

News & Views

JUNE 2023

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Bulk Trash & Three-cycling, curbside

WEDNESDAYS, 7, 14, 21, 28

Recycling & compost, curbside

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Hardy's BBQ

Gazebo Park, 5:00-7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Council Meeting in-person/Zoom hybrid
CCUMC Library, 7:45 p.m.

Agenda, meeting ID and passcode will be sent via email to residents. Interested members of the public can contact the Village Manager to obtain the ID and passcode.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Celebration of the last Day of School Ice Cream

Gazebo Park, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

Council Meeting

See June 14 listing above

THURSDAY, JULY 13

Welcome New Neighbors BBQ

** 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 handi-capped 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.*

PLEASE NOTE ALL NEW COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

STATE DELEGATION TO MEET WITH SECTION 3 AT OUR JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

For the first time in the history of Section 3, our entire State delegation will be attending our June 14 Village Council meeting. Visiting with us via Zoom will be **Maryland State Sen. Jeff Waldstreicher and Delegates Aaron Kaufman, Emily Shetty and Jarad Solomon**. They will join us to talk about the last legislative session and listen to our residents' questions and concerns at the state level. As is our custom, our guests will speak before we begin our regular Council meeting, so please plan to join the meeting at 7:45 p.m. sharp. A hybrid meeting, the Council and interested individuals will gather in the CCUMC library on the basement floor. The Zoom meeting ID and password will be emailed to all residents, and other interested members of the public are welcome to contact the Village Manager to obtain those details.

In the last session in Annapolis, **Sen. Waldstreicher**, Vice Chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, sponsored the Gun Safety Act of 2023 which limits the locations where individuals can carry firearms. The legislature also raised the regulated firearms age from 18 to 21. They also passed a law requiring firearms to be safely stored, locked and unloaded and inaccessible to children, and also strengthened the permitting process to ensure those who pose a danger to themselves or others don't have access to guns and directed the State

STATE DELEGATION @ JUNE MEETING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

VILLAGE COUNCIL & STAFF

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ANNUAL MEETING MAY 9 AND ELECTION RESULTS

Section 3's two-week voting period concluded on Tuesday, May 9, just prior to its Annual Meeting. Although the election was uncontested, 106 of our neighbors took the time to vote. The votes were as follows: **Larry Lanpher – 94, Susan Manning – 101, and Katey Vale – 97.** Section 3 has no provision for write-in votes, and instead has an open system whereby any resident can throw his or her hat in the ring and submit a candidacy statement for publication in the April newsletter. Nonetheless, we note that there were three write-in votes for **Ben Weinstein** and one write-in vote for **Suzy Richards**.

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, Lanpher, Manning and Vale each took their oath of office for a two-year term as a member of the Village Council. Council members are elected to the Council as a whole, not a particular role on the Council, which are instead determined by the Council itself. The Council decided that Susan Manning will serve as Chair for the next year, Larry Lanpher will serve as Vice Chair, Ellie Nader (who is beginning the second year of a two-year term) will serve as Secretary, Tom Carroll (who is also in the middle of a two-year term) will serve as Treasurer, and Katey Vale will take over as Buildings and Roads Representative.

Manning particularly thanked **Carolyn Greis** for her long-time service to the community as a member of the Village Council, for two years as Secretary and for the last 16 years as Buildings and Roads Representative. We are profoundly grateful for the thousands of hours Greis has donated to the community.

Section 3 gives a special thanks to **Judge Bill Rowan** who acted as election registrar, generously offering his porch for the official Montgomery County ballot box and collecting and counting all the ballots.

While we want everyone to have an opportunity to vote, running an uncontested election is a costly exercise. Some other jurisdictions have a provision in their charter to waive an election if uncontested. The Section 3 Council plans to consider such a proposal at the June meeting.

REVIEW OF EVENTS IN THE PAST YEAR

Council Chair Susan Manning pointed out that Section 3 is back to almost all pre-pandemic activities and reminded everyone that we have had a full program of social activities since last year including: the **Bark in the Park** organized by **Mary Jo Slidell**, **Welcome New Neighbors BBQ**, visits by the **ice cream man** celebrating the opening and closing of school, the **Party-in-the-Park**, the **Wine Tasting event**, **Halloween Parade** and **Food Truck Night**, a **shred event**, **Santa's trip** around the neighbor-

hood with cookies for good little boys and girls, the **Easter Egg Hunt**, and the new **Spring Fun Day** (right). She also summarized our efforts to comment on and influence development planning in the County, both regarding Thrive 2050 and the proposed development at the former 4-H Center on Connecticut Avenue, work underway to address stormwater runoff issues, street lighting, election participation, community charitable efforts and increased public participation with hybrid Zoom/in-person Council meetings.

Vice Chair Larry Lanpher addressed efforts to influence the plans for Corso Chevy Chase (the former 4-H facility) noting that the height of proposed buildings facing Connecticut Avenue was lowered a full story from the original proposal and the setbacks were increased. Section 3 lobbied for and got a seat at the table regarding any traffic patterns that will ultimately be determined by the State Highway Administration (SHA) with input from the Town of Chevy Chase, Section 3 and the developer. We also had an opportunity to air our concerns about cut-through traffic and parking. The developer has agreed in a binding element agreement to confine all parking to the site and to include Section 3 in any traffic determinations along with SHA.

Lanpher went on to outline the three-pronged approach to getting street lighting for our community: working with the attorney we jointly hired to jointly represent Section 3 and other jurisdictions on these issues; making our concerns known before the Public Service Commission; and submitting testimony supportive of municipal ownership of street lights before the Maryland state legislature. Lanpher pointed out we should soon have a second round of demonstration lights installed and we are hopeful that we can have some resolution of our lighting situation this year—whether we own them or Pepco provides them.

Council Secretary Ellie Nader focused on the many volunteers who help make our community so special including every member of the Council. She took time to say thanks to the unsung heroes in Section 3 including: **Mary Joe Slidell** for organizing the Bark in the Park, **Tom Wilson** who helps us keep the Gazebo Park in shape for all our residents—two- and four-legged—and is our go-to guy when someone has or finds a lost dog, **Ellen McKenney** and more recently **Katey Vale** for welcoming our new neighbors, **Claire Carlin Parets** for organizing a music class in the gazebo park for COVID babies in Section 3 and their parents, **Jen Roberti** who organizes and runs the ever-popular cake walk at the Party-in-the-Park every year, everyone who helps at that event to set up and clean up, to **Zach Arble** who holds the distinction this year of leading the Halloween Parade as a dinosaur and the Easter Egg hunt as the biggest Easter bunny around, to **Susan Hamburger** who collects the donations for the Capital Area Food Bank every week for us to turn



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A special welcome to **Michael Goldstein and Sarah Golabek-Goldman** who have moved into 6704 Brookville Road with their 15-month-old daughter **Maya**. Mike is a primary care physician with One Medical in Washington, D.C. and Sarah is an attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division who focuses on issues relating to people with disabilities. They moved from near Eastern Market so are just getting accustomed to the suburbs!

A belated welcome to **Ryan Noel Regan**, son of **Chris Regan and Gretchen Trese** of Delaware Street. Ryan arrived on the first day of 2023 weighing in at 6 lbs, 14 ounces. He was big enough to hang out at the Covid babies coffee and juice boxes party. We're glad we all had a chance to meet him!

COVID BABIES EVENT BRINGS NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

On Saturday, May 6, a large group of parents of COVID-era babies met for coffee and juice boxes in Gazebo Park. Fifty babies were born in Section 3 during COVID! New connections were made, names attached to faces, new residents with babies born in the COVID-era had a chance to meet new neighbors. It was a fun, low key event we hope to repeat. A poll of those who attended expressed interest in meeting again. Thanks to everyone who joined the festivities! In the meantime, people had an opportunity to meet face-to-face and they all have a special spread sheet with contact information.



STATE DELEGATION @ JUNE MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Police Gun Center to track all firearms surrendered through protective orders. The legislature also passed a law to provide child trafficking victims an "off-ramp" from the criminal justice system and an "on-ramp" to support services. Waldstreicher also sponsored the REDEEM Act which cuts the expungement waiting periods for misdemeanors and non-violent felonies.

Delegate Aaron Kaufman is a freshman delegate and a member of the Judiciary Committee, who introduced a law passed by the legislature that would require school systems to reimburse the legal expenses of parents who prevail in special education litigation, easing the financial burden when parents seek to advocate for their children with disabilities.

Delegate Emily Shetty is the House Democratic Caucus Chair and Chair of the Health and Social Services Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. She sponsored a new law to expand on-farm food scrap composting to benefit the environment, consumers and small farmers and she supported the passage of a bill which empowers patients, caregivers and healthcare providers involved in rare disease management.

Delegate Jarad Solomon serves as Deputy Speaker Pro Tem and House Chair of the Joint Audit & Evaluation Committee. He is Vice Chair of the Education & Economic Development Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee where he worked on historic investments in education, economic development and transportation and support of our most vulnerable citizens in this year's state budget. He passed bills to overhaul the state's college scholarship programs and to expand access to free school breakfasts for thousands of Maryland students. He also passed a bill to ensure proper grievance procedures for pay disputes and a law that provides online privacy protections for minors. Finally, at the request of Section 3, he passed a law that reduces the requirement for municipalities to advertise charter amendments in local newspapers from four times to one time.

We hope you will take the time to join us on June 14 to talk to our legislators about your views and concerns at the state level and ask questions of our legislators. This is a unique opportunity to get this kind of attention from those who represent us in Annapolis.

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

over to that charity, to **Kirsten Williams and John Dorsey** who volunteer to be the collection point for our annual warm clothing and blanket drive for Martha's Table every November (and expanded the effort this year) to include detergent donations for A Wider Circle). She also noted the logistical support from the Dorsey-Williams family, who allow Section 3 to store items in its garage for our special big events in the Gazebo Park, and the **Saifee** family, who store the Section's oversized YETI cooler in their garage. She expressed gratitude to **Chris Lane and Christine Williams** who live directly across Fulton Street from the park and who generously allow the community to use their lawn for our community events. She thanked the **Rozo/Major, Galvagna and Hamburger** households who give up access to the block of Taylor Street the community used every Saturday morning Farmers Market. Nader noted her husband **Matt Nader** has served as Santa for several years now along with his trusty helper, **John Stephens**. She thanked the whole Stephens family—**John, Sarah, and Rae**—and other volunteers who helped decorate the Gazebo Park for the holidays with lights and wreaths. Nader thanked **Jan Augustine** for maintaining and updating our website and for her tireless help in proofing the newsletter every month before you get it via email.

After 18 years of service to the community, and processing over 500 permits and variances, **Carolyn Greis** stepped down this year as Buildings and Roads Representative. She expressed her appreciation for all those she had worked with over the years. Carolyn spent a good portion of her time this last year training the new Permitting Services Coordinator, Gabriel Nathaniel, to take over processing permits, a plan she and the Council developed last year to outsource that increasingly complicated task.

Greis announced that in the last year, Section 3 issued 54 permits: 14 fences, 6 driveways (2 with new aprons and curb cuts), 5 walkways, 3 areaways, 4 patios or decks, 1 screened porch, 1 pergola, 3 exit stairways, 1 shed, 1 demolition permit, 3 house additions, 2 new house construction permits, 4 dumpster permits, 2 temporary storage (POD) permits, 1 solar panel array, 2 sump pump permits, 2 AC condenser units, 1 drainage system with site regarding low stone walls and 2 dry-wells. Finally, six variances were granted. Greis also noted that Section 3 issued a stop work order and required new conditions of permits for the house under construction at 3706 Spring Street.

Greis went on to discuss the various infrastructure projects underway in Section 3: the WSSC waterline replacement program, the work on Florida Street to build a new storm drain, and the Raymond Street drainage project now underway. She noted that test pits are essential for all road work, particularly in older communities like ours. Miss Utility marks where a waterline, a gas line or a sewer line is generally speaking, but she remarked, "they don't tell you the depth and their information are only as good as the records the utilities keep and the technician reading the data and marking it." For that reason, she noted, both WSSC's contractors and ours, have hand dug all the test pits to be certain they can execute the plans in hand.

In the case of the Raymond Street storm drain project, the test pits, she reported, uncovered that the original depths we expected the storm drain to take are not viable—there is too much utility "spaghetti" too close together to fit the 15" pipe the county requires. Armed with the data, our civil engineers are working to resolve the problems found in the test pit process. In short, Greis concluded, we will be experiencing a hiatus because any revised plans will have to be approved by the County as well as by Section 3. The Council understands that the test pits are mushy and anticipate the contractor will install a better surface than what's there now.

Greis turned the program over to **Treasurer Tom Carroll** who reported that Section 3 is in excellent shape financially with more than \$6.3 million in current assets, and that we are working to diversify our holdings in light of higher interest rates. The Council voted unanimously to approve the budget published in the April newsletter, which projects \$886,200 in revenue and \$709,000 in operating expenses. The budget also provides for a \$1.88 million Capital Investment Fund to be drawn from reserves, and which we plan to invest in stormwater management projects and new streetlights. The Council also voted to adopt the same property tax rate that we have had for many years: for residential property, two cents per \$100 assessed valuation; and five cents per \$100 per assessed valuation for personal property and utilities.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 p.m.

	Actual FY20-21	Actual FY21-22	YTD FY22-23	Budget FY22-23	Proposed Budget FY23-24
INCOME					
Tax Revenue Subtotal	825,571	857,307	761,668	828,843	866,900
Fees & Other Income Subtotal	18,770	18,189	171,488	172,669	19,300
Total Income	844,341	875,496	933,155	1,001,511	886,200
EXPENSES					
Community - Direct Services & Infrastructure	224,122	199,767	144,729	304,700	309,800
Community & Events Subtotal	35,001	52,891	28,307	55,000	52,000
Fees & Third Party Services Subtotal	29,030	71,086	34,218	168,400	152,400
Admin & Governance Subtotal	170,403	143,464	113,383	207,500	194,800
Total Operating Expenses	458,557	467,208	320,638	735,600	709,000
Capital Investment Fund					
Total CIF Expenses	0	0	0	1,350,000	1,880,000

WATERMAIN BREAK ON DELAWARE STREET

Between the storm drain project on Florida Street, the storm drain project on Raymond Street, WSSC waterline replacement project all over Section 3, and trees being taken down, we've had a flurry of road closures. However, the water main break at Spring and Delaware Street was not on



anyone's list when on May 24 a damaged water valve resulted in a broken water main. WSSC responded quickly, but assembling the right crew with the right equipment, then waiting for Miss Utility to identify gas, water and electrical lines was a challenge. Neighbors were understanding of the 10:00 pm. jack hammering that allowed the the job to be completed by morning.

CHEVY CHASE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM JUNE 11

If you are wondering how to preserve your family heirlooms, the Chevy Chase Historical Society is sponsoring a talk to address just that question. Renata Lisowski, Director of CCHS Archive and Research Center, will discuss how to preserve photo albums, scrap books and documents in your family archive. The talk will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall at 4:00 p.m. on June 11. To register, contact director@chevyCHASEhistory.org. The fee is \$15.

CHEVY CHASE AT HOME SPONSORS BOOK TALK JUNE 14

COKIE'S JOURNEY: A LIFE WELL-LIVED WITH STEVE ROBERTS

Mark Wednesday, June 14 on your calendar to hear a talk from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. by Washington area journalist Steve Roberts on his book tribute to his late wife, Cokie Roberts. He will reflect and share stories about the extraordinary life and legacy of his wife of 53 years, legendary journalist Cokie Roberts, who was a trailblazer for women. Through her visibility and celebrity, Cokie Roberts was an inspiration and a role model for innumerable women and girls. A fixture on national television and radio for more than 40 years, she

also wrote five bestselling books focusing on the role of women in American history. Cokie had many roles in her lifetime: Daughter. Wife. Mother. Journalist. Advocate. Historian. Steve will talk about how Cokie lived each day with a devotion to helping others in addition to her many accomplishments. Steve will share stories from Cokie, *A Life Well-Lived*. In these stories, he has a simple goal: "To tell stories. Some will make you cheer or laugh or cry. And some, I hope, will inspire you to be more like Cokie, to be a good person, to lead a good life."

Steve Roberts has been a journalist for more than 50 years, covering some of the major events of his time, from the antiwar movement and student revolts of the 60s and 70s to President Reagan's historic trip to Moscow in 1988 and thirteen presidential election campaigns. After graduating from Harvard magna cum laude in 1964, he joined The New York Times as research assistant to James "Scotty" Reston, then the paper's Washington bureau chief. His 25-year career with the Times included assignments as bureau chief in Los Angeles and Athens, and as Congressional and White House correspondent. He was a senior writer at U.S. News for seven years, specializing in national politics and foreign policy. Since 1997, Roberts has been the Shapiro Professor of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University, where he has taught for the last 31 years. The program is via zoom and is open to all those who pre-register with director@chevyCHASEathome.org



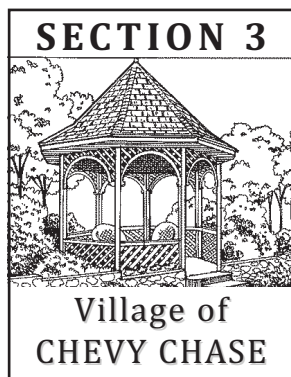
PLEASE BE MINDFUL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL PASSED AN ORDINANCE BANNING ALL PESTICIDE USE, EXCEPT IN THE AGRICULTURAL RESERVE. ALTHOUGH PESTICIDES LIKE 'WEED AND FEED' ARE SOLD, THEIR USE IS BANNED IN THE COUNTY.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815



News & Views

JUNE 2023



GOING AWAY OVER THE SUMMER?

Please park your cars in your driveway—we are having lots of road work done this summer and don't want to have to tow your car to another street!

Please make sure your neighbors know you are going away and how to reach you.

Lock cars, houses and bikes. Ask a neighbor to keep an eye out if packages show up while you are away to take them in.