

NEWS&VIEWS

SEPTEMBER 2022

Village of CHEVY CHASE

## CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 Labor Day (no yard waste pick-up)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 Household trash & Yard Waste (Holiday makeup)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 Bulk Trash, recycling. Curbside

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 Party-in-the Park

Gazebo Park 5:30-7:30 p.m. Rain date September 18, Same times, same place

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 Council Meeting, Hybrid In-person, Zoom

CCUMC Library 7:45 p.m. Residents will be sent the zoom meeting ID and passcode via email. Interested parties may contact the Village Manager for meeting ID and passcode.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 Bulk Trash, recycling. Curbside

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 Wine Event (see story this issue)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12 Council Meeting (hybrid Zoom & in person)

\* 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.

## PARTY-IN-THE-PARK SEPTEMBER 11

This year's Party-in-the-Park is slated for Sunday, September 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This year in addition to the live band that we had last year, The Moonlighters, we plan to have a small train ride down Fulton Street and back for our many little ones in the neighborhood. We'll have a great dinner by Mindy's Catering, beverages for adults and children, and a visit with our

favorite ice cream man. If you are lucky, you might win a cake at our annual

cakewalk run by **Jen Roberti**.

If you bake, we want your cake! Contact Jen Roberti to let her know you plan to bring one. Last year we had three tables filled with cakes for the cakewalk.

This event is the biggest of the year; we hope you'll mark

it on your calendars and plan on coming.

VILLAGE COUNCIL & STAFF www.chevychasesection3.org

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PLEASE NOTE ALL NEW COUNCIL MEMBER EMAIL ADDRESSES



The Council met on Wednesday, July 13 both in person and via Zoom. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m. with all Council members present except Larry Lanpher. The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

#### BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Village Manager updated the community on the status of the Raymond Street storm drain project. The revised drawings are with the County and we expect them to be released soon. The Council voted to proceed with detailed drawings for the Georgia Street extension of the storm drain, which will also be submitted to the County. If possible, we may be able to link the two projects into a single job as the Council discussed at the last meeting. Chevy Chase Village has also been sent a copy of the concept drawings in hopes that they will join us in cost sharing. We may also contact Martin's Additions for their financial input as well.

The Village Manager brought up the possibility of Section 3 piggybacking on an existing contract between D & F Construction (Section 3 has a long and positive history of working with this firm) to evaluate the drawings for constructability suggestions and to use their services and the unit costs outlined in that contract. Our civil engineer recommended this approach because of his work with the firm as well. The Council approved the idea with a final cost estimate based on the contract before proceeding with the piggyback plan. Our charter allows us to piggy-back on state and county contracts that have already gone through a competitive bidding process.

WSSC's water line replacement work has hit several snags. The work on Brookville Road continues. They expect to install the water line on the no outlet portion of Georgia Street soon, but no date has been set. Once the waterline is installed and tested, the "by-pass" hoses will be removed.

Carolyn Greis reported that three permits were issued since the last meeting: the owners of 6702 Brookville Road were given a permit for a new house construction; the JG Love Trust, owners of 6820 Brookville Road, were given a permit to install a new concrete driveway and walkway; and the owners of 6818 Delaware Street were given a permit to enlarge the driveway.

The Village Manager reported that we are waiting to hear from our lighting designer about how much to dim the two recently installed demonstration lights on Delaware and Shepherd Streets. We are also working with the manufacturer to identify a smaller alternative fixture that will emit more acceptable light levels.

The Buildings and Roads Representative Greis reported that the County had lifted its stop work order at 3706 Spring Street. New drawings had been submitted for review, but that because all the conditions of the Section 3 stop work order have not been met, the order stays in place. We are working with the owner's civil engineer on the outstanding items.

The Village Manager reported that approximately one third of our residents have responded to the 4-H survey and urged others to take a look and let us know your thinking. Based on discussions at Council meetings, emails and the survey, the Council will be sending a letter to the developer with our concerns.

The biggest areas of concern include traffic, both on Connecticut Avenue and possible cut-through traffic; parking (particularly the possibility of staff and visitors parking in Section 3 since so little parking on the existing plan is above grade). Density, the height of buildings facing Section 3 on Connecticut Avenue, and the close-to-the-street proposed setback are also areas of concern.

The developers hope to submit their Local Map Amendment, a crucial item which defines the zoning, access and circulation within the community, to the Planning Board, in the August-September window. They don't expect to have answers until the Planning Board has reviewed the plans, held a public hearing and heard from residents and others until next spring. Residents will have an opportunity to make their voices heard individually. The Council will certainly be representing the community as a whole in future hearings.

#### FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

**Gabriel Nathaniel**, our new permitting coordinator is on board and training. The assistant to the Village Manager is going through the process of interviews and reference checks now.

The auditor for our annual state-mandated audit begins work soon. We are again using LSWG with whom we were very happy at last year's audit.

The bids came in for a three-year contract for trash and recycling collection much higher than originally budgeted. The Council approved a revised line item for trash collection of \$155,000 and a revised line item for income from CCUMC for trash collection services of \$3,286. The landscape contract with Chapel Valley was renewed for another three years within the budget parameters already approved.

#### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Welcome New Neighbors event is July 14 ... everything is organized, weather is promising. It should be a great event. The

### News & Views-



We have new neighbors and new babies we're happy to report.

Scott Kazmareck and Abigail Barnes of Bradley Lane happily announce the birth of one-year old Silas's sister on July 6, Stella Anne Kaczmarek Barnes.

Andrew Kissner and Jackie Hill of Georgia Street brought home a new brother for Ruby, age 2 ½. Teddy Thomas Kissner was born August 8 weighing in at 8 lb. 14 oz. A big boy!

**Elizabeth and Aras Holden** also of Georgia Street met Jackie and Andrew at Sibley Hospital where Elizabeth delivered **Eloise Holland Holden** on August 4, just four days before neighbor Teddy was born. Eloise arrived a month early. Congrats to all!

In terms of other new neighbors, we want to welcome **Bonnie Kawchuck** and her third-grade daughter **Bronte Luke** to 7007 Fulton Street. Bonnie runs The Leading Voice, a coaching firm that works with high-potential women to develop a vocal presence in the workplace. Bronte is is very excited to attend CCES.

Around the corner, **Alana and Zach Lerner** have moved into 3617 Shepherd Street Zach is an attorney with the law firm ZwillGen, focusing on data privacy and legal matters impacting internet-based businesses. Alana is Director of Curriculum and Instruction with Urban Alliance in D.C., an organization connecting high school students to equitable, inclusive careers through paid work experiences, mentorships and professional development. Along with dog Skippy, they have two children, **Talia** turning two and **Micah** turning a year old, both in November.

And finally at 6818 Delaware Street, **Shawn and Bill Cronin** have moved in with their three children, **Will** age 10, **Sammy** age 9 and daughter **Charlotte**, age 5. The boys will be attending Mater Dei and Charlotte will be at Blessed Sacrament. Bill is chief revenue officer with Xometry, an on-demand industrial parts marketplace based in Gaithersburg. They moved to Section 3 from the Town of Chevy Chase.

# Welcome New Neighbors BBQ Loads of Fun

The July 14 BBQ for new neighbors was lots of fun. The food went

quickly and there were few leftovers. We livened the event up with lovely oldies music by Rich Battaglia and his guitar. Rocklands BBQ



and staff did a wonderful job.

Special thanks to **Ellen McKenney** who welcomed everyone and helped with leis and nametags. Thanks to **Elijah and Elinor Nott** and **Betty Dorsey** who helped set up and to all those who helped to take down the tables and chairs on Florida Street. It was great to see everyone come out and make our many new neighbors feel welcome.

## FALL WINE EVENT HOSTS SOUGHT



We have missed holding our annual June wine event because of the pandemic but would like to try an outdoor event on Saturday, October 8. Section 3 will supply the wine and reimburse hosts for hors d'oeuvres. We need three hosts to volunteer. Please contact the Village Manager if you are

interested and willing. We usually have between 30-50 guests. More info coming via emails and the next newsletter.

#### COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Council agreed to postpone the wine tasting event until October with the understanding that we would continue the regular "traditional" schedule of June as well. This means more people will be in town rather than trying to hold it in backyards in August, as had been previously discussed.

A resident suggested we ask people to trim back suckers on crape myrtles to give the flowering parts of the tree a better chance. Another resident suggested that we add a child version to the adult Little Library already located in Gazebo Park. The Village Manager is looking into it.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

## THE ICE CREAM MAN CELEBRATES THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Close to 200 Section 3 residents delighted in nice cold ice cream on a hot day thanks to Copperfield Davies who came fully stocked for all our residents big and small who availed themselves of the treat.



He'll be coming again on September 11 for the annual Party-in-the-Park!



You can go any time to the Chevy Chase Village Hall where they have a secure box for the disposal of outdated or unneeded prescription drugs.

### **FASHIONING AN EMPIRE**

Chevy Chase at Home offers a virtual tour with the National Museum of Asian Art on September 9 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

View extraordinary 17th century textiles, full-length portrait paintings, and beautiful illustrated manuscript folios that appeared in the Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art's recent "Fashioning an Empire: Safavid Textiles from the Museum of Islamic Art, Doha" exhibit. One of their docents will share the art and culture of Safavid Iran (1501–1722), including textiles with sumptuous surfaces, original designs, and technical sophistication. These luxury textiles played a critical role in the social, cultural, religious, and economic life of Safavid Iran. Used for clothing, furnishing, and movable architecture, fabrics also functioned as important symbols of power and as ubiquitous forms of artistic expression. Register in advance for the Zoom link on the CC@H event page.

### CRAPE MYRTLE BARK SCALE HAS ARRIVED IN SECTION 3

A new insect pest has invaded crape myrtle trees in Section 3. The insect was first observed in Texas in 2004 and has gradually worked its way throughout the southeast and is now in Maryland. The pests are white and dot the bark of the trees. The ovisacs have pink eggs. The pest will likely not kill the tree but the infestation will result in later leafing out and smaller flowers if not treated with a pesticide. It also drops a black soot on plant material beneath the infested tree which can spread damage nearby.

We have had Paul Wolfe, the Village arborist, examine our crape myrtle street trees and we have hired him to apply the appropriate pesticide.

If you have a crape myrtle and wish an estimate, contact the Village Manager by September 15 so we will can coordinate a single visit for private trees. Thus we can make a one-time cooperative "buy" of his services in exchange for a lower cost, like we did before to fertilize trees. Once we have a listing of the interested parties, he will visit and give homeowners a price to apply the pesticide based on the tree's size. If you agree with the price, you will then write a check to Section 3 for that amount (assuming we have enough takers). Then the arborist will spray all the trees of those who prepaid. Section 3 will pay the total for these services.

If you are interested in treating your crape myrtles, notify the Village Manager as soon as possible with the number of trees and their location (front, back or side yard).

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DEMANDS PEPCO IMPLEMENT 2007 LAW ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES TO OWN STREET LIGHTS

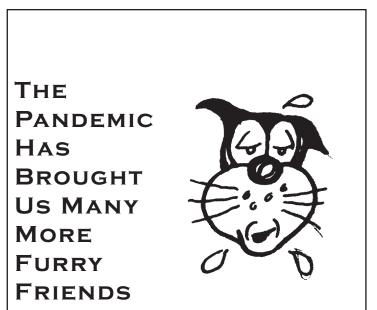
The August 24 administrative meeting of the Public Service Commission (PSC) marks a potentially historic breakthrough in efforts by counties and independent municipalities in the Pepco distribution area to resolve obstacles impeding our ability to own our own streetlights.

In 2007, the Maryland legislature approved a law to allow municipalities and counties who wished to do so to own and maintain their own streetlights. Section 3 began efforts to do so in 2009, when we wanted to purchase our own induction type lights. Pepco put so many roadblocks in our way that for a time we put the fight aside in favor of getting more reliable electrical service for our community.

Since that time, we have testified before the Maryland legislature twice, testified before the PSC, and were parties to an amicus brief with Chevy Chase Village during the last Pepco rate tariff case. Streetlighting was a big issue in that case and Pepco's proposals were not fully accepted by the PSC. On April 8, 2022, Pepco submitted a set of proposals that they maintain clarify the process for municipalities who want to own their own streetlights. Comments finding fault with their tariff were filed by communities in both Montgomery and Prince George's Counties including the Town of Chevy Chase, Chevy Chase Village and Section 3. Chevy Chase Village, Section 3, and State delegate Al Carr, who sponsored both the original legislation, also testified.

Although PSC staff endorsed Pepco's proposals, the Public Service Commissioners listened to our pleas for more transparency by Pepco regarding potential costs and the terms Pepco will request for any agreements concerning streetlights. In a 3 to 2 vote, the Commissioners instructed Pepco to meet with municipalities and work together to resolve our differences and report back to them at an October 12 status review. This is a potentially huge opportunity for all municipalities in Montgomery and PG Counties. Section 3 is working with Chevy Chase Village and members of the county chapter of the Maryland Municipal League to bring communities together in support of the right to own our own lights, even if individual communities do not themselves plan to go in that direction.

We will continue to work to achieve our goal of purchasing our own, high-quality LED streetlights and replacing the existing outdated Pepco-owned lights. We will also keep residents informed. In the meantime, we plan to install dimmers on the two recently installed demonstration lights to cut the light by 50 percent and are working with the manufacturer to get a smaller, more appropriate size light without the harsh glare that seems to characterize so many LED lights.



In this community of 282 households, at rough count, we now have over 110 dogs. Please be considerate in walking your dog. Every winter we have lots of nasty "leavings" by dogs whose owners don't pick up after them. We ask that you be considerate—not on the greenways, not on neighbors lawns...in a bag, in the trash, please.



**SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE** P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815





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