

News & Views

JUNE 2020

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3
Bulk Trash, Recycling Curbside

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10
Council Meeting via Zoom
See email closer to meeting
7:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6
BACK AWAY BLOCK PARTIES
6:00 p.m. YOUR FRONT YARD
See story this issue

SUNDAY, JUNE 14
Shred Event
Brookville Market, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1
Bulk Trash, Recycling Curbside

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8
Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.
See email closer to meeting date

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COUNCIL HOLDS FIRST ZOOM ANNUAL MEETING

It was good to see some new faces and the interest folks who attended have in what the Council is doing and planning at our Annual Meeting via Zoom.

The Council approved the budget (see chart) as printed here. The only change that was made to the budget presented in the April News & Views was the lowering of our anticipated income tax revenues to the same amount that we budgeted for this year. As we have already exceeded that projection, the Council felt the budget should reflect the possible impact of COVID-19 on revenues and conservatively adjusted next year's income tax revenue projection downwards from \$485,000 to \$465,000. Outgoing Treasurer **Mike Dietrich** noted that we have sufficient reserves to cover any shortfall. The Council also voted on maintaining our property tax rate at two cents per \$100 assessed valuation and our real property tax rate at five cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

See next year's budget here:

Fiscal Year 2020-21 – Proposed Budget 20					
July '20 – June '21					
	FY 19-20 Budget	FY20-21 Proposed		FY 19-20 Budget	FY20-21 Proposed
Expenses			Expenses		
Accounting Fees	10,000	10,000	Police Payroll & Taxes	12,000	11,500
Bank Service Charges	190	200	Postage & Delivery	3,500	3,500
Community Promotion	25,000	25,000	Recycling (leaf bags, dogs, bins)	3,800	3,800
Compost Collection	13,000	13,000	Rent	3,000	4,800
County Landfill Charges	7,500	6,000	Snow Removal	20,000	20,000
Dues & Conventions	5,200	5,000	Street Lighting	9,000	8,000
Engineering Services	15,000	15,000	Street Repairs	35,000	98,000
Equipment	650	800	Street Signs	5,000	7,000
Grass & Trees	45,000	70,000	Telephone & Internet	5,000	4,000
Insurance	12,000	8,000	Waste Collection	80,000	84,000
Legal Fees	10,000	12,000	Water	550	600
Miscellaneous	500	600	Wynne Payment	20,400	5,300
Newsletter	11,000	8,000	Total Expenses	465,890	554,900
Office Supplies	600	800			
Party-in-the-Park	18,000	18,000	Capital Improvement Fund	700,000	1,300,000
Payroll & Taxes	108,000	112,000			

The Capital Improvement Fund is designated out of our overall reserves and may be used toward long-term expenditures. It is this Council's goal to get improved street lighting installed (starting with a demonstration light on Delaware Street) this fiscal year. Other priorities include some repairs of speed bumps and work to solve the drainage problem at the intersection of Bradley Lane and Brookville Road (a.k.a., "Lake Bradley"), if the Maryland State Highway Administration will agree.

Council Chair **Bill Brownlee** opened the meeting and summarized our lives in Section 3 before COVID-19 and after...reflecting on how very differ-

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

** 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.*

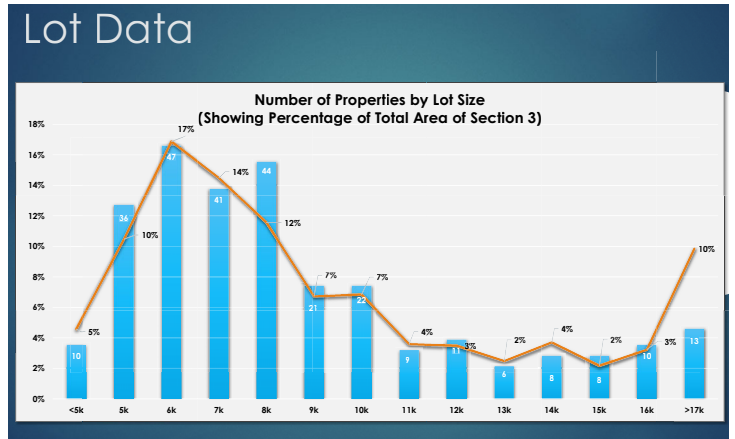
ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ent our experiences have been this year. He noted that despite COVID-19, we've found new ways to connect with one another and keep the neighborly spirit of Section 3 alive.

Brownlee turned the program over to our Buildings and Roads Representative **Carolyn Greis**, who summarized building activity since the last annual meeting. This past year a total of 35 building permits were issued for the following: 12 fences, 1 shed, 2 driveways with curb cuts and aprons, 1 walkway, 7 patios and decks, 8 additions, 1 demolition permit, 1 new home permit, 3 dumpsters, 2 pods, 1 sump pump, 1 generator, 1 bay window, 1 roof, and 1 pool (the third in three years). A total of twelve variances were issued, the largest number ever granted in a single year. This large number reflects a continuing trend we're seeing in the growing number of applications. Greis observed that the approved variances could be grouped into several different types given the differing reasons for their request and considered what, if any, implications could be drawn from the distinctions about our residents' properties and our current setback regulations. Taken together, the increased demand for variances, the continued problems of stormwater runoff, and the density of our community call for us to take a hard look at the revision of our building ordinances. Greis, Susan Manning and the Village Manager have been sorting through solutions to similar issues adopted by neighboring jurisdictions, as well as consulting with State and local planning officials, to address these challenges.

Greis then turned the program over to Vice Chair **Susan Manning**, who outlined our need to consider first the public health, safety and welfare. She noted that we want to be able to make changes that will accommodate growth and change, while also promoting open space, managing stormwater runoff and protecting the character of the community now and in the future. Manning noted some of the special challenges we face; that we are the third most densely populated municipality in the County (Takoma Park is first, Martin's Additions second), that we have experienced significant growth with extremely narrow streets (16' wide), limited street parking because of those narrow streets, and many shared driveways. Finally, because we do not have zoning authority, we must find ways to cope with newly County-passed legislation which allows for free-standing Accessory Dwelling Units in backyards or ADUs within existing houses.

Manning went on to point out that whatever changes we consider, we have done enough analysis to see that "one-size fits all" rules in some cases going forward may not be a good idea given the diversity of lot sizes in Section 3. She shared a chart that illustrates that (this page). The wide vertical bars indicate the square footage of lots in Section 3 in the thousands. The number of each of the lot sizes is indicated at the top of the bars. The bar



graph illustrates the percentage of the total area of houses within each lot size category.

The Council's goal is to craft new rules that will work for several different size categories going forward, with the expectation that existing uses would be grandfathered in.

Manning then turned the program over to outgoing Secretary **Melissa Brown** who took time to recognize and thank some of the many people who have helped knit us together as a community—both pre-COVID-19 and during COVID-19. They include: **Jan Augustine** for all her work making our website up to date and accurate; **Jen Roberti** for the wonderful work she does every year for our cakewalk at the Party-in-the-Park; and **Ellen Mc Kenney**, who welcomes every new neighbor with flowers and wine and a new directory—even at a distance of late! Finally, she took a moment to thank all those who volunteered for the Neighbors Committee during COVID 19 and those who have been looking out for our senior neighbors who need a little bit of help. Brown took a moment to thank the Council for the years of working together and expressed confidence that the two new Council members would do a great job. She then turned the program back to the Council Chair, Bill Brownlee.

Brownlee noted that the Council had passed emergency legislation created under Governor Hogan's COVID-19 emergency order that allowed municipalities with uncontested elections to forego the election. That legislation authorizes the Council to name the candidates running for the two uncontested seats as new members of the Council taking the place of retiring members Melissa Brown and Mike Dietrich. New members Ellie Nader and Tom Carroll took an oath of office, and then the Council elected members to specific responsibilities on the Council. The new Council is comprised as follows: Susan Manning, Chair; Bill Brownlee Vice Chair; Carolyn Greis, Buildings & Roads Representative; **Ellie Nadar**, Secretary; and **Tom Carroll**, Treasurer.

The meeting then adjourned.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

If you think COVID-19 stops people from moving, the answer is NO! We are fortunate to announce three new families now sheltering in place in Section 3, their new home.

A warm welcome to **Zach Arble** and **Alexis Dieter** who have moved here from the North Carolina Research Triangle with their two little ones, **Ellis** (4) and **Augustus** (2). The family lives in one of the two new homes on Raymond Street.

And **Thomas and Christie Heidenberger's** daughter **Natalie** got a very special third birthday present—a sister! **Colette** was born on Memorial Day weekend just after her family moved into the house at the corner of Raymond Street and Connecticut Avenue.

Finally, a welcome to **Kate Wren** and her fiancé **Ben Bruno**. Their wedding may have been delayed by COVID-19, but not their move to their new home in Section 3 at the corner of Taylor Street and Connecticut Avenue. We hope we'll all get to meet them very soon.

Congrats to the **Klugs** of Georgia Street on the birth of their third child! **Margaret Mae**, or Maggie, was born the same day as new neighbor Colette Heidenberger in the same hospital—what are the chances of that? Maggie joins brother **Mathias** and sister **Caroline** at home.

GRADUATING SENIORS

We want to congratulate all the high school grads who didn't have their day in a cap and gown...wishing you all well next year at the colleges of your choice. We have quite a crew, all hoping that COVID-19 will be under control enough so that they can start off this fall on a new adventure. So who is planning on going where this fall?

Nico Altamar of Delaware Street is graduating from B-CC and plans to attend Wake Forest. University

Jack Branthover of Georgia Street is graduating from B-CC too and plans to attend Miami of Ohio University.

Will Harmon of Florida Street is graduating from St. Albans and plans to attend Amherst College in Massachusetts.

Graham Hillman, son of **Deborah Harris** of Georgia Street, is graduating from B-CC and plans to attend Georgetown University.

Ethan Jose, son of **Jody Jose and Ellen Wilson** of

Raymond Street, is graduating from B-CC and plans on attending Syracuse University.

Jack McKenney of Georgia Street is graduating from Gonzaga and plans on attending Wake Forest University along with Nico Altamar.

Olivia Ohrenstein, daughter of **Wendy Eaton and Dave Ohrenstein** of Spring Street, is graduating from B-CC and plans on attending Emory University in Atlanta.

Olivia Restifo, daughter of **Maria Ionata and Nick Restifo** of Florida Street, is graduating from B-CC and plans on attending University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Zach Velli, son of **Gabi Koepfel and Aaron Velli** of Georgia Street, is graduating from St. Albans is planning on attending Case Western Reserve University in Ohio.

If we have missed anyone, please let us know and we will share the news in the July *News & Views*.



BACK-AWAY BLOCK PARTIES

Mark June 6 at 6:00 p.m. on your calendar. It's time we all got together (NOT really) outside—hence the name “Back-Away Block Parties.” We've asked a series of neighborhood block organizers to make sure you and your family plan on picnicking outside Saturday night in your front yard. That way we can see you, catch up across fences and driveways, and realize that...we are all in this together in this and we need to touch base with one another if only from a distance.

So be prepared to hear from someone in your neighborhood soon about your block party...and plan on an easy dinner and refreshments for Saturday, June 6!

VARIANCE REQUEST

The **Waterman-Robbey** family of 6803 Florida Street is requesting a variance to install a generator which will intrude 2' into the 8' south side setback.

The **Nott-Greis** family of 7003 Florida Street is requesting a variance to rebuild a 6' fence in their front yard (on Fulton Street) running for approximately 30' along the shared north and south property lines where the allowable height is 4'.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS PHASE I OPENING JUNE 1

County Executive Marc Elrich, following CDC guidelines, has initiated a “soft” reopening of Montgomery County. As of May 28, 2020, the County has lost 542 individuals to the disease plus a number of other probably COVID cases who passed away without having been tested. There were 10,800 County residents tested as of the 28th out of a population of 1,048,244. Testing is to be ramped up in the coming weeks. Social distancing and wearing masks still necessary in most public places.

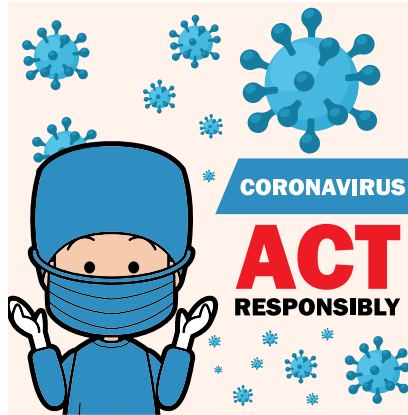
The Executive issued the following guidelines:

Phase I will start this Monday, June 1 at 6:00 a.m. The County plans for an incremental reopening, based on public health data.

Phase I allows additional businesses and activities to start and/or increase modified operations under specified guidelines.

They are:

- Retail; curbside only
- Restaurants and bars; outdoor seating (curbside pick-up still allowed)



- Childcare; State-approved emergency programs open for dependents of essential employees and Phase 1 reopening employees
- Personal Services; hair salons and barber shops for hair only appointments
- Car washes; exterior cleaning only
- Manufacturing; fully reopen with precautions and guidance
- Outdoor Day Camps: following Maryland Department of Health guidelines
- Outdoor Youth Sports; following Maryland Department of Health guidelines
- Certain outdoor recreation continues to be permitted; golf courses, archery, shooting ranges, marinas, campgrounds, horseback riding facilities and tennis courts.

The following businesses and services remain closed:

- Swimming pools; (however, licensing and inspection can be requested and conducted)
- Senior Centers
- Fitness Centers
- Movie Theaters
- Shopping Malls
- Nail Salons

Protective measures such as maintaining physical distancing, careful cleaning and disinfecting by staff and face coverings being worn by employees and customers, are just some of the measures being required of businesses that are in this initial phase of recovery.

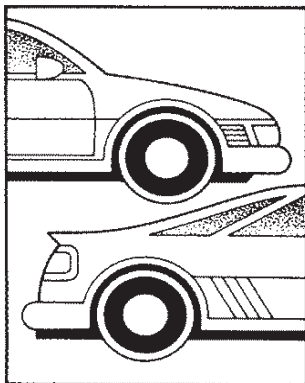
For up-to-date data, one can always consult the County's special COVID-19 website: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus-data.html>

For up to date information on closures go to: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OEMHS/COVID19-Closures.html>

SHRED EVENT, JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!

A side benefit of staying at home so much is many people have been cleaning out old files, attics, basements, and home offices. And suddenly, there is A LOT to shred. A new shred contractor, Document Management Solutions of Frederick will be coming to help us in a contactless, socially distant kind of way on Sunday, June 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.. They will take your “shreddables” from your trunk and make them unrecognizable. Just make sure to remove any large concentrations of metal (staples are fine) like binder clips, three ring binders, or anything that would gum up the shredding machine and make a mess for everyone. No plastic, just paper please.

WARM WEATHER ALWAYS BRINGS OUT PEOPLE WHO TOSS UNLOCKED CARS FOR CASH AND VALUABLES. THOSE SAME FOLKS OFTEN FIND A BICYCLE CASUALLY LEFT ON A LAWN THAT CAN BE STOLEN. DON'T LET THIS BE YOUR FAMILY.



COMPOSTING EXPANDS IN SECTION 3

In March, the Council voted to demonstrate our collective desire to be more environmentally conscious by inviting Compost Crew to come into our community and sign up residents for their food scrap compost pickup services. Food waste constitutes 22 percent of discarded municipal waste in the U.S., an astonishing percentage. Food scraps in a landfill or incinerated release methane, a greenhouse gas that is far more potent than carbon dioxide.

The Council agreed to subsidize the cost of Compost Crew's services starting May 1, both for those residents who are new to Compost Crew and long-time composters. New subscribers must pay for the disposal bins themselves (a onetime cost of \$20), and the Village has arranged for the pick-up day to coincide with our other recycling pick-ups. Subscribing to the compost service is voluntary. Those who do will now "three-cycle" on Wednesdays: food scraps for Compost Crew and paper and co-mingled bottles and cans for Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling.

The good news is that since its announcement on May 1, we now have 46 subscribers! That's an increase of 29 subscribers over the initial 17 who were already Compost Crew customers.

In exchange for their participation, residents who want it and who have been enrolled for six months will get one 2-cubic foot bag of ready-to-use compost for their gardens. If they don't want the compost, they can donate it to whomever they want or simply not request it.

What kinds of things besides food scraps can be put in your compost bin? Did you know that all cotton and wool dryer lint can be put in your compost bin? You can put bones in there (all those delicious BBQ ribs after they have been cleaned by hungry family members), coffee grounds, houseplant trimmings, greasy paper food containers, hair clippings from either human beings or animals, paper napkins & towels, cotton, wool, flowers. That's an amazing collection of items that you can keep out of the landfill. Compost Crew has a detailed list of compostable items at <http://compostcrew.com/The%20List.pdf>.

If you are interested in signing up with Compost Crew, go to tinyurl.com/CCSection3

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.

FARMER'S MARKET OPENS JUNE 6

Our favorite organic farm, New Morning Farm, will be back with a COVID-19 compliant farm stand starting June 6. With some new restrictions (you must wear a mask), the market will open at 8:00 am. for vulnerable shoppers ONLY (older residents, immune compromised neighbors) to 9:00 a.m. The market will extend its hours from 9:00 a.m.



to 2:00 p.m. because of the limitations on the number of people who can be in the tent at once. They will also continue pre-orders on line (for orders placed by Sunday, May 31st at 11:45 p.m. for pick-up June 6). So you can pick up curbside on the 6th and in person for all pre-orders. Pre-orders have a schedule: 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. for last names from A to G, 11:00 a.m. to noon for last names from H to M and noon to 1:00 p.m., last names from N to Z. There will be a separate line and cashier for pre-orders.

In addition to strawberries and June tomatoes, they will have bok choy, kale, radishes, parsley, spinach, sweet'n'spicy salad mix, arugula, pea shoots, kohlrabi, scallions, lettuce, cucumbers, chard, red beets bunched, gold beets, fennel, flowering thyme, cilantro, basil, rosemary, mint and mushrooms—cremini, white, shitake, and portabella.

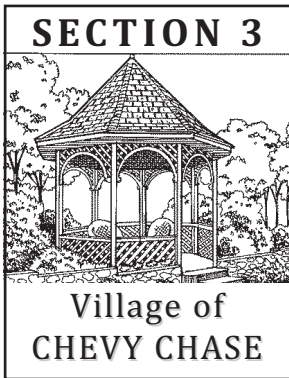
The link to the email newsletter explaining the summer market is <https://mailchi.mp/d4f3c3e1b7ed/summer-market-update>.

The link to the online store is:
<https://app.baarn2door.com/e/9bAa5/all>

Plan to spend a little more time because there will be limits on how many people can be under the tent at the same time. But while you are waiting, you can put in an order from our good friends the at Crêpes Parfait truck who will be back as well—so ALMOST like old times!



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE
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News & Views

JUNE 2020

Zoom School will be out soon, the weather is warm and we have lots of children!

Please be aware that social distancing still applies. Drive carefully, our children cannot go to day camps or pools just yet, so they are here, riding bikes and scooters.

Drive safely and extra slowly...we don't want any COVID-19 tragedies of any kind.

