

News & Views

SEPTEMBER 2020

SECTION 3 SUMMER WITH COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

School has finally begun! It's been a hot, rainy COVID-19 summer...one like we've never had before. Families have coped differently but well. A lot more cars parked on the street and in driveways all summer. A lot more people at home, every day. Many of us endured a long hot summer with the pandemic now in its sixth month. In August, it rained over 8" compared to the usual 3.5".

Here in Section 3 we kicked off the "social summer" with a Driveway Crawl on June 28. Folks had a chance to meet and talk in small groups at six different stations strategically placed throughout the community.

New Adirondack chairs in the park made it possible for folks to sit, socially distant from one another, and enjoy an evening drink of wine or an afternoon chat in the Gazebo Park. The chairs have been a great addition to our community. We've had virtual block parties. Neighbors have joined together in "pods." Children have learned not to go out without a mask. We've all faced daily challenges making life interesting in spite of restrictions and bringing families together in a new unprecedented way.

We've gotten together on Zoom or on the blocks where we live and have seen familiar faces as they walk the neighborhood more than ever before. And we have been brought together to face the national reality of systemic racism.

FOOD BRINGS FAMILIES TOGETHER

We had **Rocklands BBQ** truck visit us on July 23. Then the following week, we had a special visit from **Dangerously Delicious Pies**. We've tried to bring something new to the community most weeks to relieve the boredom and drudgery of cooking every day because restaurant dining was not feasible until recently and even now to a limited extent.

On August 15, our **Crêpes Parfait** chefs began offering French ready-to-heat dinners to go, so you could buy a breakfast or brunch crêpe and pick up dinner as well. They continue to offer this service for those who are interested.

Starting August 1, we began collecting for the Capital Area Food Bank to bring funds to an organization supporting food insecure families. As of this writing, Section 3 has collected \$1,770.65 at the Farmer's Market for those in need, as we will continue to do so throughout the rest of the year. We are grateful for the generous checks for \$100, \$50, even \$25 in addition to the cash donations. In addition to the extraordinary generosity of those who frequent our Saturday Farmer's Market, we have leveraged over \$370 as our Farmer now collects for the Food Bank at the Sheridan School. We are working to do our part in a very small way.

Finally, for the first day of school, we asked the ice cream man to show up for the first of school and he did! In spite of the rain we toured the neighborhood and ended up distributing about 232 ice cream treats around Section 3! We'll try and keep those special activities and food to look forward to coming...don't forget Hardy's BBQ will be coming to the Gazebo Park on September 10. See the story on our October 4 Fall Fest in this issue.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.
See email for meeting ID & password

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Hardy's BBQ Truck at Gazebo Park, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Menu will be sent to everyone in advance to hasten ordering

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Section 3 Fall Fest, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
See story this issue for details

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Recycling & Bulk Trash Curbside

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.
See email for meeting ID & password

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COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, July 8 via Zoom. All members of the Council except Carolyn Greis were present. The minutes of the June meeting as they appeared in the July newsletter were approved.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Council discussed opening the Gazebo Park for dog visiting hours and came up with a new set of restrictions so that fewer dogs would be in the park at any given time during the newly revised dog visiting hours. They agreed on the following COVID-19 Rules for the use of the Gazebo Park:

The park is open to owners and their dogs during these hours ONLY: 8 to 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Owners must wear masks and maintain proper social distance from others. No more than six dogs can be in the park at any one time during those hours and must be accompanied by their owner (no more than two dogs per owner). To make the park available to as many as possible, dog owners are asked to limit visits to 15 minutes if someone else wants to come into the park. Owners are responsible for the behavior of their dogs.

Please care for our park, including the grass and plants, as you would your own yard. On rainy days and immediately thereafter, the park will be closed to preserve the turf.

The Village Manager reported that police patrols continue, the biggest problem seems to be contractors parking illegally in spaces that make it difficult or impossible for trash collection trucks to make a turn or neighbors to get out of driveways.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

Many of the numerous projects reported a couple of months ago to be in the permitting pipeline for construction this spring and summer made their way to the Building and Roads Representative for review, and ten permits were issued since the last Council last met.

The **Carlson** family, soon to be of 3709 Bradley Lane, was issued a building permit to construct a new pool, terrace, fence, sport court and retaining/landscape walls and steps in their rear yard. The **LaSala** family of 3821 Bradley Lane was also issued a building permit to construct a pool, together with a patio and infill fencing in their rear yard. Two permits were issued to construct new driveways: one to the **Weinsteins** of 3625 Raymond Street and one to the **Kilpatrick**s of 3614 Raymond Street, who also built a

patio in their rear yard. The **Czachorska-Jones** of 6707 Georgia Street received a permit to use a POD, and both the **Lelecks** of 3602 Shepherd Street and the **Weinsteins** of 3625 Raymond Street received permits to use a dumpster. The **Robboy-Waterman** family of 6803 Florida Street was issued a permit to install a generator in their south side yard (for which they received a variance in July). The **Dorsey-Williams** family of 3619 Shepherd Street was issued a permit to build a fence in their front yards on both Shepherd and Fulton Streets. And lastly, construction has finally begun anew at 3602 Taylor Street as a result of the building permit issued to Capitol Funding Group, LLC to build a new house and a new driveway with retaining walls, apron and curb cut (for which the prior variance was carried over) in the front yard on Taylor Street.

The house at 3613 Raymond Street is nearing completion and a new family is slated to move in in mid-August.

Susan Manning, Carolyn Greis and the Village Manager have continued to meet to discuss and develop proposed changes to the village's building ordinances for the Council to review at the September meeting (see story this issue).

The Village Manager reports that there are two big projects planned for this coming fiscal year: rebuilding the raised intersection at Georgia and Raymond Streets as it is need of repair and working with the State Highway Administration on a "Lake Bradley" drainage solution.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The auditing firm of Lindsey & Associates will be getting all the material they need to perform the annual audit by the end of July, reports the Village Manager.

As our CDs mature, we will be getting new much lower rates, nonetheless, we are fiscally sound.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The feedback from the June 28 Driveway Crawl was good. People had an opportunity to meet one another and the volunteer help was amazing.

OTHER

The Village Manager reports that the response to the Rocklands BBQ truck was excellent and that we hope to have it come again in August.

The Council also decided to get the ice cream truck to return.

The Village Manager expressed concern that new neighbors don't meet as many people because of COVID-19 and that even with the warm welcome from our official greeter, **Ellen McKenney**, we haven't been able to properly introduce them. A Council member suggested that we assign a neighbor to each new family going forward.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m..



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

There may be a pandemic on, but people are still moving into our wonderful neighborhood. We welcome **Eric Isaacs** and his wife **Linda Goldwyn** and their college-age son **Nathan** at 7012 Florida Street. The family had been living in the district, but originally hails from Chicago. Eric has taken over the helm of The Carnegie Institution for Science. Linda is an attorney.

Two Section 3 physics graduates are off to study for their PhD degrees. **Ada Morral** of Georgia Street took off for UCLA recently to settle into studies for her degree there and **Samantha Howell** recently departed for Duke University where she intends to get her PhD in geomechanical physics. Both girls are B-CC graduates. So good to see women going into science and engineering.

Welcome to **Cami and Jason Wilcox** and their children **Calder** (11) and **Collette** (8) to 3613 Raymond Street. The family had been living in Rock Creek Forest. Much to their surprise, they live across the street from Calder Jose and just down the street from the newly arrived Collette Heidenberger! Welcome to all!

COUNCIL TO REVIEW PROPOSED CHANGES TO ORDINANCES

The Council has for some time been discussing a thorough review of our ordinances, with particular attention to our building ordinances. The Council wanted to update them to protect the character of our community, to make the rules and process more understandable, to address the changes at the County level with regard to Accessory Dwelling Units and to get a better handle on stormwater management. The plan is to present the draft to the entire Council at their September meeting, then to discuss it, and if the Council is ready, they would then publish the entire list of changes, with an executive summary on the website and make it available to everyone in the community to be voted on at a future Council meeting. It will be the first time since 2006 that we have attempted to address many of the issues which new building has presented over the last 14 years and to bring our standards more in line with those of a number of our neighboring jurisdictions.

VOTE:

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, simply go to the Board of Elections website making sure you have your drivers' license in hand and fill out the form requesting an absentee ballot. Go to: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/index2.html> If you are concerned about using the U.S. mail in light of recent developments regarding the Postal Service, there will be 39 boxes placed strategically throughout the County where you can drop your ballot. The nearest location for voting is the Jane Lawton Center in the Town of Chevy Chase.

Those who still need to register to vote have until the October 13 deadline and may register using a form available online. If you are a new Maryland resident, and you don't yet have a Maryland Driver's license or an MVA ID card, you must enter the last 4 digits of your social security number on the form. The number will only be used for registration and other administrative purposes and be kept confidential. Complete items 1-11 on the voter registration form and sign and date item 12. If you are registered to vote in another Maryland count or another state, you must complete items A-B in the Last Voter Registration. The form must be mailed, it cannot be processed if it is faxed or emailed because it requires an original signature.

In Maryland, if you want to vote in primary elections, you must affiliate with a party. Check one box only.

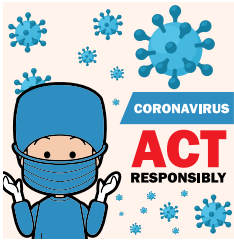
Once you have mailed in your signed registration form, give the state sufficient time to enter the data and then to verify your registration and find your polling place, you can go to the State Board of Elections website at www.elections.maryland.gov to verify your registration and find your polling place.

The same website can be used to request an absentee ballot. The deadline for those requests is October 20, but do it now! Early in-person voting runs from October 26 through November 2.

We have many new neighbors and we urge them to use this information to register to vote in Maryland...it takes a little effort but the right to vote is one of our most valuable rights.

HAVE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE OR TAGS EXPIRED?

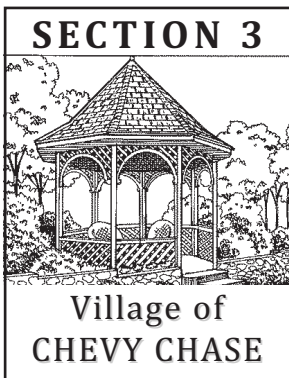
The State of Maryland says no. You have 30 days AFTER the end of the state of emergency declared because of the pandemic by Governor Hogan to get a renewed drivers' license or tags. If you wish to get a renewal or a new license before prior to the end of the emergency's end as we have no idea when that will be, you can make an appointment to go to one of the nearby MVA offices on line (go to MVA.Maryland.gov) They are making appointments about a month from the time you log in.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

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SECTION 3 FALL FEST COMING OCTOBER 4

The Driveway Crawl was such a success that we've decided to try the same idea again, only this time the challenge will be to taste a variety of beers—our own Section 3 OctoberFest, with special juice boxes and water for kids and water and sodas for non-beer drinking adults. Our caterer, Mindy's Catering, is working on some delicious beer-friendly hors d'oeuvres for adults and we'll have nice treats for the kids as well. We're going to shorten the time to two hours—from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and we're looking for six volunteers, strategically located of course, so that we can spread out, mingle without a crowd.

To make things interesting, because we have so many new people, we're going to distribute leis to our newest residents so they are easy to identify and meet as we mingle. Please introduce yourselves if you see a newcomer. We hope they'll all join us despite COVID-19!

If you'd like to volunteer for an hour's bartending (we need 12 bartenders), please contact the Village Manager. We'll let you know the stops as soon as the list is finalized.