contain an Emergency Management Services capacity to upgrade to provide an ambulance at Station 7 on a 24/7 basis."

We will continue to press on this issue and encourage the County to plan ahead. The procurement process can take up to two years and delay could put our community at a distinct disadvantage.

The Council also discussed the budget considerations for our police patrols going forward (see budget story this issue).

BUILDINGS & ROADS

While no building permits were issued since the last council meeting in February, nearly a dozen projects are planned or in the permitting pipeline for construction this spring and summer.

We continue to work on the revision of our building ordinances to better address stormwater runoff and high water table problems as well as the potential construction of accessory dwelling units in residents' backyards as it pertains not only to stormwater management, but to issues of parking and lot density. We have been consulting with the Maryland Planning Department as well as other jurisdictions also struggling to address these issues in their ordinances.

The new house at 3615 Raymond Street has been sold, and work continues on the one next door at 3613.

The County proposed a Zoning Text Amendment which would have clarified limits on accessory structures in rear yards but then withdrew the amendment, leaving some confusion in its wake.

WSSC executed emergency repairs on Connecticut Avenue, providing a new water line for each of the Section 3 residents north of Taylor Street fed by the same water main. Ross

Contracting did an excellent, neat job, and a special thank you goes to the understanding residents of the no-outlet portion of Delaware Street where construction equipment was parked while the job was underway.

The Council discussed miscellaneous roadway and driveway apron repairs that will need to be made this spring. High on that list is the repair of the increasingly annoying pothole on Raymond Street near the speed bump.

The Village Manager indicated that sod has been installed in the greenways that had been damaged over the winter and has asked homeowners to regularly water them.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council discussed the draft budget and made some changes (see story this issue).

In keeping with our desire to recycle as much as possible, the Council recently ordered new recycling bins for Section 3 residents.

In addition, the Council discussed offering composting services on a voluntary basis. The Council agreed to offer this service to anyone who wanted it. Residents who wish to participate will need to pay for the composting storage bucket (\$12, provided by the Compost Crew), and Section 3 will cover the monthly cost.

Negotiations with the firm will begin soon to offer this service for the remainder of this fiscal year and next year it will become a budget line item. At present, there are 18 residents who use the services of the Compost Crew. Going forward, Section 3 will (date TBD) take over monthly payments for those residents already composting and work to expand the number of participants. Go to compostcrew.com/faq to learn more about residential composting.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

It was agreed that given the large crowd we attract for the Everybody's Irish event it should be canceled. The Village Manager is working on an alternative plan (see story page 1). The Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon is also similarly likely to be cancelled.

OTHER

Wheeled recycling bins will be delivered March 21. We will revise our contract with Montgomery Sanitation and Recycling so that it will state the new trash and recycling days and will be shifted to their other corporate entity, Key Sanitation as they are phasing out Montgomery Sanitation as a business entity.

The Council agreed to a resolution that the Office of the Comptroller should receive notification that the Village Manager is the designated representative in all dealings with that office.

The Village Manager proposed organizing a committee of people to help our seniors cope during the coronavirus "event."

The Council discussed shifting the date of the Council meeting because of Spring Break and agreed to April 15.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

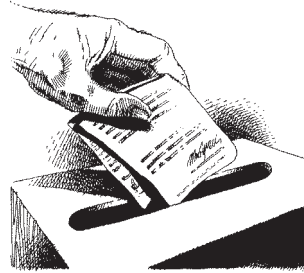
SECTION 3 ACTIVITIES IN LIGHT OF THE “NEW NORMAL”

Every Spring we hold the Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon, then in May we have Food Truck Night, the Annual Meeting and Election, in June we have the wine tasting event and in July, the Welcome New Neighbors BBQ. It's clear that the Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon will not take place. We are also exploring ways to vote via absentee ballot for the annual election (see statements this issue) and we hope to hold both our April Council Meeting and the Annual Meeting via Zoom. As to the other events, we'll see how our recovery from the coronavirus evolves before making any decisions. We expect this will be a marathon of social distancing, not a sprint.

GARDEN EXCHANGE

Within this new normal it is a great time to garden. You may find some of your plants welcome being divided.

If you have some plants you'd like to share, contact the Village Manager Andy Harney. Or if you would like something, let her know and she will put you on the list! It's all free...what better way to recycle than to keep it “in the family,” so to speak! .



COUNCIL CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Every year the Section 3 Council has elections. This year two Council members whose term is up this Spring opted to retire: Mike

Dietrich, our Treasurer of six years, and Melissa Brown, our Secretary who served on the Council for eight years are both stepping down.

Both **Tom Carroll** and **Ellie Nader** have submitted statements expressing their interest in serving on the Council. Here are their statements as to why they would like to serve.

We may hold our Annual Meeting Via Zoom rather than in person. It's scheduled for Tuesday, May 12. We are also considering sending absentee ballots to everyone in the community.

TOM CARROLL

When we moved here just over 10 years ago, we were quite taken with the house on Shepherd Street. Jon, the previous resident (with his wife Evelyn and kids), said, “yeah...the house is nice, but it's really the neighborhood – you'll see”. Good grief – he could not have been more right.

From our first day Section 3 welcome basket (and our day 3 Halloween parade/trick-or-treating!), my wife Katherine and I, and our children, have come to understand and appreciate more and more what a special neighborhood it is with each passing year. That is why I'm seeking to serve on our Council – to hopefully give a little back. I would love the opportunity to represent the interests of our neighbors as we navigate these very tumultuous times.

As I write this, we are truly in uncharted territory. The threat of COVID-19 has created unprecedented disruption in our daily routines. In this context, the safety, security, and social fabric of our community reveal again their importance. While these immediate circumstances are indeed unusual, they only reinforce what I see as the primary functions of the Council: to transparently represent the interests of our neighbors, to steward the resources of Section 3 efficiently and effectively, to ensure and enhance the safety of our neighborhood, and to solicit and implement ideas that enhance the social fabric of this community. Last year it was rapid growth in Montgomery County; this next it may be rapid economic contraction. Regardless of these shifting circumstances, I have the utmost respect for our ability to self-govern in service of preserving and enhancing our unique neighborhood.

As Spring begins to bloom, and many of us are out wander-

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

VARIANCE REQUEST

The **Lelecks** of 3602 Shepherd Street are requesting variances to build a bay window which will intrude 1'-6" into the 20' rear setback and to construct a landing with two steps to grade which will intrude 4'-5" into the same rear setback.

ing the neighborhood (a good six+ feet apart), I'm reminded that we are, and will continue to be, a vibrant, caring community. I would be honored to serve on the Council and to have your vote this Election Day.

ELLIE NADER

The Section 3 Council is the glue that makes Section 3 the "Pleasantville" that we live in and adore. My husband Matt and I lived in DC and in another section of Chevy Chase before finding our home in Section 3 and now we cannot imagine living anywhere else. I believe that it is time for me to join the town Council to start to put my time and energy into the neighborhood that has given me so much. I would like to help neighbors feel the support and camaraderie that I first felt when we moved into the neighborhood and have felt ever since.

Our children have all attended CCUMC preschool and we have a vested interest in helping the school build their new and improved playground (we were/are supposed to host the auction for the school this spring). Our kids and many of the other Section 3 families will play on that playground for years to come. Although our son is going to be a pre-K graduate from CCUMC this spring, I will be tied to this wonderful school as long as we live here and hope to keep the positive connection between the neighborhood and the school.

After my first year in our house, a group of Section 3 women found out that I liked to run and asked me to join in on runs and trips. I have met some of the greatest people from this connection. Through my wonderful running friends from Section 3, my caring neighbors on my block, and my preschool families, I believe I will be a great voice to be heard and carry a message through to the Section 3 Council.

SECTION 3 BUDGET

Our next budget is conservative as usual. We have allocated extra funds for a variety of items that we think will improve life in our community. Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

INCOME

Income tax revenue constitutes roughly 75 percent of Section 3's annual income. Based on this year's income to date, we have budgeted an anticipated \$485,000 in income tax revenues for next year, a modest increase of just \$20,000 more than we expected for the current fiscal year.

EXPENSES

We hope to hire engineers to create drawings and specs for the "Lake Bradley" solution to handle the run-off from the intersection of Bradley Lane and Brookville Road. We also anticipate having to

hire engineers to develop a plan and an estimated price for the neighbors to address drainage issues that plague six to eight different homes on Raymond Street all of which outfalls on Georgia Street under the sidewalk and into our storm drain system.

The Grass and Tree budget covers the cost of new street trees, tree trimming throughout the community, the maintenance of the "gardens" at the dead ends and at Bradley and Connecticut Avenue, street cleaning twice a year and the Gazebo Park. This year we hope to put in a fan in the gazebo that will be temperature controlled and a water fountain in the park in addition to our regular expenses.

We have upped the Police Budget as we intend to bring our compensation more in line with that provided to police patrols in neighboring jurisdictions.

The Street Repair budget will cover miscellaneous repairs, the "Lake Bradley" project, crack sealing, and the replacement of the now deteriorated "speed intersection" at Raymond and Georgia Streets.

The new item on the budget is compost collection. The Council decided at their March meeting to encourage composting by hiring a local firm to pick up compost contributions from any resident who chooses to participate. This will be a voluntary program, much like those in Somerset and the Town of Chevy Chase. We are hopeful a number of people will want to participate but our budget assumes that the growth in the first year will be modest.

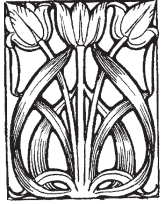
The Wynne Payment is the amount that we must reimburse the State for payments residents were charged and that the State reimbursed individuals with valid claims as a result of the *Supreme Court decision Comptroller of the Treasury of Maryland v. Wynne*. The Wynne decision determined that the State incorrectly charged residents who made income outside the state and the income from those charges trickled down to Counties and municipalities. The payment plan extends over five years.

Finally, we hope to make inroads with Pepco this year in putting in new LED street lighting that is not too harsh and will illuminate from the center of the street. Those funds will come from our Capital Improvement Fund.

CHEVY CHASE SECTION 3 BUDGET

	Actual FY 17-18	Actual FY 18-19	YTD FY 19-20*	Budget FY 19-20	Proposed budget FY 20-21
INCOME					
Building Permits	\$4,400.00	\$6,050.00	\$3,175.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Cable TV franchise fees	\$11,710.86	\$10,706.46	\$9,651.89	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
CCUMC Trash collection	\$1,615.00		\$1,656.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,800.00
County Duplication	\$31,513.00	\$31,513.00	\$31,513.00	\$31,500.00	\$31,513.00
Grant Money		-\$1,359.05			
Income Taxes	\$517,782.87	\$544,218.05	\$469,703.53	\$465,000.00	\$485,000.00
Interest (from CDs)	\$25,894.87	\$42,721.77	\$34,503.68	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Interest from taxes	\$26.31	\$128.95	\$22.79		\$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,391.35	\$49.91			\$0.00
Parking Fines	\$45.00	\$108.75		\$60.00	\$50.00
Personal Property Taxes	\$120.89	\$492.21	\$18.79		\$0.00
Property Tax	\$52,279.00	\$54,163.77	\$53,812.54	\$55,000.00	\$54,545.00
State Highway Tax	\$20,387.15	\$22,513.20	\$8,413.61	\$20,000.00	\$29,600.00
Total Income	\$667,166.30	\$711,307.02	\$612,470.83	\$618,210.00	\$647,508.00
EXPENSES					
Accounting Fees	\$11,757.06	\$9,506.25	\$8,911.50	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Bank Service Charges	\$169.01	\$133.96	\$109.00	\$190.00	\$200.00
Community Promotion	\$21,342.06	\$24,561.70	\$7,175.38	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
County Landfill Charges	\$7,570.16	\$6,548.12	\$5,242.34	\$7,500.00	\$6,000.00
County Accounting Fees					
Dues & Council Dinner	\$4,367.85	\$4,317.80	\$3,621.36	\$5,200.00	\$5,000.00
Engineering Consult Svcs	\$480.00	\$16,957.50	\$136.78	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Equipment	\$1,612.58	\$515.54			\$800.00
Grass & Trees	\$46,111.87	\$48,796.47	\$40,782.39	\$45,000.00	\$70,000.00
Insurance	\$8,693.71	\$7,347.07	\$3,040.81	\$12,000.00	\$8,000.00
Legal Fees	\$10,085.38	\$6,883.40	\$6,943.80	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$310.49	\$330.62	\$471.78	\$500.00	\$600.00
Newletter	\$7,250.45	\$9,077.17	\$4,710.70	\$11,000.00	\$8,000.00
Office Supplies	\$420.12	\$308.38	\$848.96	\$600.00	\$800.00
Party-in-the-Park	\$14,075.75	\$15,491.79	\$12,137.94	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
Payroll & Taxes	\$101,654.00	\$100,033.76	\$68,122.27	\$108,000.00	\$112,000.00
Police Payroll & Taxes	\$9,181.02	\$9,525.00	\$6,123.23	\$9,000.00	\$11,500.00
Postage & Delivery	\$3,020.08	\$3,000.84	\$2,074.21	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Recycling (leaf bags,dogs,bins)	\$2,390.76	\$2,178.58	\$13,937.80	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00
Rental storage unit	\$2,538.00	\$2,644.00	\$2,377.45	\$3,000.00	\$4,800.00
Snow Removal	\$2,845.50	\$11,129.00	\$720.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Street Lighting	\$6,243.13	\$6,226.70	\$3,579.23	\$9,000.00	\$8,000.00
Street Repairs	\$323,105.10	\$25,306.19		\$35,000.00	\$98,000.00
Street Signs, curb ptg	\$9,081.76	\$1,238.00	\$4,384.25	\$5,000.00	\$7,000.00
Telephone & Online	\$1,604.05	\$5,194.70	\$904.72	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00
Waste Collection	\$78,657.28	\$77,762.00	\$58,356.00	\$80,000.00	\$84,000.00
Compost Collection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$13,000.00
Water	\$656.60	\$436.45	\$547.98	\$550.00	\$600.00
Wynne Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,300.00
Total expenses	\$675,223.77	\$395,450.99	\$255,259.88	\$446,940.00	\$554,900.00
Cap. Improvement Fund	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,300,000.00	\$0.00	\$700,000.00	\$1,300,000.00

*Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. * as of March 25, 2020*

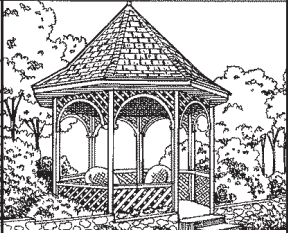


SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

SECTION 3



Village of
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

APRIL 2020

PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN AN APPROPRIATE "SOCIAL DISTANCE" FROM THEIR FRIENDS. THERE IS AN EXCELLENT LINK EXPLAINING WHY NO PLAYDATES ARE APPROPRIATE IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME BY A LOCAL PHYSICIAN USED BY SOME SECTION 3 RESIDENTS:
[HTTPS://WWW.DRSTEVESILVESTRO.COM/NO-CORONAVIRUS-BREAK-PLAY-DATES-HERES-WHY](https://www.drstevesilvestro.com/no-coronavirus-break-play-dates-heres-why)

PLEASE PICK UP
AFTER YOUR DOGS...
THERE ARE BAG DIS-
PENSERS THROUGH-
OUT THE COMMUNITY,
PLEASE USE THEM!

